

# CLT Philosophy Meetup: Tocqueville

01/10/2026

## 1 Introduction

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## 2 Liberalism

### 2.1 Basics

### 2.2 Tradition

## 3 Democracy In America

## 4 Questions

1. What role does religion have in political theory?
2. Do we still face a "Tyranny of the Majority"?
3. Is democracy a soft despotism?
4. Have we achieved equality of conditions?
5. Does the pursuit of equality threaten liberty or excellence?
6. What tendencies of Liberalism may promote Individualism and Isolation?
7. What dangers does democratic materialism pose?
8. What is the role of civil associations today?
9. Does centralization threaten democratic self-governance?
10. How do mores sustain or undermine democracy?
11. Can democratic citizens maintain civic virtue?

## References

- [1] Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, The University of Chicago Press, 2000, p.120
- [2] Cheryl B. Welch, *The Cambridge Companion to Tocqueville*, cambridge university press, 2006, p.120