

This section of the prince focuses on the ideal behavior of a successful prince. Machiavelli outlines the most effective way to remain in power as well as the most effective ways to lose power. Beginning with how a prince can lose power, it can come from multiple things with the most important reason being if a king is hated and despised among his peers and subjects.

Machiavelli outlines that this can come from disarming the people, taking advantage of his subjects in frivolous ways and acting neutral in chaotic periods. While acting immorally is often regarded as poor form, Machiavelli believes that a strong prince must always have his own interests at the top of his priority list, which will prevent him from being

dissuaded by others. Another important factor that makes a prince successful is accompanying

himself with advisors, but it is important to never read too far into an advisor's requests because they will act with their own interest in mind. Ultimately Machiavelli thinks a prince should be feared, and swift actions will bring fear and order much quicker than dragging out long violent processions. The final goal of a prince should be to

build hereditary rule and extend the ruling lineage.

