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### The Road to Complete Power

When liberty becomes license, dictatorship is near. The strive for power becomes the need and utter desire, making it a complete necessity. With this burning need for power, dictators use the fear of unstable societies as their home-field advantages to persuade and manipulate the minds of their followers. Although it may be true that some of what these dictators say to manipulate the people are beneficial to them and are actually put to action, the overall pain and hurt they cause in other actions completely overpower the positive ones. To have a dictator as a leader is the worst possible scenario, as they control the minds of all that listen and follow, create disastrous problems for numerous families, and drive fear into all hearts exposed to their actions.

Well put

To say that dictators don't use fear and manipulation is absurd, although some people believe force is what leads them to complete power. In the graphic novel Persepolis, by Marjane Satrapi, there is a scene that shows the Shah's army shooting at the demonstrating people, using all their force to scare them away (18). Force and power were used to keep any opposing thoughts from surfacing, but that didn't last long, for the people kept fighting back. Another form of power some believed to be a way for a dictator to come to power was the propaganda used by Hitler. After he got the army to swear an oath of personal loyalty to him, the propaganda was a way for Hitler to make the people believe he was powerful. Furthermore, it is also believed by some people that a dictator's power is what allows them to come to complete control; Hitler gained power in Germany, England, and Poland, making many believe that his coming to power had come from his land conquests. Since so much land was under Nazi rule, some believe it was then that the people began to fall under his control.

These forms of power used by dictators are not at all the ways complete control is gained, although many believe so. Fear keeps people from standing up for what they believe, and influences them to listen to what they are being told, giving dictators control. Within the novel Animal

*Strong  
CS - CMA*

Farm, by George Orwell, fear is driven into the animals by Napoleon's use of intimidating, life-threatening dogs (76). This displays the supercilious dictator, Napoleon, trying to scare the animals into thinking he is extremely powerful and lethal. The animals believe that Napoleon is able to use these dogs to simply dispose of anyone that disagrees with him. This not only keeps the animals from standing up for what they believe in, but also gives Napoleon more control and the ability to do what he pleases, for he had made the animals capitulate under his power. Nowadays, dictators use weapons or threats to scare the people from doing anything that strays from what is allowed, fear pulsing through all their actions. With that, dictators can become more powerful than ever, and evolve into an even worse scenario. Fear is a key concept in gaining complete control, for it takes away the people's voices.

*(Good  
Transition*

While fear plays an important role in gaining control, manipulation is just as much an influence. In Hitler's campaign speech, he promised the people safety, and that they would have their freedom before two or three months passed. Hitler used persuasion and pathos in his speaking to get the minds of the voters as his manipulation tactic. The people saw only what they wanted to see, and that was a true leader that was promising them positive changes. With the trust of the people, Hitler could advance in

his plans, knowing that he had voters on his side even though his intentions were everything but pure. Another form of manipulation used by Hitler during his speech was the very beginning, before he even began speaking. Swastika flags were held high by everyone in the large gathering, with loud cheering and the singing of the Horst Wessel song, giving the people a sense of belonging and community. Without them even being aware of it, the people were being manipulated into thinking that life with Hitler as ruler would be joyful, that the singing and cheering would never end.

Manipulation gave Hitler a "safety net", knowing he had the people's votes and trust even though it was all a scam. Aware that he was safe when it came to the voters, Hitler could present himself as the perfect candidate, while surreptitiously continuing his deleterious actions behind the scenes.

In perspective, Hitler was much like a penny; two faced and worthless. Complete control could be gained through manipulation, as people don't realize it but they are being tricked into seeing something that isn't there.

Fear and manipulation are the building blocks to a complete dictatorship, and there is still another key aspect needed for control: unaware citizens. In Night, written and lived by Elie Wiessel, the Jewish citizens that were being held captive in ghettos, arrived at their worst nightmare; Auschwitz. There, a man approached Elie and looked at him like

great  
voice

he had gone mad, asking why he had come to this terrible place instead of running away (30). The reason Elie and his father had come to this place was that being held captive in the ghettos prevented them from hearing any outside news; they had no idea of the terrors and absolute evils that concentration camps were bringing, let alone that they even existed. Hitler kept the concentration camps a secret from other Jews, and made fake commercials that displayed the concentration camps as peaceful, safe homes that the Jewish people enjoyed. That could not have been a bigger lie, for the concentration camps were quite possibly the worst places a human could ever have been sent to. Hitler was able to get what he wanted but at the same time keep the trust of the people, the ultimate plan. Due to the citizens being unaware of the monstrosities he was creating, Hitler was able to do whatever he pleased. With a society of people being unaware of what was occurring, a dictator could lead their manipulated, fear stricken followers wherever desired; complete control.

To be filled with fear, manipulated into believing things that are undoubtedly false, and being unaware of the disastrous events going on, are the symptoms of being led by a dictator with complete control. Control of the flow of information is the tool of the dictatorship, and side by side come the shoving of fear into people and manipulating them in the cruelest

ways, as if building up their hopes and crushing them down all within the blink of an eye. Power is not the way to complete control; getting to complete control is the way to power.

Well done