

Democracy 7 Dahl on Why Political Equality

Please read Chapter 6, “Why Political Equality I?” from Robert Dahl’s *On Democracy*. After reading the selection, answer the questions that follow.

1. How *specifically* is democracy based on political equality?
2. Is the fundamental equality of persons self-evident? What features of the American experience might make us doubt it?
3. Does the equality of persons refer to some common feature that all people have, or is it something we aspire to normatively? Why?
4. Do any of the reasons Dahl offers for adopting the principle of equality seem especially persuasive to you? If so, which ones and why? If not, why not?