

### **17.588f13 Week 7 Paper Topic**

*The Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy* is a brilliant but in some respects frustrating work; since it was published forty years ago, scholars have repeatedly attempted to reinterpret and tinker with Moore's basic analytical framework or rethink his method. What do you see as his fundamental argument? What is he trying to explain – i.e., what is (or are) his dependent variable (or variables)? If you could reformulate Moore's argument to make it as compelling as possible, how would you do so?

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