

Writing Benchmark Final Draft

How could overthrowing a government be acceptable? A coup can be justified if the country is ruining itself or attacking its own citizens. Overthrowing the government isn't ok if it's for personal gains which most likely would end up being worse for the country. A coup is acceptable if there are strong and justifiable reasons for it.

People try to overthrow the government for personal problems which is a reason why people shouldn't start a coup. People might want to overthrow a government so they can become more powerful or rich. Cassius wanted to kill Caesar so he could become more powerful (Shakespeare). Cassius wanted to be powerful so killing Caesar wasn't justifiable from his perspective. People overthrowing a government for personal reasons isn't justifiable because it's not for the good of anyone but themselves.

When the country attacks its own people, it's justifiable to have a coup. If the leader of a country is hurting their own people, they need to remove them so the country won't fail and people won't get hurt. In Egypt, the police brutally beat a man for no reason and the people aren't taking it anymore (Sutter). When Egypt attacks one of its citizens, they aren't fit to lead the people that they attack. If the government attacks its own people, they're not fit to be in charge of the nation and need to be replaced.

If the government is purposely trying to destroy the country, it's ok to overthrow them. Someone in the government trying to destroy the country it is treason and they need to be taken care of before they totally destroy the country. Mali soldiers thought that the democratic government was hurting the country so they started a coup. "they had been fed up with the way Mali's government was confronting the rebellion" (Nossiter). The soldiers thought that the democracy was ruining Mali so they took action. Overthrowing the democracy in Mali was what the soldiers thought would help Mali which is a justifiable cause.

A coup can be justifiable but only for some specific reasons. If the country is trying to ruin itself or hurting they're citizens, they shouldn't be in charge and need to be replaced. Overthrowing the government is acceptable for some reasons if needed. A coup can be justifiable if there is strong evidence to support overthrowing the government.

Are Coups Ever Justifiable?

Before stepping into a challenge like the overthrowing the government, it is important to decide whether or not a coups' actions are ever justifiable. It is because some people only want the power or wealth that they might gain with a coup, that makes overthrowing a government sometimes seem unjustifiable. There are many examples of coups, but three particular overthrows; such the uprisings in Egypt, Julius Caesar, and in Mali, where it can be decided that overthrowing the government can be justifiable, but only when it is for the good of the country.

Coups, or groups of people that protect the peace of the country, and the people are justifiable. In the uprising of Egypt in 2010, thousands of people joined a group in Facebook called "We Are All Khaled Said". Many Facebook users worked together to make Egypt a better place by protesting against the police brutality, the cause that led to the death of a young man, Khaled Said, and many others victims. In this uprising's article called *The faces of Egypt's Revolution*; "In that world, you could use tech tricks to maintain anonymity. You could mobilize more freely than in public, where you were likely to be watched by police"(Sutter). The article, tells of the uprising against police brutality, and how people peacefully dealt the problem they faced. Using this "new" method of protesting that involves technology, shows that uprisings can be peaceful, and also have a good purpose.

Protection of the people and country is another justifiable cause. Sometimes there are times when people believe they will bring the peace to the country themselves. In Mali, the

soldiers joined the rebellion because they were angered by the way the government was dealing with the rebels; their tremendous effort successfully gave people their power back in 1991. The article posted by BBC News called Syria profile; soldiers were "fed up" with the way that the government was dealing with the situation, and the under-equipped soldiers(Syria). Soldiers that rebelled succeeded and, "Power was handed back to civilians"(Syria). This source argues that people need to take action; especially when people a country believe that a rebellion will help protect the country they love. Overthrowing the government is justified only when the country needs to take action. If the government is not protecting its country, then it is justifiable for people to take action for the country they love.

Finally, It is only justifiable to overtake a government when it is for the good of the people. Overthrowing the government with reasons such as power, money, or jealousy causes a lot conflict; some might argue that uprisings are never justified because they can go wrong at any time. In Julius Caesar; Cassius convinces Brutus that Caesar should not rule Rome because he is both weak, and their equal. The jealous Cassius finally turns Brutus against his friend when he convinces Brutus that Caesar would not be fit for king, killing Caesar is the only way to "save Rome". After this however, the coup underestimates the damage that the uprising could cause, and like in the story, people end up being slaughtered because of the result of their actions, though they meant well(Shakespeare). A coup may not be able to predict a consequence such as this, but these kinds of results are not what keeps people from fighting for the country. Without jealousy and ambition, a coups' intentions can be justifiable.

In conclusion, it is only justifiable to overthrow the government if it is for a good of the country. It is because overthrowing the government can have both positive and negative outcomes, that it may or not may not help aid country; overthrowing the government can prove

to help unite people when they have a big problem, such as the one in Egypt. However in Julius Caesar, people might not think of a coup to ever be justifiable because of the possible consequences. Overthrowing the government can be to protect the country that one loves. It does not matter what people want, but it is what they need that really helps a person understand what is justifiable, for the good of the country.

Works Cited

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Shakespeare, William. *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*. N.p.: n.p., n.d. Print.

Sutter, John D. "The Faces of Egypt's 'Revolution 2.0.'" *Cnn.Com*. N.p., n.d. Web. 3 Apr. 2013.

2012-2013 Sophomore Writing Benchmark

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Directions: Answer the following prompt in a well-organized five-paragraph essay that includes an introduction, three main points, and a conclusion. Cite information from *Julius Caesar* and from two of the articles that we read in class to support your argument: "Soldiers Overthrow Mali Government in Setback for Democracy in Africa"; "The Faces of the Egyptian Revolution"; or "BBC News -- Syria Profile." Include in-text citations for all evidence cited in your essay.

Prompt: Is it ever justifiable (ok) to overthrow a government?

Does the government get to make your decisions for you? If you live in a city where the government makes your discussions you should be able to protest against it. Also you should decide what's best for your family where ever you live. Whether or not overthrowing the government is justifiable depends on the treatment of the citizens and the reason behind it.

Over throwing the government is not justifiable because innocent civilians are often killed. When an overthrow happens, it effects the people's money and safety. Mali, war, 2007, civilians, because they decided they have power over the civilians, civilians killed and economic stress " by: Adam Nossiter". In Mali they didn't care what civilians had to say about the situation and innocent people were hurt. People shouldn't be killed or have economic stress because of an overthrow of the government.

Over throwing a government is justifiable when the people rights and values are being abused. Your speaking

or political rights, In Egypt they where able to speak there own views. "By: John d. Sutter" There ruled by only one way of thinking and there right. That's when the people's rights are take it over throws the government.

Overthrowing the government is not ok if you are not overthrowing the government for a good reason. In Julius Caesar they didn't kill Caesar for a great reason, it was for there own good. Julius ceaser, Brutus and Cassius killed Caesar for there own good "Shakespeare". Sometimes you can be deceived to overthrowing a government. Not having a good reason to over throw the government makes no seance to over throw them.

Overthrowing the government is justifiable if people's rights are being abused, but it is not justified when its not for the right reasons and if innocent people are getting killed. Overthrowing the government is not ok because innocent people are getting killed and being abused for the wrong reasons. Whether or not overthrowing the government is justifiable depends on the treatment of the citizens and the reason behind it. There really is no right or wrong answer here.

Overthrowing a government is justifiable. When a coup occurs, it has to be for the right reasons. It has to be beneficial. No violence needed for a corrupt government. Sometimes overthrowing a coup is unjustifiable, if it causes more damage/destruction than the coup is unjustified.

In Mali, the west African nation cited as a democratic model, overthrew its government, tore up the presidential palace, arrested ministers and had declared that they've seized power. The soldiers who led the coup, said on state television that they've been fed up with the way Mali's government was confronting the rebellion. The soldiers had also complained about being underquipped for the fight. Foreign governments, analysts and Malians deplored the coup. In a counter that hasn't had a coupling since 1991- as a setback for democracy in Africa. Mali, which was considered one of the best like candidates for a coup attempt in all of Africa, was threaded with foreign aid cutoff immediately. The guerrilla had success, towns have been captured and soldiers, chased out their garrisons. There is enough reason to state the Mali coup is unjustifiable.

Now, the coup in Syria was justifiable. Syria was a homeland to many families, and they stood in silence and watched their homeland become a place of torture and repression. An organized Facebook group, was made in response to the social changes of their homeland. Direction were to stand 5 feet apart, in order to not break Egyptian laws against public demonstration; be absolutely silent; no signs; wear black and stand on the banks of the river or sea for one hour only, then walk away. When another Facebook page, titled The Day of the Revolution Against Torture, Poverty, Corruption and Unemployment, it had invited almost 100,000. More than 80,000 people clicked yes/attending on the invite. Although, many people were doubtful the event would amount to much. Salem, a revolutionist, later found out that his country was a place for maddening torture, rape and imprisonment in unimaginably small spaces, when he opened his fathers book. The face of torture was Khaled Said's beaten, bloodied and fractured face online. He was allegedly beaten to death by Syrian police. When's another Facebook page was made in response to the angry Egyptians for the death of Said, the government shut down the Internet. Syrians learned to spread there message a different way. When the Internet came back, Syrians overthrew the government. Therefore overthrowing the government of Syria, is unjustifiable.

Overthrowing Julius Caesar was and was not justifiable. The conspirators all had their reasons, though only brutus's were justifiable. Cassius, wanted Caesar dead because we was ambitious. Once, Caesar was drowning and asking for him to help, cassius thought no god needs help. If Caesar were to be a god, he would have saved himself. Cassius was mad of everyone thinking of Caesar as a god, when he knew he was just as strong as him and Brutus. He thought caesar as just a man, not a god at all. Cassius also wanted power. He was selfish and greedy. Brutus although, had the right reasons. He killed Caesar for the good of Rome. With Caesar dead, Rome would benefit. Why

have Caesar be alive and all Romans be slave under him, or Caesar be dead and Romans live free? Caesar was Brutus's best friend, Brutus very did indeed love Caesar, but loved Rome much more. If it were to be only Brutus killing caesar, it would be stated one-hundred percent justifiable. Although Cassius was involved, the coup is made unjustifiable. He killed Caesar, for without a doubt, in pure anger, ambition and jealousy.

Overthrowing a government is justifiable if they are for the right reasons. If a town is overthrowing a government because they didn't sell you're favorite cookies, it's unjustifiable. If the government is being thrown because they aren't sticking to what they said they were going to do in election, if they turn the country for worse, or if the citizens aren't being treated right with respect, then it shall be justifiable. Julius Caesar, Mali and Syria were all unjustifiable.



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Prompt: Is it ever justifiable (ok) to overthrow a government?

How would you feel if you were being controlled by someone, or being treated like a slave by someone? Would you be OK, knowing innocent people are dying or would you wanna do something about it?

In Mali they need a good reason to overthrow the government because their leader was not giving the good people of Mali freedom and civil rights, witch made it unfair and cruel to the people. Malians didn't like it, so the people decided to overthrow the government to get what they have been wanting.

In Syria there was a citizens house that was lit on fire by the government, because they disobeyed them and the owners of the house were lucky they weren't there, because they would of died and they are innocent.

Julius Caesar was killed for the good of people in Rome. He was taking the freedom from the city of Rome and he was treating the people of Rome as slaves. The conspiracy was for a good reason. It was done for the love of Rome. Mali's government was overthrown for a good reason too. Both of them had a good reason to be overthrow they had too much power and used it in a wrong.

My conclusion is that if you have a good enough reason to overthrow a government, you should do it, because they could get out of hand and horrible things could happen to good innocent people and that's just wrong. A coup must always be justifiable.

