*“Some people believe it is often necessary, even desirable, for political leaders to withhold information from the public. Others believe that the public has a right to be fully informed.”*

In the preceding decades, people have become more interested in being aware of the information spread over the world we are living in. In this regard, the inevitable question which has always engendered a heated controversy among people is whether political leaders have a right to conceal information from the public or not. While some might advocate the idea that it is preferable that information should be kept back from the public, I believe otherwise. The ensuing paragraphs will elaborate on the most salient reasons underlying my perspective.

To begin with, people's being aware of information can cause them to plan their future in a more conscious way. As a matter of fact, the more people know about the incidents taking place in the world in general and their countries in particular, the better they can schedule for their future. According to a recent survey conducted in Harvard University as for the correlation between having access to information and being able to organize upcoming plans, the results show that the people living in the countries whose governments allow their citizens to have access to the up-to-date information prepare themselves with more awareness for the future than those living in the countries where information kept secret most of the time. This clearly bears out that having free access to information would bring about more consciousness that can contribute to prospective decisions.

Another equally noteworthy advantage of informing people by political authorities has to do with an air of complete trust in a government which would be obtained. Without any shadow of doubt, when people make sure that their governments strive to be frank with them, they feel themselves as essential members of their societies, leading to solidarity between any given government and the public. As a case in point, consider a government whose policy is to keep secret information from the public by means of not broadcasting the happenings which might damage its reputation via national news services. In such a society, the feeling of confidence towards the government would be gradually diminished. As a result, not only can people finally have access to the information the government is trying to conceal, but the trust towards the command structure would also be undermined. Therefore, refusing to give information to the public can result in a lack of trust in governments.

On the other hand, as I already mentioned, there might be some people who claim that political leaders should withhold information from the public on the grounds of several reasons, such as security issues. They are right, in a case that some information have strategic aspects, so they should not be announced. Otherwise, hostile countries can easily have access to such information and diffuse to command structure with an attempt to subvert the government. Therefore, what I stated above should not be interpreted as meaning that officials should distribute all information in every situation.

In summation, with all this taken into account, I mostly believe that people should have a right to have access information on the grounds that they can decide their future's life with more knowledge and also a government can preserve its citizens' trust towards itself. Furthermore, in case of security threats, there is a right for a government to disguise the information whose spreading might endanger its society. Hence, it is highly recommended that governments not deprive their people of up-to-date information in many cases.