“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.”

**Write a response in which you discuss which view more closely aligns with your own position and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should address both of the views presented.**

While some people may consider withholding information from the public by political leaders as a necessity in some cases, others believe that freedom of information is a cornerstone to the public. I agree that information transparency should be maintained for two reasons.

One of the main reasons not to withholding information from the public is that it can prevent corruption as politicians are kept in check and held accountable for their actions. Therefore, this public supervision provide an environment for a healthy government system. On the other hand, people always pay taxes to employ political leaders who in turn, supposedly work for the public. As an employer, the public has the rights to demand that they need to know how politicians are running the country. For example, the public should have full rights to know where the country’s budget is spent on. This information may even change the results of the election when people have a proper and real understanding of different parties’ activities in economy’s growth. Take less developed countries in which politicians often rig up data and false facts during election time to convince the electorates about the impact they have made as an example. If the citizens are not well-informed of what is exactly going on, they would have no way of adjudging the veracity of these claims and would be hoodwinked into voting for those who have the political and mercenary muscle to influence opinion.

However, when it comes to the information involving national strategy or security, such information should be, or even must be kept secret. It should be acknowledged that withholding certain types of information from the public is necessary in that fully disclosing of such information would threaten national interest and even national security. Never would one country make public its military deployment in a skirmish, nor will a government publicize its real strategy in a trade war with other nations. The raid on Osama Bin Laden would have to be a clear example of not disclosing each information for the public in details. If it had not been so, the mission of arresting him definitely would have failed. Hence, these actions have nothing to do with honesty but reveal the naivety and inexperience of leaders on international politics.

In conclusion, some information cannot be made available at the moment due to its sensitive nature regarding the safety of the country. Otherwise, the public should have full rights to demand the information which concerns and impacts them directly.