

Bill to Law Transcript

KEY:

N: Narrator

N: Imagine you're with your friends. You're deciding what to do, and there's some disagreement.

Some want football, and others want basketball or tag rugby.

How do you decide in a way that's fair? One way is to vote.

Each person chooses their favourite from the options, and the one with the most votes wins. Now imagine this happened across a whole country.

There can be all sorts of disagreements about how best to run a country, and it's not possible for every person to have a say in every decision.

In many places across the world, people make a joint decision about who should be in charge. This is called democracy.

People get to vote in an election to choose leaders who they believe will make good decisions for their country. In fair elections, people each get one vote and are free to vote for who they want. People should also be free to express an opinion about their leaders and the leaders' ideas.

Free speech and free media are important in a democracy.

They help people share views, learn the facts, and check if their leaders are doing their job properly. For this to work, it's important to get information from trusted sources and think carefully about what we see and hear on social media.

Elections happen regularly, so people can decide if they still support their leaders or if they want new ones. If people don't like the decisions that leaders have made, they can vote for others at the next election.

In Northern Ireland, democracy works a little differently. After a time of violent conflict some years ago, called The Troubles, leaders worked together to find a peaceful way forward and create a system where different groups must share power. This means that people with different backgrounds and viewpoints work together to make decisions.

No one group can be in charge on its own, and some important decisions need support from different sides of the community.

This helps make sure everyone feels included and is treated fairly.

So Northern Ireland is still a democracy.

People vote in elections, but it's a special kind of democracy designed to help people work together and keep peace. Not all countries are democracies.

In a dictatorship, people usually do not get to choose their leaders and don't vote in fair elections. Instead, one person or a small group has all the power.

The leader takes control over decisions, and people don't have the opportunity to disagree or vote for change. All this is why elections are so important.

They give people the power to shape how their country is run.

Democracy helps make sure decisions are made for the people, by the people.

And even when you vote for something simple like a game, this is democracy in action.