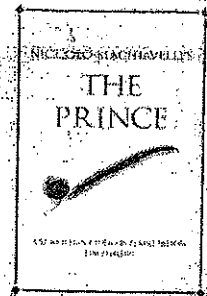


# How Machiavellian are you?



Published five years after his death The Prince by Niccolò Machiavelli is a “how to” manual guide for leaders and their advisors. In the book Machiavelli explains his political theories for running a state. Written a hundred and fifty years before John Locke’s Two Treatises of Government Machiavelli’s work is far from an Enlightened document. There is no mention of natural rights in Machiavelli’s manuscript and there is precious little about freedoms and liberties, however many would say that Machiavelli’s work would be more instructive for a leader struggling to maintain order amongst his population. Take the quiz below to see how “Machiavellian” you would be as a leader.



| Agree |  | Disagree |
|-------|--|----------|
|       | The best way for a leader to rule his people is to tell them what they want to hear              |          |
|       | A leader should take action no matter if that action is morally correct                          |          |
|       | A good leader ignores the will of the people and does what he thinks is best                     |          |
|       | Most people are simple, easily fooled and greedy   |          |
|       | Leaders may break promises to solve problems of the state  |          |
|       | A leader does not need to be honest with his people  |          |
|       | Before anything else a leader must be powerful and strong  |          |
|       | If you must attack your enemy it must be so severe an attack that we should not fear retribution |          |
|       | Anyone who completely trusts others is just asking for trouble.                                  |          |
|       | It is better for a leader to be feared than it is to be loved                                    |          |

Add up the total number of checks you have in the “Agree” column. Then subtract the number of checks you have in the “Disagree” column.

**If your score is 5 or higher**—You are pretty Machiavellian, you think like Machiavelli, in fact you may share the same DNA.

**If your score is between 0 and 5**— You are somewhat Machiavellian, you can be ruthless when needed, but only when needed.

**If your score is between 0 and -5**— You’re not into Machiavelli that much. You’re careful not to give away too much but basically you’re king

**If your score is between -5 & -10**— You’re not Machiavellian at all, in fact you may be a bit of a push over. Watch out before someone sells you a bridge!

