

## *Idea vs. Ideology*

An idea inspires and expands;  
ideology constricts and commands.  
An idea reaches out and liberates;  
ideology hems in and dominates.  
An idea emancipates and illuminates;  
ideology manipulates and obfuscates.

An idea serves;  
ideology demands.  
An idea leads;  
ideology drags.  
An idea nudges;  
ideology shoves.

An idea opens out into community;  
ideology closes down into camps.  
An idea help you to be;  
ideology wants you to obey.  
An idea seeks the truth;  
ideology's concern is control.

An idea is humble and trusting;  
ideology is proud and suspicious.  
An idea is expansive and bold;  
ideology is petty and fearful.  
An idea is a benefit to you;  
ideology is good only for "them."

The power of an idea is persuasion;  
the power of ideology is force.  
Thinking is the source of ideas,  
but the bane of ideology.

The leader, therefore,  
stimulates ideas.  
The despot, however,  
imposes ideology.

© Msgr. Walter Niebrzydowski  
September 16, 1987  
[Fr-Walter@nyc.rr.com](mailto:Fr-Walter@nyc.rr.com)  
[www.fatherwaltersparish.org](http://www.fatherwaltersparish.org)

## *Idea vs. Ideology*

An idea inspires and expands;  
ideology constricts and commands.  
An idea reaches out and liberates;  
ideology hems in and dominates.  
An idea emancipates and illuminates;  
ideology manipulates and obfuscates.

An idea serves;  
ideology demands.  
An idea leads;  
ideology drags.  
An idea nudges;  
ideology shoves.

An idea opens out into community;  
ideology closes down into camps.  
An idea help you to be;  
ideology wants you to obey.  
An idea seeks the truth;  
ideology's concern is control.

An idea is humble and trusting;  
ideology is proud and suspicious.  
An idea is expansive and bold;  
ideology is petty and fearful.  
An idea is a benefit to you;  
ideology is good only for "them."

The power of an idea is persuasion;  
the power of ideology is force.  
Thinking is the source of ideas,  
but the bane of ideology.

The leader, therefore,  
stimulates ideas.  
The despot, however,  
imposes ideology.

© *Msgr. Walter Niebrzydowski*  
October 7, 1997

## *Idea vs. Ideology*

An idea inspires and expands;  
ideology constricts and commands.  
An idea reaches out and liberates;  
ideology hems in and dominates.  
An idea emancipates and illuminates;  
ideology manipulates and obfuscates.

An idea serves;  
ideology demands.  
An idea leads;  
ideology drags.  
An idea nudges;  
ideology shoves.

An idea opens out into community;  
ideology closes down into camps.  
An idea help you to be;  
ideology wants you to obey.  
An idea seeks the truth;  
ideology's concern is control.

An idea is humble and trusting;  
ideology is proud and suspicious.  
An idea is expansive and bold;  
ideology is petty and fearful.  
An idea is a benefit to you;  
ideology is good only for "them."

The power of an idea is persuasion;  
the power of ideology is force.  
Thinking is the source of ideas,  
but the bane of ideology.

The leader, therefore,  
stimulates ideas.  
The despot, however,  
imposes ideology.

© *Msgr. Walter Niebrzydowski*  
October 7, 1997