

THE CHALLENGE

THE DICTIONARY

disenfranchised

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disenfranchised

Archief Philip Staal

The adjective **disenfranchised** describes a person or group of people who are stripped of their power, like *disenfranchised* immigrants who pay taxes but aren't allowed to vote in elections.

Being disenfranchised is no fun. The rules work against you, your rights are constantly violated, and you have little power to change your life for the better. The Old French word *enfranchir* means "to make free," and when you add the negative prefix *dis-*, *disenfranchised* means "made unfree." A disenfranchised population doesn't rest easy, and often they organize and fight back against their condition to demand their basic rights and freedom.

DEFINITIONS OF:

disenfranchised

1

adj deprived of the rights of citizenship especially the right to

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(disenfranchised)

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deprivation

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deprivation

A state of **deprivation** means something is missing, and the situation is serious. If you're suffering from "sleep *deprivation*," you haven't slept in a long time.

If you know the word *deprive* — meaning to keep something away from someone — then you're close to knowing what *deprivation* means. It describes the state of not having something. Poor people experience a lot of deprivation: poverty keeps them from having enough food or shelter. Plants experiencing water deprivation will shrivel up and die. If you're grounded your parents might impose video game deprivation, although this word is usually reserved for when you're lacking something really serious.

DEFINITIONS OF:

deprivation

1

n the disadvantage that results from losing something



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WORD FAMILY

deprivation

deprive

deprived