Is the Filibuster Democratic? Alex Layton

How would you describe the Legislative Branch's role and aims? Does the filibuster help that work or hurt it?
Why prefer majority rule to oligarchy or dictatorship? In what sense do the <i>people</i> decide public policy in the US? What does "one person, one vote" guarantee?
What reasons do we have for favoring a supermajority in certain situations? Why prefer a simple majority? When is each more appropriate?
What harm does the filibuster prevent? What good does the filibuster stifle? Would we better off with such a practice or without it? Who benefits? Who loses out?