control by increasing press censorship in 1924 and the Legge Fascistissime of December 1925 banned parliamentary opposition and Trade Unions. The King was now unable to remove Mussolini from power because there was no one prominent enough to replace him, and in January 1925 Mussolini was granted the right to issue decrees carrying the full force of the law, effectively he had the powers of rule by decree once more. Essentially the dictatorship had been created. Further laws introduced by the Fascist Grand Council, an organisation which replaced the government in 1922, included; one party list elections, the OVRA being given the right to enforce detention without trial, and protection of the Papacy under the 1929 Lateren Treaty. In 1928 Victor Emmanuel III lost the right to select the Prime Minister, therefore it was through slow and well thought out moves that Mussolini was able to fully consolidate his position as Italian Dictator.

Overall Mussolini’s methods of obtaining and consolidating power from 1919-1926 were incredibly efficient and purposeful, he managed to project the Fascist party from 0 seats to 374 seats in the space of 5 years. He was careful to manage and portray the fascist violence in a positive light, they were supposedly fighting on the behalf of the Italian people, and then he took direct action, as inspired by D’Annunzio, to show the people he was a powerful leader. When he managed to legally obtain power he took slow but precise steps to consolidate it his introduction of a balanced administration gave the people confidence in him and his slow build-up of policies gave him the control to emerge as Italian dictator by 1926.

Word Count: 1920