

Society's Breakthrough!

Is it possible there is a simple answer to our national nightmare?

America! We have MONSTER problems!

- Polarization — anger & distrust
- Rise of Authoritarianism
- Loss of empathy
- Fake news ... manipulation
- “Special Interest” domination of the “Public Interest”
- Politics In gridlock
- L-curve distribution of wealth & power
- Systemic Racism
- Loss of meaningful work
- Extra financial burdens on young people
- ...

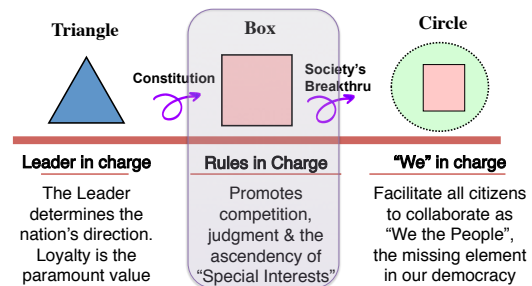
Would you be interested in a BREAKTHROUGH SOLUTION to ALL these problems?

- It's NON PARTISAN, QUICK ACTING, SAFE, EFFECTIVE
- It UNBLOCKS “normal solutions”— electing new leaders, educating a critical mass of people, scaling up what works, etc. —so they can be effective again
- It involves ... ALL THE PEOPLE?
- It can be applied ... NATIONALLY... Or Globally (climate change, wars, pestilence, etc.) ... Or State-wide ... Or locally
- It is ACCESSIBLE .. It's not that costly. You and I could set it in motion!

“Society’s Breakthrough”— We can apply the “Wisdom Council Process” to the nation

- 12-16 Random citizens are gathered for 2-3 days
- Someone skilled in Dynamic Facilitation helps them face a Monster issue and reach unity through shifts and breakthroughs
- They present their shared perspective and the story of how they achieved it back it to the nation
- Generally the audience resonates—saying “YES!”—and continues building on the ideas
- Every three months the process repeats, building a legitimate “We the People”

Today’s problems result from our “Box” System, which sets the context



Society’s Breakthrough sparks multi-layered benefits

- 1 Solving monster problems:** We co-determine win/win solutions for selected issues. Leadership comes from the people to government
- 2 New public conversation:** We all get involved, appreciate differences, build shared perspectives, and work together. This collaborative conversation “trumps” the current power struggle
- 3 New system:** Over time the Wisdom Council Process transforms the **Box**, where the Constitution is in charge, to the **Circle** where “We the People” arise to take responsibility

For example, consider how this would impact “national polarization”

- 1 The shared Conclusions—**
 - ✦ A Wisdom Council might address the issue of polarization. They would reach a shared perspective and strategy for going forward.
 - ✦ e.g. ... They might determine specific changes to the election process
 - ✦ e.g. ... This clear expression of the “public interest” is widely supported, more so than the positions of “special interests”
- 2 The Process—**
 - ✦ People and legislators pick up on the spirit of collaboration, no matter what issue is chosen
 - ✦ e.g. ... Media coverage shifts from negative to positive when the people work together toward a shared vision
- 3 The system Transformation—**
 - ✦ When Wisdom Councils happen regularly, the primary dynamic for society shifts from competition to collaboration

What's the magic?... Recognizing choice-creating vs. decision-making

- Choice-creating is the missing form of thinking in our society
 - Where we all stop and face our problems creatively
 - Where we include everyone and appreciate diverse views
 - Where we reach unity through shifts and breakthroughs
 - Where we solve impossible-to-solve issues
 - Where a powerful "We the People" can arise
- Choice-creating often happens naturally in a crisis when people rise to the occasion
- Choice-creating is resonant—i.e. Even though only a small group is Dynamically Facilitated, the whole-system hears the story and says "I think so too!"

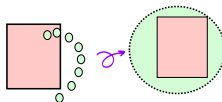
Dynamic Facilitation reliably evokes choice-creating

- The randomly selected Wisdom Council sits in a half-circle facing a set of charts
 - Solutions
 - Concerns
 - Data
 - Problem-statements
- The charts provide space for any reaction or response from meeting participants
- The Dynamic Facilitator helps the group follow "energy" rather than an agenda
- Progress happens through shifts and breakthroughs
- The DF'er helps the group realize and celebrate its progress



Periodically, we step back from normal "decision-making" to think in the spirit of "choice-creating"

- We face and solve impossible problems in a way that sparks "We the People" and transforms our system from Box to Circle



Are you concerned that this won't work?

"How can ...

- ... 12-16 random citizens reach unity?
- ... we expect to solve impossible problems?"
- ... everyone be involved in one conversation?"
- ... this spark everyone to come together in unity?
- ... the views of the Wisdom Council exert real power?"
- ... special interests tolerate the rise of people power?"
- ... ordinary people like us start this process?"
- etc.



**These concerns can be answered.
This strategy is already working!**

Where has the Wisdom Council Process been used so far?

- States and Cities** e.g. The state of Vorarlberg in Austria adopted it into their constitution and used it on the issue of Syrian Refugees ... As well as Land Use Planning
- Organizations:** e.g. AgAmerica Bank used it to involve employees in becoming a "forward thinking organization"
- Citizen sponsored experiments:** e.g. One citizen of Pleasantville NY set up a Wisdom Council to articulate a 3-fold vision for the City Council

Please support this work

- This flyer can barely touch the surface of this holistic perspective ... Please learn more at www.WiseDemocracy.org.
- Share what you learn with others ... especially those who are fearful
- Use www.Smile.amazon.com to redirect some of Amazon's profits toward the Center for Wise Democracy
- Donate directly ... Money, time, energy



The natural response to any breakthrough, especially one that promises a simple answer for solving many impossible problems is resistance and dismissal. This is real. Please stay curious and find out more.