

Good News! ... We can act holistically

How can we save American Democracy?



www.WiseDemocracy.org

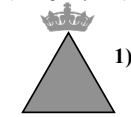
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How can we ...

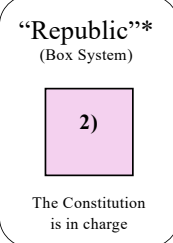
1) Block the slide to Autocracy?	2) Restore & Improve our Constitutional Republic?	3) Facilitate the transition to Wise Democracy?
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Autocracy
(Triangle System)




"Dear Leader"
(a King) is in charge

"Republic"*
(Box System)



The Constitution is in charge

Wise Democracy
(Circle System)



"We the People" is in charge

*What we call "democracy" is really a Constitutional Republic (The Box)

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


1) The Wise Democracy Project can block the slide to Autocracy

where ...

- LOYALTY is to the "Dear Leader" vs. the Constitution
- INSTITUTIONS are attacked (e.g. media, schools, courts)
- TRUTH is overwhelmed by lies
- The RULE OF LAW is undermined by privilege
- GOVERNMENT & MILITARY are tools of the Dear Leader
- CORRUPTION is rampant
- STANDING UP for Democracy becomes dangerous
- HUMAN VALUES like equity & inclusiveness are diminished
- CITIZENS become peasants to a new class of oligarchs


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2) The Wise Democracy Project can restore & improve our Constitutional Republic

- Our Constitutional Republic assures freedom, rule of law, balance of powers etc. by setting up a competition of Special Interests. But as we become **INTER**-dependent this basis in competition generates collective stupidity and "Monster Problems" (i.e. seemingly unsolvable)
- There are many ideas for improving our Republic (the Box)... e.g. Ranked-choice voting. But powerful Special Interests block them from national consideration
- The Wise Democracy Project provides a way "the public Interest" can overrule the Special Interests

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3) The Wise Democracy Project can facilitate "Wise Democracy" for America?

In "Wise Democracy" citizens participate in a new on-going national "We the People" conversation where ...

- We creatively and collaboratively address the "Monster Problems" (e.g. partisan gulf, poverty)
- We powerfully articulate win/win perspectives on what is the Truth? our Vision? the best Strategy?
- We assume our rightful place as ultimate leader in a new Circle System of "Wise Democracy"

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The WISE DEMOCRACY PROJECT is 8 accessible steps

1. Gather "Just Us" ... a few who "get" the importance of this
2. Identify the first Monster Problem –e.g. "loss of democracy"
3. Randomly select 12 to 16 citizens from the nation
4. Use Dynamic Facilitation to assure shared conclusions
5. This Wisdom Council presents its results to "the people" in a national "community meeting"
6. Structure Wisdom Councils to be ongoing, every month or so
7. The ongoing series of Wisdom Councils evokes an inclusive national conversation in the spirit of choice-creating
8. Educate people about this holistic model of change

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This project works because of some SOCIAL INNOVATIONS

- **“Choice-creating”** is the heartfelt, creative form of conversation where people address pressing, impossible-seeming Monster Problems and achieve wise shared perspectives through shifts & breakthroughs
- **“Dynamic Facilitation”** is a facilitative approach involving charts of DATA, SOLUTIONS, CONCERNS and PROBLEM-STATEMENTS where random people speak naturally with feeling, yet engage one another with listening & creativity (i.e. choice-creating)
- The **“Wisdom Council Process”** uses an ongoing series of randomly selected groups who dynamically facilitate a large system of people into one ongoing whole-system “We the People” conversation.
- **“Society’s Breakthrough”** is the application of the Wisdom Council Process to society, both nationally and globally

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This Project generates different kinds of change ...

- **The CONTENT of what Wise Democracy Councils say**
 - The WDC’s address each Monster and achieves shared clarity on the Truth, our shared Vision & what Strategy is needed. The public resonates!
- **The new whole-system THINKING PROCESS**
 - This new national conversation transcends partisanship, builds the spirit of national community, and resolves impossible-seeming problems
- **BREAKTHROUGHS**
 - New solutions are co-created that are widely supported from the beginning
- **A New Founding STORY—We are all “co-founders”**
 - Once again a “We the People” rises to the occasion to found a new System of Democracy, only this time it’s all of us and “We” maintain ultimate authority
- **A New SYSTEM of “Wise Democracy”**
 - People’s motives shift away from “game values” (e.g. maximizing profits) to “human values” (e.g. serving the public interest) as being primary

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Can this really work? ... Yes, it already works at large scale

- **Origin story**
 - A few employees in a sawmill met regularly with a Dynamic Facilitator to solve their biggest problems. Surprise: All 350 employees in the mill became involved in one conversation, solved Monster problems, overcame union opposition and transformed the Management System
- **Local Wisdom Council Experiments in**
 - Cities, County, Food Coop, Agricultural Bank, High schools, Government offices, Local Access TV, Corporations, Conferences, etc.
- **Wisdom Council Process adopted in Europe!**
 - Two states of Austria have adopted the Wisdom Council Process into their state constitutions, affecting the lives of millions of people

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“Normal Solutions” can help but NOT to solve Monster Problems

- Voting
- Street Demonstrations
- Lobbying
- Citizens Assemblies
- Electing new people & policies
- Education (e.g. on issues, civics)
- Dialogue to bridge partisanship
- Raising consciousness
- etc.

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Common questions (See the QR Codes for Answers)

1. How could all citizens be involved?
2. How could all the people reach unity?
3. How could this solve impossible Monster Problems?
4. How would this create a legitimate “We the People”?
5. How could this spark a new kind of Democracy?
6. How does expert knowledge fit in?
7. Won’t powerful special interests stop this?
8. How can I “get it” that this must happen?
9. How can I get involved and support this Project?

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How can I help the Wise Democracy Project to happen?

- **Help others understand** ...it is possible to FACILITATE all the people to come together as “We the People,” solve today’s Monster Problems and establish a system of “Wise Democracy” in America. ... This is fast-acting!
- **Print this handout** for people afraid of losing democracy
- Help organize and support a **NATIONAL “Wise Democracy Council” in your LOCAL area.**
- Support continuing local “Resonance Councils” to respond to successive Wise Democracy Councils in other locations
- **Donate!** ... We especially need start up money.



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