

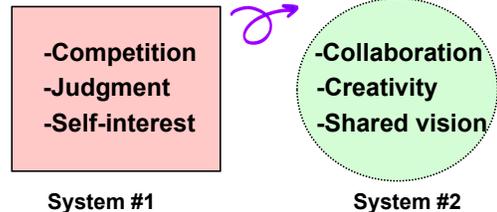
American Democracy is Broken ...

We need a ReBirth of “We the People (Part 1/2)

What’s wrong with our nation? ... with our Democracy?

- Increasingly polarized—e.g. Fake news;
 - Corruption—Money sets policy;
 - Oligarchy—L-curve distribution of wealth & power;
 - Lack of citizen hope & involvement;
 - Authoritarianism—e.g. Undermine the Rule of Law;
 - Systemic injustice—e.g. Racism;
 - Collective stupidity—e.g. Undermining science
- And, We maximize profits at the expense of the ‘public good’ in health care, defense, food production, etc.

All these issues arise from our Constitution-driven ‘System of Thinking’ with no ‘We the People’



To Build ‘We the People’ & transform the System there are 3 questions to answer:

Question #1: How can we (you
and I) facilitate ALL the people
to come together in ONE
conversation to face and solve
these monster issues?

Question #2: How can we
assure that this new public
conversation will reliably
evoke win/win unity, which
makes “We the People”
possible?

Question #3: How can we be
sure that this new public
conversation will be ongoing,
so a legitimate “We the
People” becomes part of our
existing structure?

A national “Wisdom Council Process” can meet these needs

- Every 3 months an issue is chosen
- 12-24 RANDOMLY selected citizens are gathered to address it
- They are “dynamically facilitated” to reach UNITY in just a couple days
- They present their conclusions and the story of how they achieved them in a public ceremony
- They disband, but this sparks a new ongoing whole-system “We the People” conversation
- “Responder Meetings” are held after each Wisdom Council, where experts, stakeholders & elected leaders coordinate their responses

'Choice-creating' is the conversation of 'We the People'

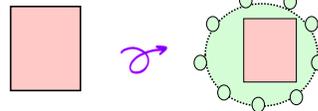
- In choice-creating we all work together creatively on the BIG issues, determining win/win solutions
- The new System needs both conversations:
 - 1) Decision-making (e.g. Representatives & voting)
 - 2) Choice-creating (All of us seeking win/win answers)
- Dynamic Facilitation is used within the Wisdom Council to evoke choice-creating. People sit in a half-circle facing the issue and four charts
 - Solutions
 - Concerns
 - Data
 - Problem-statements
- The 'Wisdom Council Process' uses Dynamic Facilitation, only it extends the spirit of 'We the People' to the whole-nation scale



The 'Wisdom Council Process' reliably evokes 'choice-creating' in addition to 'decision-making'

Our Constitutional Structure (Box) sets up a thinking process of competition, a power struggle where the winners take charge

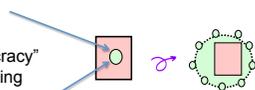
Adding the Wisdom Council Process sparks 'We the People' to take ultimate responsibility for the actions of our system and its structure



Existing 'solutions' aim to improve System #1

1) Improve System #1 (Box)

- Elect new leaders
- Enact new policy
- "Deliberative Democracy"
- Participatory Budgeting
- Trans-partisan Dialogues
- Micro-grants ... Etc.



2) Transform to System #2 (Circle)

Both are needed!

The Benefits of this strategy are IMMENSE! ... Can't find any risk!

- **Breakthrough progress on each issue independently**
 - The new collaborative public conversation increases understanding & involvement, and builds shared vision. We value diversity in people and ideas (vs. racism and power struggles). And we achieve win/win perspectives that dominate "special interests"
- **System transformation to "democracy"**
 - Ultimate authority shifts from us discerning what "The Founders" had in mind, "The Constitution," to what we think today, "We the People." "We the People" has the power to modernize institutions and sub-systems ... Elections, Justice, Education, Budgets, Supreme Court, etc.
- **Transformation of people and their motives**
 - From the new mythology and story of who we are - we are in charge of our system and our lives ... people think differently. For instance, self-interest and maximizing profits become less important than the success of our collaborative enterprise. There are new levels of community spirit and trust in government, personal empowerment, and openness to innovation

Where has the Wisdom Council Process been used so far?

- **States and Cities:** Regular use in Austrian states of Vorarlberg & Salzburg, plus cities
- **Organizations:** e.g. IT Swisscom, WA Dept. Of Agriculture; Ag America bank
- **Nations:** 'Energy security for Germany' experiment in 2017
- **Citizen sponsored experiments in the U.S.** (e.g. Asheville NC, Ashland OR, Victoria BC, Port Townsend WA, Pleasantville NY)

Center for Wise Democracy

- 1) Investigate & share this new approach
 - See www.WiseDemocracy.org
 - Read *Society's Breakthrough! Releasing Essential Wisdom and Virtue in All the People* by Jim Rough
- 2) Come to a seminar on "Dynamic Facilitation and the Wisdom Council"
- 3) Start a Wisdom Council in your area
- 4) Help raise money for national and global Wisdom Councils ... Donate if you can
 - e.g. use Smile.amazon.com



Also see part 2/2 ... How the Wisdom Council Process can spark 'We the People'