

Preface for The Fifth Republican Revolution

Living in a free society, is not for free. The price is the responsibility to honor the principles of the constitutional democratic republic that was designed to protect your unalienable rights to life liberty and the pursuit of happiness. On January 6, 2021, the third day of infamy in the last one hundred years, domestic terrorists lead a credulous mob to participate as culpable citizens in an insurrection that threatened the basic tenet of a peaceful transfer of power in a political system designed to pursue justice, liberty and justice for all.

The insurrection emerged from the blatantly false claims of a rigged election, by the then President Donald John Trump, using the playbook of tyrants, fostering hate and prejudice. What follows is an excerpted paragraph from the article of impeachment:

On January 6, 2021, pursuant to the 12th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, the House of Representatives, and the Senate met at the United States Capitol for a Joint Session of Congress to count the votes of the Electoral College. In the months preceding the Joint Session, President Trump repeatedly issued false statements asserting that the Presidential election results were the product of widespread fraud and should not be accepted by the American people or certified by State or Federal officials. Shortly before the Joint Session commenced, President Trump, addressed a crowd at the Ellipse in Washington, D.C. There, he reiterated false claims that "we won this election, and we won it by a landslide." He also willfully made statements that, in context, encouraged — and foreseeably resulted in — lawless action at the Capitol, such as: "if you don't fight like hell you're not going to have a country anymore." Thus incited by President Trump, members of the crowd he had addressed, in an attempt to, among other objectives, interfere with the Joint Session's solemn constitutional duty to certify the results of the 2020 Presidential election, unlawfully breached and vandalized the Capitol, injured and killed law enforcement personnel, menaced Members of Congress, the Vice President, and Congressional personnel, and engaged in other violent, deadly, destructive and seditious acts.

Events are unfolding! Our nation needs to return to a bipartisan system in which at least two political parties exist with a peaceful transfer of power; that peaceful transfer of power is seriously threatened by the insurrection January 6, 2021.

This website is in the educational business, not the business of forecasting. That being said, our version of the educational business is understanding the likelihood of outcomes depending upon behavior. In so doing, we are applying nascent disciplines in what we see as a transition to a New Age of Enlightenment.

This essay will be updated from time to time, as significant events unfold. As a nonpartisan website, we welcome a diversity of perspectives. The intention is to develop sufficient teams so that the enterprise may be gifted to a not-for-profit organization.

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The Fifth Republican Revolution

Another Day of Infamy

The Right Choice on The Day of Infamy

The Fifth Republican Revolution may have started on January 6, 2021 when some Republican leaders chose to honor their oath to uphold the Constitution as more important than the threats of retaliation if they departed from supporting President Trump. Vice President Mike Pence, as a courtesy to the president, had informed him that he could not do what President Trump wanted him to do while serving as president of the Senate and presiding over the formal counting of the votes from the 2020 presidential election. President Trump was incensed; it was another bad day at the office.

Bad days at the office had been increasing ever since the election polls turned south. Although the then president seemed emboldened after he was acquitted by the Senate in January 2020 after his impeachment by the House of Representatives in December 2019, he went on to make the greatest mistake of his political career; and there was an array from which to choose.

It is not the ranking in the array but rather the synergistic effect of his messaging of disinformation to credulous people designed to evoke responses for his purposes without regard to the side effects. That along with his tactics of denigrating opposition and punishing people who do not do what he wants them to do, even if they are not obligated to so do, and even though they may be prohibited by law from so doing. So, it is not a single mistake, it is the synergistic effect of his amoral behavior of his use of power, including an abuse of power.

Emergence. The synergistic effect of Trump's amoral behavior, and abuse of power, leveraged the distribution of his lies to his base. January 6, 2021 his lies caught up with him. His disregard for truth, except when it could be used as a kernel in a fabricated alternative fact intended to influence the feelings of supporters resulted in enough people trusting him, with his unfounded claims, to believe that he has been cheated out of being reelected. They responded to his last desperate effort in his political strategy for reelection when he spoke at a rally late that morning. That response was facilitated by some well-organized supporters who came armed for a rebellion designed to invade the Capital Building and obstruct the counting of the Electoral College votes.

The counting had started in alphabetical order of the states, with opportunities for Congressional Representatives to voice objections. The Congress had not gotten very far when the insurrection invaded the Capital Building, and drove the elected representatives and others to safety. It was a predictable assault, especially since right-wing radical factions advocating violence had been tweeting for months. Among the factions are domestic terrorists.

Oath of Office. At that rally, President Trump incited the attack in violation of his oath of office. The draft of the of impeachment, INCITEMENT OF INSURRECTION, included the following:

There, he reiterated false claims that "we want the selection, and we won it by a landslide." He also willfully made statements that, in context, encouraged--and foreseeably resulted in--lawless action at the capital, such as: "if you don't fight like hell you're not going to have a country anymore."

At the time this is being updated, the timing of the trial is uncertain. The opening paragraph from the January 12, 2021 lead article in the *New York Times*, HOUSE SETS A VOTE TO IMPEACH TRUMP UNLESS PEE ACTS, authored by Nicholas Fandos, is as follows:

WASHINGTON -- House Democrats introduced an article of impeachment against President Trump on Monday for his role in inflaming a mob that attacked the Capital, setting up a Wednesday vote to charge the president with “inciting violence against the government of the United States” if Vice President Mike Pence refused to strip him of power first.

On the same day, January 12, 2021, the lead article in the *Wall Street Journal*, House Looks to Impeach In Days, authored by Natalie Andrews and Rebecca Ballhaus, contains the following paragraph:

On Monday, Mr. Trump and Mr. Pence met in the Oval Office for the first time since the riot, according to a senior administration official who said they had a “good conversation” in which they said “those who broke the law and stormed the Capital last week do not represent the America first movement.” The two men “pledged to continue the work on behalf of the country for the remainder of their term,” the official said, a further indication Mr. Pence isn’t planning to seek the president’s removal.

As noted in the opening paragraph of this essay, “Vice President Mike Pence, as a courtesy to the president, had informed him that he could not do what President Trump wanted him to do while serving as president of the Senate and presiding over the formal counting of the votes from the 2020 presidential election.”

Political Imperative. Vice President Mike Pence observed the political imperative of doing the right thing to honor his oath. In so doing, aside from the rage of the president, he suffered from hearing some of the terrorists who invaded the Capital chant “HANG PENCE.” It certainly appears that the political imperative for President Donald Trump to avoid having to deal with Vice President Mike Pence gathered support from his remaining cabinet to invoke the 25th amendment. The political imperative is coming into play for elected representatives of Congress, and also for those in state governments.

Earlier in the week of infamy, on January 2, 2021, what appears to be the penultimate attempt by President Donald Trump to overturn the election, he made a phone call in which he “urged the secretary of state of Georgia, Brad Raffensperger, to “find” enough votes to overturn the Georgia Presidential election results and threatened Secretary Raffensperger if he failed to do so.” [Excerpted from the draft of ARTICLE I: INCITEMENT OF INSURRECTION.]

Our focus here, however, is on those elected Congressional Representatives, especially in the Senate, who after having been interrupted by a seditious invasion of the Capital did the right thing in resuming the counting of votes without pursuing further obstructionist measures. Some did not, led by Senator Ted Cruz and Senator Josh Hawley, who was the first to object to the counting of the votes and then moved ahead even after the Senate resumed following the invasion that interrupted the process. Some of the other senators who had been scheduled for voicing objections, decided to do the right thing enabling the Senate to complete its action by about 2 AM in the Capital Building, a symbol of our democracy.

In the House of Representatives, some, but not a great many, of the Republicans moved into the category of making “The Right Choice on The Day of Infamy,” and adjusting their position when

resuming their constitutional obligations in processing the electoral college results, after having been interrupted by the seditious invasion of the Capital Building.

The behavior of President Trump, that incited to the seditious behavior of some of the invaders of the Capital Building, led to January 6, 2021 being the marker not only for a day of infamy, but also the inflection point of a split in elected leadership of what had become the Trumpian Republican Party into two factions, with ***divisiveness enough to constitute another Republican Revolution.***

The Previous Republican Revolutions

“The First Republican Revolution was in the Reagan era centered around the 1980s. The Second Republican Revolution, led by Newt Gingrich, was in the 1990s. It was in the first decade of the 21st century that we had the Third Republican Revolution. The fourth Republican Revolution was arguably started in the second decade of the 21st century when the Republicans in Congress were hardening their obstructionism to the norms of democracy with a high point in refusal to act on President Obama’s nomination to the Supreme Court.” That is excerpted from the last page of the essay titled “Our Democracy is Destroying Itself: Power Without Morality Is Cancerous.”

<https://mleoofthemauryselfdinllc.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/OurDemocracyisDestroyingItself102320.pdf>
That essay serves as APPENDIX B of IT IS TIME TO DECIDE! DO YOU WANT TO LIVE IN A FREE SOCIETY?

Obviously, the fifth Republican Revolution is going to co-evolve with the political economy in which there is a recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic and its variations. That co-evolution is going to be part of the evolution of a diversity of subcultures impacted by structural changes in the nature of the economy.

The people in the diversity of subcultures are going to make their choices based upon the workings of their inner worlds as they react to changes in the outer world. Arguably, January 6, 2021 will be recorded into the book of infamy as another date of infamy along with December 7, 1941 and September 11, 2001. On that January 6, 2021, a mob instigated by President Donald Trump boldly attacked the Capital Building while a joint session of Congress was meeting to finalize the process the certification of the election of president and vice president of the United States. It was the seditious act fostered by the president of United States in what turned out to be part of his final effort to overturn a fair and honest election which he had been lying about, and taking outrageous measures to reverse. He had stacked the Supreme Court, pressured key officials of the states, and had dozens of lawsuits rejected by the courts, including by many judges whom he had nominated during his term of office.

As noted above, the outrageous behavior of the seditious mob “led some of the Senators, who had signed on for raising objections to electoral college report from a selection of states, to withdraw their objections.” The lies of President Trump about the election and the consequences of his political base actually believing what he said have arguably led to the beginning of the Fifth Republican Revolution. Many of his base also believed what he said about the pandemic, and a reasonable estimate that a lot more than tens of thousands all them died an early death because they trusted the autocratic leader of their populist base.

The informal “Dump Trump Movement,” including many Republicans as well as Democrats, began consideration of pursuing Article 4 of the twenty-fifth amendment to the Constitution and/or an impeachment with less than two weeks before the expiration of his term. The great fear was what Donald Trump as president could do to further damage the country with less than two weeks remaining

in office. Many of his White House appointees resigned, not wanting their reputations going down with the presidential ship. The collection of events, within the couple of days of the seditious storming of the Capital (on January 26, 2021, another day of infamy), was for Donald Trump to concede to a peaceful transfer of government on January 20, 2021. However, he has not altered his unfounded claim that the election was stolen from him. It remains to be seen what he will do with the hundreds of millions of dollars he raised in the efforts to reverse the election results, skillfully arranged to available for his campaigning for the presidency in the 2024 elections.

The question we are focusing on is the future of what used to be known as the Grand Old Party. It became the Trumpian Republican Party shortly after he took office. Initially there was some resistance; but his retaliatory tactics against those who demonstrated an insufficient loyalty to him as the leader, rather quickly facilitated his pursuit of an autocratic government.

The Battle for the Republican Base

The Grand Old Party's First Hundred Years

On the penultimate page (341) of Heather Cox Richardson's, *To Make Men Free: A History of the Republican Party*, there is a paragraph as follows:

The seeming endless circles of the Republican Party reflect the unresolved tension between equality and property in America. The Declaration of Independence established the nation on the principle that all men are created equal, and it seems to promise equality of opportunity to all based on equal access to resources and equal treatment under the law. Then the Constitution established that the nation was also based on the protection of property. These two principles, both central to American identity, came into conflict almost immediately when the founding fathers neglected to guard against the power of wealthy men to swing the government policies in their own favor. The Republican Party founders set out to rectify that oversight, only to be caught by it themselves.

The December 2020 version booklet titled AMERICAN DEMOCRACY ENDANGERED: RESTRUCTURING AMERICAN DEMOCRACY contains the following paragraph:

What is underway is the exploration of additional work to be posted. A book by Heather Cox Richardson, *To Make Men Free: A History of the Republican Party*, published in 2014, contains the following paragraph:

Is it possible for the parties to resolve this tension? [The tension is discussed in the book's previous paragraph that starts off as follows "The seemingly endless circles of the Republican Party reflect the unresolved tension between equality and property in America."]. Can the future be different? Surely the party's argument that economic opportunity for everyone must be advanced by an active government, the idea conceived by Lincoln and adopted by Theodore Roosevelt and Eisenhower, would adapt as easily to the modern global economy as it did to the industrialization and to the nuclear world. But can the party shed the opposing argument, developed in the racial and political conflict of the late nineteenth century and recycled ever since, that government activism is socialist? [See pages 341-2.]

The reader should consider these comments as a partial review of the book. As such it is introduced by including the introduction to her book the following paragraph:

There is nothing at all random about Republicans ideological shift. They reflect GOP's ongoing renegotiation of the parties — and the nations — central unresolved problem: the profound tension between America's two fundamental beliefs, equality of opportunity and protection of property [page xi].

When circumstances permit the time, we will add more comments on presidencies of Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, and Dwight David Eisenhower. The really short version is that Lincoln's family history inspired his participation in- the formation of the Republican Party, and his pursuit of the equality of opportunity. Before the end of the Republican Party's first twelve years the seeds of the shift to focus on the protection property dominated the ideology of the party. By the time of the Theodore Roosevelt era, the focus was on the property of industry ownership; an era that had blossomed with the Industrial Revolution. In the case of President Dwight David Eisenhower, the shift back was a rebellion against the military industrial complex with federal funds being inappropriately allocated at the expense of the quality of life of the population. But, that the eroded as the focus on individual rights increased with the erosion of social capital.

The reviewer is encouraging the reader to delve deeper, especially starting with Richardson's third chapter; it is titled "REPUBLICANS OR RADICALS?" The opening sentence is "Lincoln could not have imagined that the pro-union Democrat he wanted as his running mate in 1864 to calm Wall Street would become the sole leader of the nation for seven of its most crucial months. The reader is encouraged to read the entire chapter, and continue with additional chapters. That will provide a perspective of the Grand Old Party's first one hundred years.

The Grand Old Party's Last Fifty Years

The Grand Old Party's last fifty years just ended with the second impeachment of President Donald Trump. The cited essay titled "Our Democracy is Destroying Itself: Power Without Morality Is Cancerous" contains a less detailed version of a portion of the essay titled "The Fourth Republican Revolution." The shortest summary is in a paragraph is excerpted from the last page of the first cited essay. It is as follows:

"The First Republican Revolution was in the Reagan era centered around the 1980s. The Second Republican Revolution, led by Newt Gingrich, was in the 1990s. It was in the first decade of the 21st century that we had the Third Republican Revolution. The fourth Republican Revolution was arguably started in the second decade of the 21st century when the Republicans in Congress were hardening their obstructionism to the norms of democracy with a high point in refusal to act on President Obama's nomination to the Supreme Court."

Donald Trump did not initiate the shift in the successor tension of the Republican Party; he simply personified it with the charisma that attracted political leaders with exceptional self-interest at the expense of the general public. It was a culture that took the free society to the brink of obsolescence. The resilience is coming to play, but the evolution of what was the Grand Old Party To what may become the Grand New Republican Party will probably take something between a decade and a generation.

It will depend upon a co-evolution of the electorate and its selection of leaders, especially because the myopia of the Republican right wing will heavily influence the role of the genuine believers a

conservatism. The Republican Party is splitting with a Trumpian Populist Autocracy (TPA) having the largest base, but an emergent wing that began to grow substantially after the midterm elections in 2018 and reached an inflection point on the recent day of infamy, January 6, 2021 will be the key to Republican Party's future. The issue is what in the decade of the 2020s will emerge as the majority of the minority party.

The shift may well be more heavily marked when the 117th United States Congress receives the article of impeachment, has its debates (maybe even with witnesses), and decides whether or not to convict Donald John Trump, and whether to bar him from federal office. But it also depends upon the evolution of the electorate and their holding their elected representatives accountable for faithfully representing their interests, as they grow to get a better understanding of their interests.

Since this is being drafted in the week between the impeachment and the inauguration, the timing of the Senate receiving the article of impeachment is uncertain. What is clear however, is that the Republican Party is splitting. There will be a battle for the base, and its evolution will determine the future of the Republican Party.

With Whom to Unite

President-elect Joe Biden has called for unity; and some of the Trump supporters in the legislature, opposing the impeachment, have now been arguing for unity in order to counter the legal efforts of the current and future administration to pursue the rule of law. The question for the new administration and for the future of what has been known as the Grand Old Party, will be to unite with whom?

The pundits like to use demographics and geography to describe the Trumpian base to whom Donald Trump has catered. The split in the Trumpian Republican Party may be classified to include a category of those who want to dump Trump, but to take over leadership of his base. His base is often described to include categories relating to wealth, education, and location. In order to better understand the system, it is useful to delve deeper utilizing psychographics.

This approach will take a deeper into what we have apparently been doing, especially in this essay; venturing into a docent led tour of the section of the library that is dealing with the threat to the survival of American Democracy, as the Great Experiment, a constitutional democratic republic. So, in our pursuit of understanding with whom to unite, we shift to the next section, *Understanding the System*.

Understanding the System

The Paradigm Used

The paradigm used makes a significant difference in one's understanding of the system. In this ersatz docent led tour of some literature that will help us better understand our opening quote for this subsection is from this website's book review of a report of the *American Academy's Commission on the Practice of Democratic Citizenship* published in June 2020 by the *American Academy of Arts and Sciences*. The report is titled *Our Common Purpose: Reinventing American Democracy for the 21st Century*. [LINK]

Designing a cooperative effort for our common purpose, where agents have different perspectives of desired outcomes, calls for an identification of a commonality of interest that is sufficient for a cooperative effort. Differences in perspectives may be exemplified by the way physicists and chemists observing the same phenomena have different explanations of how the

system is operating. [as discussed by Thomas Kuhn in his *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*] The perspectives differ, but the commonality is in a scientific approach. The design of the common effort focuses on the on the commonalities of the scientific principles. The common purpose is the use of science to better understand the relationships; an understanding that may be used to improve outcomes based on choices that are made.

Now consider the possibility that the paradigm used is neither based upon science or any significant correlation with truth. John Adams, the second president of the United States, was fearful of credulous voters. He and others wanted the Senate to be composed of men who had the wisdom for protection from what could be a tyranny of the majority. Adams was successful in getting a bicameral legislation; however, President Donald Trump exploited the credulous voters with outright lies in his claim that the 2020 election for president was rigged, and he was the real winner, and by a landslide.

Those voters, who trusted the aspiring autocrat, apparently had no knowledge of having been misinformed about election results, the pandemic, and a whole host of other matters, had not bothered to assess the credibility of the president, considering his character; nor had they that utilized results of any fact checking. From a psychographic perspective, they fall into a diversity of cultural groupings with a diversity of attitudes, feelings, and values who are low hanging fruit for an aspiring autocrat. They are victims for autocrats who have some familiarity with the playbook that denies science and truth, but plays on feelings, especially those who feel alienated or focus on a single issue rather than the array of issues that affect their quality of life.

The paradigm used also consider that another major cluster, those who are obsessed by power. They also fall in a range in which they will choose to balance their actions between morality and power. These are leaders who are educated well enough to understand the system, but choose to pursue their own personal interests even to the point of violating their oaths of office. The signers of the Declaration of Independence put their names after that magnificent sentence that concluded with a pledge, "And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor." On January 6, 2021, the day of infamy challenging the Constitution, the elected representatives in the joint session of Congress, including the presiding president of the Senate, showed their reaction to the insurrection that was challenging their own to uphold the Constitution of United States. The presiding president of the joint session, the vice president United States rose to the occasion and honored his oath. He was followed by a few Republicans; and we will see what happens trial.

Collectively we are dealing with mind and body of our society, an organic system. Societies and individuals are born, grow and maybe even flourish, and then decline and end, frequently having generated progeny. In our American society today, we have a societal mind operating through formal regulation and informal networks of culture that structure the environment. That structure operates to influence the decisions of individuals and organizations micro to the macro networks. Changes in group behavior, and differences in behavior among individuals, are evolutionary processes. They operate both on an individual basis and on a cultural basis. They also coevolve.

So from Wikipedia, we have the following: "Nov 11, 2012 · In his keynote address Governor James R. Thompson of Illinois quoted with evident approval Sir Winston Churchill as saying, "You can depend upon the Americans to do the right thing. But only after they have exhausted every other possibility.

The Future Is Uncertain

Understanding the likelihood of outcomes starts with understanding cause and effect. That is only a start because in complex adaptive systems the choices made are influenced by environment, and the environment changes as a result of the choices made. Thus, the outcomes depend not only on what one chooses to do, but also what others choose to do.

Since the Enlightenment, we have been obsessed by analytics that use the linearity of cause and effect, without adequate attention to the nonlinearity of complex adaptive systems. In addition, we have underrated the role of feelings and morality; although progress is being made in both of those arenas.

Moving from these abstractions into some assumptions, let us consider what we would use in agent-based model that would simulate outcomes under a variety of assumptions. Of critical importance will be the balance between feeling and reasoning in choices being made. That is in addition to the depth and quality of reasoning, assuming it is playing a role.

That last sentence should not be a lightly because many choices are made simply on the basis of feelings, especially by those who feel alienated. Sometimes, a bit of reasoning is added, but only on one issue; the other array of issues affecting one's quality of life may be completely ignored. It may be obvious that we are talking about a segment of Trump supporters who are credulous, and a subset that are culpable in the threaten the survival of American Democracy.

A substantial portion of this uncertainty has focused upon the future of the Republican Party. We shall return to the same issues of uncertainty with Democratic Party as we see what is initiated in across the aisle cooperation, and consider the nature of responses.

At this point, for the Republican Party, the next inflection point may well be the number and nature of support by former Trump supporters when the impeachment trial gets underway in the Senate that serves as both judge and jury. Psychographically, at one extreme are at least a couple Republican Senators who are choosing their career path with whatever erosion of morality is called for in their pursuit of personal gain. They want Trump's voter base, but the outcome of the trial in the Senate will influence Trump's behavior after the trial (possibly with a legal limitation on his eligibility to hold a federal office), and that will influence their behavior.

At the other end of the Republican spectrum in the Senate, are those whose level of consciousness was raised by the disruption of their proceedings by the invasion of the Capital. The spectrum of Republican representatives in the House of Representatives is somewhat more complex because the diversity of districts that they represent. Some news reports indicate that many Republicans are separating themselves from Trumpism, while other reports indicate that in some locales the Trumpism is gaining strength.

This website's third overview booklet, *Great Danger Emerges: Great Experiment Challenged*, focuses on the recovery strategy from the two crises. The July 2020 edition has not yet been updated. However, it uses an analogy of the relevance of *timing and location* for the consideration of expectations of inflection points. If we had a crystal ball we could show the evolution of the decline of Trumpism, by location over time and chart the timing in which the nature of the majority of the Republican Party switches from being Trump supporters to some array of voters were pleased to be the majority of the minority party that is benefiting from the across the aisle cooperation with the Democratic Party that reaches out across the aisle to be responsive to the whole country, not just their base.

This does not mean an accommodation to domestic terrorism that falls in the far right of the Republican Party. As of this writing, the rising number of arrests continue, and justice will be pursued. Dealing with extremism, in any form, is a delicate matter. Over time, some evolutionary forces internal to the relevant groups can mitigate the dangers. Sometimes, the only resolution is the force of justice. In any case, we can reasonably expect a Coevolution of voters support the elected officials on the right side of the aisle, with the evolution of those representatives.

Do not be surprised to hear stories of some elected leaders shouting “Wait for me, I am your leader.” American Democracy needs to be rebuilt. Our best bet may well be in restructuring economic development to focus on the interior of the country, rather than the coastal areas. There are other aspects of a strategy of the Democratic administration is likely to pursue that will benefit a very broad array of Americans with a wide diversity and lifestyles, cultures, and other aspects of their quality of life.

As of this writing, the first 100 days of the new administration has not started. We provide some updates to this essay sometime within those first hundred days. In the meantime, please explore this website and share your thinking with us. We value diversity, and understand that progress not only involves recirculation that leverages some benefits, but also burns up energy as the system evolves. It works best when individuals identify their sense of place and are able to answer the questions that have plagued philosophers over the ages; what can I know, hope, and do. What follows is an excerpt from a linked item, **Introducing the Structure of this Website**.

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