

America's Third Revolution: The Crises [Feb 12]

PREFACE

This overview booklet, *America's Third Revolution: The Crises*, is designed as an introduction to the Declaration Era Educational Press (DEEP), and as an urgent call for all Americans to raise their level of consciousness to more effectively deal with multiple crises being faced by the United States of America, especially the latest threat to our survival as a free society.

As to the multiplicity of crisis, the list might start with the pandemic and the associated recession; and then depending upon perspective include global warming, racial injustice, and a variety of other injustices, according to the perspective of the viewer. An alternative is outlined in an essay titled "The Price of Liberty," a prologue for the booklet under revision; IT IS TIME TO DECIDE! DO YOU WANT TO LIVE IN A FREE SOCIETY? It Opens with a section titled, ***Our Greatest Problem***. The opening paragraph is as follows:

When this was drafted in December 2020, conventional wisdom might have placed the COVID-19 situation in America as our greatest problem. It could be argued, however, that the situation is simply the emergent results of the multiplicity of problems resulting from a single condition, the dysfunctionality of Homo sapiens as a species, particularly in our *American Democracy as The Great Experiment*.

The prologue to this booklet is the process of being linked. The rest of the booklet is under development and linking will progress in stages. The booklet is focused on what may be considered our greatest threat, the survival of our free society. The prologue opens with that discussion, identified as our latest threat.

This overview booklet is scheduled to be updated as significant events unfold. The beginnings of an outline and notes for chapter development are provided as follows:

PRELIMINARY OUTLINE

PROLOGUE

- The Latest Threat
- The Republican Party Future
- A Scientific Analytical System
- President Biden's Unity Strategy

Chapter 1 - Domestic Terrorism

- The Senate Judiciary Committee
- Michigan Militias as a Bellwether
- The Role of the Republican Party

Chapter 2 - Some Other Major Problems

- Recurring Pandemics
- The Economic Recovery
- The Environment
- Liberty and Justice for All
- Civic Engagement

Chapter 3 - Evolution in the Reform of the System

- Harnessing Complexity by Intervention
- Homeostasis in Behavior

America's Third Revolution: The Crises

PROLOGUE

The Latest Threat

This latest threat, the seditious attack on the Capitol on January 6, 2021 was an inflection point for a discussion of *America's Third Revolution* in a sense different from that used in the trilogy's first book, *Common Sense Revisited: America's Third Revolution*. America's *Second Revolution* was the peaceful transition from a confederation to a federation. The concept of *America's Third Revolution* was presented as the peaceful transition of a reconstruction of the pioneering constitutional democratic republic to a more representative institution than that which has evolved; currently, a hybrid of plutocracy and democracy. The proposal discussed in the trilogy's third book, *American Democracy: The Declaration, Pursuit, and Endangerment*, is the pursuit of a Declaration of Reform.

That pursuit of a Declaration of Reform was discussed in a manuscript written more than five years ago. It was designed to foster the formation of an interdisciplinary team for developing and disseminating knowledge relevant to changes in process and structure that would put American Democracy back on the path envisioned in the ideals articulated in the Declaration of Independence. That declaration was the inflection point of *America's First Revolution*.

A discussion of the approach is articulated in the excerpt that follows:

A dramatic change is occurring this year (2020), with the pandemic and the associated recession underway. Those are discussed in in two overview booklets (*IT IS TIME TO DECIDE!* and *Great Danger Emerges*) beyond the central overview booklet focused on the timely trilogy, *American Democracy Endangered*. All of this leading to the discussion of a project started two years ago by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, resulting in a recently released (in June 2020) of the "final report and recommendations of the Commission on the Practice of Democratic Citizenship. It includes 31 recommendations to strengthen America's institutions and civic culture to help a nation in crisis emerge with a more resilient democracy."

That report presents six strategies oriented to action that will alter the structure of the system. They are identified ...as follows: Strategy 1 - Achieve Equality of Voice and Representation; Strategy 2 - Empower Voters; Strategy 3 - Ensure the Responsiveness of Political Institutions; Strategy 4 - Dramatically Expand Civic Bridging Capacity; Strategy 5 - Build Civic Information Architecture that Supports Common Purpose; & Strategy 6 - Inspire a Culture of Commitment to American Constitutional Democracy and One Another.

In large measure, that two-year project, accomplished a great deal of what was envisioned in the concluding phrase of an illustrative draft for a Declaration of Reform. That phrase is as follows: "...and along with enablers and practitioners with abilities to foster societal change enhancing social justice as envisioned in the Declaration of Independence and facilitated by the Constitution and Amendments thereto, along with such appropriate changes as are necessary for the ideals of liberty and justice. For all." This educational innovation project is supportive of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, particularly in its work through its Commission on the Practice of Democratic Citizenship. By happenstance, by June 10, 2020, massive demonstrations protesting "Dysfunctional Systems" inspired hastening the completion of an essay dealing with the evolutionary process.

Considering the *BIG LIE*, and the related activities that led to the physical threat denying the peaceful transition of power for the 2020 presidential election, what we are looking at now is the potential of a different interpretation of the meaning *America's Third Revolution*. Instead of the peaceful transition of process and structure that took us from a confederation to a federation, articulated as a goal in the trilogy's third book, and in part advocated by the report titled "*Our Common Purpose: Reinventing American Democracy for the 21st Century*", published by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, we have something quite different. What we are looking at is the danger of domestic terrorism in support of an ongoing effort to undermine democracy and move towards an autocratic populism.

That process is threatening our democracy. It is continuing beyond the inflection point of January 6, 2021 with the increased divisiveness related to the impeachment of the then President Donald Trump, one week after the day of infamy. The divisiveness goes beyond that which exists between the Democrats and Republicans, and is now increasing with Non-Trumpian Republicans becoming victims of a civil war within the Republican Party.

The Republican Party Future

What was the Grand Old Party has been split between the *Trumpian Republican Party (TRP)* and what we may call the *Former Republican Party (FRP)*, recognizing that the ideology of conservatism of the *Grand Old Party (GOP)* has been succeeded by ideology of power with the separation between *Autocratic Populists* and *Conservative Republicans*; with the latter group respecting the peaceful transfer of power. We are calling this second group the *Former Republican Party (FRP)*, recognizing that although it is not Trumpian, it does not operate with the norms and platforms of what used to be the GOP.

This overview booklet provides an analytic approach to dealing with uncertainty of the future of the Republican Party, with its increasing divisiveness, and the future of American Democracy, with the newly elected administration seeking an outreach across the aisle, but finding a hardening barrier to unity because of the Republican civil war, an attack upon any Republican not supporting Donald Trump.

The analytic approach used in this booklet is generic for complex adaptive systems. It uses the logic found in agent-based modelling. In the case at hand, the process of choice is impacting structure, and structure impacting choices, is being used for dealing with uncertainty en route to outcomes. The key outcome to be avoided is a tyrannical regime; and that requires at least two political parties to exercise discipline over the party in power, with the potentiality of free and fair elections for peaceful transfer of power.

The process towards a successful outcome, a free society under representative democracy, utilizing a constitutional democratic government as a federation of sovereign states, calls for integrity of the elected representatives, and the integrity of the governmental personnel. The political discipline is supposed to arise from the electorate, but process and structure have been so manipulated that corrective action is being taken, in part as a result of "...the Commission on the Practice of Democratic Citizenship ... [advocating]... 31 recommendations to strengthen America's institutions and civic culture to help a nation in crisis emerge with a more resilient democracy."

The first chapter of this booklet discusses what is unfolding as divisiveness of the Republican Party, including the beginning of some speculation as to the outcome of votes in the trial in the Senate. That outcome will be influenced by choices made by individual senators, especially including consideration of the potential shift of legislative power in the 2022 midterm elections.

The Trump base is a major consideration, as well as hundreds of million dollars raised by Donald Trump after the election. Republican legislators will be concerned with Donald Trump's financial support and potentials for rivals in a primary election process. The tests of the integrity of the Senators will unfold for years to come.

A Scientific Analytical System

The approach taken here is built upon the foundation of science, considering that the operation of the individual minds impacts the collective mind, and that collective mind impacts the future of our democracy. As a first step in the foundation of science, consider that when people receive sensory inputs in any form, the mind deals with the inputs by having started with an expectation of what information is being conveyed. If the information, irrespective of merit based upon verifiable fact, is supportive of expectation, the beliefs that underlie the expectation are reinforced. The Trump campaign capitalized on this element of nature in its digital campaign for the reelection of Donald Trump. The result was a fired-up base that is exploited by Trump supporters. It utilizes disinformation in a strategy of exercising control over the populace.

The results are elements of populism that are antithetical to the basic concepts of American Democracy. As a start, the Constitution was designed to avoid tyranny from any source. The focus was on avoiding tyranny from the leadership, so government was structured with a separation of powers into three coequal branches; legislative, executive, and judicial. That structure was designed to prevent an abuse of power. The former president, Donald Trump, abused his power for personal gain and particularly to promote his reelection campaign. The basic concepts of American Democracy go beyond separation of powers to include the rule of law and the norms of civility that enables pluralism to properly function.

This discussion is leading us to the [role of government](#) as the keystone in providing balance in the ecological structure of the American political economy. Those elements of populism that are antithetical to the basic concepts of American Democracy include the behavior of treating political opposition as the enemy rather than the rival. The former president's actions of speech and tweets that degrade, and actions that intimidate even members of his own party, seriously erode the proper role of government in a democratic society. His access to several major platforms for the social media has now been denied by the providers.

The line of reasoning by populists is seriously flawed if it is absent of critical thinking that considers the quality of information received, and the motivation for its provision. The consequences of shortfall in reasoning are dire, especially if it is destructive of rule of law, and if it erodes the acceptance of pluralism as a significant element of American Democracy. The premise of a democratic system relies on the concept that voter empowerment, based upon knowledge and ethics, is the foundation of the discipline for restoration of balance in the organic system of American Democracy. That restoration necessarily deals with the ecological systems of the different segments of the populace in their roles in the economy and other aspects of society, and their differences in beliefs.

The ideas just discussed included the avoidance of tyranny, and move on to deal with the integrity of the individuals elected to Congress, and then move on to the role of learning in the survival of American Democracy. As for the learning, we are leading to the focus on the idea that American Democracy requires at least a two-party system in order to survive as a free society.

A one-party system is a path to tyranny! It provides a concentration of power in which the power of the electorate has been decimated in the transition of the society from a self-organizing system to a hierarchal structure in which the party in power remains in power. With the recent quest by the Republican Party for obtaining power at almost any cost, if the *Trumpian Republican Party (TRP)* dominates the party there will be little unity for legislation.

President Biden's Unity Strategy

President Biden's unity strategy is an outreach to all Americans; "Bringing America together, uniting our people, uniting our nation. And I ask every American to join me in this cause." The cause is identified in his inauguration speech immediately after his citing the addressees in the paragraph that follows:

This is democracy's day. A day of history and hope of renewal and resolve through a crucible for the ages. America has been tested anew and America has risen to the challenge. Today, we celebrate the triumph not of a candidate, but of a cause, the cause of democracy. The people, the will of the people, has been heard and the will of the people has been heeded.

Later in the speech he notes that we will "...press forward with speed and urgency." The opening chapter of this presentation is titled "Domestic Terrorism." The chapter will be discussing likely legislation to deal with domestic terrorism, and progress towards dealing with those insurrectionists that invaded the Capitol building on January 6, 2021.

Among the options pursued in dealing with terrorism are negotiation, persuasion, isolation, and destruction. Additionally, there is the concept of altering the conditions that generate the terrorism. The insurrection of January 6, 2021 was fed by [intentional misinformation](#) designed to influence behavior of credulous individuals to interfere with the peaceful transfer of power as a result of a free and fair election. Former president Donald Trump has been impeached by the House of Representatives for second time, this time in an article of impeachment, excerpted as follows:

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.

That excerpt is discussed in the [Preface for The Fifth Republican Revolution](#). The essay includes a discussion of the evolution of the Republican Party over the last half-century.

What we are looking for here is an evolution of the Republican Party dedicated to the common cause of a functional democracy. The existing civil war within the Republican Party retains a substantial segment that is loyal to the former president, Donald Trump, who has since the election amassed millions of dollars for campaign contributions, and could be pivotal in the 2022 midterm elections.

The focus of the Republican leadership in regaining a majority in the House and the Senate in the 2022 midterm elections appears to overshadow pursuit of the common challenges starting with unity and including relief from the pandemic, especially in the House of Representatives under the minority leadership of Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.). It is reasonable to expect that unity with the Republicans in the House of Representatives would be especially difficult because Kevin McCarthy has pursued recruiting support from the former president, Donald Trump, who has amassed millions that could be available for the 2022 midterm elections. In the House of Representatives, with all representatives subject to reelection every two years, McCarthy is not only concerned with his reelection; he has aspirations for being Speaker of the House. Obviously, Republicans would have to have the majority in the House of Representatives in order to select the speaker. Donald Trump and his base could make a significant difference.

The minority leader in the Senate, Mitch McConnell (R-Ky), no longer appears to be captive to Donald Trump, and was just reelected to the six-year term in the Senate. However, it will only take a net of one switch in the election of one more Republican Senator and one less Democrat Senator. McConnell's relationship with Trump changed after the January 6 attack on Congress. Donald Trump's role in the invasion of the Capitol building may well go down in history as his fatal mistake to his political career.

We will know more about the future of the Republican Party once McConnell votes on conviction. His vote could be critical influencing other Republicans. His legacy is at stake, and if Las Vegas is giving odds on integrity favorably impacting the votes of the legislators in the sense of being guided by integrity, the January events provide a safer bet on McConnell than on McCarthy; in terms of the Republican leadership cooperating for the future of American Democracy.

This booklet's first chapter on domestic terrorism will shed some light on the relationship between one faction of the Republican Party that has the support of domestic terrorists, and the potential for unity from that segment of the Republican Party. In a later chapter we will discuss the potential of bellwether regional activities of national policy impacting unity and economic development.

As the evolution of the Republican Party unfolds, and the evolution of the new Democratic administration unfolds, we will see what happens at the grassroots level, especially with the quality of life in the red states. Of particular interest for the common cause of a functional democracy will be what happens in rural districts over the next two years with regard to health and employment. A bellwether may well be Georgia's 14th congressional district.

That congressional district's current representative in the House of Representatives is Marjorie Taylor Greene. She defeated John Cowen in a runoff after the incumbent, Tom Graves, announced on December 5, 2019 that he would not seek reelection. The retiring incumbent, a Republican, "...was re-elected with 76.5% of the vote in 2018 [Wikipedia]." Wikipedia also reported "After the first round of the election, *Politico* unearthed videos published by Greene where she expressed racist, anti-Semitic, and Islamophobic views, which led to condemnations from [Kevin McCarthy](#) and [Steve Scalise](#).^{[176][177]} Greene defeated Cowan in the Republican runoff on August 11, 2020.^[178] Some additional information from Wikipedia about the county is in the box that follows.

The three northernmost counties in the district are part of the [Chattanooga, Tennessee](#) metropolitan area and television market, with the central and southern portions reckoned as exurbs of [Atlanta](#).

The district leans heavily [Republican](#). [Donald Trump](#) carried the district with over 75 percent of the vote in 2016, his eighth-best showing in the nation. With a [Cook Partisan Voting Index](#) of R+27, on paper it is the 10th most Republican district in the nation. Among Georgia's congressional districts, only the neighboring [9th district](#) is more Republican. Since its creation, no Democrat has managed as much as 30 percent of the vote.

{This concludes material for the front matter of what is the start of an additional booklet. The intent is to explore the feasibility of developing a real-time booklet in the sense of update within days of events unfolding.

What follows is the start of the three chapters designed to flesh out the essay. The chapters will be written as events unfold, and in some cases drafting the forecasts of what may be reasonably expected to unfold.

It is not quite a blog in the sense of regularity, but it is an invitation for a regular readership to keep posted on current events in a context that facilitates critical thinking. The facilitation is in the form of providing links for delving deeper, as well as a narrative with the events in a perspective. A table of contents that will be updated as the booklet is developed is as follows

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Chapter 1 - Domestic Terrorism

The Senate Judiciary Committee

This chapter may start as indicated in the box that follows. It will be further developed as investigations proceed, and information becomes available.

Senator Dick Durbin (D), the newly appointed chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee of the 117th Congress, is likely to introduce legislation to deal with domestic terrorism. The House of Representatives, in the previous Congress, had unanimously passed a bill to fight domestic terrorism; but it was obstructed in the Senate.¹ The cited article includes the following paragraph:

As chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I will use the Committee's authority, to demand all federal law enforcement agencies use every resource available to combat the rise of violent extremist groups, white supremacists, and violent fringe conspiracy theorists who are intent on undermining our government.

The Judiciary Committee of the Senate is one of the oldest and most powerful committees of the Senate. The legislation, likely to be introduced as *The Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act*, would be designed to establish units in the Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Department of Homeland Security.

It appears that the investigations underway dealing with domestic terrorism are focused on the Day of Infamy, January 6, 2021. There is, however, substantial investigation needs to be done with regard to historic activity, seemingly not sufficiently pursued, or publicized.

More to come in the development of this section as federal investigations proceed. The latest, as of the date this addition is drafted, there is in the *Wall Street Journal* an article by Khadeeja Safdar and Aruna Viswanatha on Friday, February 12, titled "Five More Alleged Proud Boys Members Arrested Over Attack." The subtitle is "Prosecutors say suspect coordinated Capitol assault and battled with police." The opening paragraph is as follows:

Several alleged members of the Proud Boys were arrested Thursday on conspiracy and other charges for their alleged involvement in the U.S. Capitol riot, as prosecutors continue to home in on far-right groups and examine what planning may have gone into the attack.

Michigan Militias as a Bellwether

As the drafting of this article proceeds over time, this addition is on the same day as the start of the Senate trial of the second impeachment (February 9, 2021). It contains some excerpts from the *New*

¹ A USA TODAY opinion column of February 5, 2021 by Senator Dick Durbin reported that in the previous Congress House of Representatives had unanimously passed a bill to fight domestic terrorism, "... But Republican Senator Ron Johnson stood in the way of its passage in the Senate. At that time, Republican Senator Lindsey Graham (South Carolina) serve as Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

York Times article, ***G.O.P.'s Embrace of Michigan Militias Set Up Start Political Shift***, authored by David D. Kirkpatrick and Mike McIntyre, that was published on the same day. The long article contains substantial detail, with the thrust noted in the subtitle, "*State's Crisis Provided Preview of Assault on the U.S. Capitol.*"

As a prelude to the discussion of quotations from the article, we have from the opening section of the Prologue (The Latest Threat), a lead into the first of a two excerpts. The lead-in is as follows:

This latest threat, the seditious attack on the Capitol on January 6, 2021 was an inflection point for a discussion of *America's Third Revolution* in a sense different from that used in the trilogy's first book, *Common Sense Revisited: America's Third Revolution*. [What does not say is that we are now looking at is an armed insurrection to overthrow the constitutionally protected Democratic Republic in favor of autocratic populace government part of the Trumpian Republican Party.]

What lead-in does say, at the beginning of the first paragraph on the second page, is as follows:

Considering the *BIG LIE*, and the related activities that led to the physical threat denying the peaceful transition of power for the 2020 presidential election, what we are looking at now is the potential of a different interpretation of the meaning *America's Third Revolution*. Instead of the peaceful transition of process and structure that took us from a confederation to a federation.... [... the inference being the armed interference with the peaceful operation of the newly elected representatives.]

The second section of the prologue, The Republican Party Future, starts off with the following paragraph:

What was the Grand Old Party has been split between the *Trumpian Republican Party (TRP)* and what we may call the *Former Republican Party (FRP)*, recognizing that the ideology of conservatism of the *Grand Old Party (GOP)* has been succeeded by ideology of power with the separation between *Autocratic Populists* and *Conservative Republicans*; with the latter group respecting the peaceful transfer of power. We are calling this second group the *Former Republican Party (FRP)*, recognizing that although it is not Trumpian, it does not operate with the norms and platforms of what used to be the GOP. Militiamen charging them with a plot to kidnap the governor, put her on trial and possibly executor.

Finally, this takes us to a discussion of the Republican Party in Michigan as a bellwether of *A Third American Revolution* in the form of an armed insurrection. For the start of our review of the lengthy article cited, in the context of this overview booklet, we have excerpted two paragraphs as follows:

Mr. Kelly's ["RYAN KELLY, a Republican official in Michigan, was the lead organizer of an armed protest at its Statehouse in April. Last week, he announced a bid for governor."] American Patriot Council aimed its sharpest attacks at Governor Whitmer. It released public letters urging federal authorities to arrest her for violating the Constitution by issuing a stay-at-home order. "Whitmer needs to go to prison," Kelly declared in a video he posted on Facebook in early October that was later taken down. She is a threat to our Republic."

A few days later, federal agents arrested more than a dozen Michigan militiamen, charging them in a plot to kidnap the governor, put her on trial and possibly execute her.

The article is identifying key players started the list with RYAN KELLY. He is quoted as follows: **“Becoming too closely aligned with militias -- is that a bad thing?”** The paragraph describing him is excerpted in the bracket that identifies them in the preceding excerpt.

The extensive article quoted is beautifully organized with section headings. The excerpts are in the section titled **Racial Tensions Erupted**. The ensuing section is titled **‘Stop the Steel.’** These two sections shed light on two of the multiplicity of crises: systemic racial discrimination, and power at any cost. The immediately preceding section, the **Covid-19 Revolt**, discusses an aspect of the third crises, the pandemic. The three interrelated in their generation of violence within the segment of what we're calling the *Autocratic Populists* as compared to the *Conservative Republicans*, the former being a part of what we are now calling the *Trumpian Republican Party (TRP.)*

We shall return to the discussion of these three crises (racial tensions, alleged invalidity of election, and Covid-19 resistance) in the next chapter. The topic titles will be different, but the subject matter somewhat broader.

Domestic terrorism is arising as an emergent phenomenon of the mix of psychographic factors that blend the impact of the pandemic is disproportionately in urban areas with a higher proportion of the population working while black and low paying service jobs essential during lockdowns as compared to white populations in the rural areas with some tendencies towards white supremacy.

The section needs further development. It will be provided as events unfold. Of particular importance will be events related to the role of the Republican Party, our next section in this opening chapter.

The Role of the Republican Party

There will be substantial light shed on role of the Republican Party in fostering domestic terrorism as the federal government pursues its responsibilities. This chapter started with a broad reference to federal investigations. However, what is happening now as this is being drafted is the presentation of the indictment of former president Donald Trump on the charge of incitement of the invasion of the Capitol building in an attempt to overturn the results of the election.

It is uncertain what the evidence presented will include with reference to multiplicity of groups involved in the violence, including those viewed as domestic terrorists. It is also uncertain, as to whether witnesses will be included, and whether they will include those criminally charged for their participation. Furthermore, if any of those charged use as a defense they were simply responding to the then president's instructions.

It is uncertain how this section will be developed. Ideally, it would show the network of connections in the transcripts of the communications that involve not only Donald Trump, but his supporters in the Republican Party.

This booklet is being designed and ongoing update to the processes by which we are dealing with a multiplicity of crises, but mostly we see as America's Third Revolution, in one form or another, as (1) a peaceful restructuring along the lines of the transition from a confederation to a federation, or (2) the suppression of a seditious attempt to destroy a constitutional republic in favor of a populist autocracy. If Donald Trump is not convicted by the Senate, the likelihood of an ongoing seditious effort is enhanced. A *New York Times* article of February 12 quotes Ted Lieu, one of the House Managers, “I'm not afraid of Donald Trump running again in four years, I'm afraid is going to run again and lose, because he can do this again.” [See page A15, headlined **“Concluding Case, Democrats Say Trump Is a Lasting Danger.”**]

Chapter 2 - Some Other Major Problems

This chapter focuses on how we might deal with some of our other major problems, the multiplicity of crises alluded to in the Prologue. It will draw upon material from a revision in progress from DEEP's revision of its first overview booklet, IT IS TIME TO DECIDE! DO YOU WANT TO LIVE IN A FREE SOCIETY? The box that follows contains an excerpt of the opening paragraph of that prologue, THE PRICE OF LIBERTY.

Our Greatest Problem

When this is being drafted in December 2020, conventional wisdom might place the Covid-19 situation in America as our greatest problem. It could be argued, however, that the situation is simply the emergent results of the multiplicity of problems resulting from a single condition, the dysfunctionality of Homo sapiens as a species, particularly in our *American Democracy as The Great Experiment*.

The focus will be on programmatic process of the new administration in a selection of areas starting with the pandemic, but including the economy, and perhaps other programmatic issues. Although multiple administrative actions have taken place, this booklet will focus on only a few crises.

The table of contents lists some candidates. The previous chapter suggests the following:

We shall return to the discussion of these three crises (racial tensions, alleged invalidity of election, and Covid-19 resistance) in the next chapter. The topic titles will be different, but the subject matter somewhat broader.

The development of this chapter will be heavily influenced by what evolves in the first hundred days of the Biden administration. Potential topics include the following:

- Recurring Pandemics
- The Economic Recovery
- The Environment
- Liberty and Justice for All

Some of the major problems are already discussed on the platform. As an example, here is an excerpt from the second item, *Unity Counts*, in the first column, *Raising Awareness*.

Unity Counts

Now Hear This

Massive Demonstrations

Unity counts, and so does voting. But that is not enough. It will take a systemic evolution to save our freedom. That evolution may have already started. The first clue is the massive demonstrations. They are an emergent phenomenon arising in the environment containing the combined impact of the pandemic and the recession.

That deterioration of environment had already disproportionately affected the black portion of America's population. It was in this environment that the public viewed an outrageous abuse of police power. That injustice led to a needless death inflicted by a police officer who had the suspect under control, handcuffed and on the ground. The police officer, was charged with second-degree murder, having persisted with the stranglehold using his knee for more than

eight minutes, while the victim was pleading, “I can’t breathe.” Three other police officers stood by while the crime by the police officer was being committed; and not one of them attempted to try to save the life of the suspect who was allegedly being murdered.

Dysfunctional Systems

All of this exists in an environment in which the dysfunctionality of the human species, and the dysfunctionality of *The Great Experiment*, American Democracy, has placed us in at least two crises. The first crisis is the pandemic. The second is the recession it has generated.

Globally, an excellent overview of how the world is doing is provided in a couple of pages in the Sunday Review section of the New York Times, May 31, 2020. It is authored by Thomas L. Friedman, and titled “The World is Broken: Greed and globalization set us for disaster.” The four parts are titled as follows: (1) Sept. 11, 2001; (2) The Great Recession; (3) Covid-19; & (4) Climate Catastrophe.

The Pandemic. The dysfunctionality of *The Great Experiment*, American Democracy, as to the handling of the pandemic is in a process that is still unfolding. This administration’s history of dysfunctionality started with the lack of preparation by the president’s administrative appointees to get a proper orientation to the operations of the agencies he nominated them to head. The president then curtailed the activities of the epidemic unit charged with responsibility for the preparation for epidemics (and presumably pandemics). The shortfall in performance continued with disregard of information regarding the beginnings of COVID-19, and the lack of preparation for dealing with the virus. The dysfunctionality continues with President Trump’s apparent focus on fostering economic activity as a political strategy for reelection, even at the expense of the health and well-being of the population.

Here is an update based upon Bob Woodward’s latest book on presidents of the United States. The book has a one-word title, *Rage*. According to a Wall Street Journal article (September 10, 2020) by Rebecca Ballhaus, *Trump Says He Played Down Severity of Covid-19 in Public*. An excerpt from the article (the second paragraph) states ...:

...The Recession. The second crisis is the recession that arose earlier than expected because of the necessity of a stay-in-place approach, and other measures to constrain the spread of the virus.

The dysfunctionality of the failure to avoid unnecessary recessions and a diminution of fiscal capability for recovery started before Mr. Trump took office. In recent history, the failure to understand the organic nature of the political economy in order to prevent the Great Recession (2008-09), and provide appropriate recovery strategy goes back about a quarter of a century...

...Recovery from the current recession is going to be long and hard and is going to require a unity in sharp contrast to a divisiveness that prevailed during the recovery from the Great Recession started 12 years ago. All of this is going to be the environment of climate catastrophes that will call for government assistance.

This chapter is intended to provide some updates to topics already discussed, and links to those topics. As discussed, the selections will initially be based on events unfolding in the first 100 days. The focus will evolve as the environment changes. However, we will be keeping our eyes on the 2022 midterm elections.

Chapter 3 - Evolution in The Reform of The System

This chapter is called to focus on two areas of progress:

- Components of reform somewhat along the lines of the strategies discussed in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences report, and
- Evolution towards a holistic approach focused on behavioral changes.

The July 2020 version of the third booklet, *Great Danger Emerges: Democracy Challenged*, is under revision. The concluding section of its second chapter, *The Great Experiment Challenged*, is indicative of the way the line of reasoning that will be developed for this booklet. It is in the nature of an introduction to the other three booklets. The fast-moving events cry out for revisions; and our intent here is to for the frequent updating process. With that said, what is next presented is an adaptation of the concluding section of the second chapter of the third booklet. As a start on developing this chapter.

This adaptation is providing input for the restructuring of the chapter possible along the lines the opening comments about the chapter. However, the excerpt that is taken is from modified from was oriented toward land-use being the force impacting the evolution of dealing with the pandemic; while the adaptation is using integrity as the force dealing with impacting the evolution of our democracy as a free society.

We're still using an analytical model for dealing with complex adaptive systems. The analogical basis is that although land is fixed and location, alterations in use generate forces that impact outcomes; integrity is fixed on values, alterations in behavior at the expense of integrity generate forces and impact outcomes on the nature of the society that emerges.

The format used in the adaptation includes strikethroughs and other apparent variations for the production of the transition of a transition draft. The reader can see the original on the website is going to the concluding section of its second chapter, *Great Experiment Challenged*. The start of a revision is in the box that follows.

Forecasting Co-Evolution

Forecasting co-evolution in America's political economy is highly uncertain for reasons just discussed in the previous section [in the chapter noted] ~~in~~ about forecasting outcomes from the current recession. The question becomes especially relevant, however, in the context of design.

Thus, the question on the table is how do we design processes to favorably influence outcomes? The approach we are taking here is to consider the potential for mechanisms for ~~controlling land-use~~. for discipline controlling integrity.

The role of ~~land-use~~ as [integrity is] a critical factor ~~depends on~~ [in that it influences] what outcomes we want to influence. We started this discussion because ~~social distance~~ [integrity] makes a significant difference in the ~~spread of contagious diseases in the form of epidemics~~ [return of our society to the ideals articulated the Declaration of Independence]. We can ~~expand the range of~~ [improve] potential outcomes if we include communication [and the level of consciousness] as ~~an~~ element[s] of education, which is what this demonstration research is all about. The information revolution has significantly altered communication patterns, generally as an exploitation of the users by getting information on

their behavior and using it as profit base for the enterprise [and manipulation of behavior for political ambitions]. In what is now being called the Third Wave of the Internet, there is the potential for focusing on welfare of the user by enhancing the user's education. The better choices by the users, better education, are the foundation for the assumptions of what will evolve. These choices relate to roles in individual participation in the economy, in the **political environment, and the general societal structure** [emphasis added].

So, we are looking at a multiplicity of organic systems, or subsystems, depending upon what phenomenon is of interest to us. Aside from the main three social science disciplines under discussion, a good place for us to start, prior to the ~~coronavirus pandemic, could well have been in the quality of the natural environment. Our concern can be with global warming and/or pollution~~ [the day of infamy producing an armed invasion of the capitol building] generating [a] cancer [affecting our free society as a marker for a third revolution is the behavioral science]. The cancer can be to the bodies of human beings as health considerations and and/or the health of the ~~economy~~ [body politic, our] system [of government].

Now that the ~~coronavirus pandemic~~ [third revolution] has gotten our attention, to say the least, we can look at it as a special case in the [destruction of our] environment. We don't know what the results will be from a variety of choices made within the fifty states that impact the balance of quality of life from the standpoint of health and survival [of a free society] as compared with the quality of life considering the multiplicity of other elements of the quality of life. We will, however, have a variety of experiences and data that will help us design ~~and use as an important factor in social distancing~~ [the pursuit of justice], and other elements of importance in dealing with recurrence of ~~COVID-19 and~~ [insurrections and] ~~preparation for other strains of coronavirus~~ [behavior] cancerous to society.

The devastation that is occurring now, and it will continue for an undetermined period of time, could have been substantially mitigated had we not squandered opportunities to prepare for uncertainty and then to postponing the preparation for containment, and effectively influencing the production of ~~equipment~~ [behavior] necessary for dealing with the situation. The strategy being placed on the table here calls for a discussion of what was identified in the first two paragraphs of this essay; but particularly in the second paragraph suggesting a design that facilitates self-correcting systems. For your convenience, here are the two paragraphs:

A strategic approach to danger starts with awareness. Danger awareness provides an opportunity for prevention. The cost to cure is often substantially greater than the cost of prevention. Awareness, however, is a precondition for prevention.

Systemic awareness, with self-correcting systems, is by far the most cost-effective approach. Human biology, with homeostasis as its self-correcting system, provides the model that is more cost-effective than conventional curing. It is a process providing a tendency to move toward stability in the face of changing conditions.

What is called for in designing each of the organic strategies in order to get a co-evolution of a balanced system is to gain and understand the interactions producing a balance in the system. What may be already obvious to some readers is that the ~~economy~~ [political environment] has been going away from balance for many decades, in great measure, because the political organs have been going further away from balance. A great deal of this is associated with loss of balance in individual behavior in a multiplicity of roles.

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In all of these cases, there is a heavily dependent upon understanding of the co-evolution of the organs in the system. The process of evolution is heavily influenced by the process of emergence, but also relates to the environment in which the system operates. The strategy here is to use ~~land-use control~~ [education of the public] as part of the system for controlling the evolution of the environment in the goal of getting a better balance in the system as it continues to evolve.

Clearly, Homo sapiens in the modern era have been doing a miserable job in protecting the environment from getting out of balance as it affects the global quality of life. So, we are now plagued with a [political] virus that is leading to a ~~worldwide depression~~ [threat to our survival of our free society]. **We need a significantly better understanding of the reality of how systems work, and better systems of disciplinary control.**

Concentrating that control and hierarchal system without the source of power being the people whose quality of life being affected has consistently led to tyranny over time. [Emphasis added.] The alternative of a democratic structure as The Great Experiment isn't doing very well. It looks as though we are being driven into an opportunity in which we need to do a better job figuring out how that alternative might really work.

The short answer starts with an understanding of systems in which the emergence of structural changes is generated by processes that alter the structure of the system over time. It then becomes a matter of understanding the co-evolution of the organs in the structure, especially the business-based economic organs and the political system, that are systems that are currently dysfunctional.

The basic concept is that structure influences process, and process influences structure, resulting in an evolution of structure. The invisible hand is emergence from one layer to another, while the other invisible hand is the co-evolution of the organs in the body of the system with the body itself.

What we are concerned with here starts with the co-evolution of the people and the society, but also co-evolution of the organs in the network, especially the business enterprises and the government as they influence the quality of life of the people, especially as it influences the equality of rights and representation in government and fairness in the reciprocity of the system.

The key to a successful strategy is improving outcomes by understanding patterns, even in the face of uncertainty. The uncertainty is distinguished from risk in that risk may be calculated for closed systems based upon probability. But, the uncertainty of changes during evolution, especially as may be impacted by black swans (contingencies), calls for the use of the lens of complexity in order to improve outcomes by making better choices in the context of changing environments; that is by considering uncertainty associated with relationships that are not consistent over time.

There may be a great many variables in a system, some of which are a cause for uncertainty. The body of our society has a great many variables, and is analogous to human biology. The organs in our society may be understood as social science disciplines, especially as economics and political science. We may

also consider that our internal self in our society, and our external self, and global relationships, are analogous to our inner and outer selves in human biology.

Using a health perspective, our internal organs of American Democracy may be designed to deal with an epidemic within the system, especially using nascent disciplines of network science. There is uncertainty associated with the cause and timing of epidemics, but preparedness is a cost-effective strategy. We also deal with an outer self, in the form of globalization. The use of preparedness is also relevant, and the same analytical systems are used for strategies in dealing with uncertainties. Preparedness is discussed in the opening chapter of the second book of the trilogy, *American Democracy Endangered*, and it is linked at the beginning of the body of what started as an essay, and is becoming a monograph.

Now for the commentary immediately following the two days of testimony for the prosecution, we are looking to discuss the potential of the co-evolution based upon the evidence presented. Our concern here is how the level of consciousness has been raised in the Senate as it serves as judge and jury. This chapter will be updated again after the presentation of the defense.

When this essay was started, the expectation was that the trial would take at least two weeks. Then, it looks like the vote would be in the second week and there would be time to delve deeper into the evolution of the Republican Party, especially considering the level of consciousness that was raised by the outstanding presentation made by the House Managers. However, the defense has already started its presentation. So, based upon some comments of pundits, it does not seem that the level of consciousness will have been raised enough for seventeen Republicans to “vote their conscience.”

There will be a great deal to be said about the evolution of the Republican Party, and what appears to be an ongoing threat of a *Third American Revolution* being led by a defeated presidential candidate. Maybe Donald Trump will be strengthened and emboldened by a second acquittal, if there really is an acquittal. But maybe his strength will be diminished by the disappointment of the extremists who committed violence in the expectation of protection from Donald Trump. They have been exploited by lies and will remember January 6, but not fondly, as they serve their time in prison.

That loss of some of the base involved in the demonstration, and others in the base who become enlightened as to what really happened, will further erode the membership of what used to be known as the Grand Old Party.

The size of the Republican Party has been diminishing, and its civil war within the party will diminish it further. However, the election is not over. Democrats along with some Republicans and former Republicans may in representing a democracy's intent to survive as a free society may be a *mudder* that comes through in the race that has been muddied by erosion of democracy, but comes through with genuine patriotism.

Stay tuned, and learn more than you will find out in brief messages designed to exploit your feelings.