

Restructuring American Democracy [6-4-21]

Outline

A Century of Change		1
The Current Situation	1	
The Uncertain Future	2	
Clues from The First 100 Days	2	
Background on Educational Mission	3	
Short-Term Power Obsession	3	
Truth and Democratic Values	4	
Dealing with Reality	4	
Reconstruction Signals and Outcomes	6	
Our History of Mutual Dependence		7
America’s First Two Revolutions	7	
Our Building of Social Capital	8	
Our Building of Economic Capital	8	
Land and Territorial Control	8	
Labor and Production Capability	9	
Capital as Resource Capability	9	
Our Building of Political Capital.	9	
The Integrity of Our System	11	
Process and Structure		12
A Characterization of Our Diversity		12
Process in Our Political Economy	12	
Cultural Evolution in Structure	14	
Our Mutual Dependence on Capitalism	15	
Declaration of Reform Feasibility		16
Our Focus on Education	16	
The Enlightenment Perspective	16	
The Conservative Perspective	20	
Cooperation and Competition	21	
Our Educational Challenge	22	
The Evolving Role of Government	23	
Modeling Systemic Change	24	
Assembly of Leadership for the Design	24	
Bipartisan Support and Leadership	25	
Cultural Evolution at Multiple Levels	26	
Concluding Comments		26

This essay, and the trilogy to which it is providing an introduction, has been designed as part of an innovative educational endeavor. That enterprise includes the Emily E Press component of a Research and Publication Division of the Maury Seldin LLC. That division is designed to be gifted to a not-for profit organization yet to be created or possibly to an intermediate LLC as a transitional vehicle.

Initially this essay is a standalone piece on the Motivated Learner Platform of the Declaration Era Educational Press (DEEP). However, is designed to be used in the forthcoming update for the centerpiece overview booklet titled “American Democracy Endangered: Restructuring American Democracy.”

It is also being designed as an input for the revision of the *January 2020 Review and Comment* edition of the trilogy’s first book, *Common Sense Revisited: America’s Third Revolution*

As the books become available in electronic form, numerous free apps will be provided for access to components of the trilogy. Apps of extensive length may also be provided for heavily discounted purchases as the books become available. E-books and hardcopy books will become available for purchase.

Restructuring American Democracy

A Century of Change

The Current Situation

The first 100 days of the new administration the political activities provided some pretty good clues as to the potential of our nation's progress over the ensuing forty months. During that ensuing forty-month period, some of the voting public will be in a better position to reconsider their priorities, especially by having gained a better understanding of the transformation that has begun in the form of returning our nation to the pursuit of the ideals articulated in the Declaration of Independence; and away from the road to an autocracy that challenges the very survival of American Democracy as *The Great Experiment*.

Of critical importance will be the multiplicity of crises inherited by the new administration. Aside from the internal threat to our democracy by the majority of the minority party leadership, nationally and at state levels, pursuing political power of the party even if at the cost of the erosion of democracy, the second clear and present danger is the evolutionary impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

The June 2020 edition of IT IS TIME TO DECIDE! DO YOU WANT TO LIVE IN A FREE SOCIETY? is under revision. The June 2021 edition contains *Appendix A - Strategic Guidance Towards Improving Outcomes*. Its first part provides a foundation for understanding the nature of the virus and a strategic approach for dealing with it. The second part discusses the restructuring focused on the evolution of the management of the coronavirus and its impact, as it occurs during most of the new administration's four-year term, divided into significant segments. The discussion of the first 100 days has already been written. The discussion of most of the first year will be written before the that year is over, but when there is enough to see the pattern. The next update, after the discussion of patterns, will be written in 2022 well before the midterm elections in November. Early in 2023 the 118th United States Congress will convene and within months significant clues will be provided from the patterns in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. That will generate at least one update for the expectation of what will be the nation's condition when the November 2024 elections will occur.

The first of the three overview booklets is crisis oriented. Thus, the revision of the first booklet is oriented to the coronavirus and a strategic process for dealing with it. It is a process focused enterprise, given the then current environment. The second booklet is an overview of the trilogy that is constantly under development in the design of structure as well as process. Its scope goes well beyond coronavirus in that it takes a holistic approach to the body of the system, while the first booklet is taking an organic approach to one organ of the system. The second booklet will also will be updated as events unfold. The intent is to foster better outcomes by better understanding of how to improve choices through learning.

The third booklet focuses on recovery strategies from a multiplicity of crises, especially the pandemic, and the economic recovery that will alter the location of economic development. It supplements the organic analogy with a strategic approach based upon evolution of land use. It will be updated with an interdisciplinary approach to the organic evolution of the components, especially economic, political, and societal.

This essay is part of an educational effort innovating in the process of improving the productivity of learning efforts by motivated learners; mostly for those seeking a higher education, but also for those who are well-educated, but recognize that the malfunctioning of systems may in part be attributable to failure to use an interdisciplinary approach for organic systems as they evolve. It blends nascent

disciplines with traditional disciplines, often viewed in the silo structures of mainstream disciplines of the humanities, and the arts and social sciences (HASS), as well as the physical sciences, in theory and practice utilizing technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

This case demonstration project happened to start with a call for a Declaration of Reform almost a decade ago (discussed in the trilogy's third book). That book was preceded by an essay, *Liberty and Justice for All Some*. The essay starts off with a paragraph as follows: "America is on the road to becoming a dystopia! The ideal of *liberty and justice for all* is being eroded by the trend in the distribution of income and wealth being skewed more and more to the right with a substantial portion of the population losing faith in the system. The formation of the Tea Party has moved the nation toward policies built on a faulty understanding of the operation of the *invisible hand*; an understanding that manifests itself as liberty and justice for **some**, rather than all.

The dysfunctionality of the governmental system was highlighted by the gross mismanagement of the coronavirus pandemic in 2020. Its first year of disrupting activity in many dimensions was a testimony to the dysfunctionality of the system that has been evolving for decades. The United States population death rate as a multiple of that experienced by other advanced economies provided the evidence. It entered the rivalry of crises so great that it is in the top two. As a result, the new administration's first day started off with attention to it with the executive order relating to containment of the coronavirus.

The Uncertain Future

Clues from The First 100 Days. What we have learned from the first 100 days give us some clues as to what will unfold in the four-year term. They are only clues because there is a political process through which choices are made by the legislators and the voting public as well as the administration. The next biggest inflection point between the first 100 days and the election of the next president in November of 2024 will likely be the midterm congressional elections in November 2022. It appears that the Republican Party leadership and the majority of Republican legislators are so heavily focused on that two-year inflection point that they are putting at risk the long-term survival of the Republican Party in order to gain short-term power. Additionally, they are undermining democratic practices and endangering the future of *The Great Experiment*, American Democracy.

For the Biden administration, the urgency of attention to the health and survival of the population having lost at least 500,000 lives in the first year the pandemic, led to the first executive action to be a call for the wearing of masks on federal property. A lot more on that issue is discussed in the first booklet's [Appendix A – Strategic Guidance Towards Improving Outcomes](#). The first part of the appendix provides the foundation for understanding the pandemic. The second part is titled restructuring for a New Age, and starts with *Learning from One Hundred Days*. The second paragraph is as follows:

The administration's performance in the first one hundred days started with immediate action in dealing with the pandemic. It was a prelude to a platform of the building back better, especially with compassion for societal structure as well as the physical structure. The official Republican response to an ambitious and expensive set of programs indicated a cultural battle rather than a search for across-the-aisle compromise.

Our focus in this discussion is the transformation that began with the shift of administrative authority on January 20, 2021 back towards democratic ideals and the processes involved in the process. On the ninety-ninth day of the Biden/Harris administration President Biden addressed a joint session of

Congress in the same Capitol building that was assaulted on January 6, 2021 by insurrectionists that included far-right violent extremists intending to overturn an election that had been challenged by Donald Trump's BIG LIE, the false claim that the election had been stolen from him.

Background on Educational Mission. As background, the former President Donald Trump went to extremes not previously seen in American history, not only before the election, but especially afterwards with his encouragement of the March on to the Capitol building. He would not even publicly consent to a peaceful transfer of power, and held a rally urging the march on the Capitol building shortly before the joint session of Congress to count the Electoral College ballots.

The majority control by the Democrats in both the House and the Senate is very thin. Furthermore, the majority of the minority party is still Trumpian with little regard for truth and fairness in the election process. That is an existential threat to American Democracy. The unfolding events have shifted the educational mission from simply fostering a Declaration of Reform to an ongoing narrative providing analytics integrating nascent disciplines into a paradigm under development supported by the concepts of an emerging discipline, Societal Biology.

The emerging discipline goes beyond the foundational work by Edward O. Wilson in his classic work, *Sociobiology: The New Synthesis*. The twenty-fifth anniversary edition of his book was published in the year 2000. It built from insect societies to vertebrate societies utilizing a commonality of principles he espoused in his book, *Consilience: The Unity of Knowledge*. The work on Societal Biology was initiated by the founder of this publishing enterprise independent of Wilson's *Sociobiology* book, but heavily dependent upon his *Consilience* book. Wilson's *Consilience* book was significant in the development of what is now the trilogy's third book, *American Democracy: The Declaration, Pursuit, and Endangerment*.

"The analytical structure for *Societal Biology: The Body and Mind of Society* is built upon a series of layers of networks of our outer world that are analogous to the layers of networks in human biology starting from cells and on through tissues and organs to the whole person in the form of the person's inner world." It is discussed in the fifth chapter, *Building a New Paradigm*. Excerpts from that chapter can be reached on page 141 of the third overview booklet, *Great Danger Emerges: Democracy Challenged*. It is Appendix D - Excerpts from Abridged Chapter Five, *Building a New Paradigm*. The quote is from page 141, but the excerpts from that chapter runs from page 137 – 154.

The booklet has excerpts from two other chapters that are also available on the website for reading. The third booklet is scheduled for revision and publication in 2022. It, nor the third book, are not yet available for purchase. The link address for the third booklet is https://mleofthemauryselfinllc.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/GDEGEC_Combined_071420.pdf.

Short-Term Power Obsession. The Trumpian Republican Party is obsessed with winning majority control of the House of Representatives and the Senate in the midterm elections, even to the extent of endangering the long-term survival of the Republican Party and/or American Democracy; although they may not see it that way. Some of them are whitewashing the January 6, 2021 invasion of the Capitol building that was intended to obstruct the legitimate performance of congressional activities regarding election results. Some of the insurrectionists even wanted to hang the vice president, Mike Pence, for his failure to comply with the then president's request to interfere with the legitimate Congressional process (which would thereby violate the Constitution of the United States). Some Republican congressional representatives have difficulty in recalling the banners and other symbols. Others are proud of them.

Truth and Democratic Values. As to the matter of truth, consider the tweet by Representative Liz Cheney, then the third ranking Republican in the House Representatives, on Monday, May 3, 2021; “The 2020 presidential election was not stolen. Anyone who claims it was is spreading the BIG LIE, turning their back on the rule of law, and poisoning our democratic system.” What happened on May 12, 2021 when the Trump supporters in the House of Representatives removed her from the third ranked Republican leadership position in the House of Representatives is a big clue to the current situation. The meeting took about fifteen minutes in a closed-door session, with a voice vote. No rollcall or even secret ballot.

As to the matter of fairness of elections, although there was no credible evidence that the election was stolen, the Republican Party has through state legislatures fostered hundreds of legislative provisions intended to reduce opposition votes. So far, at the time this is being drafted, they made progress in a few states. However, federal legislation passed in the House of Representatives intended to protect voter accessibility has not been acted upon in the Senate. It is not likely to survive. Furthermore, the nature of state control over the redistricting for the allotted representatives to Congress remains an issue. Some states use an unbiased process. Other states operate with congressional control for gerrymandering. More of those states have majorities of Republican legislators than Democratic legislators, so it appears that the manipulation of the election process is the Trumpian Republican approach rather than platform.

Further on the election process, the Republican controlled state legislature in Georgia passed legislation perceived to be intended to reduce *accessibility* for voting. Many leaders of American business enterprises not only voiced opposition to the pursuit of restricting access by voters; they reduced economic activity in the state as a protest. It looks as though there will be a rising role of business enterprises in the political process on the basis of preserving democracy in preference to moving towards an autocracy that contains a greater exposure to tyranny over business by governmental authority.

Dealing with Reality

Dealing with reality calls for connecting the dots to see the outcomes of choices. If there are only two dots to connect, and the conditions are stable, the linear relationship may be quite predictable. However, when there are multiple dots, as nodes as in a network, and the conditions change, uncertainty is generated because the changing conditions not only impact choices, but the choices in turn change the environmental conditions. This is a way of looking at organic structure in human beings and in society.

In the case at hand, the pursuit of power by Donald Trump has been cancerous to American Democracy. The BIG LIE undermines the process of free and fair elections. It has been carried so far that what was formerly the Grand Old Party, has lost its values and viability. The successor Trumpian Republican Party is going for a short-term gain of power by sacrificing the principles of a free society, as well as the fundamentals of the conservatism of its traditional nature.

This essay, *Restructuring American Democracy*, uses the subtitle of the trilogy’s second booklet, *American Democracy Endangered: Restructuring American Democracy*. The February 2020 edition of the booklet is posted on the DEEP website. As this is being drafted in May shortly after the Republicans in the House of Representatives in a closed meeting and voice vote removed Congresswoman Liz Cheney from her leadership role as Conference Share, the third ranking post-within the Republican Party in the

House of Representatives, it is becoming clear that the Trumpian Republican Party has taken over what was formerly the Grand Old Party.

What we are looking for is the connection of the other dots in the evolution of the Republican Party. Its future at this time is quite uncertain. It had three dramatic shifts in its first hundred years. The party started with Abraham Lincoln as president with the search for equality of opportunity. In a little over a decade its dominance shifted the focus to the control of property. The second cycle was with the presidency of Theodore Roosevelt was the party's return toward equality of opportunity in tension between it and the control of property. That era ended with the Gilded Age. The third cycle led to the presidency of Dwight David Eisenhower where both parties had liberal and conservative members.

The last half-century had four Republican revolutions. The series started in the Reagan era centered around the 1980s dedicated to reversing the changes made by the Democrats. The Second Republican Revolution, led by Newt Gingrich, was in the 1990s. It was the shift from what was deemed as harsh criticism being made was saying "I hold my colleague in minimal high esteem" to paving the way for Donald Trump's treatment of opposition with blatant insults, with the little regard to truth.

The third Republican revolution was in the first decade of the 21st century with policy overreacting to the 9/11 debacle and paving the way to the Great Recession and the 2008 global financial crisis. The fourth Republican Revolution was arguably seeded in the second decade of the 21st century when the Republicans in Congress were hardening their obstructionism to the norms of democracy, and then flowered by the rejection of the establishment with the election of Donald Trump. He took the next steps in the erosion of democracy that resulted in his being impeached twice by the House of Representatives, but surviving conviction the Senate. Being primaried is only one weapon in the arsenal of Donald Trump.

The reality is that America's third century is almost halfway through another century of change. Our first century started with a founding that transformed a confederation to a federation having declared independence from a tyrant. The Constitution's first ten amendments protected civil rights. The first century ended with survival from a Civil War. That overlapped a second founding that codified additional civil rights in three constitutional amendments: the thirteenth outlawing slavery; the fourteenth granting citizenship; and the fifteenth guaranteeing the right to vote not being denied because of "race, color, or previous condition of servitude"

Our second century of American Democracy was driven by the Industrial Revolution and was followed by the Information Revolution. Halfway through the Industrial Revolution there was a Great Depression. Its recovery was facilitated by shifting the role of government with a shift of administrative power that altered the division of the power between the legislative and administrative branches of government. After the second world war, the United States became a global leader, in part because the G.I. Bill of Rights facilitated the transformation from a wartime economy to a peacetime economy. Additionally, it facilitated research and education. The second century ended with what has been called a third founding, civil rights legislation in 1960s.

The third century started with the Information Revolution and a serious neglect of the impact of globalization on employment opportunities and education for a workforce not prepared to adapt to the changing economy. The culture changes in the last half of the twentieth century. The unity formed because of the commonalities of suffering from the Great Depression faded, as did the unity formed for survival in World War II.

Reconstruction Signals and Outcomes

Within the last hundred years, the greatest reconstruction signal was the Great Depression. It occurred under the Hoover administration in 1929, and resulted in an election of Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1932), a Democrat who led in a revision of the role of government. The common disaster served as an incentive for enough Americans band together for a unity of common purpose, recovery from an economic disaster.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt was reelected three times. Significant progress had been made by the time of his first reelection in 1936. The war in Europe was a consideration for his reelection in 1940. And, our direct participation in World War II continued the unification for a common purpose with his third reelection.

The next major signal for a reconstruction was when peaceful marchers crossing the Selma bridge were attacked by state troopers. The outrageous violation of the protesters civil rights led to the Voting Rights Act of 1965. It's been called by some as America's *third founding*. The *first founding* was in the decade of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, especially its first ten amendments. The *second founding* was in the Reconstruction Era following the Civil War, especially with three amendments to the Bill of Rights.

The first two foundings resulted in constitutional amendments. The first founding included the first ten amendments, also known as the Bill of Rights. The second founding included three constitutional amendments also directed to rights of individuals. The third was simply legislation.

This is all about civil rights, what the Declaration of Independence alluded to as unalienable rights to life liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The signal for a fourth founding was the murder of George Floyd by Derek Chauvin, by an on-duty police officer, now convicted of two counts of murder and one of man slaughter. The fourth founding is at stake in the form of federal legislation, titled the "George Floyd Justice and Police Act." At the time of this writing, the House of Representatives has passed the legislation; but even one year later the legislation passed in the House of Representatives has not been finalized by the Senate; although it appears that some compromise may be reached.

The compromise that is finally reached, assuming that is accomplished, will be a clue about across the aisle bipartisanship. That clue will be followed by what happens to the proposed infrastructure legislation. Compromises are emerging in size and coverage, but paying for it may be to straw that broke the camel's back.

Some Republican leadership may be unwilling to compromise on the so-called tax reform of December 2017 because it was the only first year major legislation arising from the Trump era; the party had control of both the House and Senate. Even though the tax reform will not only not pay for itself, but will add a trillion or two to the deficit because the numbers never made sense in the first place, the vengeful de facto leader of the minority party may hold a grudge against any Republican senator who exhibited the disloyalty of taking it away.

In early June, President Biden astoundingly offered an alternative to the Republican objections to increasing corporate taxes partway to the previous rates, with an alternative of a minimum 15% across the board corporate tax rate. That may not do enough because it is not just the substance of the bill, it is a zero-sum game for the 2022 midterm elections. For the Senate Minority Leader, it may well be the priority rests with midterm elections, whatever the cost of the long-term future of the Republican party.

This motivated learner educational enterprise is fostering the use of the lens of complexity designed to deal with uncertainty. The negotiating process of our complex adaptive system is an excellent example of how process influences structure, and structure in turn influences process. We will learn before the end of the first year, and maybe by the end of summer whether or not across the aisle legislation will be feasible, or whether the Democratic Party will move to end the filibuster for exceptional situations as a last resort.

At this stage in early June, Senator Manchin of West Virginia is holding firm on the pursuit of across the aisle cooperation even though it may not be feasible. If he concludes that is not in the cards that he might go along with a budget reconciliation approach or even to end a filibuster so that critical legislation will not be brought to a vote. There are so many variables, that there may be gridlock until after the midterm elections in 2022.

There is a very real possibility that the first year of the Biden administration will run into gridlock because Republican leadership is weighing potential of success in the midterm elections as more important than the pursuit of democracy.

Our History of Mutual Dependence

America's First Two Revolutions

The American Revolution arose out of a mutual dependence at two levels. The foundation was the colonists in each of the thirteen colonies with their own administration rebelling against the tyranny of King George III. That was the basis of self-creation of thirteen sovereign states. The second level was the creation of a confederation unifying what the colonists had declared to be thirteen sovereign states.

The mutual dependence that existed in the Confederation did not have the strength of cooperation and law required for the effective taxation to pay for the war, and cooperation and other matters including foreign policy. It took about a decade to codify the mutual dependence in the form of what is called a constitutional democracy, but possibly more accurately identified as a constitutional republic. The Federation was created based on mutual dependence with thirteen sovereign states granting certain rights in the form of a constitution, to what became the United States of America. The first ten amendments to the Constitution focused on the inalienable rights of the individual.

Our Building of Social Capital

As a nation, our building of social capital started with the unification of the colonists in the rebellion that led to the Declaration of Independence. It expanded when the thirteen sovereign states delegated certain rights to the federal government by the creation of the Constitution. The first ten amendments to the Constitution provide protection to the people, as does the three constitutional amendments in the Reconstruction era. And it took a long time for constitutional amendment for women suffrage, lay in the first quarter of the twentieth century. That only took almost a century and a half; but it is now a century old.

Progress takes a long time; but we are now recognizing the benefits and no longer excluding half of our population from the right to exercise their will in representation for the environment influences their lives. That relates to gender; but we still have a long way to go on the dimension, especially because anti-democratic institutional arrangements specialized in utilizing hate as a vehicle for control. That destroys social capital.

The Great Experiment of American Democracy evolved to provide the strongest military force in the history of the world with the capability of the defense of national interests. As it turns out, there is greater internal threat to the survival of our freedom as individuals from the tribalism that has emerged in recent decades.

There are legitimate differences in the views of the citizenry as to appropriate role of government. The commonality of views starts with the avoidance of tyranny. The structural design of the division of power among a bicameral legislature, an administration, and the judicial system was intended to avoid tyranny. The choice of a bicameral legislature was designed as a protection against the tyranny of the masses by the creation of a Senate with state representatives, presumably with some wisdom envisioned by Plato in his view of what he hoped for in *philosopher kings*. Plato didn't rank democracy very high on the list of governmental options.

Our American Democracy, with the D capitalized as a proper name for an institution, was designed to contain the rule of law, an equality of rights. The critical concept is the nature of the shared destiny of the populace in sovereign territory. The design of our structure has been undermined by processes that game the system for personal and political interests. The design of the system calls for **truth** and **trust** in the pursuit of our common purpose, liberty and justice for all. Both truth and trust have been seriously eroded.

Although we are individualistic as a people, we have bonded together for our common interest, living in a free society. That starts with the avoidance of tyranny with a price; our agreement to constrain our behavior for the common good. The absence of **truth** is corrosive to the structure and the erodes the **trust** essential for successful operation. Those conditions have seriously contributed to our crises.

Understanding the basic nature of mutual dependence not only as a protection from external threats, which our nation has done reasonably well; it is also a protection from internal threats. That awareness was the thrust in the creation of the first book of the trilogy; raising the level of consciousness.

Our Building of Economic Capital

Our building of economic capital as a nation was based upon what existed in the thirteen sovereign states that formed the Confederation. For the Southern States, the land, labor, and capital structure was based upon territorial control, primarily dependent upon slave labor, with a blend of financial and social capital that produced a thriving economy. For the Northern States that had greater similarity to diverse economic activities of the empire from which it evolved, the major difference of territorial expansion; some of which was theft, fair and square.

Land and Territorial Control. Territorial control is at the heart of survival because nutrition is essential to survival, and obtaining it requires access to land upon which it grows and upon which animal life relies for its nutrition. Animal life stakes out territory, and often bonds together to protect its access to nutritional sources; so do human beings.

History is replete with empires being built that started with protection of territory, and expansion into other territory by force. The start may be trade that moves to taking the natural resources and/or the products by sheer force. Sometimes it is to take the people as slaves. But it may go even further and take control of the territory and claim it as its own. A great resource for getting a quick picture is a book by John B. Sparks, *Time Chart of World History: A Histomap Peoples and Nations For 4,000 Years*.

Our nation was founded in a rebellion against the tyranny of the British Empire. It inherited the practice of private property, but relies upon protection of the state in whatever form from being subjugated to a foreign power. The ownership of private property is simply a bundle of rights protected by the government.

The use of land is regulated by government and dependence upon externalities that starts with accessibility but includes a wide range of infrastructure. Much of that infrastructure is physical and/or services. The range of services may be wide, including broadband access. The urban plant concept as a location for economic activity built upon territorial resources, including the workforce.

Labor and Production Capability. The labor and production capability originated with gathering food and hunting, but expanded to farming and breeding. Even primates started using tools, but human beings went well beyond simple tools for manufacturing in many forms.

Great advances were made in the Industrial Revolution that brought about specialization augmented by increasing complexity of machinery. It moved to automation and then on to robotics. The advances were facilitated by additional sources of energy for system operation. The additional resources call for capital development and application of the systems.

Capital as Resource Capability. In the land labor and capital paradigm, capital is easily conceived as financial capital for commanding resources. The earlier discussion of social capital focuses on mutual dependence and cooperation. That dependence is based upon trust in behavior, and the trust is based upon truth. The key is the reliability of information.

Using the organic analogy, the ability of the system to function is based upon information and energy. The energy comes in a variety of forms, but is discussed in the traditional model as financial capital. In the year of the Information Revolution, it becomes apparent that the quality of information makes the difference in influence the outcomes from the productive activity.

Our Building of Political Capital.

As a nation, our building of political capital started with a confederation designed to unify forces to combat tyrannical behavior of King George III; especially in the concept of taxation without representation. The insufficiency of systemic discipline for operation of the Confederation led to the emergence of a federation that used a constitutional form of government.

As previously noted, the design of the system was for the avoidance of tyranny thru the separation of powers. Of particular concern was the legislative power structure to reduce the potentiality of tyranny of the masses. That led to a bicameral legislative structure with a reliance of wisdom within the United States Senate.

As a prelude to our discussion of our pursuit of educational innovation, and the feasibility of the approach, the box that follows contains a brief interpretation of excerpted condensed version of the concept of *public choice*, as discussed later.

The idea is that the discipline in politics is that what works for the representatives is not necessarily what is best for the nation or even those represented, but what works for re-electability. The difference between the politics of election and the competition in markets is that the self-interest in a pluralistic society “only in the latter [the market system] is that [the self-interest in markets is] acknowledged openly... in public institutions, decisions that ideally

require **cooperation** are often undermined by the private interest of individuals. [Emphasis added.]

The current political condition in the Trumpian Republican Party is an extreme case in which the evolution of the Republican Party over the last half-century has so diminished the integrity of the system that the building of our political capital has been so eviscerated that our democracy is under an existential threat.

Prior to the Trump presidency there were only two presidents of the United States that has been impeached. Donald Trump as president was impeached twice, but not convicted in the Senate. The Mueller investigation revealed at least ten obstructions of justice items that had the potential for an indictment, but under the policy of the Department of Justice, they did not have the authority to indict.

The Attorney General appointed by Donald Trump during his presidency did not provide appropriate detail to the public, or Congress. The Speaker of the House decided not to proceed with an impeachment case unless there was bipartisan support.

The speaker's position changed with the national security issue came up on the *quid pro quo* of the telephone conversation with the leader of Ukraine. The then President Trump wanted a Ukrainian investigation that would diminish the prospect of the most likely candidate for presidency from the Democratic Party. That evidence was so clear that the Speaker of the House of Representatives proceeded without bipartisan support. The Republican-controlled Senate would not hear witnesses, particularly denying testimony from an authority with firsthand knowledge. There was no conviction in the Senate.

The January 6, 2021 insurrection intending to interfere with the appropriate constitutional processes was done with the encouragement of Donald Trump as sitting president resulted in the second impeachment. It got some Republican votes in the Senate, but not the super majority required for the removal from office.

The latest news as of the time this is being drafted, from the *Wall Street Journal* article on May 27, 2021, titled "Cheney Sees Her Re-Election Bid as Vote on GOP's Future." It is authored by Andrew Duehren with the opening paragraph as follows:

Rep. Liz Cheney (R., Wyo.) said she views her re-election bid as a referendum on the future of the Republican Party, with voters potentially facing a choice between what she sees as traditional conservative values and loyalty to the former President Donald Trump."

As background for the reader's convenience, we have an excerpt from page 4 of this article provided in the box that follows.

Truth and Democratic Values. As to the matter of truth, consider the tweet by Representative Liz Cheney, then the third ranking Republican in the House Representatives, on Monday, May 3, 2021; "The 2020 presidential election was not stolen. Anyone who claims it was is spreading the BIG LIE, turning their back on the rule of law, and poisoning our democratic system." What happened on May 12, 2021 when the Trump supporters in the House of Representatives removed her from the third ranked Republican leadership position in the House of Representatives is a big clue to the current situation. The meeting took about fifteen minutes in a closed-door session, with a voice vote. No rollcall or even secret ballot.

It seems clear that our educational challenge is to provide an understanding of the system that will help individuals, in whatever capacity, to make choices that will improve outcomes; in the case for the rebuilding of our American Democracy. To help in the process we turn to a further discussion of the integrity of our system.

The Integrity of Our System

The integrity of our system is being destroyed. Consciousness of our mutual dependence began eroding in the economic growth that followed the end of World War II. For the liberals, the norms of behavior, especially for youth, changed by their disregarding of rules of personal activity. For the conservatives, especially for those rising economic status, it was what they could do with their property.

During the 1950s, centered around the administration of Dwight David Eisenhower (1953-1961) there were liberals and conservatives in both major political parties. As discussed in *Survival of the Grand Old Party*, "We have been avoiding signals of the endangerment of our democracy. The Republican Party was founded to deal with an unavoidable signal, the Civil War. It led to a reconstruction era with constitutional amendments under the leadership of Abraham Lincoln. It rose again in the promotion of democracy with the Theodore Roosevelt administration. Then again, for a third time, it dealt with the equality of rights as its priority under the leadership of Dwight David Eisenhower. All that was with in the first hundred years."

The erosion of the integrity in the last half-century was aided and abetted by a rising divisiveness in the location of economic activity. The quarter century after World War II (1945-1970) was a start of the problem in which urban growth was capitalizing on what turned out to be the last quarter-century of the final century of Industrial Revolution. America prospered with the production of goods and services for household consumption in the suburbanization growth. It was providing jobs in the suburbs with minority populations largely left in the center cities. It was a further erosion of the relative equality economic opportunity for the minority population.

That was followed by a neglect of rural America and the industrial centers that wound up as the Rust Belt. The globalization that sent a lot of manufacturing overseas left the blue-collar workers with diminished opportunity. Our nation missed an opportunity to take on a successor program to the G.I. Bill that enabled a major segment of our population to transition through education to changed economic opportunities.

The Democratic Party made a strategic error in focusing on the evolving Information Revolution and neglecting the blue-collar workers. The Republican Party picked up on the opportunity. It started its transition from what was the Grand Old Party that would cooperate in bipartisan legislation to become a power-seeking coalition of interests that valued political power of the controlling party above the survival of a democracy with a fair representation of the electorate.

The process started with a series of internal revolutions of the Republican Party. It is briefly discussed in *Survival of the Grand Old Party*. Consider two excerpted paragraphs from that item written in in early May of 2021 following what was noted as part of the third paragraph of this executive summary:

"The 2020 presidential election was not stolen. Anyone who claims it was is spreading THE BIG LIE, turning their back on the rule of law, and poisoning our democratic system."

The majority of the elected Republican leadership of the minority party is dedicated to political control of the party, leading to control of the nation, even at the expense of our democracy that

requires at least a two-party system. They are choosing to rig the electoral system by whatever means they can, including diminishing access to voting and gerrymandering. The Republican Party has had four revolutions in the last half-century, the second is known as the Gingrich Led Republican Revolution (<https://mleofthemauryseidnllc.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/The-Fourth-Republican-Revolution.pdf> and/or <https://mleofthemauryseidnllc.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Preface-included-UPDATE-The-Fifth-Republican-Revolution.docx.pdf>).

The Fourth Republican Revolution, was the Trumpian takeover of what was the Grand Old Party. It was the evolution of a decades long run to regain national leadership through the erosion of norms of behavior treating the opposition as the enemy rather than the rival; and moving through obstructionism to tribalism. It was on the road to what is envisioned as single party control that emerged with Donald Trump's pursuit of autocracy; pursuing victory at any price.

The battle to pursue our common purpose is discussed in a DEEP platform entry, <https://mleofthemauryseidnllc.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/A-Book-Review-of-Our-Common-Purpose.docx-1.pdf> and that contains the following paragraph:

The report is well-organized in presenting its results. It is highly recommended for anyone concerned about our quality of life in America today, and the endangerment of further deterioration of our freedom and other aspects of our quality of life. You may read the entire report on the web; and, it is downloadable. Just search for "Our Common Purpose | American Academy of Arts and Sciences." The website is www.amacad.org. Hard copy is also available. Email address is aaas@amacad.org.

Process and Structure

A Characterization of Our Diversity

The structure of our American Democracy as the *Great Experiment* was designed for diversity, especially with the separation of religion from government. It picked up on progress that was being made in the era of the Enlightenment of the move to the source of authority arising from the people rather than a hierarchal structure headed by royalty, religious authority, or by some other source of power. Although it started with voting rights vested only in white males of age owning property, it took almost a century and a half for suffrage to be extended to women.

The diversity started with Western civilization containing its multiplicity of cultures as something different from the cultures of the rest of mankind dwelling on the planet earth. The psychological peculiarities that emerged contributed to a prosperity that has been described as containing people that "are both highly individualistic, self-obsessed, goal oriented, nonconformist, analytical, and trusting of strangers. They focus on themselves-their attributes, accomplishments, and aspirations -over their relationship and social roles."

This is discussed in a book by Joseph Henrich, *The WEIRDest People in The World: How the West Became Psychologically Preculture and Particularly Prosperous*. The WEIRD refers to *Western, Educated, Industrialized, Rich, and Democratic*. The quotation the previous paragraph is excerpted from the flyleaf.

Process in Our Political Economy

An essential ingredient in our democracy is the diversity of the electorate that exercises the political discipline on the elected representatives as a strategy to avoid tyranny. The electoral process is

structured with sovereign states (or commonwealths) utilizing an electoral college for the nation's presidency. A decennial census allocates to the states the number of representatives to be elected to the House of Representatives for two-year terms. Each state is empowered to elect two senators, each serving six-year overlapping terms in the U.S. Senate. The number of votes in the electoral college is the sum of the number of representatives and senators authorized in the bicameral legislative body.

Since the end of the 16 year stretch from March 4, 1869 to March 4, 1885 with four Republican presidents there were **nine (9)** transitions from a president nominated by the Republican Party to a president nominated by the Democratic Party (1885, 1893, 1913, 1933, 1961, 1977, 1993, 2009, 2021). During that same time period there were also **eight (8)** transitions from a president nominated by the Democratic Party to a president nominated by the Republican Party (1889, 1897, 1921, 1953, 1969, 1981, 2001, 2017).

The peaceful transfer of power in our democracy remained unchallenged until January 6, 2021 when a group of insurrectionists stormed the Capitol building in an attempt to have Congress send back to the states the certification made by some states that the then current president, Donald John Trump, had not been reelected. The then President Trump had urged his supporters to disrupt the process having made false claims of a stolen election, the BIG LIE.

The process of counting electoral votes the joint session of Congress was disrupted for hours by insurrectionists invading the Capitol building intended upon violence. Some of the insurrectionists were shouting to hang Mike Pence, the vice president who on constitutional grounds refused to follow instructions from the then President Trump. The then Vice President Pence was presiding over a joint session of Congress charged with counting the ballots. The insurrectionists wanted him to send back to some of the state legislatures the results, asking for the selection of legislatures of states with a majority of Republicans in the legislature to make their own interpretation of for whom the state's electoral college votes would be placed.

The House of Representatives impeached the then president, but the Senate did not convict. Immediately after the election, the Majority Leader of the Senate, Mitch McConnell, who did not vote to convict, made comments criticizing the behavior of the then president. That has since exposed him to strong criticism by Donald Trump. When Senator McConnell was asked if he would vote in 2024 for Donald Trump if he were the Republican nominee, his answer was in the affirmative.

Since then, the former president furthered the divisiveness in what is now the minority party, with the Trumpism component retaining its status as the majority of the minority party. Kevin McCarthy, the minority leader in the House of Representatives, has fallen into line in the support of Trumpism. The latest event as of May 12, 2021 is the removal of Liz Cheney from her role as the third ranking Republican in the House of Representatives, serving as Conference Chair of the minority party. Her successor, Representative Elise Stefanik, is a moderate Republican, but avid supporter of the BIG LIE.

Truth has fallen by the wayside in the Trumpian Republican Party in its quest for power. Some states have already enacted legislation designed to reduce voter turnout in the hopes of getting a better position in what is seen as a zero-sum game. That is part of the hundreds of legislative proposals designed to reduce voting by Democrats under the guise of solving a problem that does not exist. The problem that does exist in the gerrymandering, and Republicans have a better opportunity to utilize that instrument and what they see as a zero-sum game in search of power, rather than a commonality of interest of a free society.

Republican Party had a grand history in support of equality of opportunity. That was under the leadership of Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, and Dwight David Eisenhower. But, most of its history favored protection of property rights resulted in a concentration of power. The ideology of Edmund Burke, the philosophical founder of modern conservatism has eroded to power and property prevailing in the tension with the equality of opportunity.

The Republican Party was dominant in the Gilded Age and then again in the Roaring Twenties. The Democratic Party was dominant in the recovery from the Great Depression. Then, there was a Democratic presidency during the long-term capital management debacle in the late 90s. It gave a clue about the need for regulation. There was Republican administration for most of the first decade of the twenty-first century that led to the Great Recession. The latest version of Republican power in the form of Trumpism has little resemblance to the values of conservatism. It is a quest for power at the risk of destroying American Democracy.

Cultural Evolution in Structure

The processes underway have evolved from cultural evolution influenced by structure. They continued to evolve impacted by structure. Process alters structure; and the structure alters process. The reality is that we have multiple cultures, and the protection of any one culture calls for the protection of all the other cultures that fall within the common good of a free society.

The challenge is the coevolution of the multiplicity of cultures in a pluralistic society in a representative government, in which there is genuine representation within the constraints of the underlying values. Those values start with truth and justice, and call for a level playing field. The survival of democracy, albeit in an improved form, is a stake.

The role of the business enterprise is critical in this evolution. The tendency our capitalistic society has been for resurgence of concentration of power in ownership and control of assets. For the British Empire the assets were colonies, with a significant role of the business enterprises that ran a significant part of the system. For the Southern colonists the property was slaves who tended the crops; again territorial. The transition that led to Lincoln's leadership was an environment with the exploitation of land in the Western expansion. The prevailing processes denied his family an equal opportunity for acquisition of the best land, as it did for other small farmers. The system catered to a very large and powerful farm enterprises. The next era was the Industrial Revolution generating the concentration industrial enterprises with monopolistic trusts. That led to the beginning of significant federal legislation in trust busting. The emergence of the containment restrictions for monopolies built upon the Information Revolution are underway.

After the Gilded Age, we had the roaring 20s and a stock market crash that began a Great Depression. It led to a reconstruction of our American Democracy, and a change in the role of the federal government. Progress in the post-World War II era was fostered by the G.I. Bill of Rights that facilitated great educational opportunities to adapt to a change in the environment, including the location of economic development. Then, as the Industrial Revolution was coming to an end, the Information Revolution began leading to the next concentration of power in business enterprises, eroding the discipline of competition.

Systemic discipline is essential to the homeostatic process of retaining balance in an evolving system. Self-discipline is an excellent place to start. However, competition and a level playing field is the next

step in the pursuit of balance for the diversity of interests. Beyond that, there is governmental regulation. The discipline of government to society is free and fair elections. When that fails, the discipline comes from revolution. Donald Trump's BIG LIE of a stolen election led to the January 6, 2021 insurrection. As discussed, the majority leadership of the minority party undermining the system with the lack of integrity of discipline in what was formerly the Grand Old Party. If they succeed in creating a one-party system, the apparent ambition of the autocrat Donald Trump, the discipline of a free society with an electorate of the choice and political party will have become history.

Our nation is in the early stages of a second Cold War, this time instead of with the Communist Party of the Soviet Union that collapsed in 1990, is with the Communist Party of China under the leadership of autocrat intent on global expansion.

Although Russia under the Putin regime is thrusting for expansion in the Arctic arena now the global warming is increasing the navigability in that region; the bigger threat is from the Chinese. The Chinese expansion in the Pacific Islands is only part of their mission. Their *Belt and Road Initiative* (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belt_and_Road_Initiative) is "a global **infrastructure development strategy** adopted by the Chinese government in 2013 to invest in nearly 70 countries and international organizations. It is considered a centerpiece of Communist Party of China (CPC)..."

The Chinese gross domestic product is not only rivaling our own GDP, looks as though it's not going to take long before their economy is larger than ours. They have adopted a capitalistic system, but not a free society. Their governmental control directs industry for political purposes. That is setting the stage for a dual system in global technology.

Some American industrial leaders recognize the bigger problem in the form of the rising destruction of fair accessibility to the ballot box. That is the path to a single party system resulting in a tyrannical government of American enterprise. Regulation is one thing, and taxation is another, and survival of a free society is critical to *Our Common Purpose* [see website of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, www.amacad.org].

Our Mutual Dependence on Capitalism

The capitalistic system made great productivity progress; so much so that the Chinese have adopted it; but with the domination of industry for political purposes. That hierarchal control of business enterprises in China, has now instilled a fear by American business leadership that with the Second Cold War underway, this time with China rather than the Soviet Union, the American free enterprise system is at risk with the evolution toward a domestic autocratic leadership exemplified by Donald Trump when he was president, and his continued pursuit of power leading preparatory to the 2024 presidential elections.

The Chinese leadership has been utilizing a multiplicity of crises as the basis for criticism of our system. In all candor, our capitalism has been moving our evolution away from the ideals articulated in the Declaration of Independence. We will shortly be discussing the feasibility of the educational mission leading to a Declaration of Reform as part of the transformation that officially started by the Biden-Harris administration on January 20, 2021.

Preparatory to that we return to the discussion of land, labor, and capital; but this time in a macro sense of societal structure rather than the micro sense of business enterprise. We will be leading to land use in the sense of location of economic activity. Part of that is generated by preparation for recurrence of

pandemics by lowering density of business activity. Additionally, part is lowering the costs of living a better distribution of residential activity,

Capitalism has done well for aggregate growth, but poorly for reciprocity of the various stakeholders, especially employees. In order to survive, it needs significant redesign returning to the ideology of the mid-twentieth century so as to recognize the difference between the function of business and its profit motivation. Profit is a strong motivator, but not the function of government authorized entities.

This considers the pandemic as a force for the potential reallocation of the location of economic activity. It also provides an opportunity for fostering education to facilitate success in a democracy

In order to deal with the transition, it is going to take a great deal of improvement in the quality of education, not only for the people who are doing the work, but also on how to live. The liberal education of the elite has become outrageously expensive for the masses with results of exceptional indebtedness, especially for an antiquated system of learning. Success in the transitional process is going to require the development of familiarity with democratic processes, starting at the local level. It all keeps coming back to territorial issues, including the nature and location of economic activity, as well as the role of private property and its protection by government.

Declaration of Reform Feasibility

Our Focus is on Education

Our focus is on education in many dimensions and in multiple arenas. The dimensions referred to processes that relate to choices leading to expectations of outcomes. The multiple arenas relate to the organic components of the complex adaptive systems. Additionally, there are perspectives beyond our specializations referred to in arenas; they relate to scale or intensity that ranges for individuals in the cycle of a day, and cultures in a wide range of time dimensions.

All of this relates to the first stage of fostering feasibility; simply an assembly of leadership for the design of process. The design process operates to produce a structure evolving from the organic systems of individuals, and the multiplicity of organizations that operate in our American Democracy. Our common purpose is the source of authority for a sovereign territory to emanate from the people in a self-organization of worldly processes, rather than from a hierarchal authority of royalty, religion, or other dominating source without accountability to the population. That was a great shift in the Enlightenment era. Some understanding of that is essential to understanding how American Democracy became *The Great Experiment*.

At the time of our nation's founding there were two fundamentally different perspectives as to governmental processes that would best serve the people. One was the conservative perspective articulated by Edmund Burke (1729-1797). The other was an Enlightenment perspective exemplified by a series of philosophers rooted in developments a century earlier, including a Scientific Revolution perspective.

The Enlightenment Perspective. For the Enlightenment perspective we can start with Galileo (1564-1642) noting his contribution of mathematical physics in understanding the solar system, and Descartes (1596-1650) with his application of mathematical analytics to the philosophical problems. From the Rohmann book, we have a brief excerpt as follows:

Descartes began from the premise “Doubt everything.” The Cartesian method outlined in his *Discourse on Method* (1637), had four primary rules: accept as to only what is clear and insusceptible of doubt; divide every problem into as many parts as necessary; consider each part clearly and completely, building by accretion to knowledge of the whole; omit nothing from consideration that might be a source of error. [See page 98 Rohmann’s *A World of Ideas*.]

These were advancements from the ancient Greeks, especially the Aristotelian reasoning that had been used by the Scholastics starting with the religious premise of their faith and moving on with their analytics having hidden the work of Epicurus whose life started while Aristotle was still alive. Lucretius, a Roman, had carried forth to work in a poem, *On the Nature of Things*. The original work of Epicurus is briefly identified on Rohmann’s page 117 in the excerpt that follows:

The philosophy of the early Epicureans was thoroughly MATERIALIST. It was divided into three parts: a theory of knowledge emphasized direct experience; a physical system based upon ATOMISM: and ethics incorporating both systems, grounded in physical sensation and the natural course of atomic movement. The idea that our bodies are composed of atoms, Epicurus drew the conclusion that our sensations are due to the perturbations of the particles, and the extracted from this the idea that one’s goal should be to achieve a pleasant combination of these feelings... [See page 117 of Rohmann’s *A World of Ideas*. The words in all caps referred to other entries.]

Our challenge as educators is to indulge in *Translational Science* (“from bench to bed”) so as to educate motivated learners, irrespective of their formal education, with knowledge that their success will be enhanced with their understanding of science. Many have suffered from the pandemic in many ways, and some have died, because they have disregarded science.

Part of the problem is the system by which the environment has been managed. Our educational mission is to explain the system in such a way that it will help people in their making choices. Fortunately, the first overview essay (IT IS TIME TO DECIDE! DO YOU WANT TO LIVE IN A FREE SOCIETY?) has an appendix ([Strategic Guidance Towards Improving Outcomes](#)). This Declaration Era Educational Press is a start on demonstrating that the approach is feasible.

The box that follows moves ahead to twenty-first century science and describes a nascent discipline approach moving from the seventeenth century science into the twenty-first century nascent disciplines.

Consilience from footnote iv of BOOK TWO - Appendix 3A - Complexity and Nascent Disciplines derived from essay of as a newsletter supplement [Spring 2004 – “The Collective Mind.”](#) It is also in the appendices of BOOK THREE in the appendix E - [The Collective Mind](#). An excerpt follows.

Reductionism Revisited. Reductionism has some merits. It is the problems that need attention. Stephen Jay Gould, in his last book, *The Hedgehog, the Fox, and the Magister’s Pox: Mending the Gap Between Science and Humanities*, identifies two problems in his discussion of consilience. One is *contingency*. The other is *emergence*.

The concept of *contingency* relates to the non-predictability arising out of historical accidents. There are some elements of randomness, chaos theory, or just plain chance that adversely affect predictability. This does not mean to assert that there are not other instances that are not predictable. The criticism of reductionism is that it asserts that all is predictable from the reduction to the constituent parts. It is this reduction to constituent parts that we call analyses that turns out to be useful. The merit of reduction is that some things are predictable

because they are divisible into parts and the relationship among the parts provides the predictability. This form of analytical process may be very useful, but it is a valid criticism to say that it is not necessarily the only way of predicting outcomes.

This brings to the second point, *emergence*. Gould writes of *emergence* as "...the entry of novel explanatory rules in complex systems, laws arising from 'nonlinear' or 'nonadditive' interactions among constituent parts that therefore, in principle cannot be discovered from the properties of parts considered separately (their status in the 'basic' sciences that provide the fundamental explanation in classically reductionist models). [Page 202.]

The analytical approach used by science at the beginning of the Scientific Revolution was utilized by Spinoza (1632-1677) in his first book, *Ethics*, but as a philosophical treatise. The Edwin Curly translation included an introduction by Stuart Hampshire. The excerpt that follows describes the analytics.

... Spinoza's ethics makes no appeal to sense experience and experiment in support of its conclusions, and its geometrical style flaunts the deductive and non-observational structure of its arguments.

To build a bridge to the contemporary interests, and hence to understanding, it seems necessary in the 1950s to suggest Spinoza's metaphysics envisioned the possibility of a unified knowledge of the natural order, and that it exhibited the consequences of much unified knowledge in the areas of morality and politics... [*Ethics* Benedict de Spinoza, penguin books (1996), see page vii.]

It appears that it has taken until the twenty-first century for someone to pick up on Spinoza's concept of the feeling brain. Consider the box that follows:

In Antonio Damasio's book, *Looking for Spinoza: Joy, Sorrow, and the Feeling Brain* we get a foundation for individual action. He discusses Spinoza's *Ethics*. Damasio, a neuroscientist, wrote the following in his 21st century book, *Looking for Spinoza: Joy, Sorrow, and the Feeling Brain*:

The importance of biological facts in the Spinoza System cannot be overemphasized. Seen through the light of modern biology, the system is conditioned by the presence of life; the presence of a natural tendency to preserve that life; the fact that the preservation of that life depends on the equilibrium of life functions and consequently on life regulation; the fact that the status of life regulation is expressed in the form of effects — joy , sorrow — and is modulated by appetites, emotions, and the precariousness of the life condition can be known and appreciated by the human individual due to the construction of the self, consciousness, and knowledge-based reason...**And for all the reasons outlined above the concern overflows from the self to the other...**[the knowledge turns]...**it into concern** [p.174]" [Emphasis added.]

Additionally, Damasio wrote in a later work, *Self Comes to Mind: Constructing the Conscious Brain*, the following:

"The time will come when the issue of human responsibility, in general moral terms as well as matters of justice and its application, **will take into account the evolving science of consciousness. Perhaps the time is now.**" [From page 30, but emphasis added.]

As discussed on page 53 of the trilogy's third book in the section discussing the linkage between the inner world and the outer world is critical in the analytical system using the principles from biology in

understand the improvement of outcomes through altering the structure of the system, here is an excerpt that will provide some clarification:

Before turning to a discussion of the inner world in order to outline the framework that is the departure for an analogous structure of the outer world, the foundation for the linkage is expressed in a discussion of the work of Antonio Damasio in his book *Looking for Spinoza: Joy, Sorrow, and the Feeling Brain*. In it, on page 170, he provides an extensive quote "...from Proposition 18 in part IV of *The Ethics*...[which] ¶ At first glance ...sound[s] like a prescription for the selfish culture of our times but nothing could be further from their real meaning. As I interpret it, the proposition is the cornerstone for a generous ethical system."

Damasio goes on to explain noting that he would rewrite Spinoza's proposition as follows:

I hold these truths to be self evident, that all humans are created such that they tend to preserve their life and seek well being, that their happiness comes from the successful endeavor to do so, and that the foundation of virtue rests on these facts. Perhaps these resonances are not a coincidence...¶... how does Spinoza move from oneself to all the selves to whom virtue must apply? Spinoza makes the transition relying again on biological facts. Here is the procedure: The biological reality of self-preservation leads to virtue because in our inalienable need to maintain ourselves, we must of necessity, help preserve *other* selves [p.71].

He continues in the same paragraph to note that this foundation of virtue in the social structure is in the context of a complex organism with an "interdependence with our own organism." Later he notes that "Happiness is not a reward for virtue: it is virtue itself [p.175]." This is explained in part by the idea that acting in response to the self-preservation tendency leads toward establishment of a social contract furthering happiness viewed as being free of "the tyranny of negative emotions [p.175]."

As just discussed, literature from the 21st century is revealing that seeds of the Enlightenment era also contain some seeds for a New Age of Enlightenment. More this is discussed in the trilogy's third book, *American Democracy: The Declaration, Pursuit, and Endangerment*.

The educational challenge is at two levels. The first is at the interdisciplinary level leading to the development of an analytical structure for the creation of a discipline in *Societal Biology*. It starts with a better understanding at the individual level of human beings, focused on our understanding of the self to the community; at the multiplicity of levels that range from very local to the territorial level the sovereign state, especially in our case of a federation at the national level designed for protection from a tyrannical regime. That protection has been eroding, and the system is headed for self-destruction.

The Declaration of Reform approach calls for assembly of interdisciplinary expertise to provide a design for process and structure that would put us back on the path towards the ideals articulated the Declaration of Independence. As it happens, a step in that direction was taken in the two-year project of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences resulted in the release of the report, *Our Common Purpose Reinventing American Democracy for the 21st Century*. The next major step was taken in the transition of leadership of the administrative branch of government from a president in the pursuit of autocracy to a president in pursuit of democracy.

The second level of challenge is the education of the electorate so that the individual choices will have a better opportunity of resulting in the opportunity for the individuals to continue to make their choices in the context of a free society. What is on the table now is a choice between the pursuit of autocracy and the pursuit of reconstruction of our democracy.

The Grand Old Party no longer exists, having been succeeded by Trumpian Republicanism in pursuit of power, apparently any cost including insurrection attacking the joint session of Congress to interfere with the constitutional process of a peaceful transfer of government. Trumpian Republicanism is bent upon degrading the electoral process in order to win in the midterm elections of 2022 and the presidential election of 2024. It appears that they are prepared to risk the survival of the democratic system in order for short-term gains that would lead to a single political party and perpetual control of the national government.

The survival of American Democracy is dependent upon at least a two-party political system is a matter of control protection against tyranny.

The Conservative Perspective. The conservative perspective in American politics is rooted in the Enlightenment era, but at the other end of the spectrum that played out as the French Revolution. It is rooted in the work of Edmund Burke (1729-1797). Burke, was a reformer in the era of the Enlightenment, using what we would call today the *Minimax Strategy*, a preference for a low downside risk. A key excerpt from the Chris Rohmann book, *A World of Ideas: A Dictionary of Important Theories, Concepts, Beliefs, and Thinkers* is as follows:

“We must reform in order to preserve” existing institutions, he declared, not transform or replace them. To Burke society was not the result of an intentional SOCIAL CONTRACT among the people but the outcome of organic, cumulative process of development over time. He disputed the RATIONALISM of the ENLIGHTENMENT, trusting instead to the traditional customs, unwritten rules, and habitual interaction by which society operates; these he called “prejudice,” as distinct from consciously applied doctrines. [See page 51. The words in all caps referred to other entries.]

If this were an academic course for college credit, the entire page would be required reading. As a matter of FAIR USE, since this educational endeavor is promoting the sale of the book, rather than competing with it, here is the concluding paragraph in its entirety.

The most famous and influential work was his *Reflections on the Revolution in France* (1790), in which he condemned the French Revolution, even before it entered its RADICAL stage, as a dangerous experiment that could only lead to chaos and war. The revolution, he wrote, threaten the traditional order by attempting to reshape society according to idealistic notions such as “the RIGHTS of man.” But work was not un equivocally antirevolutionary. He defended the Glorious Revolution 1688 as a reaffirmation of traditional institutions and supported the American colonists’ revolt against taxation without representation as a historical established right of free Englishmen.

If you have the Rohmann book the RIGHTS will lead you to page 342 that includes a mention of John Locke in the third paragraph that starts off as follows:

The concept of political rights that belong to every citizen’s first fully expressed by John LOCKE in his *Two Treatises on Government* (1690). He asserted that NATURAL LAW, which applies equally to

all people by virtue of their common humanity, particularly the capacity of REASON, implies a set of natural rights that that are available to all...

The Declaration of Independence took an approach within the realm of conservative thought and also picked up on what has evolved in more than a century after the seeds of the Scientific Revolution and the Age of Enlightenment. Spinoza's second book written (the first published) did not identify the author and listed a city for publication different from where it was really published.

That book, titled *Theological-Political Treatise*, was subtitled *Wherein is set forth that freedom of thought and speech not only may, without prejudice to piety and the public peace, be granted; but also may not, without danger to piety and the public peace, be withheld*. It is the foundation of the First , Amendment to the United States Constitution.

It does not appear to be the foundation for the behavior of the former president Donald Trump, for his followers in elected office and the insurgents invading the Capitol building on January 6, 2021.

What is on the table now is a choice between the pursuit of autocracy and the pursuit of reconstruction of our democracy. Understanding that choice may be enhanced by understanding some excerpts from the Rohmann book entry, **public choice** on pages 323-4. Here are a few excerpts:

Theory that seeks to apply certain economic principles to "nonmarket" decision-making, specifically in politics...[it relates to]... The assumption that individual decision-makers, like individual consumers, act largely in their own national self-interest... For example, the theory holds that the votes of some members of Congress tend be based not on a detached analyses of the public interest, or even solely on IDEOLOGICAL principles, but their sense of what will improve their voter appeal and fund-raising potential in the next election; ...likewise... Public choice theory concludes that government in a PLURALISTIC society does not "work" as well as the free-market economy because whereas self interest underlies the workings of both government and the MARKET, only in the latter is that acknowledged openly,; in public institutions, decisions that ideally require **cooperation** are often undermined by the private interest of individuals. [Emphasis added.]

The emphasis added was only in one word, **cooperation**. This is relevant for the discussion that follows that relates to discipline essential to successful functioning of the system. Politics as a zero-sum game is a myopic understanding of the survival of a free society.

Cooperation and Competition. Learning starts at an early age, partly by imitating the behavior of others. It grows with games and other activities, not only by memes, but also by reasoning from experience. Childhood games in ancient times focused on teams in preparation for hunting that required cooperative efforts. Childhood games in our contemporary society focused on individual performance.

In adult professional sports, utilizing football as an example, cooperation is fostered within the team in order to do well in the competition among teams. Discipline comes in various forms. Within the team, there is a story about a quarterback who failed to appreciate the efforts of the players in the offensive line. When those players had enough of his disrespect, they eased up on their performance; when he complained, they told him show the opposition his newspaper clippings.

Independent referees within the system impose penalties for rules violations. Compared to football, it is easier to game the political system in the rivalry of major public parties, as exemplified by gerrymandering, than it is to game the system in professional football. But that doesn't stop some teams

from winning at any cost, because they will self-congratulate themselves for getting away with cheating. That does not endanger the survival of the league. Corrupt athletic systems get reformed as organs in a larger system. The American political system is a larger system; and if it does not reform itself, it dies.

The current Trumpian Republican Party is the organ endangering the survival of American Democracy. It is presenting us with an educational challenge.

Our Educational Challenge. Our educational challenge is the co-evolution of the electorate and the elected representatives of both political parties for an understanding of cooperation and competition for the survival of American Democracy. This places a burden upon the Democratic Party to foster a two-party system even in the face of its rivalry with what used to be the Grand Old Party, but retains little resemblance to GOP values. An even greater burden placed upon the minority of the minority party to take back what was the Grand Old Party, and form a Grand New Republican Party rooted in its origins of conservatism and its progress in his first 100 years.

The four Republican Revolutions of the last half-century are setting the stage for a fifth Republican Revolution. It is a matter of survival as one of the two major political parties. If it fails, the likelihood is that the autocratic far right extremists party become an isolated minority, and some variation of a socialist democracy will become the second party to what will be off of a moderate Democratic party that will have enlisted corporate America to a reformation to preserve American Democracy. The minority of the minority party that still retains its membership can bond with the former Republicans who would be glad to reunite in a conservative movement that refers a lesser role for government.

These are simply hypotheses for exploration of paths that may emerge. Fortunately, there are nascent disciplines that began to take root in the twentieth century. They facilitate analytic approaches that shed light on paths likely to lead to favorable outcomes. They do so by utilizing the conceptual model upon which agent-based modeling is predicated. We will return to this after a discussion of the evolving role of government. The preview is that the French Revolution went too far to the left, and Alexis de Tocqueville came to America early in the nineteenth century to see what the Great American Experiment was doing to protect itself from tyranny of the masses.

Either tyranny, from the left or right, is a threat to the Great American Experiment. However, the minority of the minority party may reconstitute itself to become the Grand New Republican Party. The Declaration of Reform feasibility was envisioned almost a decade ago; building on the idea of research and development of a case study that had more than a third of a century earlier demonstrated public policy coordination to harness the forces of the market. The earlier project resulted in a HUD funded demonstration project in Fairfax County Virginia that utilize an innovated urban development information system that was able to produce substantially better outcomes in patterns of land use.

Part of what was envisioned in the Declaration of Reform approach was coincidentally started a few years ago by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. It resulted in the release of the report, *Our Common Purpose Reinventing American Democracy for the 21st Century*. More this is discussed in an ensuing section of this discussion that makes reference to the review of the report located as the second item, *Our Common Purpose*, in the first column, *Raising Awareness*, of the *Digital Platform for the Declaration Era Educational Press*.

The Evolving Role of Government

The assembly of leadership for education goes beyond the sciences. It goes to include the humanities because of the practicality of making choices on how to live. Those choices are heavily dependent one's early development, especially influenced by the examples from the behavior of others. It is also dependent upon what is learned while growing up.

As a result of the process, opinions are formed as to the appropriate role of government. Many of those opinions were made in the absence of an adequate understanding of the structure and processes by which the system operates. A companion problem is that even with an understanding of the structure and processes, there is an absence of morality in making the choices.

In each of the cases, we are using the biological model that deals with the inner self and the outer self. That analogical model is rooted in the founder's recruitment of Dr. John Khosh, a physician with a holistic perspective expressed in his participation in a seminar discussing Edward O. Wilson book, *Consilience: The Unity of Knowledge*. An abridged version of the Khosh presentation is presented as *Appendix C: Consilience: A Biological Example*. Its opening sentence is "The human body is a good example for demonstrating consilience which implies that what is true for part of nature is true for all of nature."

Among E. O. Wilson's books is *Sociobiology: The New Synthesis*. His historical development synthesizing animal behavior focusing on the idea that behavioral biology of diverse populations provides some understanding how societal behavior in animals compares with those of mankind. He discusses this in his introductory comments and refers to consilient links that could be extended to man.

As for more depth in process for mankind, we move to the human mind as discussed by Antonio Damasio in his book *Self Come to Mind: Constructing the Conscious Brain*. That, and an earlier book, *Looking for Spinoza: Joy, Sorrow, and the Feeling Brain*, are discussed in the development of an analytical structure for the creation of a discipline in *Societal Biology: The Body and Mind of Society*. This is included in a range of disciplines that spans processes and arenas and is discussed in *Appendix D Excerpts from Abridged Chapter Five* of the trilogy's third book (*American Democracy: Declaration, Pursuit and Endangerment*). The excerpt is from the chapter titled "Building a New Paradigm." It is reachable by going to the third booklet, *Great Danger Emerges: Great Experiment Challenged*.

This is only a start on the range of disciplines to be included in the teambuilding effort designed to foster a co-evolution of American Democracy to return to its path towards achieving the ideals articulated in the Declaration of Independence. In terms of arenas, political science is an obvious case. Start for that discussed in the book review of *Our Common Purpose Reinventing American Democracy for the 21st Century*, 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. It is the second item, *Our Common Purpose*, in the first column, *Raising Awareness*, of the *Digital Platform for the Declaration Era Educational Press*.

Of particular importance for feasibility is attention to the role of business enterprise in a free society. That role (the production and distribution of goods and services in a market structure) is often confused with motivations of the enterprise, largely focused on profit making. Of considerable neglect is the interests of a variety of stakeholders; especially employees, suppliers, and the local community. The changing global environment, especially with development in China, is arousing fears that

concentrations of power in an unfree society is a threat to private enterprise. The concern with the manipulation of voting regulations designed to deny access by voters from the opposition party is stimulating a potential era of reform in managerial systems. That, along with the redistribution of economic activity influenced by dealing with the pandemic is going to call for a wide range of expertise in providing appropriate learning opportunities not only for management and employees, but also for regulators of the system at various levels of governmental authority.

Modeling Systemic Change

Modeling systemic change has some resemblance to modeling the weather; a lot of very fine detail in dealing with great uncertainty. It is even more difficult to be accurate because the relationships among the variables changes in the evolution of a complex adaptive system. The basic logic is however useful in understanding the nature of the uncertainties.

Elsewhere on the website, there is a discussion of the perspective of using an agent-based model. Our intention here is to demonstrate the logic by going to the process as events unfold indicating expectations and paths taken so as to identify patterns of behavior. That will provide a basis for expectations of the electorate and how their choices will affect the future of our democracy.

Assembly of Leadership for the Design. The assembly of an interdisciplinary team for the analytical design leading to a Declaration of Reform has been noted in the previous discussion. The Enlightenment era, also known as the Age of Reason, focused on reasoning as the process by which the citizenry made choices for their representation. The call for a *New Age of Reason* is in a sense a blend of the humanities with the sciences in order to improve outcomes. Of particular concern is the morality and the ethical behavior that emerges, or fails to emerge because of shortfalls in the processes that lead to injustice.

The classic case is the misunderstanding of the nature of the free market and the invisible hand that Adam Smith envisioned would lead to fairness in the outcomes, a matter of justice. There is substantial discussion of Adam Smith including his expertise on morality in the first chapter of the trilogy's third book, *American Democracy: Declaration, Pursuit, and Endangerment*. It is on page 5 of the first chapter, *The Declaration and the Other Invisible Hand*. An excerpt is in the box that follows. But you can read the entire chapter. Linked as https://mleofthemauryseidinllc.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/AETDPAE_Book3_Chapter1_060620.pdf

Smith was appointed as a Professor of Logic, University of Glasgow, in 1791 but he was immediately recruited to fill-in for Professor Craige, a Professor of Moral Philosophy. Smith's position as noted by Israel was that morality's "rules are ultimately founded upon experience of what in particular cases our moral sense approves or disapproves of." He differed with his mentor, Hutcheson, on the role of motives – a concept leading to his use of the metaphor.

Smith wrote his first book as a moral philosopher espousing the pursuit of self-interest by individuals as beneficial to society as whole. He introduced the metaphor, the invisible hand," in the following sentence; "They are led by an invisible hand to make nearly the same distribution of the necessaries of life which would have been made had the earth been divided into equal portions among all its inhabitants; and thus, without intending it, without knowing it, advance the interest of society, and afford means to the multiplication of the species.

The morality, principles of ethical behavior, came into play into the views of the Scottish Enlightenment. We now turn to the case of the French Enlightenment.

Our concern here is the future of our democracy focused on the internal evolution of governance. With a closed system and enough data, we could calculate probabilities. With the uncertainty of an evolving system, we could guess at likelihoods considering experience of previous patterns. For present purposes, simply seeking to improve our understanding of the system by presenting a perspective that has a chance of moving us towards homeostatic approach. In short, we are looking for innovation and improving choices made that operate in networks with the emergence of better results. The best we can do at this point is look for patterns that relate to outcomes; and identify characteristics of variables that are associated with patterns producing outcomes.

The logic is simply that process impacts structure, and structure impact process. At the time of this writing, the focus is on the structure that will evolve in the legislature as a result of the 2022 midterm elections. We will discuss the federal bicameral legislature, although the logic is also useful for the state legislatures.

Bipartisan Support and Leadership. At the time of this drafting (May 29, 2021), Republicans in the Senate blocked the creation of the bipartisan commission by the House of Representatives to investigate the processes that resulted in the January 6, 2021 insurrection that disrupted the constitutional process for the transition of the presidency of the United States. The minority leader in the Senate, and other Republican senators have advanced reasons which appear to be disingenuous considering the circumstances. The real reason for some is likely to be wanting to majority in the House and the Senate in 2022 midterm elections. The real reason for other Republicans, particularly in the House of Representatives, is not wanting to be primaried in the midterm elections by Trumpian Republicans.

In our educational endeavor, focuses (1) understanding the system and (2) understanding what we need to do to properly restructure our American Democracy. This subsection is with the first; next subsection deals with the second.

As to the first, we set the stage with the major section on *Our History of Mutual Dependence*, we discussed building social capital and building political capital, both in the context of the history of our mutual dependence. In the current case at hand, we have an excellent example of the necessity of an interdisciplinary approach (including morality) that would foster bipartisan approach (for the common interest) of survival of democracy, especially in return to the pursuit of the ideals articulated the Declaration of Independence.

What we are looking at is building a paradigm the electorate will actually exercise discipline on the representatives for protecting the common interests of the multiplicity of cultures in our democracy. What we have been witnessing is exploitation of the system for the benefit of some segments at the expense of the survival of the system as a whole.

What we will chart and discuss the co-evolution of the system, at several levels. That starts with the electorate, and moves through local and state levels, and on to the national level in providing discipline. What we need to do is to deal with the *"Theology of Power."*

Cultural Evolution at Multiple Levels. What we need to do at multiple levels is to have enough understanding of our commonality of interests in protecting the pluralism of a free society in order to utilize a democratic process for protecting our freedom. That will require the discipline of the electorate. Considering recent events of the power mongering in an attempt to impede voting by the opposition party, and the reaction of corporate leadership, it seems we have a third-party at the table. We have mentioned that in terms of business interests, we shall return to it; but now let us discuss cultural evolution and societal power.

During the last half-century there has been a cultural evolution leading to a divisiveness between the two main political parties with the results of tribalism in the Republican Party that is threatening the survival of American Democracy. The Democratic Party was quick to pick up on the information revolution and left the blue-collar constituency picked up by the Republican Party. The concentration of growth in the gross domestic product was heavily on the coasts, with a substantial portion of the inland areas not making much economic progress.

This was a time in which the Republican Party is undergoing a series of internal revolutions that departed substantially from values of the Grand Old Party. It was a power-seeking escalation that was bypassing many traditional conservative values in the search for power. It moved from platforms to recruit voters to derogatory tactics exploiting feelings with a them and us approach. His latest efforts at the time of this writing and building upon the BIG LIE generated by former president Donald Trump, and spread by his supporters, that he had won reelection. That has resulted in a quest for power at the cost of denying democratic process.

Concluding Comments

Our concern is with attitudes towards democracy. We are looking to assist a segment of our population in which the extent of education is a variable that may be enhanced by the level of consciousness being raised sufficient to warrant the pursuit of knowledge based upon facts and reasoning, utilizing a blending of disciplines, including humanities. That blend includes nascent disciplines, especially cognitive science, network science, and complexity science. It goes beyond reasoning with the foundation of morality that is concerned with the common good.

This goes beyond a general segment of the electorate. It is particularly focused upon individuals who although well educated in a discipline, are interested in blending their knowledge with others well-educated in other disciplines to pursue an interdisciplinary approach to dealing with the complexity of a democratic system, and the multiple crises being faced, including the survival of our democratic system. This is especially relevant for the creation of advisory boards to carry the project forward; and to the formation of a Board of Directors for the to be established not-for-profit organization to be the recipient of the gift of rights not only for the education and also for the ideas on the research that can be facilitated by third wave Internet analytics.

The interdisciplinary approach is heavily dependent on the humanities. History and ethics are of particular concern, especially in the context of the key phrase from the Declaration of Independence, “unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.” That is a matter of liberty and justice for all, not just some.

Justice is at the core of the common good. Understanding the institutional arrangements and the observance of norms is critical for the transformation of what is now a dysfunctional system being gamed for power without due consideration to the future of our democracy.

The Epilogue is not designed for the early versions of **Restructuring American Democracy**. It is designed for the revision of the second overview booklet, ***American Democracy Endangered: Restructuring American Democracy***

Epilogue

The first book in the trilogy is focused on raising the level of consciousness. The second book in the trilogy is focused on the individual's sense of place in the system. The third book in the trilogy is focused on restructuring the system. This is a demonstration case that has a long history.

In a sense, it originated as an outgrowth of the first project the founder of the enterprise was responsible for leading upon arriving at the American University in 1965. The appointment was to the faculty of the School Business Administration to occupy a partially funded endowed chair as an associate professor, who also headed the programs in Real Estate and Urban Development. It was funded by an array of real estate and mortgage banking organizations in the Washington metropolitan area that insisted upon the chairholder having credentials including experience in the real estate and finance arena, as well as the academic credentials.

The founder had started selling real estate as a sophomore at UCLA and was an appraiser for the state of California while earning his MBA, also at UCLA, with a major in real estate and urban economics. His doctorate degree is in business administration, from Indiana University, the Mecca for real estate professors (according to his to his two real estate professors that sent him there). His first academic appointment was as an assistant professor at the University of Southern California (USC), where the full professor had also received his doctorate from Indiana University.

The Dean at Indiana University, Arthur M Weimer, a couple of decades later was instrumental in the establishment of an advanced studies Institute, that started off as a postdoctoral school that now bears his name. The advanced studies Institute that houses was renamed for its founding president, as a surprise after he retired from leading it for twenty-five years. It is now the Maury Seldin Advanced Studies Institute.

The real estate business experience of the founder included years of consulting services while on the faculty at USC. That included serving as a financial vice president for a real estate brokerage firm expanding its network, and as a research consultant for a real estate developer of apartment buildings also undergoing a substantial expansion.

His doctoral work included fields in real estate administration, finance, money and banking, applied economics, and business government relations. The doctoral dissertation was about the impact of the business firm on urban development problems. This was in the late 1950s with the

rapid suburban expansion and issues about infrastructure and patterns of land use. This is all relevant because the thrust of the founder's work was in analytics relating to land, an asset fixed and location, heavily dependent upon the environment in many dimensions starting with economic and political concerns, but heavily dependent upon human behavior.

More about an interdisciplinary approach is discussed starting on page 160 of the trilogy's first book, in the section titled Research, Education, and Progress. Here is an abridged excerpt of the first paragraph:

The first project already underway... was a conference seeking to understand how land values in a section of Roslyn, Virginia increased tenfold within a few years. The result gleaned from the conference was that there was an unusual cooperative effort among the planning authorities, the public facilities providers, and the taxing authorities. That led to a HUD supported project that I conceived of as an urban development information system... It impacted land-use regulation in Northern Virginia, and even led to legislative change in land-use regulation for the state of Virginia. The exclusionary zoning was a major issue, as was the coordination of those concerned with the diversity of stakeholders in the results of the urban development process.

The next paragraph starts with "All of this deals with justice! It deals with justice among relationships between and among individuals, but also with justice in the organization of society." That project was followed with interdisciplinary simulations in the form of computerized games. Although it was decades before the nascent discipline of complexity science was being formed, the basic concepts of interaction in networks and disciplines were being utilized so that when the founder was introduced to complexity science as a nascent discipline, the concept of emergence already been integrated into strategies for the teams that played representing the several disciplines involved in the simulation. It was also reflected in the governmental work during the quarter of century founder was at the American University.

That initial project that led to the HUD supported demonstration program started off as a proposal for a market information system. It was generated from the founder's first project at American University. HUD had not been nonresponsive, and when confronted a couple of years after the research proposal was submitted with the statement to the effect that "you may turn it down, but if you do it will be because you do not understand it, and you will have to defend your decision." The result was they would fund it for a local government as a demonstration program. That was not a problem, because the Fairfax County submitted the proposal and the founder sent a doctoral student to head the program, with the assistance of an MBA candidate.

That same systemic logic of an adequate information system, embedded in fixity of location, and the relationship the timing and location, is now being applied in the analytics suggested in the first and the third overview booklets for the Declaration Era Educational Press (DEEP) website. As noted earlier, this essay is prepared as a standalone piece for the website, but as a predecessor revision of the second booklet, American Democracy Endangered: Restructuring American Democracy.

All three booklets are being revised prior to the revision of the three books. In some cases, the overview booklets contain material not yet included in the revision of the books. As an example, consider the information that follows, some of which is in the first booklet and some of which has to be added to the third book.

Although the former president, Donald Trump, did a spectacular poor job of preparing for the pandemic and handling the early stages. The one excellent thing he fostered was the rapid creation of vaccines. His

ineptitude in preparation for an epidemic probably cost hundreds of thousands of lives. But the ineptitude of the federal system, probably also caused at least a hundred thousand lives.

There is a great deal discussion of the pandemic in the first overview booklet. But the relevant point here is in two parts. The first is that hero of the professional response is in the courage and confidence of a local medical administrator, Dr. Charity Dean. She exemplifies professional dedication to humanity in contrast to professionals focused on their own career rather than the welfare of those to have a fiduciary relationship. Many of our elected professionals do not meet the standards of representing the interests of those who voted for them with that expectation.

The second part is that the institutional arrangements in the structure for dealing with crises not properly prepared. Part of that is organizational structure, presumably designed for using reasoning to solve problems. The other part of it is the abuse of the system for political purposes. The biggest challenge we have is that are systems for discipline are ineffectual because the behavioral approach of human beings closer to rate of a challenge. The hope here is that we can ameliorate the situation by building a team, or a series of teams that can foster greater self-discipline through fostering the learning process and the caring for others as impacted by one's own behavior.

Although the project started out, almost a decade ago, as a demonstration case focused on democracy, the pandemic as a crisis is competing for attention. The booklets are organized to approach the case study with the first booklet focused upon bringing an understanding of the nature of the problem. That is, raising the level of consciousness to have an understanding that with which we are dealing. The second booklet is focused on introducing the trilogy of books designed for the three stages of dealing with our endangered democracy:(1) raising the level of consciousness; (2) improving understanding of the place; & (3) building a team with an approach for a Declaration of Reform.

The third booklet is designed for supplementing the biological analogy is a strategic approach using an analogy built upon fixed location analytics that was dealing with complex adaptive systems before the nascent disciplines had developed to the point of disciplines. The use of those analytics will be particularly helpful for those utilizing perspectives of a business enterprise that understands the necessity considering multiple stakeholders.

Businesses as key societal enterprises have a function in democracy essential to the survival of democratic systems. Making profits is the motivation, but it is not the reason endorsed by government in a free society for chartering the enterprise. Corporate charters are provided for the production of goods and services for the benefits of the political economy.

The last few decades corporate leadership has been exploiting its role to the point of endangering the future capitalism. If capitalism is to survive in a free society, it had do better protecting institutional arrangements. The recent efforts in using its clout to staving off the unconscionable Republican efforts to reduce voter access to the selection of representatives is a significant step in the right direction. Care should be taken not to overreach as has been done by the manipulation of regulation to enhance profitability. The reciprocity for employees has resulted in an increasing multiple of differences in the compensation comparing top executive compensation to the medium compensation of employees. If business does not provide a better equity, government is likely to increase its role in the process.

The sad fact is domestic and foreign autocrats are undermining democratic systems; and American Democracy as the Great Experiment is endangered. Tyranny from the far right is a clear and present danger.