

# *VIRTUAL DEMOCRACY* *SUSTAINABLE DEMOCRACY*

|||||

(**CAPSULE:** The following describes a virtual, reality-based, 24-7 personal democracy, accessible via computer, Blackberry, or other Internet connected device, allowing personal input relevant to local, city, county, state, national, and international issues with links to unbiased topic-related educational materials, citizen-jurisdiction data bases, and personally chosen social, political, and special interest data bases. // See "[www.my-democracy.us](http://www.my-democracy.us)" p.2. // Think in terms of Google-like, Wikipedia-like, FaceBook, and Twitter-like functions related to personal, 24-7 democratic practices that are supported by profit-making centers, as advertising, sales of reports, etc.)

— **The Abbreviated Edition of** —  
*e-Democracy*  
*The DEVELOPMENT Of PUBLIC POLICY*  
*And*  
*The NEXT STEP Of DEMOCRACY For The 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY*

*By Daniel Raphael, Ph.D.*

"e-democracy'...[is a]  
very interesting and provocative  
document."  
Arthur C. Nielsen, Jr.,  
Founder, Nielsen Ratings.

VIRTUAL DEMOCRACY  
-  
SUSTAINABLE DEMOCRACY

— **The Abbreviated Edition of** —  
*e-Democracy*

*The DEVELOPMENT Of PUBLIC POLICY  
And*

*The NEXT STEP Of DEMOCRACY For The 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY*

Original © 1992 under the title,  
*The Development of Public Policy  
And the Next Step of Democracy for the 21st Century*  
LCCN: 92198153

\*\*\*\*\*

Abbreviated Edition © Copyright Daniel Raphael 2010  
Published by Daniel Raphael, Ph.D.  
PO Box 2408, Evergreen, Colorado 80437-2408  
daniel.raaphael@comcast.net

*e-Democracy, The Development of Public Policy and the Next Step of  
Democracy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, © 2010 Daniel Raphael. All rights reserved.  
This document may be duplicated and shared; and expanded upon by means  
of additions, while keeping it intact in its original form.



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

[022210-1326]

**Preface** .....1  
**www.my-democracy.us of THE EMANATION PROCESS** .....2  
**Introduction** .....3  
**Flow Chart** .....6  
**The Flow Chart, Briefly** .....7  
**In A Nutshell** .....9

**The NEXT STEP of DEMOCRACY for the 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

| **1 THE EMANATION PROCESS** .....13  
**2 Questions and Answers** .....15  
**3 An Organization Called EMANATION** .....19  
**4 Requirements of a Sustainable Democracy**.....25  
**5 The Renewal of the United States' Vision, Mission, and Destiny**...29  
**Bibliography** .....33





## Preface

Viet Nam, 1969: I wondered why the anti-war demonstrations were not more effective. I also wondered why citizens did not have a more effective means for sharing their grief and opinions, and why the Constitution and Amendments did not provide these means.

Three years later, after recovering from culture shock that occurred when I returned to the States, a new home, career, baby, and graduate degree, I began to write down my questions and concerns, and began the research to answer them.

Twenty years later, (1992), after I had self-published *The Development of Public Policy and the Next Step of Democracy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, I realized that the US population still did not have a means for more effectively participating in their own governance. Yet, I believed that I had discovered the seeds of the next evolutionary step of democracy that could.

Today, the means exist. Advances in personal and handheld computers and Internet technologies, as Google, Wikipedia, FaceBook, and Twitter, enable the next evolutionary step of democracy to be brought into existence—wherever Internet connections may be located. This combination of technologies will allow for 24-7 collection, tabulation, processing of opinions, and the dissemination of issue-related educational material from any location in the world that has an Internet connection, for any size public entity in this country or other technologically developed democracy, or emerging democracy. Weblogs (blogs) and texting will encourage citizens to discuss the issues in an Internet environment, and allow for the collection of public input previously unavailable outside of public hearings. As well, public executives in every jurisdiction nationwide will be able to access these same sites to gather statistical data that is updated instantly. Continued improvements in security will give subscribers, and the public, confidence to use the Internet as the vehicle of the next evolutionary step of democracy. For the Internet to function as an integral part of the next step, subscriber identification and secure access must be as good as or better than voter identification requirements.

It seems fairly obvious that this evolutionary development of democracy will not come about as an institutionalized enactment of any legislature or Congress, but rather by the interests of citizens to participate more directly in public affairs by accepting more responsibility for their own governance. Considering partisan and moneyed corporate interests, this seems to be the only expedient option. There is reasonable argument in the First Amendment that a new Constitutional Amendment is not necessary

**NOTES:** 1) What follows is a revision of the 1992 book using the Internet and related technologies for the next step of democracy; 2) the references and bibliography are dated but relevant; 3) suggested websites and related links include, [www.e-democracy.org/do](http://www.e-democracy.org/do), [www.moveon.org](http://www.moveon.org), and [www.truthout.com](http://www.truthout.com) to name only a very few.



## www.my-democracy.us of THE EMANATION PROCESS

Think of using www.my-democracy.us as you would FaceBook, Google, and Wikipedia. It's a free subscriber service that supports itself just like those Internet entities. But with www.my-democracy.us registering as a subscriber makes your opinion jurisdiction-specific where your opinions and comments are shared automatically with the public officials in your jurisdictions: local, city, county, state, region, nationally, and internationally. Further, your opinions are incorporated with other subscribers so that you collectively become a bloc of opinion that becomes "public opinion."

Three subscriber options are available: Citizen, Public Executive, and Media. Citizen subscribers are able to offer opinions on public issues, tap into collected public opinion data, tap into collected public official opinion data, offer topics for opinion analysis. By doing so, www.my-democracy.us becomes a mediative clearinghouse for public dialogue *both ways* from the public to their public officials, and from public officials to their respective public(s).

Further, www.my-democracy.us has the capacity to engage any public entity with similar functions whether a HOA or another democratic country.

**EXAMPLE 1, Citizen Subscriber:** Imagine that you are at your favorite WiFi Espresso shop and see on the news overhead a topic that interests you.

And, you would like to comment on that topic.

So, you pull out your Blackberry, Palm Treo, or laptop computer, go to the desk top, click on your browser, click on "favorites," and click on www.my-democracy.us.

Since you have already signed up for your free subscription to www.my-democracy.us, you sign in, and enter your password.

Viewing the opening screen (with the usual advertisements to the right), you see your welcome banner, a ribbon of options including LOCAL, CITY, COUNTY, STATE, REGION, NATION, and INTERNATIONAL. The topic in which you are interested concerns your state. So you position your cursor over STATE, which reveals several state departments, divisions, and commissions.

Not finding the subcategory you are interested in, you enter into the "SEARCH" box, "water conservation," and hit "enter." Your screen now comes alive with several Google-like search entries. You select the article that is a duplicate of what is on the overhead television --- then, you place your cursor over a row of buttons on the left side of your screen. The one you select is labeled "Level of Concern."

After this selection, you have the option of a "yes-or-no" selection. "Yes" you are concerned about this topic; or, "No" you are not concerned.

Having selected "Yes," you are given a gradient scale for the level of concern you have concerning the topic of the article. It is a scale of 0-5. You click on "5," the highest level of concern.

Next, you are given the option of sharing your concern, and opinion, with respective elected and appointed public officials, commissions, boards, etc. You select "Share."

Because you are a subscriber with www.my-democracy.us, your public officials have already been identified by www.my-democracy.us and will be sent your opinion and level of concern regarding this issue.

Satisfied that your opinion has been registered and transmitted, you click on "Sign-Off" and return to your work and your latte'.

**EXAMPLE 2, Public Official Subscriber:** Meanwhile, several water commissioners in this and neighboring water districts have also clicked on "Water Conservation" to find out what level of discomfort the public in his/her water district can tolerate. Not finding that information, the commissioner enters into a query box "Water Restrictions" with a brief explanation in the text box. Employees at www.my-democracy.us pick up the query and text box and write a question addressed to all subscribers in that and surrounding regional water districts about the level of tolerance water users would be willing to accept when water rationing becomes mandatory.

The process becomes much more explicit for citizen and public official subscribers when a known issue of public concern had been identified. //



## Introduction

What sustains a democracy is the empowerment of each citizen as an equal of others. A *sustainable democracy* does not favor one political party, interest group, economic group, social group, ethnic or racial group, religion, or corporate interest over the interests of the citizenry. A sustainable democracy provides a level playing field where all citizens can easily come forward to participate.

Any new development of democracy, to successfully advance the evolution of a democracy, must extend that equality and remove any existing obstructions, as corporate business interests, that impede that equality. Any bias for any one group over others will make all individuals in other groups unequal, and therein lay the seeds of a democracy's demise.

When public executives or public bodies promote that bias, under any justification or rationale, they often are able to do so by planting those seeds in the fallow fields of public complacency. Only later will those fields become ripe with discontent when those who have become unequal become aware of their inequality. That inequality can exist for a long time in an antiquarian democracy, as has occurred in the United States of America. It is now time to apply available technological advantages to the tried and true processes of public participation so that individual citizens become equally empowered. This can only occur within the context of the next evolutionary development of our democracy – one that emanates from the roots of the Declaration of Independence, The Constitution, and the Bill of Rights.

TEP, [THE EMANATION PROCESS, see p. 13], applies public and private electronic business practices that are already accepted by the public. They provide a new format for reality-based, 24-7 virtual democratic process to give citizen leverage in political and governance environments. Effectively, TEP facilitates an impartial, non-partisan mediation between the interests of the public and government. As a process, it expedites the conciliation of their differences without actually being a negotiator.

TEP *heals two unforeseen problems* the constitutional founders could not have anticipated that arose spontaneously as the operation of our democracy and the maturation of our general society occurred. These involve “open loop” management problems.

**The first open loop** involves the first fundamental issue of democratic governments: the public grants authority to government for the management of the public's business, and exists and operates by the consent of the public. What the constitutional founders overlooked was that although authority can be granted, concomitant responsibility cannot. Those are inseparable parameters

that commercial business and military organizations accept. Yet, the Constitution does not provide a means by which the public can hold itself responsible for what its government does and does not do. Thus, the circle of public responsibility will remain incomplete until TEP, or similar public process, is adopted that completes it. When that occurs, the ends of the circle of

→ **authority** → **consent** → **responsibility**→  
will be welded together.

The **second open loop** is consequential to the first: public executive accountability. The Constitution provides for the election and appointment of public executives to carry out the business of government on behalf of the public. Yet, the Constitution does not provide a means by which public executives are held accountable for their decisions concerning the business of governance similarly as corporate executives are held accountable to their stockholders. It provides only for the redress of misbehavior on the part of elected officials and then only in the most grievous situations through arduous processes.

Further, public executives are almost wholly responsible for the formulation of goals, policies, and initiation of action to achieve them, whether at local, state, regional, or national levels. Seldom, if ever, is the public *co-responsible* for those developments. Public participation through the emanation process could effectively shift those responsibilities so that the public becomes *co-responsible* with public executives for the development of public goals. Public executives would then become more obviously *accountable* to their constituencies for the accomplishment and achievement of those goals. The emanation process would provide constituencies and their public executives with a platform for an ongoing dialogue and mediate their differences for fulfilling those goals.

*The circle of public responsibility and the circle of public executive accountability* have remained incomplete since the inception of our democracy. The development of these two problems was due to inherent flaws in the origination of the Constitution. And, those only became apparent after the educational and literacy levels of the populace had risen significantly. As competently as the Constitution was written, its framers did not anticipate these developments. Now, knowing this, we must heal these two incomplete circles. When that occurs, these two circles will be seen as inherently complementary, and together they **will create the circle of co-responsible governance**.

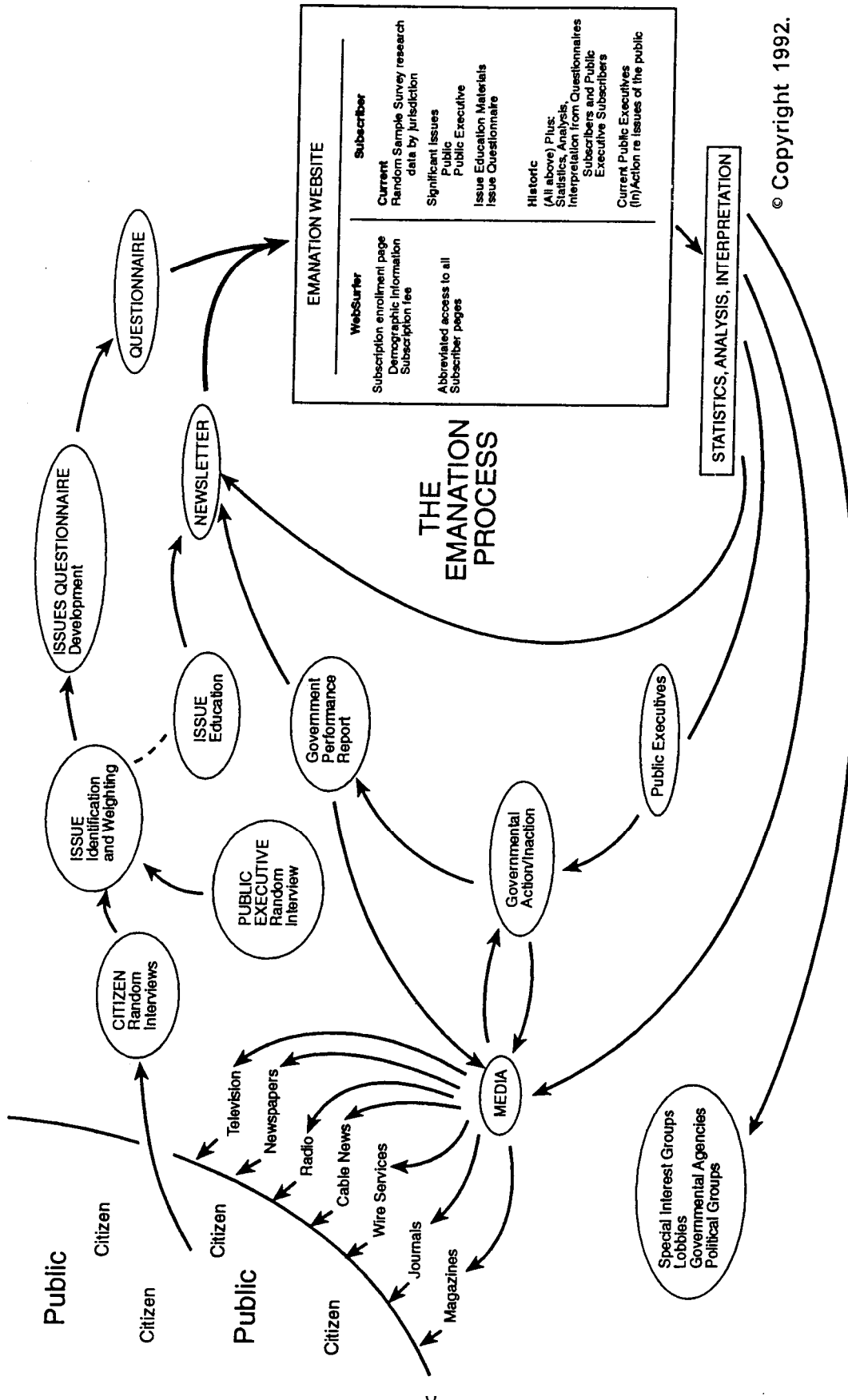
Within the circle of co-responsible governance, the public and their executives will have the means to anticipate the future, rather than reacting to the past. As Leslie Fiedler, literary critic, stated, "To be an American is precisely to *imagine* a destiny rather than inherit one." Fortunately, America's vision has already provided the direction and guideposts to its citizens to imagine a destiny – a future for themselves and their children, (See, p. 29, "The Renewal of the United States' Vision, Mission, and Destiny"). Citizens have come to learn that



they do not have to accept the status quo, now or in the future. The largest hurdle that we all have to overcome is the perennial pessimism of the power of individual citizens to work effectively with their governments.

Achievement of a sustainable democracy sets a high standard for social, ethical, and moral performance for anyone who chooses to participate in any public based organization, particularly one that facilitates a mediative dialogue between the public and public executives. It is critical that the functioning of the Constitution not be compromised as the First Amendment is expanded to its utmost extent. Only then will the flower of democracy flourish in the fields of our civilization.

**...peace is the social yardstick  
measuring  
civilization's advancement...**



© Copyright 1992.



## The Flow Chart, Briefly

[NOTE: The flow chart on page 6 reflects non-electronic media technology of 1992. What follow is a brief explanation of the Flow Chart. The nuances and sophistication of applying the Internet, websites, web links, email, automated reporting, and other automated functions to public debate provide for a good deal of speculation.]

\* **THE PUBLIC, EACH CITIZEN, IS THE BEGINNING PLACE FOR TEP.**

\* **CITIZEN RANDOM INTERVIEWS:** Public issues come in two varieties: known and unknown. It is vital to determine the issues that are important to citizens respective to their jurisdictional interests, and those that are important to public executives. It is essential to “work” known issues, and to discover issues that are lying latent and unknown. Though many means are available to discover public issues, it is important to validate their authenticity via unbiased, random sample surveys.

\* **PUBLIC EXECUTIVE RANDOM INTERVIEWS:** Public Executives provide TEP with a known population who are most aware of known public issues. They also often have an developed awareness of latent issues that need to become known.

\* **ISSUE IDENTIFICATION AND WEIGHTING:** This juncture begins the determination of what is an important known public issue and what is not. This is where the application of ethical standards must begin to be employed. For the sake of transparency, identification of valid issues as being significant must be determined by statistical weighting, not by personal opinion or influence.

\* **ISSUES QUESTIONNAIRE DEVELOPMENT:** Once the issues have been identified and educational materials made available, it is time to develop a questionnaire for the public regarding each issue. It must be validated as reliable and capable of producing statistics that will aid the development of public policy and legislation.

\* **EMANATION WEBSITE:** The site provides numerous functions, primary of which are reporting of the changing scene of public issues, their statistical importance, statistical developments; issue-education materials with references and sources; governmental performance, proposals, schedules, links to affected groups; etc. And, secondarily, information about subscribing, links to respective subscriber Congressional and State districts, names and links of their respective elected and appointed public officials, and much more. *Similar sites in every democratic nation* will provide similar but country-specific functions.

\* **QUESTIONNAIRE:** This is provided in the Website. Subscribers are automatically notified by email of the questionnaire that is available via a link to the website, where responses are automatically processed, awaiting analysis and interpretation before being published, again to subscribers.

\* **NEWSLETTER:** Is provided within the Website and provides subscribers with local, city, county, state, region, national, and international narrow-to-wide perspectives of issue development(s) and resolution(s). This report provides an instant, now, local to global perspective to readers so that the narrowness of local news is put into perspective on a global scale. Yet, it is here at the local level that global issues are resolved.

\* **ISSUE EDUCATION:** Once issues are identified as significant, unbiased educational materials must be generated and made available, for the public and for public executives. I see this functioning much like Wikipedia.

\* **STATISTICS, ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION:** These are contained within the TEP Website, developed from subscriber responses to the questionnaire(s). This is the point in the Flow Chart loop that begins to feedback to subscribers (citizens, and public executives including governmental agencies), public-via-media, and paid receive-only subscribers (media, special interests, political groups, etc.).

\* **GOVERNMENTAL PERFORMANCE REPORT:** Contains the statistical and narrative results of public executive responses; and, the new issues they feel need public discernment. This reporting section of the Newsletter also contains a report on the “Governmental Action/Inaction” concerning the previously reported issues of importance to the public.

\* **PUBLIC EXECUTIVES:** These are individuals who are elected or appointed, and includes executive bodies as commissions, etc., legislative and congressional office holders, and related committee chairs and members, etc. Public Executives have the privileges of subscribership to 1) propose issues for public discernment, 2) respond to Public Executive Subscriber Questionnaires, and, 3) provide comments regarding their legislative proposals and voting.

\* **MEDIA:** Media organizations can be subscribers, too, and are provided access to the Newsletter, statistical information, educational materials, and proposing issues for public discernment.

PROBLEM SOLVING  
BY MEANS OF GROUP ATTACK  
IS FUNDAMENTAL  
TO PROGRESS  
WITHIN A DEMOCRACY.



## In a Nutshell

- TEP is an evolutionary development of our traditional democracy. It operates without deference or preference for any political, economic, social, ethnic, cultural, national, religious positions, corporate interests, or issues — as would any egalitarian practice of democracy. Its sole existence is to enable citizens to more directly, effectively, and responsibly participate in their own governance.
- The processes described, herein, are generic and non-proprietary; and are applicable, for example, to homeowners associations, corporate shareholder associations, school districts, and jurisdictions as large as an international community. While the text uses TEP as the model, it is only an example.
- TEP is a continuously operational, broad-based public process that simultaneously facilitates building public consensus for numerous public issues in political and governmental jurisdictions; generally facilitates public dialogue between government and the public; provides the public with a process of collaboration with government to mediate the public's interests, satisfy its needs, and the needs of citizens; and provides educational material relevant to issues.
- TEP is not a decision-making process but one that immensely increases public participation early-on when public issues become identified and analyzed. Doing so helps identify the public's interests, and eventually identifies the options for actions that satisfy those interests. Further, TEP is an interest-based process, rather than a position-based process, for satisfying needs and interests rather than negotiating positions.
- TEP examines public issues that have been identified through *random sample survey procedures, and subscriber input*. Scientific sampling is necessary to assure TEP is a broad *public* interest process without self-interest, as opposed to a *special* interest process.
- TEP website provides background and educational information that is non-partisan and unbiased for the issues involved.
- TEP offers an electronic medium (blog) for subscriber comment concerning specific public issues much like a public hearing but with far broader availability and ability of participants to comment on numerous issues.
- TEP acts as a subscriber service for public citizens, public executives, governmental agencies, and media, similarly as any cable service; and operates via the Internet, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- TEP provides the capability for citizen interest groups to link with citizens through TEP, who have interests and issues in common.



Remember, remember always,  
that all of us,  
and you and I especially,  
are descended from immigrants  
and revolutionaries.

Franklin D. Roosevelt



---

# **The Next Step Of Democracy For the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**





## CHAPTER 1

# THE EMANATION PROCESS

I have chosen *not* to adapt the original text of this chapter (circa 1992) to contemporary usage in order to provide a standard for the early developmental stages of a sustainable, virtual democracy. As an early stage, these 8 steps will surely be adapted to current technologies and strategies to make them immediately available to the public. Doing so, they still must meet the ethical standards as provided on pages 19-21. Sustainability of any social institution or process requires ethical standards not be compromised for expediency.

**What is the emanation process?** (See **Flow Chart**, p. 6.)

The emanation process is an impartial, unaffiliated, non-partisan statistical process that generates qualified statistical data, reports, and educational materials relating to public issues concerning public business. It is a non-exclusionary citizen subscribership that conducts its business via the Internet at local, state, regional, national, and global levels.

The steps involved include all those of classic statistical gathering, data generation, and report development, plus provision of unbiased educational materials:

1. **Surveying the general public and public executives by jurisdiction** using random sampling techniques to discover what issues are of concern to them.
2. **Defining the issues** or problem(s).
3. **Developing unbiased educational information** for issues.
4. **Polling citizen and public executive subscribers** by jurisdiction for their opinions, preferences, and priorities for those issues.
5. **Developing statistical data and analysis** from step #4. Public executives will be able to see what their educated, informed constituents want, don't want, and why.
6. **Providing reports to citizen, public executive, and media subscribers.** Citizen subscribers, for example, will be able to see if their public executives have listened to them.
7. **Continuing steps 1 through 6** to provide ongoing dialogue between the public and their respective public executives. Once the process is continuing and ongoing, results can be measured against those that had been planned in the co-participatory environment that TEP provides. This is very similar to management project planning, tracking, and evaluation processes.



---

**8. The newsletter** will contain at least five basic sections: **a)** the results for issue(s) identification for the random sample survey of the general public, citizen subscribers, and public executives; **b)** unbiased educational materials or links to same concerning those issues; **c)** questionnaires developed for those issues; **d)** the results from previous questionnaires along with analysis of that data; **e)** public executive performance reports of what they have done or are planning to do about those issues. The newsletter will also provide a brief forum for public executives and other experts to explain their positions and perspectives on issues.



## CHAPTER 2

# Questions and Answers

**How does the emanation process work?** Because TEP is available to participants twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week anywhere a recognized subscriber has access to the Internet, it can associate the opinions of individual citizens in one or all jurisdictions into blocks of opinion on every significant public issue – not just once, but continuously so that public sentiment becomes explicitly clear to public executives concerning those issues. This will enable public executives to develop, plan, and execute public policies more effectively.

**Three metaphors** may help you understand how the emanation process works: The emanation process is like a laser. A laser takes weak, diffuse light and turns it into a powerful, concentrated beam. Yet, it does so without keeping or using the energy for itself. Groups of opinions on various issues will become known and, by bringing them together statistically, blocks of public consensus will appear. It gives depth, strength, dimension, character, and definition to public opinion.

The emanation process acts as a maestro conductor of a very large orchestra. Before the concert begins, listeners can hear the instruments playing notes and bars of music, which sound like noise until the conductor brings order to this disarray of effort. By carefully bringing various sections of the orchestra into unison, discordant sounds become music. Through the conductor's efforts, listeners can see and hear the various "consensus groups" of instruments come into being.

Yet, another way of describing TEP is so see each person and the wisdom their experiences have given them as a raindrop. One drop is not much to satisfy a thirst or put out a fire. But the pool that is formed from the union of millions of raindrops is a powerful resource that can be used to do many wonderful things one raindrop cannot do alone. TEP is a means of collecting those raindrops into powerful pools of public consensus; enabling the accomplishment of public tasks that one person could not.

**How will the emanation process help citizens participate more powerfully in government?** By bringing the opinions of citizens together into demographically and statistically identifiable groups of consensus. Citizens who would not attend an open public hearing to share their opinions can do wherever they have access to the Internet. TEP *asks* people what they think rather than telling them what to think.

---

**How will individuals be able to participate in TEP?** On the Internet, either through, **1)** [www.my-democracy.us](http://www.my-democracy.us); **2)** an independent non-profit organization as Emanation, [See Chapter 3, An Organization Called Emanation, p. 19]; **3)** an overarching, cross-jurisdiction organization such as a citizen interest group or association that adopts the emanation process; or, **4)** through legal jurisdictions that adopt the emanation process within their entirety. New applications can surely be anticipated.

**Why should individual citizens use TEP?** Because no existing organization offers an impartial, non-partisan public process that facilitates the mediation of the public's interests with government. Existing citizen and public interest groups usually are local in nature, or are severely limited in their ability to gather the opinions of like-minded citizens across the nation. For those who decide to use TEP, it will be as easy as using their handheld Internet connected device, laptop, or desktop computer, whether at home, the library, or a local espresso establishment. TEP is not an elitist idea and will eventually become as common as public television.

**Are there any Constitutional provisions that support this new development of our democracy?** Yes. Because the First Amendment provides for the freedom of speech, TEP supports and enhances the basic civil and political rights of citizens upon which the United States government was founded. The emanation process acts as an enhancement to our present political and governmental systems, yet provides a means for reorienting those processes toward the interests of the public, away from special interest groups, and corporations and their lobbies without being disruptive to the existing systems, and without being partisan. The emanation process builds upon our historic American processes of democracy without abridging any existing processes or the political rights and privileges of individuals. It enhances the basic principles of democracy in this country, especially the First Amendment, and protects the integrity of our democracy by increasing citizen's participation and allowing for broader public consent.

**Is TEP a lobby?** No.

**What happens if individual citizens don't use TEP?** Nothing, but of course they won't have any more political power than they have today.

**What's wrong with the way things are now?** Citizens whose opinions aren't joined together don't have very much political power. TEP provides a means by which blocks of the "silent public" can build consensus concerning public issues and their solutions. TEP is a means of adding many hundreds and thousands of new individuals to groups of opinion who would or could not otherwise join. Until now, there has not existed a public process that could help build public consensus or facilitate the mediation of the public's interests with government.

Even small special interest groups have thousands of times more political power than individual citizens. They have more power because they have become united, organized, and have actively presented their interests and positions to public executives.

**Shouldn't the opportunity for more direct participation come from government rather than an outside organization?** Americans have assumed that the government would provide the opportunities for greater and more direct participation. But these opportunities have not been provided. If Americans want to participate more powerfully and directly in their own governance, they must make their own opportunities.

**Where does the energy come from to motivate people to join TEP?** It comes from each individual's *need for self-determination*. The basic prerequisite for anyone to satisfy his or her needs is freedom, and the capacity to influence their own environments of governance and politics. The American Revolutionary War in the late 1700s gave that freedom to our patriot forefathers. It was the freedom *from* oppression and domination by the English. The Constitution and the Bill of Rights, however, gave citizens the freedom *to* participate in the self-determination of their own lives. Because of that, citizens received the rights *to* vote, *to* participate in their own governance, *to* meet in public gatherings, and *to* worship as they wished, for example. Their energy and motivation to fight in the Revolutionary War came from their *need* for self-determination and resulted in numerous rights of and freedoms.

Today, that level of freedom and self-determination is no longer sufficient to satisfy citizen's need *to* participate effectively in the direction and flow of the events that infringe upon their lives. Today, average citizens are not able *to* effectively participate in the formation of public policies that affect their lives. Citizens with families are particularly concerned about the world their children will live in. Though we live in a prosperous nation with a high standard of living, our need for self-determination has not gone away. The same energy that fueled the American Revolution and the Civil War's efforts to emancipate slaves, who had no freedom, still exists at the same levels of energy and excitability as they were then.





CHAPTER 3

## An Organization Called EMANATION

If the next developmental step of democracy is to become an integrated, seamless extension of our democracy’s evolution, the same values that gave success to the earlier form of democracy must be integrated, as well. It must not give deference or preference to one citizen, group of citizens, or corporations over all other citizens, but must continue to give each citizen equal access, rights, and protections to become sustainable. Above all, it must continue to give each citizen those fundamental rights of equality that have proven themselves so sufficient to promote the welfare of a nation of individuals and give example for other evolving democracies.

**NOTE:** The use of the name “Emanation” is a *nom de guerre* for any similarly functioning organization.

### PHILOSOPHY

The best government is government by the governed, who must be well educated and informed; that citizens in rational concert with their governments are best able to direct the course of their own public affairs for the advancement of their communities, states, regions, nation, and civilization.

### ETHICS

EMANATION and its employees, officers, and directors will:

**A)** Remain staunchly unbiased toward issues of interest to the public, public executives, and all others it serves.

**B)** Be a means not an end: In its associations with others, EMANATION will cooperate on the unity of ideals and purposes rather than on the basis of political opinions and political beliefs. EMANATION will remain staunchly unaffiliated with any political belief, political party, political position, corporate influence, or issue; and, maintain an unwavering commitment of service to those who use the services of EMANATION and actively and continually seek feedback to enhance the effectiveness of the emanation process. Emanation's Code of Ethics

preclude EMANATION from partisan involvement, providing support and aid to any campaign or issue, or lobbying activities to influence legislative processes.

C) Maintain the highest standards of integrity before, during, and after gathering, processing, and distributing data, statistics, statistical information, and educational material. Take every reasonable action to ensure that issues of concern to the public are represented accurately; and, represent preferences, sentiments, opinions, and priorities as accurately and honestly as they originate from their sources.

D) Ensure that articles and reports meet the following standards of journalism: **1) Accuracy:** Anything that purports to be non-fiction should be true, which means that it should be accurate in fact and in context. **2) Labeling and sourcing:** If the publisher is not certain that something is accurate, the publisher should not publish it, or should make that uncertainty plain by clearly stating the source of information and its possible limits and pitfalls. If unnamed sources must be used, they should be labeled in a way that sheds light on the limits and biases of the information they offer. **3) Conflicts of interest:** The content of anything that sells itself as journalism should be free of any motive other than informing its consumers. **4) Accountability:** Journalists should hold themselves as accountable as any of the subjects they write about. They should be eager to receive complaints about their work, to investigate complaints diligently, and to correct mistakes of fact, context, and fairness prominently and clearly. [Source: *Brill's Content*.]

Reports, articles, and information provided to Emanation will meet fair reporting standards: Research is conducted that ensures all sides of an issue are reported. Principle individuals are asked for their input. Full disclosure of the facts is provided and relevant facts are provided in a balanced way. That “news” (articles) will not be slanted; issues, persons, positions, and sides of an issue will not be ignored; and that an article, “news,” will not be prematurely released until it meets these standards, unless the exception and reasons are made *explicitly* clear to readers. Further, that any outside person or media organization that submits articles or information agrees to these standards.

While these standards may seem exceptionally high for any medium to adhere to, they provide a standard for *journalistic truth* by which citizens can make decisions concerning their personal, general, and public welfare with confidence they are not the pawn of some agent. "...the point...is not truth in the philosophical sense. It is not the truth of a chemical equation. It is the continuous pursuit and presentation of a subject in a way that allows each recipient of that information to "know" the subject well enough to make an independent judgment. It is the organization of the details free of prejudice, clearly documented, and organized in a way that places the subject in a context that is relevant to the decision-making recipient of the news. It is, in short, a process by which journalism attempts to get at the truth in a confused world by stripping it first of the attached misinformation, disinformation, self-promoting information." [Bill Kovach, "Report from the Ombudsman," *Brill's Content*, April 2000.]



## **POLICY STATEMENT**

EMANATION takes no side on issues. EMANATION acts to develop and facilitate an unbiased mediative dialogue between citizens and their governments – to help all interested citizens and public executives co-create policies for difficult issues.

Realistically, it is unlikely that everyone in The United States will take advantage of the emanation process. Because of that, it will, unfortunately, be unrepresentative of the nation's citizens as a whole. When individual citizens decide to participate, they then represent a self-selected group with an inherent bias. This is similar to what occurs every voting day: those who decide to vote literally decide who will run the country and who won't. In the broadest sense, this may not seem fair, but each individual citizen will decide to join or not to join just as they decide to vote or not to vote.

Additionally, since Emanation will be composed of a group of citizens whose interest is to give individual citizens a more effective means of participating in their own governance on an issue-by-issue basis, it could be called a special interest group. That feels a bit uncomfortable since we usually think of special interest groups as promoting their interests ahead of others.

## **MISSION**

Aid the advancement of civilization by providing a means for more direct participation of citizens in their own governance.

Provide a means of educating and informing citizens so they are more knowledgeable and able to participate effectively in their own governance.

Enhance communication between citizens and their governments by providing an organized, regular, and continuing means of collecting and tabulating citizen's preferences, opinions, and priorities concerning issues and their solutions of local, state, regional, national, and international scope.

Share this information by reporting regularly to subscribers, public executives, media, and the public, so that government more responsibly meets the needs of citizens and the public.

## **GOALS**

Establish a functional organization that fulfills the mission statement.

Educate and inform citizens and public executives regarding issues.

Educate and inform public executives concerning citizen preferences, opinions, and priorities of issues.

Inform citizens and the public regarding progress or lack of progress by public executives to resolve public issues.

---

## OBJECTIVES

Develop working relationships with citizen and public interest groups, public decision making bodies, public executives, and office holders.

Provide assistance to organizations whose work is compatible with Emanation's mission.

Collect unbiased, random sample interview data from the public and public executives to discover issues of concern to them, respectively.

Develop unbiased educational material concerning the issues so that all major facets of the issues are presented.

Develop questionnaires on significant issues that are of concern to citizens, the public, and public executives.

Develop data and statistical results from participant questionnaire responses.

Develop educational materials to help public executives understand and use statistical results.

Determine the congruence between participant's opinions, preferences, and priorities and the actions of public executives.

Report and provide unbiased issue educational materials, statistical results, and the performance of public executives to subscribers of TEP, the public via media, and public executives.

Develop funding sources to underwrite the application of TEP in communities.

Develop a consulting staff to help citizen and public interest groups and governmental organizations use TEP.

## MEASURABLE AGENDA

Develop a network with similar thinking individuals and organizations.

Establish an organizing committee.

Form and legally register the organization.

(Agenda items will be added as necessary.)

## ORIGINS OF THE EMANATION PROCESS

Western political history, particularly since 1,000 CE, has fascinated me from the very first time I began reading about it. Very early on, I noticed that democracies that came into existence in Europe and America eventually allowed more and more direct citizen participation in political decision-making. Although there have been many short-term reversals of this trend, progress has gone forward.

My observations led me to conclude that *more direct citizen participation in governmental processes has been evolutionary*. And that led me to question whether those same evolutionary forces were still present in the United States. Considering the political turmoil in the 1960s and 1970s, public malaise about governmental ethics in the 1980s, widespread public interest in environmental issues in the 90s,

onerous control of the legislative processes by the dominating political party in the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and the smothering effect of influential (moneyed ) corporate interests, it seemed clear to me that the evolutionary progress of The United States' form of democracy was not yet complete.

The next obvious questions I had to ask myself were "Is our current form of representative democracy the last and final form of democracy? Is our current form of democratic government perfect?" The answers were clear, "No, of course not."

With these questions answered, I had to ask myself, "Well, if this is not The United States' most perfect stage of democracy, then what is? What is the next step in the evolution of democracy for our country?" I searched for a ready-made answer, but none were evident. It seemed certain to me that the next step must borrow heavily from the current step to be accepted and successfully absorbed into the existing political fabric. If that were a reasonable assumption, then there must already exist many trends, indicators, and predictors that could show us what the next step would look like, and how it would function.

John Naisbitt and many other futurists have revealed that many of those indicators and trends have existed for quite awhile. Today, many of our political and governmental processes already use some elements of the next step. For instance, more citizen influence in governmental action is already mandated by statute, beginning with Oregon in 1908, with the recall petition. Public and citizen advisory groups exist along side government departments, while public and citizen interest groups provide citizen influence in government at all levels.

Public executives already poll the public and take surveys to measure public sentiment on sensitive issues, to ensure success of governmental policies and planning. These are only a few indicators. Megatrends suggest even stronger evidence of the swing toward more direct citizen involvement. These trends show a readiness for the next step of development. The next step is participatory democracy where millions of citizens regularly participate more directly in the processes of their local, state, and national governance. This step will be quickly followed by the next evolutionary step — an *interactive democracy*.

In many ways, our representative, democratic form of governance, established in the 1700s and adequate for the times, is no longer as effective as it should be. Today, the size and scope of governance of our communities and nation require more effective processes for citizen involvement. We have progressed and have become more sophisticated, more educated, more and better informed. The processes of governance, however, have not grown with us. They don't seem as capable and effective today as they once were. These factors indicate the need for improvement.

Ask yourself as I did, "Is our government perfect? Is there room for improvement? Would I like to have more influence in my own governance? Do I feel powerless to confront my governments to fight for what I think is right? Do I feel like politicians are ignoring me once they are elected? Does government deal

with issues I think are important? Do politicians give issues the importance I think they should receive? Lastly, do our elected representatives really represent the wishes of their constituents, or those of powerful, moneyed interests?

If your answers suggest that you would like to have a bigger, more powerful influence in your own governance, then there is a need for the next step. You and similar thinking citizens are the ones who determine if there is a need for the next step and when it will come into full existence.

After thinking all of this over, which occurred over several years, I had to ask myself the last and most obvious questions. "How is this next step going to come into existence? Who will do it? Who will fit all the pieces together so they match the country's history, become accepted in the present, and empower those without power?" Pondering these questions, I realized that this effort would require people with vision for the future and willing to commit to it.

Yet, few people in power have the kind of vision that sent Columbus across the sea to discover a new continent – the kind of vision of John F. Kennedy that sent Americans to the Moon. The next evolutionary step of democracy to develop in this nation will emanate from that kind of vision. It is big. And, it will require big people to bring it into existence because this is a vision that has the potential of moving millions of people toward more fulfilling and hope-filled lives, not just months or years into the future but for decades and centuries. Not for just one nation but for every nation that has its own form of sustainable democracy.



**The task of the leader is to get his people from  
where they are to where they have not been.  
The public does not fully understand  
the world into which it is going.  
Leaders must invoke an alchemy of great vision.**

Henry Kissinger



**To enjoy privilege without abuse,  
to have liberty without license,  
to possess power and steadfastly refuse to use it for  
self-aggrandizement –  
these are the marks of high civilization.**

[Lost Reference]



CHAPTER 4

## Requirements Of A Sustainable Democracy

We often assume that our nation is a permanent, undying, perpetual entity. However, history easily refutes this assumption with many examples. Hundreds of nations, cultures, and even civilizations have come and gone in the last ten thousand years. Even powerful nations, ones that dominated many other nations and cultures, have declined and died.

Our lives are very short compared to that of a successful nation and that is probably why many of us usually think of our nation as permanent. Though our individual lives may be short in comparison to the life of a nation and a civilization, we must not forget that nations are living social and political organizations much like living organisms. Nations need protection, maintenance, and nurturance to sustain their existence. Longevity is not assured by mere existence, but by diligent efforts to sustain the values that underlie the foundations of that nation and civilization. Because of rapid change in the conduct of governance, technology, and culture, leaders and citizens must keep an eye toward sustaining their larger societies, yet balance that with allowing and supporting the greatest latitude for individuals to explore and develop their innate potential. And that is a minimum necessary – to progress, develop, and advance our civilization requires even more.

The United States of America is a young nation, and in only the last eighty years has it filled its boundaries with people. Can our nation survive in a hostile world and simultaneously evolve, progress, and mature? Will the United States of America exist 200 years from now? 500 years from now? 1,000 years from now? What will make sustain it to last that long?

The requirements of immigrants to establish a new nation in a wilderness were far different from those that are essential today. The requirements of citizens today involve sustainability rather than expansion and development of natural resources. The requirements of a nation today to exist harmoniously in a world of developed and semi-developed nations are far different from those a century ago, let alone prepare to survive for centuries. The requirements for a nation to become sustainable, and more civilized, require far different resources.

Through this book, I hope you come to realize that a nation does not remain stationary. This nation is not and will not remain the same. All of the processes of

democracy in America are changing. We are on the brink of the next step toward more direct participation by citizens in their own governance. For that next step to become successful, certain requirements must be provided for our democracy to sustain its existence, and offer the potential of growth and development for itself and its citizens. The following is not an exhaustive list:

**A common and uniform language** has a unifying effect upon the populace. It is a prime requirement for quick and comprehensible communication. Use of second languages is encouraged to help the populace understand other language cultures at home and abroad.

**A well-educated citizenry** is able to provide more options to every facet of a nation. It is an educated populace that is able to understand those who are different from themselves, to understand different points of view, and to come to rational decisions about issues, and to develop rational options of action.

**An informed public with a free and vital press** is capable of making prompt and tough decisions, and has the knowledge to make those decisions confidently and competently. A free and vital press is fundamental to this process and must never be hindered or infringed upon. A free and vital press is the mouthpiece and the ear of the public and is fundamental to a democracy in any stage of development.

**Mature citizens** have the perspective of experience and history – the sources of wisdom. Combined with the enthusiasm and courage of youth, mature citizens can move forward to make rational decisions to achieve rational and reasonable results.

**Model citizen recognition** provides the role models our children should look to and emulate. Model citizens are the courageous leaders and patterns in our communities, which are valuable to all citizens. For too long, we have given too much recognition to those who violate our citizens, our moral codes, and our legal codes. Model citizens are the living tissue of a society capable of guiding citizens along life's path of progress and improvement.

**A strong private economy:** History reveals that strong nations and cultures have strong private economies. Nations that have tried to harness their economies have had difficulties in developing and progressing. A strong private economy is the lifeblood of moving resources within a nation and of getting commerce done among people. It can enable millions of people to have a meaningful and prosperous existence, whereby wealth is shared with those who have little, by the sweat of their brow and the capacity of their intellect and creativity.

---

**Government which does not intrude extensively into the lives of its citizens:** Citizens become restless and chafe under the harness of regulations and bureaucracies, which hold them back from their progress and development. Government must handle its own business of governance rather than intrude into the lives of citizens, and it must allow the widest latitudes for citizen's behavior wherever possible.

**A peaceful nation in a peaceful world:** Peace is a fundamental and a moral imperative for progress and development of any nation, culture and of civilization. The diversion of energies and resources into warfare and military activities diverts creativity and energies from progress and development. Negotiations for peace must be ongoing, and when peace is achieved, there must be ongoing efforts to improve relations with national neighbors. War and aggression are remnants of history, and though the need for vigilance and strength must always be present, they should only be used where it is required to maintain overall peace.

**An attitude of sacrifice of political selfishness to uplift national and civilizational goals:** When the personal goals and egos of public executives are foremost to the goals of their nation and civilization, then the progress of the public will suffer and not achieve the progress and development they deserve. Being an office holder or public executive are positions of service to the public and to citizens. These functions cannot be achieved when the public executive has service to himself or herself first.

**Responsible, capable, competent political and governmental leaders:** Those who are in office, elected and appointed, must be responsible, capable and competent to achieve results for their nation and public. It is not enough that leaders sacrifice their egos and selfishness. They also must be capable and competent of leadership and executive capabilities.

**Latitude of action:** The latitude of political and governmental leaders to act quickly and decisively in times of emergencies, independent of public sentiment, allows for the greatest flexibility of execution of action. There are times when consultation with the public is not possible on short notice. Leaders must have the latitude and the authority to act quickly and independently, though they must later be held accountable for their actions to the public.

**Moral values:** High moral values must continue to be placed in our highest national standards and laws. These are the guidelines by which our government, public, and our citizens operate between. Moral values protect the helpless and the weak, and guide the strong and powerful in their actions.

---

**A sense of history and a perspective of history.**

**“Those who have not learned the lessons of the past are condemned to repeat them.”** George Santayana,

*The Life of Reason: or The Phases of Human Progress*

This quotation eminently makes good sense. If we examine our political history and the reasons why our national forefathers struggled for more satisfying forms of representative and democratic governments, we will have a good picture of what to expect in the future. We can look forward to new horizons of more direct citizen participation and responsibility in government and politics. However, we cannot take for granted our current existence but must challenge it and strive for new goals. Our history is our best guide to what has occurred, similarly in the future.

**Vision:** The status quo will never become more than it is unless our leaders and our people have vision. A vision of the future potentialities of our nation, culture, and civilization is necessary to establish goals, which through their accomplishment uplift our civilization, nation, and each and every citizen.

**Faith and courage to shape our existence:** It is not enough to have a perspective of history and vision. We also must have faith that we can achieve our future goals and then have the courage to accomplish them. *Action is required:* Action that is rational and reasonable enough to be supported by our faith and courage, and by our vision for a greater and more perfect democracy for all.

**"As the greatest democracy, America is a reminder to all that there is an alternative to tyranny and oppression. The revolution began two centuries ago goes on, for much of the world still seeks the freedom and the dignity of the individual, the sanctity of law that this country has never ceased to seek, enjoy and perfect. The surest path of our own greatest success and the brightest hope of others is to remain true to the American tradition – a heritage where reality is a point of departure but never our final horizon, and where ideals enable reality and enable us to shape our future."**

Henry Kissinger, *Time*, 12.27.76. |



CHAPTER 5

## Renewal of the United States Vision, Mission, and Destiny

The continents of North and South America seem to have a special place in the development of civilization on our planet. Those continents remained sparsely settled and their riches were relatively untouched while Europe and Asia passed through millennia of growth and development. They have provided a place for civilization to start over with new opportunities for the development of new societies, free of old bonds and old habits, and free to experiment with new forms of government. Both continents offered the opportunity for the manifestation of mankind's unleashed potential and spirit — lands of promise and opportunity.

This New World was a land of opportunity where no matter who you were or what your station in life had been you could become anything you wanted to — free to pursue your dream and achieve as much as you were willing to work for. Millions of immigrants spilled over the frontiers and flooded the whole nation to do so. Their dreams to grow and prosper provided a way of life that has become integral to our culture, everyday thinking, and the expectations we have for our lives, communities, nation, and our future. Their dreams are now embedded and embodied in our political institutions, social values, industries, and education. Individually and collectively, people of the United States are still trying to do more, have more, and become more.

### VISION

Many of the immigrants who filled this land came from countries where they had yearned for political, social, religious, and economic freedom — freedom to satisfy their needs, as they wanted, and to become secure in their world. *The heart of their vision was the expectation that each individual, as a political equal to others in a free society and nation, should have an equal opportunity to become all that anyone else could become. Their collective vision became the vision for The United States.*

The practical mission for the nation and states was to enact laws and policies to fulfill that vision. That vision looked into the future when the nation would be filled with millions of people who had secure lives, homes, employment, steady income, a satisfying retirement to look forward to, and an unending horizon of opportunities for their children and grandchildren. Examples of laws enacted by these new statesmen included land development, education, labor, taxation, and finance. These laws, and many others, had a profound effect upon the course of individual lives.

---

## THE UNITED STATES' MISSION

The *mission* for The United States and states was to provide the means for the fulfillment of the individual and collective vision of its people, by their own individual efforts. The nation and states were, and are, the vehicles that give individuals the opportunities and means to become more than they are. Millions of immigrants and native-born Americans have done just that.

How effectively have the states and nation fulfilled that original mission? For most Americans, the visions, dreams, and expectations of the colonists, pioneers, and frontiersmen have been fulfilled. The great amount of leisure time we enjoy today is a proof of our satisfied way of life. Today, for the vast majority of Americans, the frontiersman's sense of purpose to conquer, civilize, become richer, better educated, and to live in a better home no longer exists. We have accepted these as a matter of fact for our lives.

*What does this mean for us today? It means that the original mission of The United States has been accomplished. It means that the nation and states are now without a major mission.* Today, just maintaining a moderate lifestyle is a small goal for most Americans. Some ask, "Now what am I to do?" And, "Isn't there more to life than this?" Many have a sense of being directionless in their lives and yearn for a meaningful purpose for their existence. Americans yearn for a frontier to test and measure their existence. Americans yearn to participate actively on all the frontiers that affect their lives. Today's inner city gang members would have been our frontiersmen and pioneers willing to die in the challenge of becoming and getting more.

Today, millions of Americans, young and old, are searching for answers. They yearn to have more, to accomplish more, and to become more. They are restless to discover direction. They are searching for meaning and purpose for themselves, their communities, and their nation. They look within themselves for directions, but most are unable to find clear answers. They search outside themselves for direction and guidance, but there are no big signs saying,



**"GO THIS WAY!"**



**"ALL WILL BE WELL.  
YOU WILL BE FULFILLED, HAPPY,  
AND HAVE A MEANINGFUL LIFE."**

The destination and goals those big arrows pointed to outside our grandparent's lives have been reached. By the end of the 1950s the mission was fulfilled, for the most part. Why, after the 1950s, didn't we as a nation have the consciousness to develop a new mission to fulfill the vision? Why don't we now,

today, have a collective purpose and meaning for our lives as our great grandparents had? Perhaps because, first, the nation did not recognize that it had fulfilled its mission; and second, there were no means, until recently, for the nation collectively to rewrite the old mission.

Although the original mission of the nation has been fulfilled, its vision still exists and only needs renewal in a new mission. It must be a mission that will empower us to become still more than we are, individually and collectively.

In the past, individuals usually made and became as much as they could on their own by themselves. In the age of rugged individualism, developing the resources of the physical environment made it possible to secure a comfortable living. Though a percentage of our citizens still struggle for a comfortable living, most Americans have achieved that goal. Now, *a meaningful life* has become the goal that millions yearn for. However, because we are so *interdependent*, the only significant means today by which millions of individuals can achieve that goal is through cooperation with other individuals, associations, communities, and their governments. And the resources? Where are the resources they will need to develop a meaningful life? Those resources are no longer outside of us, but *within* each individual.

*The nation's, states', and all communities' new mission must be to actively develop the innate potential of each individual to unlock the potential in their communities, nation, and civilization.* Government must not only continue to provide the opportunities and means for individuals to become more on their own, as they have in the past, but also expand those means. That is the only way individuals and their communities can jointly unlock the storehouse of their mutual and cooperative potential. Today and in the future, only through the cooperation and association of individuals *in their communities*, and with the support of their state and federal governments, will the nation and millions of its citizens be able to become more.

As diligently and purposefully as our nation has prepared its soldiers for war, it must now prepare its citizens to co-participate and become co-responsible with public executives in the governance of their nation, states, and communities. That will require fully capable citizens who already have a secure and comfortable life. Citizens must join with their public executives and write a new mission that provides the means by which individuals and their communities can achieve a meaningful life. As we write that mission together, we must anticipate the future with forethought, vision, and with expectations for accomplishment. This is a new frontier. It offers a challenge worthy of any nation to fulfill, and is especially suited for a nation in the New World — for a nation of people with vision.

Through this next step of co-responsible and co-participatory democracy, we will be able to *interact* with ourselves and ask ourselves questions to find out what we want to become. Most importantly, it will provide a process for asking and answering those questions of ourselves that will lead us to develop community

and national self-awareness: Awareness of our vision, missions, and destiny. Through this next step, we will be able to tap the collective wisdom of the living generations of our citizens to help guide younger generations successfully into the future.

Through an *interactive democracy*, citizens and their communities, states, and nation will be able to ask themselves and discover the answers to questions as, "What kind of future do we want?" How do we want to build it?" And, "What are our expectations for it?" This dialogue must serve the vision where citizens live – in their communities and the larger communities of their states, regions, and nation. Because an interactive democracy is by its nature transformative, positive, and contributory to the best and highest functions of our democracy, it will continue a grand tradition that has made millions of citizens of the United States more than they were, and this nation more than it was.

What is the destiny of The New World? *The destiny of The New World, especially The United States, is to work for the advancement of civilization through the development of each individual's potential.* This will be achieved in part by the expansion of citizen's rights to participate more directly in their own governance, and will require new democratic processes of governance and new leaders who can bring this next step of democracy into being. It will become the model for the evolution of other democracies around the world, just as our aging democracy has always been the model for other nations.

We must build a new world, a far better world –  
One in which the eternal dignity  
Of man is respected.

Harry S. Truman



## Bibliography

- Barber, Benjamin 1984  
***STRONG DEMOCRACY, Participatory Politics For A New Age***  
Berkeley, CA  
University of California Press
- Bezold, Clement 1978  
***Anticipatory Democracy***  
New York  
Random House
- Burns, James MacGregor 1984  
***THE POWER TO LEAD, The Crisis Of The American Presidency***  
New York  
Simon and Schuster
- Callenbach, Ernest, Michael Phillips 1985  
***A Citizen Legislature***  
Berkeley/Bodega, CA  
Banyan Tree Books/Clear Glass
- CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, The; and Amendments***
- Cousins, Norman 1983  
***The Healing Heart*** pp 237-248  
New York  
W.W.Norton Co.
- DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, The***
- Dörner, Dietrich. 1996  
***THE LOGIC OF FAILURE, Recognizing and Avoiding Error in Complex Situations***  
New York  
Metropolitan Books
- Durant, Will and Ariel 1968  
***The Lessons Of History***  
New York  
Simon and Schuster
- ErDOS, Paul L. 1970  
***Professional Mail Survey***  
New York  
McGraw-Hill
- Ferguson, Marilyn 1980  
***The Aquarian Conspiracy***  
Los Angeles  
J.P.Tarcher, Inc.
- Ginsberg, Benjamin 1986  
***THE CAPTIVE PUBLIC, How Mass Opinion Promotes State Power***  
New York  
Basic Books

- Gorham, William 1971.  
***Ignorance In Government Is Not Bliss***  
Washington, D.C.  
The Urban Institute (Pamphlet derived from a speech delivered Aug. 16, 1971.)
- Harmon, Willis W. 1978  
***Citizen Education And The Future***  
Washington, D.C.  
Dept. of HEW, [Education Div.], Office of Education, # (OE) 78-07006.
- Hatry, Harry P., Kenneth Webb 1973  
***Obtaining Citizen Feedback:  
The Application Of Citizen Surveys To Local Governments***  
Washington, D.C.  
The Urban Institute
- Hatry, Harry P. 1973  
***Reflecting The Consumer Viewpoint  
In State And Local Government Fiscal Expenditure Decisions***  
Washington, D.C.  
The Urban Institute
- Honomichl, Jack J. 1984  
***MARKETING/RESEARCH PEOPLE: Their Behind-the-Scenes Stories***  
Chicago  
Crain Books
- Naisbitt, John 1982  
***MEGATRENDS: Ten New Directions Transforming Our Lives***  
New York  
Warner Books
- Peck, M. Scott, M.D. 1979  
***THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED***  
New York  
A Touchstone Book, Simon and Schuster
- Peck, M. Scott 1987  
***THE DIFFERENT DRUM, Community Making And Peace***  
New York  
Touchstone, Simon & Schuster
- Pope, Jeffrey L. 1981  
***Practical Marketing Research***  
New York  
AMACOM
- Reich, Charles A. 1971  
***The Greening Of America***  
New York  
Bantam Books
- Rich, Robert F. 1981  
***SOCIAL SCIENCE INFORMATION AND PUBLIC POLICY MAKING,  
The Interaction Between Bureaucratic Politics and the Use of Survey Data***  
San Francisco  
Jossey-Bass Publishers, (Nat'l Opinion Research Ctr Series in Social Research.)

- 
- Ringer, Robert J. 1979  
***Restoring The American Dream***  
New York  
Fawcett Crest Books
- Rosenbaum, Nelson M. 1976  
***Citizen Involvement In Land Use Governance, Issues and Methods***  
Washington, D.C.  
The Urban Institute
- Rossie, Peter H., James D. Wright, Andy B. Anderson 1983  
***Handbook of Survey Research***  
Orlando  
Academic Press, Inc.
- Sherrill, Robert. 1972  
***WHY THEY CALL IT POLITICS: A Guide To America's Government***  
New York  
Harcourt Brace Javanovich
- Smith, Robert V. 1980  
***Development And Management Of Research Groups,  
A Guide For University Researchers***  
Austin  
University of Texas Press
- Sudman, Seymour. 1967  
***Reducing The Cost Of Surveys***  
Chicago  
Aldine Publishing Co., National Opinion Research Center.
- Theobold, Robert. 1970  
***An Alternative For America II***  
Chicago  
The Swallow Press
- Theobold, Robert. 1976  
***Beyond Despair, Directions For America's Third Century***  
Washington, D.C.  
New Republic Book
- The Urantia Foundation 1955  
***The URANTIA Book***  
533 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, IL 60614.
- Toffler, Alvin 1970  
***Future Shock***  
New York  
Random House
- Toffler, Alvin. 1980  
***The Third Wave***  
New York  
Bantam Books



# ***www.my-democracy.us***

If the current state of democracy in this country is not perfect, then what would the next development of democracy for this country look like? Should it favor one association, interest group, faction, or corporation of our society over the interests of citizens individually and collectively? Or should it favor the interests of citizens first?

It seems obvious that any development or evolution of our current form of democracy must borrow heavily from the past and have explicit egalitarian principles invested in it—in the fashion that the Bill of Rights, Constitution, and Amendments were adopted—that favor and empower each citizen equally.

What motivation will precede the development of this next step? And how will it come into being? These are the primary questions that can only be answered today, for the most important expansion of the First Amendment.

The enclosed material proposes a process that meets these criteria.

## **www.My-Democracy.us ...**

...facilitates an impartial, non-partisan mediation between the interests of the public and government.

...expedites the conciliation of their differences without actually being a negotiator.

...is a broad, citizen-based process for building public consensus.

...heals two broken circles and creates a third complete circle: 1) the circle of public responsibility, 2) the circle of public executive accountability; 3) the circle of co-responsible governance.

...is a public, interest-based process, rather than position-based, for satisfying public needs and interests rather than negotiating political positions.

...operates via the Internet, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

You can reach the author at:

**daniel.rafael@comcast.net**

and, P.O. Box 2408, Evergreen, Colorado 80437-2408 USA