

# Crash Course in Democracy



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There are many free online courses offered by prestigious educational institutions made available through outlets like [coursera.org](https://www.coursera.org). The course I took called Democratic Development was taught by Larry Diamond of Stanford University from Oct-Dec 2013.

For ten weeks I took notes and compared everything I learned with everything I was seeing in our government on both the provincial and federal levels. To understate my sentiments, I was shocked, appalled, saddened, disheartened, insulted, and angered by the sheer incompetence of our elected individuals to manage such a simple task as doing what's best for the people, the province, and the country.

They flippantly chose to serve corporations and dismissed the people who pay their salaries and pensions. More so, they chose venality and corruption over humanity and environment, and our government watchdogs didn't even let out a whimper of warning.

What I learned I compiled into blog articles and now here, using as close to lay terms as I can in communicating this type of information, which really isn't all that hard once you realize the foundation of democracy is simple: human rights.

## **WHAT I SEE NOW**

WEEK 1 & 2: DEMOCRACY & LEGITIMACY

WEEK 3: CONSOLIDATION & CULTURE

WEEK 4: ECONOMICS & SOCIETY

WEEK 5: DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION

WEEK 6: CONSTITUTIONAL DESIGN

WEEK 7: ELECTORAL SYSTEMS

WEEK 8: ETHNICITY & FEDERALISM

WEEK 9: BAD GOVERNANCE

WEEK 10: FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY



### **'Canadian Democracy' logo design**

Combining the Red Canadian Maple Leaf with the 'WO NSA DA MU A' Adinkra symbol of West Africa. This symbol of a small circle with two large ellipses on either side joining to the smaller circle with arrow points at top and bottom represents: Participatory Government, Democracy and Pluralism.

## **WEEK 1 & 2: DEMOCRACY & LEGITIMACY**

### **Secretly switching the system**

What stands out in Canada today is the obvious lack of true democracy and the apparent model of authoritarian regime our political officials have turned to. It is beyond corrupting the high standards that democracy affords us; it is an outright dismissal of the values our country is founded on.

It's a real turn to the dark side of political regime types that happened while we were busy taking care of our families and communities – the likes of which only Darth Vader would be proud.

In short, the democratic system that was established to protect our country and its people is in peril to say the least. One way to get it back on track and make it even stronger is to be educated about what exactly has been stolen from us and demand it back.

### **Democracy best for human rights**

In learning about 'democracy', one realizes the fact that it is the best political system for defending human rights. There also exists around the world alternative regime types that do not allow such freedoms: in particular 'authoritarianism' (dictatorship) and 'kleptocracy' (a government or state in which those in power exploit national resources and steal).

The saddest and scariest part is, the latter leadership styles describe to a 'T' the political direction that Stephen Harper, Christy Clark, Gordon Campbell and their kind have taken us. The picture becomes very clear when you do a side-by-side comparison of these regime types and let me say very loudly,

**"WE NO LONGER HAVE A DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM IN CANADA!"**

Even in its simplest form of 'electoral democracy' we have electoral fraud.

These so-called 'leaders' have no respect for the rules of democracy and all score a disgraceful 0 out of 10 points in Political Legitimacy, which includes the aspects of:

- shared wealth,
- accountability,
- stability,
- transparency, and
- freedom.

Legitimacy directly affects democracy and any legitimacy they did have is what was there when they came into their position of power – and they have squandered that inheritance, too.

## **The bigger picture for Canadians**

We are in what is known as a 'Democratic Recession' and the strongest resources we have to counteract this downward spiral is our Constitution and the voice of the people. It is apparent and imperative that the citizens of Canada regain control of their government officials, because we deserve better than how they are currently treating us. It will require more people to take up the sword and shield to protect and defend our endangered democratic system and bolster it back from its near-death experience and forward into its full glory.

What we need is more people to know in their hearts and minds what HIGH-QUALITY DEMOCRACY actually looks like and the fact that it's real, attainable, and it's where we should be on the political scale. Then, the ideas for creating such a society will spew forth unbounded in the face of fascist fundamentalism to make it so – for now and the future.

### **WEEK 3: CONSOLIDATION & CULTURE**

#### **Clear indicators of bad behaviour**

In order to maintain Democratic Consolidation where we can establish specific rules and prevent democratic breakdown we need balance within a balance of the main participants: leaders, organizations and the public.

The indicators of good behavior for all three groups of participants that we have not seen in Canada for so long we have forgotten what it is supposed to look like is: they are to all believe in the legitimacy of democracy and be active in their respective roles in upholding it.

On the scale of four levels between a Full and Empty Democracy, again it appears Canada has it not at all; it is at a lower level even than one with major problems. And again, one reason for the democratic breakdown we are experiencing can be directly related to lack of public involvement.

#### **Citizen participation imperative**

Democracy needs a high enough percentage of citizen participation in the form of *knowledge, emotions and values* – ideally 70%. People need to know their role and the value of their singular voice in their democratic environment, as well as their family and community. The fact is: citizens are supposed to be skeptical and question authority figures, as well as be informed and active with the belief that their participation can indeed make a difference.

It is obvious that for a very long time a higher percentage of this most important citizenry factor has been blind, deaf, and dumb than those who have been responsibly active. For far too long apathy has been the norm among Canadian citizens, and corrupted political figures were easily able to infiltrate and suffocate the life out of our democratic system –

and then pervert it so that it served their personal agendas. They were able to maintain a facade just enough to fool the public at the same time they were siphoning funds from the treasury at length and leisure to perpetuate their own wealth while they forced cutback after cutback upon the people they were there to serve.

### **More individual action required**

It does not mean that every single Canadian needs to become an 'activist' per se; it simply means that all Canadian citizens should know that the more active and loyal they are in supporting the democratic way, rather than being detached from it, the better and higher quality of life they will enjoy.

Of course there will be conflicting opinions and over-zealous participants in the arena, but that is where the willingness to be open and respectful in debate, mediation and if necessary, compromise comes into play when seeking solutions. And, although democracy may not be the best form of political regime, it is the best we have today when it comes to solving a country's problems.

### **Our cultural diversity**

One thing to remember here is we are a country with many different cultures and within some of those cultures people have been ingrained to a great degree to follow authoritarian rule. It may be a challenge to bring awareness to that inherent resistance – but, try we must if we are to come together as Canadians and live up to our political potential.

Another major component in creating and sustaining a high-quality democratic system is trust in party leaders – sadly, another virtue Canadians have been denied. This lack of trust is a loud voice in our land and it has created a heavy air of dissent among the masses. This dissension presents itself in the form of anger, frustration and varying degrees of hopelessness when it comes to affecting government decisions – to the point many would rather not talk about it.

It would appear that's exactly what politicians want: for the citizens to be so fed up that they give up. The good news is the incredible shift we're seeing these days is more people are tired of being fed up and that is motivating them to speak up instead.

### **The global picture**

On a global level, it might surprise some to know that according to the Latino/Asian/Afro Barometer surveys: income, education, and religion or lack thereof do not greatly affect either a desire for democracy or the distinction as to whether or not it is working. The reason for this is: even the poor and uneducated understand when their civil liberties are being violated and even the most devout Muslim sees the merits that democracy affords. The question these Arab cultures need to ask themselves is, "How secular should it be?", simply because the Quran has been ingrained in them as their highest authority.

## Religion and politics don't mix

Religion should never interfere with politics and any politician whose actions are primarily based on their religious beliefs before the Rules of Law in democracy are discriminating in favor of their own 'kind' – and that is dangerous ground.

Ideally, the majority of folks in these other world countries also choose the same type of governance that we prefer in the way of: term limits, opposition to violence, government subservience and government accountability.

So, it looks like on a global consciousness level the people are mostly on the same page when it comes to choosing democracy – and that is very encouraging, because more true democracy means more peace.

## WEEK 4: ECONOMICS & SOCIETY

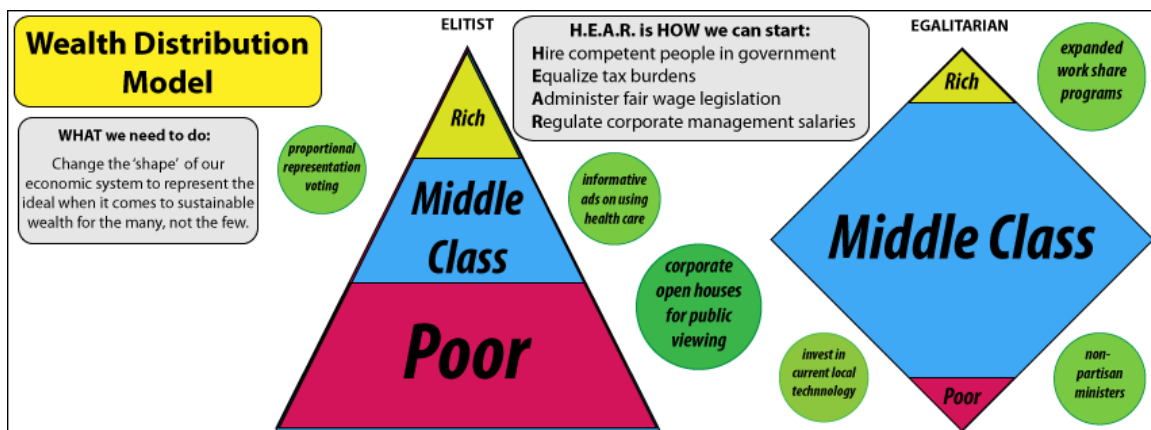
### Egalitarians know best

There's an egalitarian saying that goes, 'Oil and Democracy Don't Mix'. Incredibly, it's not just a little-known backyard theory; it's a well-documented global fact. The fact being: when the government strives to put oil revenues above all else, all else fails.

All of the major oil and gas export countries provide the basis for these facts and they reside in the Middle East, Africa, Russia, Venezuela, etc. Not surprising is these countries are not democracies, and in this type 'oil windfall' thinking the relationship is such that the government becomes a boss and the citizens lose all rights to the revenue. More so, the citizens lose their voice in the face of economic distortion and lost political freedom as the state widens the gap between the haves and the have-nots.

### Bad economics = wider gap

To see this gap in perspective one need only imagine a pyramid with the small triangle at the top representing the wealthy, the next small trapezium is the middle class and the large bottom trapezium represents the poor who are left to struggle in survival mode.



Since survival mode demands so much focus from an individual, by its nature it consumes every waking moment. And, since self-expression is the next level up from survival and is where the individual has more freedom of thought, it is necessary to be at least at that point for democracy to endure.

Ideally, we are looking for a wealth distribution shape that is a diamond: where the small triangle at the top represents the wealthy; the next large rhombus is the middle class and the small bottom inverted triangle is where the poor can rise up from – ideally that is.

Again, what we are seeing in Canada at this very moment is a government that has turned our democratic rights into authoritarian wrongs in pursuit of self-aggrandizement at a cost we cannot afford. The common term for what they are doing is 'bad governance' and the economic and environmental consequences we are facing will be catastrophic if we do not stop them now.

## **WEEK 5: DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION**

### **Regressing from democracy**

While many countries in the world are struggling with transition into democracy due to authoritarian breakdown, in Canada we are struggling to regain democracy as our status quo. We no longer have a Canadian government, we now have a Harper government that has transmuted us right out of our democratic orbit and into a galactic mine field of avaricious audacity.

Unlike alternative regime types, we don't have a history of military rule or decades of hardship ahead of us in fighting for unfamiliar democratic rights; we had the groundwork done for us as a nation of the Commonwealth. Democracy is not a foreign concept of civil liberties and human rights in the Western world; it has been evolving in Canada since the mid-1800s. Only a couple of decades after it was established our ancestors lobbied for the women's right to vote – democracy was evolving into a higher level even then.

Today, 165 years later, there is a new kind of politics in Canada: it is vile, voracious and venal. It is an aberration: a radical aversion from our normal state of political regime. We aren't even going backwards into the authoritarian counterpart, because we've never been there in the first place. The direction we are going is sideways into a parallel plane of parliamentary pittance powered by personal pomposity.

We are a nation in crisis.

### **Zero government representation**

Our government does not represent us; it rejects us. It is the ruptured disc in the spine of the strong backs of Canadians. The signs of eminent rupture were there, but we couldn't feel them until they became strong enough to cripple and debilitate every cornerstone of

every good foundation we had laid with every back-bone of our being. We ought to check the graves of our ancestors to see if the ground has been disturbed as much as the spirit of Canada has been disturbed in every Canadian today.

### **We need to act!**

Somewhere in our lineage each of us has ancestors that fought for the democratic rights we've come to take for granted. They are calling all Canadians to be impassioned in demanding a solid principled democracy – right raving now.

## **WEEK 6: CONSTITUTIONAL DESIGN**

### **Flightless partisan priorities**

It doesn't make sense to support extremism in either a left-wing equality-driven political system or a right-wing equity-driven one.

- The former is progressive and believes in fair taxation, affordable health care for the masses and minority rights, because all are important.
- The latter is conservative and believes in privileged taxation, health care for those who can afford it and rights to the wealthy, because the rich are more important.

That's what the real choice is: progressive or conservative, and we can clearly see how easy it is for the conservative mind to regress – it has limited forward thinking capability.

Simply put: one form of government strives to serve the whole while the other strives to have the whole serve it. One might argue that the fault in leaning too far left will create a welfare state, because people will become lazy and rely too heavily on government for assistance. On the other hand, placing less tax burdens on business and more on the people who are struggling to make ends meet while working in those businesses is nothing less than government-sanctioned slavery.

### **Open minds find more solutions**

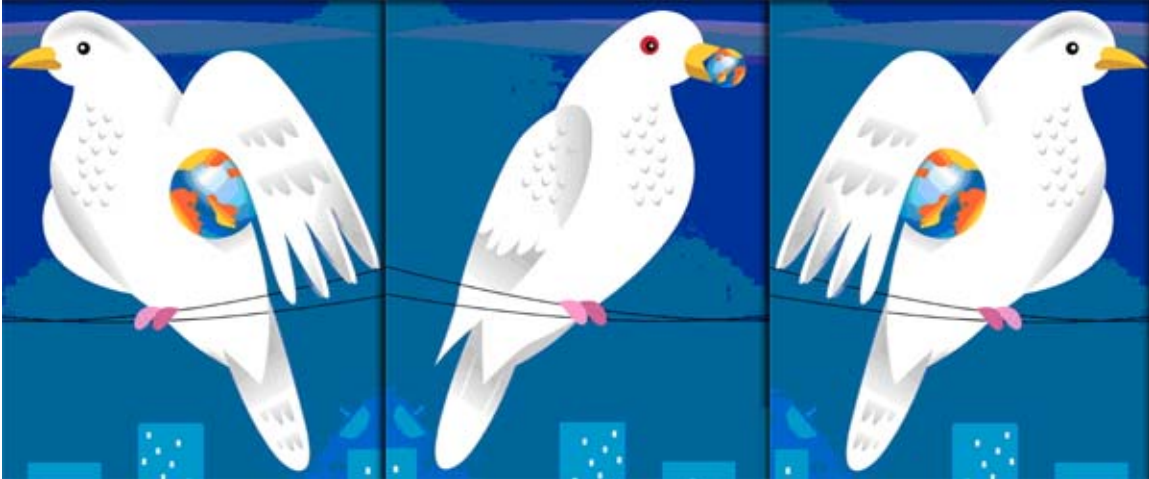
Consider the whole bird: there is no reason citizens should be forced to choose between one of two opposing mindsets when people don't think or live in such a way. Our minds are open and always seeking the best solutions to any problem, and it's always found somewhere in the middle – between these opposing views. So, let's clip the wings of politics and start focusing on the bird in the middle that is still hungry and needs to be fed with consolidated thinking.

We have our parameters and we can have a happy medium, and that's where the support should be: for the greater good. So, how does a government know what decisions will cause the greater good effect?

- They heed, rather than dismiss the people and consult, rather than muzzle the experts.



- They choose to be a representative of solid principled democracy, rather than a name on the list of lesser and greater evils that citizens cringe to face on election day.
- They identify the working class as the largest concentration of brain and brawn power that supports the entire country, because without them none of it would be.



### **Where there's a need**

We need to find what works! The right-wing theory of giving privilege and incredulous tax breaks to corporations because the profits should trickle down fairly to the employees has been disproved in the field. In fact, the profits are injected directly into augmenting the adipose tissue of the echelons; not into fortifying the lean muscle of the laborers.

We need a true egalitarian democracy! We have seen and suffered too much under the perverted policies presented by pompous prats in parliament that don't work for anyone – and never will.

## **WEEK 7: ELECTORAL SYSTEMS**

### **Betting on the nag**

There is no doubt we need a better electoral system in Canada: one that will truly represent the sentiments of a proud society rather than an oppressed one.

As we have it, our electoral system is like a horse race: the party whose candidates get first past the political post with the most votes wins first place for their leader. The practice entails candidates pandering to the party leader, licking the boots of backers and manipulating financial fixes just so their horse will win – even if it is a nag.

It's no wonder we have such a low voter turnout: half of the population has given up betting on their favourite horse, because they know the race is already fixed. What's

worse, fraudulence isn't the only rotten reason many capable concerned citizens fail to feel their oats on election day: they're frantically running in their own race for survival.

### **Economic misrepresentation**

A sad economic fact is: too high a percentage of Canada's population relies on food banks every single day – even those with jobs. The original cause fell mostly to the loss of innumerable blue collar positions being regurgitated overseas at a fraction of the production costs. Regardless, the blame still falls to the lack of representation from government – then and now. Maybe they don't understand the word 'represent', let alone how it relates to the people, which is probably why our once proud 'Made in Canada' label is rarely seen anymore.

For an institutionalized band-aid that was created to cover a symptom of recession as a temporary patch, it's disgraceful that food banks have become an integral and necessary aspect of our society. And, it's not for the lack of solutions to our government's disparity in divvying up the dividends, because those who have become experts in managing the food banks offer ultra viable recommendations. The truth of the problem is that our pathetic politicians ignore them, because they want to suffer the people to their own agenda. Does that not speak volumes about where our government's priorities are and what kind of economy we really have?

Imagine: Creating an impoverished state so that you can force your vile will as the only option at your behest to appear to rescue a country that you held hostage on the brink of an economic decline that you formulated. A classic terrorist tactic!

### **Poverty and politics don't mix**

It's a fact of human nature that when we are in survival mode, our brains work in such a way that we cannot incorporate concepts beyond that realm: in particular, ones that require self-expression, like politics. This is because self-expression is the next level up from survival on the transformation scale and those higher thoughts cannot be assimilated from an atmosphere of adversity. It's a mindset of limited awareness in that one's immediate circumstances require every atom of their being just to maintain some semblance of subsisting in a climate of misfortune.

### **Inspiration for change**

Currently in Canada we have a 'majoritarian system', which exhibits failure to the point where even the advantages of accountability and clear majority have been reallocated to the disadvantage list. A list that includes cons in more ways and meanings than those of insincere strategic voting and non-representational government to form 'manufactured majorities'. What's ironic is even the simplest benefit of cost-efficiency is becoming more expensive in the long term, giving us zero advantage within our current structure.

When it comes to setting the electoral voting stage, we have many options for bringing the best representation of our voice and our hearts to the forefront. Our options include:

- Alternative Vote: we can choose our candidates in order of preference and the losers' votes are not wasted, but instead go to the next choice on the ballot.
- 'Two-Round' system: we can vote twice and change our vote the second time if we don't like the looks of the first outcome.
- PR (Proportional Representation) List systems: parties receive seats in proportion to their overall share of voices.
- Tier systems: mix-and-match components where one type is used for federal and one for provincial elections.

Additionally, there are determining factors involved that can be tweaked to reflect the true voice of the people: district magnitude; majoritarian versus proportional; dependent versus independent, etc.

### **Getting past the hurdles**

Sure the government has high falutin' notions like switching to electronic voting to attract more voters to the polls on election day – in theory. Clearly, changing the voting system doesn't change the two enormous mitigating factors for absence and apathy that could sway the vote against them – and maybe they don't want that.

1. Many citizens are either too plighted by poverty *or*
2. they abhor the prospect of having to select the lesser of evils from a list of delusional derelicts.

So, face it we must: we are not going to get what we need or want with the government officials we have now, neither on the provincial nor the federal levels. Harper and Clark have proven they are not the people for the job, as they are nothing but proponents for theories and conjecture and we are their field for disproving them.

## **WEEK 8: ETHNICITY & FEDERALISM**

### **Ethnicity a key factor**

We could use some preventative measures here and demand ethical ethnic background checks on all politicians.

Ethnicity, in short, refers to distinctive characteristic trait(s) that can be cultural, religious, regional, linguistic, racial or otherwise based on common origin.

It goes without saying that we all have an ethnic background of sorts stemming from our heritage, but we can also choose beliefs and practices to further refine our individuality. We can then join other like-natured folks and form groups as a way of supporting each

other and strengthening our collective ethnic voice. It is to whatever degree one is attached to their ethnicity that determines how passionate they will be in pursuing recognition for their creed and how many will occupy the circle.

### **Large scale ethnic diversity**

In the multi-cultural country of Canada there is much in the way of innate ethnic diversity of every distinction and to accommodate all those voices would appear to be a tough job for a government. The way they are meant to handle it is by determining the most significant ethnic groups and creating departments within the structure of government so they can be represented. At least that's how it's supposed to be. The problem is that loopholes in the system allowed a bigger ethnic group with a more thunderous and demanding voice to outstrip all the others – the egocentric corporate elite.

This covetous cluster has not only segregated themselves above everyone else, they have centralized their power in government to the point of closing the doors to all the other groups and settling in to represent their views alone. And, the only time you see them interact with other ethnic factions is when they overact in an effort to elicit votes at election time. One only hears of that kind of narcissistic manifestation existing in third world countries, but it's happening right in the face of each and every Canadian today.

### **Unethical ethnicity**

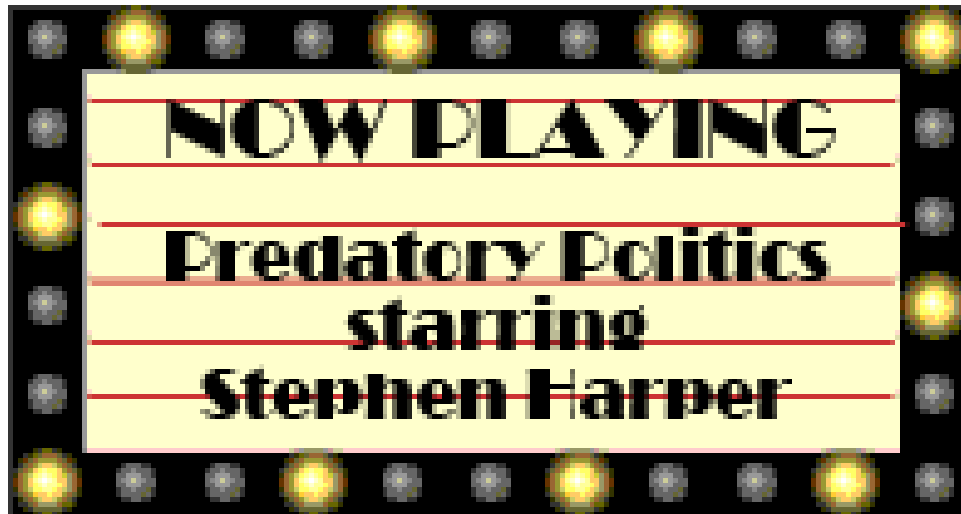
Everything we are now seeing and experiencing in Canadian politics is the exact opposite of what we should be seeing and experiencing. What we have is a warped federalism in the total domination by one large group and the lack of advocacy in representing the people, which makes for zero-sum politics – a lose/lose situation.

What we should have is a spirit of coalition and power-sharing that permeates our policies to represent the most intrinsic humanitarian value of equality to create a positive-sum dynamic – a win/win situation.

## **WEEK 9: BAD GOVERNANCE**

### **Canada's 'Predatory Politics' now playing on the world stage**

If there's one play that never should have been scribed in our history, it is the one that no one wants to watch, but all are forced to suffer even when it sickens them: Canada's own 'Predatory Politics', starring Stephen Harper.



It's a non-fictional story depicting true events about unimaginable befoulment and unbridled egoism that is so deeply ingrained in the characters one would think they were raised by monsters. The scope of venality reaches new heights as co-stars Gordon Campbell, Christy Clark and others play their cold hearts out to the corporate audience in narcissistic displays of apathy and abomination.

#### **Worse stink-bomb ever**

It's a stinker of a show when it comes to governance, because it is beyond bad – it's continuously bombing at the humanitarian box office. Good governance is when the highlights in the review include legitimacy, transparency, accountability, Rule of Law, etc. What we are watching now is worst governance where growth in social services has become growth in self-servitude, the use of public resources is for personal extravagance and the realm of public good is now a feedlot for the corporate beasts.

These notorious actors prove themselves over and over again that they are 'creatures with a cause' and that cause is singular: them. They are what's known as predators in the political world and it accurately describes them when they extract wealth from the populace and deprive citizens of essential services. The other observable sign of a predatory system is the citizens' ever-growing sense of powerlessness, exploitation and unhappiness. Yes, we have a signature predatory system in Canada!

This is the monstrosity of our situation and it's this mindset in certain government officials that greatly reduces our capacity for economic growth and is an obstruction to our development. We can forget horizontal, vertical and external accountability, because they simply don't exist. When we have such far-reaching putrid ideology we have zero accountability and that is unacceptable!

1. On a horizontal level of accountability there are supposed to be government overseers with the authority to enforce the qualities of a liberal democracy and administer

justice to corrupt politicians, but the patron-client picture is still being shoved in our faces.

2. On an external level we have international laws that make predatory corruption a crime against humanity, but corruption abounds and surrounds us endlessly. Where are the global organizations that should have prevented Canadian scientists from being muzzled and tar sands from expansion when they are such a unitary threat?
3. Then there's the level most of us are on, the vertical one, where the citizens resolve to demand accountability and refuse patronage to a cause that clearly goes against every principled word in the democratic dictionary. We need more of them.

Let's rewrite this nauseating tragedy by injecting a scene from Monty Python and becoming the 'killer rabbits' of the Canadian kind to let no one defile our hallowed domain.

Let's boycott the bestial brutes and spur our watchdogs to do the job of protecting our democratic rights like they've never done before.

Let's bring ourselves out from behind the scenes and become the main characters as 'Crackerjack Canadians' in a new production called 'Citizens Alive'.



### **Look down first, then look forward**

When living in a country like Canada with such a mixed bag of peoples and ideologies we need only look at the common ground that supports us all: the ground beneath our feet. When we stand together as the people of this beautiful terra firma we can stand up to anyone who would rip that rugged terrain from under us.



'Canadianism' should be the biggest ethnicity: a people bringing the best of themselves to this country in reverence of the favorable circumstances that it offers, like their ancestors did. Let us remind our politicians of our right to be here, as well as our right to protect the ground we walk on and the waters that surround it. We are the stewards of this land of opportunity and as long as we take care of it, it will take care of us – because, they sure as shoe gum won't.

## WEEK 10: FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY

### The Harper Scheme

How the Harper government came to be is nothing short of a variation on a Ponzi Scheme set up to mislead and defraud Canadians using parliament as its front for dirty deals. In criminology it is known as a 'state-corporate' crime and falls under 'white collar crime', which is a financially motivated nonviolent crime enacted by business persons and government officials. We can call this one the 'Harper Scheme'.

The Harper Scheme breeds and thrives where there is 'lack of action' in others, from apathy among the citizens to the setting of low priority status by law enforcement of white collar crimes. There is no precedent for this type of patronizing attitude towards the populace except in the world of crime lords where a disillusioned demos is the perfect place to flaunt falsehoods in the face of the people.

We see many clear indicators of a deigned democracy in this scheme of bad governance with worse ideas racing roughshod towards the ultimate in authoritarian rule that include:

- constant camouflaged corruption
- covert conspiracies with anti-democratic leaders
- disdain for women's equality
- dismissive in the Rule of Law
- disrespect for the providence of nature
- massive secret meetings
- repression of detrimental truths

### **Scheme signature signs**

When you make up your own laws to use against people so you can extract money from them through misdirection and misrepresentation, you are working a scheme.

When you are frenzied by aggressive greed to the point of heaping greater poverty on the people you have coerced into investing in you, you are working a scheme.

When you are agonizingly hostile towards your competition so you can appear to be above the law as the only one who's right, you are working a scheme.

### **The common sense of crime**

The saddest and most despicable aspect of white collar crime is although it is classified as a nonviolent crime, it is one of the biggest contributors to violence and therefore should be re-classified as a 'violence-enhancing' crime. It is a fact that poverty is the biggest catalyst for criminal activity in human beings, as anyone with an iota of common sense or humanity would know. Decidedly, anyone who is willing to incite crime by creating a poverty state through deliberate mismanagement of funds while calling themselves a leader of a country is either a mobster or a monster.

### **Finding representation in the challenge**

It is through a figure of cutthroat character spouting dubious dialect that Canadians are represented in the world today and that is not who we are – we need to demand true representation. We can make this our zeitgeist moment: our spirit of the times in rising to a higher challenge than we've ever seen so that we can stop being conned by anyone's scheme.

Here we can take a lesson from the Chinese with their Grass Mud Horse (Cao Ni Ma) and adopt a Baidu symbol of our own to represent our defiance of this demonized democracy.

It may be a cute stuffed intestinal worm (Ju Hua Can) meaning 'anal'





or a French-Croatian squid (Fa Ke You) meaning 'screw you'



or a small elegant butterfly (Ya Mie Die) meaning 'stop' as in opposing forced will.



**Bottom line right now**

A high-quality democracy can only happen when the people are involved, as the quality of a democracy is a direct reflection of citizen participation – that is the basis of it.

JANUARY 22, 2014

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### Democratic Development

A broad, introductory survey of the political, social, cultural, economic, institutional, and international factors that foster or obstruct the development and consolidation of democracy.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ruy Diamond".

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DIRECTOR, CENTER ON DEMOCRACY, DEVELOPMENT,  
AND THE RULE OF LAW  
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