

A meme for consideration: is direct democracy a potential solution to our current plutocratic republic?

Direct Democracy GAs

Since our government, local and national, has proven it will never respond to demands for a sustainable, egalitarian society that benefits the 99% and the entire Earth and represents and serves only the 1%, is it time for the People to demand the creation of direct democracy to replace the two party system representation of the 1%? What would happen if the People discussed, proposed and voted directly in block group General Assemblies on issues not being handled satisfactorily by our existing representatives and officials? Occupy GAs have brought us exposure to this process and the realization that it works. Open, accessible, citizen input is not only accepted but required.

What if we organized all the communities in the US into GAs of 200 -500 adult citizens based upon geographic proximity, by Census block groups (or something similar) and then met once a week (or other relevant time period) to directly discuss and vote on policies? Interacting with other GA's and a well designed, very secure, communication and collation system, we could then, not ask or demand, but COMMAND our representatives (who would later be appointed to these administrative positions by the People's GAs) to implement our policies under threat of removal.

Direct Democracy in the Workplace

21st Century businesses, whether they be small companies or

corporations, are making decisions that grossly misuse human and natural resources purely for the expedience of acquiring profit. This has created a nuclear, coal, and carbon fuel crisis that if unchecked will create a catastrophe as great as human extinction. Added to this is manipulation of what used to be localized, sustainable economies gutted to fit the demands of global commerce. We need to replace this burn-out, capitalist economy with one which allows for each locality across the country (and eventually across the globe) to be independently sustainable and removed from the voracious greed of the 1%.

What kind of decisions would a democratic workplace make about their business practices? Wouldn't they vote for sustainable practices that were safe and profitable for everyone? Would they spew chemicals into our aquifers, clear cut their mountains, or spill oil on their own beaches? Would they lay themselves off to maximize profits?

With Direct Democracy in the workplace all business enterprises could be owned and profited by the people who work in the enterprise. They would discuss and vote on business operations each week in GAs. Any hierarchy is flat with job duties providing function, but not authority. Authority is held by the workgroup to replace or shuffle positions of function as needed. Workers can assume jobs they do best and feel most comfortable with. No more private ownership, decision making and profit taking. Everyone benefits. Similar democratic processes are used successfully in numerous collectives across the country and around the world. Why not everywhere?

Occupy Democracy now?