



Phoenix Project Pac (P3)
Rising from the Ashes of an Oligarchic Republic
to a real Democracy for the USA

The Difference Between a Republic and a Democracy



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Chairman

I enjoy watching Fareed Zakaria's GPS program on CNN because of his sincere effort to investigate news stories, but in one of his recent broadcasts, which aired on 11.22.09, that he referred to India as the world's largest and oldest Democracy, which is simply not the case because India, like the United States, is not a Democracy at all, but a Republic. The only major country in the modern era that does operate as a Democracy is Switzerland, and they have been successfully functioning with a true democratic form of government since the 13th Century, which would make Switzerland the oldest and largest Democracy.

This is a fact that few Americans are aware of, no doubt because most news commentators and politicians in the U.S. routinely refer to the USA as a Democracy. Indeed, in the following CNN program after GPS, Christiane Amanpour made a similar mistake when she referred to Israel as a Democracy. This was an especially interesting comment because Christiane also stated that the majority of Israeli citizens did not support their government's settlement policy on Arab lands, which most analysts would agree is the primary factor that is preventing any fundamental reconciliation between the Israelis and the Palestinians and other Arabs in the Middle East. It is why the definitions of words are indeed important.

While many people assume that a Republic and a Democracy are essentially the same thing, they are in fact fundamentally very different because a Democratic government is rule by the majority, whereas a Republican representative form of government is an oligarchic rule by a tiny few (typically Committee Chairman) who make decisions with lobbyists in secret, and then decide which bills can even come up for a vote. Thus lobbyists only need to influence a small number of people in order to literally write the bills that allow them to get their way.

A Democratic Republic

Most people believe that because elections are held, that makes a Republic a Democracy, but elections, are often manipulated in many countries, including the U.S., especially since computerized voting machines were introduced as an alternative to the hanging-chad chaos of the punch card voting machines that were used in Florida in the 2000 presidential campaign.

While many countries like Canada still use inexpensive and easily verifiable paper ballots that are collected and counted in public, typically with the news media present, the Bush administration encouraged the U.S. to purchase expensive computerized voting machines from private companies like ES&S and Diebold that can be easily hacked and then these private companies were then allowed to count the votes in secret.

After the 2004 election, however, an independent audit in Ohio showed that the voter-memory card totals failed to match electronic voting machine ballot tallies in more than one quarter of the samples checked in the state's most populous county. And after a similar investigation in California, its Secretary of State, Kevin Shelly, called Diebold's activities in that state "fraudulent" and "deceitful," and banned the use of the Diebold touch screen "E-machines" until they could be proven to meet proper security standards.

When George W. Bush supposedly won a critical and narrow victory in Ohio in 2004, it was widely reported in the media that the exit polls indicated that it was Kerry who won the election, and although a legal investigation was launched, and a Judge ordered that all of the computer data on the vote was to be preserved, someone managed to erase all of the computer data, and Bush was certified as the winner.

It is important to note that the CEOs of Diebold and ES&S made no secret of their partisan support of Bush, and the Bush administration even provided Ohio with a grant for \$100 million to purchase the Diebold machines, which then presumably gave the election to Bush.

So much for free and fair elections.

However, even if verifiable and inexpensive paper ballots are used, there is a long and sad history of candidates, like Barack Obama, who make campaign pledges and promises, but once they get elected, they simply ignore their promises, and the voters have no real power to hold the elected officials accountable. That could never happen in a real Democracy, because a majority of the citizens who vote would also be responsible for approving all legislation and Supreme Court decisions that affect the majority, and the majority of the citizens could also dismiss or impeach any elected official who fails to keep the promises made in a campaign.

It is also important to note that democratic forms of government cannot tolerate secrecy because in order for the citizens to vote responsibly, they need to know all of the facts, and the 2,000 page bills that are now written by the lobbyists would be a thing of the past because the lobbyists would have no one left to bribe. Given these objective facts, *it is clear that virtually all of the so-called Democrats in Congress are really Republicans*, and there is no better example of this Orwellian distortion than the current energy and health care debates that are dominated by the lobbyist and the money-driven Republican form of government.

The Democracy Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

These details are especially important to our political action committee because we are focused on organizing a Constitutional Convention to pass a Democracy Amendment that would transform the USA from being a Republic to being a real Democracy. It is worth noting that according to our *Declaration of Independence*:

"There are times in the course of human events, when it becomes necessary for the American people to amend the Constitution in order to protect the American people and further the process of democracy in the United States of America."

Prudence, indeed, dictates that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes. But when a long train of abuses have resulted in the contamination of the air, land, water, food, and our own people, which has resulted in an epidemic of permanent brain damage in millions of children, while afflicting millions of others with heart attacks, strokes, cancer and lung disease; as well as the exponentially worsening economic, energy, environmental, education and health care problems; it is our right, it is our duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new regulatory safeguards for our future security.

It is why it is now time to finish the American Revolution for Democracy, while there is hopefully still time to make a difference for our country, and the only planet in the known universe that can sustain us and our descendents.

A Constitutional Convention

In order to bypass the corporate lobbyists and special interests in Washington D.C., it is also critical to bypass the Members of Congress, who would likely never support a Democracy amendment, and have two-thirds of the State Legislatures vote to hold a Constitutional Convention to debate and vote on the Democracy amendment, along with any other amendments that are outlined on our PhoenixProjectPac.US website that are approved by the State Legislatures. In many State Legislatures, the most significant bills receive only 10 to 15 emails, which underscores an observation made by anthropologist Margaret Mead:

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens can change the world.
Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

A Declaration for Democracy

Whereas the Members of Congress have repeatedly ignored the senior scientists at the National Academy of Sciences who have warned that if oil, coal and other fossil fuels are not phased-out by 2020, the earth's climate stability will soon pass a catastrophic tipping point of no return; and

Whereas the global ocean fish ecosystems are already over 90% dead and the remaining fish are so contaminated from mercury and radioactive isotopes from coal plants they are unfit to eat; and

Whereas record droughts and storms are intensifying and destroying crops and forests in the Rocky Mountains and Cascades; and the bees, bats and millions of other species are disappearing in what Time Magazine's April 13, 2009 cover story referred to as "How Climate Change is Causing A New Age of Extinction;" and

Whereas an epidemic of degenerative diseases, including heart disease, cancer, and diabetes are the result of industry lobbyists forcing Americans to consume air, water food that is contaminated as a result of our dependence of fossil fuel and nuclear technologies; and

Whereas a clinical study by the American Red Cross in 2004, which analyzed the umbilical cord blood taken from pregnant American women, found that the unborn infants were soaking in over 285 toxic chemicals, including mercury from coal plants, and over 200 other chemicals that are known to be toxic to the brain and nervous system, which helps to explain the exponential explosion of autism in American children; and

Whereas at least 30 to 40% of health care costs are spent on literally torturing millions of terminally ill patients in the last few months of their lives in order to maximize the income of doctors and hospitals; and

Whereas the current Fee-for-Service "commission-based" medical system provides vast financial incentives for drug companies, hospitals and doctors to recommend unnecessary drugs and procedures; and

Whereas the increasingly profit-driven corporate system of health care provides no incentives for practicing preventative medicine, and provides a lower quality of health care on a per capita basis, which costs substantially more than the universal health care systems in other countries; and

Whereas David Walker, the former Comptroller General of the United States, has repeatedly warned that America is suffering from a fiscal cancer, and if left untreated it could have catastrophic consequences for our country; and

Whereas the Republican system of government has allowed irresponsible elected officials to plunge America deep into debt that will continue to devalue the U.S. dollar while the unprecedented debt is bequeathed to our children and their unborn decedents; and

Whereas the Republican system of government has repeatedly violated international law by allowing millions of innocent people to be murdered in countries such as Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Iran, Chile, Nicaragua and most recently Iraq and Afghanistan.

Whereas these profoundly serious problems have been caused by a lobbyist-driven Republican form government, which is "rule by the tiny few in secret" as opposed to a Democratic form of government that cannot tolerate secrecy or 2,000 page bills written by lobbyists, because the majority of American citizens would be responsible for approving all legislation and Supreme Court Decisions.

We, therefore, the citizens of the United States of America, do solemnly declare that a Constitutional Convention be convened in Washington DC to amend the Constitution of the United States in order to allow the USA to be transformed from a Republic to a Democracy, where the majority of the citizens, and not their elected representatives, shall have the power to enact the laws that shall govern their behaviour.

A Democratic form of government must have verifiable elections and never make policy decisions in secret; it should have a Fair Accounting Act that factors in environmental and related health care costs for products; it should obey international law, which means lives and property should never be taken without due process; it should balance its budget each year; it should insure that every citizen has access to pure air, water and wholesome food; it should provide "universal educational excellence" from the best instructors, which should be made available at no cost on the internet and DVDs; it should provide a fully-transparent nationalized banking system that is managed by the U.S. Treasury Department; and it should provide a universal non-profit, health care system for all Americans.

Prudence, indeed, dictates that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations have resulted in the contamination of the air, land, water, food, and our own people, which has resulted in an epidemic permanent brain damage in millions of children, while afflicting millions of others with heart attacks, strokes, cancer and lung disease; as well as the exponentially worsening economic, energy, environmental, education and health care problems; it is our right, it is our duty, to organize a Constitutional Convention to change the Republican form of government, and to provide new regulatory safeguards for our future security.

It is why it is now time to finish the American Revolution for Democracy, while there is hopefully still time to make a difference for our country, and the only planet in the known universe that can sustain us and our descendents.

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Given the significance of these issues and this Declaration for Democracy for the USA, it is critical for the national news media to help the American public understand the true meanings words like Democracy and Republic, while there is hopefully still time to avoid national bankruptcy, the collapse of the dollar, and the destruction of the life-support systems of the only planet in the universe that can sustain us and our descendents.

Sincerely

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