



The State of American Democracy

Our Democracy At
Risk

"In this brilliant historical analysis, Levitsky and Ziblatt show how the actions of elected leaders around the world have paved the road to democratic failure, and why the United States is now vulnerable to this same downward spiral. This book should be widely and urgently read as a clarion call to restore the shared beliefs and practices - beyond our formal Constitution - that constitute the essential 'guardrails' for preserving democracy."

-Larry Diamond
author of
The Spirit of Democracy

A Key Source: How Democracies Die

By Steven Levitsky and Daniel
Ziblatt

Professors of Government at
Harvard

Published 2018 shortly after Trump
became President

Note

Throughout this book (*How Democracies Die*), the authors provide many comparisons to other democracies that have faced similar challenges and, where appropriate, how those democracies have tried to address (or not) these challenges. They note which democracies have been able to move forward, and which have succumbed. And they frequently note lessons to be learned.

Due to time limitations for this presentation, I have provided only minimum representation of these comparisons. That is a significant limitation that I would encourage you to rectify by reading the book.

The Fragility of Democracies

Historically, democracies have tended to end with a bang
... a revolution or a military coup

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, Greece, Guatemala, Pakistan, etc.

More recently, they tend to die with a whimper
... driven by the actions of elected leaders

The erosion of long-standing political norms

And the weakening of critical institutions such as the judiciary and the press

Countries such as Hungary, Turkey, Russia, Venezuela, Nicaragua, the Philippines, Poland, Sri Lanka, Peru, Georgia, & India

Key Drivers of the Loss of Democracy

- Authoritarian leadership
- Failures of the Guardrails of Democracy
 - Loss of Mutual Toleration - opponents becoming the 'enemy'
 - Decline of Institutional Forbearance - the use of extreme efforts to obstruct
 - Failure of Political Parties as Gatekeepers - enabling unqualified or dangerous candidates
 - Changing the Rules of the Game - tilting the playing field against rivals
 - "Saving" Democracy - using an 'emergency' situation as a pretext for subverting democracy with antidemocratic measures
- Other factors
 - Control of the Media
 - Control of the Courts & other 'Referees'
 - Misinformation & Disinformation

4 Key Indicators of Authoritarian Behaviour

1. Rejection of Democratic Rules of the Game

- Do they attempt to undermine the legitimacy of elections?
- Do they reject the constitution or express a willingness to violate it?
- Do they suggest a need for antidemocratic measures such as canceling elections, restricting political rights, etc?
- Do they seek to use extraconstitutional means such as mass protests or violent action to force a change in government?

2. Denial of the Legitimacy of Political Opponents

- Do they baselessly describe their partisan rivals as criminals and thus disqualified?
- Do they describe their opponents as subversive?
- Do they claim that their rival is an existential threat?
- Do they baselessly suggest that their rivals are working with foreign governments?

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3. Toleration or Encouragement of Violence

- Have they or supporters encouraged attacks on opponents?
- Do they have ties to armed groups that engage in illicit violence?
- Have they tacitly endorsed violence by not explicitly condemning it?
- Have they praised acts of violence in the past or other parts of the world?

4. Readiness to Curtail Civil Liberties of Opponents including Media

- Have they supported policies that restrict civil liberties such as expanding libel or restricting protest?
- Have they threatened legal action against critics ... either rivals or the media?
- Have they praised repressive measures taken by others either in the past or other parts of the world?

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Guardrails of Democracy

- The constitution provides a foundational set of guardrails
 - Although very advanced when written, today the constitution is fairly dated, subject to competing interpretations, and inadequate to maintain today's democracy
 - Because of the gaps and ambiguities of any legal system, we can not rely on the constitution alone to safeguard our democracy
- Other key guardrails:
 - Mutual Toleration: recognizing political opponents as legitimate
 - Institutional Forbearance: restraint in exploiting legal mechanisms
 - Gatekeepers: keep unqualified & dangerous candidates from presidency

Mutual Toleration

- As long as our political rivals play by constitutional rules & democratic norms,
 - We should accept that they have an equal right to exist, compete for power, and govern
 - We should recognize our rivals as decent, patriotic, law-abiding citizens
 - Even if we believe their ideas are foolish or wrong-headed, we should not see them as an existential threat
 - We should mutually and constructively agree to disagree'
 - We should work together to come up with compromise solutions
 - Failure leads to increased polarization & potential for violence
-

Institutional Forbearance

- Definition: "Patient self-control; restraint & tolerance; the action of restraining from exercising a legal right"
 - Avoiding actions that, while technically legal, violate the spirit or norms of democracy
 - Not using institutional prerogatives to the hilt
 - Recognizing that such actions imperil the existing system
 - Failure leads to declining political stability, failures of governance, and reduced trust in our institutions
-

“The simple fact of the matter is that the world has never built a multiethnic democracy in which no particular ethnic group is in the majority and where political equality, social equality and economics that empower all have been achieved.”

Danielle Allen
American Classicist & Political Science
Harvard

American Democracy

A Brief History

The Early Years: The Struggle To Establish a Democracy

- **George Washington: stabilizing force for the earliest years**
- **Mutual tolerance floundered with the birth of parties**
 - The Federalist & Republican suspected each other of treason
 - Created a climate of mutual distrust and hardball politics
- **This subsided as a new generation of legislators took office**
 - Martin van Buren helped establish a period of mutual tolerance
- **This 'truce' came apart over our 'original sin' ... slavery**
 - Polarization over slavery shattered our still fragile mutual toleration
 - Over 125 instances of stabbings, canings, or pulling a gun on the floor of the House & Senate between 1830 & 1860

Civil War

- The *failures of our democracy* led to the Civil War
 - 11 states did not vote in 1864; 22 Senate seats and more than a quarter of House seats sat vacant
 - The trauma left lots of questions about what went wrong with American democracy
 - Much focus fell on the unwritten rules ... the need for effective norms
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Reconstruction: One Step Forward, Then, One Step Back

- Rebuilding after any civil war is not easy as wounds heal slowly
 - The infamous compromise of 1877 elevated Republican Rutherford Hayes to the presidency and effectively ended Reconstruction
 - Mutual toleration was reestablished only after the issue of racial equality was removed from the political agenda
 - Once again, we threw African Americans under the bus
 - *Ironically, the norms that would later serve as a foundation for American democracy emerged out of a profoundly undemocratic arrangement:*
 - *Racial exclusion & the consolidation of authoritarian single-party rule in the South*
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Changing the Rules of the Game

The United States provides the most striking example of "Changing the Rules" to lock in authoritarian rule

- During Reconstruction, Blacks registered to vote in very large numbers
 - Black votes enabled Republicans to take control of 3 Southern states and challenge for control in another 6 states
- In response, all 11 Southern states rewrote their constitutions & election laws between 1885 and 1908
 - Changes appeared to be 'racially neutral' (which 'allowed' the courts to bless them), but instituted poll taxes, literacy tests (grandfathering in white voters), and complex written ballots
 - Added significant racial violence against any Black attempting to vote
 - Together, these had a huge racial impact: Black voting fell from 61% in 1880 to 2% in 1912
- Enabled the Democrats to established single party, authoritarian rule of the South for almost a century

Post Reconstruction: Baby Steps Toward Democracy

- With racial equality off the table, mutual toleration & institutional forbearance gradually took hold
 - Well established norms by the start of the twentieth century
 - They became the foundation of our system of checks & balances
- American democracy requires that each branch of government use their institutional prerogatives judiciously
 - And judicious use generally prevailed for most of the twentieth century
- Three exceptions worth noting
 - FDR's concentration of power, court packing proposal, & third term
 - Joe McCarthy's red-baiting threatened mutual toleration
 - Richard Nixon's clearly authoritarian tendencies
- But the guardrails held as politicians of both parties pushed back

Civil Rights: Challenging Our Democratic Norms

- Our democratic norms were born in a context of racial exclusion
- In the 1950s & 1960s, America started to face the challenges of racial inclusion
 - Brown v Board of Education
 - Civil Rights Act of 1964
 - Voting Rights Act of 1965
- Faced a lot of pushback
 - Efforts to stop school & housing integration (north & south)
 - "White flight" to suburbia
 - George Wallace's presidential runs
 - Party realignment based on "Southern Strategy"
- But progress continued towards a more democratic nation

"If, twenty-five years ago (early 1990s), someone had described to you a country in which candidates threatened to lock up their rivals, political opponents accused the government of stealing the election or establishing a dictatorship, and parties used their legislative majorities to impeach presidents and steal supreme court seats, you might have thought of Ecuador or Romania. You probably would not have thought of the United States."

How Democracies Die

American
Democracy

The Unraveling

Newt Gingrich: Things Start to Unravel

- In 1978, Newt Gingrich won his third run for a House seat
 - In a speech to College Republicans he stated: "You're fighting a war. It is a war for power ..."
 - And once elected, he broke every norm for 'mutual tolerance' or 'institutional forbearance'
- When he became Speaker of the House in 1995, he established "politics as warfare" as the norm for the Republicans
 - Use of the filibuster escalated
 - "No compromise" was the new norm ... resulting in 2 government shutdowns
 - Watergate investigation, appointment of Ken Starr, impeachment ... more 'weapons in the partisan wars'
 - Rise of "Culture War": abortion, gun control & same-sex marriage

Bill Clinton's Presidency

- Deregulation & growing corporate influence in politics
 - Globalization, rising technology, and job losses - ex. NAFTA
 - Financial deregulation & repeal of the Glass-Steagall Act
- Rising income inequality
- Welfare reform
- Campaign finance: the rise of soft money & loopholes
- Beginnings of increased surveillance options & privacy concerns
- Monica Lewinsky scandal
- Tom DeLay "The Hammer" was the real power after Gingrich left
 - His philosophy best described as "If it wasn't illegal, do it."

George W. Bush's Presidency

- Bush promised to be a “uniter”
 - Tom DeLay made it clear to George W. Bush “We don't work with Democrats. There'll be none of that uniter-divider stuff.”
 - Bush abandoned bipartisanship and governed hard to the right
 - 9/11 brought about huge changes
 - Patriot Act with broad surveillance & detention powers
 - Crackdown on anti-war protests
 - Secret programs such as expansion of NSA warrantless wiretaps
 - 'Enhanced interrogations' (or torture) & indefinite detention w/o warrants
 - And Democrats began to reciprocate
 - Growing filibusters further, obstructing judicial nominations, etc.
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George W. Bush's Presidency

- And outside voices adding fuel to the fire
 - Fox News, Rush Limbaugh, Ann Coulter, etc
 - Republicans escalated further
 - The number of bills introduced under “closed rules” skyrocketed
 - The House conducted 140 hours of sworn testimony on whether Clinton abused the White House Christmas card list ... but only a superficial investigation into the torture at the Abu Ghraib prison
 - Increased corporate influence in politics
 - Tax cuts for the wealthy
 - Close political ties with corporate interests in the Iraq war
 - Deregulation of financial interests contributed to 2008 financial crisis
 - Corporate bailouts & growing inequality
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Obama's First Term

- The 2008 election campaign saw the intolerance grow
 - Tom Delay, Steve King, Fox News, Sarah Palin
 - Obama is foreign born, Muslim, terrorist, Marxist, anti-American, etc.
 - John McCain made a gracious concession speech, but at every mention of Obama, the crowd booed loudly
- And then the Tea Party:
 - Obama as a threat to our democracy ... 'believes in socialism', 'a dictator'
- Mitch McConnell: "single most important thing we want to achieve is for President Obama to be a one-term president"
 - 385 filibusters in Obama's first term!
- ACA (Obamacare) was the target of significant disinformation
 - "Death panels", government control of healthcare, "socialism"

Obama's First Term

- Immigration continues to be a very divisive & unresolved issue:
 - Partisan gridlock prevents any legislative solution
 - High levels of deportation under Obama
 - Deferred Action or Childhood Arrivals (DACA) protecting undocumented children
- 2008 financial crisis:
 - Bailout of major banks & corporations appeared to favor Wall Street over Main Street
 - Failure to hold the major players accountable
- Citizens United decision dramatically increases the role of \$ in politics
 - Increasing influence of wealthy, lobbyists, & corporations
- Income inequality, misinformation & disinformation continue to grow

Obama's Second Term

- 2012 campaign: Republican divisive rhetoric became more extreme
 - Political polarization & legislative gridlock grow
 - Supreme Court struck down key provisions of Voting Rights Act
 - Overnight turning loose more voter suppression in red states
 - Circuit court appointments dropped from over 90% in the 1980s to barely 50% under Obama
 - Democrats also broke norms:
 - Increased usage of executive actions
 - Eliminated filibuster on most presidential nominations (not Supreme Court)
 - Edward Snowden exposed the extensive surveillance programs conducted under the Patriot Act
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Obama's Second Term

- Declining faith in government
 - Political dysfunction, rising partisanship & Congressional gridlock
 - Rising extremism & political violence
 - Rise of the white nationalist movements & militia groups
 - Mitch McConnell withholds confirmation of Merrick Garland
 - For a 150 years, the Senate had always allowed presidents to fill vacant Supreme Court seats prior to an election
 - Growing cybersecurity threats include breach of federal employee data
 - Russian interference in 2016 election
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Donald Trump's Presidency

- Argues that he won the popular vote
 - Undermining election integrity
 - Targeted minority communities such as Muslims, immigrants, African-Americans, and LGBTQ+ individuals
 - Deeply immersed Republicans in white resentment politics
 - Disregarded established presidential norms
 - Independence of Justice Dept.
 - Using the office for personal (his businesses) & political (Ukraine) gain
 - Attacks on Media & Judicial system
 - The highest levels of corruption and unethical behavior in both the administration and staff seen since Nixon's administration
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Donald Trump's Presidency

- Trump's personal affinity for autocrats
 - Normalizes authoritarianism, erodes democratic institutions, & gives them influence on U.S. politics
 - America became an unreliable international partner
 - Could not be trusted to live up to its treaties & other obligations
 - Disrespect for legislative oversight
 - Stonewalled congressional investigations & ignored subpoenas
 - Encouraged violence & division
 - Refused to commit to a peaceful transfer of power
-

Reaction to Trump's 2020 Loss

- Loses both Electoral College & popular vote
- First time that a sitting president refused to accept defeat
 - A basic requirement of any democracy!
- Together with Republican leaders, attempts to change the results
 - Undermined election integrity
 - Tried to get state election officials to change the results
 - Pursued over 60 efforts in court with only 1 minor win
 - Republicans pursued alternative elector slates
 - Told V.P. Pence to withhold certification
- Incited Jan. 6th insurrection ("fight like hell")
 - Violating another basic requirement of any democracy: reject violence!

"If you woke up on January 7th of 2021 with the glass still shattered on the floor of the Capitol and the smoke rising and the troops are surrounding the building and you had said that Donald Trump will be president in four years, nobody would have believed that. Anybody who says that today is not telling you the truth."

Peter Baker
Washington Week

The End Of
Donald Trump's
Reign?

Donald Trump's Post-Presidency

- Top Republican leaders forcefully denounce Jan. 6th attack
 - But ambiguity creeps in very quickly ... *'normal tourist visit'*
 - Kevin McCarthy does a pilgrimage to Mira Lago
 - Mitch McConnell passes on impeachment - 'leave it to the courts'
 - Trump's legal challenges
 - Became 'badges of honor' denigrating the 'rule of law'
 - Convicted felon & guilty of sexual assault
 - Serious federal charges delayed/denied by slow prosecution & court roadblocks
 - Continued baseless attacks on political opponents
 - Weaponization of legal & political systems
 - Growing ties with Victor Orban & other autocrats
-

Joe Biden's Presidency

- Efforts to restore trust in government & institutions had little impact
 - Misinformation & disinformation continue to grow
 - 2020 election lies, QAnon, Covid, etc.
 - Social media platforms are a major & growing source of false information
 - Aided by Musk's purchase of Twitter/X
 - Undermines confidence in institutions & elections
 - Voter suppression by red states continues to grow
 - Growing distrust of the rule of law: aftermath of Jan. 6th & Trump court cases
 - Growing political extremism
 - Continued threats from foreign actors
 - Biden's decline in physical & mental decline
-

“Today, an oligarchy is taking shape in America of extreme wealth, power, and influence that literally threatens our entire democracy, our basic rights and freedoms, and a fair shot for everyone to get ahead.”

President Joe Biden's Farewell Address to the Nation

What Dangers Will Trump's Second Term Bring??

- **Unqualified & dangerous staffing**
 - **Misuse of presidential pardons**
 - **Undermining electoral integrity & democracy**
 - **Erosion of checks & balances & expansion of executive power**
 - **Erosion of democratic norms & institutions**
 - **Violence & instability**
 - **Corruption & conflicts of interest**
 - **Attacks on media & press freedom**
 - **Unpredictability & government by chaos**
 - **Withdrawal from global alliances & institution**
 - **Destabilizing democracy abroad**
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- In 1993, Senator Daniel Moynahan, a former social scientist, observed that when unwritten rules are violated repeatedly, societies tend to “define deviancy down”
 - What was once seen as abnormal becomes normal
 - Although political deviance didn't start with Trump, he has accelerated it
- America has been defining political deviancy down for several decades
 - We no longer expect mutual tolerance or institutional forbearance
 - We have forgotten what good governance looks like
- That doesn't bode well for American democracy!

Redefining The Norms

Gatekeepers

- The founding father recognized the need for 'Gatekeepers'
 - Keep unqualified & dangerous candidates out of the presidency
 - One of the key functions of the Electoral College
 - That failed with the birth of the parties by the early 1800s
 - The gatekeeper role now shifted to the parties
 - And the closed party primaries worked ... preventing the likes of Henry Ford, Huey Long, George Wallace, etc. from major party candidacy
 - The violence of the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago brought binding presidential primaries
 - The parties and shared media continued to be gatekeepers
 - Support from party establishment (publicity and money) & media (publicity) was still needed
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The Abdication of the Republican Party

- By the early 2000s, the proliferation of media and broad access to funding left the party as the remaining gatekeeper
 - By 2016, a highly fragmented media and the free publicity tied to celebrity status had changed the game
 - After the 2016 primaries, a split developed with many prominent Republicans opposed to Trump, but many endorsed him
 - But no prominent Republicans endorsed Clinton! Party over country!
 - Compare that to Austria in 2016
 - The main center-right party effectively kept the radical-right from the presidency when many leaders endorsed the left-leaning Green party candidate
 - Similarly, Belgium & Finland stopped the fascists in the 1930s
 - And by 2024, the GOP did not even find Jan. 6th disqualifying!
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"Saving" Democracy

- Another path to ending democracy is using economic crisis, natural disasters, or security threats (wars, insurrections, or terrorist attacks) to justify antidemocratic measures
 - Crisis create a "rally around the flag" effect & facilitate the concentration & (too often,) the abuse of power
 - Ex. FDR's internment of Japanese Americans during WWII
 - Also used by Hitler & Putin to consolidate power, by Erdogan to regain power, & by Ferdinand Marcos to extend power
 - Consider Trump's talk about third term, no need to vote again, special use of the military, etc
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Attacks on Courts & Other 'Referees'

- Trump has demonstrated hostility toward the 'referees' ... the courts, law enforcement, intelligence, ethics agencies, etc.
 - He fired Jim Comey when he wouldn't protect Trump
 - He has attacked any judge who has ruled against him or his policies
 - He was dismissive of the intelligence services when he accepted Putin's declaration of no Russian interference in the election
 - He trampled on the Office of Government Ethics (OGE) leading to the resignation of the director
 - He has threatened to use the courts against his enemies
 - He has said he would ignore court rulings he disagreed with
 - JD Vance (Yale law graduate) has repeatedly stated he would advise Trump that 'when the courts stop you, tell them to enforce the ruling'
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Failures of the Courts

- The ethics failures of the Supreme Court
 - Originalism, textualism, etc. appear to require little substance
 - Presidential immunity, religious ruling, voting rights, gun rights, etc.
 - Failures to respect precedence: campaign finance, voting rights, abortion, religion, chevron case, gerrymandering, etc.
 - Judge shopping
 - All of which leads to historically low approval rating for the courts
 - And contribute to the challenges facing our democracy
 - The confirmation process is becoming just political theatre
 - Painfully drawn out by one side or the other
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Attacks on Media

- Constant Republican attacks on the media as “fake news” and “enemy of the people” create a pervasive mistrust of journalism
 - Undermines the media's ability to act as watchdog, holding officials, corporations, the wealthy, and other powerful entities accountable
 - An essential function of any democracy
 - Leads people to seek information only from sources that confirm their biases, deepening polarization and dividing society
 - Leading to self-censorship by media companies to protect owner's other enterprises
 - Governmental entities can limit access to information
 - Encourages spread of misinformation and disinformation
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Misinformation/Disinformation

- Undermines informed voting by misleading voter about candidates, policies and issues
 - Can target divisive political or social issues, deepening societal divides
 - Encourages extreme views fueling partisanship & animosity between political, social, or cultural groups
 - Erodes trust in institutions ... the electoral system, media, the judiciary, government, etc.
 - Undermines public health & safety (ex. Covid)
 - Encouraging political violence
 - Empowering authoritarianism
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"Writing this book has reminded us that American democracy is not as exceptional as we sometimes believe. ... We have experienced political catastrophe before, when regional and partisan enmities so divided the nation that it collapsed into civil war. ... It was only after 1965 that the United States fully democratized. And, paradoxically, that very process began a fundamental realignment of the American electorate that has once again left our parties deeply polarized. This polarization, deeper than at any time since the end of Reconstruction, has triggered the epidemic of norm breaking that now challenges our democracy."

Saving Our Democracy

How Democracies Die
... a 2017 Perspective

Republicans

- The Republican Party has been the main threat to our democracy
- Even as the party leadership structure has been eviscerated
 - The cult following of Donald Trump is untouchable by the party
 - Financial contributions from well funded outside groups and wealthy individuals enable them to more or less dictate policy agenda to GOP elected officials
 - The mounting breadth and influence of far-right media and their owners far exceeds that of the party
- The GOP must be reformed or outright refounded if we are to reduce polarization
 - It needs to free itself from the outside donors and right-wing media
- Does leadership exist to make this happen or will it require a catastrophe to inspire the change??

Democrats

- Democrats have not been entirely innocent
 - Democrats must not fall into the trap of trying to counter the Republicans with their own medicine
 - Some would argue that the Democrats should abandon "identity politics" and moderate their stance on immigration to win back white-working class voters ... i.e. become more like Republicans
 - Terrible idea! Repeats our most grievous past mistakes
 - *Democrats need to develop a much more active & effective messaging & social media presence - my add*
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Democrats

- *Democrats should focus on economic security for the working class*
 - Economic changes in the last half-century have decreased job security, increase working hours, decreased upward mobility, decrease job benefits, and fueled social resentment
 - Increase minimum wage ... or a universal basic income
 - Increases self respect, grows the economy, & reduces cost of safety net
 - Get serious about supporting families
 - Paid leave, subsidized day care, pre-k education
 - Current expenditure on families are 1/3 of other developed countries
 - Change from means-tested safety-net programs to more universal models (ex. social security)
 - Means tested programs creates today's resentment over winners and losers
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Electoral Reforms

- The authors note that most political scientists view our current electoral processes as part of the problem
 - But the authors aren't sure that changes will be effective
 - *We now have more results suggesting that they can make a difference!*
 - Nonpartisan Top 4 or 5 primaries with Ranked Choice Voting in the General Election
 - Results in Alaska are encouraging
 - Strengthen Voting Rights
 - Pass the Freedom To Vote Act
 - End gerrymandering, add automatic voter registration & same day voter registration, etc.
 - Estimated that this bill would have added ~3.8 million votes to the Nov. 2024 election
 - Pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act
 - Restore Voting Rights protections
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Conclusion

- We have been on a long journey of decline in our democracy
- As Sen. Moynahan warned, the norms have been broken so regularly that we have 'defined deviancy down'
 - Our norms have changed!
 - We no longer expect mutual tolerance or institutional forbearance!
 - We no longer expect the GOP to be a gatekeeper!
 - We no longer expect real governance!
- We have set the bar so low ...

I fear that the next norm to fall is our democracy!

The question is 'Can we stop it?'

Your thoughts??

Please join us for a joint "Understanding Our Democracy", LGBTQ+ Family & Friends, and Racism Awareness Group (RAG) forum.

"Join Public Education Advocates of Lancaster (PEAL) as they moderate a discussion with panelists from Etown Common Sense, Support Hempfield Schools, and Warwick United about the impact the Independence Law Center (ILC) and PA Family Institute have had on districts across the county. They'll talk about who the ILC is, what they do, and the divisions caused by their policies on LGBTQ+ students, library materials, and more."

We hope that you can join us. Everyone is welcome.

Understanding Our Democracy Future Sessions

Tuesday Feb. 18th
@ 10am
CC:Education Rm

Minority Rule: How Our Constitution Imperils Our Democracy

We will look at what scholars of democracy say about how our constitution enables minority rule, allowing partisan minorities to consistently thwart & even rule over popular majorities. And what can be done to address this.

We hope that you can join us.
Everyone is welcome.

Understanding Our Democracy Future Sessions

Tuesday March 18th
@ 10am
CC:Education Rm