

The Evolution and Destruction of Democracy and the Democratic Process: Warning Signs of Extinction

By Sam D. Timpano

It is unfortunate today that most educational systems have determined to do away with classes in civics and government, the negative effects of just this one decision is proliferating across most democracies, especially Western democracies.

Past generations learned the basics of democracy, from its' early birth and what the basic idea of democracy and democratic societies was and what it meant to live in a democracy.

Looking back to the 5th century and following this idea of how people and societies should be governed one can only arrive at the conclusion that today in 2018 democracy and the original idea and benefits this form of government was designed to provide to citizens living in what we refer to as a democratic government, society has moved very far away from those ideals.

If we start from the original understandings of democracy and the democratic process here is what we find as the primary principle:

A system of processing decisions and conflicts in which outcomes depend on what most benefits the majority and a process in which no single force controls what occurs and the outcome.

This is often simplified by stating that democracy is a process that establishes the concept of "the rule of the majority".

Ultimately, we find that in order to be considered a democracy or a democratic government there are four key factors that will make that determination.

1. There must be a system for choosing and replacing the government through free and fair elections in which the principle of "one man, one vote" forms the basis.
2. There must be evident active participation by citizens in the political process and in the society
3. There must be a guarantee and protection of basic human rights of citizens
4. There must be clear evidence of the rule of law and procedures applied and enforced equally on all citizens.

The rest of this paper will take each of these determining factors and look at them in the present light in order to support the realities of democracies and where they actually are in 2018. The primary focus will be on the United States, however, all Western democracies have all or most all of the same fissures, some more acute than others but all suffer the same degradation of these basic principles and pillars.

1. Choosing and replacing government through free and fair elections based on the concept of “one man, one vote”.

The elections of the past 25 years demonstrates that this original concept has been reduced and in several of the election cycles basically usurped to a point where the results could be seriously questioned, particularly on the “fair” part of this particular pillar.

It serves no purpose to assign blame to any one element, but I believe it would be difficult for anyone to argue that they were fair by any definition of the term.

Several of the candidates in the selection process, known in the US as the primary campaigns would have seen several of the candidates eliminated on several major issues that should have prevented their participation. But, due to the agenda of many interested groups, these issues were largely hidden or presented to the citizens in softened terms or ignored completely.

Illegal means of information gathering are evident in some of those elections, especially in those of the last ten years , information at times that was manipulated and changed to appear less damaging or more damaging depending on which candidate that specific interests was seeking to defeat or support.

A new term had to be invented to accurately define what was taking place and now we have the term “fake news” that citizens have to deal with and that cause confusion and cannot in any form be deemed to enable any sort of “fair” election process.

In the 2000 election the term used to describe the determining factor in the election was “hanging chad” which actually was not the full reason for the ultimate determination but it certainly indicated problems in considering that particular election to have been “fair”.

By any measure it can be seen that this one pillar of democracy has been weakened and to some who look at this specific indicator, fully hijacked by special interests and minority groups seeking to advance a level of influence and control over the outcomes of elections.

I would also point out that this same issue has infected elections down to the municipal and State level in addition to the national elections.

2. Active participation by citizens in the political process and social life.

Across the US and most other nations, we see what appears to be active participation by citizens in the political and social processes of their countries; however, if we take a closer look at this participation and study those participants we will find disturbing evidences of manipulation and outright corruption in this pillar.

It is clouded at times depending on the issue, but, there is almost a sinister participation in the vast majority of the events that would seem to signal this particular element of democracy is vibrant and operative, with opaque yet visible signs of special interests of a few well organized

and heavily funded groups or individuals with an agenda that does not favor the continuation of the democratic process as we know it and expect it to be.

Once again looking at the US, we can see a substantial number of political and social issues where these evidences of manipulation and corruption of citizen participation is used to mask these sinister actions.

One issue that is a hot one today is the Second Amendment and gun control.

Here we find a serious division surrounding a Constitutional right and a societal agenda being driven by an even larger issue inside the US, mass killings and terrorist attacks among two of the larger parts of the general concern.

There can be little doubt about the citizen participation on this issue, however, despite that involvement, we once again can see evidence of both sides using any and all means to manipulate and control that participation to favor their own agenda. In some cases going past the legality of participation and moving into the realms of provocation to violence and illegal funding to politicians in order to move the discussion and decision making process in favor of their position on the issue.

Next we can look at the general issue of law enforcement and the use of force in situations where investigation or arrests are being pursued by law enforcement and the subject is shot or detained by force.

This issue becomes especially incendiary in cases of white law enforcement officers arresting or questioning or pursuing black suspects.

While one can understand the active participation of citizens on both sides of the issue, once again as we dig deep into that participation we can find significant evidences of outside influences and illegal manipulation of almost every aspect of the participation that has become the fodder for news media and special interest groups that seek to bring about a level of outrage and protest far above what a normal citizen participation would be on the issue. In several instances we have seen even presidential incitement and approval of some of this illegality and violence to a level where invitations were given to individuals who had committed crimes in this participation or who have encouraged violence and criminal actions in protest and where law enforcement in general was identified and deemed to be the enemy of citizens by a sitting president.

Investigations have shown that certain special interests groups were paying people to participate in marches and suggesting violent actions and making public calls for illegal actions up to a point of calling for the assassination of the President and police officers around the nation which ended up producing several events where police officers were shot and killed or wounded. This is still ongoing and a continuing count of ambushed and wounded or killed police officers continues even today, long after the last incidence of this sort having taken place.

3. Protection of Basic Human Rights of Citizens.

On this particular point one has to be careful since what is considered a human right in some nations does not necessarily apply in others. However, for the sake of this paper I will state that most of what would be considered a basic human right tends to be very similar and accepted across most Western style democracies.

Although it is normally accepted that a basic human right is the freedom of expression and which in the modern era has expanded to cover just about any form of expression an individual can come up with or say or write, draw, paint or sculpt, it would appear that common sense has been eliminated from this particular equation to a point where some twisted idea that it is within the definition of basic human rights to call for the assassination of individuals or political leaders, all the way up to the President of the United States.

It is also becoming an issue as to what someone in a minority and in some cases an illegal group of individuals that at times encompasses even criminals has more of a right to this expression than people in the majority or those that oppose a particular action.

Once again, the invention of a new term "hate speech" resulting in a new crime of "hate crimes" that spreads a very large shadow over this same right that people want to rely upon for justification of what they would call "hate speech" or a "hate crime" if similar statements were made by anyone with opposing views or who want to express their disagreement or even outrage.

This particular pillar of democracies has been made into an ever increasing inclusion of groups to the point where terrorist groups both domestic and international have become part of the groups and individuals seen to have the same rights as the citizens of the countries that are attacked by these groups at times to the extent where there is an obvious failure to consider the rights of the victims to expect protection and some level of justice from these individuals and groups.

The entire human rights issue has become so politicized that many governments first consider the political correctness of actions and/or prosecution of the perpetrators as opposed to the rights of their own citizens.

In the previous administration there were evidences of a tendency to ignore certain human rights of citizens in deference to the prescribed rights of the criminals and the destruction and harm they inflicted.

The issues of illegal immigration and refugee acceptance is full of claims and policy decisions that seem to be more concerned with these proclaimed human rights of the illegals over the human rights of citizens and that the priorities to ensure these same human rights have moved more to the illegal immigrants rather than the citizens.

In the European Union governments are regularly sanctioned and fined by the unelected officials in Brussels for not complying with the forced immigration and refugee policies developed by the EU in many cases with no regard to the will of the citizens of the member country (ies), which can be seen as one of the reasons for Great Britain leaving the EU--- the Brexit.

Drug lords, weapons dealers, terrorists, mass murderers, kidnappers, rapist all have defense attorneys who use this issue and the manipulated form it has become today to elude prosecution and incarceration and in some cases execution as an almost templated defense program for these criminals completely against the assurance of the innocent victims' human rights.

4 The Rule of Law and Procedures Applied Equally To All Citizens.

This is perhaps the pillar of democracy that has been undermined more than any of the others mentioned and is the primary contributing factor for the general erosion of democracies and seemingly is worsening every year.

The primary culprit in the weakening of this aspect of democracy is the interpretive nature that has become pervasive in the justice system and especially liberal and manipulated judges at all levels of the court system.

Perhaps the most dangerous part of this occurs at the Supreme Court level where over the past decades the Court seems to have become more interpretive of the Constitution and in its' rulings on cases brought before it as opposed to the application of the Constitution in its' rulings.

There also seems to be a dangerous level of politicization of the Court and the judges appointed to serve on the Court which is not envisioned in the Constitution and is a prohibition in any democracy.

The various branches of government all have one element in common and that is they are to serve the citizens and to seek the greatest good for the majority of those citizens and at the same time provide a balance to the other branches along with considering the minority population as well.

It should be noted that all government and whatever is provided by those governments are designed to be with the interests of the citizens of the country as their highest and only priorities.

This means in the purest sense, that the interest of a citizen must stand in front of any and all other interests that government has to contend with and in any situation where a choice has to be considered and a decision taken by any branch of government, it must be only in consideration of the interests of the citizens, who above all others has the right to expect government to defend and protect their interests.

Too often in the modern era we have seen policy decisions made in deference to other interests than those of the majority of the citizenry of Western democratic nations and at times that are clearly not in the interests of their citizens.

Many times these decisions have malignant reasons driving them, to a point where in the previous administration several of the highest government officials made decisions based purely on economic self-enrichment and political advantages totally against the very obvious interests of the citizens.

During the Obama administration there were grave abuses of the Executive Order privilege to impose legislation to favor minority groups much opposed to the interests of the Nation and the majority of the citizens. This found policies being forced into law on most of the major issues of the period from economic and trade policies to national defense and security matters, some of those orders were used to implement law in a manner totally outside of constitutional means and authority granted to the President.

Law enforcement, environmental, trade and immigration matters that should have been voted on and only implemented on the basis of Congressional majority votes were passed using the Executive Order to circumvent the requirements of Congressional review and vote and in outright ignoring of the principle of the rule of law and adherence to the Constitution.

In a democracy privilege is not to be found in the application of the law nor in the process by which laws are enacted but, in the last few decades there is an overwhelming body of evidence that demonstrates very clearly that neither the application of the law nor the procedures to establish the laws operate equally for all citizens.

In fact, it has become almost the opposite where lobby groups and wealthy individuals and companies have gained a level of control over the entire process that justice and the application of the law has been reduced to matters of who you an individual is, what their position is, the wealth and economic interests that they possess or have control over and the level of influence one has within the political system and has even become a matter of which political party an individual is part of and supports, primarily through political contributions and campaign backing of candidates.

Many individuals and government officials brazenly breach the law and procedures and remain seemingly untouchable while the average citizen is often prosecuted and sentenced for lesser infractions, even at times on manufactured charges as a form of retribution for opposition to a specific agenda of the current holder of power within government.

This is true at every level of government and the daily lives of the citizens who have to follow the law or suffer the consequences while those of privilege, wealth and political position are fully beyond the reach of the law and have no consequential results for their actions.

A Secretary of State can boldly violate the law and procedures of the office while a government administration worker is prosecuted to the full extent of the same law and sentenced to prison for failing to turn off their computer before leaving the office.

Wealthy bankers and partners of these banks violate security laws on an almost daily basis and they are never charged or if charges are brought they are against the institution the bankers work for and the institution pays a fine, does not have to admit to any wrong doing and neither are prosecuted.

Lesser bank employees lose their licenses or are summarily terminated from their jobs for lesser offenses, sometimes just on the basis of a customer complaint.

Private investors are charged, prosecuted, fined and at times jailed for violating the insider trading rules while Congressmen and women are exempt from that particular rule and are permitted to trade on privileged insider information to increase their personal and family wealth.

The corruption and crimes committed that produced the most cataclysmic financial and economic decline since the Great Depression almost bringing the global financial system crashing down and from which many families and nations have still not fully or even partially recovered yet only resulted in one minor banker being sentenced on a minor charge and the taxpayers had to fund a bailout of close to \$1 trillion dollars, a substantial portion of which went into the personal bank accounts of the very individuals who were responsible for all the corruption and crime involved to bring about the collapse as bonuses and separation packages known as “golden parachutes”.

During the crisis credit was virtually impossible for individuals and small to medium sized companies to obtain but, during that crisis Obama used government funds to a startup company that never actually operated or made a penny and declared bankruptcy and closed with over \$60 million taxpayer dollars unaccounted for to this day.

If that same pathway to ultimate bankruptcy had taken place with any other participants other than a president of the United States and his friends, the investigations of all concerned and subsequent criminal charges that would surely have resulted from those investigations would have carried an significant exposure to fines and jail time.

So, what does all this mean and where is this paper headed?

Democracy is a tender and vulnerable idea made reality in most of the civilized world. It has various forms and encompasses various ideas, rights, freedoms and governance but, it is after all and with all the variations, the form of government 65% of the world population lives under is democracy, so, it is vital to understand the condition of democracy and where the democratic process stands today.

The Condition of Democracy and the Democratic Process in 2018.

Everything we know about living organisms, governments, ideas and processes of all kinds have a sort of genetic composition which is referred to as DNA.

I will use that fact to look at the “DNA” of this concept of democracy and democratic government to try and point out not so much what it is made of rather to bring out the inherent dangers and weaknesses that could threaten democracy and democratic governments with extinction, a course I happen to believe societies are on at this time.

Let’s call this part of the paper “the DNA of democracy” and look at why I made the statement that it seems to me to be on a course of extinction.

We know that in all living organisms it is their DNA that controls every aspect of its' life and more and more research shows that most probably how each life will progress and ultimately end.

Sort of what is called a "planned obsolescence" if you will and it is the same with democracy and the democratic process.

Just one more comparison and I promise to stop with the analogies.

Living organisms have a set of genes that establish an autoimmune system to protect it from disease and to help maintain the organism developing, healthy and functioning in the manner it is designed to perform. Without this protection, an organisms' long term survival would be jeopardized and depending on the environment it lives in, very subject to infections or attacks on its' other systems that would debilitate it and bring the organism to a point of not functioning correctly and bring about a total collapse of vital systems and bring about its' end.

The four primary pillars of democracy, its' "DNA" if you will, outlined above not only are required to establish a democratic government, but each have a role to play in the autoimmune system of democracy designed to protect and ensure its' long term survival in what we know to be a very hostile environment in some cases internal to the very democracy where it has been established and in most cases from outside forces that are opposed to democratic societies and governments in other nations.

Taking each of these four pillars in order, I will look at the premise of each, how it is intended to function in concert with the other three to develop, progress and protect the long term survival of the democracy where it has been established and the weakness that can result in that particular key element of democracy and become dangerous and threatening to the long term survival of the very democracy that depends on it.

Pillar 1. Choosing and replacing government through free and fair elections based on the concept of "one man, one vote".

Pillar 2. There must be active participation of citizens in the political process and in the society at large.

The premise of these two pillars and part of the weakness of democracy's DNA is the premise that the citizens of a nation determine how they will be governed and those who will govern them and that the process of electing their government will be done in a fair and equal process with all or at least the majority of the citizens of voting age fully engaged in the process and that all eligible citizens have one vote and that vote carries equal value in the election process that will lead to the determination of who will govern them.

There is also the assumption that all of the citizens eligible to vote will be fully informed and will be capable and sufficiently engaged in order to assess the information provided to make a fully informed decision based on what they believe to be the programs and policies of government that should be implemented or amended and the direction the country will take during the term of office of that particular voting cycle and into the future.

This premise in concert with the other two pillars becomes the guarantee that the majority of the citizens will remain in control of the government and is the assurance that no government can gain a permanent control over them and the nation or that the election process can be manipulated to conform to and deliver the outcome of any one group or party in the election results.

This process is prescribed to occur on regular cycles and in respect to the Executive branch of the government, will be limited in terms of how long the regular cycles will be as well as the length of time any one individual can be elected to the top authority.

The assumption of the process of these two pillars is that they will function to establish and provide continuity of government that will reflect the will of the majority of the eligible voters.

What forms the weakness of these pillars is that unless the citizens are well and fully informed, that government will be transparent and that those who stand for election are capable and have the interests of the nation and the majority of the citizens in mind and not only their supporters will actually be the underlying reality of elections.

It also requires the citizens to have the ability to receive, assess and process this information in order to make an informed and well based decision on who they will vote for in these election cycles and that all citizens will share common interests of the nation and the wellbeing of the majority of the citizens while at the same time being conscious of the minority and those interests as well so as to preserve a level of equality of the individuals and to avoid serious divisions within the society.

This is no longer true as there has been a slow and dramatic change across most democracies in the manner in which citizens are informed of the issues and how citizens process and make their decisions as well as who is eligible to vote and in some cases non-citizens being permitted to vote in some elections of different levels of government.

We have also seen a decline in citizen interest in the political process with voter turnout and participation in many elections failing at times to reach majority levels of participation of the eligible voters.

And, while it is not popular or politically correct to state, an increasing percentage of citizens are poorly educated even on basic history of their nations that they do not have the educational level to make a reasonable choice or decision on their vote.

This in some cases produces a lower voter turnout and in other cases votes based on false or misleading information that better educated voters would see through or on factors far from the issues of the nation in some cases, some voters cast votes based purely and solely on the physical appearance of the candidates or the other people who support them or what polls present as to the leading candidate or the support one or several of his positions have from other groups of voters.

Lobby groups, special interests groups and media groups all with what could be seen to be anti-democratic agenda have become the primary sources of influence and information delivery to the citizens and influencing their voting decisions. We are no longer in a scenario where we could accurately

state that voters are making fully and accurately informed decisions on their vote and in some cases have indications that other nations utilizing modern technology are seeking ways to influence and alter election results either acting alone or in collaboration with entities seeking to control the outcome of elections in order to advance their specific agenda.

In some nations, the make of the processes of eligibility and registration of voters are manipulated by the ruling parties in an attempt to shape the voter demographics in order to create advantages in elections to assure that they stay in control of the government. In some cases, changing eligibility requirements in order to increase what are seen as blocks of potential voters that will favor one party over the other based on the promises made to those blocks by the candidates of those parties.

Conclusion on the status of these two pillars.

Democracies are vulnerable to being manipulated through election fraud, manipulation of reporting to the public and campaigns of misleading to outright false information about candidates or proposed policies of the candidates and their parties.

These pillars have for all intents and purposes been weakened to a level where they no longer provide the primary supports and guarantees democracies are built upon.

Pillar 3. The Guarantee of Basic Human Rights of Citizens.

To begin with, it is necessary to define precisely what the basic human rights of citizens of a nation actually are or should be and that the citizens of democracies recognize and accept those rights as part of what their nation will assure to those who live within their societies.

One would imagine that each democracy would establish what that particular democratic nation would consider to be the basic human rights to be recognized and respected for their citizens. However, international organizations composed of representatives of all nations have established what are considered to be the basic human rights of every human on the planet.

One could argue that to a certain level this is not as democratic as it would seem with respect to the sovereignty of individual nations and their citizens since the larger and more powerful nations actually had more input and influence in determining what these basic human rights are along with the means by which they would be policed and enforced.

There are two basic conventions of which most of the planet's governments have adopted and signed on to recognize and respect.

These two conventions are known as **The International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)** signed and adopted in 1966 and **The Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)** also signed and adopted also in 1966.

They are relatively long so I will not state them here, but below is the UN website where these two conventions can be found and studied.

<http://www.hrweb.org/legal/undocs.html>

In reviewing what we can refer to in order to have a commonality of reference on what basic human rights are considered to be against which we can judge the current status of democracies across the globe it is perhaps more important for the purposes of this paper on how democracy has been weakened on this particular pillar.

From the outset, the establishment of what basic human rights are is arbitrary and were only established through a process of consensus among the various committees that were established to determine what they should be and how they would be defined.

Larger and more powerful nations as was stated above had more influence and inputs in establishing these conventions and in pressuring other nations to vote to accept and approve them.

As in any arbitrary proceeding leading to a determination built upon consensus, at best any list of rights is subject to interpretation both as to exactly what they actually are and how they will be provided by the respective parties accepting the list and what the policies will be to implement and enforce these rights.

This vulnerability has proven consistently to be subject to individual nations interpreting what the rights are and how they will be provided and to whom within their societies they will be guaranteed as well as how enforcement will be implemented to assure them to their citizens along with the consequences for violating these rights.

Throughout history we have seen leaders of nations manipulate even the determination of individual humanity and violate the recognized basic human rights of entire classes of individuals to entire races of individuals on the basis that they did not consider those classes or races to be humans and thereby justifying atrocities of genocide and attempts at eliminating entire races of people all the while waving the banners of democracy and presenting their nations and governments as being a democracy.

To the opposite end of the spectrum, more and more minority groups use the ability to place their specific agenda underneath one or more of these basic human rights in order to impose a specific agenda onto the majority on the basis that their basic human rights are being violated or denied to them.

More ridiculous even are the claims by criminals and terrorists responsible for the massacre of thousands and even hundreds of thousands of innocent victims to claim that their basic human rights are being violated and denied to them when they are apprehended and brought to justice. They are constantly used by defense attorneys to secure plea bargains for lighter sentences and in many cases to gain their release and escape from justice.

Conclusion on the status of this pillar.

The arbitrary and interpretive nature of this particular pillar produces tremendous confusion in governments and societies and at times what can only be seen to be an obvious reverse form of human

rights violation and protection that should be guaranteed to the majority of the citizens and that can be manipulated to become a means to act against the interests of the society at large.

Pillar 4. The Clear and Evident Rule of Law and Procedures Applied and Enforced Equally On All Citizens.

Of the four pillars I have been discussing, this fourth pillar is the one that has been virtually destroyed in all of the modern and larger democracies on the planet.

There are countless examples of how wide the disparity is and the arbitrariness of the justice systems of all the existing democracies that can be pointed to for reference, but that exercise would need several volumes to produce.

It should be sufficient to point out in generic form how this particular pillar has been totally destroyed and just how much in jeopardy the future of democracies find themselves, in some cases without even realizing it. Somewhat like the dinosaurs who were totally oblivious to the approach of the meteor the carried with it their doom and extinction as a species.

The distinction of economic and financial position in societies around the world offer to those elite members of the 1% or 2% of democratic societies in terms of their justice systems has reached a point of inequality that is a chasm so wide that some citizens have escaped any sort of consequences for crimes and illegal and corrupt activities that average citizens are prosecuted and sentenced to lengthy prison terms for much lesser activity.

This has been a cancer in the very soul of democracies almost since the first democracy was born and the rich and ruling class possessed the status and the means to avert any justice that the system required of citizens.

We can see the awareness of this particular weakness in the earliest thesis on democracy, the best and one of the earliest being in *Plato's Republic* in a statement by Thrasymachus (who figures into the first book of *Plato's Republic*) where he said that there must not be any gods who care about us humans because, while justice is our greatest good, men commonly get away with injustice.

The gap between what is termed wealth inequality and equality before the law grows wider by the year to the point where today wealthy influential individuals constantly flaunt the law knowing full well that the justice system has become so cumbersome, costly and slow that in many instances their delinquencies at times end up being less than a slap on the wrist.

Corporate executives plan to break the law expecting that that worst that they will incur is a fine to the corporation and little to no consequences to them personally.

Politicians in some countries are exempt from certain laws that common citizens are prosecuted for. Perhaps the most striking example of this is in the US where members of Congress can trade on insider information while citizens are charged and prosecuted for the same activity.

There is an overwhelming and worrisome outcry within virtually all democracies by victims of crimes that the perpetrators of the crimes that affected them, in extreme cases the murder of their loved ones have more rights and escape the punishment the law prescribes for the crimes they commit.

Perhaps there is no better example of this than decisions recently taken in some EU nations where Muslim men have raped women, sometimes gang rape style and they are released on the basis that their culture does not treat this crime in the same manner as the legal system of that particular nation or as it is viewed and judged in most democratic societies.

Terrorists responsible for the deaths of large numbers of innocent civilians or the kidnapping of innocent citizens demand to be granted these same rights when they are finally brought to justice while the families of these victims struggle to find peace and consolation from the loss of loved ones these terrorists kill.

In many democratic nations defense attorneys representing these criminals demand before the courts that they are protected by the Constitutional rights and protections and these basic human rights that are provided to the citizens of these nations.

This goes even deeper in less dramatic circumstances within democratic nations and that is actually counter to the basic principles of this particular pillar in more sinister forms.

One of the basic human rights we can review across many of the democracies of the world is the right to a basic education and the access to higher education.

Many nations gain recognition as democracies all the while denying education to segments of their populations, most strikingly, to women in their societies.

Other democracies have established laws that require underperforming students to be graded and advanced under different standards than other students.

Institutions of higher learning have quotas imposed by government to accept candidates who are or would normally not meet the standards for admission based on race, sex, and in some cases, to populate their student populations with various minority groups to the disadvantage of other candidates more qualified and prepared for higher learning.

Governments enforce this rigorously at withhold government funding of schools and educational programs if they will not comply with these lower standards of acceptance and if they do not meet the quotas established for these various categories of students within their student population.

These same requirements can also be found in the employment markets of many democracies where corporations face similar requirements and quotas facing prosecution and fines that at times lead to closures of businesses resulting from not conforming to these regulations.

Conclusion on the status of this pillar.

When justice is not equal for all in a society and enforcement and judgements are seen to be unequal, the citizens lose confidence in their government and their society and this initiates a process of division and separation within the society that widens over time unless this inequality is corrected and opens the door to a gradual and destructive inequality that democracy is supposed to prevent and does not recognize as its highest fundamental value.

SUMMATION

On a comparative basis to other forms of government, democracy stands out as the higher form with regard to the individuals within the population but, that is on the basis of the founding principles and ideals of democracy.

However, the functioning of democracies and the evolution of it as a form of government shows the signs of a serious decay and variance from those original principles and ideals and the ability to manipulate those principles and ideals seems to be on a collision course with the realities of society and are having a negative if not opposite effect on the citizens who are living in these democracies.

Most alarming is the fact that this erosion of principles and ideals seems to be unrecognized by the majority of the citizens as they go about their lives and even those who do recognize it do not believe they can do anything to stop it or to reverse the erosion that is effecting them and their societies.

In nature, the evolutionary process and the results of destructive effects almost preset in the DNA of living organisms is unrelenting and irreversible and, these two factors along with uncontrollable outside events and forces for many species has resulted in their extinction.

This paper has taken a look at the four basic pillars, call them foundational pillars and ideals of democratic government of people to determine where democracy is on the evolutionary scale of forms of government and is an attempt to identify how the evolution of democracy since its' birth as a form of government to this modern era of history has progressed and where this current path will take it along with all those who live under it.

Democracy has strayed far from its' original ideal and principles and if this continues at some point in the future however far or near it might be, what will happen is likely to be an appearance of another species or form of government that will eventually be unrecognizable as the democracy we currently have into something that will more closely resemble a form of elitist control and almost dictatorial imposition of a very small minority will or view upon the vast majority of the planets population.

Unlike other living organisms, humans have the capability and for now, the rights to change this direction in how they are governed and who determines the direction of their societies but the clock is ticking down and unless citizens take advantage of the rights granted to them by their various constitutions to actively participate in government and reclaim these four pillars for themselves and their determination of how they will be upheld and maintained in their societies and required of their governments, these internal and external forces will eventually lead to future generations living under

another form of government and without these principles to assure and protect their lives and how they will be able to live them.

Unlike the other extinct species that once existed and could not decide to make changes to their condition and future, the principle of people determining their future by their decisions and their vote is a beacon of hope that democracy can be preserved and maintained.

But, it demands individual responsibility and engagement on the issues and at the moment this is not as evident in most democratic societies as it needs to be in order to change this direction and at the time of this writing seems to lead to the conclusion that democracy as it has been defined from the beginning will at some point cease to exist and some other form of government will replace it.

What that will be and what it will mean to those who will be governed by it is a subject for another paper.

