

Dominant Democracy vs True Democracy

Non adversarial, one party representative government sittings and working sessions where free and open non partisan input, debate and votes are the means to decision making work more efficiently and generally result in better fairer decisions for the constituents than self serving adversarial models do. Non-adversarial democratic representative governments work effectively and efficiently all around us all the time. A few would be:

Parent Advisory Council- consist of several elected parents, admin, several representative teacher and nowadays finally, several selected representative students.

School Boards – consisting of municipally elected trustees, superintendent, school admin and teacher association reps and recently finally, student reps.

University Senates generally a well functioning one party system.

City Councils were originally cooperative one party systems. It has only been relatively recently that two or three adversarial factions have developed... as in Vancouver's COPE etc. It has been a pain in the ass ever since.

Boards of Directors- though the vested interest of members sometimes leads to poor decisions on behalf of the share-holders- e.g ENRON.

High School and University councils- when I was on UBC Student Council as Education Rep- it consisted of an elected president, secretary, treasurer, etc. and elected reps from each faculty. The year I was on council it almost turned into a two party system of eight females and nine males who were frequently at what I can only attribute as gender based odds partly due to slight resentment towards the first ever female president. During one decision making vote, whether the annual grad class gift would be a concrete ramp for wheelchair access to War Memorial Gym or a slick new electronic notice board to advertise upcoming athletics, I swung the vote towards the ramp. I received a bit of hassle on that one. I thought the ramp was a better use of the \$3000. There was a kid named **Rick Hanson** who was having to get assistance with his wheelchair up and down a half dozen stairs every time he came to the gym for class or to play rec volleyball.

Private Club Executives e.g. Meraloma Athletic Club- consist of elected President; Sport Section Vice presidents- rugby, soccer, etcetera; Secretary; Treasurer, etc. as well as the Current Past-president, and elected Directors- often retired active athletes like **Gus Fumano** and **John Podmore** whose years of club involvement are a valued asset in decision making. The striking of **sub-committees** is a common practice in cooperative democratic organizations. A sub committee, generally three executive members, take on a one time major task such as roof replacement or fire suppression system, study the options, garner quotes, work with city Parks Board if necessary, then report back to the full executive. If the executive needs more information the sub-committee does so. In the end the executive vote for what the feel is the best proposal on behalf of the entire membership. (I was very proud to serve as 'Loma VP of PR for fifteen years).

Dominant Models

Israel has an atrocious adversarial multi-party system which is heavily influenced by the orthodox religious right which always seems to get a foot in on whatever coalition government takes power. The orthodox influence gave the murderer **Ariel Sharon** free reign in Lebanon in 1981 when the massacres at Sabra and Shatil refugee camps happened.

A bizarre coalition resulted in **Germany's** Parliament in 2005. Check that one out.

The **US Republic** was never meant to be anything but a cooperative one party system. It developed into one as a result of polarized vested

interests. It is a perfect example today of "same bus different driver" politics, something **Canada** has formed solidly into. One need only look at the past number of elections where corruption on both sides has been voted out of power several times over; where the GST has never disappeared through more effective efficient government.

What is it about the teaching's of **Che Guevara*** that threatens or scares people in the economically dominant Northern countries? I assume that those who reject his ideas have understood very well what he teaches us after at least reading the ***Che Guevara Reader – writings on politics & revolution.***

It is none of us that much likes change in our lives. It is human nature to feel more comfortable with the status quo. We like our world to stay the same so that we may feel secure. This is of course understandable, HOWEVER it is no longer possible, simply due to GLOBAL environmental destruction. Consumer driven global frying effects all of us and generations to come who will no doubt curse us for our exorbitant lifestyle from 1950 until today 2006 when we used up half the Earth's fossil fuels.

Che Guevara was in a way a little bit of **Ghandi** (certainly not the non-violent part), a little bit of **Nelson Mandela**, a little bit of **Jesus ha Nostra**, a little of **Horatio Nelson**, a little of **John F. Kennedy** and a little bit of many other great thinkers as well as **Fidel**.

"If a country does not have its own economy, if it is penetrated by foreign capital control then it cannot help escape the tutelage (administrative control) of the country it is dependent on" - **Che 1960** (today very much Canada/ USA)

Fidel and Che following the teachings of **Jose Marti** and others show how **non-confrontational cooperative representative democracy** is more constructive and efficient than **Dominant Democratic** systems. Marti lived and worked in the USA in the late 1800's and saw and wrote about how costly and corrupt the US Senatorial Congressional system was. Today hundreds of millions in vested interest party support money is gambled on a favourable outcome to corporations and individuals, who also lobby like amounts to effect government decisions. In Canada it would be dozens of millions as well as undisclosed amounts of CIA cash for lobby. Canada's decision to resign the Northern Defense agreement which now includes a version of starwars was influenced in this way.

***Ernesto 'Che' Guevara de la Serna** • born 14 June 1928, Rosario, Argentina, into relatively well off upper-middle class family, first of five children • father- construction engineer • develops severe asthma age two- prompts family move to drier climate of Alta Gracia • early education provided at home by mother • reads widely and deeply from his father's extensive library- encountering Plato, Marx and Freud in his early teens • 1948 enrolls in medicine, University of Buenos Aires, interested in leprosy • asthma disqualifies him from military service • makes 4,000 mile long journey through Northern Argentina alone on a moped, encounters many indigenous tribes, experiences first hand the impoverished conditions of their lives • 1951 motorcycle journey with good friend, Alberto Granado; travel from Buenos Aires, down coast of Argentina, through Andes into Chile then north into Peru, Columbia and Venezuela; diary Che kept during this time published as: *The Motorcycle Diaries: A Journey Around South America*; writes that "American imperialist policies have economically enslaved the peoples of South America" • 1953 qualifies as a doctor, specializing in dermatology • witnesses CIA backed overthrow of Guatemalan government • works in Mexico Central City Hospital • meets **Fidel** and **Raul** Castro banished by Batista for leading student revolts • October 1967 CIA backed murder in Bolivian school room (ironic as Che had announced the eradication of illiteracy in Cuba only several years previously).

"As the world oil supplies begin to dwindle in the future, the Yankee Imperialist led wealthy nations will seek, at the peril of all, to control the Middle East." 1962

"Hasta La Victoria Siempre"