

A New democracy

I write this not from fact or even emotion but from hard reality

I have lived all my life in the UK and am a British Citizen.

I am a woman who believes that no one is better than anyone else, we just all have different experiences, knowledge and skills.

But our current democracy doesn't use those knowledge, skills and experiences to benefit our nation. I say our Nation because of its legal status but what we are is a collection of smaller communities that are interlinked, some by law, some by birth right and some by common knowledge or interests.

This is a disparate attempt to consider a new form of democracy that is initially based on our current national structure. I hope that over time it can be refined to benefit everyone who lives on land that is part of the United Kingdom

Why do we need a new democracy?

Because what we have only serves a few people, not the majority and when I mean serve I think of Maslow's Hierarchy of needs with the greatest being self actualization. or perhaps we could say ultimate happiness.

I am not an academic, yes I have an Open University degree which took me about 10 years to complete and I have had jobs on and off for over 40 years but the nature of these jobs and the way that I got each of them reflects the nature of our society which is based on hit and miss and haphazard chaos.

My personal history like everyone else's is unique. I have lived under the laws of this land since 1955 going to school, working in the UK and bringing a family up in the UK.

I have been a member of a political party and have always voted in both local and general elections. I have believed in proportional representation for nearly 40 years.

I have also had unique ideas that I have tried to give to this country but have found that although they could benefit a lot of people, being able to share those ideas for an ordinary person like me on a consistent basis is practically an impossible task.

I have come across several other people in my life who also have good ideas that could benefit our nation and they too are in the same predicament.

We want to give these ideas to our nation not for profit, but just to help other people.

I am not an atheist or belong to a religious group and I don't want to because as I said initially I don't believe that anyone is better than anyone else and I wouldn't want my beliefs to get in the way of my ideas or gifts to my nation.

I have had heartache in my life losing two husbands to cancer and a daughter as a sudden infant death but don't want these to be the reason why people think about my ideas of a new democracy.

I want people to think about them because they might actually work and because they might make democracy something that everyone of us can actually be involved with.

If we can do this then perhaps we can get rid of blame and start realising that life can be happier and more creative for all of us. We can then encourage a give and take ethos for all of us. Where after we are given something we give something back to society rather than expecting that famous 'somebody' to do it.

Whatever age we are we can all help make things better and I will have ideas about this later.

I don't want anyone reading this to laugh and say No No No...I want you to think for a few minutes and say Maybe maybe maybe

Because if we can get that **Maybe**...we will start to get that new democracy that **can** work.

So how could it work?

We need to get away from the idea of everything being in London. There is no need to be with computerisation and networking, and its far too expensive for most of us to get to.

MP's can meet up anywhere in the UK and network with each other online too.

In the long run I would like to see Political parties disappear but initially that's not a necessity and one of the first roles I would get rid of immediately is that of the whips.

In any other organisation they would be seen as bullies. There is no need for thinking, intelligent people to be bullied into something that they don't believe in. Decisions should be based on a combination of experience and logic not being told how to think.

A change to a new democracy can be done in stages, but we need to consider do we need a Prime Minister and if we do does that have to consistently be the same person?

I can understand that there's history in relation to discussing things with the Monarch but surely that needs to all change as well if we want to be a true democracy.

I hope that King Charles would agree with that.

Do we also need a speaker of the house of commons?

What actually is the role? Surely its just a chairperson! And wouldn't it be better to have several people who could do this role rather than one?

Currently we have the Government made up of 24 Ministerial Departments and 20 Non Ministerial Departments and 424 agencies and other public bodies.

A significant number of our 650 MP's are back benchers and do not get the opportunity to influence decision making and refining ideas and policies.

I believe that the majority of MP's come into the job because they want to help do something positive in British Society and that they must suffer as much frustration as those of us who want to share our ideas with the nation and so the new democracy is to benefit them as much as everyone else.

So my idea is that we get rid of the Cabinet Office and replace it with the Department for Crises and add one new department to the current list. The department for New Ideas.

We then divide the 650 MP's initially along party lines between the 44 Departments. For those parties with fewer than 47 MP's they could have a proxy member who is able to attend meetings but is unable to vote.

<https://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps/current-state-of-the-parties/>

This would mean that all of the departments would have about 20 members. Except for the Department of crises which would have nominated members from each of the departments on a fire brigade basis who would be on call all of the time.

Each Department could have a chair person and a deputy chair person who would be voted on annually by the members. I suggest that the department of crises members do not also be chair people or deputy chair people.

My initial thoughts were created March 2019

Rachel Jordan
[Rachel Bramble is my pen name]

Since writing this we have had 3 Prime Ministers and changed from a Conservative to a Labour Government.