

# Dialogue on Why Elections Need to be Replaced With Sortition



## The Democracy Manifesto: A Dialogue on Why Elections Need to be Replaced with Sortition

by Wayne Waxman

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 790 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 307 pages



### *Participants:*

- **Citizen A:** A strong advocate for sortition, who believes it is the most fair and democratic way to select representatives.
- **Citizen B:** A skeptic of sortition, who worries that it could lead to unqualified or unrepresentative individuals making important decisions.
- **Moderator:** A neutral facilitator who ensures a respectful and productive discussion.

**Moderator:** Welcome to our dialogue on sortition. Sortition is a system of randomly selecting citizens to serve in government, as opposed to the traditional method of electing representatives through elections. Today, we

will be discussing the potential benefits and challenges of sortition, and exploring whether or not it could be a viable alternative to elections.

**Citizen A:** I believe that sortition is the most fair and democratic way to select representatives. It ensures that everyone has an equal chance of being chosen, regardless of their wealth, social status, or political connections. This would create a more diverse and representative government, which would be more likely to reflect the interests of all citizens.

**Citizen B:** I have some concerns about sortition. I worry that it could lead to unqualified or unrepresentative individuals making important decisions. After all, these individuals would not have been vetted by the public through an election process.

**Citizen A:** I understand your concerns, but I believe that these can be addressed. For example, we could require that all citizens who are selected for sortition undergo a period of training to prepare them for their roles. We could also establish a system of recall, so that citizens could remove representatives who are not performing their duties adequately.

**Moderator:** These are all valid points. It is important to consider both the potential benefits and challenges of sortition before making a decision about whether or not to implement it. Let's continue our discussion by exploring some of the specific arguments for and against sortition.

**Citizen A:** One of the main arguments in favor of sortition is that it would lead to a more diverse and representative government. Currently, our elected representatives are disproportionately wealthy, white, and male. This is because the electoral system favors candidates who can afford to

run expensive campaigns and who have access to powerful networks. Sortition would level the playing field and give everyone an equal chance of being chosen, regardless of their background.

**Citizen B:** I agree that diversity and representation are important, but I am not convinced that sortition is the best way to achieve these goals. I think it is more important to focus on reforming the electoral system to make it more fair and accessible to all candidates.

**Citizen A:** I believe that sortition is a more radical and effective solution than electoral reform. Electoral reform can only go so far in addressing the underlying problems with our current system. Sortition, on the other hand, would completely overhaul the way that we select representatives and would create a government that is truly representative of the people.

**Moderator:** Thank you for sharing your views. It is clear that there are both strong arguments for and against sortition. Ultimately, the decision of whether or not to implement sortition is a complex one that requires careful consideration of all the factors involved.

**Citizen B:** I am still not convinced that sortition is the best way to select representatives, but I am open to learning more about it. I think it is important to continue this dialogue and to explore all of our options before making a decision.

**Citizen A:** I agree. I believe that sortition has the potential to revolutionize democracy, but it is important to be realistic about its challenges and to work together to find solutions.

**Moderator:** Thank you both for participating in this dialogue. I hope that it has been informative and thought-provoking. I encourage you to continue learning about sortition and to share your thoughts with others. Together, we can create a more democratic and just society.

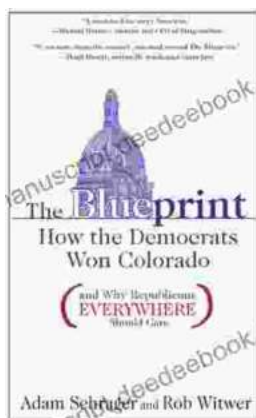


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