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June 5, 2004

FROM: Dr. Dorle Kniefel
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TO: Citizen's Assembly
555 West Hastings Street
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Dear Sir / Madam,

I am very excited about the process you are engaged in! Considering a change in our electoral system seems crucial given the ineffectiveness of our present 2-party system.

I would like to see a voting system in which

- ① many parties can realistically participate.
- ② voters have a wide range of choices so that they can vote for a platform that actually reflects their belief system as opposed to having to vote strategically to prevent worst case scenarios.
- ③ representatives in government reflect actual voter percentages i.e. 5% vote = 5% seats
- ④ election outcomes are less extreme (as they are presently given only 2 choices) and relative political agenda/ follow through extending beyond one term is achieved.

From what I have read, a mixed proportional representation system seems most progressive and mostly likely to encourage participation by eligible ^{adults}.

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voters.

Given the very serious challenges facing us at this juncture of human history (climate change, massive species extinction, environmental collapse, increasing human numbers with decreasing resources, etc.)

we need effective tools to engage people in constructive ways so that collectively we can begin to problem solve real issues.

I am hopeful that the Citizen's Assembly can contribute to the identification of the best electoral tool available to us so that we can all begin to practice, play, and rejoice in a real democracy.

wishing you all much wisdom!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature consisting of a stylized circle on the left connected by a curved line to a longer horizontal stroke on the right.

Dr. Dorte Kraatz