

1: Human rights in North Korea - Wikipedia

The report of the Democracy Commission: engaging citizens: the case for democratic renewal in Ireland.

Deirdre Lee and Hilde C. Stephansen 3 April As part of our series of interviews with practitioners involved in public participation initiatives, Participation Now researcher Hilde C. Could you briefly tell me what Puzzled by Policy is? Puzzled by Policy was a three year project that came to an end at the end of Throughout the project we explored the challenge of how to engage citizens in the policy-making process. We have built an online e-participation platform to facilitate that and to help our approach, but really Puzzled by Policy is more of a holistic view of participation. We want to combine the best of these worlds. The project focused on immigration policy, just so that we could trial it in a specific domain. We worked in four partner countries “ Hungary, Italy, Spain and Greece ” where we had particular communities using our approach and platform and contributing to specific debates. This involved civil society organisations but also the policymakers themselves “ politicians, civil servants, and public bodies. What tools exactly did you develop? The platform consists of a few components. One of these is the Policy Profiler, a great way to hook people in and let them know a little bit about the policy area. We ask our user a series of questions that are really simple to understand but have their foundations in actual policy, and based on that we say where they stand in relation to others “ other citizens, political parties or civil society organisations “ on a policy topic, in this case immigration. In that way we got people thinking about the policy domain itself and the issues that are related to it. The second component is uDebate, a discussion forum that allows people to interact a little bit more, to also contribute their own opinions, and to see discussions that are going on that perhaps elaborate on the initial questions in the profiler and maybe relate to personal experiences. The third part was a widget and the aim of that was to go to existing communities. The widget can be embedded in any website or blog. We had a social media element to it as well, which we found very useful for reaching out to existing groups. All these tools were focused on engaging the citizen, but we also wanted to involve the policymakers. We summarised the results of the profiler participation and the content of the uDebate discussions, and passed on a report to policymakers. This was necessary because although they were very enthusiastic about the idea and the whole project, realistically they had limited time and resources for becoming involved. So this was our compromise. In turn we posted their feedback back onto the platform, so in that way we had a kind of a feedback loop. What were you aiming for with this project? We had a few different aims. We looked at quantitative metrics on users, return usage, how many people registered, how many completed a profiler, things like that. But also at a qualitative level we wanted to see some impact. We had a very comprehensive evaluation strategy to find out how users liked the platform, how they used it, whether they saw it as a useful tool. We also wanted to know where it actually fitted into the policymaking process, because that was our original aim, to really have some impact on policy. At the beginning of the project we thought of impact in terms of direct policies coming out of the discussions we facilitated, but as we progressed through the project we saw that there were a lot of other levels where impact could be measured. Actually developing a policy is a very long term process. But gradually we saw different kinds of success stories at various levels. For example, in a trial in Tenerife, Spain, they worked very closely with a lot of their municipalities around the topic of inclusion of immigrants, because that was an issue there. Through using the platform itself and through face-to-face meetings, as trust and relationships developed over time, they developed ideas about what to do to help inclusion. One idea that was proposed was an intercultural faith event or ceremony, which then took place, and it was the first time such an event took place in Tenerife. This was a direct result of the work that had been done within Puzzled by Policy. Those kinds of things we see as powerful results, with a real impact. Who were you seeking to involve with this initiative? We wanted to involve all people, but especially hard-to-reach users who may not traditionally participate in consultations, e. We also wanted to actively involve policymakers. A good way to engage people is to go to the communities where people are already getting together or discussing particular

issues: These are all great places where people are already discussing a lot of topical policy issues. So we usually found working directly with the NGOs beneficial. They already had a level of trust and a relationship with the end user, in our case maybe immigrants or people working with immigrants, but this would be applicable in any domain. Using a platform like Puzzled by Policy or any other participation programme or initiative takes time and effort to build up. What we did towards the end of the project was to offer small grants to a couple of NGOs to work with us and Puzzled by Policy really saw a huge benefit from this in that it just gave the NGO the freedom to progress and to promote the platform and to invest the time in engaging participants. So that was one of the lessons learnt coming out of the project, to really try and support the NGOs themselves so that they can become more involved. Would you say that Puzzled by Policy is underpinned by any particular ideals or values? Ideally citizens should be more involved in policy-making, but how do you really go about that in the best way? Projects like this hope to contribute to knowledge and learning around that. Why did you choose these particular tools and methods? With anything like this we want it to be as sustainable and adaptable as possible. The profiler was a proven technology, which we saw that users liked. It was very easy to use, they got instant results back from it, and they liked that quick and visual element of it. This links to initiatives that are quite popular at the minute around Open Data. The widget was great for going to communities and being able to be embedded in websites but still we were lacking that tight integration with social media content. Towards the end of the project we were moving technically towards integrating discussions from different platforms. We used Linked Data techniques to combine data from social media and the Puzzled by Policy platform, which could of course then be extended by other data sources. Representation is very important and there are different tools and techniques to do that. How do you see Puzzled by Policy as positioned in relation to more mainstream ways of doing politics or in relation to established institutions? And is Puzzled by Policy itself aimed at getting people to interact with established political institutions? In some cases there was direct interaction, especially in a lot of our face to face events, and some online, but in some cases Puzzled by Policy could act as a mediator as well. It can be very good to have a mediatory role. The role of NGOs and civil society organisations is very important as well: Can you say a bit about the main challenges you faced in the project and what would be needed to overcome those challenges? There were a lot of challenges. The main one was trying to involve the policymakers. We found this quite difficult; it took a lot of time and effort to make initial contact, explain what the project was and really try and get them involved. Over time, as we grew as a project, we saw the increasing participation of policymakers; I suppose our reputation and brand became more familiar. So just building up that level of trust did take some time. Then there were also the more unavoidable time restrictions: It could be one particular person within the body, a local authority or a regional or national or even a European authority. If they became engaged, that really helped to get participants more involved. A lot of the feedback from the policymakers that were involved was that they would like to have more results, more feedback, and that just takes time to build up. In this project as in all European Commission funded projects there really is an emphasis on sustainability. How can we really make sure that the results and the impacts, the lessons learnt, best practices, and the platform itself, are utilised beyond the scope and the funding of the project itself. The platform can be used as it is as well. It will be online, and new discussions can be added to it. So, just try it out for yourself. Her research focuses on how communication practices can contribute to the formation of publics and to processes of knowledge production.

2: Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance | Ghana | U.S. Agency for International Development

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At the end of that debate, councillors agreed to note and welcome the report and its findings. We have since published our full report: Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and watch from the public gallery or from the Reception Room, or you can watch the live webcast and look out for updates via kirkdemocracy on twitter. Active citizens have a stake in the place they live and are able to inform and influence the future of their community and the decisions affecting it. Young citizens are interested and have the opportunity to be engaged in local democracy. Councillors have the confidence, skills, support and capacity to lead the changing relationship between the council and local citizens. They are placed at the heart of the Council. The councillor role is clear, widely communicated and universally understood. Councillors are accessible and confident in their role in a digitally networked society. Decision making is built around the needs of the citizen; it is open, engaging, based on dialogue and has effective checks and balances; any arrangements should safeguard the health and reputation of the council. Council meetings are open, accessible and engaging for citizens and councillors alike. Democratic content is accessible, digestible and delivered in a way that considers the needs of the citizen and councillors alike. Citizens and councillors understand how decisions are made and have an opportunity to be engaged throughout the process wherever possible. Registering to vote should be easy, accessible and convenient especially for our young citizens. Citizens are able to access accurate, timely, trustworthy and relevant information about elections and candidates standing. Our approach to local devolution is from the ground up, based on local identity and the specific priorities of our towns, villages and communities. Citizens and councillors understand the opportunities and implications of regional devolution. At the meeting, Kirklees councillors will be asked to: Consider and agree or amend the outcomes and recommendations listed in the Appendix to the brief report, which will provide a mandate for our future work. Agree to the creation of a cross party working group including councillors from the different political parties on Kirklees Council. Agree that the Head of Democracy has strategic responsibility for progressing the work. If Kirklees Council will need to make any constitutional changes as part of this work, councillors will also have an opportunity to discuss those proposals at a future meeting. If you have any questions in the meantime, please email us at:

3: Engaging EU citizens in policy making | openDemocracy

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The commission said it has consistently asked North Korean representatives to take part in the public hearings and question witnesses. On February 17, , the panel published its findings in a page report. The panel chairman Michael Kirby described some acts by stating that they resembled those committed by the Nazis. In many instances, the violations of human rights found by the commission constitute crimes against humanity. These are not mere excesses of the State; they are essential components of a political system that has moved far from the ideals on which it claims to be founded. The gravity, scale and nature of these violations revealed a State that does not have any parallel in the contemporary world. Roberta Cohen, joint chair of the Committee for Human Rights in North Korea , said it was now up to the world community to take action to protect those persecuted and bring the perpetrators to justice. The DPRK rejected the findings. In a statement it said the commission was "a product of politicization of human rights on the part of the EU and Japan, in alliance with the US hostile policy. Based on Marxist theory , Confucian tradition , and the Juche idea , North Korean human-rights theory regards rights as conditional rather than universal, holds that collective rights take priority over individual rights, and that welfare and subsistence rights are important. It claims that these human-rights guarantees and laws are strictly enforced throughout the country and with respect to every individual. However, ILO conventions are considered international labor standards regardless of ratification. According to Human Rights Watch , children some as young as 11 [36] are forced to work on farms and construction sites at the behest of the government, and may be demanded to gather scrap metals and other materials by schools to be sold. All routinely praise the government and perpetuate the personality cults of the deceased Kim Jong-il and his father Kim Il-sung. Defectors indicate that the promotion of the cult of personality is one of the primary functions of almost all films, plays and books produced within the country. Reports from refugee, defector, missionary, and nongovernmental organizations report that individuals engaging in proselytizing , with ties to overseas evangelical groups operating in China, or who were repatriated from China and found to been in contact with foreigners or missionaries are likely to be arrested and harshly penalized. Refugees and defectors allege that they witnessed the arrests and execution of members of underground Christian churches by the regime. The 1, monks were killed, disappeared in prison camps or were forced to recant their faith. North Korean defectors reported that government-employed "monks" are serving as caretakers and tourist guides, but they did not see genuine worship. In addition, the Chondoist Chongu Party , a government-approved traditional religious movement, had approximately 15, practitioners. However, they are only open to foreigners, and North Korean citizens cannot attend the services. The services are used to bring in foreign currency from foreign visitors, including South Koreans. It is therefore clear that the churches are there solely for propaganda purposes. Reporters Without Borders claims that radio or television sets that can be bought in North Korea are preset to receive only the government frequencies and sealed with a label to prevent tampering with the equipment. It is a serious criminal offense to manipulate the sets and receive radio or television broadcasts from outside North Korea. In a party campaign in , the head of each party cell in neighborhoods and villages received instructions to verify the seals on all radio sets. A United Nations envoy reported that any North Korean citizen caught watching a South Korean film may result in that person being sent to a labor camp. Among the few immigrants that have willingly gone to North Korea are Japanese spouses generally wives of Koreans who returned from Japan from to the early s. These Japanese have been forced to assimilate, and for the most part, the returnees overall are reported to have not been fully accepted into North Korean society with a few exceptions, such as those who became part of the government , and instead ended up on the fringes. Foreigners who visit the country are generally strictly monitored by government minders [80] and are forbidden to enter certain locations. On March 22, , the Associated Press

reported from South Korea that a North Korean doctor who defected, Ri Kwang-chol, has claimed that babies born with physical defects are rapidly put to death and buried. As early as the Commission on Human Rights expressed deep concern at the "mistreatment of and discrimination of disabled children". Since the General Assembly has consistently decried "continuing reports of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, especially on the use of collective camps and coercive measures that target the rights of persons with disabilities to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children. North Korea acceded to this covenant on September 14, However, its law has not been implemented, and North Korean refugees in the South testify that the handicapped are severely discriminated against unless they are wounded soldiers who say their wounds were the result of American aggression during the Korean War. North Korean famine A January report by Amnesty International noted that "Korea remains dependent on food aid to feed its people, yet government policy still prevents the swift and equitable distribution of this aid, while the population is denied the right to freedom of movement, which would enable people to go and search for food. The Politics of Famine in North Korea by Stephan Haggard and Marcus Noland, , which discussed the probability that North Korean food shortages in the s were a man-made regime phenomenon and that with plausible policy adjustments " such as maintaining food imports on commercial terms or aggressively seeking multilateral assistance " the North Korean government could have avoided famine and food shortages. Instead, the regime blocked humanitarian aid and diverted resources to the military. She disputed the view that government policies were creating a human rights crisis that was unique to North Korea. After the coupon system disappeared, an average urban family spent between 75 and 85 percent of their income on food, while state farmers were spending only a third of their income on food. These disparities show that North Korea does not have safety net mechanisms to protect the vulnerable people in society, such as housewives and the elderly. This type of emergency is no less severe, but poses different challenges to outside donors. Workers on state and cooperative farms account for roughly 30 percent of the population, and most of these farmers are granted an annual allotment of grain at the time of the harvest. However, the country is highly urbanized, and the bulk of the population is fed through the PDS. The PDS distributes food as a monthly or biweekly ration. Rations, in turn, vary according to occupational status and age. For example, high-ranking party, government, and military officials are fed through separate distribution channels and receive higher rations, as do certain classes of workers. At virtually every point, the North Korean government has placed roadblocks in the way of the donor community in North Korea, which succeeded to the extent that it did only through extraordinary perspicacity and flexibility. Yet, even by its own admission, this monitoring effort is a leaky sieve, and it is estimated that between 10 and 30 percent of food aid is diverted. Most concerns with diversion center on the appropriation of food by the military. Military and party elites have other sources of food; an equal if not greater problem is the diversion of food to the market or to less deserving groups. We were given corn-rice in small quantities; at times we got only salt soup with cabbage leaves. No meat was served. We were always hungry; and resorted to eating grass in spring. Three or four people died of malnutrition. When someone died, fellow prisoners delayed reporting his death to the authorities so that they could eat his allocated breakfast. Malnutrition and infectious disease caused more than half of the deaths in detention. Claims were made that they are ordered "to marry guards of Kim Jong-il or national heroes" when they are 25 years old. Women who are suspected of being impregnated by Chinese men are subjected to forced abortions ; babies born alive are killed. They may live several days in the disposal container. Attempts to escape from the country or from a prison camp within the country may result in execution on the spot. Little information is available on formal criminal justice procedures and practices, and outside access to the legal system is limited to trials for traffic violations and other minor offences. According to Hidden Gulag, most inmates in prison camps were sent there without trial, without knowing the charges against them, and without having legal counsel. Prominent executed criminals include officials convicted of drug trafficking and embezzlement. Common criminals convicted of crimes such as murder, robbery, rape, drug dealing, smuggling, piracy, vandalism, etc. The country does not publicly release national crime statistics

or reports on the levels of crimes. In another instance, 15 people were publicly executed for crossing the border into China. North Korea has condemned the draft, saying it is inaccurate and biased, but it was still sent to the then member General Assembly for a final vote.

4: Democratic Innovations for Engaging and Empowering Citizens | Irish Politics Forum

The Report of the Democracy Commission ENGAGING CITIZENS The Case for Democratic Renewal in Ireland
EDITED BY Clodagh Harris David Begg Ivana Bacik & Ruth Barrington & John Hanrahan & Tony Kennedy.

Anurag Gangal Political Disengagement in British Democracy 1 To what extent are citizens in Britain less politically engaged today than hitherto? Which factors might explain any such disengagement? Citizens in Britain are apparently more politically disengaged today in view of decreasing percentages of participation in voting in elections and emergence of nonchalant attitudes. There are factors like apathetic attitude of numerous voters especially younger ones and inadvertence towards politicians and participation in elections. These are but only a few reasons behind expanding political disengagement among British citizens. Ascertaining these and quite a few other factors alone does not fully explain this entire context of disengagement. Our quest for the extent and causes of political disengagement is not only important but also such that it has to traverse a challenging route to find out why citizens in Britain have become so indifferent and somewhat lazy towards politics. All such perspectives involve sensitive matters and attitudes of citizens of the oldest and strongest democracies in the world like the United Kingdom. Indeed, here emerges the question of mutual trust between political leaders and citizens of the land as well. This issue is perhaps the most significant aspect of this essay. The mutual trust in a democracy is indeed the basic requirement for successful functioning of the political system. What is political engagement? This is necessary to know the real nature of its disengaged form. It includes particular types of behaviour and attitudes. Behaviourally speaking, it includes voting in elections; being a member of a political party or group; going and participating in marches for a public cause; writing to political leaders and communicating with them; participating in public and planned boycott activities and also donations to political parties, groups and other organizations. Electoral Commission Publications, , p. Relevant definitions and views of C. Duffy are quoted by the commission while explaining the contexts of social exclusion and disengagement in Britain. As such there is a relationship between these two aspects. Political disengagement is also a form of social exclusion as such. Political Disengagement in British Democracy 2 support to political parties, institutions, groups, actors and leaders. When such behaviour and attitudes do not occur then it is political disengagement. This political disengagement in any democracy has unwelcome portents for the health of a political system like the one in the United Kingdom in particular and for other democracies in general. The British case is very special for it is having a mix of democracy based on largely unwritten constitution, deep rooted customs and traditions, modern outlook and rule of law that has evolved for about several centuries now. There is no other democracy having such characteristic features. Political disengagement is a threat to hitherto fore largely healthy democracy of Britain. The very edifice of democracy cracks down like a melting wax-pot or a wavering light of a candle in a stormy weather. This situation is based on a select population sample of an expansive and widespread survey. Added to such data is one more dimension of above mentioned survey. Updated using BSA data. The analysis of political engagement yields a simple conclusion. Overall, there is little evidence to suggest that British citizens have become more disengaged from the political process over the last several decades. They vote less in elections but they are as concerned about outcomes as they were in s. Interest in the outcome of elections does not show active political engagement of citizens. It is rather an additional example of political disengagement only. It shows political apathy and indifference to what is political. Interest in outcomes of election results available through electronic media filled with exciting stories and presentations depict an inclination and attitude towards instantaneous sources of diversified entertainment and different kind of excitement while sitting at home. It is not at all related to any type of political engagement. Trends of political disengagement in the British democracy are loud and clear. They cannot be ignored or taken up lightly just because the politically disengaged British citizens are prone to be deeply interested in knowing the outcome of election results. Indeed, the levels of political disengagement are growing leaps and bound. Such disengagement involves not

only political apathetic attitude of the British citizens but also political disengagement of political leaders from their major and primary task of their service to the public and the nation. This is further proven by a noted British Social Attitude Survey. These matters relating to present-day political leaders and the disengaged citizens were further widely discussed for six months all across the nation through diverse ways of inquiry and modern communication technology. In the Power to the People independent inquiry into the increasing political disengagement of the British people and the conspicuous role of political leaders in this context. They are indulging in gross personal aggrandisement at the cost of the public and the welfare of the entire country. This is a democratic malaise primarily responsible for increasing political disengagement of the people of Britain. Writing on the wall is very clear. Political leaders, though not all of them, are indulging in amassing personal wealth from public exchequer, they are not doing their duty to people, they are not serving the people and the country, political parties largely bother about their votes and 10 Butt S. As regards abridged website pdf version, pp. Political Disengagement in British Democracy 5 not about people and, above all, political leaders are losing their touch with the people of their constituencies. After the elections, they just forget the people in their constituencies! Helena Kennedy, the Chair of the aforesaid Commission, says: This apathy is apparently multiplying very fast. Politics, for thus politically disengaged, is becoming irrelevant as if they think that let imprudent people fight to be in government for it does not matter who forms the government! But the question is if selfish and foolish people are in government then who will rule the country. Will it not be like paving the way to irresponsible governance in Britain ever more year after year? Very pathetic scenario is emerging in Britain. Yet voting in elections is the most fundamental exercise for the success and strength of a democracy without which a time may arise when all voters decide not to vote at all. What will happen then? It is really difficult to imagine 15 Ibid. See website version, pp. Political Disengagement in British Democracy 6 what such a situation will bring forth. Will it be a social boon or a doomsday? These are valid questions though difficult to answer. Bromley, Curtice and Seyd have also shown in Table-5 of their above mentioned study that the level of trust of people is decreasing over the years. It means that despite a serious crisis of democracy in Britain, there is still hope for vibrant recovery through adopting certain well thought about measures. In addition, efforts towards change of attitudes of voters and politicians would also be necessary. It is therefore appropriate moment to see what can be done in this context? Root and branch transformation may also be needed as such. Unbridled pursuits of self-aggrandisement not only among politicians but also in national and global comity of all countries will have to be given a proper and required direction. Otherwise, cities will never have rest from their evils of corruption and malpractices in society and politics. Morally upright statesmen will have to come forward to set examples of public conduct and behaviour. Values of sacrifice of personal self interests for the cause of larger society cannot but be best infused through real life exemplary personalities of leaders par excellence. Social and political changes cannot be brought about overnight. Several political, social and legal measures and reforms may be necessary for these purposes. Most of these relate mainly to transform or change attitudes of disengagement of the British citizens. There are, however, scanty studies to bring about changes in political parties and leaders. In reality, it is the political leaders who are to be blamed for increasing attitudes of disengagement among British 19 Ibid. Primary responsibility rests with them and not with the people because they and their self-aggrandising behaviour and attitudes are the main causes behind the current crisis of democracy in Britain. It will be well to go for a few practicable suggestions or, as it were, recommendations to deal with the existing crisis of democracy in Britain. First, British citizens must be bestowed with the right to recall not only their erring representatives but also the entire lot of all Members of Parliament alongwith all cabinet ministers including the Prime Minister and Speaker etc when they are not performing their duties towards citizens. This will instil a very strong sense of inducement towards ever more active and zestful political engagement among British citizens. This will also lead political leaders to adopting rightful duty bound attitudes towards their constituencies and voters. This is not a novel idea. It is being practised in Switzerland. This right to recall will also help people restore their trust in the political institutions and actors. Continuity and Change over Two Decades. Such changes in

the governance of political and social system will bring concomitant transformations in the attitude of presently disengaged British citizens. A general nationwide discussion is already going on anent reforming electoral system with alternative voting, proportional representation; and single transferrable voting system. These are not citizen oriented. What we need is such planned measures of reform which transform political leadership towards performing their duties in a better way. Otherwise proper inducement will not emerge for engaging voters meaningfully. Eds , British Social Attitudes " the 20 Report: Continuity and Change over Two Decades, London: Bromley, Cathrine; Curtice J. Electoral Commission Publications, White, Isobel, Power to the People:

5: Community Colleges and the Work Of Democracy | Kettering Foundation

Engaging Citizens - the case for democratic renewal in Ireland. Report of the Democracy Commission.

This phrase served as the title of a crucial section in the historic Truman Commission Report, Higher Education for Democracy, which framed how higher education should respond to the education crisis facing post-World War II America. The most lasting contribution of the Truman Report is that it argued for the creation of a national system of community colleges. In a similar spirit, A Crucible Moment is the title of a report by the National Task Force on Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement, which describes a crisis of democracy still facing our country. This is one dimension of the challenge facing community colleges—how to provide citizens with equal access to higher education and to the opportunities that completing a college education creates. This was a guiding premise when the land-grant system was established in the mid 19th century, as well as when a national network of community colleges was created in the mid 20th century. This same duality in the challenges of American colleges—equalizing opportunity and doing the work of democracy—was also embraced in the Truman Commission Report. In their inaugural declaration, the founders of The Democracy Commitment state: American higher education has a long history of service to democracy. This is a proud history, but it is not enough. Beyond access to education itself, colleges and universities have an obligation to educate about democracy, to engage students in both an understanding of civic institutions and the practical experience of acting in the public arena. The American community colleges share this mission of educating about democracy, not least because we are the gateway to higher education for millions who might not otherwise get a post-secondary education. More critically, we are rooted deeply in local communities who badly need the civic leadership and practical democratic capacity of our students for their own political and social health. Our organization is a national initiative providing a platform for the development and expansion of community college programs, projects, and curricula that aim to engage students in civic learning and democratic practice across the country. The goal is that every graduate of an American community college will have had an education in democracy. This includes all students, whether they intend to transfer to a four-year university, earn an associate degree, or obtain a certificate. In collaboration with the Kettering Foundation, we are exploring this second dimension of the historic duality facing higher education and democracy: We are also investigating to what extent these colleges view themselves as civic agents in their communities, actively collaborating with their communities in addressing the challenges and issues the communities face. Further, we are asking, to what extent are they dedicated to instilling this sense of civic agency in their students, in inculcating in students the skills and capacities to be active and engaged citizens in their communities? How are community colleges developing and implementing programs to foster civic learning and democratic engagement? How does this appear in curricula? In clubs and associations on campus, including student government? Kettering research has focused primarily on problems of democracy, rather than problems that occur in democracy; that is, with how democracy works rather than with the specific policy issues that our democracy grapples with. The Democracy Commitment embraces both aspects of the democratic challenge by starting with specific issues that our communities face and asking how they are implicated in larger problems of democracy. How are community colleges engaging their students in the work of democracy—by focusing on the issues in democracy? After all, these are community colleges, institutions in, of, and for their communities, enriched and challenged by all of the issues their communities are addressing every day. The problems our communities face—homelessness and poverty, race and class, public health and neighborhood development—are grist for the democratic mill. Civic learning and democratic engagement in community colleges have as both their rationale and their focus the problems these communities face. Our students come into our classrooms with these problems and deal with them every day outside of class. Community college students are more ethnically diverse, more economically distressed, more part-time and full-time employed, and more challenged in terms of transportation, housing, and language than

THE REPORT OF THE DEMOCRACY COMMISSION: ENGAGING CITIZENS

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any other population in American higher education. In this, they reflect their own communities. As The Democracy Commitment declaration states: Their ability to exercise their democratic rights and work together in public life, to be generous and tolerant and yet able to advocate for themselves, will help determine the future of these communities. Representatives from these and other institutions are coming together in a series of workshops at the Kettering Foundation to reflect critically on a broad array of civic practices and to capture the rich narrative of students democratically engaged in the problems of democracy they actually embody. They will come together at an annual meeting to share best practices and learn from colleagues, joining together with a companion initiative composed of state colleges—the American Democracy Project of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. He can be reached at bernie.

6: Office of Attorney General Maura Healey | www.enganchecubano.com

The health of American democracy ultimately depends on our willingness and ability to work together as citizens and stakeholders in our republic.

7: League strives to engage citizens in democracy - Delaware State News | Delaware State News

A Time of Crisis: This phrase served as the title of a crucial section in the historic Truman Commission Report, Higher Education for Democracy, which framed how higher education should respond to the education crisis facing post-World War II America.

8: Kirklees Democracy Commission – “What should local democracy be like in Kirklees?”

In May, Kirklees councillors took part in a special Democracy Debate to discuss the Kirklees Democracy Commission's draft report about local democracy. At the end of that debate, councillors agreed to note and welcome the report and its findings.

9: Extent of Political Engagement of Citizens in British Democracy | Anurag Gangal - www.enganchecubano.com

4 IPPR The democracy commission: Reforming democracy to combat political inequality To further that goal, IPPR has previously argued for the introduction of proportional representation and compulsory voting.

The Waggamans and their allied families How to Run a Community Recycling Center Mucogingival esthetic surgery zucchini Jonathan Swift, by W.M. Thackeray. To His Majesty the Czar! Chuck palahniuk pygmy The child client Jeffrey S. Berryhill Angela M. Sabates Is there a future for Marxism? Reliability engineering and risk analysis modarres Combat dog central The cardiovascular response to acute, repeated orthostatic stress Hampshire Industrial Archaeology Helluva town : my New York 1943 to 1976 by Alan Rich Learn to play bluegrass bass An auto workers journal The beginning of the great tradition Women face the Great Depression Secret Shakespeares Adventures of Freeman Jones Google expeditions ar markers. COMMENT: THESE LADIES HAVE ANOTHER ENGAGEMENT AND THEY WANT TO LEAVE NOW. Lease or Licence (Longman Professional Opinion) Ecology and strategy Making Praise a Priority Runway orientation and design Breeding superman Is marriage necessary? 109 Chapter 7. Cooling System Elementary survey sampling student solutions manual Shaking the globe Ascendancy of the heart Advanced automotive fault diagnosis by tom denton Principles and Practice of Constraint Programming CP 2000 Historical Dictionary of Ancient Egyptian Warfare Not Quite American? The Geometry of Hamilton and Lagrange Spaces (Fundamental Theories of Physics, Volume 118 (Fundamental Th A defence of Dr. Eric Benzel Sparham Fnb business account fees Democracy, power, and justice Mastering English Hammonds Captain Atlas and the Globe Riders