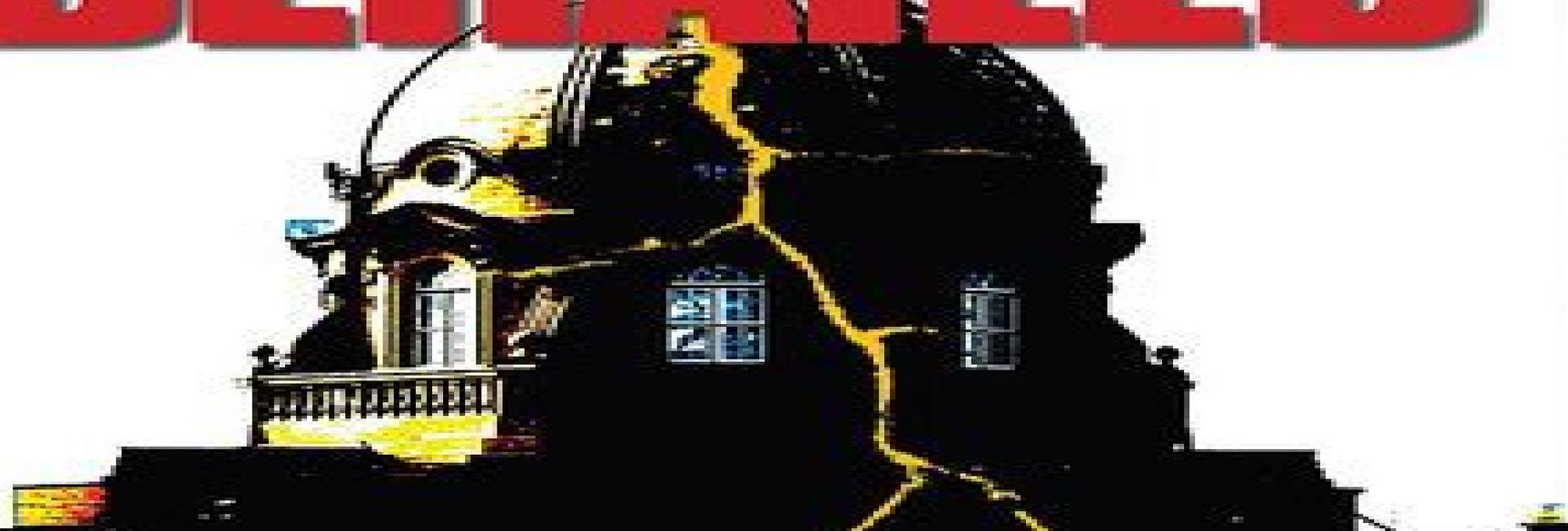


# DEMOCRACY DERAILED



The Breakdown of Government  
Accountability in Alberta  
—and How to Get it Back on Track

**KEVIN TAFT**

Author of the best-selling *Shredding the Public Interest*

# Democracy Derailed

**Per-Arne Bodin, Stefan Hedlund, Elena  
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specifically the undemocratic consequences that result from relying too heavily on the initiative process He provides historic context to the development of initiatives from their Populist and Progress roots to their accelerated use in recent decades and shows the differences between initiative processes in the states that use them Most important while acknowledging the positive contribution of initiatives Ellis shows that there are reasons to use them carefully and sparingly ill considered initiatives can subvert normal legislative checks and balances undermine the deliberative process and even threaten the rights of minority groups through state sanctioned measures Today s initiative process Ellis warns is dominated not by ordinary citizens but by politicians perennial activists wealthy interests and well oiled machines Deliberately misleading language on the ballot confuses voters and influences election results And because many initiatives are challenged in the courts these ostensibly democratic procedures have now put legislation in the hands of the judiciary Throughout his book he cites examples drawn from states in which initiatives are used intensively Oregon California Colorado Washington and Arizona as well as others in which their use has increased in recent years Undoing mistakes enacted by initiative can be more difficult than correcting errors of legislatures As voters prepare to consider the host of initiatives that will be offered in the 2002 elections this book can help put those efforts in a clearer light *Democratic Delusions* urges moderation attempting to teach citizens to be at least as skeptical of the initiative process as they are of the legislative process and to appreciate the enduring value of the representative institutions they seek to circumvent Adoption Politics E. Wayne Carp,2004 The passage of Measure 58 in Oregon in 1998 was a milestone in adoption reform E Wayne Carp here reveals the efforts of the radical adoptee rights organization Bastard Nation to pass this milestone initiative *Democracy's Moment* Ronald Hayduck,Ronald Hayduk,Kevin Mattson,2002 The two month long Election Day in Florida made one thing clear We need to find ways to make the American political system more responsive to the demands of all citizens This book provides a critical assesment of a broad range of electoral reforms proposed to enhance responsive government The book aims not only to analyze the obstacles to full political participation but to capitalize on the window of opportunity that election 2000 has provided to make our political system more truly democratic to realize democracy s moment The New Democracy Walter Vrooman,1897 *Philosophy of Education* ,2009 **Distilling Democracy** Jonathan Zimmerman,1999 Zimmerman educational history New York U examines the history of Scientific Temperance Instruction a curriculum on the evils of alcohol which was originally developed and advocated by a grassroots movement and ultimately was mandated in all American schools for a time He traces today s debate on drug and alcohol education to issues raised in this seminal episode The debate over STI claims Zimmerman was really about the balance between expertise and populist desire in determining what should be taught to America s children Annotation copyrighted by Book News Inc Portland OR **The Future of American Democracy** Glen Browder,2002-08-06 Former congressman Browder is worried that the current trends of American democracy might result in a Union of Socialist States of America or worse He suggests that we re suffering from a

cumulative distemper in which we may be tiring of America's historic Great Experiment He offers vague prescriptions about embarking on a National Democratic Renaissance and rediscovering the essence of our American nation Annotation copyrighted by Book News Inc Portland OR **Democracy Heading South** Augustus B. Cochran,2001 For Cochran the sense of déjà vu is overwhelming and alarming BOOK JACKET **Warmaking and American Democracy** Michael David Pearlman,1999 While war is most effectively waged as a united effort the United States has consistently waged military conflict without firm central direction Throughout our history observes Michael Pearlman the waging of war has been subject to continuous bargaining and compromise among competing governments and military factions What passes for strategy emerged from this process *The Spirit of Democracy* Charles Fletcher Dole,1906 Minnesota Law Review ,2013-05

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