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REVIEW ESSAY

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In today's world, climate change is an alarming and progressive issue that needs immediate attention. The growing urgency of climate change demands creative, progressive approaches to policy-making. Conventional political institutions frequently fail to address this global crisis in a way that is thorough, efficient, and urgent enough. This essay makes the case that citizens' assemblies provide a more democratic, inclusive, successful, and potentially profitable way to create climate policy by bringing the public directly into the decision-making process. These measures, which incorporate the various viewpoints of the people into the legislative process, are both widely accepted and ambitious. These assemblies will allow for the comprehensive integration of different points of view, guaranteeing that the policies fairly represent the vast range of societal values and interests. This approach ultimately fosters greater public buy-in and compliance, crucial for the effective implementation of climate policies.

Citizens' assemblies should be promoted more and more as creative means of resolving long-standing political disputes, empowering people locally, and tackling the urgent issue of climate change (Osaka, 2021). These gatherings seek to move past the impasse in politics that is seriously endangering the environment we live in. It is debatable, nevertheless, whether these gatherings can actually affect policy in a meaningful way. It is a difficult, technical undertaking to change a whole country's energy infrastructure to use low-carbon alternatives (Osaka, 2021). This intricacy casts serious doubt on a group of people chosen at random from the general public's ability to understand and efficiently handle such specialised difficulties in the short timeframe of a few months (Osaka, 2021). Their potential impact is further complicated by the different organisational structures of these assemblies and the differing degrees of governmental assistance they get. This variability makes one think critically about the actual function of citizens' assemblies (Osaka, 2021). Are they just

sophisticated comment boxes for the general people, or do they actually have the power to affect and mould laws and policy formulation? The lack of clarity surrounding their efficacy and success criteria encourages a further investigation into the ways in which democratic participation might be included into the legislative process in order to address the pressing and intricate problem of climate change (Osaka, 2021). Hence, when I argue that there should be a citizen's assembly, the people in the citizens assembly should only be selected after rigorous selections and tests, and only be approved if they prove to be fit for the role.

However, The study of the “Serviceberry and its function in a natural gift economy” by Robin Wall Kimmerer provides insightful information that is pertinent to the case for citizens' assemblies in climate policy. She imagines a society in which competitiveness and scarcity are replaced by plenty, gratitude, and reciprocity, and she makes the argument that genuine riches are found in connections and communities that are cultivated (Kimmerer, 2022). One may argue why randomly select citizens for the citizens assembly? The emergency threatens all of us. Through the process, every citizen has an equal opportunity to participate in the major decision-making process as we work to resolve the problem. The selection procedure makes sure that, with regard to demographics like gender, age, income, and ethnicity, the Citizens' Assembly represents our entire nation. No group or point of view is overrepresented or has the ability to control the assembly. Ordinary people do not have political debts and are not concerned with winning reelection or appeasing a certain party, in contrast to elected officials, which makes them communicate openly, hear what others have to say, and make decisions based on what they genuinely think is best for the nation (Extinction Rebellion, Na). These ideas highlight the capacity of citizens' assemblies to support policies that put the welfare of the planet and the communal well-being ahead of personal benefit, as well as to engage a variety of communities in meaningful decision-making. Citizens'

assemblies could lead the way toward a revolutionary strategy to solving climate concerns that emphasises interdependence, mutual care, and the flourishing of all life (Kimmerer, 2022).

For instance, the Citizens' Convention on Climate in France, launched by President Emmanuel Macron, was a daring experiment in participatory democracy aiming at addressing the pressing issue of climate change directly with citizens (Osaka, 2021). This novel method was in response to the large "Gilets Jaunes" protests, which questioned Macron's previous attempts to impose environmental fees without enough public consultations (Osaka, 2021). By integrating citizens directly in decision-making, Macron hoped to discover a more acceptable and effective way to develop climate policies that would be supported by the French people (Osaka, 2021). To back my argument even further, The article discusses the process of engaging individuals, including the selection technique and educational components aimed to educate participants on climate issues (Osaka, 2021). This emphasis on public engagement and education is critical to the success of citizen assemblies, implying that for such initiatives to be effective, participants must be well-informed and representative of the general public.

According to, The "Climatic Change" journal's analysis of two case studies in the UK offers strong proof that citizens' juries and assemblies are essential to strengthening democratic climate governance (Wells et al, 2021). These deliberative procedures address the growing public concern over climate change by encouraging increased public participation, enabling a more educated and involved citizenry (Wells et al, 2021). The assemblies and juries strengthen the democratic legitimacy of climate policies by bridging the gaps between societal consensus, political action, and scientific understanding (Wells et al, 2021). This

strategy, which is based on the ideas of democratic deliberation, emphasises how important it is to include the general people in the processes that lead to the formulation of climate policy. By using this perspective, citizens' juries and assemblies become essential forums for democratising the formulation of climate change policies and presenting arguments in favour of their wider adoption and use (Wells et al, 2021).

To state an example, The Leeds Climate Commission conducted a jury as part of the Big Leeds Climate Conversation with the intention of directing the Commission's and Leeds City Council's future work (Wells et al, 2021). Professionals and an oversight panel including important stakeholders assisted the jury (Wells et al, 2021). Its main goal was to direct the city's reaction to the climate emergency. In eight nightly sessions, twenty-one residents—a cross-section of the city's population—participated in a discussion and formulation of recommendations pertaining to a range of climate-related concerns, such as housing, community involvement, and transportation (Wells et al, 2021). The goal of the method was to collect thoughtful feedback from citizens with a range of backgrounds, enabling them to fully comprehend the ways in which policies may impact various groups of people (Wells et al, 2021). The case study shows how these kinds of intentional procedures can have an impact on policies related to climate change. The process itself generates momentum around climate action, helps the passage of planned policies, and can lead the city's reaction to the climate emergency, even though the direct impact on policy making may vary. This demonstrates how citizens' assemblies may be used to successfully shape effective climate policies. Additionally, this also serves as an example of how direct public participation in conversations about climate policy may promote democratic engagement. These procedures guarantee that a wide range of society is represented by involving a varied set of citizens, which supports your claim on democratic inclusivity.

To conclude, Citizens' assemblies offer a revolutionary way to address the pressing issue of climate change by promoting inclusive and democratic policymaking procedures. By drawing on the populace's different viewpoints and collective wisdom, these assemblies strengthen the legitimacy and efficacy of climate policy, breaking through political impasses to accomplish significant change. The success of initiatives such as the Leeds Climate Commission's jury demonstrates the power of citizens' assemblies to accelerate meaningful climate action while embracing concepts of community, reciprocity, and shared responsibility. Through careful participant selection and preparation, these assemblies can develop new solutions that prioritise the well-being of both the earth and its inhabitants, presenting a viable path to a sustainable and equitable future in the midst of a global crisis. Additionally, this essay gives light on the difficulties encountered by the Citizens' Convention on Climate, such as doubts regarding the assembly's impact and the technical complexities of climate policy. Discussing these problems in your article may provide a more balanced perspective on citizens' assemblies, considering both their possible limitations and benefits.

## REFERENCES

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