

To: contact@veritasium.com

Subject: (Sponsorship Opportunity) Sortition as the Solution to Making Democracy Mathematically Possible

Hi Derek and the Veritasium team,

Several months ago, you published a video I really enjoyed, "Democracy is Mathematically Impossible", that discussed the shortcomings of various voting methods.

It's my belief that not only are weaknesses in voting methods salient in elections, but using elections themselves results in unrepresentative legislative bodies. By definition, elected legislatures are made up of those who had the time and means to successfully run for office. Furthermore, these people share a psychological preference of *wanting* to run for office. This results in a class of legislators who favor the wealthy and power-seeking. This is endemic to elections and at odds with the goal of democracy.

As an alternative, I advocate for sortition: forming legislative bodies by random selection. The concept is to supplant elections with mathematical sampling of a population to create short-term legislatures that address issues one by one. This is a radical idea with many consequences. However, I think it deserves serious consideration, as it may be the only way to mathematically fulfill the promises of democracy.

I have crowdfunded support and may be able to sponsor a video or compensate you for your time, if you were interested in meeting to discuss sortition with the possibility of a future video on the Veritasium channel.

If you would like to research sortition, I would recommend Terry Bouricius's blog series: <https://democracycreative.substack.com/p/the-trouble-with-elections>

Yours truly,
Max