

So, Then, What Is Democracy?

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[Abstract] This essay examines the reality of democracy in the real world and what is taught in some classrooms across the globe. It further addresses the feigned meaning of democracy by those in the elite: The United States Government, CARICUM, and persons in Guyana's high offices. Some of those mentioned elites were perceived to be honest brokers but were instead brokers of deceit. The U.S government along with shadow elite organizations in CARICOM and the OAS facilitated a coupe in Guyana on March 2, 2020. The coup d'état of a democratically elected government in Guyana, will further examine the direct U.S involvement in Venezuela, the self-interest of some, and the control of the media in politics to do harm.

[Keywords] Guyana elections, democratic education, media influences, media control, hidden curriculum.

Introduction

In some classrooms across the globe students are taught about democracy and its meaning, including those in higher education institutions in the United States of America. Most importantly it is the U.S who champions democracy because "schools in North America have always been closely linked to democratic goals" (Westheimer, 2005, p. 27). "The general aim has been to strengthen democratic political culture by showing [students] why they should support democratic norms and values [by] improving their knowledge of how democratic politics works" (Finkel, 2003, p. 137).

In some cases, however, what is taught in the classrooms is the complete opposite from what is experienced in the real world. "Support for democracy is the province of ideologists and propagandists. In the real world, elite dislike of democracy is the norm [because it's] supported only insofar as it contributes to social and economic objective..." (Chomsky, 2016, p. 47). So, then, what is democracy? Is it a physical instrument or a theory? If it's a physical thing then it can manipulate itself, but if it's a theory, someone of a physical being would control that theory to suit or even flex their own purpose.

We live in a world of flexibility. We have flex time, flex workers, flex spending...even a flex democracy. "Flex" has become an integral part not only of how we live, but of how power and influence are wielded" (Wedel, 2009, p.1). Influencers too, flex their roles and responsibilities. "The mover[s] and shaker[s] who serves at one and the same time as business consultant, think-tanker, TV pundit, and government adviser[s] glides in and around the organizations that enlist [their] services" (Wedel, 2009, p. 1). These shadow elites who stretches their professional roles to suit their personal need or interest are a clear example of "how the world's new power brokers undermine democracy, government, and the [will of a people]" (Wedel, 2009).

Democracy then is not an instrument that can manipulate itself, it's a theory that can be controlled by powerful brokers in high places. These influential people appear and reappear "in different professional guises, pressing their own agendas" (Wedel, 2009). These "shadow elites disguised themselves as honest brokers, but in Guyana's case, for example, they are brokers of deceit. Those brokers, or shakers and movers as they are better known, are groups and individuals

who ‘challenge[s] both governments’ rules of accountability...’ even electoral and constitutional laws (Wedel, 2009) by way of threats of harm to Guyana’s sovereignty.

On July 15th 2020, U.S Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced that the U.S. will be placing visa restrictions on “individuals who have been responsible for, or complicit in undermining democracy in Guyana” (John, 2020). These threats were done in spite of ongoing legal challenges to Guyana’s March 2, 2020 elections in Guyana’s constitutional courts. With such underhanded tactics by a few dishonest interlockers disguised as fighters for democracy, how can students sitting in a classroom trust “...democratic values and norms as political tolerance...[and] to extend procedural democratic liberties to individuals and groups with whom they may disagree or trust in [institutions?]” (Finkel, 2003, p. 138).

Guyana’s Brief Historical Background During Elections

Guyana held its March 2, 2020 general and regional elections where “500,000 Guyanese had voted in a highly disputed...election that triggered a slew of court challenges” (Wilkinson, 2020), followed by a 33 day-long recount and audit of all ballot boxes. At the end of the audit, the APNU+AFC saw re-elections, but the international community led by the U.S Ambassador insisted that both invalid and valid votes be counted, giving the People’s Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C) an illegitimate victory. Historically, Guyana (British Guiana) held its first elections under British rule in 1953. “A socialist party, the [PPP], led by Dr. Chedi Jagan, an Indian dentist, and Forbes Burnham, an African barrister, won handily and took office” (Smith, 1995, p. 224). When the party won its elections in 1953, both Dr. Jagan and Burnham, were members of one party, the PPP. But in “1955 the party split into two factions and in 1957 Burnham formed the People’s National Congress (PNC)” (p. 224). Dr. Jagan remained leader of the PPP.

During the 1950s, before the split from the PPP, the British and the U.S were gravely concerned about the PPP’s communist ideology. Due to those concern, Burnham was urged by his loyalist “to leave the party, he refused because, as he frequently said, it was important to maintain the party as a genuinely multi-racial vehicle for political reform” (Smith, 1995, p. 229). Dr. Jagan, had the opportunity to put Guyana first, but chose communism instead, giving Burnham no other option but “to part company with Jagan unless the latter was prepared to put Guianese (Guyanese) nationalism above posturing as an international communist” (Smith, 1995, p. 230). This split was the beginning of Guyana’s racial tension whenever there is an election (p. 224).

The Attack on the U.S. Capital and in Guyana

On January 6, 2020 the U.S. Capitol in Washington DC was invaded and attacked for four-and-a-half hours by an American mob. The house of representatives “and the Senate were in session, with hundreds of lawmakers debating challenges to the certification of the Electoral College vote when the mob” (Goldman & Dewan, p. 18) attacked and forced its way into the building. The mob’s intention was the pursuit of American law makers. Those law makers and their aides hid behind “antique wood and glass doors” (Goldman & Dewan, 2021, p. 1). The insurrectionist were “yelling ‘stop the steal’ as they hammered the panes with a flagpole, a helmet, and even a bare fist” (p. 1). Some of the invaders were described as:

far-right nationalists, military veterans and militia members, and adherents of a dangerous conspiracy. Rioters hurled invectives at police officers and called them traitors while threatening to kill former vice President Mike Pence and Nancy Pelosi, the speaker of the House[—]As the [crowd] surged toward the north doors of the House, they grew aggressive, chanting, “Break it

Down.” (p. 18). As the crowd grew further aggressive and angry, according to Representative Jim McGovern, Democrat of Massachusetts who was presiding in the speaker’s chair at the time, concluded that if ‘you ask me to described evil—that’s what it looked like (p, 18).

The invasion of the US capital by Americans was not only supported and acted upon by regular American citizens, but also by U.S government leaders including its head of state, Donald Trump. Similarly, in Georgetown, Guyana an insurrection of its own took place on March 2020 during the counting of its presidential election ballots for Region 4, Georgetown, the country’s capital. Some may even conclude that what took place in Guyana on March 2020 might have been a planned event that would see the overturn of the country’s elections, the storming of the Region-4 head office by the People’s Progressive Party Civic (PPP/C) members, leaders and foreign ambassadors, court battles that went in favor of the then opposition party, and the threats of sanctions by the Trump administration. Many have seen the various videos of the storming of the U.S capitol. In Guyana’s case, videos and still pictures can be seen where PPP/C members and leaders, including the now President Irfaan Ali, Vice President Bharrat Jagdeo, Minister of Youth and Sports Charles Ramson, Minister of Public Security (now Home Affairs) Robeson Benn, and other senior governmental functionaries (Guyana Reporter, 2020).

During the insurrection, the then PPP opposition party “created an atmosphere of intimidation and fear at the office of the Returning Officer of District Number 4. This led to the interruption of GECOM’s work” (DOSSIER: Guyana Elections 2020, 2020, p. 3), no different than what took place in the U.S capital on January 6 during the Electoral College voting process. At the close of polls on March 2, 2020, the PPP opposition immediately began to disseminate “a narrative that is no more than a falsification of reality’ (DOSSIER: Guyana Elections 2020, 2020, p. 3) upon the nation where they ‘question the credibility of the declared results” (Lewis, 2021) that went in favor of the governing coalition. Later that evening, on March 2, in the capital city at GECOM Command Center, “PPP/C officials including the [then] Presidential Candidate, General Secretary and other party officials stormed into the location” (DOSSIER: Guyana Elections 2020, 2020, pp. 5-6). Just as Donald Trump stated that the U.S elections were stolen by the Democrats, the PPP/C opposition leaders, and mainly its Presidential candidate and General Secretary, also claimed that there is an attempt to “thief the elections...” (DOSSIER: Guyana Elections 2020, 2020, p. 6).

On January 6, 2021 while the U.S. House of Representatives was certifying the electoral college votes, protesters were outside the capitol, armed with misinformation from Donald Trump “who mislead his supporters to believe an alternate reality...” (Lewis, 2021) of the U.S. electoral outcome experienced the same in Guyana on March 5. Some of this misinformation that was spread by the PPP/C can be classified as the “Big Lie” used to whip their supporters into a frenzy as a way to create this fictional hostile atmosphere appearance showing themselves as underdogs in the fight for Guyana’s democracy (Austin, 2021).

PPP/C party leaders as well as external leaders outside of Guyana who stand to benefit from a change of Government favoring the PPP/C see “the importance of the precise use of language (not only during the campaign, but during various court proceedings to rectified the rigged elections on March 2) [that] can be illustrated by the powerful valence” (Khalidi, 2013, p. ix) in Guyana’s context of terms such as the will of the Guyanese people, Guardian of Democracy, election riggers, thief the elections, security, and honest brokers. “Each of these terms has set conditions not only for perceptions, but also for possibilities” (p. ix). These terms also “take on specific meaning, frequently one that is heavily loaded in favor of one side” (p. ix) leaving the other side with useless logic or balance should they use those mentioned terms.

To further demonstrate how precise use of language can also advance to violence because the context of protecting the ballot boxes and Guyanese democracy “has come to apply exclusively to the actions of the governing party whose intentions are to rigged the election and the PPP/C party members are fighting to ensure Guyana’s democracy. When five men armed with guns and ammunition moving around in vehicles with false registration number plates in close proximity of polling stations, concerns were not raised by local or international bodies favoring the PPP/C party” (DOSSIER: Guyana Elections 2020, 2020, p. 6). On the evening of March 4, a “confidential informant from the [PPP/C party ...] informed intelligence officials that Bharrat Jagdeo is executing a plan to deliberately mislead PPP/C supporters to believe that the PPP/C won [the] elections” (p. 6). The PPP/C supporters already riled up at this point due to the “BIG LIES” that were “created in [Jagdeo’s] political lab and become key ingredients in the Kool-Aid and is given to [his] unthinking [supporters] to drink (Austin, 2021).

Jagdeo’s focus at this point was to rile up PPP/C supporters “when GECOM announces the accurate elections results’, announce a challenge by way of an election petition in the Supreme Court, get his supporters into the streets to create chaos, and to further advanced this plan by creating such polarization and instability that the international community will call for a negotiated settlement favoring the PPP/C party. (DOSSIER: Guyana Elections 2020, 2020, p. 6) The PPP/C leadership and their internal, regional, and international backers’ goal was to peddle a chorus of laboratory manufactured lies that the APNU + AFC stole the elections and “if [they] repeat it frequently enough people will sooner or later believe it” (Austin , 2021).

According to Parenti (2000), “as is frequently the case, liars can be the best witness against themselves” (p. 8). To further enhance the “BIG LIES” of stolen elections, the perception of love and care for Guyana’s democracy needs to be carried out by way of various public stunts. Hence, the insurrection later led to a silent democratic coup d’état that was orchestrated before the March 2 general and regional elections because the ‘PPP[C] predated [the] election results’ (DOSSIER: Guyana Elections 2020, 2020, pp. 13-14). This coup was led and overseen by foreign actors (DOSSIER: Guyana Elections 2020, 2020, p. 20), i.e., the Ambassadors and High Commissioner of the countries and international organizations of America, England, Canada, and the European Union (ABCE) with involvement of The U.S.’ Sarah-Ann Lynch, England’s Greg Quinn, Canada’s Lilian Chatterjee, and the EU’s Fernando Ponz Canto (GNN, 2021).

On March 2, members of the PPP/C party orchestrated and later forcefully broke into GECOM Command Center. As mentioned previously, senior PPP/C party members can be seen pushing, tugging, scrambling staff members, police, and GECOM officials, none of which were condemned by the ABCE Ambassadors, instead, the Ms. Lynch ‘repeated [another lie that] the PPP/C [peddled] in a joint statement with fellow ABCE Ambassadors that the APNU-AFC had violated the Guyana constitution by not holding elections within three months of the passage of the No Confidence Motion’ (CGID, 2021). The reasons for a lack of condemnation were to allow the PPP/C party to gain power, allow the U.S to use Guyana’s borders to overthrow the Venezuelan government (GNN, 2021), and to allow the U.S greater success with U.S foreign policies in Guyana.

Agility of Democracies

The buildup of lies against the APNU-AFC by the PPP/C party supported and carried by public joint statements by the Ambassador Lynch then solidified her platform of fallaciousness “as a premise to direct the State Department to” (CGID, 2021) suspend funding to various projects under President David Granger’s coalition government. The goal is to allow the PPP/C to be highly

visible and the coalition governing party to be virtually invisible (Khalidi, 2013, p. x). This is an example “where flawed political ideas are powerfully reinforced by the employment of subtly distorted language” (p. x) by political fixers, disguised as honest brokers. These brokers, however, are many and in most cases, very powerful western influencers like the various ambassadors mentioned above. For example, Ms. Lynch was the ringleader among the ambassadors and main backer of the overthrow of the David Granger’s Presidency. Ms. Lynch is an example of how the shadow elites of the world work. These powerful brokers are the main culprits who “undermine democracy, governments, and the free market” (Wedel, 2009, p. cover).

Guyana’s democracy has always been fragile, democracies in itself “are always fragile” (Levitsky & Ziblatt, 2018, p. 1), including the U.S, one of the most powerful western countries. The insurrection at the U.S. Capital on January 6 was a clear example that when powerful people want something there is no limit to what they would do to get it. Donald Trump wanted power and on the 6th of January, he called out to his supporters to attack the U.S Capitol. “U.S President Joe Biden has said his predecessor Donald Trump’s acquittal for inciting mob violence is a reminder that ‘democracy is fragile’” (BBC, 2021). On March 2, Bharrat Jagdeo wanted power, the U.S under Trump’s leadership wanted to maintain power, so as a collective, “Overseas observers, including Western Diplomats, joined the [PPP/C] to denounce the results and bandy about allegations of fraud” (Burke, 2020) when “the declarations from the ten regions show that the ruling APNU+AFC coalition won the elections” (Burke, 2020). The U.S. Ambassador to Guyana, Lynch, is a clear example of a “Broker of Deceit.” According to Wedel,

you cannot, in today’s world, judge a book by its contents. Today’s premier influencers deftly elude such judgement. Pursuing their coincidences of interest, they wave new institutional forms of power and influence, in which official and private power and influence are interdependent and even reinforce each other’ (Wedel, 2009, pp. 4-5). These influencers, brokers, or better known as Ambassadors and High Commissioners ‘are the new breed of influencers “flexians.” When such operators work together in longstanding groups, thus multiplying their influence, they are flexnets. Flexians and flex nets operate at one extreme of a continuum in crafting their coincidences of interest (2009, p. 5).

Guyana’s democracy is broken. A coup d’état was carried by the PPP/C and the ABCE countries. The PPP/C party and Western Diplomats in a clear and coordinated act “demanded that GECOM abandons the lawfully declared District 4 results and adopt an extraconstitutional vote ‘verification’ process’ [that was] insisted upon by the PPP/C” (Burke, 2020). The PPP/C has claimed that Statements of Polls (SOP) by the Returning Officer (RO) “in region 4 were different from the SOPs it has, which it displayed on its website” (DOSSIER: Guyana Elections 2020, 2020, p. 13). The PPP/C, however, rigged the elections and they themselves showed the evidence. As mentioned above, the PPP/C displayed their SOPs on its website were their “vote tally stated that the document was prepared on February 29, 2020, two days before the elections. After discovering they made a mistake with the dates, it was quickly withdrawn and replaced with one dated March 5, 2020” (DOSSIER: Guyana Elections 2020, 2020, p. 14). With this clear example and countless others of electoral fraud and rigging by the PPP/C party, Western ambassadors refused to accept the APNU-AFC won the elections. Instead, Assistant Secretary of State (Ag), Michael Kozak, “stated that regardless of what the Guyanese High Court decided, if the incumbent APNU+AFC coalition was sworn in based on the opposition contested elections results, that government will be deemed illegitimate by the US” (GNN, 2020).

Kozak's action by itself is a clear example of how fragile Guyana's democracy is. According to Levitsky and Ziblatt, (2018), "American politicians now treat their rivals (like the APNU+AFC) as enemies, intimidate the free press, and threaten to reject the results of elections. They try to weaken the institutional buffers of our democracy, including the courts" (Levitsky & Ziblatt, 2018, p. 2). Levitsky and Ziblatt, further stated that "laboratories of democracy are in danger of becoming laboratories of authoritarianism as those in power rewrite electoral rules." Along with the rewrite of election laws presently taking place by the PPP/C 'illegal' government, they are arresting senior functionaries at GECOM charging them with 'trumped up' charges of electoral fraud. But, as mentioned, it was the PPP/C that had been caught fixing their electoral results dated February 29, two days before the March 2, 2020 general elections (DOSSIER: Guyana Elections 2020, 2020, p. 13).

The people of Guyana had their democracy stolen when Kozak told President Granger, the Guyana Election Commission, and the courts that the PPP/C made up electoral results with the PPP/C going into office with the only acceptable election results (GNN, 2020). "This is how we tend to think of democracies dying: at the hands of men with guns" (Levitsky & Ziblatt, 2018, p. 3), U.S. interference in Guyana's electoral system and choice of government, the threat of visa restrictions by the U.S. Secretary of State Michael Pompeo against anyone backing the win for APNU+AFC (GNN, 2020, p. 1), PPP/C agents armed with guns at the GECOM office in the capital city (Burke, 2020), and 40,000 fraudulent votes in PPP/[C] column (McAllister, 2020).

The Election Results

The U.S. Ambassador and her Western colleagues might force upon the Guyanese people an illegitimate and fraudulent government, "but the Summary of [the] Observation Reports prepared by GECOM Chief Election Officer Keith Lowenfield is damning" (McAllister, 2020). Mr. Lowenfield, informed the country that his ruling on the general and regional electoral results "contained so many irregularities, including dead and migrated people voting, that it has not met the basic threshold to be deemed free, fair, and credible" (Wilkinson, 2020). Mr. Lowenfield said "there were numerous instances of fraud in all 10 electoral districts, leading him to conclude that the elections, cannot be deemed as credible" due to several illegal and fraudulent acts committed at polling stations (Wilkinson, 2020).

The report prepared by Mr. Lowenfield details the crime, evidence of the crime, and the myriad attempts to cover-up the crime. The report records 4,373 cases of voter impersonation, which is the crime. Everything else, including failure to administer Oaths of identity, missing Oaths of Identity, pool books, counterfoils etc., are either evidence of the crime or efforts to cover up the crime' (McAllister, 2020). Mr. Lowenfield concluded that 'well over 200,000 votes across the 10 Electoral Districts' have been impacted (Marshall, 2020).

Furthermore, votes were cast for dead and migrated persons that were not in the jurisdiction on the day of elections (McAllister, 2020). In the capital city of Georgetown, "missing statutory documents was discovered in forty-seven (47) ballot boxes from Polling Stations in Sub-District East Coast Demerara" (Marshall, 2020). Marshall further stated that "outside of those anomalies...7% of all votes cast for list of Candidates in District (Region) Four [only]" have been impacted with various illegal acts from voter impersonation, missing Oaths of Identity, out of the jurisdiction on the day of elections, deceased persons, and more. Along with Mr. Lowenfield's report, the Chairman of GECOM, retired Justice, Claudette Sing, also concluded "that the results do not meet the standard of fair and credible elections" (Pride News, 2020). Despite these

mentioned widespread frauds committed in PPP/C strongholds, “they demanded the combined recount without the audit portion be declared. The PPP/C subverted the fraud they accused [APNU+AFC]’ of committing and forced the Guyanese people to accept the unaudited national recount created by GECOM named ‘Order 60 of 2020 to ascertain the credibility of the votes and backed by the international community including the U.S.” (Lewis, 2021, p. 2). Before Mr. Lowenfield’s report or the Chair’s conclusion about the elections.

Then President Granger and the PPP/C opposition agreed to a recount of all the ballot boxes. The recount, however, would not just be a general recount, but an intense audit of every ballot box and every single vote that was cast. The recount and audit came about when the U.S., the OAS, and other stakeholders discarded the original tabulation on March 3, stating that there was evidence of cheating in favor of the multiparty coalition winning those elections (Wilkinson, 2020). The recount and audit were agreed to and signed off by both the President and the opposition party that will see a three-stage process: a recount, an in-depth audit, and deliberation of the final report. The report detailed the complaints and observations made in every region and the findings by the Commission members’ (Pride News, 2020). At the 3rd phase of the recount and audit process, the Commission will deliberate ‘then advise the CEO whether he should use the report to put together another report, for an official declaration of the election results’ (Pride News, 2020).

At the end of the three-phase process, however, the PPP/C party along with the international community reneged on the audit process and demanded that only the 1st stage of the process be tabulated which would give the PPP/C a win without taking into account the coalition’s concerns over the validity of votes (Mowla, 2020). Under a judicial review and outcome by the courts, Mr. Lowenfield was advised by the courts to “prepare a report based on “valid” votes [only]” (Mowla, 2020). But as mentioned above, the PPP/C, the ABCE countries, and other organizations want all votes counted, valid and invalid, which will give the PPP/C the government. However, if Mr. Lowenfield tabulated his report based on valid votes only which would eliminate 115,000 votes that were invalid or unaccounted for, then APNU+AFC would have won the elections. The PPP/C won, based on invalid and valid votes combined (GNN, 2020, p. 1). The PPP/C argued that Mr. Lowenfield “has gone beyond his remit to simply tabulate the votes and not to insert his opinion into the process.” GECOM’s CEO, however, did not give his opinion based on personal analysis, but on facts that came out of Order 60, 2020 of the national recount, audit, and deliberation with a final report from the CEO (Wilkinson, 2020).

The ABCE countries with U.S Ambassador Lynch leading the pack, the OAS, CARICOM, and other internal and external organizations wanted the PPP/C to win the elections by all means possible. The Prime Ministers of Barbados, Mia Mottley, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines’ Ralph Gonsalves went to great lengths to interfere “in Guyana’s elections process and called for invalid votes to be counted to give the opposition [PPP/C] the victory” (GNN, 2020, p. 1). The Prime Minister of Barbados and Chairman Mottley “attacked Guyana’s Chief Elections Officer, [Mr. Lowenfield] and disrespected the Guyana Court of Appeal, as she joined Gonsalves to demand that invalid votes be counted” (GNN, 2020, p. 1).

Guyana and its elections have never before been of such “immense geopolitical strategic importance” to any country as were the March 2, 2020 elections. Many countries across the globe suffered coups d’état during the Cold War. “Argentina, Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Ghana” (Levitsky & Ziblatt, 2018, p. 3); and most recently military coups for Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi in 2013 and Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra in 2014. In all these cases, democracy dissolved in “spectacular fashion, through military power and coercion” (p.3).

But there is another way to break a democracy. It is less dramatic but equally destructive. Democracies may die at the hands not of generals but of elected leaders—presidents or prime ministers who subvert the very process that brought them to power. Some of these leaders dismantle democracy quickly, as Hitler did in the wake of the 1933 Reichstag fire in Germany. More often, though, democracies erode slowly, in barely visible steps (Levitsky & Ziblatt, 2018, p. 3).

In Guyana’s case, democracy did die by the hands of those who should have been the guardians to protect it; the ABCE countries’ ambassadors, the OAS, CARICOM, and the PPP/C party; but ‘the Opposition [disseminated] a narrative that is no more than a falsification of reality’ (DOSSIER: Guyana Elections 2020, 2020, p. 3). According to Chomsky (1991), the “PPP/C “wanted to control the thought of the more intelligent” that is the international brokers or those “shadow elite” members of the community in the United States, “who would then disseminate the propaganda that they were concocting.” Chomsky warned that when propaganda of this magnitude that the coalition is stealing the elections is manufactured by the PPP/C and is “supported by the educated classes and when no deviation is permitted from it,” it certainly will have a big effect” (p. 13). The PPP/C accomplished their manufactured propaganda of electoral fraud against the APNU+AFC government because some of the people backing the PPP/C and some in “the United States didn’t [look], because the media and the intellectual class are too disciplined, and ordinary people out there don’t have the time to go and read records and figure out what happened” (Mitchell & Schoeffel, 2002, p. 7).

As mentioned above, some democracies are disposed of by the military. In Guyana’s case, however, that did not happen, or did it? Was President Granger, the former Commander and Chief silently disposed of by the Guyana Defence Force (GDF)? If the U.S. government secretly wants to overthrow a Third World government, they will get that country’s army to do it for them. As Mitchell & Schoeffel stated, “In fact, that’s the main reason for giving military aid and training all around the world in the first place, to keep contacts with our guys in the place that counts, the army” (2002, p. 6). During Guyana’s March 2020 electoral impasse, newly appointed Chief-of-Staff of the GDF, Brigadier Godfrey Bess, “met senior Diplomats of the’ U.S., England, Canada, and the EU. All that was published for the public was a minimal statement from Brigadier Bess, who stated that “the Force has an apolitical stance and abides by its role in the Constitution of Guyana” (Newsroom 2020, p. 1). He claimed, “the envoys pledged continued military support for the GDF,” are reported by Stabroek News (2020). So, what military support or aid did the ABCE ambassadors promised to provide the GDF? Chomsky (2002) made it pellucid when he stated that the “role of the military in Latin American societies is to overthrow civilian governments if, in the judgement of the military, the governments are not pursuing the ‘welfare of the nation’” (Mitchell & Schoeffel, 2002, p. 7), which really means the welfare of American multinational corporations, such as Exxon Mobil, for example.

Then President Granger, throughout the elections process, stated that it was his “sworn duty as President, to uphold the Constitution and keep our citizens safe. I intend to do so. I will not allow political malefactors to highjack our democracy and compromise public order and human safety” (DOSSIER: Guyana Elections 2020, 2020, p. 3). But Guyana’s democracy was indeed high jacked by way of Guyana’s own democratic electoral process. The United States is the focal country that intervened in Guyana’s March 2, 2020 elections. It was not a difficult process because the U.S. rallied behind the PPP/C opposition who wanted power badly. Once the PPP/C would have gained power, it would then be easy for the U.S. to accomplish two goals: 1) topple the government of Venezuela “which the U.S has long backed” (John, 2020, p. 3), and 2) tap into

Guyana's "newfound oil reserves and wealth" (John, 2020, p. 3). "Guyanese newfound crude oil is expected to gross billions of dollars for the country" and Exxon Mobil and other oil corporations will benefit, depending who wins the election, preferably the PPP/C (John, 2020, p. 3). Looking a bit further into U.S. foreign policy, when it comes to third world countries, their independence rather than relying on the U.S for resources would be more beneficial to these small nations. According to Chomsky, the U.S main reason for intervening in third world countries "is to prevent independence, regardless of the ideology [...]. Remember, we're the global power, so we have to make sure that all the various parts of the world continue serving their assigned functions in our global system" (Mitchell & Schoeffel, 2002, p. 64). President Granger's government was about independence. The then President was educating the Guyanese population that Guyana, as a nation, can "embarked on a progressive foreign policy to protect its vital national interests" (Guyana's Parliament, 2016). The President further stated that Guyana, as a nation, "must create a country that will fulfil our obligation to our children and generations to come" (Guyana's Parliament, 2016). He went on to say,

Guyana in order to achieve these goals, must realign its economy to generate the wealth that would allow for poverty reduction. [The nation] must improve and sustain higher economic growth in order to raise our entire population out of the depths of extreme poverty. Guyana's economy will be enriched by the discovery of petroleum. We look forward to preparing our people and the economy for the exploitation of this rich resource' (Guyana's Parliament, 2016). Towards the end of the President's speech made to the National Assembly on May 24, 2016, he stated that 'independence engendered expectations that the inequalities which characterize colonial society would be eradicated we have made progress in ensuring greater opportunities for our people (Guyana's Parliament, 2016).

This intent and actions noted in this speech by President Granger, and the oil wealth that would have taken Guyana out of poverty and dependency on foreign nations however goes against everything "the assigned functions of the [the] Third World countries" which the U.S. wants (Mitchell & Schoeffel, 2002, p. 64). United States Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Sarah Ann Lynch, and the British, Canadian, and EU Ambassadors all claimed to be the defenders of democracy, but in reality their "support for democracy is the province of ideologists and propagandists" (Chomsky, 2017, p. 47). The "elite dislike of democracy is the norm. the evidence is overwhelming that democracy is supported only insofar as it contributes to social and economic objectives" (p. 47), which would be the vast amount of petroleum and revenues. The U.S., under Trump and its ambassador to Guyana Lynch "supports dictators and blocks democracy and development, as do its allies" (p. 49). The ABCE Ambassadors during the election process continuously "make misleading statements about their goals and intentions does not denote confusion on their part but a desire to confuse their publics as to what interests they are really serving" (Parenti, 2000, p. 2).

The lies of the PPP/C, the OAS, CARICOM, the ABCE countries and others, did somewhat of a good job at manipulating their supports and other stakeholders. But there are others like the Brooklyn U.S. Congressman Hakeem Jeffries and U.S. Congresswoman, also of Brooklyn, Yvette Clark, whose critical thinking skills the backers of the PPP/C were not able to short-circuit (Parenti, 2000, p. 8). They condemned the U.S. Ambassador and others for their part of trying to overthrow the Guyanese Government under President Granger. Both Mr. Jeffries and Ms. Clark blasted the U.S government and the ambassador for interfering in Guyana's elections (Guyana Chronicle, 2020, p. 1).

Conclusion

Never before in Guyana's history had the country suffered an insurrection that later led to a coup deposing an elected government that was re-elected by the will of the Guyanese people. President David Granger lost the elections because U.S. Ambassador Lynch and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State (Ag), Michael Kozak, along with England, Canada, and the EU directly interfered with Guyana's electoral process. All internal and external stakeholders wanted the APNU+AFC out of office, and for that to succeed they used the PPP/C, a party that would sell their souls to the highest bidder to get back into government since losing the previous elections in 2015.

Guyana is a deeply divided nation by race, Indians, and Blacks though this divide relates mainly to politics and does not reflect the outlook of all of Guyana. The U.S. used this weakness to divide the Guyanese population after the realization that then President David Granger would not allow the U.S. to intervene in Venezuela's internal affairs. The U.S. also realized that Mr. Granger does indeed have Guyana's best interest at heart and would use its newfound oil resources to benefit all of Guyana, and not share Guyana's wealth or benefit other countries. So, the ABCE countries backed the PPP/C to ensure a loss for the coalition government. The PPP/C was brought to office by both invalid and valid votes. The coalition won the elections by valid votes only. Guyana's insurrection was similar to that at the U.S. capitol on January 6.

In Guyana's case, however, a coup d'état followed by way of our own elections that were high-jacked, both the invalid and valid votes were combined, the strong backing of international community favoring the PPP/C be given the government, followed by threats, personal and international sanctions by the ABCE countries against the coalition leadership, GECOM staff, and the courts if the organs of Guyana's democracy were not to favor Western (that of the ABCE) countries. Democracy was put to sleep in Guyana because of greed, selfishness, jealousy, and fascism. At some time in the future, Guyana's elections, the demand and acceptance of fraudulent and invalid votes, and "the stance of the ABCE countries, [the OAS, CARICOM, some Guyanese citizens, and other international organizations] will be taught in democracy classes [on the campuses of higher education] as a classic example of [regime] change by trying to legitimize fraudulent elections' (McAllister, 2020).

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