

Suggestions for Using Daniel Hunter's Presentation

"Defending Our Democracy: Where Are We and What's Next?"

Daniel Hunter makes use of careful research to describe where we are in this country with Donald Trump's use of the "authoritarian's playbook." He also outlines who is on "Team Democracy" and the nonviolent process of stopping an authoritarian coup. Use these suggested queries in your meeting or group to reflect on Daniel's presentation.

These are the six key elements of the authoritarian's playbook that Daniel addressed:

1. Direct investigations against critics
2. Give license to lawbreaking
3. Regulatory retaliation
4. Deploy military domestically
5. Federal law enforcement overreach
6. The autocrat won't leave

How have you seen Donald Trump and the current administration fit the pattern described in this playbook?

Here are some of "Team Democracy's" players:

1. State and local governments
2. Federal civil servants
3. The judiciary system at all levels
4. Opposition political parties and grass roots organizations
5. Civil society—that's all of us!

What other players do you see now on Team Democracy? Are you called to be a player? If so, how?

Daniel outlines Team Democracy's Goals Regarding a Coup:

1. Slow it down.
2. Stop it entirely.
3. Reverse the process—restore democratic institutions and practices..

Daniel sees us at step one. What do you see as the current impact of resistance and any "slowing down" of the coup? How do you believe local Quakers (and your meeting) might support these three steps?

Daniel's presentation had an uplifting effect on those who watched it on June 1.

What is your overall reaction to his presentation?

How do you maintain hope during these challenging times?

What do you imagine as your next step to support the work of Team Democracy as an individual and as a community?

Here again is the link to Daniel's recorded talk. Here you will find his full slide deck.

Please forgive the background interruptions that were recorded on the Zoom call.

We couldn't edit them out.

(Please see the next page for additional resources from the Quaker Call.)

Other Resources Lifted Up During the June 1, 2025 Quaker Call to Action National Zoom Call

Numerous Website Links connected to Choose Democracy

Main Site <https://choosedemocracy.us/>
Boycott Tracker <https://choosedemocracy.us/boycott-central/>
BlueSky Resistance Tracker <https://choosedemocracy.us/resist-list/>
Tracking Trackers Compilation <https://choosedemocracy.us/tracking-trackers/>
What can I do to stop a coup? <https://choosedemocracy.us/what-can-i-do/>

Social Media Site Tracking Resistance Efforts

Resist List: <https://bsky.app/profile/resistlist.bsky.social>

Waging Nonviolence Newsletter

<https://wagingnonviolence.org>

Siembra, North Carolina's Defend and Recruit

website: <https://defendandrecruit.org/>

For groups who are wanting more training in noncooperation

Freedom Trainers www.freedomtrainers.net

Interested in knowing more about Quaker sanctuary tradition and history and asylum?

I'd be happy to talk to your meeting about these issues. lrabben@verizon.net

Erica Chenoweth

Researcher and writer Erica Chenoweth gave an informative Ted Talk in 2013 on the history of nonviolent citizens' movements stopping and reversing authoritarian coup attempts. She originally believed that the only way to stop such an attempted coup was through violence, but her research convinced her that, in fact, nonviolent grassroots movements were in fact way more likely to succeed to stop such takeovers. View her Ted Talk [Here](#).

North Star Network

The *North Star Network* is a quiet Quaker start-up that is exploring ways to assist U.S. based immigrants who want to consider moving to Canada. This could be an option for some immigrants, but it is not for everyone.

The Network partners with local immigrant and legal aid groups in the U.S. and Canada to provide humanitarian aid, counseling, and possibly transportation, shelter, and technical assistance to those who become clear to make such a move.

There are numerous ways to help:

- ☐ Be trained and serve as a counselor for immigrants.
- ☐ Reach out to immigrant groups in your area to let them know help is available.
- ☐ Help with communications and research.
- ☐ Put your technical, professional or language skills to use.
- ☐ Identify and help organize other volunteers in your area.
- ☐ Use your car to drive northbound immigrants part of the way.
- ☐ Be a way station -- provide shelter, a meal, or other kinds of support for those making this trip.

Because NSN works quietly and shuns the spotlight, including the kinds of positive publicity and visibility that many nonprofit groups seek, please help them by honoring this concern.

For more information, reach out at: networktothenorthstar@gmail.com