

## **Deliberative Democracy and Political Ignorance in Sri Lanka with Reference to the Local Government Election of 2018**

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This paper concerned the contemporary debate about the nature of democracy and discusses the concept of deliberative democracy and examined the case of Sri Lankan context. In several countries are witnessing a growing dissatisfaction with democratic institutions. Such dissatisfaction may have serious consequences for the future democracy. Unfortunately, most democratic societies are ill-prepared to confront to control the present challenge, since they are unable to grasp its nature. In the Sri Lankan context, these ideals don't take into account widespread political ignorance and irrationality. Most of the Sri Lankan public is largely ignorant politics. Much evidence suggests that political ignorance. The biggest issue in the 2018 local government election in our society, like elsewhere, there are some people, in fact, quite a lot of them, who are dumb and simply politically ignorant. There are many Sri Lankans who do not regard Mahinda Rajapaksha as a monster but rather as a hero, particularly among the island's Buddhist, ethnically Sinhala majority. He was the person who led them to victory in the long civil war with the Tamil community. The existence of such ignorance does not by itself prove that there is anything wrong with our political system. Perhaps these polls are somehow unrepresentative. In any case, may be voters do not need much in the way of knowledge. Perhaps they can make good decisions even if they know very little. Still these examples and others like them are at least cause for concern. If the public really is often ignorant, we might have a serious problem on our hands. The objective of this paper is to explore the recent paradigm of deliberative democracy and its shortcomings in Sri Lankan context. Furthermore, we discuss some element for the elaboration for an alternative model that political pluralism. The articles conclude that democratic theory needs to acknowledge the ineradicability of achieving a fully inclusive rational consensus. We argue that a model of deliberative democracy in terms of political pluralism can help us to better envisage the main challenge facing democratic politics today. The data of the present study was collected through secondary sources and they have been analyzed descriptive.

**Keywords:** deliberative democracy; pluralism; political institutions; political ignorance; Mahinda Rajapaksha