Summer Town Hall Reflection

1. What have been some of the causes of conflict in your simulated nation? Describe what decision-making processes and political/legal tools could be used to avert or respond to such conflicts.

The majority of the conflicts in the nation are due to the denial of units or the overcharging of units. Many people are upset over the government’s allocation of units to the people since the government could not give the entire population units there is an outrage. The government units were controlled by Shivani who sold units at a biased rate selling at a priority to mostly close members of parliament. This should be handled in a political manner if a populous believes the government is being unfair with the distribution of units it does not violate any laws and should be handled in the next election. However this cannot happen so the people have no way to voice their concerns, the people elected a dictator for life and if a government has no checks and balances than a government may act in corrupt ways. Another source of conflict is about the overcharging of units in particular the case in which Kush charged rent at a seasonal rate compared to a yearly rent. The author’s interpretation of the law was that it was a yearly rent however the law can be determined in many different ways. Yet again since this does not break the law this should be resolved in a way that is not decided by a court. Kush Parhar obviously should not overcharge people especially for a basic service such as shelter however he has no legal obligation not to, the best method would be to draft legislation that would alter the wording of the bill however it is too late for that. Another method is that the government could subsidize the cost of rent by paying the costs that tenants cannot afford to pay. Finally there is one better method the government could convert all essential services into public property. If the government owns housing unit the government has no expenses to pay off of it if it already owns the energy hex so the government can offer free rent to all citizens and deal out housing in a fair manner so everyone has equal amount of WB points. If the government owns most essential hexes than money would also become useless and would become abolished so it would solve question 2 where the economic imbalance would become null since there is no money.

2. Are economic imbalances that occur between citizens something people just have to accept, or could and should they be minimized?

The economic inequality in the nation of Coasta Rivera was a major issue in the beginning of the year. The poorest citizens had virtually no power while the richest controlled political and economic power. After the hex auction this issue became more pronounced many people even with price caps in place could not afford basic services such as food or housing. The redistribution of wealth in the country helped minimize this issue however it still needs to be fixed. I am the richest citizen in the country with ~6000 dollars while the poorest Jared Amaro has 1300. This is a significant issue and if the game were to be continued this would need to be fixed. These economic imbalances have a huge role in the modern economy according to time.com the average 22 year old has a net worth of -33,984. If a person is under the age of 30 then on average they will have a net worth of below $0. This is absurd Mark Zuckerberg at just over 30 has a net worth of about 60 billion dollars. This economic in equality is extremely detrimental to society, in the current economic system the poor will get poorer since they have no property or assets to benefit off of since they cannot afford to purchase them while the rich can afford to purchase property and receive the economic benefits of investments. The government needs to attempt to minimize wealth inequality because this problem will only get worse and as the problem gets worse it will lead to an oligarchy where the richest people in a country effectively control that nation. There is another option which is highly controversial, the government could abolish money, and this system would work in Civic mirror since the government has no need for laborers or any expenses. If all hexes become public property than every person would become equal with an equal amount of WB points since the people would distribute housing, health, education and more equally amongst each other. People are afraid of this economic system because they have grown up understanding it is impossible however in this game the system would work and potentially even in modern society.

**Here's The Average Net Worth of Millennials | Money. (n.d.). Retrieved April 03, 2017, from https://time.com/money/4375215/student-debt-millennial-net-worth/**