In our discussion of the governance scope yesterday, KISS AVC deliberated about the option of anonymous polls in MakerDAO.

I would like to get input from a broader range of contributors before we decide whether or not to include this into KISS AVC's position document.

Problem statement

Nearly every democracy and most other election processes in the world are anonymous, meaning that it can not be easily determined who voted on which option.

The main reasons for this are to avoid:

- Fear of retribution or shaming when voting on an unpopular option
- Group formation and bandwagoning promote choices by high-status voters or exacerbate dynamics like early leads

*Increasingly tactical voting instead of reflection of true preferences

Maker special needs

Given the special circumstances in MakerDAO, anonymous voting would also have some disadvantages. Mainly:

- Inability of delegators to check how their delegates voted on an anonymous poll
- Inability of AVCs to check how delegates voted on an anonymous poll
- Possibility of delegates or voters to develop "schizo" personalities, that vote opposite or uncorrelated to their stated opinion, which could lead to new sorts of tactical behavior.
- Inabilty of giving rationales for anonymous polls, except in a blinded/anon format.

Conclusion

Our conclusion at the end of the discussion was that it might be valuable to have anonymous voting in some polls, but not as a standard. Ideally these would be highly contested and political polls, where delegates or voters could reasonably fear retributions or being ostracized.

We would appreciate input from all ADs and AVC members, and governance facilitators about the implications of this option on Maker governance. Please bear in mind that we would propose anonymous voting as optional

. Governance Faclitiators and poll creators could choose to deploy this option and would probably give a rationale for their choice.

cc @ldr @votewizard @AVC_Member

We would also like to ping@jetstream-ea for input on the development effort required. Known implementations are ShutterDAO and Snapshot.

Shielded voting is live! — Snapshot Labs (mirror.xyz) - Trialled by Aave and dYdX.

ShutterDAO 0x36 Snapshot. Snapshot