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**WE THE PEOPLE...**

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**THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF ELECTIONS**

**MINDSET**

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**ASSET**

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**UPSET**



**ANALOGY:** Similarities between political and economic systems

**POLITICS**



**ECONOMICS**

### KEY PROPOSITION

- Whenever the supply is greater than the demand, the consumer wins.  
**SUPPLY  $\geq$  DEMAND = Favorable**
- Whenever the demand is greater than the supply, the consumer loses.  
**SUPPLY  $\leq$  DEMAND = Unfavorable**

### QUALIFYER

People = Commodity



The better the quality of the individual, the better the quality of the candidate.

# CHALLENGE

- ❑ **Cultural Dissonance** -  
Pedagogy of the Oppressed by Paulo Freire (1970)/"Crazy Demonstration" by Fela
  - ❑ Democracy ("Demonstration of Crazy")
    - *It's not the system we are in, but the system in Us.*
  - ❑ Direct Vs. Representative Democracy
- ❑ **Greatest Election Fraud (1788)**
  - 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment (1920)/15<sup>th</sup> (1870)
    - ❑ **Death of Education/Warped Acculturation**
    - ❑ 'Un'-Civic Education ("Civil-WAR")
    - ❑ **Voter Apathy, Suppression/Intimidation**
    - ❑ **Political Corruption**
    - ❑ **Chronic Incompetence**



# MINDSET

## VALUE Re-adjustment

- Promote African Intellectual Heritage** ("For the lack of knowledge...")
- Curricula Alignment/Tested Content**  
- **Federalism, (Toobin, 2007)**
- Voter Education** ("if you don't vote, it don't count")
- Value Based VOTING** ("it is not just sufficient to vote...")
- Promote Critical Thinking** ("academic rigor")
- Automatic Voter Registration** (WAEC/JAMB/Driver License)
- Institutionalize absentee/ on-line voting**



# ASSET

- ❑ Corrosive influence of **Ca\$\$**
- ❑ **Citizens United**
- ❑ Pandora Papers – The Guardian (2021)
- ❑ **Establish Campaign Finance Laws** -“He who pays the piper calls the tune”  
- “My Vote is not for sale!”
- ❑ **Explore options for public finance**
- ❑ **Restrict and monitor overseas money in national politics**  
- Russian Interference/- Social Media algorithms



# UPSET

## CHANGE

### Unconventional

- ✓ Jan. 6, Arab Spring, MAU MAU, Coup d'etat)

### Conventional

- ✓ Run for Office
- ✓ Demand Accountability
- ✓ Recall
- ✓ Impeach
- ✓ Vote 'em Out

