

I have been super excited about getting back home to report to you about the new reality TV show that will air this fall. I was able to be a part of the filming of the first 6 episodes and can give you a "sneak peak". I believe the hidden message in the series is that **cooperation** is the key to surviving.

In the first episode, it was interesting to watch the personalities of all the people while they tried to decide exactly how they would survive. At first, there was some **aggression** displayed from some of the participants as they fought to see who would be in charge. The state of **Anarchy** was chaotic while they tried to figure out what type of housing and food source they would have, what type of government they would set up and who would be in charge, and what jobs or responsibilities everyone would take on. You certainly do not want to miss Episode #1.

Episode #2 will be another episode that you won't want to miss. The participants are starting to get more and more hostile and it is obvious that the lack of authority and **Anarchy** will not work. At least, they were all able to agree that a government has to be established. As you can probably guess, some of government types were not an option for them. **Aristocracy** was out of the question since the government was not in place already and the power could not be inherited. The participants also quickly decided that **Plutocracy** was not a good idea since there was not wealthy lifestyles that were obvious on a deserted island. They even knew they would have to plan to **trade** goods and services once they set up their **economic system**. The participants really felt like **Autocracy** would not be the best form of government because the living conditions were so new and different than what they were used to and would require more than one person to be in charge with input and ideas for everyone. **Oligarchy** was highly considered since there were such few people living here and having a few people making decisions is better than one like **Autocracy**. It seemed to the participants of the reality TV show that having a **republic** would be best so that the citizens would all have a say in the decision making. Episode #2 will be filled with lots of decisions and **delegates** will be put in place to represent the people when making decisions. The **delegates** are looking to have a small democratic style government with a person in the role of President and a House and Senate. The decision making will be based on voting that takes place so that the people can express their wishes. You will love all of the issues that arise when deciding on this government in Episode #2. Don't miss it!

And of course by week 3 of reality TV, you will be hooked. This week brought devastation and unique situations that need to be resolved. After the banana crops were destroyed, the people realized that humans resort to "surviving" in different ways and saw the need to make laws and consequences for breaking them. The **delegates** developed a

**domestic policy** that requires all families represented to be contributing to the society with labors or skills and there was a **trade** system set up where one can **trade** goods and services. If citizens choose to break laws, then they will be sentenced to donate time to do labor of clean up and will then have no right to vote on the island. Episode #3 is a must see!

Up until Episode #4, the reality TV participants have not been faced with the need for **foreign policy** because they thought that the island was uninhabited. At first, the government thought that **Isolationism** would be best and they refrain from having relations with these people. But, they then realized that the other settlers could be an asset. They decided to set up a **treaty** between them and the other group of people that lived nearby so that they may be able to start **trade** between them. With this in mind, the reality TV participants decided that they must agree on the level of **trade** and control that they wanted to give the others. They had to develop a **trade** policy and decide which goods were able to be **traded** and what they would take in exchange for their goods and services. They also had to set up storage for the goods and decide who would work the **trade** center. Episode #4 brought many exciting decisions to be made. You will definitely want to see it.

Episode #5 will be a night to watch. The participants realize that the new community has lots to offer and even has resources that they don't have yet. They also discover that **trade** will not be as easy as they thought because the other group is wealthy and wants to be demanding. After trying to decide how to establish fair **trade** and realizing that the other group does not seem as eager to **cooperate**, our new nation decides to continue to live a simple life and practice **Isolationism** and do without these other resources. The difficulties of **trade** that they feared was being controlled by the other group since they were wealthy. We often wondered if **Plutocracy** existed for them. Our decision to not set up relations definitely hurt our chances of **trade**. Some of the members of the group were a little disappointed that **trade** policies were not set up but they remained peaceful. Episode #5 keeps you on the edge of your seat.

Well, the decisions made in Episode #5 may come back to haunt them in this episode. Episode #6 brings unexpected company to the island when they are invaded by pirates. The group showed **aggression** back but they seemed to be out matched by the pirates. The group discovered that they needed to rethink **Isolationism** and join forces with their neighbors to prevent them all from being taken over by the pirates. At the close of this episode, the two neighboring groups were discussing a **peace treaty** to establish **trade** and **foreign policy** to join together to protect their goods from being taken by the pirates.

I must tell you that the experience of being able to be a part of the filming of the

first 6 episodes as amazing. I enjoyed discovering the advantages of an organized government. It was great to have decisions being made based on the votes of the citizens instead of chaos when there was **Anarchy**. The set up of the democracy was beneficial because the people got to decide on their leader and voice their opinion on the laws being made. The biggest challenge was when we had to delegate and decide who would have what responsibilities before the government was organized, when we were having to decide on laws, vote, choose **delegates**, decide on **peace treaty** and **trade** it seemed like it would have been easier for **Autocracy** so that one person could have just told us what to do. I guess **Autocracy** would not have made reality TV as interesting.