Democracy 10 Deliberative Democracy Part 1

Please read the first excerpt (pp. 91-4) from Joshua Cohen's "Deliberation and Democratic Legitimacy." After reading the excerpt, answer the questions that follow. The questions are aimed especially this time at helping your reading of the text.

- 1. What is a deliberative democracy? Is it a name given to some actually existing governments or something else?
- 2. What is deliberation? Can you give examples from your daily life or from the wider world?
- 3. How does deliberative democracy say that decisions are democratically legitimate?
- 4. How are the "terms and conditions," or laws, governing social life determined in a deliberative democracy?
- 5. What commitment do the citizens of a deliberative democracy share?
- 6. What is the ideal deliberative procedure supposed to capture?
- 7. What is the basis of legitimacy in a deliberative democracy?
- 8. What does it mean to say that a deliberative democracy is a "pluralistic association?"
- 9. How do citizens view each other in a deliberative democracy? Do you think Americans today view each other this way? Do you think we *can*?
- 10. What are the three general aspects of deliberation and which of them seems most characteristic of deliberative democracy?
- 11. What is the goal of deliberation? Why is this the most democratically attractive goal, even if we can't achieve it?
- 12. How does deliberative democracy differ, if at all, from the way we usually think about democracy?