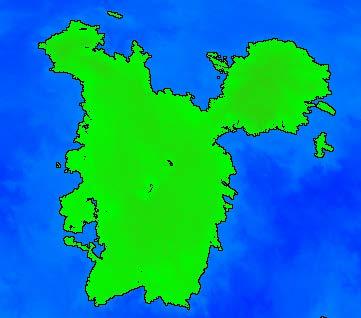
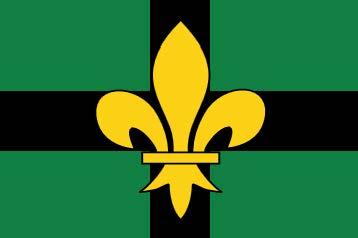
Role-playing opinions

1) Hello there! This is a role-playing game. Please use your imagination for what follows...First, we will describe the land your character lives in. Then, we will give you information about your character's life. Then, we will ask you to create a name for your character. Next, we will describe something that is going on where your character lives, and ask you for your opinion. Your character should have the same general moral values as you have - so you do not need to imagine an entirely different morality for your character.

2) You live in Morapia. Morapia is a relatively large island nation, with nearly 2 million square miles. The climate is temperate, with average rainfall, hot summers, and cold winters. Morapia is close to the supercontinent of Ralat, which is home to 38 countries. Morapia has fairly good relations with these countries. Morapia has not fought a war with any of the 38 nearby countries for over 100 years, and trades freely with them.



3) Morapia is an industrialized country, with competitive businesses in nearly all economic categories from technology to shipbuilding. Morapia’s land and weather allows for a wide variety of crops to be grown, and Morapia produces enough food for its own population as well as for export. A majority of Morapian land is owned by the wealthiest 5% of the population, and many Morapian farmers work on land they have to rent.



4) Now that you know a little about Morapia, next you will be introduced to your character's daily life. While you read about it, please think of an appropriate name for your character.

5)a) You are a farmer in Morapia. You live in a modest wooden farmhouse that your parents built (pictured below). You and your family work on rented farmland, producing grain, raising animals, and doing everything a farm requires. You usually do not have many important decisions to make on most days, and you enjoy the attention of your family.   On the farm, you are helped, and sometimes hurt, by forces of nature. Weather is usually good but sometimes can be devastating, and you are in a constant struggle with weeds and pests. It would be hard to change much on the farm, for lack of time and money. Your life is humble, but at least your family loves you.



5)b) You are a low-wage worker in Morapia. You live in a small apartment in a slightly shabby building (pictured below). You work at whatever jobs you can get, in fast food, retail stores, and whatever else you can find. You have important decisions to make about your finances every day, and few people pay you much attention.   In your work life, you have little control over your job or whether you even have one. Sometimes you can be employed and buying the things you want, but other times you can be unemployed and worried about paying rent. If you imagine what career you might like to pursue, you could potentially accomplish it – although it would require a lot of sacrifices in an already difficult life. Your life is hard, but least your friends give you emotional support.



5)c) You are the president of Morapia. You live in a grand building with history and prestige (pictured below). Hundreds of employees work there, protecting you, cooking for you, and generally doing whatever you ask. You have to make dozens of important decisions every day, and you are at the center of everyone’s attention.    In the political world, you cannot do everything you might want. You face some political opposition, but you are usually able to get what you want done. If you have a vision of something you would like to change in society, you can usually make that change. Your life is always busy, but at least your many supporters adore you.



5)d) You a wealthy business owner in Morapia. You live in a large mansion with history and prestige (pictured below). Dozens of servants work there, cleaning, cooking, and generally doing whatever you ask. You have important decisions to make every day, and you are usually at the center of everyone’s attention.   In the business world, you can do almost anything you want with your company. You face some challenges from competitors and market fluctuations, but you usually succeed with your plans. If you have a vision of what you would like your company to become, you can usually accomplish that vision. Your life is quite busy, but at least your many employees are always very respectful to you.



6) Please write in your character's first name:

7) Thank you, <character’s name> !

8) A Proposal has been put forward to reduce inequality by helping the least-wealthy half of the Morapian population. It would change the laws regarding land ownership, taxation, and workers’ rights. The Proposal, as it is called, has three parts - and if it becomes law, it will include all three parts. <character’s name> , we will now introduce the Proposal, and we want to know: what do you think about it?



9) The Proposal

1) Workers would be given 33% representation on all companies’ boards of directors. All workers would vote for representatives on their company’s board of directors, so that 33% of all directors would be elected by employees. This is meant to strengthen workers’ rights, by giving them a voice in companies’ decision-making.



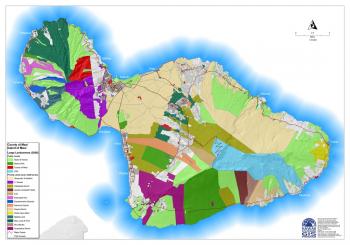
10) The Proposal

2) Taxes would be reduced for the least-wealthy half of the population, and increased for the wealthiest 10%, particularly the wealthiest 1% of the population. The extra tax revenues would be used for social programs providing housing, medical care, and education for the least-wealthy half of Morapian society. This is meant to increase equality, reduce poverty, and improve the lives of the poor.



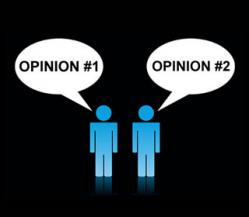
11) The Proposal

3) Land ownership would be made less concentrated, by using the government’s power of “eminent domain” to buy half of the biggest landowners’ land at a fair but affordable price, and sell it to people working on the land using interest-free, 50-year loans. A two-year grace period on repayment will allow new farmer-owners time to devote to capital improvements before needing to repay the loan. This is meant to reduce inequality in land ownership, and give poor farmers a greater incentive to make improvements and increase productivity on land they own instead of rent.



12) The Proposal

In general, those who favor this Proposal believe that Morapia must change to become a more equal society; those who oppose the Proposal believe that Morapia should stay the way it has been traditionally, with a hierarchy by merit. Morapian economists are evenly split: half think that the Proposal would hurt the Morapian economy, and half think that the Proposal would improve the Morapian economy.



13)a) Please think about this Proposal, <character’s name> , while you sit in your favorite chair, at home in your farmhouse.



13)b) Please think about this Proposal, <character’s name> , while you sit in your favorite chair, at home in your apartment.



13)c) Please think about this Proposal, <character’s name> , while you sit in your favorite chair, at home in the presidential palace.



13)d) Please think about this Proposal, <character’s name> , while you sit in your favorite chair, at home in your mansion.



14) What is not an important consideration regarding the Proposal?

* The effects of land redistribution on agricultural productivity
* Whether it will positively or negatively impact social cohesion
* Will it stimulate or strangle the economy
* Its impact on workplaces and business efficiency.
* Whether it will impact unicorn migrations

15) <character’s name> , over the past week you have encountered several pieces of information about the Proposal.





**Randomly presented: one each for source (family, friends, TV, newspaper), one each for area of effects (economy, social cohesion, agricultural productivity, workplace relations), in either 4:0, 3:1, 2:2, 1:3, or 0:4 negative-positive combinations (or control, no information).**

Your family tells you: "<character’s name>, …

Your favorite newspaper has an article on the Proposal, and in the article it says: …

Your favorite TV news program just had a story about the Proposal, in which it said: …

In a recent conversation, your most trusted friend told you:"<character’s name> …

**Economy**

“the Proposal will make the economy more productive, by giving the poor more money to spend on goods and services – this would increase economic activity, which would create more jobs." (positive)

"The Proposal will hurt the economy, by taking money away from the people with enough money to make investments – this would reduce investment, which would reduce jobs." (negative)

**Social cohesion**

"The Proposal will make Morapian society more unified – with greater equality, Morapians would feel closer to each other." (positive)

"The Proposal will make Morapian society more divided – the wealthier would begin to resent the poor, and the people would be split on class lines." (negative)

**Workplace relations**

The Proposal will improve workplace relations – bosses and employees would be more cooperative and productive, since they would both have a say in their company’s decisions." (positive)

"The Proposal would harm workplace relations – workers would try to use their representatives on company boards to push through wage increases and make uninformed decisions on matters of business, and this would create conflict." (negative)

**Agricultural productivity**

the Proposal will improve agriculture – with a greater number of farmers owning their own land, the land would be better cared for and a greater variety of crops would be grown." (positive)

the Proposal will harm agriculture – with land ownership more widely dispersed, large agribusinesses cannot achieve economies of scale (which lower prices) by planting one crop over very large tracts of land." (negative)