Q. Why are you collecting these signatures?
A. It’s not a petition. We display the signatures publicly to let people see that they are not alone in having egalitarian revolutionary views in “This I Believe.”

Q. Do many people sign?
A. Lots. About 80% of those who read it sign it (see PDRBoston.org for the latest number), in black and white and Hispanic neighborhoods in and around Boston, and in rural New Hampshire too. It’s a majority!

Q. Why is it so important for people to know a majority share these revolutionary views?
A. Here’s why. The obstacle to an egalitarian revolution is not that most people don’t want it (they’d love it!); the obstacle is that most people don’t KNOW that most people want it. We’re aiming for 130 million signatures!

Q. Why do people already know they’re not alone in having these revolutionary aspirations?
A. Our dictatorship of the rich doesn’t WANT us to know. That’s why these views are NEVER on TV or radio or in our magazines: not liberal NPR or right wing talk radio, not in liberal The Nation magazine or any conservative tabloid. The rich want us to feel so hopelessly alone that we won’t even TRY to make a better world.

Q. Why does “This I Believe” have the paragraphs about laws only made locally and things not bought and sold but shared?
A. These paragraphs are the heart of the egalitarian vision. Until a majority have a shared vision of an alternative to today’s social system that is both practical and much better—egalitarianism—hopelessness will come from thinking there is no better alternative.

Q. What about Socialism and Communism?
A. They are both extremely anti-democratic and we oppose them. Most Socialists and Communists won’t sign “This I Believe”: they object to the part about laws only being made locally by people who support equality. They want a strong central government that they control to rule over people.

Q. How can we remove the rich from power?
A. Here’s how. When people learn that a majority want egalitarian revolution then they’ll gain the confidence to build a huge movement explicitly declaring egalitarian revolution to be its goal. And they’ll demonstrate determination to win it. Then—and only then—will it be possible to persuade a critical mass of soldiers in the military to refuse orders to attack this movement and instead to use their weapons to help defend it against those who might attack it. That is how the rich lose power.

Q. But won’t that take a long time?
A. Probably. But the alternative is never solving the Big Problem with the Big Solution that it requires. What’s the point of remaining on the treadmill of defeat forever, defensively asking for crumbs that, even if won, get taken away later because the rich remain in power? Better to devote one’s energy to something that can win in the long run than to things that can’t really win ever.

Q. How come there are so few of you doing this?
A. Hopelessness. It’s so thick you can cut it with a knife. Most people who sign “This I Believe” say it would be wonderful but it will never happen. Hopelessness is why most people who want egalitarianism don’t take the next step to start building an egalitarian revolutionary movement.
Q. What will make people hopeful?
A. The more signatures for “This I Believe,” the more people will see that their hopelessness is based on a lie, not the truth, about people. The more egalitarianism is seen as a truly better and practical alternative, the more people will stop thinking there is no alternative.

Q. Do you have meetings?
A. Some neighborhoods have a Local Assembly of Egalitarians that meets monthly (see PDRBoston.org, the “Local Assemblies” link, for details) and we encourage you to join the one in your neighborhood or start one if there isn’t one already in your neighborhood. But there are lots of ways to help build this movement other than coming to a meeting.

Q. Do you get together informally?
A. Yes. Every Thursday some of us dine together at the Martsa’s on Elm restaurant (233 Elm St., Davis Square in Somerville) 6:30-8:30 p.m. Feel free to join us for informal conversation.

Q. How can I help?
A. Lots of different ways. You can wear a PDRBoston button to let people know you’re an egalitarian. And you can collect signatures for “This I Believe” from your friends and neighbors, and be pleasantly surprised at how many will sign.

Q. I’m nervous about doing that. What else can I do to help?
A. You can stand with us when we collect signatures in front of grocery stores etc. You can see people signing with your own eyes and gain some hopefulness that way too. We have a banner and can use help holding it in place also.

Q. Anything else?
A. Sure. We need people to tape our egalitarian notices and posters up on lampposts etc. If you taped a few up in your neighborhood it would be very helpful.

Q. Do you need things translated?
A. Yes, from English to Spanish especially, and other languages too. Translation is extremely important.

Q. Is there anything I can do a bit more—you know—behind the scenes?
A. YES! We always need money. Can you donate some? Even a little bit regularly would help a lot! We’re a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.