Who’s interested in ... The Radical Enlightenment?

“Lessons in Enlightenment: democracy and the culture of happiness”

When writing *The Declaration of Independence* with other men of wisdom, Thomas Jefferson claimed that all people not only have an inalienable right to life and liberty, but that every man and woman should also be able to pursue happiness. Since the days of enlightened optimism, these rights are supposed to be ‘self-evident and sacred’.

In our ‘Age of Democracy’ it appears to be the case that my ‘pursuit of happiness’ depends on the unhappiness of others.

Where did democracy fail to become the government for and by all people?