

- I. Untitled introduction: **political movement**
- A. **Definition:** an unorganized (or only loosely or informally organized) group of individuals who share a common set of interests or grievances and who use collective action to further their interests
- B. Various **types**
1. Sudden & spontaneous v. longer-term
 2. (Underground, secret, covert) v. (open, direct, overt)
 3. Direct action: passive resistance or civil disobedience v. violent demonstration & armed rebellion
- C. **Examples**
1. Underground, *pro-democracy movement* in 18th c. England
 2. Spontaneous demonstration of over one million Berliners in support of the *Weimar Republic* after the assassination of its Jewish foreign minister, Walter Rathenau, in 1922
 3. Mahatma Gandhi's *civil disobedience movements* in South Africa (1893-1914) and India (1916-45)
 4. Montgomery bus boycott (1955-56)
 5. Much of the *Islamic fundamentalist movements* in Europe, Mideast, Africa, & Asia
 6. The largely non-violent *third wave of democratization* (a phrase coined by Samuel Huntington) that occurred in dozens of countries worldwide during and after the 1970s
 - a. *First wave*: 1826-1926
 - b. *Reverse wave*: 1926-45
 - c. *Second wave*: 1945-60
 - d. *Reverse wave*: 1960-74
 - e. *Third wave*: 1974-
- D. **Root cause:** *contentious politics* – confrontations between ordinary people and government or other elites
- II. **Why now?**
- A. **Frequency**
1. Political movements have always existed
 2. But Shively argues, they are *more* widespread and influential today
- B. **General contributing factors**
1. Technological advances in *communication* (printing press, telegraph, telephones/cell phones, radio/television, photocopiers/facsimile machines, communications satellites, Internet)
 2. *Waves of democratization* marked by the expansion of **Robert Dahl's prerequisites of democracy**
 - a. Competition: frequent, fair, & competitive elections
 - b. Inclusiveness: expansion of suffrage
 - c. Civil liberties guarantees: expression (speech, press, assembly/petition) & legal due process
 3. *Rise of post-material (the culture-war) issues* (sex & gender, immigration) offsetting the old *class-war issues* of the industrial revolution – [however, since the global economic crisis that erupted in September 2008, *class-war* issues have reemerged to rival or displace *culture-war* issues]
 4. *Decline of political parties*
 - a. Party leadership & organization
 - b. Parties in the electorate
 - c. Parties in government
 5. **Opportunity structures** within the political environment
 - a. Allies within the country
 - b. Sympathetic international organizations
 - c. Shortcomings of opposition
 6. **Mobilizing structures:** strengths of movement members (e.g., group consciousness & solidarity, political/communication skills, financial resources)

III. **Advantages** (and **disadvantages**) of informal organization (in political movements)

- A. Goals can be the same as
 - 1. Political parties: replace current government leadership
 - 2. Political interest groups: influence government policy making and administration
- B. What distinguishes political movements is not their goals but their lack of formal organization
- C. **Disadvantages**
 - 1. Without leadership, it is difficult to
 - a. Amass resources – money, expertise
 - b. Mobilize membership
 - 2. As movements are typically short-lived phenomena, opposing governments & elites often know that they can outlast the movement
- D. **Advantages** – without entrenched leaders & rigid organizational bureaucracy, political movements can be more flexible in
 - 1. Defining & framing their grievances
 - 2. Choosing tactics
 - 3. Recruiting allies inside and outside their native country

IV. **Examples**

- A. The *rubber tappers of Acre*
 - 1. Flexible goals & tactics since late 19th c.
 - 2. Opponents: first, rubber barons and later, lumber & cattle barons
 - 3. Recent allies: human-rights & environmental organizations (e.g., Oxfam), liberation theologians in the Roman Catholic Church, and agricultural labor unions, and now, the President of Brazil, **Luiz Inácio da Silva** (a.k.a., **Lula**)
- B. The *Orange Revolution* in the Ukraine
 - 1. Post-Soviet independence marred by corruption and manipulation of former Communist officials (1991-2004) with support of ethnic Russians in eastern provinces
 - 2. A crooked-election defeat & poisoning of reform leader, **Victor Yushchenko**, sparked a massive and spontaneous uprising in Kiev that eventually led the secret police and army siding with the reformers; a resulting new election was won by Yushchenko