Social Movements, continued

Dec. 6, 2006

http://www.iastate.edu/~soc.134

Possible consequences of social movements

- Changed social policy
- Changed social attitudes
- New interest organizations
- Biographical change

The meek don’t make it (Gamson 1975)

- Research question: What tactics are best for achieving social movement success?
  - Persuasion: disseminating group’s message
  - Bargaining: offering something (votes, $) in exchange for something else
  - Coercion: creating disturbances or threatening to do so
  - Survey of social movements in U.S. history (1800-1945), sampled 53 movements

Standards for success

- Acceptance: accepted by antagonist as valid spokesperson
- New advantages: group achieves the goals it sought

Success of U. S. social movements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acceptance</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New advantages</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Preemption (11%)</td>
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<td>Full response (20, 38%)</td>
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<td>Preemption (6, 11%)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Co-option (5, 9%)</td>
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<td>Collapse (22, 42%)</td>
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</tbody>
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Full response (38%)

- League of Deliverance (1882): prevent employment of Chinese labor
- American Federation of Labor (1881-1935): labor union, now part of AFL-CIO
  (11 other labor unions also received full response)
- Federal Suffrage Association (1892-1920): supported women’s suffrage
- National Urban League (1910-30): improve living conditions of urban blacks
- American Committee for the Outlawry of War (1921-29): supported Pact of Paris, which made war illegal under international law
- March on Washington Committee (1942): elimination of racial discrimination in employment

Preemption and co-option

- Preemption (11%)
  - Grand Eight Hour Leagues (1865-72): support of 8-hour day legislation
  - American Free Trade League (1889-72): repeal high tariffs
  - Tobacco Night Riders (1906-11): break tobacco trust and gain control of tobacco marketing

- Co-option (9%)
  - Bull Moose Party (Progressives) (1912-16): attempted to elect Teddy Roosevelt
  - American Association of University Professors (1914-22): academic freedom and establishment of tenure
Collapse (22%)

- National Female Anti-Slavery Society (1832-40): abolition of slavery (Two other anti-slavery groups also collapsed)
- Social Revolutionary Clubs (1880-87): abolish wage system and private property (Eight other socialist groups also collapsed)
- National Brotherhood of Baseball Players (1885-91): early baseball union
- Brotherhood of the Kingdom (1892-1915): mobilize Christians to improve social conditions
- American Birth Control League (1921-37): greater acceptance of birth control
- German-American Bund (1936-43): U.S. adoption of National Socialism (Naziism)

What tactics work?

- Violence users
  - 8 total: 6 (75%) new advantages, 5 (62%) acceptance
- Nonviolent coercion users
  - 10 total: 8 (80%) new advantages, 5 (50%) acceptance
- Other success-producing factors
  - Thinking small
  - War-time challenges
  - Bureaucracy