

A. IDENTIFICATION QUESTIONS (50 POINTS TOTAL, 5 POINTS EACH)

Answer these questions with 2-3 sentences. Define and, if possible, briefly describe the importance of this concept/event/person/organization/entity.

1. Public goods ~~public~~ PUBLIC GOODS ARE GOODS THAT ARE NON-EXCLUDABLE MEANING THAT THEIR PROVISION GUARANTEES THAT EVERYONE WILL BE ABLE TO BENEFIT REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT THEY WERE DIRECTLY RELATED IN THE ACTION THAT BROUGHT ABOUT THEIR PROVISION. PUBLIC GOODS PLAY AN INTEGRAL PART IN THE COLLECTIVE ACTION PROBLEM SINCE THEY ENSURE THAT EVERYONE WILL BENEFIT FROM A MOVEMENT'S SUCCESS EVEN IF THEY DID NOT MOBILIZE BEHIND THE CAUSE. THIS THEREFORE LEADS TO ~~PEOPLE~~ NON-PARTICIPATION AS PEOPLE KNOW THAT THEIR PRESENCE WILL NOT DIRECTLY AFFECT THE OUTCOME BUT THEY WILL STILL ENJOY THE BENEFITS.
2. Relative Deprivation (EG. OF PUBLIC GOODS: DEMOCRACY, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, ETC) RELATIVE DEPRIVATION, THEORIZED BY TED ROBERT GURR (1971), IS THE ARGUMENT A CONCEPT THAT STATES THAT PEOPLE ARE MADE TO FEEL FRUSTRATED (OR DEPRIVED) WHEN THEY COMPARE WHAT THEY HAVE IN REALITY WITH WHAT THEY BELIEVE THEY ARE RIGHTFULLY ENTITLED TO. THIS, HE ARGUES, IGNITES FRUSTRATION WHICH CAN LEAD PEOPLE TO ACT HOWEVER, ABSOLUTE DEPRIVATION JUST CAUSES INACTION AND DESPERATION.
3. Non-voluntarism NON-VOLUNTARISM IS A CONCEPT ADVANCED BY SKOCPOL (1979) WHO ARGUED THAT "REVOLUTIONARIES DO NOT CREATE REVOLUTIONS"; STRUCTURAL CAUSES DO. SKOCPOL STATED THAT INDIVIDUALS DIDN'T MATTER, CERTAIN CONDITIONS WOULD LEAD TO MASS MOBILIZATION. THESE CONDITIONS WERE 1) EXTERNAL COMPETITION FROM ANOTHER STATE 2) THE ENACTMENT OF REFORMS THAT ANGERED ELITES AND 3) THE PRESENCE OF ORGANIZATIONS TO MOBILIZE LOWER/MIDDLE CLASS THE SUCCESS OF THE
4. Political Opportunity Structure POLITICAL OPPORTUNITY STRUCTURE IS A LEADING CONCEPT OF SOCIAL MOVEMENT THEORY ADVANCED BY MICHAEL Tarrow AND JOHN TILLEY WHO INTEGRATED VOLUNTARISM INTO STRUCTURAL THEORY OF SOCIAL REVOLUTION. THEY IDENTIFIED THREE COMPONENTS THAT WOULD INFLUENCE THE SUCCESS OF A MOVEMENT: 1) POLITICAL OPPORTUNITIES/CONSTRAINTS WHICH ALTERED PROponents' VIEWS ON THE LIKELIHOOD OF SUCCESS/FAILURE AND LARGELY DEPENDED ON A STATE'S CAPACITY, 2) MOBILIZATION STRUCTURES AND THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE MOVEMENT IS A WELL-LINKED HIERARCHY WITH NECESSARY RESOURCES AND 3) COGNITIVE FRAME MEANING HOW WELL THE NARRATIVE OF A MOVEMENT IS CREATED TO MOBILIZE SUPPORTERS.
5. Methodological Individualism METHODOLOGICAL INDIVIDUALISM IS THE VIEW WITHIN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES THAT THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS COLLECTIVE ACTION, THEREFORE ONLY INDIVIDUALS WHO MAKE DECISIONS ON THE BASIS OF FULFILLING THEIR DESIRES / MAXIMIZING THEIR SELF-INTEREST. THESE DECISIONS ARE MADE WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF PEOPLE HAVING CERTAIN HELD BELIEFS ABOUT THE WORLD AND THEIR PLACE/ROLE WITHIN IT.
6. The Boston Massacre THE BOSTON MASSACRE WAS AN EVENT WHICH OCCURRED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION WHERE 5 "AMERICAN" REVOLUTIONARIES WERE SHOT AND KILLED BY BRITISH SOLDIERS. SAUL ALINSKY SAW THIS EVENT AS BEING PARTICULARLY MEANINGFUL SINCE IT WAS PURPORTED TO HAVE BEEN PLANNED BY ONE OF THE REVOLUTION'S LEADERS, SAMUEL ADAMS IN ORDER TO IGNITE ANGER AND INCREASE THE RADICALISM OF THOSE FIGHTING FOR INDEPENDENCE. IT LED THE REVOLUTIONARIES WHO DIED TO BE SEEN AS MARTYRS AND DISCREDITED THE BRITISH MILITARY.
7. Srdja Popovic [REDACTED]
8. Nation-state A NATION-STATE IS AN IMAGINED COMMUNITY THAT HAS FINITE AND SOVEREIGN AND THAT HAS AN ORGANIZATION THAT IS ABLE TO EXERCISE LEGITIMATE VIOLENCE OVER ITS PEOPLE. IN A NATION-STATE PEOPLE WHO WILL NEVER MEET EACH OTHER ARE STILL BOUND TOGETHER THROUGH THE IMAGINING OF COMMUNITY.
9. Demos AT THE ROOT OF THE WORD "DEMOCRACY" THE DEMOS WERE ESSENTIALLY THE CITIZENS OF ANCIENT GREECE, PARTICULARLY ANCIENT ATHENS WHO WERE ABLE TO EXERCISE THE RIGHT TO VOTE. THEY MADE UP ~~ONLY~~ ROUGHLY ONLY 10% OF THE POPULATION OR 30,000, SINCE 2/3 RDS OF THE POPULATION WERE SLAVES OR METICS AND THE REMAINING WERE WOMEN OR MALES WHO HADN'T COMPLETED MILITARY SERVICE.
10. "The third wave" THE THIRD WAVE OF DEMOCRATIZATION, PUT FORTH BY HUNTINGTON (1991), WAS THE PERIOD BETWEEN 1975-1999 WHEN MANY COUNTRIES ESTABLISHED DEMOCRACIES. HUNTINGTON ARGUES THAT ESTABLISHED DEMOCRACIES DURING THIS TIME (INCLUDING MANY SOUTH AMERICAN AND ASIAN STATES) DID SO AS A RESULT OF 1) FAILING PERFORMANCE LEGITIMACY 2) PROSPEROUS ECONOMIC TIMES WITH A NEW URBAN MIDDLE CLASS, 3) CHANGING ROLE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH 4) SNOWBALLING / LENDING OF SOCIAL MOVEMENT IDEAS, ETC.

B. SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (50 POINTS TOTAL, 10 POINTS EACH)

Answer these questions with a short paragraph (6-7 sentences).

1. What is the solution to the collective action problem?

THERE IS NO ONE REAL SOLUTION TO THE COLLECTIVE ACTION PROBLEM AND IT IS UNLIKELY FOR ONE TO EVER FIND A WAY TO MOBILIZE ALL THOSE WHO FEEL RELATIVELY DEPRIVED. HOWEVER, THERE ARE TACTICS BUT FORTH BY MANY THAT INCREASE THE LIKELIHOOD OF MOBILIZATION. FIRSTLY, MOVEMENTS MUST WORK TO MAKE PEOPLE FEEL COLLECTIVELY RELATIVELY DEPRIVED, THAT WAY THOSE SITTING AT HOME WILL BE MORE DRAWN TO ACTION IF THEY SEE THAT THEIR GRIEVANCES ALIGN WITH THE MASSES. SECONDLY, LEADERS MUST WORK EXTREMELY HARD TO POLARIZE ISSUES TO THE POINT THAT THOSE REMAINING AT HOME ARE MADE TO SEEM AS THOUGH THEY ARE ALLIED WITH THE ENEMY AND ARE HUMILIATED AND OSTRACIZED AS A RESULT. APPEALING TO PEOPLE'S EMOTIONS BY SPEAKING WITHIN THE EXPERIENCE OF THE PEOPLE WILL ALSO SERVE TO OVERCOME THE CA PROBLEM. THE CHANCE OF SUCCESS SHOULD ALSO BE OVER-EXAGGERATED SO PEOPLE ARE MADE TO BELIEVE THAT THEIR ACTION AND SACRIFICES ARE LIKELY TO YIELD RESULTS. FINALLY, IN MY OPINION, AS ALINSKY ARGUED THE BEST WAY OF OVERCOMING THE CA PROBLEM IS TO HAVE REFORMATION PRECEDE REVOLUTION. PEOPLE ARE SLOWLY PULLED IN.

2. What is "collective identity?" How is it formed? Why does it matter?

COLLECTIVE IDENTITY IS THE FORMATION OF A MOVEMENT'S NARRATIVE WHERE EVERY PROponent IS MADE TO FEEL AS THOUGH A) THEY ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE MOVEMENT AND B) THE MOVEMENT AND WHAT IT REPRESENTS IS PART OF WHO THEY ARE AND BUILDS UPON THEIR PERSONAL IDENTITY. COLLECTIVE IDENTITY IS CREATED IN TWO WAYS. FIRSTLY COLLECTIVE IDENTITY IS CREATED BY BUILDING BOUNDARIES BETWEEN THE SOCIAL TERRITORY OF THE OPPOSITION AND THE LIKELY SUPPORTERS OF THE CAUSE. FOR ALINSKY THIS WOULD MEAN MAGNIFYING AND EXAGGERATING THE VAST DIFFERENCES (ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, SOCIAL, ETC) THAT EXIST BETWEEN THE HAVES AND THE HAVE-NOTS/HAVE A LITTLE WANT MORE. CREATING BOUNDARIES DIVIDES THE PLAYING FIELD AND MAKES POTENTIAL SUPPORTERS KNOW EXACTLY WHICH SIDE THEY'RE ON. SECONDLY, ONE MUST BUILD A COLLECTIVE CONSCIOUSNESS AMONG THE PEOPLE BY USING SYMBOLIC, CULTURAL AND HISTORIC REFERENCES THAT PROVIDE A MEANING TO THE CAUSE THAT EVERYONE UNDERSTANDS AND CAN RELATE TO. COLLECTIVE IDENTITY MATTERS BECAUSE IT BINDS PEOPLE TO ONE ANOTHER AND TO THE CAUSE.

3. "You do what you can with what you have and clothe it with moral garments." Discuss.

THIS QUOTE BY SAUL ALINSKY ACCURATELY SUMMARIZES HIS VIEWS ON MEANS AND ENDS. ALINSKY ARGUES (VERY CONVINCINGLY) THAT THERE ARE NO MORALS BUT THAT THEY ARE SIMPLY CONSTRUCTED BY THE ELITE IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THEIR POWER AND ECONOMIC DOMINANCE. ALINSKY THEREFORE ARGUES THAT AN EFFECTIVE LEADER WILL NEVER BE PRE-OCCUPIED BY WHETHER OR NOT HIS MEANS ARE ETHICAL, INSTEAD HE STATES THAT YOU HAVE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF WHATEVER IS AT YOUR DISPOSAL AND THEN JUSTIFY HOW IT WAS MORAL LATER ONCE THE BATTLE HAS BEEN WON. AFTER ALL HE STATES THAT PEOPLE WILL NOT QUESTION THE MORALITY OF THE MEANS IF THEY BRING ABOUT SUCCESS. ALINSKY, TO HIGHLIGHT THIS ARGUMENT, USES THE EXAMPLE OF WHEN CHURCHILL ALLIED WITH THE SOVIET UNION TO DEFEAT THE NAZIS WHICH, ALTHOUGH IT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN REGARDED AS "MORAL" WAS EASY TO CLOTHE AS SUCH SINCE IT LED TO HITLER'S DEFEAT.

4. What is globalization? What are its effects on social movements and protest?

LAKOWICZ (1998) DEFINES GLOBALIZATION AS A SET OF RELATED CHANGES (ECONOMIC, IDEOLOGICAL, SOCIAL, CULTURAL, ETC). GLOBALIZATION HAS BEEN ADVANCED FOREMOST BY MASSIVE IMPROVEMENTS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL. GLOBALIZATION HAS ALSO IMPORTANTLY LED TO INCREASED POWERS BEING AFFORDED TO CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL ACTORS, SUCH AS INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS. THESE CHANGES HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY ALTERED SOCIAL ACTIVISM AND HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE RISE OF TRANSNATIONAL COLLECTIVE ACTIVISM, WHERE NETWORKS OF INTERNATIONAL ACTIVISTS HAVE COME TO TARGET INTERNATIONAL ACTORS, INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER STATES. IMPORTANTLY, GLOBALIZATION HAS INTENSIFIED THREE PROCESSES THAT HOW SOCIAL MOVEMENTS TAKE PLACE 1) DIFFUSION HAS MADE IDEAS, TACTICS, AND KNOWLEDGE EASIER TO SPREAD, 2) GLOBALIZATION HAS CONTRIBUTED TO INTERNALIZATION WHERE PROTESTS TAKE PLACE AGAINST DOMESTIC ACTORS FOR DECISIONS MADE AT REGIONAL/SUPRANATIONAL LEVELS AND 3) ACTIVISM HAS BECOME EXTERNALIZED. INT'L NGOs NOW PROVIDE SUPPORT TO WEAK SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND LINK WITH OTHER INEGOS TO TARGET INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OR MULTI-NATIONAL CORPORATIONS.

5. Reflect on the state of civil and political rights in Hong Kong (or your country of origin).

THE CURRENT STATE OF POLITICAL RIGHTS IN CANADA ARE PRETTY SHITTY IN COMPARISON TO HOW THEY USED TO BE. WHILE THE STRENGTHS OF OUR CIVIL RIGHTS (SUCH AS THE RIGHT TO EQUALITY UNDER THE LAW, THE RIGHT TO LIVE FREE FROM THE FEAR OF PERSECUTION, ETC) HAS BEEN MAINTAINED, I WOULD ARGUE THAT CANADIANS HAVE WITNESSED A SLOW EROSION OF OF OUR POLITICAL RIGHTS IN THE LAST 8 YEARS. AND WHILE I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THIS CANNOT BE COMPARED TO THE WEAKENING OR ABSENCE OF POLITICAL RIGHTS ELSEWHERE, IT IS UNACCEPTABLE GIVEN CANADA'S HISTORY AS A STRONG DEMOCRACY. IN OUR LAST ELECTIONS IN 2010 THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT IN POWER WAS FOUND GUILTY OF ELECTION FRAUD WHEN ROB-CALLS WERE SENT TO PEOPLE IN SEVERAL RIDINGS ADVISING THEM TH (FALSELY) THAT THEIR VOTING STATION HAD BEEN CHANGED. SINCE THEN THE GOVERNMENT HAS PASSED SEVERAL BUDGET BILLS THAT HAVE HAD VERY PROFOUND CHANGES IN INSTITUTIONS AND POLICY TIED INTO THEM, MOST WHICH WENT WITHOUT ANY OPEN DEBATE. CURRENTLY, A FAIR ELECTIONS ACT HAS BEEN TABLED WHICH WOULD MAKE IT ILLEGAL FOR 'ELECTIONS CANADA' TO ENCOURAGE YOUNG CANADIANS TO VOTE. AND ALTHOUGH THESE DO NOT DIRECTLY INFRINGE ON CANADIANS' POLITICAL RIGHTS SUCH EVENTS MAKE FAIR AND INFORMED DEBATE LESS AND LESS ATTAINABLE. THE ELECTION FRAUD DOES HOWEVER DIRECTLY COMPROMISE OUR RIGHTS TO A FAIR AND FREE ELECTION.

NOT EXACTLY A TECHNICAL TERM!