1 – Conflict is bad. Results from commitment/trust problem. Explain comm/trust problem.

2 – What does it mean to trust a group? Collective action problem. Sambanis: “peace can be derailed by a few radicals.” Footnote that people have talked about collective action in conflict being about compelling group members to sacrifice to defeat the other group [@bornstein and others]

3 – Comm problems between groups usually solved by 3rd parties or reputations/repeated interactions. Problems with both.

* 3rd party
  + 3rd party intervention costly, so 3rd party must be motivated to intervene (greig 2005; kydd 2006). Most likely to intervene when conflict escalated into violence, but it is most effective at maintaining peace in a post-conflict setting and is relatively ineffective at ending ongoing conflicts [@gilligan2008interventions; @doyle2006making; @bratt1996assessing].
  + 3rd party cannot see all behaviors.
  + 3rd party punishing defection is outside of the conflicting groups and so does not create trust between those groups [@gambetta\_ch13]
* Repu/repeated interaction
  + Can create trust between groups, but psych biases and social norms make this difficult. Motivated Reasoning, cognitive dissonance, confirmation bias, existing bad reputations hard to overcome. Will not believe that my enemy will punish its own for harming my ingroup. See evidence in a way that confirms my current theory of the world, not disconfirms it (Tajfel 1969; Kahneman And Tversky 1973).

4 – How to overcome this commitment problem? Each group must solve their collective action problem & strongly signal its resolution to other side.

* Solution must do two things:
* (1) decrease likelihood of radicals defecting below a threshold under which peace agreement is beneficial to both sides. If there are so many radicals defecting, other group will not care that those radicals are punished.
* (2) Prevent spiral (f&l) where each side punishes other to deter. Outgroup not good at that: hard to target offender who they cannot identify, likely the deterrent will be construed as aggressive action and lead to cycle of violence.
  + To do this, likely need ingroup to punish defectors or to punish them jointly. Strong punishment for defectors, both sides see the other punishing their own == costly signal to break through the distrust.
* Would help to remove psychological biases and social norms against outgroup. The biases/norms make it likely that individuals will harm the outgroup. They also make it likely that the outgroup will punish perceived defectors harshly.

5 – Contact helpful. To start the institution, need to have some amount of trust. Contact is a little trust, a big institution needs little things first. A little trust creates more trust if reciprocated. Contact is Confidence-building measure. Contact is not underlying thing that needs to happen, but it helps all these things happen. Contact can also remove the psych barriers to improving attitudes: need to not have cognitive dissonance when faced with a reason to trust the other side.

8 – Onset of these structures: How to get the ball rolling? A place for 3rd parties?