I. Human Agency

A. Social Movements

1. collective action directed towards changing society

2. progressive social movements involve collective action directed towards furthering social justice/eliminating injustice

a. expand rights of individuals and groups

b. demand that policies, and practices reflect the commitment to rights of all.

c. demand that institutions be organized in just way

d. challenges power arramgements

3. history of social change through social movements challenges

a. myth of peaceful progress

b. American Exceptionalism

c. “it is what it is”

B. Historically: Progressive Social Movements

1. Labor movement

2. Civil Rights Movement

3. Anti-Poverty Movement

4. Women’s Rights Movement

5. Environmental Movement

C. Progressive Social Movements-Characteristics

1. popular or grassroots

a. large number of people in community

b. experience a policy, practice(s) or institution as unjust

c. practice: labor conditions (early industrial U.S.)

i. long hours, six days

ii. no overtime, no minimum wage

iii. no disability

iv. unsafe (1914-35,000 workers killed, 700,000 injured)

v. no collective bargaining

d. policy: *de jure segregation*

i. literacy test

ii. poll tax

iii. exclusion from primaries

2. belief: solution to injustice within the system is impossible

a. institutions for redress of grievances are inaccessible, unjust themselves

i. political system

ii. legal system

b. necessary to go outside the system

c. civil rights movement

i. segregation and discrimination were legal

ii. disenfranchisement

d. labor movement

i. capitalists owned everything

ii. controlled political

iii. judicial system

boycott = “criminal conspiracy”

disability = “taking”

iii. police and military

iv. Lawrence Textile Strike

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xKnqhGpc8M>

3. organize

a. democratic

b. egalitarian

c. civil rights

i. Congress on Racial Equality (CORE)

ii. Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)

iii. Southern Christian Leadership Conferences(SCLC)

iv. National Association for the Advancement of

Colored People (NAACP)

d. labor

i. Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO)

ii. Industrial Workers of the World (IWW)

iii. United Auto Workers (UAW)

4. ideology

a. set of ideas and principles around which the movement is organized.

b. civil rights: democracy and political participation

c. labor: industrial democracy

5. goals

a. identifying what the movement is specifically trying to achieve

b. Civil Rights Movement

c. Labor Movement

6. strategy

a. overall plan to achieve goals

b. Civil Rights

i. make injustice visible

ii. non-violent civil disobedience

iii. direct action

c. Labor Movement

7. tactics

a. specific actions

b. civil rights: lunch counter sit-ins, freedom rides, marches, mass arrest, voter registration

c. labor: sit down strikes, walk out strikes, picketing, boycotts, general strike

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nv1TOtm3CGE>

(Seattle: General Strike)

D. Successes

1. civil rights movement

a. enfranchisement of Black Americans in the South

ib. elimination of *de jure* segregation

2. women’s rights movement

a. enfranchisement of women

b. expansion of opportunities: education, work, sports

c. expansion of legal rights

d. redefinition of social roles

3. labor movement

a. wage and hour laws

b. work place health and safety regulations

c. unemployment insurance

d. social security

e. collective bargaining

f. National Labor Relations Board

4. environmental movement

a. Clean Air Act

b. Clean Water Act

c. Endangered Species Act

d. Toxic Substances Act

e. Environmental Protection Agency

E. resistance to social movements

1. social movements are threat to existing power arrangements

2. strategies of those in power

a. make invisible: education

b. cooptation

c. passification

d. violence

e. regressive social movement: right wing populism

2. COINTELPRO

a. infiltrate and disrupt (social movements/collective action)

b. dirty tricks

c. legal harassment (MLK = enemy agent)

d.. violence – FBI funded KKK, 2 prominent Black Panther members murdered..

3. dominant ideological institutions (mass media and education)

a. distort or ignore

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dku-MFnIxaU>

b. contributes to conventional wisdom

i. American “exceptionalism”

ii. myth of peaceful progress

c. keeps us from understanding the power we have collectively

F. collective action is the power “we” have and it is what those in power fear: “Great Beast”

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LU8DDYz68kM>