

Differential Social Organization, Collective Action, and Genocide

- I. Differential Social Organization
 - A. Collective Action
 - B. Collective Action Frames
 - C. Social Ties
- II. Genocide in Darfur (Hagan and Raymond-Richmond)
 - A. Definition of Genocide
 - B. Collective Action and Differential Social Organization
 - C. Racial Intent
- III. A Competing View

Learning Objectives

1. Understand how collective action is related to differential social organization
2. Understand network closure and strong vs. weak ties
3. Understand collective action frames and frame alignment
4. Distinguish social efficacy from collective efficacy
5. Know the definition of genocide
6. Be able to apply differential social organization to genocide
7. Be able to apply collective action frames and social efficacy to genocide in Darfur
8. Understand the case for genocide in Darfur
9. Contrast arguments for and against external intervention using the International Criminal Courts

Differential Social Organization

- Static view: Organization in favor of crime vs. organization against crime
- Dynamic view: Collective action (joint behavior among two or more interdependent individuals)
 - Consensus over objective (for crime or against crime)
 - Consensus over means of attaining objective
- Result: Collective action in favor of crime vs. collective action against crime

Collective Action

- Grievance Requiring a Collective Response
- Social Structure (Resource Mobilization Theory)
 - Social network ties
 - Pre-existing organization
 - Political opportunities
- Collective Action Frames
 - Frame a grievance as calling for certain collective acts
 - Meanings and understandings of issues
 - Define a situation as calling for action
 - Fight over whose meaning of issues prevails—e.g., abortion, gay marriage, torture

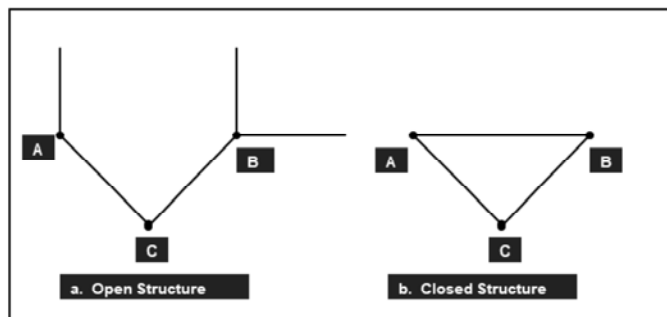
Collective Action Frames

- Frame Alignment
 - Link individual interpretations to social movement organizations' interpretations
 - Use argumentative tactics to align frames
- Effectiveness of Frames
 - Problem and solution is defined collectively (not individually)
 - Defines antagonists as "us" versus "them"
 - Defines an injustice that can be corrected collectively
- Example: Civil Rights

[YouTube - MLK I have a dream speech](#)

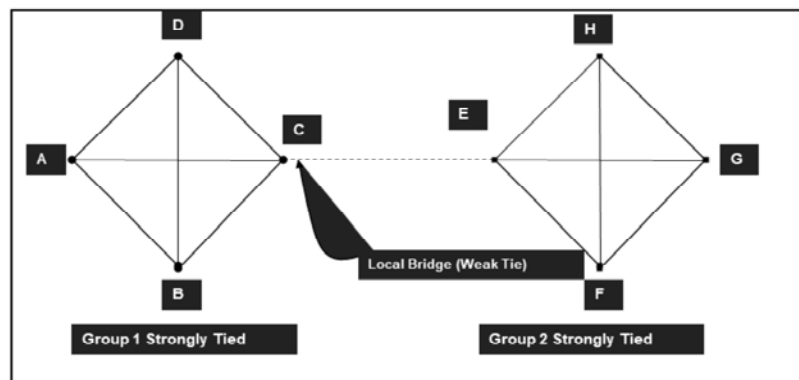
Social Network Ties

- Network Closure
 - Increases the ability of individuals to influence others
 - Open Structure: C can influence A and B individually
 - Closed Structure: C and A together can influence B



Social Network Ties

- Strong Versus Weak Ties
 - Strong ties to similar others provides similar information
 - Weak ties to dissimilar information provides different information
 - Example: Hearing about a job

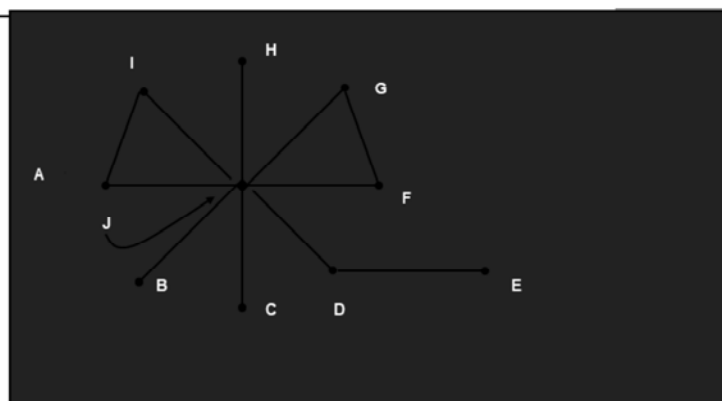


Social Efficacy vs. Collective Efficacy

- **Collective Efficacy: A Neighborhood's Capacity to Resolve Local Problems Collectively**
 - Activation of capacity
 - Apply this to groups
 - Increased with strong social ties (network closure)

- **Social Efficacy: An Individual's Ability to Create Consensus over Group Objectives and Procedures and Translate Procedures into Action**
 - Some individuals are better able to create consensus and persuade others into collective action
 - Charismatic individuals (Martin Luther King)

Social Efficacy in Different Network Positions



1. J is a socially efficacious resident: great structural position

2. C and E are socially efficacious residents: weak structural position

Definition of Genocide

Genocide is any of the following five acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national ethnic, racial, or religious group:

- Killing group members
- Causing serious bodily or mental harm to group members
- Deliberately inflicting conditions of life calculated to destroy the group as a whole or in part
- Imposing measures intended to prevent births
- Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group

Genocide in Darfur

- Competition between settled black tribes and nomadic Arabs
 - Land, cattle, horses, and other resources
 - Desertification intensified conflict
 - Janjaweed (supported by Sudan government) vs. black African insurgents
- Arming of Arab Janjaweed militias by government in 2003
- Bombing of African Villages by Sudanese Government
- Government forces join Janjaweed militias in ground attacks
- Sexual Violence & other atrocities
- Confiscation of property (animals, grain, seed, equipment)
- Displacement of black Africans into internal displacement camps
- Resettlement of black African regions by Arabs

Differential Social Organization of Genocide

- Organization Against Genocide
 - Typically the state (government)
 - Black African rebels & insurgents
 - The international community & the international criminal court
- Organization in Favor of Genocide
 - Arab Janjaweed anti-insurgent groups
 - Sudanese government
 - Arab settlers
- Collective Action

Collective Action in Favor of Genocide

- Social Networks and Access to Resources
 - Arab Janjaweed & Sudan Government forces
 - Arms and cooperation
- Political Opportunity: Insurgent Attacks
- Collective Action Frames
 - Define the conflict as a collective problem, not an individual grievance
 - Define opposition (black Africans) as “them” versus “us” (racism)
 - Frame injustices committed by “them” as correctable by organized actions against “them” (ethnic cleansing)
- Social Efficacy
 - Key leaders of Arab militia representing distinct areas
 - Hilal, Dawai, Shineibat, Kushayb
 - Each with strong regional social ties & social efficacy

Collective Action in Favor of Genocide

- Racism Frame: Emotional Spark
 - “Us” vs. “Them” in a zero-sum game
 - Initially over land, water, and resources
 - Gets transformed into race
 - Demonize and dehumanize African blacks
- Racial Epithets
 - Individual racist expressions are transformed into collective racism
 - “Fanatical fury”: Collective racist emotion unleashed on a dehumanized African blacks
 - Racism: a collective instrument of organized terror
 - Reveal racist motive and intent (genocide)

The Case for Genocide

- Racial epithets heard during attacks (reflect racial intent)
 - More likely when Sudanese government troops joined with Janaweed militants
 - “We will eliminate all you blacks”
 - “You will have an Arab baby”
- Nearby Arab settlements often ignored in attacks
- Bombing and racial epithets combined for greater victimization
- State-sponsored murder and rape
- Call on International Criminal Court & United Nations
 - Define this as genocide
 - Indict Hillal and others for genocide (Sudan’s president, Omar al Bashir was recently indicted)
 - End the atrocities by international intervention

Proposed Solution: International Law

- Call on the United Nations to define this as genocide
- Call on International Criminal Court
 - Define this as genocide
 - Indict Hillal and others for genocide (Sudan's President, Omar al Bashir was recently indicted)
 - End the atrocities by international intervention

A Competing View

- Viewed in historical context, this is a political-economic conflict
 - Decades of conflict over land, water, animals, and other resources
 - Arab and blacks identities in Darfur have been fluid for centuries
 - British colonial rule: re-tribalisation, in which tribes would be designated new homelands
- ICC is arbitrarily taking one side over the the other
 - Demonizing Arabs (good vs. evil)
 - Historically Atrocities have been committed by both sides
- Africanists distrust the ICC
 - Not accountable to anyone
 - Except UN Security Council, which is dominated by U.S.
 - External intervention will only destabilize the region
- Better solution: Internal political solution through negotiation