THE ANATOMY OF 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVOLUTIONS

THE VARIOUS TYPES OF MODERN REVOLUTIONS
Impact of the Scientific Revolution

- Suggested that rational analysis of behavior and institutions could have meaning in the human as well as the natural world.
- Increasingly, thinkers challenged recognized authorities such as Aristotelian philosophy and Christian religion and sought to explain the world in purely rational terms.
- The result was a movement known as the “Enlightenment.”
Crane Brinton, *The Anatomy of a Revolution*

*Every revolution begins with the problems of the Old Regime*

- **1st stage**
  - increasing dissatisfaction with the Old regime, spontaneous acts of protest and violence, overthrow

- **2nd stage**
  - honeymoon with moderate new government

- **3rd stage**
  - takeover of the extremists, loss of individualism, the government becomes violent and excessive

- **4th stage**
  - reestablishment of some sort of equilibrium, rights, etc., usually under a “strongman”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Political Spectrum</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. moderate</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. radical</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. liberal</td>
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<td>4. conservative</td>
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<td>5. reactionary</td>
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Types of Political Revolutions

- Bourgeois (liberal) revolution
  - Political spectrum

- Mass revolutions
  - Nationalist/Religious Revolutions
  - Communist Revolutions
    - Worker-Oriented or Peasant-Oriented
  - Rightist Revolutions
    - Nazi, Fascist, Peronist, Spanish

- 20th Century Democratic Revolution

- The Mixed Revolution
Bourgeois Liberal Revolutions

- Generally 1680s to 1830s
  - English, American, French, Haitian
  - Belgian, Dutch, Italian, German
  - Meiji Restoration of 1867 (Japan)
- Often focuses on middle class issues
- Violence occurs but not always a means
- Tendency to turn conservative
- Conflict with radicals
- Nationalism managed
Classic Revolutions

- Haitian Revolution - August 22, 1791 - 1804
- Mexican Revolution –
  - September 16, 1810 – 1821
  - 1910-1924
- Greek Revolution - 1821 - 1829
- French Revolution -1789-1799
- American Revolution 1775-1781 (how was this revolution different?)
- Russian Revolution 1917-1921
- Chinese Revolution 1911 – 1921
- Cuban Revolution 1958 - ?
- Iranian Revolution 1979 - ?
- Year of Revolutions 1848
Nationalist or Interim

- Generally between 1830 – 1870
  - Latin American independence movements
  - Mehmet Ali (Egypt), 1830
  - French Revolution 1848, Commune 1870
  - Polish 1830, 1848, 1863
  - 19th c. Eastern Europe
  - All revolutions of 1848

- Increasingly nationalist
- Increasingly poor citizens participate
- Increasingly opposed by middle class
Mass Revolutions

- Radical lower middle, working classes
- Mass Mobilization by Leading Elite
  - All citizens join to achieve end
  - Led by revolutionary, secretive elite
  - Uses mass media to function, rule
- Desire to remake society radically
- Often uses violence as means to end
Mass Revolutions

- Nationalist or Ethnic Sectarian
  - German, Italian unification movements
  - Young Turks 1890s – 1910s
  - Madhi Insurrection 1890s
  - Filipino Insurrection 1899 – 1902
  - Iranian 1906
  - Chinese 1911
  - Iraqi 1930s
  - Egyptian 1950s
  - Iran, 1979
Mass Revolution

- Rightist and Leftist Radical (Violent)
  - Russian Revolutions 1905, 1917-18
  - Mexican 1910
  - Chinese 1928 – 1949
  - Fascist/Nazi Revolutions 1920s - 1945
  - Yugoslav/Albanian/Vietnamese 1945
  - Algeria 1950s
  - Mai Mai (Kenya) 1950s to 1960s
  - Cuban 1959
  - Nicaragua 1980
20th CENTURY

DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION

- Mass Revolution against oppressive state
- Largely Peaceful
- Mobilizes all classes
- Often religious influence
- Opposition often uses violence, terror
- Began in India (Gandhi’s non-violence)
- Political philosophy largely democratic
- Often not vengeful (no Reign of Terror)
20th CENTURY DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION

- Parts of Indian Revolution 1920s – 1947
- American Civil Rights 1950s – 1960s
- Anti-Apartheid Movement, 1950s - 1989
- Burmese 1980s – 1990s
- Poland 1980
- Eastern Europe 1989
- Philippine 1989
- Ukrainian, Georgian, Kirghiz 2004
FRANCE: THE MODEL
Elements

- "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity"
- Tennis Court Oath
- Weapons obtained from the Bastille
- Leaders during different stages of the Revolution
- Act, Edicts, Declarations
- What is the conflict/Issue/problem
  - Class conflict
  - Desire for political representation
  - Economic choice
- Opposing sides
Estates General

- 1st
  - clergy

- 2nd
  - nobility

- 3rd
  - Everyone else

Each had different needs and participated for different reasons and at different levels
# Social Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estate</th>
<th>Role in society</th>
<th>Needs</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| **1st (lesser and greater clergy)** | ■ registration of births, marriages and deaths  
 ■ collected the tithe  
 ■ censored books  
 ■ served as moral police  
 ■ operated schools and hospitals  
 ■ distributed relief to the poor | ■ A decrease in the power of the Monarch and increase in their political power.  
 ■ Maintain their property rights |
| **2nd**                      | **Clergy** less than 1 % of population owned 10-15% of land tax free About 100,000 | **To maintain their current position** |
What is the Third Estate?

1st. What is the third estate? Everything.

2nd. What has it been heretofore in the political order? Nothing.

3rd. What does it demand? To become something therein.

Abbé Sieyès, "What is the third Estate?" ("Qu'est-ce que le Tiers-Etat?") , January 1789
### 3rd Estate (mostly townspeople)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Wants and needs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>upper</td>
<td>drs., merchants</td>
<td>Political Power to match their economic power which meant the elimination of the Monarch (could buy and exemption from taxes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>middle</td>
<td>artisans</td>
<td>less taxes and lower rent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lower</td>
<td>peasants</td>
<td>Rewards for their work and food on the table</td>
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The Path of the Great Fear
OLD REGIME LOSES CONTROL

- The state is economically weak if not bankrupt.
- Central government is ineffective and cannot enforce its rules and policies.
- New ideas circulate which challenge the older traditions.
- Vocally powerful and influential opposition arises.
Traditional conservatives seek control

- The old social elites attempt to reassert their privileges.
- Some disaster rallies the forces, who oppose changes, seek control of the situation.
- Short-term event sparks a conflict.
- Government too divided and weak to suppress the conflict.
The Liberal to Moderate phase

- Liberals create the constitution
  - Broad general changes
  - Immediate reactions
    - Declaration of the Rights of Man
    - Alter some of relics of feudalism

- Moderates deal with the issues
  - Feudalism abolished
  - Electorate expanded
  - Reforms especially economics and political initiated.
Conservatives stop reforms.

- franchise limited.

Conservatives attempt to hold the process

Radicals feel too slow and conservatives trying arrest the development of the changes

Radicals feel reforms too few

Radicals mobilize their supporters
RADICALS SEIZE CONTROL

- Radicals take control.
- Radicals restructure state.
- Radicals initiate sweeping changes in the society.
- The radicals eliminate most old institutions completely.
RADICAL REIGN OF TERROR

- “The Revolution Eats Its Children”
- Opposition both foreign/domestic arises to challenge radical control.
- The radicals remove opposition often through violent methods.
- Radicals seek to institutionalize and spread their ideologies.
Reaction to the Reign of Terror

- Reactionaries overthrown radicals
- Reestablish moderate regime.
- Repress the more radical elements in a “white terror.”
- Abandon the more radical reforms.
- Return some of the privileges/policies of old regime.
- Lose touch with majority of population who want more reforms.
RISE OF A STRONG LEADER

- Leader, usually from the military arises and focuses opposition to moderates.
- Leader seizes control of the government, often ruling through the army.
- Leader blends conservative, moderate and radical policies.
- Leader establishes new, effective, stable, and generally popular institutions.
- Revolution ends.
THE AMERICAN WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE: DOES IT FIT THE MODEL OF A BOURGEOIS REVOLUTION?
A CRISIS BUILDS: BRITISH ALIENATE AMERICAN COLONIALS

- French and Indian Wars
- Proclamation of 1763
- Stamp Act; Intolerable Acts
- The Quebec Act of 1774
- Mercantilism vs. Free Trade
- No taxation without representation
- Enlightenment ideas
- Sons of Liberty
British seek to maintain the status quo

- Period lasts from Boston Massacre (1770) through meeting of Continental Congress in Philadelphia and Battles of Lexington and Concord (1775)
- New Englanders – especially merchants and citizens around Boston – are “radicals”
- Most of mid-Atlantic states and citizens are moderates/conciliatory.
- British colonial bureaucracy and landed aristocracy in the South are conservatives; seek to avert clash by working with Parliament.
- British government unwilling to compromise.
Cooler heads seek to compromise

- From 1775 to the Declaration of Independence, 1776 through the Battle of Saratoga, 1777
- Colonial moderates attempt to initiate changes, compromise, bargain with the British, Parliament
- Many colonists, especially in the southern colonies were skeptical about the wisdom or potential of success for the revolution.
- American success at Saratoga, British actions emboldens patriots; war spreads.
COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE BECOMES COLONIAL GOAL

- France enters the war (1778) until the end Battle of Yorktown (1783)
- Moderate colonials struggling against the more radical elements within the revolutionaries.
- British move south into Middle Atlantic and later Deep South; commit many atrocities
- War spreads as other Europeans attack UK.
Look upon Articles of Confederation as moderate constitution, with which some were not happy. Radicals are represented by people such as Thomas Paine, Sons of Liberty and to a lesser extent Thomas Jefferson. Even federalist ideas are radical.

The radical victories are the Battle of Yorktown and the Treaty of Paris, breaking all ties with England.
AMERICAN REIGN OF TERROR

- The radical reign of terror was the expulsion of the Loyalists to Canada, and the confiscation of their property.
- Americans war on pro-British Indians and open western lands to settlement. Begin resettlement of Indians.
- Proportionally to French émigrés, who fled/were guillotined, loyalist expulsions and resettlements were greater.
The period from 1781-1789
“United States” governed by Articles of Confederation.
States re-establish many precolonial social, economic
Ruling elites based on landed, property wealth, not nobility
Episcopalianists predominate
Church of England
Many states openly trade with British
Radical ideas unpopular
STRONG INSTITUTIONS STABILIZE REVOLUTION

- Calling of the Constitution Convention in 1787 was a reaction to weaknesses in Articles of Confederation. Many people upset by moderate restoration because it was not working. US Constitution was coup d’etat.

- Rise of federalist idea with strong central government instead of a confederation is the consolidation of a “strong leader”

- George Washington as a national military leader, who can calm rebellions and unite the people, are the synthesis period of the revolution represented in one man.
Other Impacts

- The Enlightenment ideals and the American and French Revolutions also influenced:
  - The Saint Domingue slave revolt
  - Simon Bolivar in South America
  - The abolition movement
  - *The Declaration of the Rights of Woman and the Female Citizen*
  - Elizabeth Cady Stanton and women’s rights movements
MEXICAN REVOLUTION
WAS IT BOURGEOIS OR AN EXAMPLE OF A MASS 20TH Century REVOLUTION?
**Porfirio Diaz’s Dictatorship**
- President for life
- Centralized bureaucracy
- Conciliatory towards church
- Appropriated Indian communal lands
- Favored large landowners
- Impoverished peasants, debt peonage
- Limited participation by small middle class
- Many rebellions by peasants, Indians

**Encouraged foreign investment**
- Development of wealth for export
- Resources owned by foreigners
DIAZ SEEKS TO MAINTAIN THE STATUS QUO

- Many Opponents to Rule
  - Parties organized to oppose Diaz
  - Workers protest labor conditions
  - Madero runs for presidency

- Diaz negates election
  - Imprisons Madero
  - Opposes changes
  - Reaffirms status quo
EARLY REVOLUTION

- 1907 Economic Depression
- 1910 Revolt
  - Country run by elites
  - Corrupt government
  - Weakened military
  - Prosperity benefits small middle class
  - Modern economy but few own most
  - Impoverished countryside, revolts
  - Discontent among elite, middle class
- Massive social revolution
- Madero revolt overthrews Diaz
REACTON TO MODERATES

- Liberal Madero as president, 1910 – 1913
  - Opposes land reform
  - Political reforms antagonize military, US

- Zapata’s *Plan de Ayala*
  - All land, waters, woods back to the *hacendados*
  - In regions he controls, returns lands

- 1913 Military Rebellion
  - Attacks National Palace
  - Military with US support arrests
  - Madero murdered
  - Installs Huerta as president
RADICAL REACTION

- Revolutionary Forces unite
  - Zapata, Villa, Carranza, Obregon
  - Revolt against Huerta
- 1914: Vera Cruz Incident
  - Mexicans arrest US sailors
  - US bombards Veracruz
  - Huerta resigns after election due to US pressure
- Constitutionalist army takes Mexico City
  - Carranza becomes president
- Zapata, Villa depose president
  - Institute a radical system of changes
MEXICAN CIVIL WAR

- 1915 Civil War as Reign of Terror
  - Country divided into warring provinces
  - Competing policies
  - Murders, assassinations, brutality
- Constitutionalists under Carranza
  - Army seizes Mexico City
  - Constitutionalists occupy Yucatan
    - Ends debt peonage
    - Mobilized workers, peasants for revolution
  - Villa defeated by Constitutionalist Army
- Villa raids US after US supports Carranza
Reactionary return

- End of War as Moderate victory
- 1917 Constitution
  - Advanced nationalist, radical views
  - Universal male suffrage (hostile to women)
  - Power, property of Church restricted
  - Free, secular, obligatory primary education
  - Returned lands seized illegally
  - Curbed foreign ownership
  - 8 hour work day
  - Minimum wage
  - Strikes legal
STABILIZED REVOLUTION

- Carranza elected president
  - Swung revolution to far-right
  - Nationalist favoring elite ideologies
    - Opposed education
    - Opposed land reform
    - Suppressed workers’ unions, revolts

- 1919 – 1924
  - Zapata captured, killed
  - New leaders oppose Carranza
  - Generals stage coup, kill Carranza
  - Frequent revolts, assassinations

- Rise of Calles as strong man
  - Ruled Mexico directly, indirectly for a decade
  - Ruled through military, provincial allies
  - He picked presidential candidates
  - Put down Catholic revolt (Cristeros)
  - Nationalized Church property
  - Institutes some reforms
OTHER REVOLUTIONS

- Does the Industrial Revolution conform to the model? If so, how?

- Should the Industrial Revolution be studied with political revolutions?