

Class Syllabus

Part I. The Sociology of Social Movements: From Pathology to Strategy

Week One. Introduction.

Week Two. Dominant perspectives: Strategy and Organization.

- John McCarthy and Mayer N. Zald, "Resource Mobilization and Social Movements: A Partial theory." *American Journal of Sociology* 82 (1977): 1212-1241. (Online).
- Steven Barkan, "Strategic, Tactical, and Organizational Dilemmas of the Protest Movement against Nuclear Power," *Social Problems* 27 (1979): 19-37. (Packet).
- Gary Downey, "Ideology and the Clamshell Identity: Organizational Dilemmas in the Anti-Nuclear Power Movement," *Social Problems* 33 (1986): 357-371. (Packet).

Suggested readings:

- J. Craig Jenkins and Charles Perrow, "Insurgency of the Powerless: Farm Worker Movements (1946-1972), *American Sociological Review* 42(1977): 249-268.
- Marshall Ganz, "Resources and Resourcefulness: Strategic Capacity in the Unionization of California Agriculture, 1959-1966," *American Journal of Sociology* 105 (2000): 1003-1062.
- John Lofland, *Social Movement Organizations*
- Doug McAdam, John D. McCarthy, and Mayer N. Zald, eds. *Comparative Perspectives on Social Movements* (1996)
- Sidney Tarrow, *Power in Movement* (1998).

Week Three. Decisionmaking: Uncertainty and familiarity

- Sherryl Kleinman, *Opposing Ambitions*. (Labyrinth).
- James G. March, "Theories of Choice and Making Decisions," *Society*, Nov/Dec, 1982. (Packet).
- Frank Dobbin "Cultural Models of Organization: The Social Construction of Rational Organizing Principles," in *The Sociology of Culture*, edited by Diana Crane. (Packet).

Suggested readings:

- Paul DiMaggio and Walter W. Powell, "The Iron Cage Revisited: Institutional Isomorphism and Collective Rationality in Organizational Fields," *American Sociological Review* 48:147-60.
- James M. Jasper, "Tastes in Tactics," in *The Art of Moral Protest*.
- Francesca Polletta and James M. Jasper, "Collective Identity and Social Movements," *Annual Review of Sociology* 38 (2001)

Week Four: Political structure and movement strategy

- William Gamson, *The Strategy of Social Protest*, chs. 2,3,6,7. (Packet)
- Herbert Kitschelt, "Political Opportunity Structures and Political Protest: Antinuclear Movements in Four Democracies," *British Journal of Political Science* 16(1986): 57-85.(Packet)
- Edwin Amenta, Drew Halfmann, and Michael P. Young, "The Strategies and Contexts of Social Protest: Political Mediation and the Impact of the Townsend Movement in California," *Mobilization* 4 (1999):1-23. (Packet).

Suggested reading:

- Doug McAdam, "Tactical Innovation and the Pace of Insurgency," *American Sociological Review* 48 (1983): 735-54.

Week Five. Strategic repertoires

- Charles Tilly, "Contentious Repertoires in Great Britain, 1758-1834," in Mark Traugott, ed., *Repertoires and Cycles of Collective Action* (1994). (Packet).
- Elisabeth Clemens, "Organizational Repertoires and Institutional Change: Women's Groups and the Transformation of U.S. Politics, 1890-1920," *American Journal of Sociology* 98 (1993): 755-798. (Online).
- Julian Groves, "Animal Rights and the Politics of Emotion: Folk Constructs of Emotion in the Animal Rights Movement," in Goodwin, Jasper, and Polletta, *Passionate Politics* (2001). (Packet).
- Theda Skocpol, "Associations Without Members," *American Prospect* 45 (July-August 1999): 66-73 (Packet).

Suggested reading:

- Elisabeth Clemens, "Organizational Form as Frame" in *Comparative Perspectives on Social Movements*, edited by Doug McAdam, John D. McCarthy, and Mayer N. Zald.
- Michael P. Hanagan, et. al. eds., *Challenging Authority* (1998).

Part II. Organizational Dilemmas

Week Six: Organization and cooptation.

- Robert Michels, *Political Parties*. (Packet).
- Frances Fox Piven and Richard Cloward, *Poor People's Movements: Why They Succeed: How They Fail*. (Packet).
- Donald B. Rosenthal, "Who 'Owns' AIDS Service Organizations? Governance Accountability in Non-Profit Organizations," *Polity* 29 (1996): 97-118. (Packet).

- Suzanne Staggenborg, "The Consequences of Professionalization and Formalization in the Pro-Choice Movement," *American Sociological Review* 53 (1988): 585-606. (Online)

Suggested reading:

- J. Craig Jenkins, "Nonprofit Organizations and Policy Advocacy." In *The Non-Profit Sector*, edited by Walter K. Powell.
- Debra Minkoff, "The Organization of Survival." *Social Forces* 71(1993): 887-908.
- Roy Cain, "Community-Based AIDS Services: Formalization and Depoliticization," *International Journal of Health Services* 23 (1993): 665-684.
- Nancy Matthews, "Feminist Clashes with the State: Tactical Choices by State-Funded Rape Crisis Centers" in Myra Marx Ferree and Patricia Yancey Martin, eds., *Feminist Organizations: Harvest of the New Women's Movement*, 291-305.

Week Seven. Organization and democracy

- Wini Breines, "Politics as Community," in *Community and Organization in the New Left*. (Packet).
- Jo Freeman, "The Tyranny of Structurelessness," in *Radical Feminism*, edited by Ann Koedt, Ellen Levine, and Anita Rapone. (Packet).
- Paul Lichterman, *The Search for Political Community: American Activists Reinventing Commitment*, chs. 2, 4, 6. (Labyrinth).
- Francesca Polletta, *Freedom Is an Endless Meeting: Democracy in American Social Movements*, chs. 1, 6, 7. (Online -- will post to bulletin board)

Suggested reading:

- Suzanne Staggenborg, "Stability and Innovation in the Women's Movement: A Comparison of Two Movement Organizations," *Social Problems* 36 (1989): 75-92
- Jane Mansbridge, *Beyond Adversary Democracy*.
- Joyce Rothschild-Whitt, "Conditions Facilitating Participatory-Democratic Organizations," *Sociological Inquiry* 46 (1976): 75-86.
- Rebecca Bordt, *The Structure of Women's Nonprofit Organizations*.
- Joan Cassell. *A Group Called Women: Sisterhood and Symbolism in the Feminist Movement*.
- Barbara Epstein. *Political Protest and Cultural Revolution*
- Gastil, John. *Democracy in Small Groups: Participation, Decision Making and Communication*
- Iannello, Kathleen P. *Decisions Without Hierarchy: Feminist Interventions in Organization Theory and Practice*.

Week Eight: Claimmaking

- David A. Snow and Robert D. Benford, "Ideology, Frame Resonance, and Participant Mobilization," *International Social Movement Research 1* (1988): 197-217
- Doug McAdam, Sidney Tarrow, and Charles Tilly, *Dynamics of Contention*, chs. 1, 5, 6. (Packet)
- Marc Steinberg, "The Talk and Back Talk of Collective Action," *American Journal of Sociology* 105 (1999): 736-80. (Online).
- James M. Jasper, "Culture and Strategy: States, Audiences, and Success," in *The Art of Moral Protest*. (Packet).

Part III. Strategizing. NOTE: The following is subject to change depending on the interests of seminar participants.

Week Nine: Media

- Todd Gitlin, *The Whole World is Watching*, Introduction, chs. 1-5, 9-11.
- Naomi Klein, "The Vision Thing," *The Nation*, July 10, 2000. (Online: <http://past.thenation.com/issue/000710/0710klein.shtml>).
- Walter Kirn, "The New Radicals," *Time*, April 24, 2000. (Packet)
- Look at <http://www.indymedia.org>

Suggested reading:

- Jackie Smith et al., "From Protest to Agenda Building: Description Bias in Media Coverage of Protest Events in Washington, D.C.," *Social Forces* 79 (2001): 1397-1423.
- Charlotte Ryan, *Prime Time Activism* (1991)
- William Gamson and Antonio Modigliani, "Media Discourse and Public Opinion on Nuclear Power," *American Journal of Sociology* 95 (1989): 1-37.
- Shanto Iyengar. *Is Anyone Responsible?: How Television Frames Political Issues* (1991)
- Richard B. Kielbowitz and Clifford Scherer, "The Role of the Press in the Dynamics of Social Movements," *Research in Social Movements, Conflicts, and Change* 9 (1986): 71-96.

Week Ten: Rights Talk

- Peter Gabel, "The Phenomenology of Right-Consciousness and the Pact of the Withdrawn Selves," *Texas Law Review* 62(1984): 1563-1599. (Packet).
- Patricia J. Williams, "Alchemical Notes: Reconstructing Ideals from Deconstructed Rights." (Packet).
- Michael McCann, *Rights At Work*, chs. 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8 (Labyrinth).

Suggested reading:

- Paul Burstein, "Legal Mobilization as a Social Movement Tactic: The

Struggle for Equal Employment Opportunity," *American Journal of Sociology* 96 (1991): 1201-25.

- Alan Hunt, *Explorations in Law and Society: Toward a Constitutive Theory of Law*. (New York: Routledge, 1993).
- Mark Kelman *A Guide to Critical Legal Studies* (Cambridge: Harvard Univ. Press, 1987)
- Mark Kessler, "Legal Mobilization for Social Reform: Power and the Politics of Agenda Setting," *Law and Society Rev.* 24 (1990): 121-143.
- Francesca Polletta, "The Structural Context of Novel Rights Claims: Rights Innovation in the Southern Civil Rights Movement, 1961-1966." *Law and Society Review* 34 (2000): 367-406.
- Elizabeth Schneider, "The Dialectic of Rights and Politics: Perspectives from the Women's Rights Movement," *New York Univ. Law Rev.* 61(1986): 589-652.

Week Eleven: Transnational Activism

- Margaret Keck and Katherine Sikkink, *Activists Beyond Borders*, chs. 1, 2, and 6, *and either* 3, 4, or 5.

NOTE: Alternative topics for the previous section:

- Violence and repression; emotions and protest
- identity politics
- community organizing
- the internet and protest
- defeat and setbacks
- movement coalitions.

Week Twelve: Project presentations