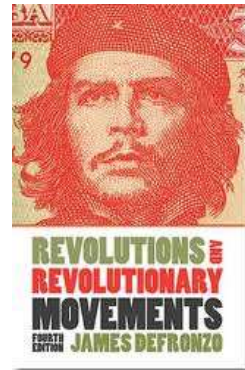


20th Century Revolutions

You say you want a revolution???

- What is a revolution?
- What critical factors contribute to the development of a revolution?
- What makes a revolution a success or failure?
- How do various revolutions of the 20th century compare?



James DeFronzo wrote one of the most definitive textbooks on this subject. He found the following:

What makes revolution possible? Analysis of past revolutions reveals that revolutionary movements are most likely to develop and succeed when five factors are simultaneously present: mass discontent, divided elites, unifying motivations that unite different social groups in support of revolution, a political crisis for the existing government involving loss of legitimacy and armed forces loyalty, and a permissive world context in that other nations do not intervene to prevent a revolution from succeeding.

Your job is to investigate two of the revolutions below. For each, you are to complete an analysis of the historical factors surrounding this revolution in light of DeFronzo's statement. You may use the attached handout to complete this process.

- 1. Mexico 1910**
- 2. China 1911**
- 3. Cuba 1959**

- 4. Iran 1979**
- 5. Nicaragua 1979**
- 6. South Africa 1994**

Once you have adequate information and analysis regarding these two revolutions, you are to complete an appropriate comparative thesis statement for the following prompt:

Compare and contrast the goals and outcomes of the revolutionary process in two countries during the 20th century.

A revolution is impossible without a revolutionary situation; furthermore, not every revolutionary situation leads to revolution.

-Vladimir Lenin

20th Century Revolutions

Name:

Revolution #1:

Factor	Historical Evidence
Mass Discontent	
Divided Elites	
Unifying motivations that unite different social groups in support of revolution	
A political crisis for the existing government involving loss of legitimacy and armed forces loyalty	
A permissive world context, in that other nations do not intervene, to prevent a revolution from succeeding	

20th Century Revolutions

Name:

Revolution #2:

Factor	Historical Evidence
Mass Discontent	
Divided Elites	
Unifying motivations that unite different social groups in support of revolution	
A political crisis for the existing government involving loss of legitimacy and armed forces loyalty	
A permissive world context, in that other nations do not intervene, to prevent a revolution from succeeding	