

ANGER IN AMERICA

- Do you believe that there is a state of unrest in America?
- If so, can you identify some specific incidents?
- If so, how would you describe;
 - The extent and magnitude of the problem?
 - The cause or source of the problem?
 - The public perception of the problem?
 - Public action or inaction in response to the problem?
- For those known incidents of unrest in America, what has been the nature or focus of the unrest?
- Do you believe that the media reporting of incidents of unrest in America are;
 - Appropriate, reasonable, fair, and balanced?
 - Contributing to the problem or addressing solutions?

ANGER IN AMERICA: STATE OF UNREST

- Are the current incidents of civil unrest new or unique?
 - · Name some incidents of civil unrest from your own personal history.
 - How would you characterize those incidents?
- Is it necessary for civil unrest to be violent or destructive?
 - Can you identify some examples of peaceful civil unrest?
 - Can you identify some examples of violent or destructive civil unrest?
 - Can you identify some examples where peaceful unrest ended up being violent, and if so, what was the source or the cause of the violence?
- Can civil unrest be an effective means to initiate social or cultural change?
 - Name some instances where civil unrest has resulted in real and lasting social or cultural change. Characterize those instances as to;
 - · Purpose.
 - Origins of or participating members.
 - Magnitude and duration of the unrest.
 - The means and methods used.

ANGER IN AMERICA: RECENT HISTORY*

• 2009:

- Oakland: Riots in response to a court-verdict in a police shooting of a black man. Vandalism and theft.
- Akron: Black gang attack on a white family. Racially-motivated violence.
- Pittsburgh: G20 protests. Vandalism and disruption.

· 2010:

- Santa Cruz: Anarchist attack on capitalism. Vandalism and disruption.
- Oakland: Riots in response to a court-verdict in a police shooting of a black man. Vandalism and theft.
- Los Angeles: Riots in response to a police shooting of a Guatemalan man. Vandalism.

· 2011:

Oakland: Occupy Wall Street (OWS) protests. Vandalism and violence.

^{*} List of incidents of civil unrest in the United States: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_incidents_of_civil_unrest_in_the_United_States#1990.E2.80.931999

ANGER IN AMERICA: RECENT HISTORY

· 2012:

- · Chicago: NATO summit protests. Violence and disruption.
- Anaheim: Riots in response to a police shooting of Hispanic men.
 Vandalism.

2013:

Brooklyn: Riots in response to a police shooting of a black youth.
 Vandalism and theft.

• 2014:

- Ferguson: Riots in response to a police shooting of a black man.
 Vandalism, violence, attacks on police, and theft.
- New York City: Riots in response to the death of Eric Garner during police constraint. Vandalism, violence, attacks on police.

· 2015:

 Baltimore: Riots in response to the death of a black man while in police custody. Vandalism, violence, attacks on police, and theft.

ANGER IN AMERICA: RECENT HISTORY

· 2016:

- Anaheim: Riots in response to police shooting of six, to anti-Trump rally violence, and to KKK rally. Vandalism, violence, attacks on police, and theft.
- Chicago: Anti-Trump rally. Violence and disruption.
- St. Paul: Protests in response to the police shooting of a black man. Shut down of interstate highway, Violence, disruption.
- Milwaukee: Riots in response to a police shooting of a black man.
 Vandalism, violence, theft.
- Charlotte: Riots in response to a police shooting of a black man.
 Vandalism, violence, theft.
- Standing Rock: Dakota Access Pipeline protests. Vandalism, disruption.
- Oakland: Anti-Trump rally. Vandalism, violence and disruption.
- Portland: Anti-Trump rally. Vandalism, violence and disruption.

ANGER IN AMERICA: RECENT HISTORY

· 2017:

- DC: Anti-Trump protests at inauguration. Vandalism and disruption.
- Berkeley: University students rioted, preventing conservative speaker from presenting. Vandalism and disruption.
- Anaheim: Altercation between an off-duty policeman and a black youth results in protests and rioting. Vandalism and disruption.
- Berkeley part 2: Pro-Trump rally disrupted by far-left agitators. Vandalism and violence.
- Berkeley part 3:University students rioted, preventing conservative speaker from presenting. Vandalism and disruption.
- · Olympia: Masked anarchists riot. Vandalism, violence, and disruption.
- Portland: Masked anarchists riot. Vandalism, violence, and disruption.
- Charlottesville: Clash between far-right and far-left groups. Vandalism, violence, and disruption.
- To be continued...

ANGER IN AMERICA: MOTIVATIONS FOR UNREST

- Constructive: Civil unrest for the purpose of promoting positive social or cultural change.
 - Examples:
 - The civil-rights movement.
 - · Women's suffrage.
 - Characterized by:
 - Clearly defined purpose.
 - Structural and/or philosophical cohesion for the majority of the participants.
 - An end point: once the defined objective is achieved, actions are generally abandoned.

ANGER IN AMERICA: MOTIVATIONS FOR UNREST

- Obstructive: Civil unrest meant to stop somebody or something
 - Examples:
 - University protests against conservatives.
 - Riots in response to police actions.
 - Characterized by:
 - While initially purposeful, these generally disintegrate to random aggression.
 - Very little cohesion between participants. Often accompanied by internal disagreements or conflicts.
 - Often executed by a diverse group of people with a broad range of philosophies and originating from a wide geographic area.
 - Often promoted for the sole purpose of disruption.
 - No particular end point. Actions end when the adventure ends.

ANGER IN AMERICA: APPARENT TRENDS

- Civil unrest is becoming less purposeful and more disruptive, destructive, and violent.
- Civil unrest is becoming more obstructive than constructive.
 - While objecting to something can have its place, it is generally only of value if a reasonable replacement is proposed.
- Civil unrest is attacking social constructs;
 - · Law and order
 - Authority and structure
 - Capitalism and business

ANGER IN AMERICA: WHAT MOTIVATES PARTICIPATION

Information overload (noise)

- The constant and instantaneous flow of information from a broad range of sources feeds into the passions of the individual.
- We identify with those sources that support our belief system, which in turn reinforce that belief system. We deny those sources with which we do not agree.
- There is little time (or interest or capability) for the critical analysis of information to determine its validity or rationale.
- Constant reinforcement amplifies emotional responses to issues that are believed to be significant.

Feelings vs. logic

- There is a belief that it is necessary to have an instantaneous opinion on any issue, even on those that are unfamiliar.
- Once established by a feeling, an opinion often gains validity through reinforcement.
- Logical refutation of a feeling, once established, is uncomfortable and will generally be avoided.

ANGER IN AMERICA: WHAT MOTIVATES PARTICIPATION

Detachment

- People can feel a lack of a sense of purpose, opportunity, or connection to society.
- Rebellious anger is a means to overcome this feeling and create a sense of purpose that resonates with the baser human instincts.
- If you aren't being acknowledged as significant, destroy something.
- Participation creates a sense of "belonging" to something.

Ego

- In these days of over-zealous self-importance, the impact of one's actions are less important than self-gratification.
- Destroying someone else's property is not as important as the power one feels in doing so.

ANGER IN AMERICA: WHAT MOTIVATES PARTICIPATION

Group think

- Personal responsibility is more difficult than mob mentality.
- When participating (even peripherally) in an event, it is easier to be drawn into actions that would not typically be personally acceptable.
- Inertia / momentum: once something is started, it is more difficult to change course or speed.
- Being a part of something
 - Everyone wants to be part of something significant that is larger than themselves. That is why "the war on ..." is always motivating (but seldom effective)
 - Those that cannot find a purpose unto themselves often attach themselves to something they believe to be of value.
- Some people just want to watch the world burn
 - There are those that just want to tear down anything and everything.

ANGER IN AMERICA: SYMPTOMS

- Civil unrest is attacking symbols and history, not events or issues:
 - History is fraught with examples of leaders and movements that have attempted to suppress opposition and erase or revise history.
 - "Every record has been destroyed, every book rewritten, every picture repainted, every statue and street building has been renamed, every date has been altered. And the process is continuing day by the day and minute by minute. History has stopped. Nothing exists except an endless present in which the party is always right." ~ George Orwell
- Violence without objective:
 - There is no apparent end purpose to the current civil unrest, other than to tear down the institutions on which civil society depends. History, ethics, morality, values, and respect for life have become irrelevant.
- Attacking the responses, not the violence:
 - The media is more focused on what is being said in response to an event, rather than on the circumstances of the event itself.
 - Obama said the police acted stupidly without any facts: OK with the media.
 - Trump said violence from all sides should be avoided: attacked by the media.

ANGER IN AMERICA: SUPPORTING FACTORS

- Media is encouraging it by conflating the significance of disruptive events while ignoring the social ills that are killing people in our cities.
- Media is demanding more in terms of responses to events than in the impact of the events themselves, and people's behaviors are responding accordingly (e.g. CEOs backing out of Trump's Manufacturing Council)
- Outside forces are encouraging, supporting, and funding disruptive behaviors in order to further their agenda of social restructuring. (e.g. Soros and associated leftists)
- Liberal logic: "Black people who were never slaves are fighting white people who were never Nazis over a confederate statue erected by democrats, because democrats cant stand their own history anymore and somehow its Trump's fault."

ANGER IN AMERICA: ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILES

From the far Left:

MoveOn.org

Black Lives Matter

Assata's Daughters

College Students for Bernie

Revolutionary Communist Party

National Council of Churches

Anti-Racist Action

Showing Up for Racial Justice

The Democratic Socialists of America

The Revolutionary Communist Party Redneck Revolt

The Industrial Workers of the World

The Metropolitan Anarchist Coordinating Council

Fearless Undocumented Association

People for Bernie

Antifa

BYP100

Showing Up for Racial Justice

Sothern Poverty Law Center

Black Lives Matter

The Workers World Party

ANGER IN AMERICA: ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILES

• From the far Right:

The Daily Stormer

The National Policy Institute

The Traditionalist Workers Party

The National Socialist Movement

The Fraternal Order of Alt-Knights

Identity Evropa

The American Guard

The New York Light Foot Militia

The Detroit Right Wing

Anti-Communist Action

The neo-Confederate League of the South

The Right Stuff

True Cascadia

Vanguard America

Ku Klux Klan

The 3 Percenters

The Oath Keepers

The Pennsylvania Light Foot Militia

The Virginia Minutemen Militia

The Rise Above Movement

ANGER IN AMERICA: OUTLOOK?

 "Don't be deceived into believing that the anti-Trump angst factories on the Left are only about Trump. To be sure, these leftists hate Trump with a white-hot passion, but their primary goal is to thwart, suppress and ultimately silence political conservatism. It is to reinvigorate Barack Obama's failed progressive agenda by any means necessary." ~ David Limbaugh

ANGER IN AMERICA: ACTIONS

- It is not possible for the individual to prevent or intervene in civil unrest. What is possible is to retain a sense of perspective regarding the scope and magnitude of these events and their long-term impact.
- History is littered with the remains of failed movements.
 - Those that have been ordained with a legitimate purpose will survive and succeed.
 - Those that have been established for the purpose of destruction will eventually fade (unless supported by a demagogic regime that uses them to establish power).
- Challenge, if you wish, the supporters of destructive unrest. Be aware of the fact that their ignorance will drag you down to their level and they will beat you with experience.
- The media will not do what is right, but will only do what makes them the most money. Do not support their actions or believe their spin.