

# A History of Terrorism



## Reification of Terrorism



# JW: Questions

- What factors make terrorism a pejorative term?
- How has the definition of terrorism changed over time?



## JW: Questions

- How does the historical, political, cultural context play a part in the definition of terrorism?
- How did the meaning of terrorism change between the time of the French Revolution and of Napoleon's war in Spain?



# JW: Questions

- Compare and contrast communists with socialists with anarchists with radical democrats.
- Compare and contrast the two revolutions (1905 and 1917) under Tsar Nicholas.



# MC: Question

- Why did Crenshaw create two categories for the causes of terrorism?



# MC: Preconditions

- Preconditions
  - Enabling or permissive factors
    - modernization
    - urbanization
    - social facilitation
    - government's inability or unwillingness to prevent terrorism

“For many governments, however, the cost of disallowing terrorism is too high.”

# MC: Preconditions

- Preconditions
  - Direct causes of terrorism
    - concrete grievances among an identifiable subgroup of a larger population
    - perception on the part of the deprived that this condition is not what they deserve or expect
    - lack of opportunity for political participation
    - mass passivity
    - elite disaffection



# MC: Precipitants

- Precipitants
  - Government use of unexpected and unusual force in response to protest- or reform attempts often compels terrorist retaliation







# MC: Reasons

- Reasons for Terrorism
  - Significant campaigns of terrorism depend on rational political choice
- Types of Terrorists
  - revolutionaries;
  - nationalists;
  - reformists;
  - anarchists; or
  - reactionaries



# MC: Objectives

- Proximate objectives
  - gain recognition or attention
  - disrupt and discredit the government
  - demoralize government officials
  - affect public attitudes in both a positive and a negative sense
  - provoke a counterreaction from the government

# MC: Objectives

- Proximate objectives
  - internal organizational functions
  - power ratio of government to challenger is high
  - impatience (internal and external)
  - dramatic failure of alternative means



