Globalization and Community

How does Globalization lead to Cultural Conflict?
Review: a causal chain of globalization

Neo liberalism + fall of communism + rise of Asian Tigers and China

Factor mobility—growing global commodification of land, labor, and capital
  • Rising competition

Be efficient or die!

Develop technologies of efficiency + pressure governments to lower wages, taxes, regulation
  • Policy convergence

More efficiency → more productivity → growth → cultural convergency
  • But inequality
Review Global international effects:

1. Global goods and bads

- The Good: networks of interdependence mean more and cheaper transportation, communication, consumer goods, opportunities

- The bad: harm spreads

• Liberal View
  • Global economy united by benefits of comparative Advantage \(\rightarrow\) multilateralism + institutional “nesting”

  – Or a backlash: the tendency toward economic nationalism
    • Protectionism, competitive regionalism, bilateralism \(\rightarrow\) conflict
International Political Effects

• Liberal View

State shrinking → Political convergence and harmonization, cultural convergence...consumer culture
Continued global integration.

1945-73 Globalization Under embedded liberalism

1970’s Recession Protectionism

1980’s 1990’s

Globalization back on track

1930s Depression

Globalization

19th and early 20th Century

Peak

Trend

Trough

Recovery

Growth

Recession

Peak

Recovery

Time

Level of real output
Economic Nationalist View

Shifting global power as markets create winners and losers → winners become new global powers → global conflict
Domestic Economic Effects

All income groups benefit → domestic community strengthened

Or.....New functional divisions as some groups are more competitive in the global economy and some less competitive → inequality and breakdown of community → political effects: double movement
Distributive justice interpretation: Domestic economic effect (U.S.): Class economy, not a national economy

• American industries no longer compete against other “national” industries
• The stateless corporation?
• The United States: Three Categories of work
  – 1) work that delivers high level management services, -
    -symbolic analysts
  – 2) work that delivers routine production services—
    routine production workers
  – 3) work that delivers routine personal services—
    routine service workers
A New Core and Periphery in the US?

- Symbolic Analyst
- Routine Production worker
- Routine Personal Services
Class Divisions ➔ Class Conflicts

• Economic insecurity could well divide us in the future.
• Divisions between those who are flexible and those who are not
  – Those who are highly educated and those who are not
  – Those who can tolerate uncertainty and those who cannot
• Insecurity is a stronger emotion than security.
• Insecurity can lead to conflict
For the Economic Nationalist…..

• Decline of National loyalty for the most competitive group……
• A loss of manufacturing jobs……
• Loss of National Wealth ➔
• Loss of National Power
For the Communitarian....Breakdown in Community and Class Interdependence

- Workers are coming to have different competitive positions in the global economy
- Less basis for community....
### Sum: Political and Economic Effects

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<th>International</th>
<th>Domestic</th>
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<td><strong>Backlash: Clash of Civilizations</strong></td>
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The Optimistic Liberal Argument
Global Cultural Convergence

• Root cause of economic inequality lies in the cultural and social characteristics of the groups that make it up--which are in turn the historical legacy of pre-modern conditions.

• Move from tradition to modernity, globalization universalizes liberal culture, spreads democracy.
How does global culture converge?

– globalization is the fulfillment of the liberal dream of global free commerce

– This underlying logic of modernization suggests that Western values are universal values.
But what has actually happened? The rise of Ethnonationalism

- A world divided by ethnic and sectarian nationalist states and the rise of extremist ethno-national and sectarian nationalist ideologies.

- Exclusive “Nations” with unique citizenship rights have aligned with both “states” and territory in the 21st Century. This trio forms the core of national identity for most of the world—
Is Ethnonationalism sustainable?

• Some say Yes, and call it national self-determination,

• But there are not enough “states” to go around, given the multiplicity of “nations” in the world.
No, it leads to communal conflict

• IMMIGRATION HAS often GIVEN RISE TO COMMUNAL CONFLICT IN THESE STATES, IN WHICH IMMIGRANTS ARE NOT CONSIDERED PART OF THE “NATION”

• And we have seen communal conflict becoming one of the most pressing issues of our time,

• This gives rise to the “pessimistic liberal argument”
What does Globalization have to do with it? 4) Things

• Pre Globalization: ethnic division of Labor
• 1) globalization creates winners and losers along ethnic lines
• 2) globalization homogenizes culture leading to a loss of identity
• 3) globalization spreads the weaknesses of liberalism
• 4) Globalization causes a loss of state sovereignty
The impact of these 4 forces: the creation of identity politics

1) winners & losers → → → → ↓

2) homogenization → identity loss → → → IDENTITY POLITICS

3) weakness of liberalism → → → ↑

4) state-shrinking → ↓ loyalty to state ↑
Identity Politics vs. Interest-based Politics

• How are social divisions translated into political divisions?

• Individuals hold cross-cutting interests that can be negotiated in the political arena.

• Compromise among competing interests is possible

• Ascriptive Identities (ethnicity, gender, religion) are exclusive and collective.

• Group identities..... in which you can't get into the group unless your identity is correct.

• each exclusive group vies for representation in the political arena. Identities can’t be compromised.
Identity Politics and Democracy

• The problem of compromise

• “Which side are you on” vs. “who are you?”

• Identity can’t be compromised away
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<td>• Exclusive communities,</td>
<td>Tribalism, one-party dictatorships, Theocratic fundamentalism</td>
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<td>• Solidarity with an exclusive group</td>
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<td>• Obedience to rigid hierarchy</td>
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| Mac World (forces that globalize politics) | Global community, freedom, networks, not hierarchies | administration of things, not people, bureaucracy | forces that transcend national boundaries: markets, resources, information, communication, technology, ecology |

| Democracy | citizenship, participation, equal justice, protection of minorities, human rights | laws applying to all citizens, self-government | forces that historically have required a nation-state |
Identity Politics → globalization backlash (double movement)—fragmented communities