

# Social Movements

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**Abstract:** This paper examines political sciences most important contributions to the study of social movements by tracing broader research traditions back to the founding father of social sciences such as James Madison, Kaul Marre, Kaul Polanyi, Max Weber. After providing an overview of these different research traditions, the article considers the Marxist view that social movements fight capitalism the weberians argument the movements are shaped by institutionalized power in the form of modern state. The supporter's insistence that movements are a regulatory reaction to capitalist expansion and the notion, based on tocquevilles beliefs, that such movements are the collective expression of individual political action reflecting unequally distributed resources within the population. Finally, it assesses how the ideas fare in the twenty first century, with emphasis on how the political economy of late capitalism is gaining ground once again in social movement research.

**Keywords:** Political science, Social movements, James Madison, Kaul Marx, Max Weber, Alexis de Tocqueville, Capitalism, democracy, Social movement research.

## 1. Introduction

Social movement is a type of group action. There is no single consensus definition of a social movement. They are large sometimes informal groupings of individuals or organization which focus on specific political or social issues. In other words, they carry out resist, or undo a social change. They provide a way of social change from the bottom within nations. Social movement can be defined as organizational structures and strategies that may empower oppressed populations to mount effective challenges and resist the more powerful and advantages elites. Political science and sociology have developed a variety of theories and empirical research on social movements. Some research in political science high-lights the relation between popular movements and the formation of new political parties as well as discussing the function of social movements in relation to agenda setting and influence on politics. Sociologist distinguish between several types of social movements examining things such as scope, type of change method of work, range and time frame. Modern, Western, Social movements became possible through education the wider dissemination of literature and increased mobility of labour due to the industrialization and urbanization of 19th century societies, it is sometimes argued that the freedom of expression, education and relative economic independence prevalent in the modern western culture are responsible for the unprecedented number and scope of various contemporary social movement. Many of the social movement of the last

hundred years grew up, Social movements have been involved in democratizing nations, but more often they have flourished after democratization.

Social movements have a life cycle. They are created they grow, they achieve successes or failure and eventually. They dissolve and cease to exist. They are more likely to evolve in the time and place which is friendly to the social movement. Social movements occur in liberal and authoritarian societies but in different forms. These new movements are activated by a wish for change in social customs, ethics and values which oppress certain communities. The birth a social movement needs what sociologist Neil Smeler calls an initiating event a particular individual even that will begin a chain reaction of events in the given society leading to the creation of a social movement. Some types of social movements. Political thinkers and sociologists distinguish between several types of social movements.

- *Reform movement:* Movements advocating changing some norms or laws. Such a movement would include a trade union with a goal of increasing workers' rights.
- *Radical movement:* Movement dedicated to changing value systems in a fundamental way. Examples would include the civil rights movements which demanded full civil right and equality under the law to all Americans regardless of race,

It is important to recognize that though movements may disintegrate and cease to be active, the impact that they have in social realm in success I its own way it sparks the notion in new generations that the possibility to organize and make change is there.

## 2. Conclusion

Social movements are an essential part of societies. They are most pronounce and apparent. In other ways are latent. The study of social movements is primarily a study of the social and cultural change of a social order as well as the values and norms. In this regard Herbert Blumer refers to social movements as collective Enterprises to establish a new social order of life. Social movement considered to be an organized attempt on the part of a section of society to bring about either partial or total change in society through collective mobilization based on ideology.

## References

- [1] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social\\_movement](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_movement)