

Genocide

- Two themes of class:
 - Questioning what is worst that humans can do
 - Definition of evil
- Most difficult challenge of class: **defining Genocide**
- Raphael Lemkin
 - 1st practical definition
 - Greek genos & Latin **cide**
 - Also used term **ethnocide**
 - Lemkin defines genocide as:
 - Developed typology based on intent
 - First type:
 - Second type:
 - Third type:

- Treated genocide as international problem

- 1946, UN considered issue of genocide
 - “Genocide is the denial of the right of existence of entire human groups, as homicide is the denial of the right to live of individual human beings; such denial of the right to existence shocks the conscience of mankind, results in great losses to humanity in the form of cultural and other contributions represented by these groups, and is contrary to moral law and to the spirit and aims of the United Nations. Many instances of such crimes of genocide have occurred, when racial, religious, political and other groups have been destroyed, entirely or in part. The punishment of the crime of genocide is a matter of international concern.”

- The Good :

- The Bad:

- UN attempted broadening definition
 - Soviet & Eastern bloc delegates protested

- Dec 8, 1948, UN adopts Genocide Convention
 - “In the present Convention, genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:
 - a) Killing members of that group;
 - b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
 - c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
 - d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the groups;
 - e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.”

- 5 Flaws:

- Perpetrators have victimized only groups not covered

- Why?

- Which should we use for class?
 - Alternatives?

 - “Legal” (re: UN) definition?

 - Rummel’s **democide**?

 - We’ll use Lemkin’s definition

 - We’ll also use Chalk & Johassohn’s typology

Last factor for Consideration

- How is it possible for people to kill other people on such a massive scale?
 - Not possible if victims viewed as people
 - Perp first organizes campaign against victim group
 - Actual performance requires coercion/control
 - Ex. Mongols
 - In modern times, Nazis & Turks faced same problem

You must pay attention to this factor