

Anatomy of a Revolution - Crane Brinton

"In reality the mere existence of privations is not enough to cause an insurrection; if it were the masses would constantly be in revolt" - Trotsky

"...an intolerable gap between what people want and what people get...revolutions often come during periods of economic depressions which follow on periods of generally rising standards of living." - Davies

I. The Cross-fire Model for Revolution

- governments topple down, they are not overthrown by people
- governments must control four monopolies to survive
 - violence(police, military)
 - taxation
 - courts
 - information(press)
- Old Regime is threatened from all sides
 - social crisis(inequality of politics/economics)
 - domestic crisis
 - fiscal crisis(economic distress of government)
 - foreign war

II. Transference of Allegiance of the Intellectuals to the Left

- intellectuals become alienated from the Old Regime
 - convinced that Radicals on Left are correct
 - begin to work for destruction of Old Regime

III. The Rule of the Moderates

- paradox of good men in extraordinary times
- dual sovereignty
- the paradox of freedom - "no enemies to the Left"
- the paradox of the legal government

IV. The Rule of the Extremists

- paradox of the extremists in ordinary times
- the role of the Coup d'Etat
- the dynamics of "men of action"
- the paradox of size
- the dynamics of discipline, energy, and fanaticism
- the timing of free elections and their role
- the relationship of extremist groups to the masses - "drop out" phenom
- the role of conscience(philosopher-killers) and contempt

V. The Terror

- Extremists begin to violently remove all opposition
 - violence eventually engulfs Extremists

VI. Thermidor

- Tired of the excesses of the Terror, society returns to the Right
 - English Restoration, Napoleon, Stalin