



Repertoires and Cycles of Collective Action

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The modern era has generated a bewildering profusion of popular protest including widespread social movements and sporadic revolutionary upheaval. Despite the seemingly chaotic character of such collective action, social scientists have increasingly noted the remarkable regularities exhibited by even the most tumultuous social change. In this volume, sociologists, political scientists, and historians come together to assess the complementary concepts of repertoires and cycles as tools for illuminating the consistent patterns that emerge from the apparent chaos.

The significance of repertoires—recurrent forms or tactics of social protest—is explored in an essay on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Britain by the originator of the concept, Charles Tilly. Sidney Tarrow, whose work has most directly linked the concept of repertoires with that of cycles—the recurrent peaks and troughs in the historical incidence of collective action—contributes an essay that focuses on twentieth-century Italy. Other essays investigate the rhythms and logic of social change in contexts as diverse as sixteenth- through nineteenth-century Japan, nineteenth-century Europe, and twentieth-century America. Through inquiries into the consequences of violent repression for social mobilization, the struggle to control the linguistic terms of social conflict, the unacknowledged antecedents of contemporary movements, and the importance of "movement families," this volume demonstrates the usefulness of these two concepts and defines the relationship between them.

Collected from past issues of *Social Science History*, with a new introduction and two new essays, *Repertoires and Cycles of Collective Action* will reward an interdisciplinary audience of readers with the extraordinary vitality that emerges from this rich blend of historical perspectives.

Contributors. Charles Brockett, Craig Calhoun, Doug McAdam, Marc Steinberg, Sidney Tarrow, Charles Tilly, Mark Traugott, James White

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Editorial Review

Review

"This volume, which makes accessible in one place a set of readings that demonstrate the complementarity and centrality of the concepts of repertoires and cycles for the political-process model, deserves to be read by scholars and students of social movements, politics, and history."

--Verta Taylor," Contemporary Sociology"

"Taken together, all the essays point to the importance of examining states and social movements in interaction with each other and with the larger international political economy. Read in the context of other research and theory in this area, they contribute to our growing understanding of movement evolution."

--Pamela E. Oliver," American Political Science Review"

From the Back Cover

The significance of repertoires-recurrent forms or tactics of social protest-is explored in an essay on eighteenth- and nineteenth- century Britain by the originator of the concept, Charles Tilly.

About the Author

Mark Traugott, Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Santa Cruz, is the author of *Armies of the Poor* and editor of *The French Worker*.

Users Review

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