

In other words, from mid-November 1978 on, the game was settled. Does not this assessment amount to predicting the outcome retroactively?

These few remarks do not invalidate the relevance of Kurzman's account of the 1979 revolution. Nor do they undermine the soundness of his focus on subjective assessments. Rather, they point to a different diagnosis of the main challenge facing explanatory claims applied to high-contention conjunctures. Unconditional and sweeping statements such as "opportunities, resources, culture, deprivation, the balance of forces or viability determine protest" are problematic precisely because they have this dubious flexibility that makes them either false or true depending on the empirical focus and its degree of precision. From this perspective, the key issue is whether explanatory claims are specific enough to define the structural and contextual factors conditioning their validity. The multiplicity of the processes at play in high-contention conjunctures and their interactive character make collective outcomes indeed unpredictable. It does not follow that these interactive processes and their interaction effects cannot be investigated for their own sake.

*Inside Rebellion: The Politics of Insurgent Violence.* By Jeremy M. Weinstein. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006. Pp. 402. \$26.99.

Paul Almeida  
*Texas A&M University*

*Inside Rebellion: The Politics of Insurgent Violence* offers new insights into our understanding of the dynamics of political turmoil in the developing world. Jeremy Weinstein employs novel conceptual models and research strategies to enhance existing explanations of the character and intensity of collective violence committed by nonstate insurgents during civil wars. As opposed to conventional conflict studies, which begin with the nature of the state and its interactions with civil society and political challengers, Weinstein's innovative analysis commences with a focus on the initial environmental conditions of the rebel army on the eve of civil war and the rebels' subsequent relationship with the noncombatant population it may need for sustenance. In particular, the resource endowments available to rebel leaders at the time of launching an insurgent campaign play a decisive role in the type of strategies, tactics, recruitment, control, and governance patterns that revolutionary leaders will deploy, including the level of violence directed at the noncombatant population.

The central thesis of Weinstein's book states that insurgencies that commence in resource-rich environments, either through external funding or by virtue of local natural resources, will organize their campaigns around the use of more indiscriminate violence and will recruit soldiers by enticing them with short-term material incentives (called "opportunistic" rebellions). These conditions lead to indiscipline in the ranks of

the rebel army and extreme abuses against the civilian population in zones of insurgent activity. Conversely, rebellions that begin with few economic endowments must mobilize social resources in the form of preexisting networks, ethnic identities, and norms of social solidarity in order to sustain insurgent actions (coined “activist” insurgencies). Revolutionary organizations assembled around these social resources use violence more selectively and recruit foot soldiers who are deeply committed to the cause over the long term. The author marshals an impressive variety of data sources to support his theoretical scheme. The core analysis centers on a comparison of four insurgencies that raged during the 1980s—the National Resistance Army (NRA) in Uganda, Renamo in Mozambique, the National Shining Path guerrillas in Peru, and the Shining Path’s regional organization in the Huallaga Valley of Peru (CRH). Weinstein conducted close to 200 interviews in the three countries with participants and civilians in or affected by the violent conflicts (an impressive feat in itself given the difficulties of doing field research in postconflict environments in lesser-developed countries). He also utilizes secondary data sources and other cases of protracted violent rebellions to further scrutinize his propositions on rebel resource environments and the nature of the insurgencies.

The study found that the NRA and the Shining Path national insurgencies organized around largely social endowments of ethnic ties and social solidarity, which resulted in relatively more restrained and selective uses of violence. On the other hand, the Renamo and CRH rebellions were based on rich material endowments (i.e., foreign sponsorship and the coca trade, respectively). These opportunistic rebellions unleashed indiscriminate violence, massacred noncombatant populations, looted, and employed forced recruitment strategies as key components of their long-lasting revolts. The book is organized by covering the major tasks of a rebel army—including recruitment, control, governance, and the employment of violence—as opposed to having a separate chapter on each rebel movement. Hence, Weinstein sustains his core arguments throughout the book by carrying out comparisons across his four cases in each empirical chapter (and at times Weinstein breaks down the individual cases into subnational regional variations to reinforce particular assertions). The empirical chapters also begin and end with theoretical insights. For example, even though the study is largely concerned with initial resource environments on insurgent army behavior, the author demonstrates that when the state organizes civil self-defense patrols in regions of rebel activity, it may unleash a wave of tit-for-tat attacks between rebels and civilian populations (as in the case of Peru). In another example of theoretical insight, Weinstein finds that an activist rebellion based on largely social resources may shift to a more opportunist rebellion if a new flow of material resources becomes available, as was the case with diamonds in Angola (in the UNITA counterrevolutionary army in the 1990s) or coca production in Colombia (in the FARC insurgency since the 1980s). However, the author predicts that a shift from an opportunistic rebellion to a

more activist rebellion is less likely given the expectations and experiences of the surrounding civilian population with a brutal guerrilla army.

In the final chapters, the author pushes his theoretical arguments to a larger population of cases, including a quantitative test using a large sample data set of post-1945 civil wars. In these broader tests, he finds statistical evidence for the importance of resource endowments on the level of violence witnessed. Weinstein convincingly shows why his “ethnography of rebel organizations” approach is important: detailed knowledge of each case is crucial to prevent miscoding of civil war deaths in larger cross-national data sets. Weinstein even scrutinizes the outlier cases of violent conflicts that initially seem not to fit squarely in his theoretical purview, such as cases in Lebanon in the late 1970s and 1980s and Algeria in the 1990s. He provides answers to these anomalous conflicts by examining the role of external governments (in the case of Lebanon) and the counterinsurgent strategies employed by the state (in the Algerian case). The Revolutionary United Front (RUF) insurgency in Sierra Leone is also compared to the Maoist rebels in Nepal, representing opportunist and activist rebellions, respectively.

Though the author provides some coverage of Islamic-based insurgencies (e.g., in Algeria and Lebanon, and a bit on Afghanistan), it would be interesting to examine Weinstein’s theoretical scheme in light of Islamic-based rebellions in the 2000s and the strategies they employ, especially in relation to the civilian population. In sum, the work increases our knowledge of the organization of insurgencies and the consequences for noncombatant populations with a parsimonious analytical model. The study provides a wealth of fresh theoretical propositions into the structuring and patterning of collective violence in civil conflicts. The conceptual and methodological contributions of this powerful comparative study will be of great interest to sociologists of rebellion, revolutions, and collective violence as well as scholars of conflict, comparative politics, and international studies in political science and many other closely related fields.

*Beyond Individual Choice: Teams and Frames in Game Theory.* By Michael Bacharach. Edited by Natalie Gold and Robert Sugden. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2006. Pp. 240. \$35.00.

James D. Montgomery  
*University of Wisconsin—Madison*

In his final years, Oxford economist Michael Bacharach was rethinking the foundations of game theory, developing theories of “variable framing” and “team reasoning” to address well-known problems of equilibrium selection and anomalies such as cooperation in social dilemmas. Following Bacharach’s sudden death in 2002, Natalie Gold and Robert Sugden