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Accounting for genocide after 1945: Theories and some findings

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Genocide has been related in social theory to both social and political structure: i.e., plural society (ethnaclass exclusion) and different types of polities - revolutionary, totalitarian and authoritarian regimes. War has also been noted as an instigator of genocide. This paper reviews theoretical expectations and examines the empirical relation between genocides (and other state-sponsored mass killings), ethnic discrimination, polity form, and war among states in Asia, Africa and the Mid-East from 1948 to 1988. Findings are: (1) Genocides and other state-sponsored massacres are repeat offenders. (2) There is a high likelihood of political exclusion and discrimination of ethnoclasses. (3) As expected, unfree, authoritarian, and one-party countries instigate genocides and other state-sponsored massacres.

order) are most likely to use genocide. Democratic states in this era are not perpetrators against their citizens but k accomplices of genocidal regimes elsewhere. One-party communist states are 4.5 times more likely to have used g states. (4) States involved in wars are many more times as likely to have employed genocide than other states. Ex genocides both lead to war and war leads to genocide through several processes. (5) The use of genocide in conflic surveyed tripled between 1968-88 compared to the preceding score of years (10:3 cases). Genocide and genocidal r may be considered normal in these regions. Both the theoretical and the policy implications of these findings are c we note that journalists and scholars have often confused recognition of genocide and genocidal massacres by fra conflicts', by confounding the toll of war and massacre and by conflating concepts. To deter genocide, we should p order to eliminate ethnoclass domination and monitor civil wars to detect

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