

Pamela Oliver Sociology 626 Spring 2004

Reading Notes, section II-C

McAdam: High Risk Activism

1. I assigned this article for its emphasis on ideological socialization and network ties as keys to the decision to participate in Freedom Summer.
2. The stress on the distinction between high risk and low risk activism is important. Later scholars have also distinguished low cost vs. high cost activism.
3. Model of recruitment in figure 1 is crucial. It shows people being predisposed due to ideological socialization in the family, beginning with low risk activism, and being pulled in over time into a self-reinforcing feedback loop.
4. Biographical availability as an important concept (lack of family/job ties that prevent the action)
5. Social ties to other activists are the strongest predictors

Wood & Hughes. Moral Basis of Moral Reform

1. I assigned this article for its emphasis on the way a religious conservative movement is embedded in family socialization and a consistent worldview.
2. This is posed as a criticism of status inconsistency theory, which was popular at the time it was written. That theory is no longer defended by anyone that I know of. That theory basically was a "displacement model" type theory, which said people participated in movements irrelevant to their interests because of their frustration with their social status
3. Focus on adherents: public opinion
- 4.