Differential Group Population Growth: Religion and Ethnicity

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Differential Ethno-Religious Growth

• Uneven demographic transition between and within countries
• Nation-state growth and decline
• Ethnic and religious mix can change within countries
• May have political effects
Key Questions

• Does demography automatically translate into ethnic and religious change?
• When does ethnic and religious change cause electoral shifts?
• When does demographic change lead to violence?
• How do political actors seek to circumvent or manipulate ethnic/religious demography?
Internal Racial Demographic Change: California, 1970-2030

California's Population by Racial Category, 1970-2030
Hispanic Population, Rising Faster Than Anticipated, A 'Huge Weapon' For Obama
Demography and Ethnic Conflict: Northern Ireland

- "The basic fear of Protestants in Northern Ireland is that they will be outbred by the Roman Catholics. It is as simple as that." - Terence O’Neill, Unionist PM of Northern Ireland after resigning, 1969
Political Islam

Everywhere on the rise

The success of Egypt’s Islamists marks a trend throughout the region

Dec 10th 2011 | FAYOUM | from the print edition
Rise of Conservative Protestants, USA, 20\textsuperscript{th} Century
Hundreds of ultra-Orthodox protesters riot in flashpoint town of Beit Shemesh

Protesters set fire to trash cans and hurl rocks; Police arrive in large numbers and arrest three.

By Oz Rosenberg
Tags: Ultra-Orthodox

Hundreds of ultra-Orthodox Jews protested on Thursday evening on a Beit Shemesh street, throwing rocks, blocking the road and burning trash cans. Police arrived in large numbers and have so far arrested three of the rioters.

The incident began as a small local gathering of about 20 people, who waved signs with slogans attacking Zionism. Shmuel Fefenheim, who lives nearby, said that "this group has been coming out every night recently with signs. Today, because of the atmosphere and people under arrest, someone decided to set fire to a large trash can and things spiraled from there."

Photo by: Emil Salman

This story is by:
Oz Rosenberg
Lieberman drafts own map of future Palestinian borders

According to a Foreign Ministry official, Lieberman believes Israel must take the diplomatic initiative by proposing a Palestinian state in provisional borders.

By Barak Ravid

Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman has drafted a map of a Palestinian state in provisional borders. The map would essentially "freeze the existing situation in the territories, with minor changes," a senior Foreign Ministry official said.

The proposal is meant to show that Israel is genuinely interested in progress toward peace, and to force the Palestinians to say whether they really want a state.
Conclusion

• Uneven demographic transitions can lead to ethnic and religious change within states
• Religious fundamentalists can increase through high fertility and strong retention
• Demographic change can produce electoral shifts and even violence
• Much depends on the tightness or looseness of group boundaries
• Demographic change can be engineered by politicians