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Aspects of Political Violence

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According to the U.N., Genocide is the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial, or religious group.

These acts of genocide include:

- Killing members of the group
- Causing serious bodily harm to members of the group
- Deliberately inflicting conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in part
- Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group
- Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group

Facts about Genocide

- The term genocide was not coined until 1944
- In 1994 800,000 civilians were killed over a period of 100 days. (Mostly the Tutsi).
- In 2008, a former Bosnian Serb leader was arrested and charged with genocide (CNN).
- In 2004, the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate pass resolutions declaring the crisis in Darfur to be genocide (CNN).
- With all the combined genocides, over 170,000,000 people have died (statistic from the University of Hawaii).

What do we do?

We take a look at individual actors

In order to stop a conflict or a violent situation, we have to understand what the problem is before we can fix it. When looking at the problem, the individual responsibilities come to light. The roles of the bystander, perpetrator and the victim become extremely important. Each role plays an integral part in the act of genocide. This is something important to know about because it is a situation that has happened many times throughout history and the other political states have not intervened to the point where it is going to stop.

Information retrieved from the U.N. Website and the class POLS 4600 Political Violence. Political Violence Final Project.