Conflict & Peacemaking

Psych280
April 4th, 2005
Overview

1. Conflict: What is it and why does it happen?

2. Social dilemmas & Competition

3. Strategies used for peacekeeping
Some Statistics

- 14,500 wars in the last 5,600 years of human history
- In 1994 alone, 31 waged in 27 locations
- Between 1945 and 1989 there have been 21.8 million war-deaths

Doucet, 1996
Conflict

- Perception that one’s actions or goals are incompatible with the actions and goals of others.

  - Interpersonal
  - Intergroup
    - International
Prisoner’s Dilemma

- 2 suspects separately questioned
- DA has limited evidence
- DA gives incentive for prisoner’s to confess
- Outcomes dependent on each prisoner’s choice

Rapoport, 1960
Prisoner’s Dilemma

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prisoner B</th>
<th>Prisoner A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No Confession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Confession</td>
<td>A gets 1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B gets 1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confession</td>
<td>A gets 10 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B gets 0 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rapoport, 1960
Prisoner’s Dilemma

- Confess = 5 years or no prison time
- Don’t Confess = 1 year or 10 years

- Individual vs Group Outcome
# Threat to Each Country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country B</th>
<th>Country A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does Not Develop Weapons</td>
<td>Does Not Develop Weapons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develops Weapons</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Legend:**
- None: Low threat
- High: Moderate threat
- Moderate: High threat
Strategies

- Cooperate, Individual, Tit-for-tat

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<thead>
<tr>
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Social Dilemma

- A conflict in which the most beneficial action for an individual will, if chosen by most people, have harmful effects on everyone.

- Individual Self-Interest vs Common Good
“Tragedy of the Commons”

- Overgrazing of shared pasture lands.

- Shared resources are wasted as a result of individual self-interest.

Hardin, 1968
# Alaska King Crab

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Harvest</th>
<th>Remain</th>
<th>Harvest</th>
<th>Remain</th>
<th>Harvest</th>
<th>Remain</th>
<th>Harvest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td>Remain</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td>Remain</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td>Remain</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td>Remain</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td></td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

If fisherman harvest over 25%, population will start to plummet & finally begin to disappear.
Social Traps

- Situations where people are drawn toward immediate rewards that later have negative consequences
- Hidden costs
  - Difference between short & long-term consequences
  - Ignorance of long-term consequences
  - Sliding reinforcers
Conflict & Use of Threats

- Communication does not always help solve dilemmas

- Deutsch and Krauss (1962) trucking game
The Deutsch and Krauss trucking game

ACME start
ACME's alternate route
Gate controlled by ACME
One-lane road
Gate controlled by BOLT
Route 216
Route 106
BOLT destination
BOLT's alternate route
BOLT Start

Deutsch & Krauss, 1962
Results of Trucking Study

Deutsch & Krauss, 1962
Conflict Summary

- Social Dilemmas
  - Prisoner’s Dilemma, Tragedy of the Commons

- Competition
  - People competing for same resources believe their individual self-interests are not compatible.

- Communication
  - Doesn’t always decrease conflict but can helped if used wisely
Peacemaking

- Negotiation
  - Both sides make offers and counter-offers as a means of coming to an agreement.
  - Employees vs Employers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10% salary increase</th>
<th>2% salary increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8% salary increase</td>
<td>5% salary increase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6% salary increase</td>
<td>6% salary increase</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Win-Win vs Win-Lose
Peacemaking

● Integrative Solution
  ● Most/Least important issues for each side
    ● Employee vs Employer

  Salary Increase    Reduction in Vacation Time

● How good are people at this?
  ● Not Very
  ● Trust
  ● Mediators
Peacemaking

- Common External Threats
- Naval ROTC Study

“I couldn’t help but to say to Mr. Gorbachev, just think how easy his task and mine might be...if suddenly there was a threat from another planet.” Ronald Regan, 1983

Lanzetta, 1955
Peacemaking

- Graduated & Reciprocated Initiatives in Tension Reduction (GRIT) - designed to de-escalate international tensions.
  - Announcing a conciliatory intent
  - Conciliatory acts
  - Maintaining retaliatory capability
  - Reciprocates any conciliatory act
Summary

- Peacemaking
  - Negotiation
  - Integrative Solution
  - Common External Threat
  - GRIT