

# Impact of conflict in Northern Ireland

A girl walking past a wall with the words “IRA” painted on it.

IRA stands for “Irish Republican Army”.

Catholics in Northern Ireland turn to them because even the British Army (supposed to protect them) has turned against them on Bloody Sunday



How has Northern Ireland as a country been affected by all the fighting?

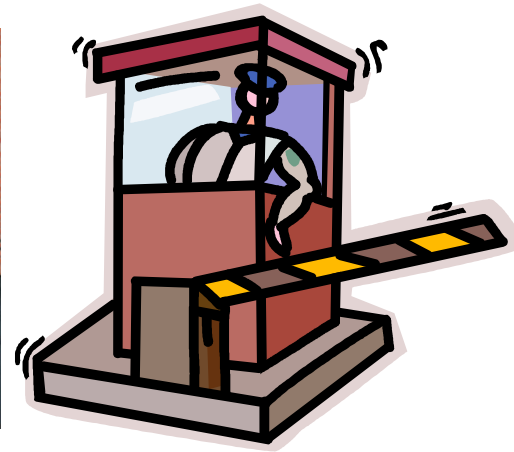
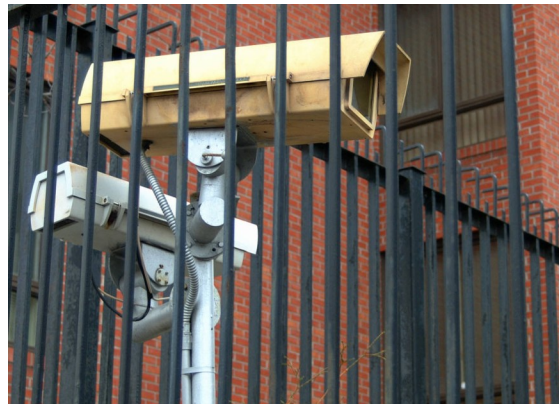
# [ 1. Declining Economy ]

- With violence and tension, there would be a lot of losses for business
- The threat of violence meant that companies had to spend more on security

To keep their company safe, they needed things like security camera and security guards

These were costly.

Money spent on these things means they made less profit



# [ 1. Declining Economy ]

- This drove away factories/companies who couldn't keep business costs low
- Decrease in both local and foreign investments

No one dared to invest in Sri Lanka.

They knew it was not safe, and they will not make profits.

Without these company investments, the Sri Lankan economy declined.



# [ 1. Declining Economy ]

- The Troubles cost the British government a lot of money and put a strain on the economy
- It was estimated that £500,000 was needed **per day** (!! ) to support the British Army and compensate for the victims of the conflict



Families of victims who died were paid compensation by the government

Britain also needed to pay the soldiers who were trying to keep the peace in Northern Ireland and maintain their weapons. This was too expensive for the government.

## [ 2. Political Change and Reform ]

- NICRA put pressure on the Northern Ireland government to get rid of discrimination in Northern Ireland



NICRA consisted of mostly Catholics.

The believed in peaceful demonstration to let the government know of their problems

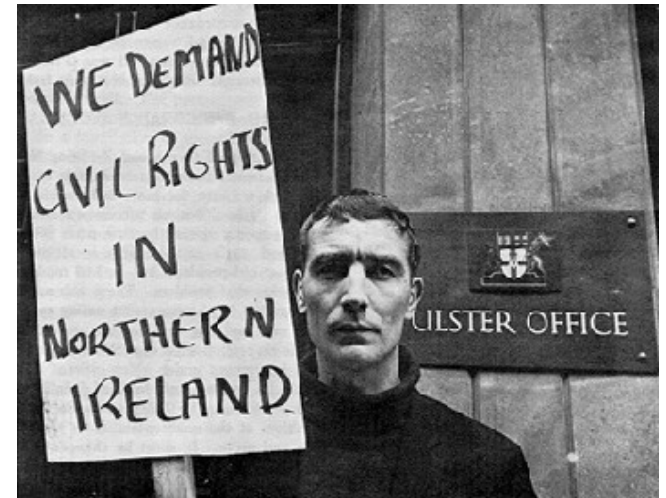
## [ 2. Political Change and Reform ]

- They were successful in forcing some reforms.

Eg: After 2 civil rights marches, the Northern Ireland government got rid of the unfair voting system

NICRA will demonstrate peacefully with these placards. On it, they will write what they are demonstrating about.

They demonstrated against unequal voting rights, and were successful.



## [ 2. Political Change and Reform ]

- Northern Ireland on the way to making peace between the Catholics and the Protestants.
- This process was being disrupted by the IRA.

Photo of IRA gunmen. The IRA have been against the peace process.

They are extreme and their demands is to have Protestants chased out of Northern Ireland completely (not possible/realistic!)

They (their splinter groups) continue to cause some trouble today.







## Road to Peace in Northern Ireland

- Between the start of the Troubles (1970s) to the (1990s), the British government made attempts to bring peace back to Northern Ireland

The leaders from all the different groups are getting together to try to negotiate for peace





# [ Road to Peace in Northern Ireland ]

- Before both parties can meet to find a common ground that they can agree on, they must first negotiate.
- Thus began discussions for a new peace agreement.

There are many groups in Northern Ireland who want to be part of the peace process.

However, they all have their own terms of peace which they want others to agree to.

This makes it difficult for all to agree



# [ Who was involved? ]

- 3 main groups:

Leaders of Republic of Ireland

Leaders of Northern Ireland

Irish Republican Army (IRA)

# Who was involved?

- April 10, 1998 (Good Friday)

The Good Friday Peace Agreement was signed between the Irish and British governments.

This was supported by most political parties in Northern Ireland

The signing took place – but an important group was missing. Who was missing?



# [ Did everything go smoothly after? ]

- Unfortunately, the IRA did not support the peace agreement. They were not happy with its terms
- 13 weeks after the Good Friday Peace Agreement, IRA carried out a series of bombings in Omagh

The IRA wanted to make it clear that they did not agree with the Good Friday Agreement.

They bombed Omagh soon after to prove their point that without them being included in the treaty, Northern Ireland will not have peace.



# [ Did everything go smoothly after? ]

- Every year, the Protestants go on a historical march through major cities in Northern Ireland. These are called the Orange Order Marches.

This march is for the Protestants to celebrate the victory of William of Orange over James II in the Battle of Boyne.

They wear orange as a symbol to remember and march through the cities.



# [ Did everything go smoothly after? ]

- These marches are recipes for disaster because violence and conflict break out during such marches.

Eg: The Orange Order Marches in 1998 led to violence and killed 3 Catholic children

Catholics hate the Orange Order marches. They try to sabotage it by causing trouble.



# [ Peace in Northern Ireland? ]

- Peace did not come easily
- But the first steps had been taken:
  - Peace negotiations
  - Mixed/Integrated schools
  - Being sensitive to each other
- The process is slow, but peace will come one day.





# [ THE END ]

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Today, Northern Ireland has peace. But tensions remain, and small 'splinter groups' of the IRA still exist.

Tensions remain

But the effect of the peace process on business, and the people of Northern Ireland, has been huge.