

Is Counterrevolution an Obligatory Response to any Revolution?

Student's name

Institution

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Counterrevolution has been aptly defined by Leeson (2000) as movements that attempt to have the state of affairs restored, or the philosophies, that triumphed during a pre-revolutionary period. Counter-revolutionaries are people who oppose a revolution, preferably with the intent of reversing or overturning it. This short essay seeks to evaluate whether or not counterrevolution is an obligatory reaction to any revolution.

Politically, counterrevolution entails any armed intrusion against revolutionary systems. This is indicative of the reasons unto why external revolts stem from internal revolutions, necessitating counter-revolutions and these may be negative or positive in their aftermaths; contingent, partly, on the malevolent or altruistic features of the revolutions that become reversed, as well as the nature of the victims. Historically, revolutions have always been succeeded by counterrevolutions. The later have in most cases thrown societies back, however not to the extent of the revolution's onset. The series of revolutions and counterrevolutions is as a result of specific key features in the systems of class society, the only society with the feasibility of both revolutions and counterrevolutions. Masses have to be part of revolution for it to succeed. Being part is only possible where the beleaguered masses link their anticipations for a promising future with the notion of revolution (Slater and Smith, 2016).

Literature has shown revolutions to have received more scholarly attention compared to counterrevolutions (Maddox and Vickers, 2010). However, counterrevolutions have suggestively

shown comparable significance in shaping the contemporary sociological world. Therefore, counterrevolutions can be argued to be combined and reactive attempts to safeguard modern occurrences plus its diverse array of prevailing elites counter to a potential threat to overturn them from below. This explicitly makes counterrevolutions obligatory responses to any revolutions.

References

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