

Nation-Building: Primordialism

- Steven Grosby (1995), 'primordial' refers to the 'significance of vitality which man attributes to nativity', including lineage, family, and, most importantly, territory.
- Ethnicity is 'deeply ingrained in human history and experience' (Wolff 2006, p. 33).
- Nation is viewed as an extended family
- Primordialists: Clifford Geertz, Harold Isaacs, Walker Connor

Constructivists

- Ethnicity is socially and politically constructed over time
- Ethnicity is 'foremost a resource in the hands of leaders to mobilize followers in the pursuit of other interests' (Wolff 2006, p. 33).
- Nation is viewed as an 'imagined political community' (Anderson, 2006)
- Constructivists: Benedict Anderson, Ernest Gellner, Donald Horowitz, Eric Hobsbawm,

Ethnosymbolism

Anthony Smith “The Ethnic origins of Nations” (1986); “Ethnosymbolism and Nationalism: A cultural Approach”

The ‘Myth-Symbol’ complex to analyze ethnic groups and nations

Why people attach to their nation or ethnic group

The focus is on the role of ethnies (ethnic community) in the formation of nations