
Dictatorship of the Proletariat: Sources FIND SPECIFIC EXAMPLES AND EXPLANATIONS

1. Russian historical experiences, realities, and sense of identity: "political culture"
2. role of Lenin and the Bolsheviks
 - part of the overall revolutionary tradition
 - specific role, ideas, actions of the Bolsheviks-> getting power = keeping power
 - the idea and reality of a "professional revolutionary party"
3. Marxism as adapted to Russian realities and circumstances
 - theories are manipulated thus they have no real meaning except as justification for whatever leadership wants
4. Marxism as an ideology and philosophy
 - violent, bloody revolution is inevitable
 - dictatorship of the proletariat as an interim condition
5. overall bureaucratic structure: all of the above codified and maintained by force
 - formation of soviets (Petrograd)
 - forms basis of government
 - Council of Peoples Commissars
 - state AND party
6. the nature of revolution in general
 - Provisional Government won't make it
 - revolution becomes more radical thus radicals rise to the top
 - revolutions devour their own as they attempt to transition from rev. party to ruling elite
7. specific policies
 - Alex II, Alex. III, Nicholas II (raised expectations and crushed hopes)
 - Order # 1
 - "All Power to the Soviets"
 - Cheka
 - War Communism
 - Red Terror
 - NEP
8. role of Stalin
 - Cult of Lenin
 - 5 year Plans
 - Collectivization
 - Purges
 - "Socialism in One Country"
9. historical events
 - WW I- huge mistake by Provisional Government
 - rise of fascism- outside enemies justify internal control
 - WW II
 - Cold War