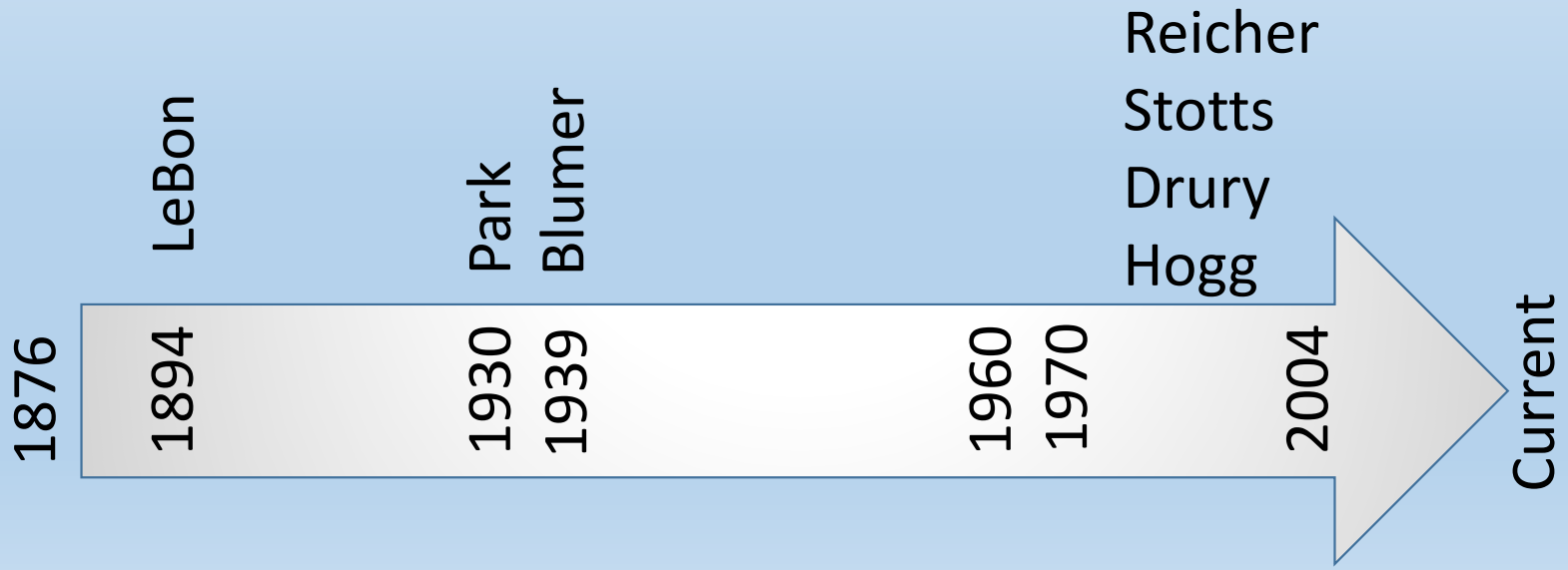
Module # 1
Crowd Behavior Theories

Learning Objectives

- Detect debunked crowd behavior theories
- Summarize current crowd behavior theories
- Identify social factors that affect crowds and police
- Summarize the five types of event organizational styles.

Crowd Behavior Theories

- Social Scientists have studied protests since 1876

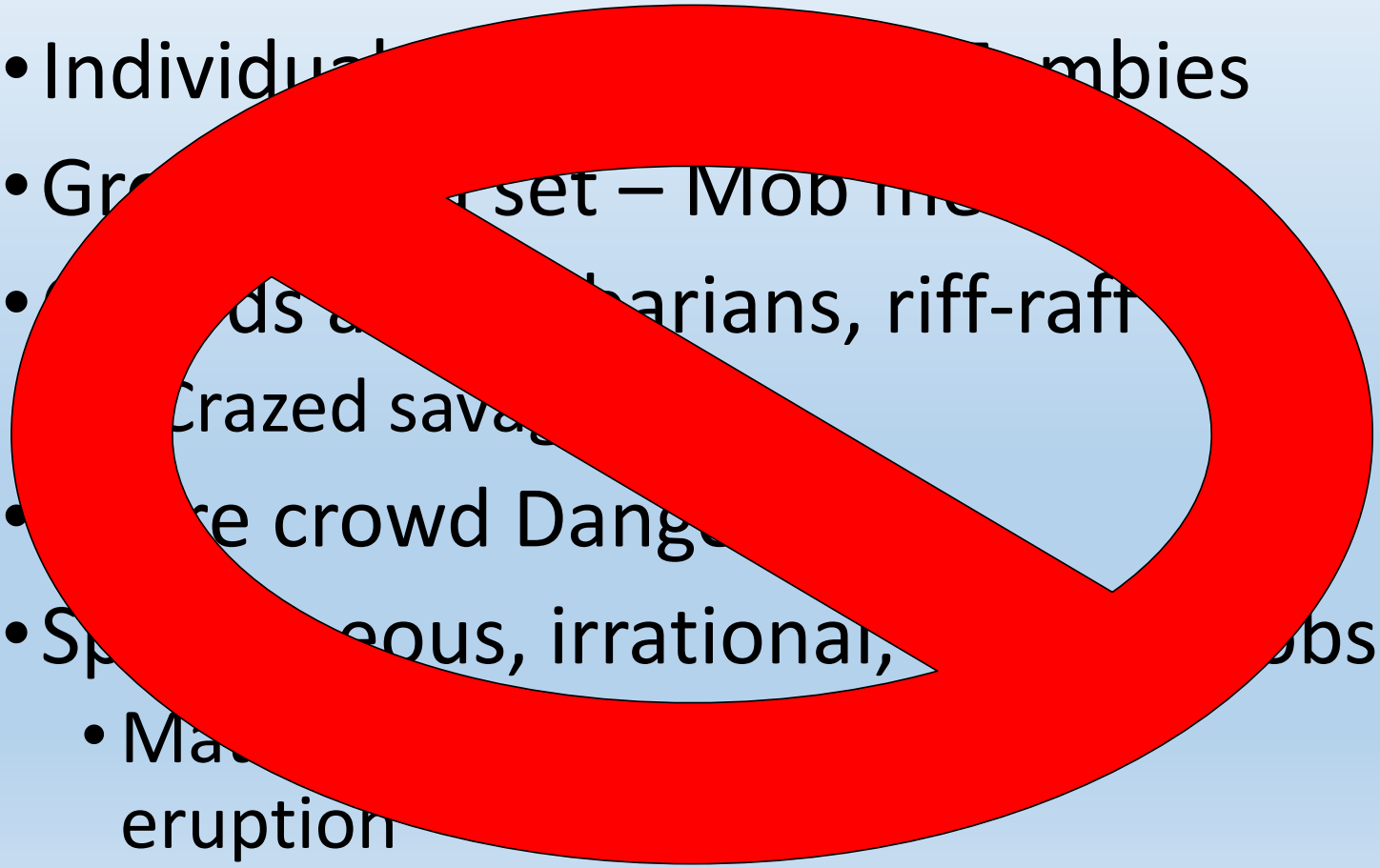


Crowd Behavior – Old Stereotypes

- The belief that crowds are unified masses whose behaviors e
  - Activ e, Acquisitive,
- giv sponta ationality, loss f-co and a sens ymity
- Othe lars proposed tha hat they do bec eir:
  - lower clas
  - criminal or riff-raff composition

Old Thoughts and Theories

- Individual
- Gro
- Crazed sava
- e crowd Dang
- Sp eous, irrational,
  - Ma
    eruption



Crowd Behavior - Current

- Not given to unique emotional displays
- Do not cripple individual cognition
- Not uniquely distinguished by violence or disorderly actions
- Social, political, and economic factors are not consistent predictors of riot intensity or individual participation
- Individual attitudes and personality characteristics are poor indicators of riot participation

Crowd Behavior

Empirical data gathered by today's social scientists

- Crowds are not homogeneous entities – all participants are not the same
- Crowds are not made up of isolated individuals, but of "companion clusters", which arrive, remain and leave together
- Crowd participants
    - Are not unanimous in motives
    - Many groups are anonymous to one another (not all)
    - Seldom act in unison and if they do, it does not last long

Social Factors effecting the:

Crowd

- Leadership
- Moral beliefs - immigration
- Energy of Crowd
- Anonymity
- Panic
  - Danger close at hand
  - Limited escape routes
  - Lack of communication

Police

- Leadership
- Moral beliefs / Bias
- Energy of Crowd
- Anonymity
- Panic
- Us vs. Them
- Level of training

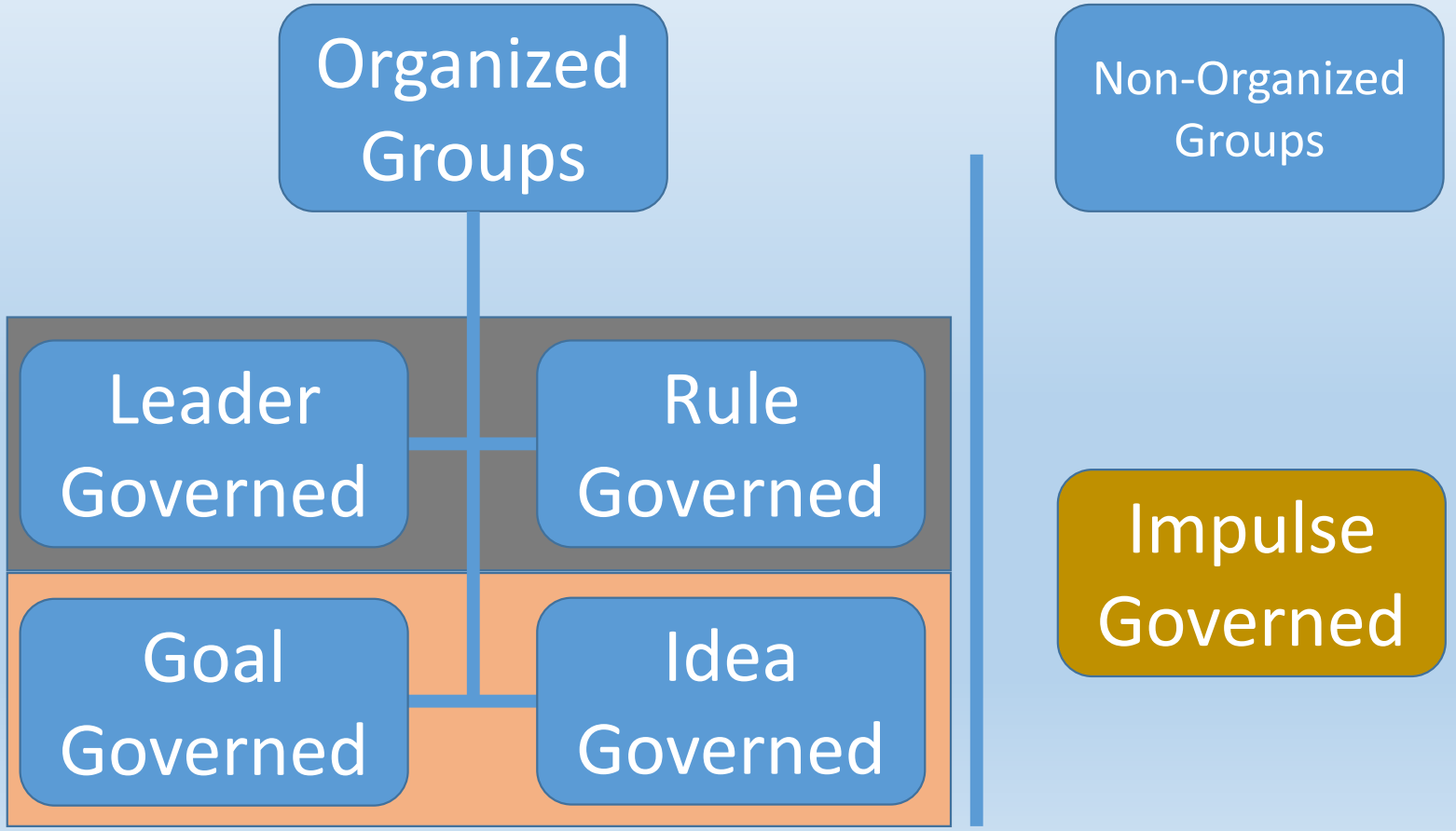
The traditional Police view of demonstrations

Legitimate

OR

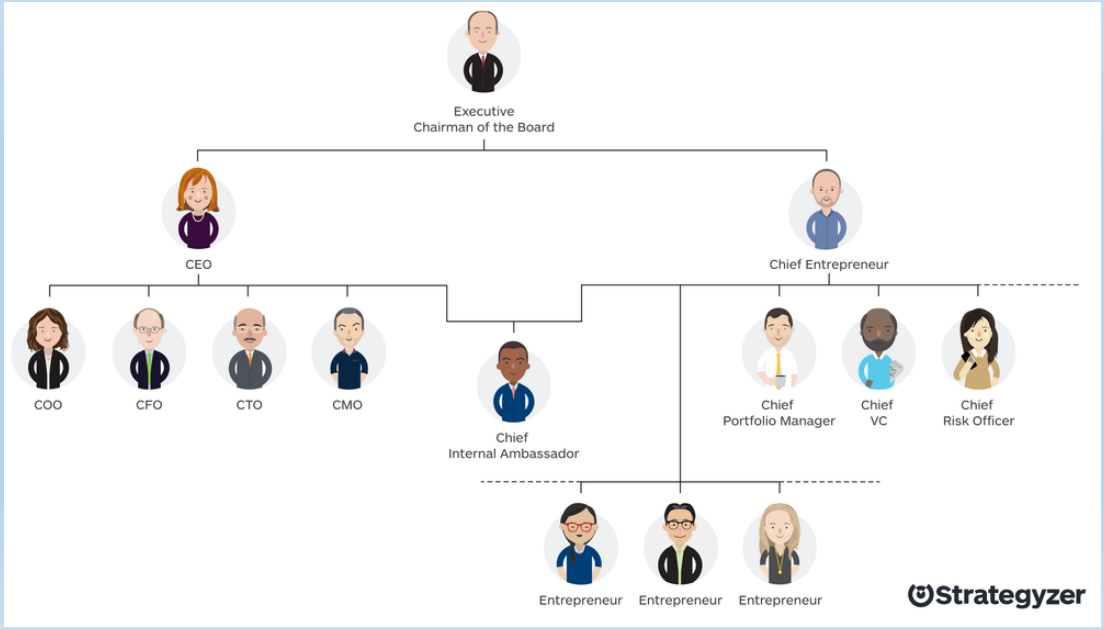
Illegitimate

Event Organizational Styles



Leader governed

- leader based
  - Nationalist movements
  - Para-military type



Militia members occupy US building in Oregon after protest

Rule governed

- Organized with rules, roles, leadership and democratic processes.
- Permission to demonstrate
- Routes pre-determined
- Clear arrangement of slogans
- Peace keepers assigned

Women's march 2017

Goal governed

- Operate in small groups, under a committee.
- Their intentions are typically not violent but governed by civil disobedience.
- Actions well planned.
- Expect the police to do their job
- Expect to receive punishment

WE THE PEOPLE
MARCHING UNITED IN RESISTANCE

BASIC RIGHTS OREGON · Causa · Oregon AFSCME Council 75 · Oregon AFL-CIO · PORTLAND JOBS WITH JUSTICE · unite oregon · SEIU

Idea Governed

- No formal leadership – groups organized through networks.
- Collective actions
- Roughly anarchist ideology
- No spokesperson – every individual speaks for self
- Do not need permission of public event
- Like peaceful – but violence up to individual

TRUMP
The 45th
MAKE

FOR
RACIAL
JUSTICE
ROSE CITY ANTIFA
10 YEARS
RUINING LIVES SINCE 2007

Non-organized individuals

- Provocateurs – small group of individuals to interrupt demonstrations, (anarchists)

- Thrill seekers – young, usually male, opportunists to join in the action.

Bijou, café

Social Identity

Become part of the "In Group"

- Bonding
- Collective Beliefs
- Individual Internalizes Group
- Collective Standards
  - Norms and standards over time
- Collective Values
  - Moral
- Acceptance within group
- Social Norms
  - Values
- Shares Similar Views

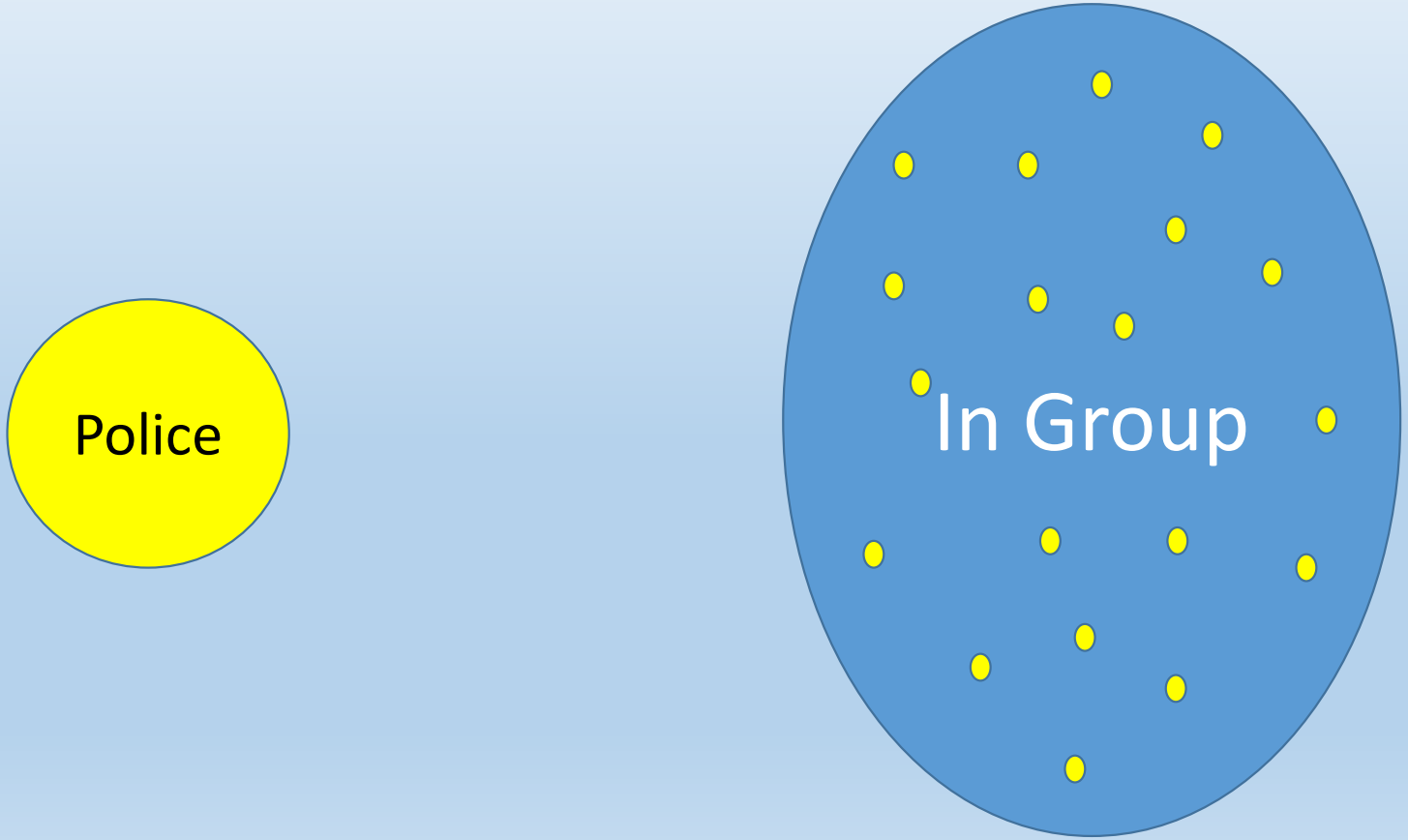
Out Group

Out Group

Outside Intervention

- How do we build legitimacy within a group?

Lack of legitimacy

WHICH COMES FIRST,
THE RIOTERS OR THE RIOT POLICE?
SPECIAL
SPECIAL

In Group