Small Wars in KZN

Changes and continuities in violent event types in KwaZulu and Natal

Maria Schuld CCS Seminar 17-5-2012
Outline

- What happened? A conventional conflict overview
- Three formulas of conflict research
- Analysis
- Conclusions & Outlook
What happened?

Violent casualties as in different datasets

- Benini (1998): Deaths from political violence in KZN
- TRC (1998): Killings reported to TRC in KZN
- Minnaar (1991): Unrest-related deaths in KZN
Three formulas of conflict research

- **Conflict = Violence**
  
  \[ Conflict \text{ equals } Violence \]

- **Regional Conflict \implies Local Violence**
  
  Regional conflict leads to local violence

- **Violence = Deaths**
  
  Violence equals deaths
Analysis: Violent Events

Violent Event type

Time Dimension
- Duration
  - Seconds
  - Hours
  - Days
  - ...
- Timing
  - Night
  - Day
  - Dusk/Dawn
  - ...

Place Dimension
- Location
  - House/ Home
  - Car/ Bus
  - Bush
  - ...
- Space
  - Township
  - Countryside
  - Community
  - Public/Private
  - ...

Level of professionalism
- Weapons
  - Low intensity (stones, sticks,...)
  - Medium (traditional weapons, knives, small guns)
  - High (machine guns etc.)
- Coordination
  - Spontaneous
  - Visibly coordinated
  - Highly coordinated

Violent Acts involved
- Actors
  - Age
    - Infant
    - Youth
    - Adult
    - Old
  - Sex
    - Male
    - Female
- Number
  - One
  - Few
  - Many
  - ...
- Constellation
  - One-sided
  - Asymmetrical
  - Equal
## Analysis: Violent Acts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violent act</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stabbing</td>
<td>Treated with a sharp object, such as a knife, axe, scissors, spear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beating</td>
<td>Victim may be kicked, punched, twisted by body part or object (e.g. sjambok, baton, gun/rifle, stick, roee, whip, plank, wall)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burning</td>
<td>Burning with fire, petrol, chemical, scalding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemicals</td>
<td>Injured/Killed by poison, drugs, household substance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric</td>
<td>Electric shocks administered to the body</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explosion</td>
<td>Injured/Killed by a bomb or explosives including dynamite, landmine, limpet mine, car bomb, hand grenade, detonator, letter bomb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exposure</td>
<td>Injury/Death by subjecting victim to extremes such as heat, cold, weather, exercise, labour, noise, light, darkness, blindfolding,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shooting</td>
<td>Injured/Killed by being shot with live bullets, gunshot, birdshot, buckshot, pellets, rubber bullet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stoning</td>
<td>Person is injured/killed by bricks, stones or other objects thrown at them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>Injuries/Death caused by being dragged behind, thrown out of, driven over, put in boot of a vehicle, specifying the vehicle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deprivation</td>
<td>Deprivation of essentials like food, water, medical attention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutilation</td>
<td>Injury/Death by damaging or mutilating body parts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffocation</td>
<td>Injury/Death by stopping someone from breathing, for example drowning, choking, strangling, stifling, throttling, burying alive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual</td>
<td>Injury/Death by using the victim's genitals as a weak point.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neclacing</td>
<td>Burn a person with petrol and a tyre.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petrol Bomb</td>
<td>Injury/Death by a burning bottle of petrol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staged</td>
<td>A person died in a suspicious suicide or fatal accident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teargasing</td>
<td>Injury by teargas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associated Violations</td>
<td>Violation after death; Destruction of property, Framing (as an informer etc.), Intimidation, Harassment, Psychological violence; Abduction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Analysis: Violent event types in KZN

Recorded event types of violent political conflict 1986-1992

- Attacks on property: 22%
- Unknown: 9%
- Assassinations: 5%
- Group Clashes: 5%
- Attacks on people: 5%
- Intimidation: 34%

Source: Capturing the event Indicator SA Special Issue 1992
Analysis: Violent event types in KZN 80s/90s

- Political assassinations
- Large group/Mob attacks
- Professional small-group attacks
- Police violence in custody
- Clashes
- Collective/Crowd violence
- Professionalism

Violent Event types KZN
Analysis: Violent event types post-1994?

- Political assassinations
- Professional small-group attacks
- Large group/Mob attacks
- Collective/Crowd violence
- Clashes
- Violent Event types KZN
- Police violence in custody
Conclusions and Outlook

- ...for KZN
- ...for conflict research
- ...for my thesis