

# Democracy and Diversity

## Introduction



Swati : Hey sushma! Why do you look upset?

Sushma : I was just thinking about something and its bothering me.

Swati: But what is it?

Sushma : Our new household helper is very depressed. She and her husband have run away from their home town. She is a Hindu herself and her husband, Rehman, is a muslim. They fell in love and got married. No one was happy with their relationship in their village and were almost about to kill them both.

Here, in our town as well their life is not that simple. As they are not qualified enough they are not getting jobs. Moreover, Rehman, being a muslim, every one is hesitating in giving a room on rent to them.

Pooja was also not able to find a job until she came to our place.

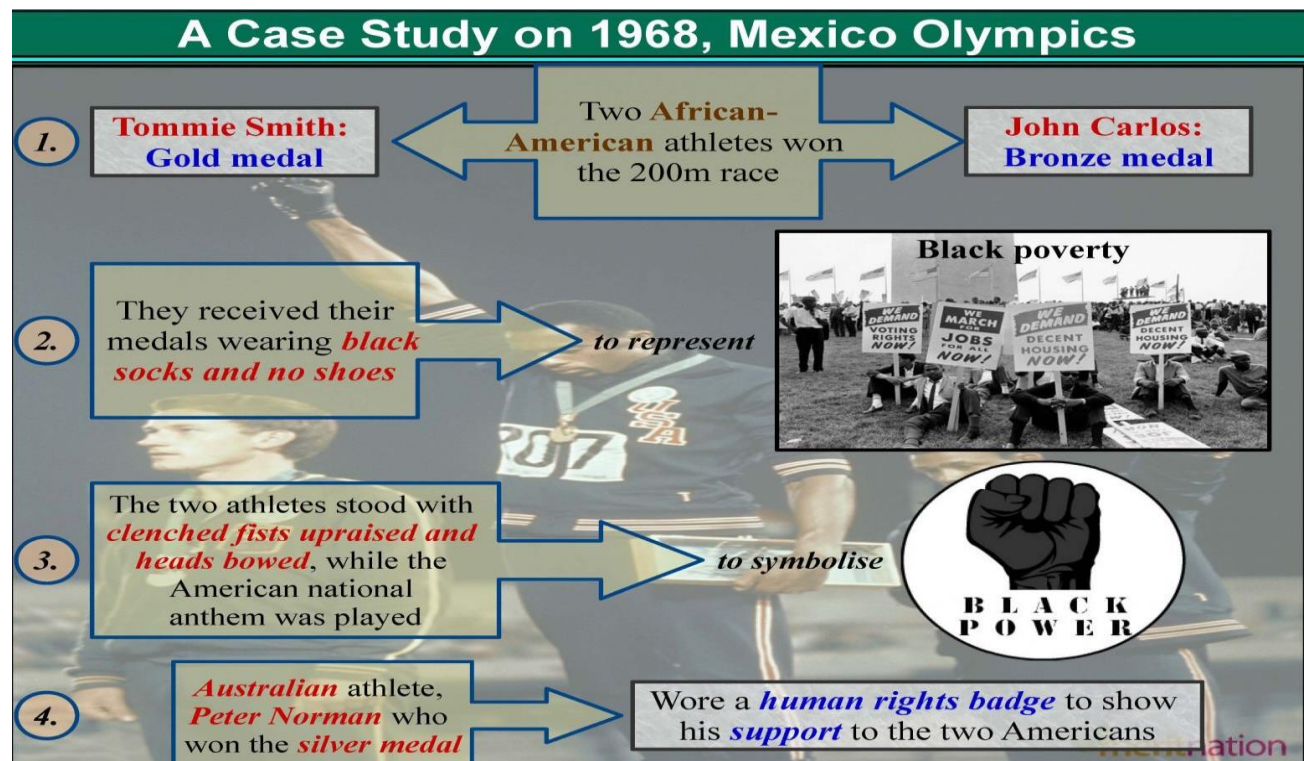
Swati: Yes! Honour killing, discrimination on the basis of religion or even region is so common these days. I really donot understand why people donot accept every persons individuality. There are so many people in this world with different identities, belonging to different religions, caste and are of different color as well. That does not mean they are not humans. Why is it difficult for people to understand that we need to co-exist along side respecting each other.

And all this is not that has started in recent times or is restricted only to India, but it is something that has been going from centuries together.

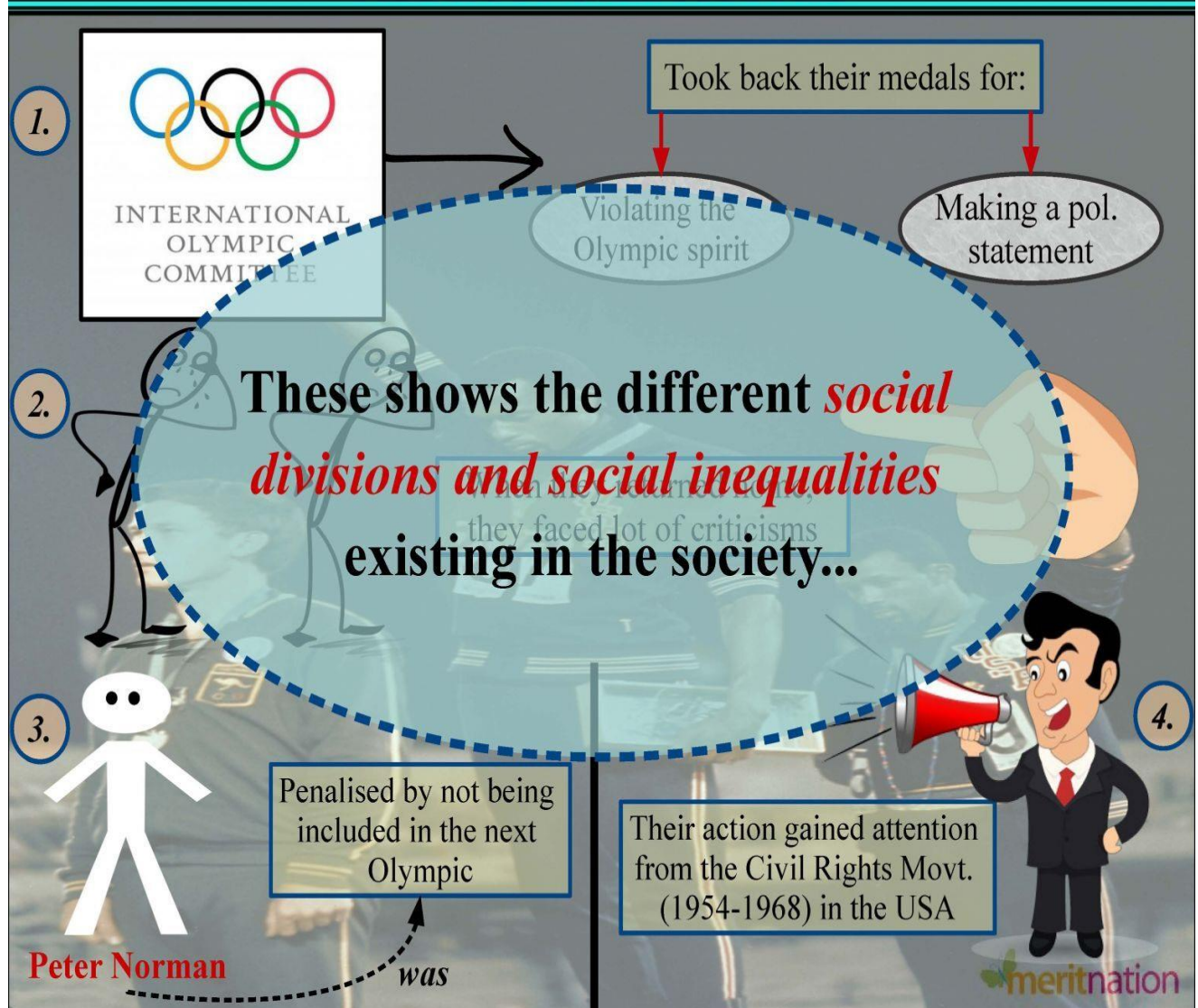
Social differences

Sushmita : What is this olympic story?

Swati: I will tell you.



## Result of their Actions




But, people are not only discriminated on the basis of color of skin but on language, religion, class, gender, caste etc. Let me explain you.



## Separate Identities of People

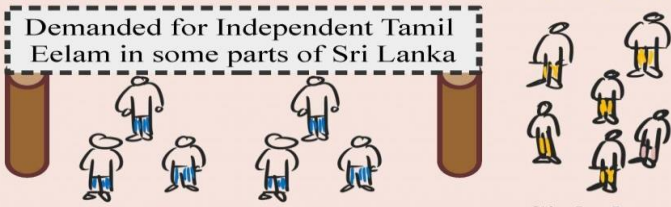
We have already studied that *language and region* gives a separate identity to people...



**Dutch**      **French**

*Belgium*


Demanded for Independent Tamil Eelam in some parts of Sri Lanka



**Sri Lankan Tamils**      **Sinhalese**

*Sri Lanka*

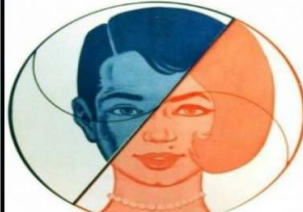
Apart from those, *people* are also *different* on the basis of...



**Religion**

**Class**      **Gender**

**Caste**      **Tribe**

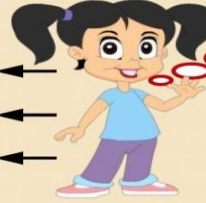


## Two Kinds of Social Differences

Differences and discrimination that occurs in the society

**Based on birth**


**Girl**  
**Hindu**  
**Kshatriya**



Differences based on birth, and not chosen by me...

**Based on people's choice**

I don't belief in God...  
I want to take up Commerce for my higher studies...




Our choices lead to the formation of *social groups*\*...

**All social differences do not result in social divisions. Some can unite as well as divide people also...**

EXAMPLE

If religion creates similarities

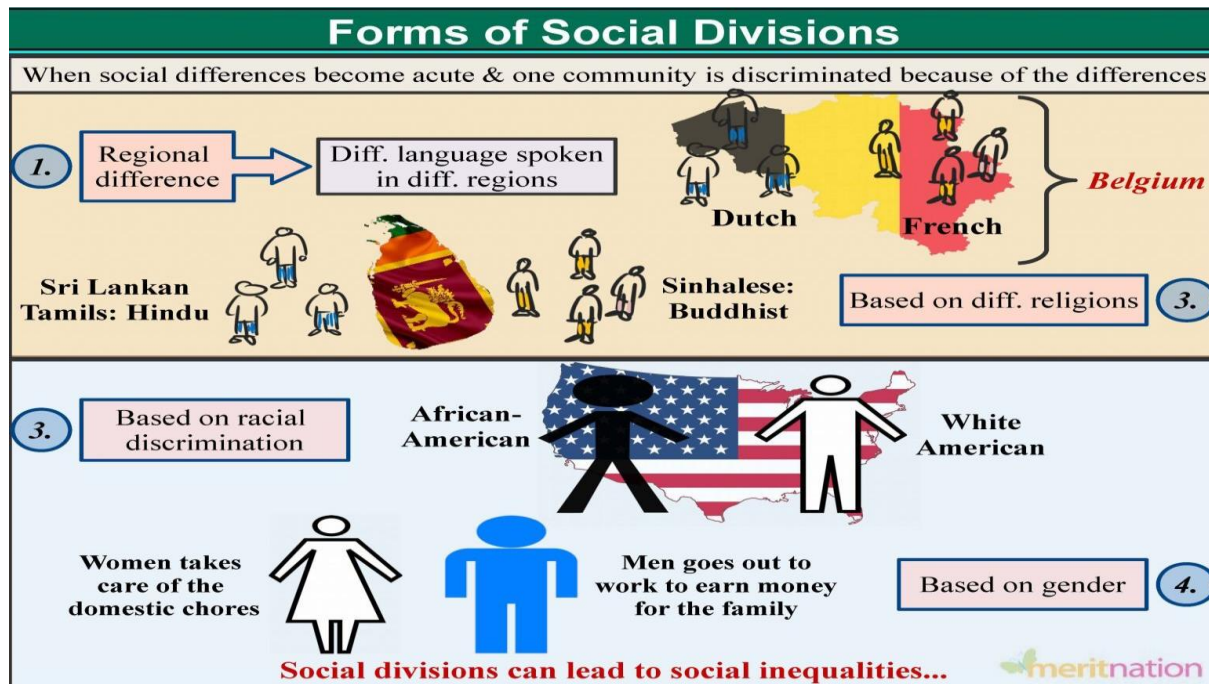
It can divide people over caste or sect



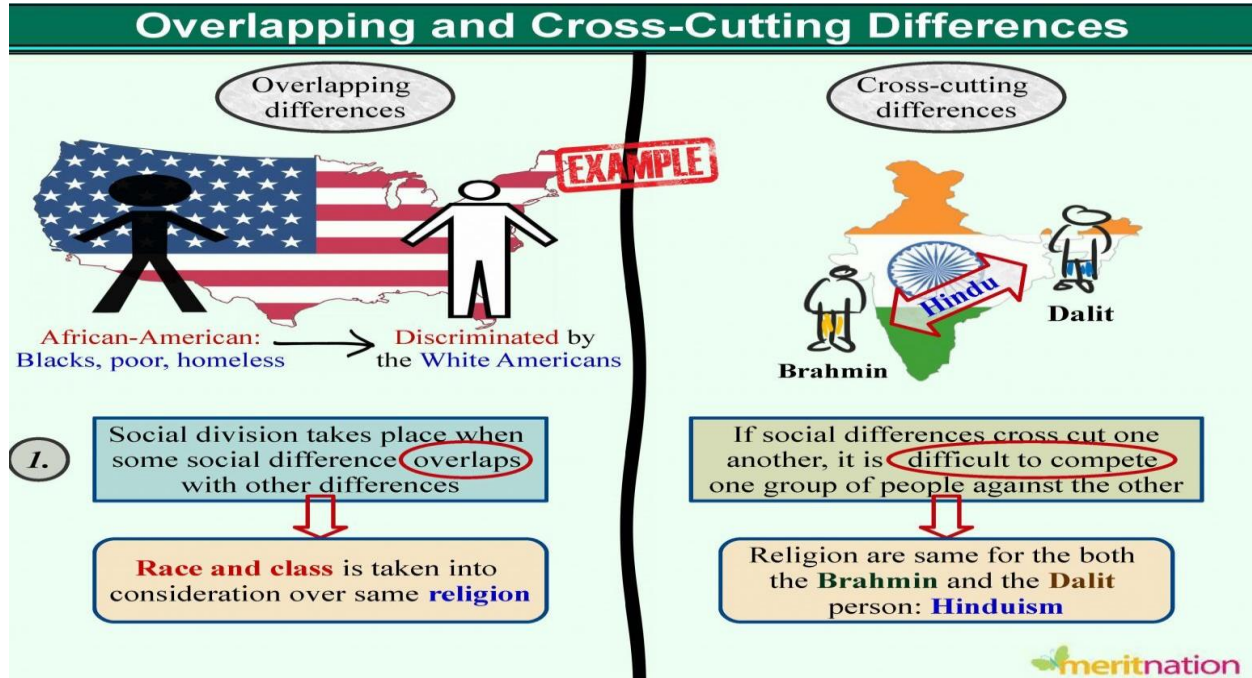
**Brahmin**      **Dalit**

Group of people who interact with each other, share similar characteristics & a sense of unity...

You know what, Sushma! *When social differences are too acute this builds on social divisions.*

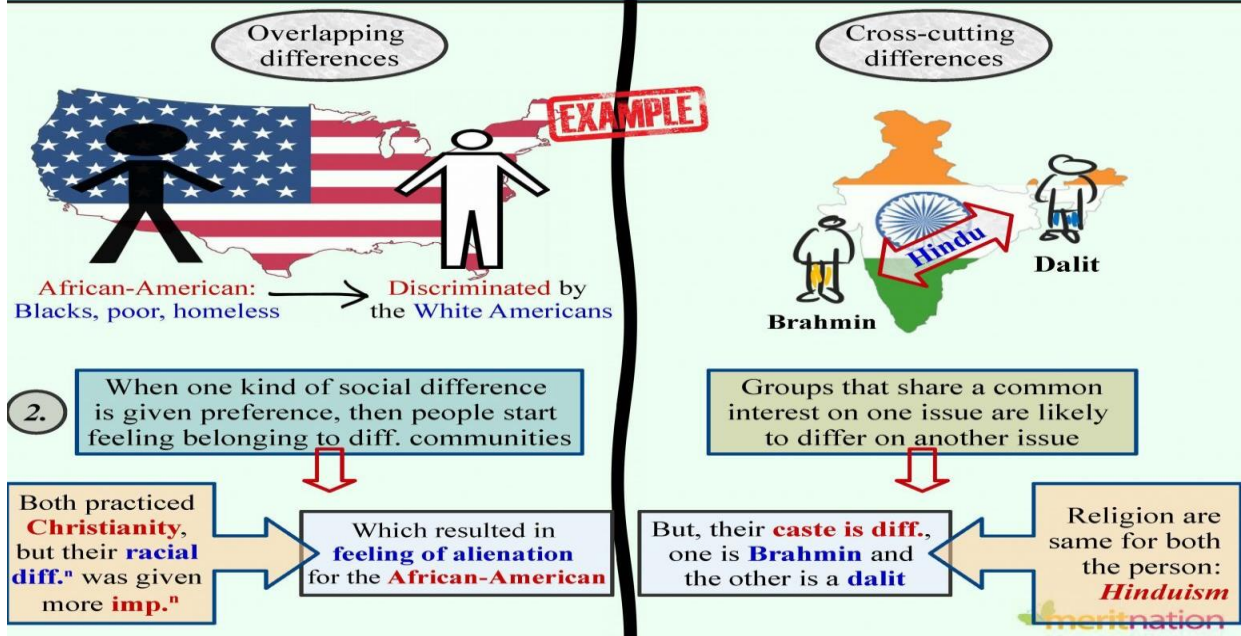


But these differences are not as clear as defined.  
There are overlappings and cross cuttings

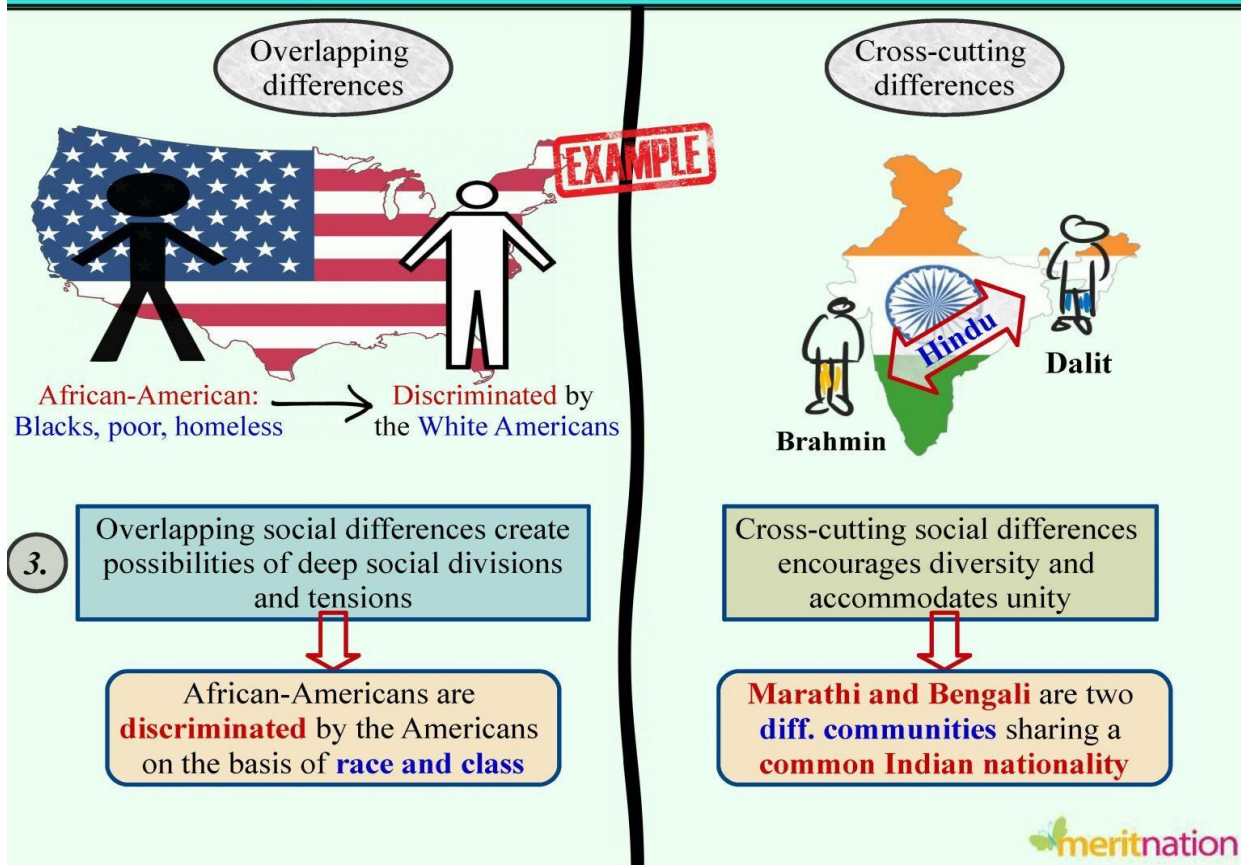




## Overlapping and Cross-Cutting Differences

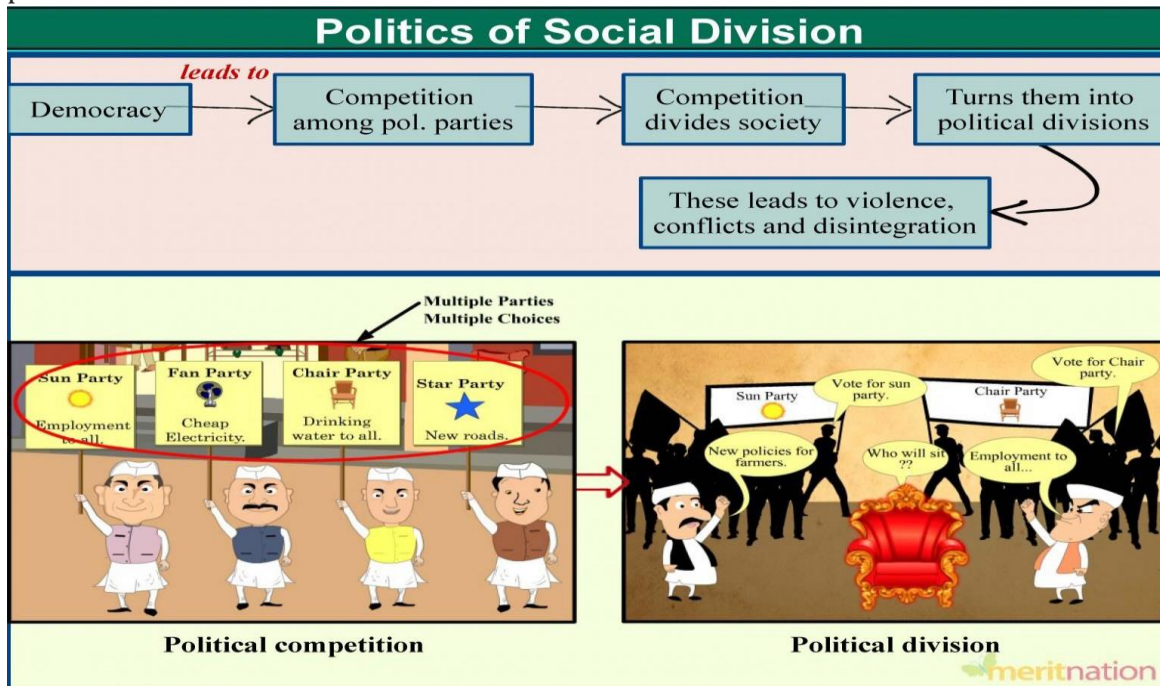


## Overlapping and Cross-Cutting Differences

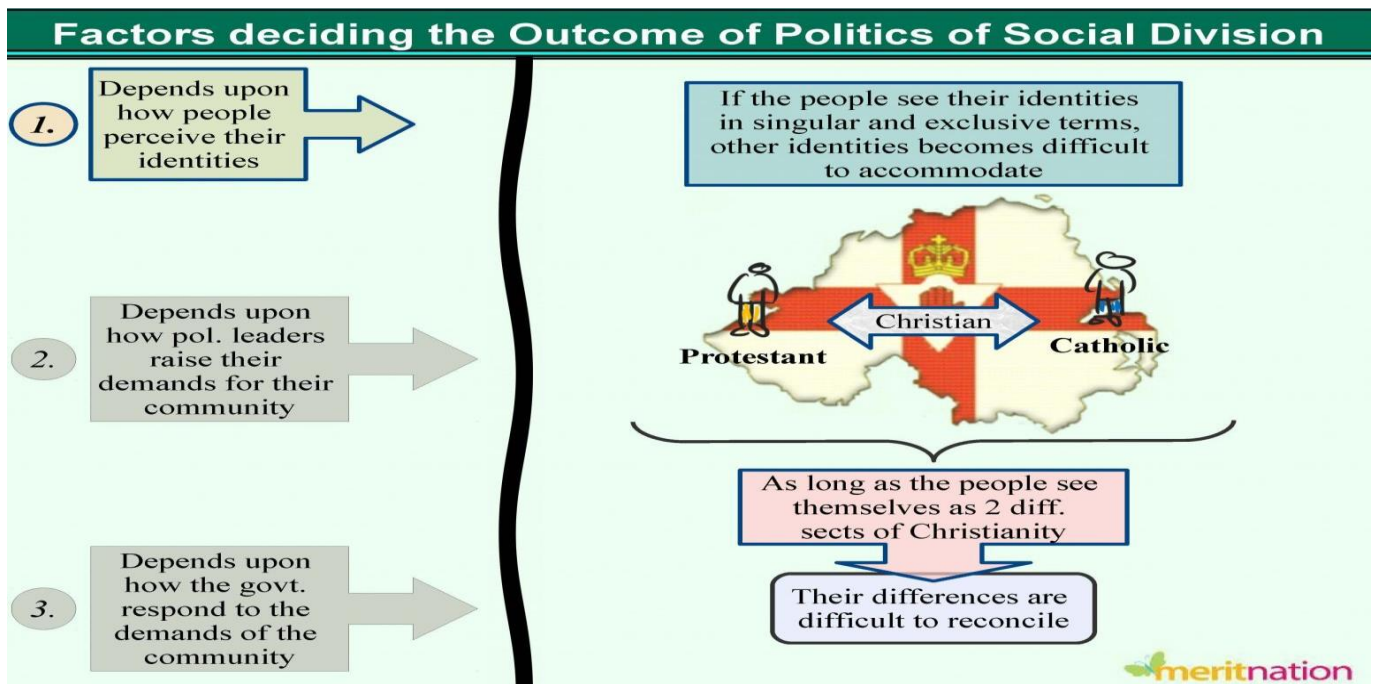


## Politics in social differences

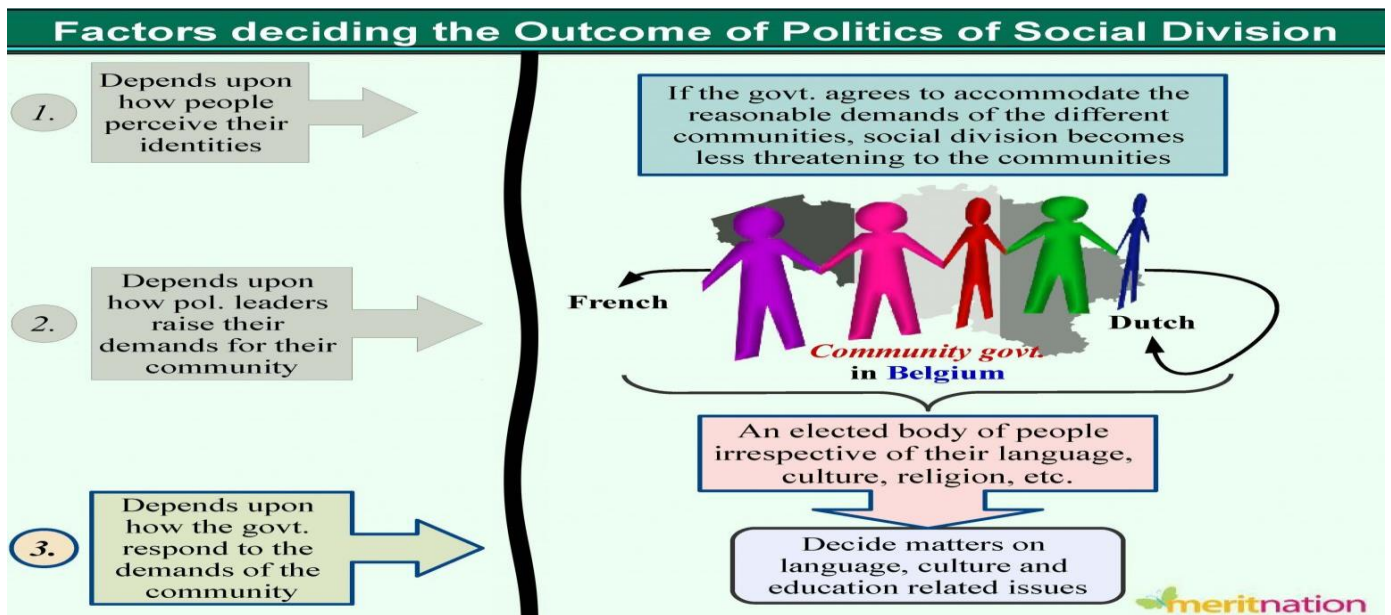
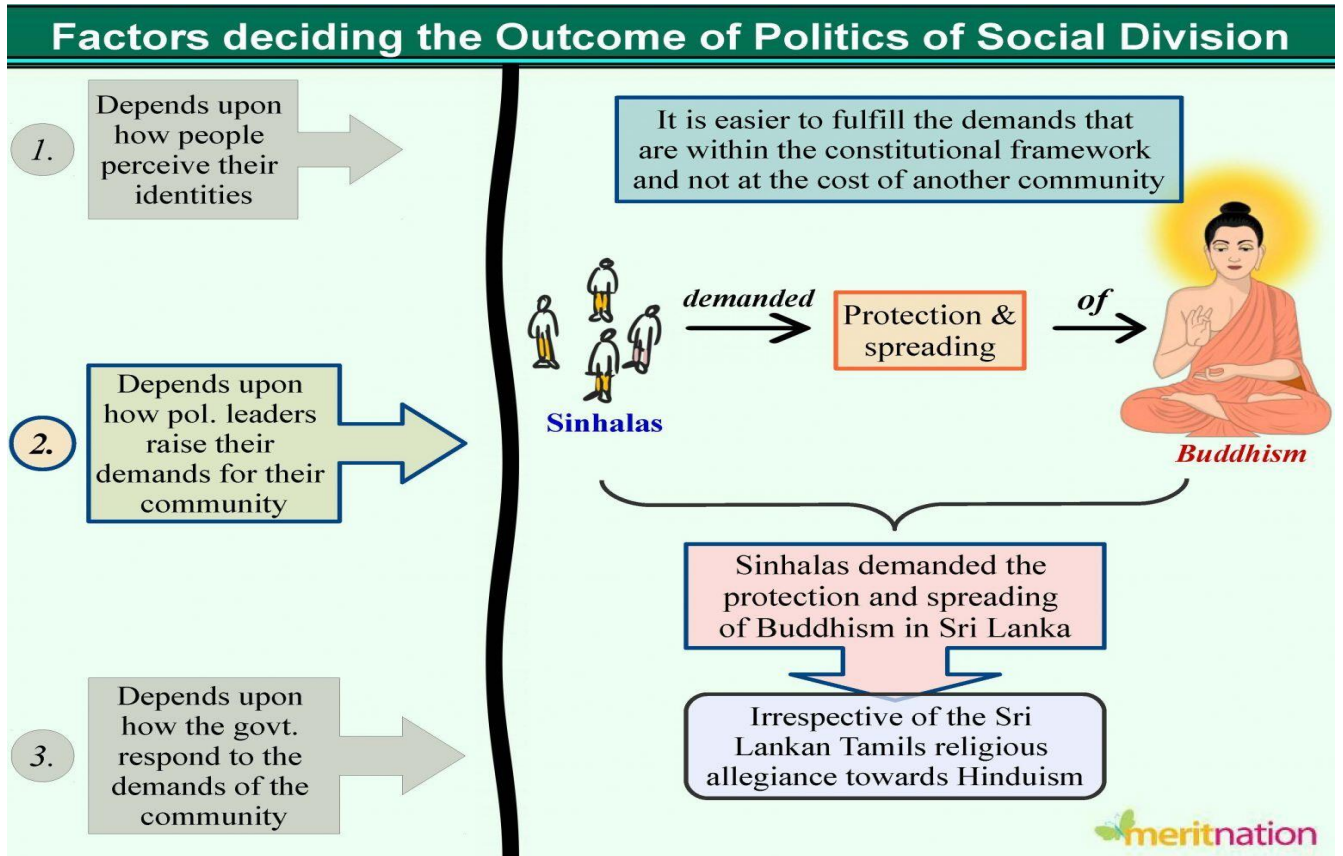
These differences that exist in the society prove out to be advantageous for some, like the politicians.



The politicians should be very careful in taking steps regarding this.







The politicians do take advantages of this situation in playing politics which can affect the society in a positive or negative way.



## Affects of Social Division in Politics



Political parties represent some social community and raise their voices



Emergence of **Bahujan Samaj Party** representing the SCs, STs, OBCs and other minorities

1.

Combination of politics and social division is very dangerous



Social division b/w both the communities led to a **civil war** b/w the **Sri Lankan govt.** and **LTTE** which lasted for 26 years

## Affects of Social Division in Politics



The political expression of social divisions allows marginalised groups to express their grievances and ask the govt. to rectify them



**Women Reservation Bill:** Reserve 33% of all seats in the Lok Sabha, and in all state legislative assemblies for women

2.

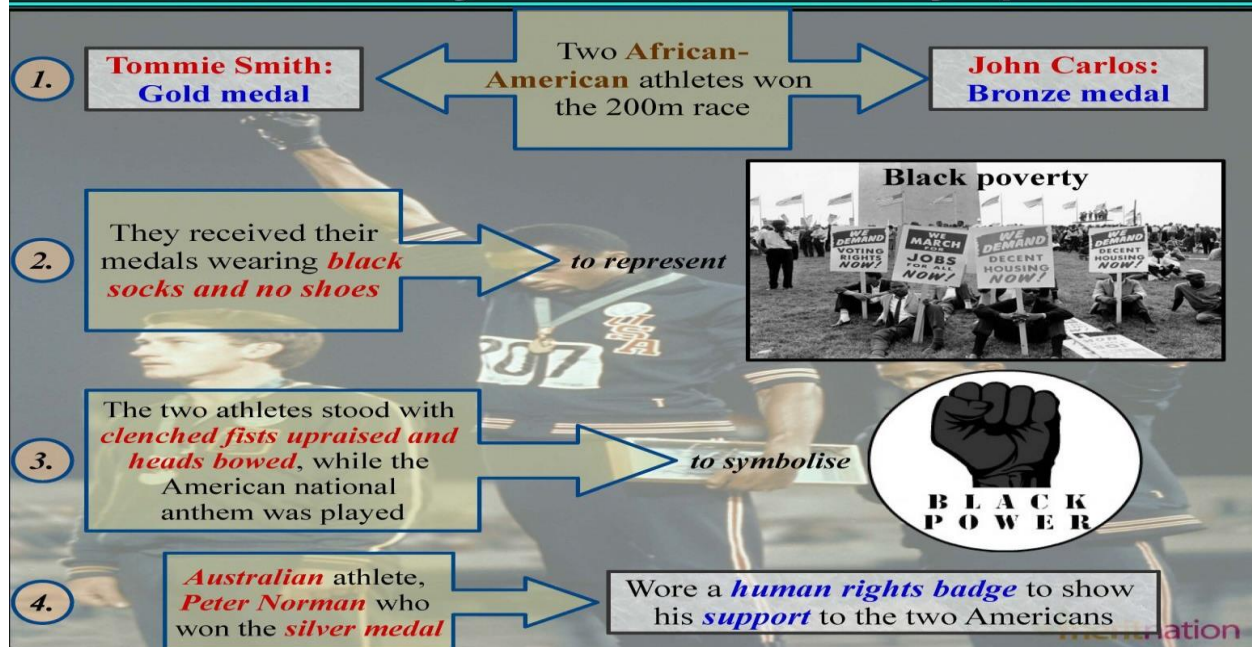
Political competition divides the society



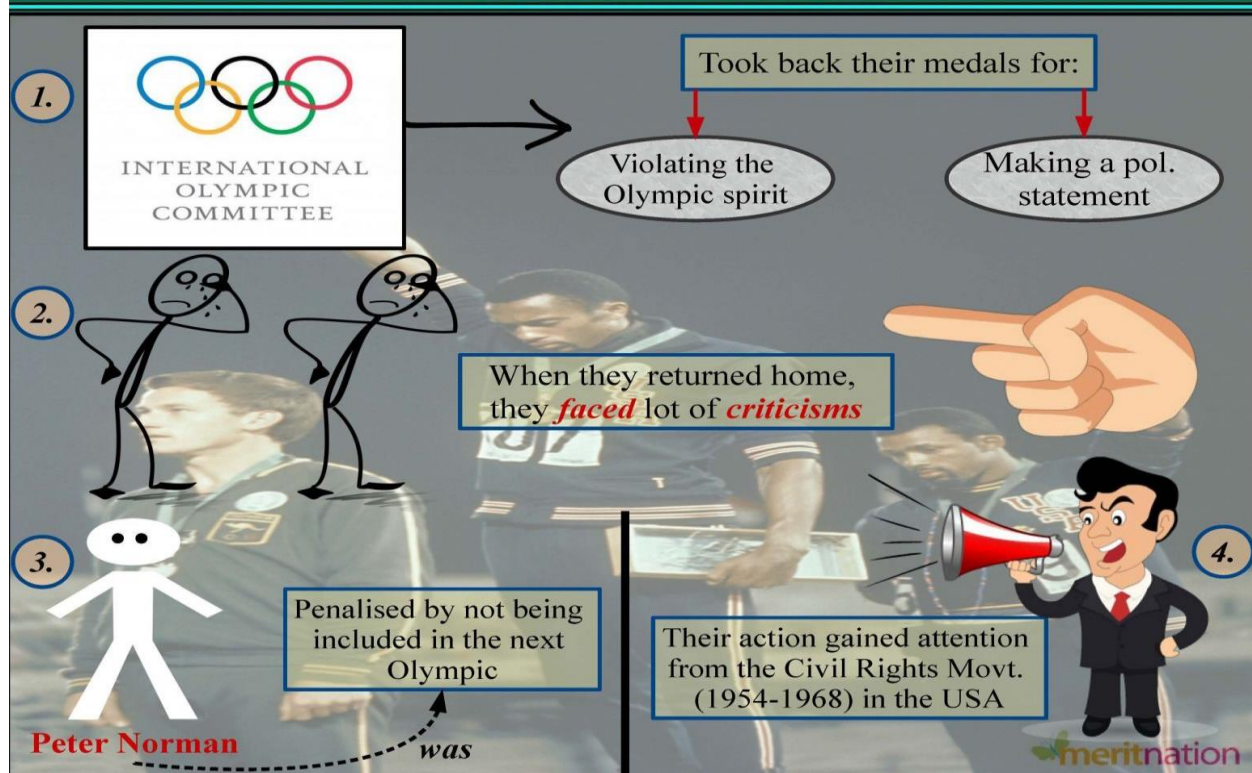
Catholics demanded unification of Northern Ireland with the Republic of Ireland. The Protestants wanted to remain with UK

## Protest at Mexico Olympics

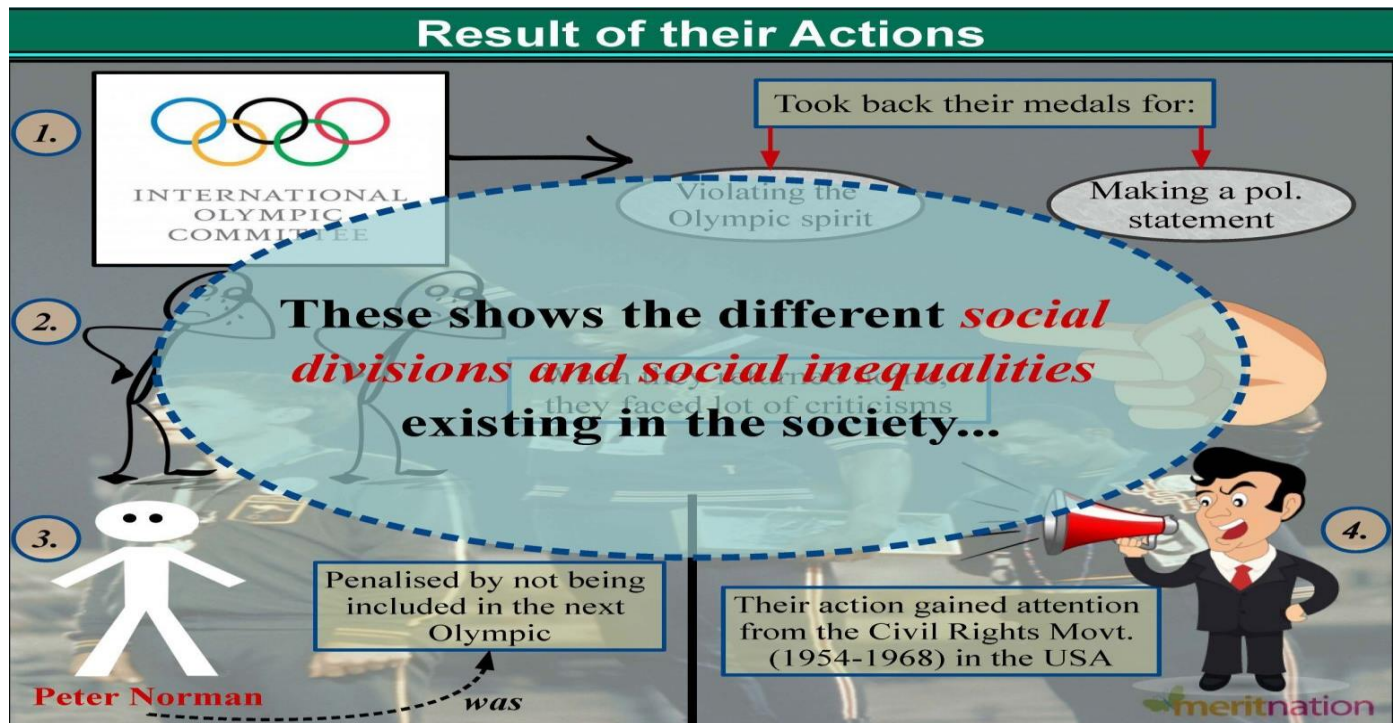
### A Case Study on 1968, Mexico Olympics



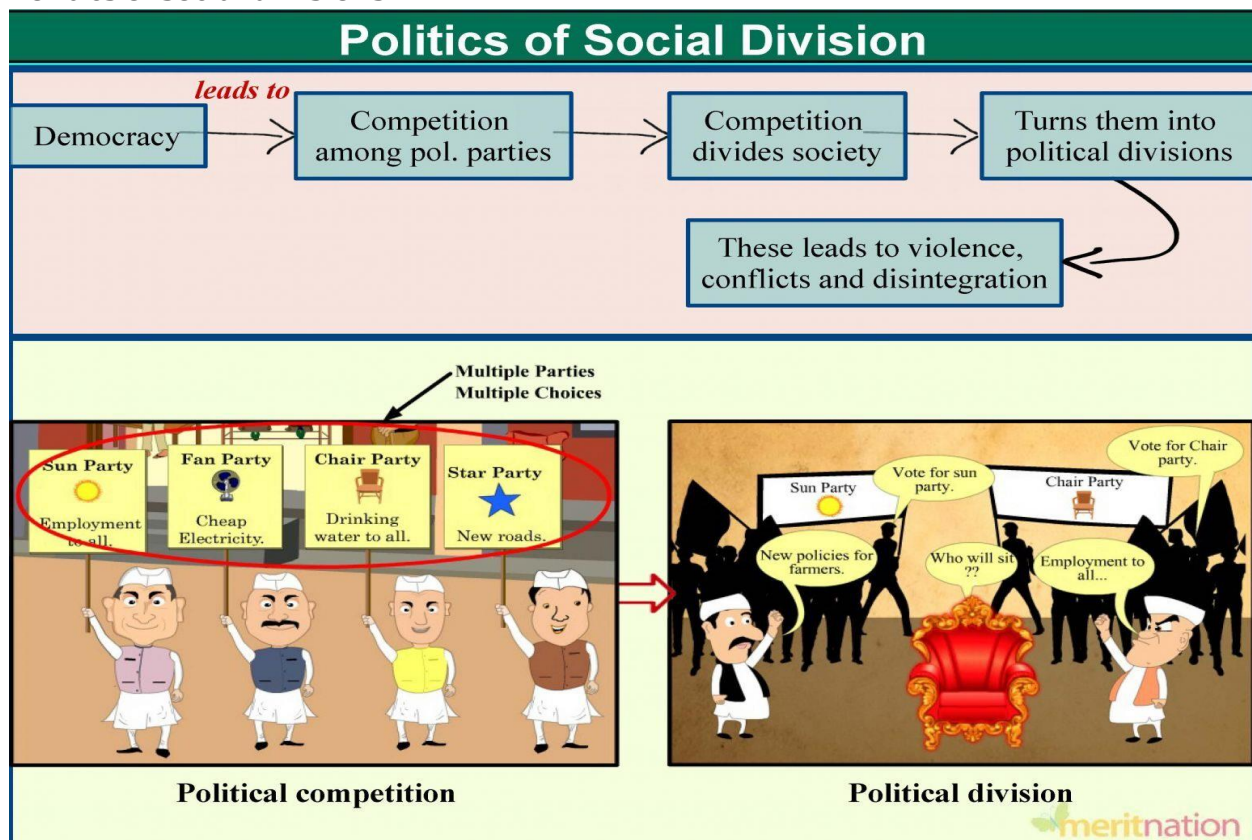
### Result of their Actions



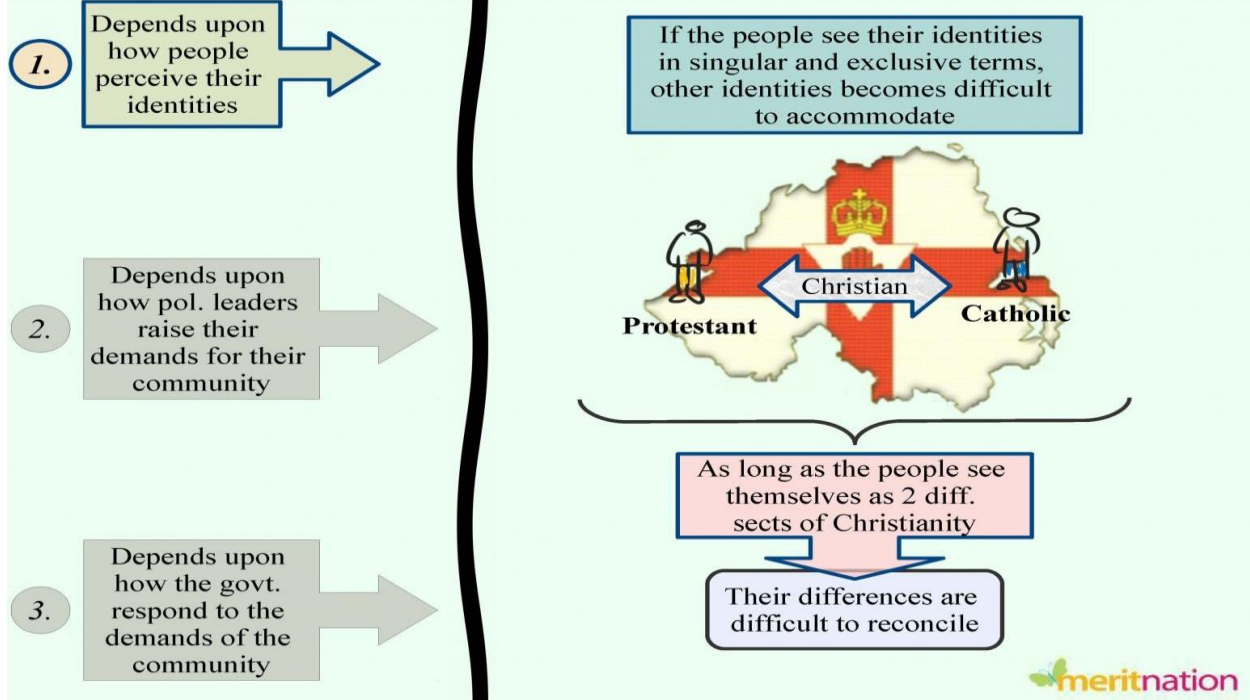




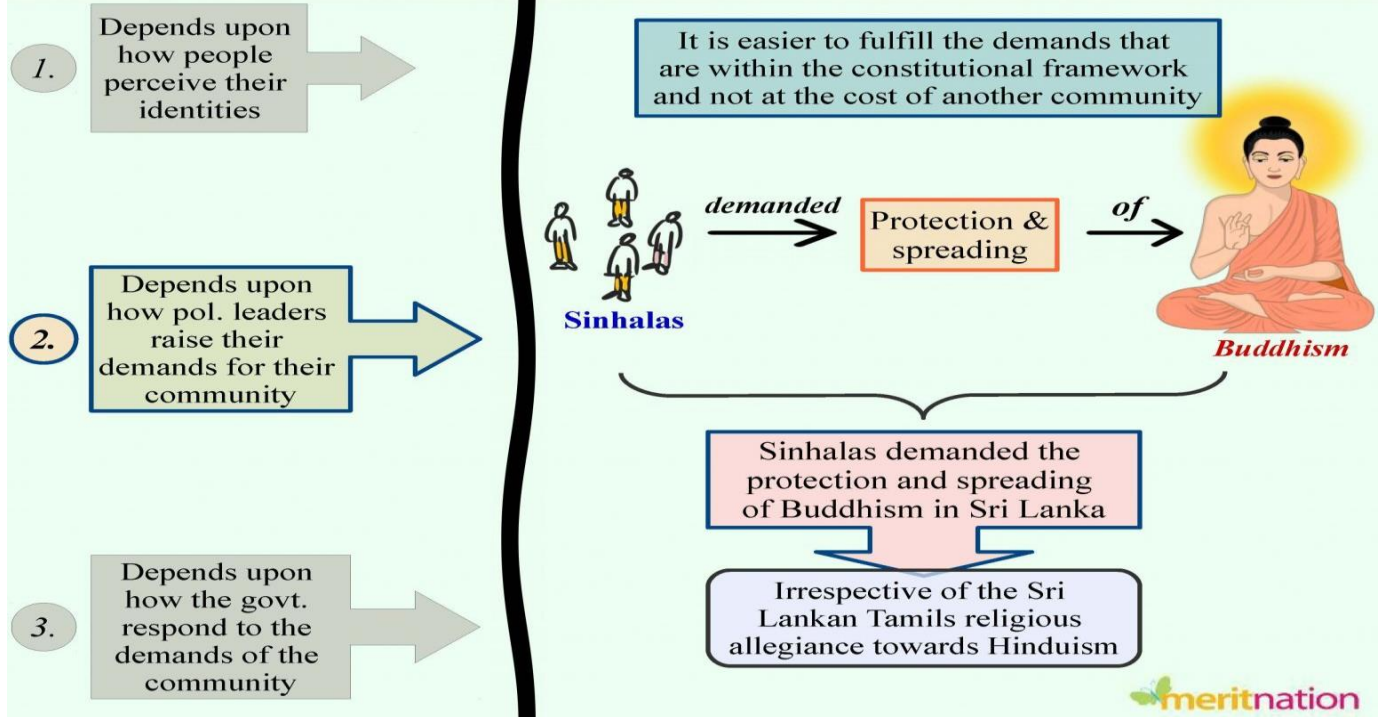
### Politics of social divisions



## Factors deciding the Outcome of Politics of Social Division

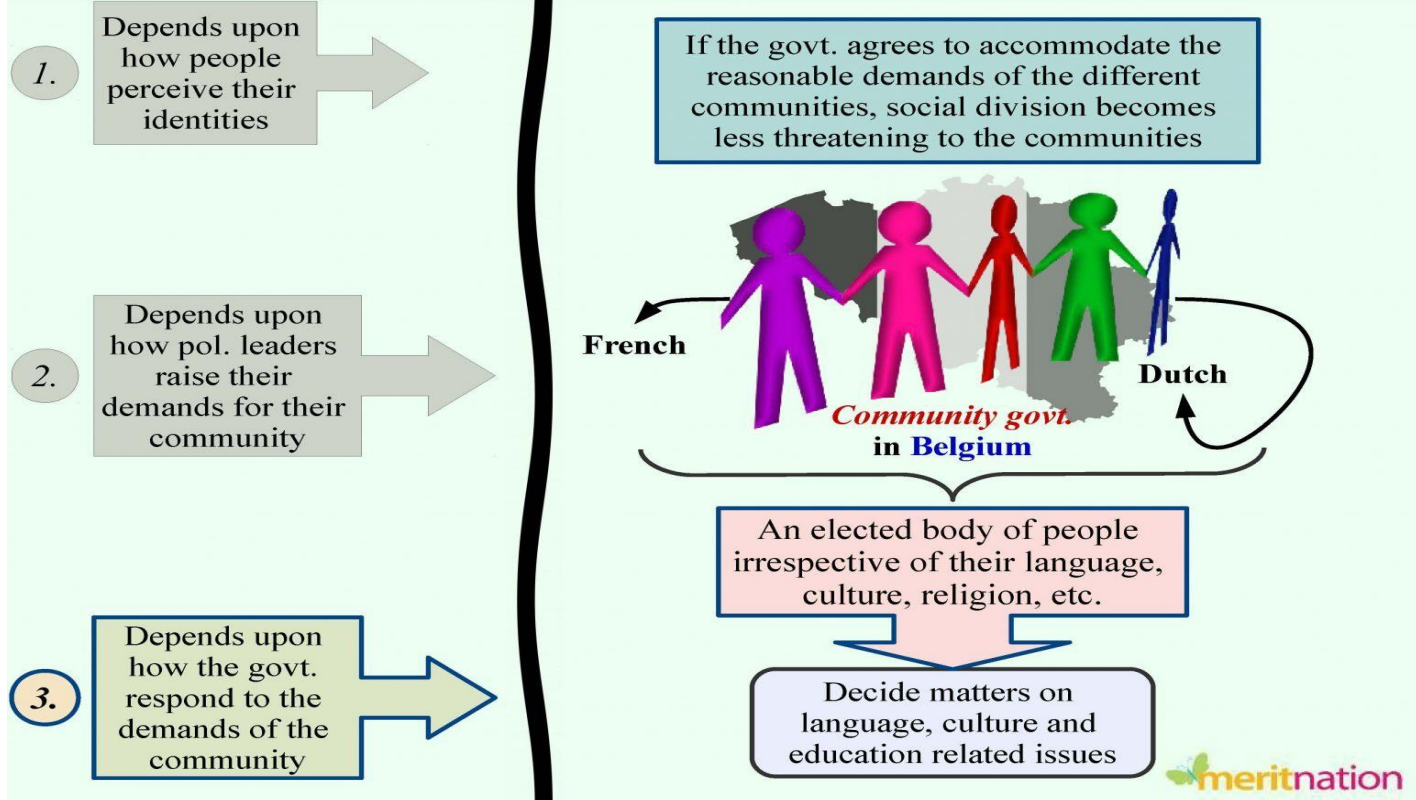


## Factors deciding the Outcome of Politics of Social Division

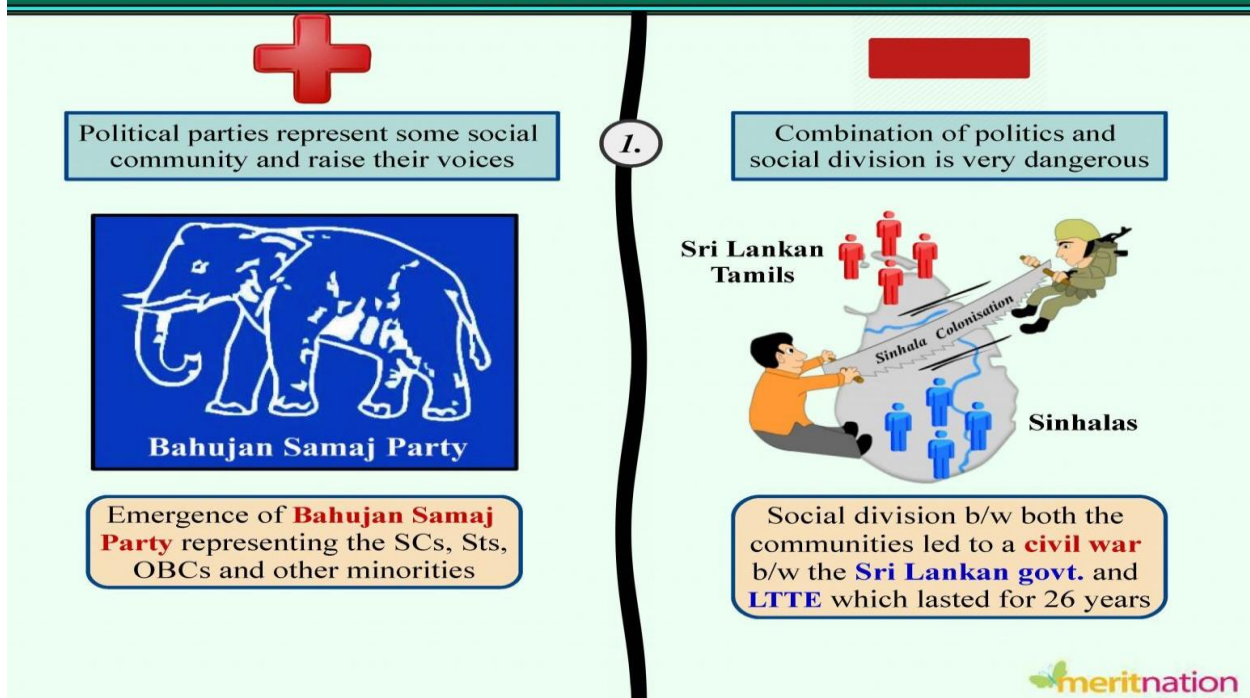




## Factors deciding the Outcome of Politics of Social Division



## Affects of Social Division in Politics



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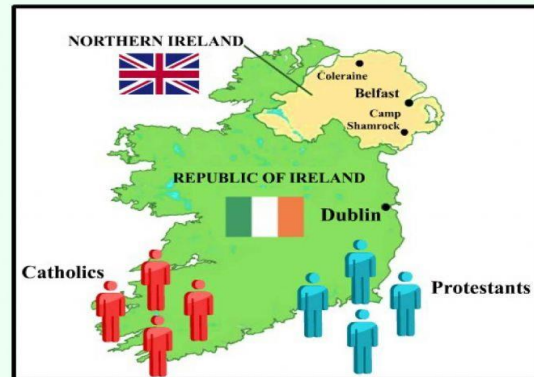


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Political competition divides the society



Catholics demanded unification of Northern Ireland with the Republic of Ireland. The Protestants wanted to remain with UK



### Case Study- Ireland

Consider the cases of Northern Ireland. Here the population was dominated by the Christians but they were divided between Catholics and Protestants. In Northern Ireland, class and religion overlap with each other. If you are Catholic, you are also more likely to be poor, and you may have suffered a history of discrimination. The result is that Catholics and Protestants have had conflicts in Northern Ireland. In Northern Ireland, class and religion overlap with each other.

### Cross Cutting Social Difference



- In the Northern Ireland, class and religion overlap each other.
- If you are Catholic, you are also more likely to be poor, and you may have suffered a history of discrimination.
- The result is that **Catholics and Protestants** have had conflicts in Northern Ireland.

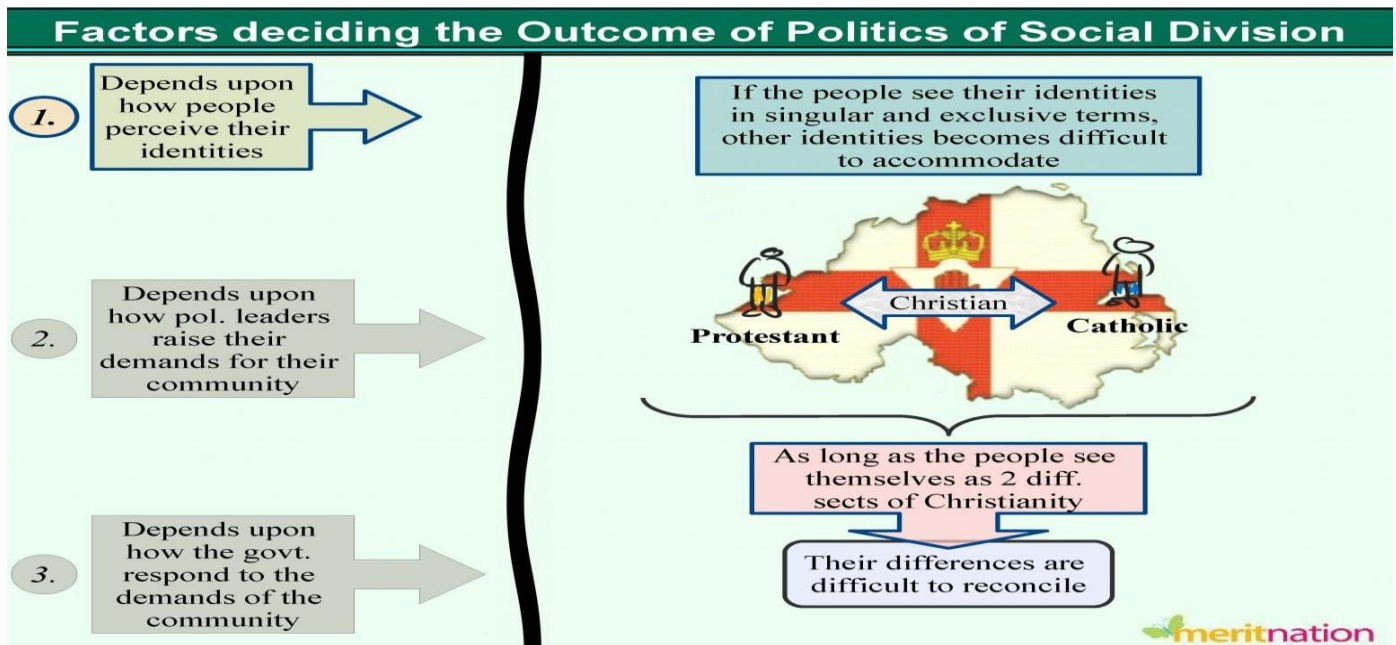


## Case Study- Yugoslavia

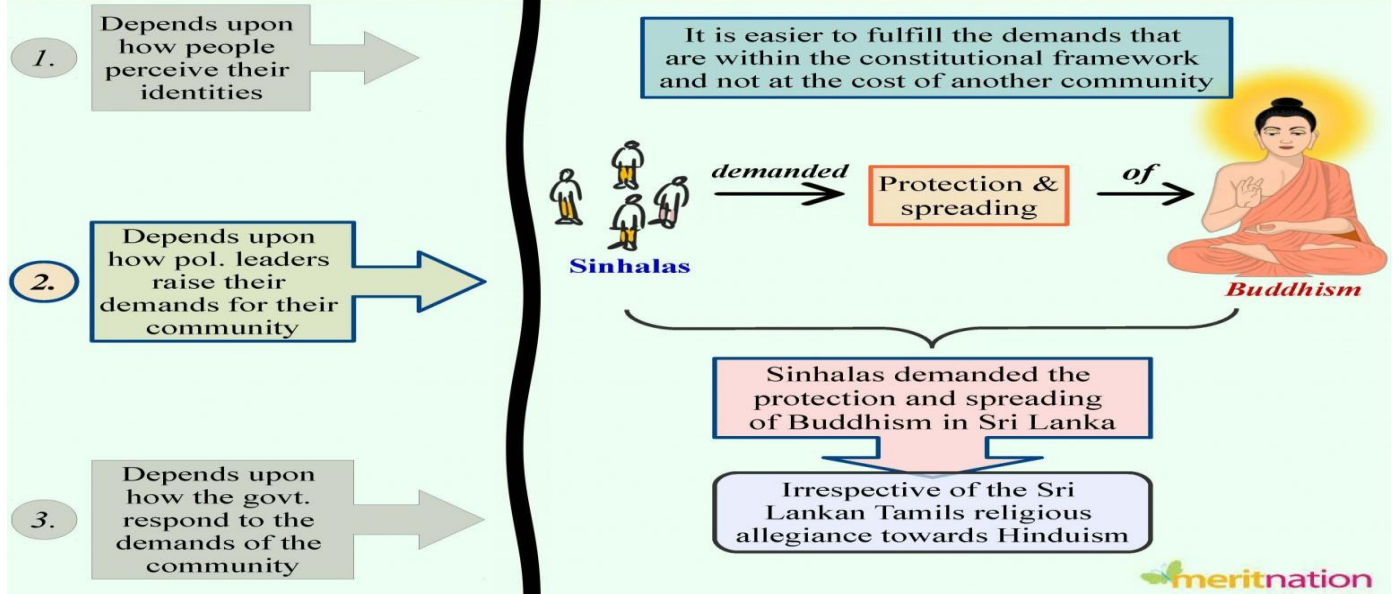
Yugoslavia, did not have a happy end. Political competition along religious and ethnic lines led to the disintegration of Yugoslavia into six independent countries.



## Factors deciding outcomes



## Factors deciding the Outcome of Politics of Social Division



## Factors deciding the Outcome of Politics of Social Division

