



From Civil Rights to Armalites: Derry and the Birth of the Irish Troubles

Author: [Niall O'Dochartaigh](#) [1]

Palgrave Macmillan, London, 2005, pp. 332

Originally published: 1997

Describes the trajectory of resistance from largely nonviolent demonstrations, modeled on the US Civil Rights movement, to riots and finally to virtual civil war in Derry/Londonderry. O'Dochartaigh subscribes to the view that in conditions of civil disorder and conflict 'the local environment becomes ever more important as a focus of political activity.' A central thesis of the book is that 'occasions of violent confrontation play a crucial role in promoting the escalation and continuation of conflict'.

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