

# Violence is the Last Refuge of the Incompetent

## 1- Introduction

Thesis Statement: Violence is often a symptom of incompetence, rather than a cause.

## 2- Understanding the terminologies: "Violence" and "Incompetence"

- a- Impaired judgement and Decision Making
- b- Emotional Reactivity
- c- Inability to adapt to challenges
- d- Poor communication and abilities.

## 3- Ellen Johnson Sirleaf's, former President of Liberia, views on violence and incompetence:

- i- "Bloodshed is legacy of those who do not share common ground and choose violence instead of dialogue"

## 4- Reasons why Incompetent Individuals Resort to Violence

### i- Psychological Reasons

- a- Inadequate Problem solving skills
- b- Emotional Instability

### ii- Desire for Power and Control

- a- Feelings of Insecurity and Powerlessness

case in Point: Dictators who use violence to maintain control

1B - Daminating Attitude - donial powers using force for suppression

1B - Societal Influences:

- a - Fear of Failure and Societal Rejection
- b - Breakdown in Communication

5 - Historical Instance bearing up the idea that violence is the last refuge for Incompetent

a - Authoritarian Leaders of 20<sup>th</sup> century

Case in Point: Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini used violence to enforce their rule

b - Diplomatic failures among incompetent leader led toward catastroph of WWI

6 - Contemporary Examples of the Phrase in Action

a - Bangladesh: The Deposition of Sheikh Hasina Wajid - Her iron-fist rule to maintain monopoly led to violent protest and eventually her downfall

## 7. Consequences of Resorting to Violence

a. Domino Effect : Violence perpetuates Violence  
Case in Point: Middle Eastern Conflicts where one act of violence leads to continuous retaliation

b. Violence is Not a Silver Bullet for Peace

c. The Human Toll : Physical, Emotional, and Mental Impact.

d. Economic and social Disruption

## 8. Critical Analysis of the Quote :

a. Reevaluating the concept of "Incompetence" : Can violence be seen as rational response under certain circumstances? Example - Revolutionary Wars

b. Justifiable Violence : Situations where Violence might be Deemed Necessary

a. Self Defense

b. Fighting Oppressions - American Revolution against British rule

c. Philosophical Viewpoints : Machiavellian realpolitik  
- for maintainance of power

## 9. Conclusion -

## Introduction:

In the chaotic heat of an argument, when words fail and rationality fades, what emerges? For the incompetent, it is the clenched fist and the loaded gun - violent tools that betray a mind incapable of finding any other way. The phrase, "violence is the last refuge of the incompetent", underscores an unvarnished truth: an incompetent person marked by irrationality, poor decision making, and impetuosity, often resorts to violence when dealing with strenuous and complex circumstances. Myriad factors are at play when considering the causes of this belligerence. Psychological issues, social pressures, an intransigent attitude and despotic intentions are triggers that can cause the incompetent to lash out. It is proven from the evidentiary past that the cacophony of conflicting ideas often became cause of venting anger by the rulers. The French Revolution, Rwandan genocide and Bangladesh's revolution all echo the sentiment that incompetent leader's solipsism and inability to govern were the instigating factors behind these horrendous events. Moreover, in various instances violence can be seen as rational choice such as in self-defense and wars of liberation. Philosophical doctrines like Machiavellianism and realism often reinforce idea of maintaining power by oppressive or pacifist means respectively. Nonetheless, Martin Luther Jr. wisely observed, "Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars".