

Sticks and Carrots from America

By Max Frank



Background

The United States, at the moment, is the global hegemon or leading power. The hegemon sets the status quo, or the rules to international relations, as well as humanitarian guidelines.

Four countries have been identified as rapidly emerging countries, due to their economic and military development. These nations have been named the BRIC countries.

It is important now to identify how the hegemon ought to treat these nations in an attempt to avoid conflict, and to preserve peace and the status quo.



H.L.A Hart's Stick and Carrot View on Deterrence

Stick

Used to threaten a challenger into compliance, used in methods of ***coercion***.



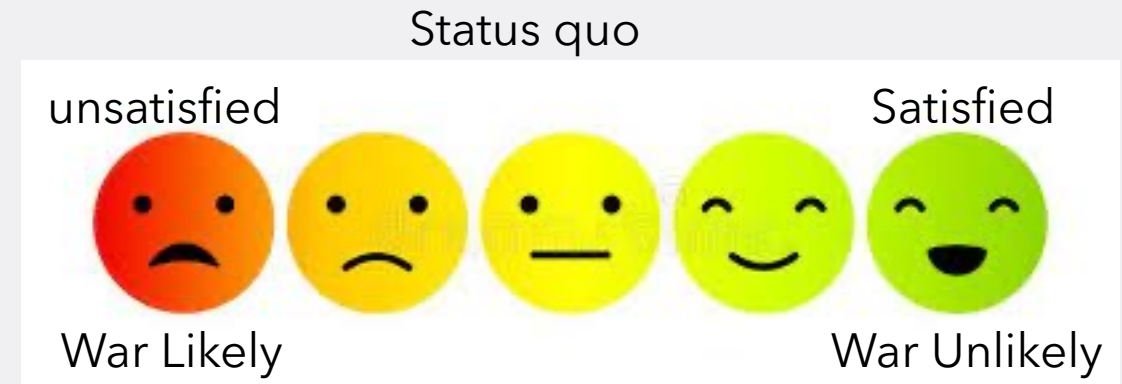
Carrot

Used to persuade a challenger into peaceful relations by offering benefits of maintaining a healthy relationship.



Power Transition Theory

- Founded by A.F.K Organski.
- Create a global path for nations to follow.
- When a challenger arises, and they are unsatisfied with the status quo, a power transition opportunity arises.



Theory

I pose the theory that when confronted with a challenger, the dominant country has the best chance of sustaining power by offering Carrots rather than Sticks to the challenger in an effort to avoid war at all costs .



BRIC Countries

Identified as rapidly growing countries, expected to be powerful actors in the international arena by 2050.



Brazil

Russia



India



China



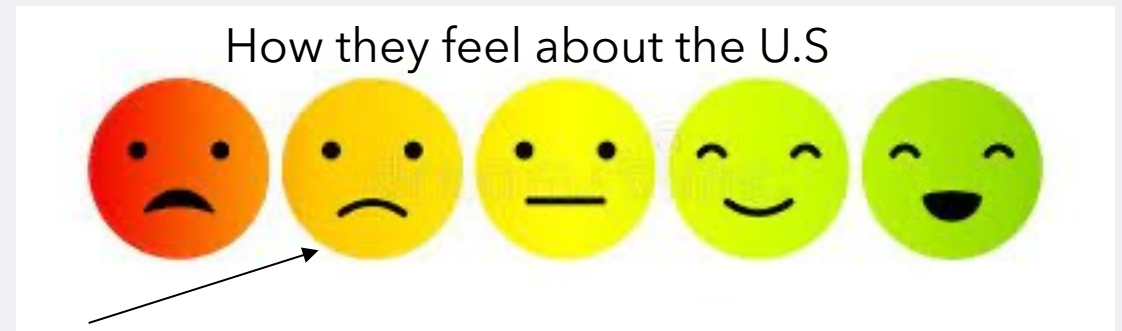
Brazil



- Brazil and the United States were loosely acquainted nations following the Cold War.
- It wasn't until 2010 that the two nations became more closely familiarized.
- In 2012, the United States began investing more heavily in Brazil, leading to greater cooperation.
- In 2018 the United States and Brazil launched a permanent Security forum to bilaterally combat issues such as terrorism and drug trafficking, etc.
- The United States and Brazil maintain strong military-military relations.



Russia

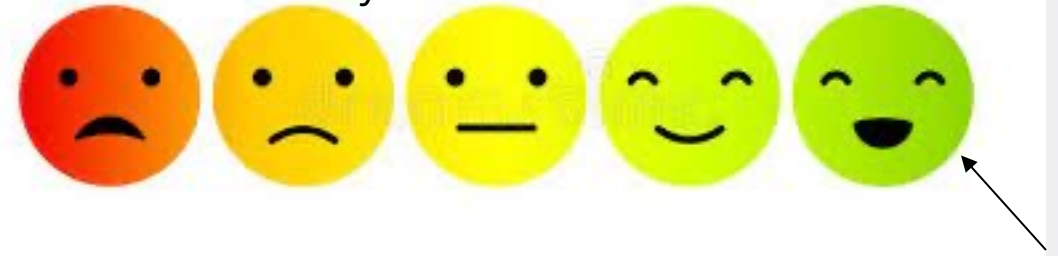


- Immediately after the Cold War, the United States took measures to ensure a more amicable relationship was to be formed with Russia. This worked for several years.
- Immediate appointing to the UN Security Council, as well as induction into the Paris Club and G8. Also signed multiple anti-proliferation agreements.
- Invasion of Chechnya began to sour relationship, U.S. sanctions irritated Russia.
- Merchandise trading plummeted, as well as foreign investment and Russia stopped agreements to decrease arms.



India

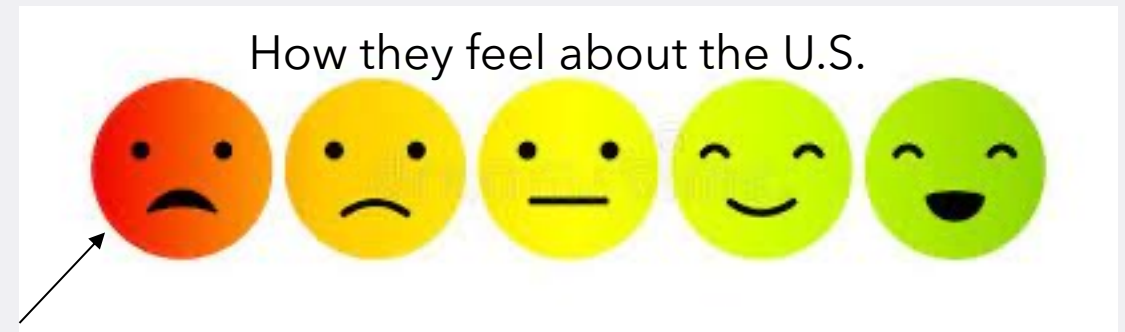
How they feel about the U.S.



- At the end of the Cold War, India and the United States were in a dangerous relationship. India had full sanctions placed upon them for nuclear concerns.
- Situation soon began to improve under Clinton as sanctions were lifted, India and the United States began to cooperate,
- In 2005, the two nations released a joint statement declaring India responsible enough to maintain nuclear programs.
- India and the United States cooperate greatly both economically and militarily



China



- The relationship between the United States and China has been tumultuous since the end of the Cold War.
- Despite the United States and China having the same military objective in the Cold War, the United States placed heavy sanctions on China for the HR violations at Tiananmen Square. The United States has also allowed a greater deal of autonomy internationally than China would allow, making China wary of U.S. induced civil unrest.
- U.S.-China trade war starting in 2017, with now limited mil-mil relations.



Conclusion

- When evaluating these nations, there appears to be a theme. The nations which the United States offer carrots more often than sticks to, seem to be less inclined to engage in conflict with the U.S. On the other hand, it seems that those nations which receive more sticks than carrots, well they seem to be more inclined to create conflict. Therefore, it is the case that when a leading power offers carrots rather than sticks, there is less likelihood of conflict, and my theory has been proven to be true.

