



The Nuclear Movement: From Energy to Weapons

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Statement of Question

- The antinuclear movement began with the goal to stop the building of nuclear power plants.
- After accidents such as Three Mile Island in 1979, the movement was very successful. Today, the construction of all nuclear energy power plants has been halted.
- **What happened to all the organizations that formed to stop nuclear power plants once their mission was accomplished?**

Hypothesis

- The number of nuclear organizations will remain the same and even increase from 1981-2001. The nuclear organizations we see that formed during the anti-nuclear energy movement will change their focus to anti-nuclear weapons and war.

Background

Michael Pollack and Dorothy Nelkin (1981): History

- Pro-nuclear: economic and social growth
- Anti-nuclear: health and pollution

Jerome Price (1990): What can we expect in the future?

- Radioactive waste disposal could cause problems
- Nuclear weapon capability

Background

Christian Joppke (1991): Waning of the issue

- 1972-1983 100 nuclear units were cancelled
- Lost prominence in politics and culture
- Shifted to a “parallel movement”

David Meyer (1993): Reasons for issue change

- People lose interest
- Social movements transform.
- In 1980 the nuclear arms race again escalated.

Data

- Encyclopedia of Associations: 1981, 1987, 1992, 1996, and 2001.
- Searched for all organizations under the keyword “nuclear”.
- Tracked all organizations if I found it in a previous year; even if it didn’t fall under the category “nuclear”.
- SPSS for analyzing change of goals

Codebook

- ID #
- Edition Date
- Founding Date
- Issue #1: *Attitude toward nuclear energy*
 - Code “1” for positive (in favor of)
 - Code “2” for negative (against, anti)
 - Code “0” for no mention of nuclear energy

Codebook

- Issue #2: *Nuclear Energy Consequences*

Code “1” for positive consequences (cheap, economic advancement)

Code “2” for negative consequences (medical, pollution)

Code “0” for no mention of nuclear energy consequences

Codebook

- Issue #3: *Nuclear Industry Safety*
Does the entry talk about the safety of workers, the public, or the environment in relation to nuclear energy?
Code “0” for no
Code “1” for yes
- Issue #4: *Waste Disposal Problems*
Does the entry mention waste disposal problems?
Code “0” if no mention
Code “1” yes

Codebook

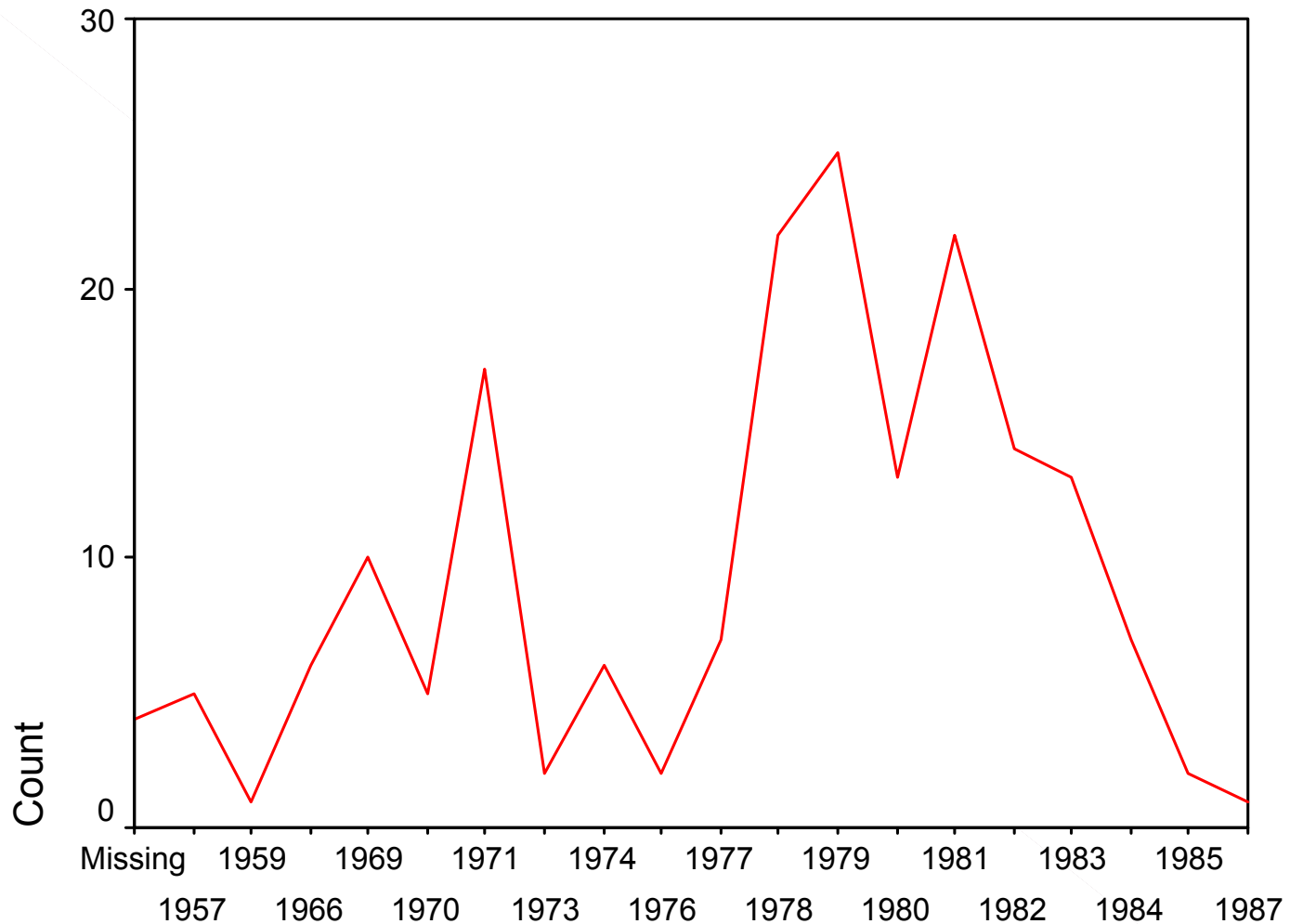
- Issue #5: *Nuclear War*

Code “1” if positive mention of nuclear war or nuclear weapons

Code “2” if negative mention of nuclear war or nuclear weapons

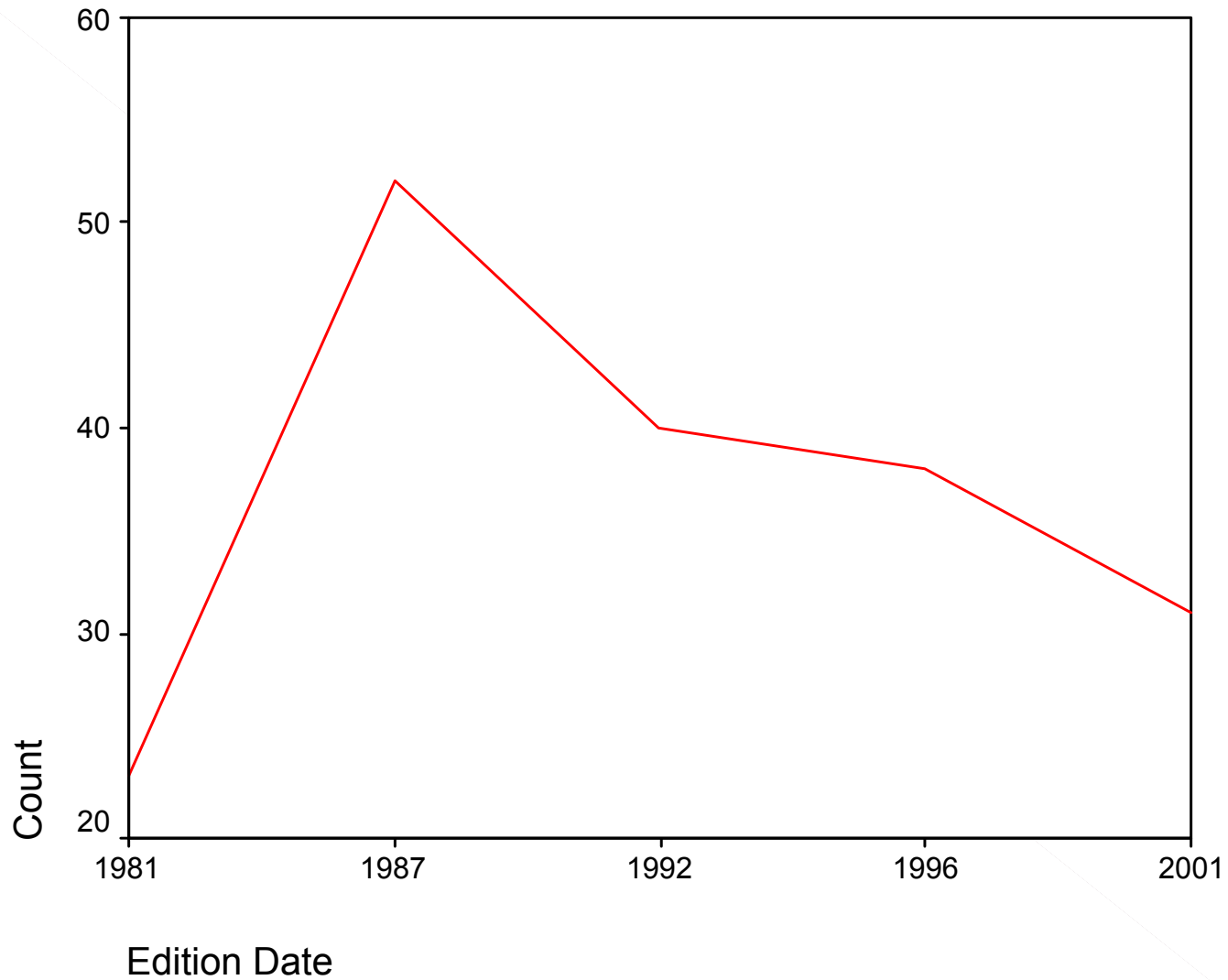
Code “0” if no mention of nuclear war or nuclear weapons

Founding Dates



Founding Date of all Nuclear Organizations

Organizations In Existence Per Year



Issue #1: Attitudes Toward Nuclear Energy

ISSUE_#1 * Edition Date Crosstabulation

		Edition Date					Total
		1981	1987	1992	1996	2001	
ISSUE_#1 0	Count		1	2		1	4
	% within Edition Date		6.3%	15.4%		12.5%	5.7%
1	Count	6	6	5	3	2	22
	% within Edition Date	26.1%	37.5%	38.5%	30.0%	25.0%	31.4%
2	Count	17	9	6	7	5	44
	% within Edition Date	73.9%	56.3%	46.2%	70.0%	62.5%	62.9%
Total	Count	23	16	13	10	8	70
	% within Edition Date	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

“0” no mention

“1” positive

“2” negative

Issue #2: Nuclear Energy Consequences

ISSUE_#2 * Edition Date Crosstabulation

		Edition Date					Total
		1981	1987	1992	1996	2001	
ISSUE_# 0	Count	13	36	27	24	18	118
	% within Edition □	56.5%	69.2%	67.5%	63.2%	58.1%	64.1%
1	Count	1	2	1	1	1	6
	% within Edition □	4.3%	3.8%	2.5%	2.6%	3.2%	3.3%
2	Count	9	14	12	13	12	60
	% within Edition □	39.1%	26.9%	30.0%	34.2%	38.7%	32.6%
Total	Count	23	52	40	38	31	184
	% within Edition □	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

“0” no mention

“1” positive

“2” negative

Issue #3: Nuclear Industry Safety

ISSUE_#3 * Edition Date Crosstabulation

		Edition Date					Total
		1981	1987	1992	1996	2001	
ISSUE_ : 0	Count	18	28	19	22	17	104
	% within Edition	78.3%	53.8%	47.5%	57.9%	54.8%	56.5%
1	Count	5	24	21	16	14	80
	% within Edition	21.7%	46.2%	52.5%	42.1%	45.2%	43.5%
Total	Count	23	52	40	38	31	184
	% within Edition	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

“0” no

“1” yes

Issue #4: Waste Disposal Problems

ISSUE_#4 * Edition Date Crosstabulation

		Edition Date					Total
		1981	1987	1992	1996	2001	
ISSUE_# 0	Count	20	43	35	32	24	154
	% within Edition	87.0%	82.7%	87.5%	84.2%	77.4%	83.7%
1	Count	3	9	5	6	7	30
	% within Edition	13.0%	17.3%	12.5%	15.8%	22.6%	16.3%
Total	Count	23	52	40	38	31	184
	% within Edition	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

“0” no

“1” yes

Issue #5: Nuclear Weapons or War

ISSUE_#5 * Edition Date Crosstabulation

		Edition Date					Total
		1981	1987	1992	1996	2001	
ISSUE_# 0	Count	16	20	19	19	15	89
	% within Edition	69.6%	38.5%	47.5%	50.0%	48.4%	48.4%
2	Count	7	32	21	19	16	95
	% within Edition	30.4%	61.5%	52.5%	50.0%	51.6%	51.6%
Total	Count	23	52	40	38	31	184
	% within Edition	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

“0” no mention

“1” positive

“2” negative

Looking Closer: Organizations Listed In All Five Editions

- Citizen's Energy Council: Same EXACT entry for every edition; anti-nuclear energy
- Critical Mass Energy Project changed its name to Public Citizen's Critical Mass Energy Project
- Nuclear Information and Resource Service altered their goals in 1987 to relate to nuclear war and weapons as well as anti-nuclear goals

Looking More Closely

- SANE: Committee for Sane Nuclear Policy also altered its goals in 1987 to include nuclear war and weapons

Findings

- Most of the organizations that formed because of the anti-nuclear energy movement became defunct after the movement achieved its goals.
- Few organizations changed their goals to fit the upcoming nuclear problems.
- Most organization's goals, according to my coding scheme, remained the same through the years of 1981-2001.

Findings

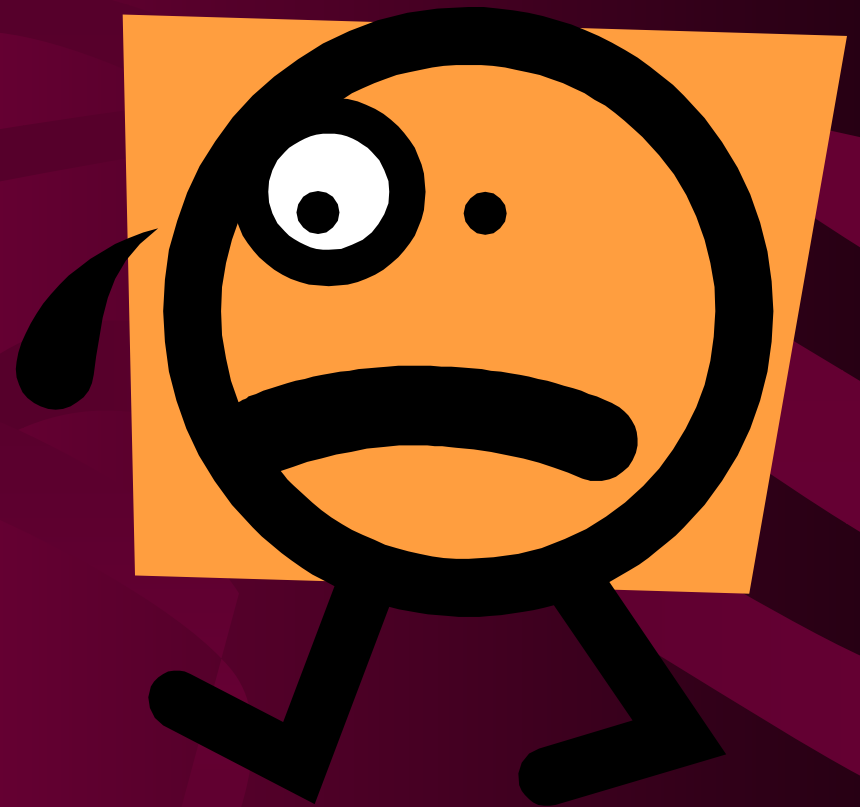
- Total of 67 organizations under the keyword “nuclear” in any year.
- Total of 10 organizations from 1981 could be followed through until 2001.
- There were 52 organizations under the keyword “nuclear” in 1987. This was the highest number of organizations listed in a particular edition.

Conclusion

Organizations formed because of the nuclear energy movement generally did not change their goals between the years 1981-2001.

Nuclear organizations that are still found in later editions of the encyclopedia are new organizations formed specifically focusing upon anti-nuclear war/weapons.

The nuclear energy organizations have kept the same goals or changed the goal slightly to fit “safe energy”



Suggestions for Further Research

- Goals changed to safe energy
- Arms race escalated again in 1980. This research didn't go back far enough to trace a goal change.
- Add a code for “goal change”
- Seek out other ways to define goals of organization in addition to the entry in the Encyclopedia.



Bibliography

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