

III The Effects of Boundaries

A. Language and Religion

1. Political boundaries often do not follow cultural and economic landscapes

a) Separate people that speak the same language, religion, or share other traits

b) Can become a shatter belt

i) When a place is in between two very different regions

Ex: Eastern Europe is between W. Europe: Catholic/Protestant, Capitalist and Russian Orthodox/Communist

Ex: 2 Sudan

2. People separated by boundaries often develop different dialects

B. Ethnicity, Nationality, and Economy

1. Superimposed boundaries or ones enforced by a dominant ethnic group can create conflict.

Ex: Sri Lanka: Sinhalese + Tamils, Sinhalese are the majority (Buddhist, live in Southern Part of the country) Tamils (Hindu N and E parts of country)

* Tamils feel like they are 2nd hand citizens

* Rebels began fighting in 1980's defeated in 2009 W 75k died