



POLITICAL PARTIES

Social Democratic Labour Party (SDLP)

- a democratic nationalist party
- strongly opposed to violence.

Sinn Féin

- has close links with the IRA.

Nationalists

- are mostly Catholic
- want one united nation called Ireland, which would include all of Northern Ireland) and be independent from Britain
- the most extreme Nationalists are often called REPUBLICANS.

ALLIANCE PARTY

- moderate unionist party
- tries to win support from people of all religions and backgrounds.

Political groups in Northern Ireland

Unionists

- are generally Protestants
- want to keep the union between Britain and Northern Ireland
- the most extreme Unionists are often called LOYALISTS.

POLITICAL PARTIES

Ulster Unionist Party (UUP)

- a democratic party
- wants to keep Northern Ireland united with Britain
- is against the use of violence.

Democratic Unionist Party (DUP)

- a more hardline, but still democratic, party.

PARAMILITARY GROUPS

Irish Republican Army (IRA)

- strongly supports Northern Ireland breaking away from Britain and becoming part of the Republic of Ireland
- often used violence against its opponents.

Real IRA, INLA (Irish Nationalist Liberation Army) & Continuity IRA (CIRA)

- groups that broke away from the IRA when the IRA started to agree peace.

PARAMILITARY GROUPS

Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF)

- strongly supports Northern Ireland staying united with Britain
- often used violence against its opponents.

Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF)

- a splinter group of the UVF
- use violence to achieve their aims.

