

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**“Revenge and the Backlash Effect”**

1. “Parties in conflict, especially parties with considerable power, tend to assume that they can prevail quickly and easily by using threats and/or force. They assume that the opposing party will simply submit and the problem will be resolved.” Please explain these opening sentences in your own words. Use a dictionary if necessary.


2. In the first paragraph, the article explains that threats don’t always help one side get an easy victory. Why?


3. Define the term “backlash effect” in your own words.


4. When force is perceived as “unwarranted, excessive, or unnecessary” the victims often believe it is wrong. Please explain this statement. Look up words in the dictionary, if necessary.


5. When threats grow and force grows, how do the victims usually react?


6. “The response to coercive force is far more intense than the initial provocation.” Please explain this sentence in your own words.


7. Explain why the authors use the term “cycle” to describe the ongoing effect of threats and force.
8. What happens when groups can’t fight back and have to go along with the other group’s demands, no matter how unfair their demands might seem?
9. In the “Reducing the Backlash Effect,” the authors suggest that force should be used only at certain times. When do they think it is acceptable?
In what ways can groups use force but reduce the potential for backlash? Name at least four ways.
10.
11.
12.
13.
14.
15. Describe a time when you witnessed some kind of backlash. Perhaps when someone responded to a threat...