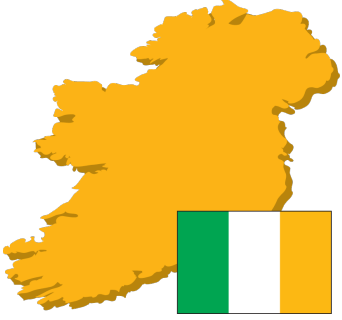




NATIONALISTS:

- They were deeply unhappy and frustrated
- The long promised reforms on civil rights had not materialised. There were still major issues over voting, gerrymandering, discrimination in jobs and housing and security issues like the special powers act. O'Neill had did little to change these pressing issues.
- Unionist policies still dominated (University in Coleraine rather than Derry; New city named 'Craigavon')
- NICRA marches had been openly attacked in controversial circumstances in Derry in October 1968. This was shown on television and seemed to show police violence towards NICRA. It caused much anger and concern. Violence was becoming an issue as marches were met by unionist counter demonstrations. Things seemed to be getting out of control.



MODERATE NATIONALISTS

O'Neills reforms were **welcomed by many moderate nationalists** as a welcome **'first step'** towards more civil rights. NICRA called off their marches in response to create a breathing space for more reform

PEOPLES DEMOCRACY

Some more **radical nationalists** were not happy at the extent of reform. A new movement called People's a Democracy was set up. They wanted **considerable reform** than what had been granted. They continued marching and their **Belfast to Derry March** was attacked by loyalists at **Burntollet bridge** (a spark for the troubles to follow)

UNIONISTS

Unionism was becoming increasingly divided under O'Neill.

A major political divide began to grow between those who wanted reform and fair treatment for the catholic population and those conservative hard line elements in unionism that wanted no change like Craig, Faulkner and Paisley.



BRITISH GOVERNMENT

The British government were confused, worried and frustrated by the increasing violence in Northern Ireland. They put pressure on O'Neill to introduce reforms.



UNIONISTS

Many unionists were **dismayed** at the five point programme
They viewed it as a product of **fear** and **weak leadership** of O'Neill
Many saw it as **giving in to the threat of violence**. Many felt the position of **unionism was under threat**.

Hard line unionist opponents such as **William craig and Ian Paisley** were able to gain a great deal of **support**

WHY 1968?

O'Neill was under serious pressure by the end of 1968:

THE FIVE POINT PROGRAMME WAS A MAJOR SET OF REFORMS INTRODUCED BY N.I PRIME MINISTER TERENCE O'NEILL ON 22nd NOVEMBER 1968, IN AN EFFORT TO BRING POLITICAL STABILITY TO NORTHERN IRELAND

BACKGROUND



O'NEILL'S FIVE POINT PROGRAMME

WHAT WERE O'NEILLS AIMS FOR THE FIVE POINT PROGRAMME?

The five point programme **addressed many of the concerns of NICRA, promising reforms which were to be introduced by 1971.**

O'Neill **intended to bring an end to the civil rights marches** and the resulting tension and violence which was breaking out around them.

He **didn't address every NICRA concern** as this may **alienate harder line unionists**

WHAT WERE THE FIVE POINTS?

1) HOUSING

Council housing in Northern Ireland would be allocated on a **points basis (need not creed)**



2) VOTING REFORM

New local government reforms would help end the practice of extra business votes
(A move **towards** one man, one vote)



3) LONDONDERRY REFORMS

A new Development Commission would replace the old Londonderry corporation (known for gerrymandering)



4) SPECIAL POWERS ACT

It was promised that 'certain sections' of the Special Powers Act would be removed



5) OMBUDSMAN

A new **independent** ombudsman (a neutral authority) would be appointed to deal with **complaints** about things like **discrimination**

