

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Power Unbalanced

On July 19, 2007, twenty-three South Korean aid workers, mostly women, were taken hostage in Afghanistan by the Taliban. The Taliban threatened to kill them if Taliban prisoners were not freed or if there were attempts to free the hostages by force. The Taliban set a deadline for negotiations and when the Koreans did not meet their demands, they set several new deadlines.

<b>Taliban:</b> What do they want?
What tactics are they using to try to get it?
South Korea already failed to meet the deadline set to get prisoners released. Yet the Taliban extended the deadline. What makes threats costly?
In March 2007, the Afghan government caved to threats made by the Taliban and swapped five Taliban fighters for one Italian reporter. What do you think the Taliban expects of the Afghan government?
If you were an Afghan advisor, how would you deal with the hostage problem and why?