

TERRORISM AND COUNTERTERRORISM

Theory and practice

STUDY OF TERRORISM

- 1960s- the beginning of researches on terrorism
- Development of the phenomenon of political violence and its determination
- A lot of organizations are tend to appear
- 1970-80s- study of techniques which were used by terrorists
- International terrorism as global concern

STUDY OF TERRORISM

- 1990s- people do researches on modern terror groups
- Nationalist separatist groups (in India, Sri Lanka)
- Islamist groups (Hamas etc)
- Al- Qaeda is a new group
- The widespread interest to terrorism has engendered the US embassy bombing in 1998 by Al- Qaeda



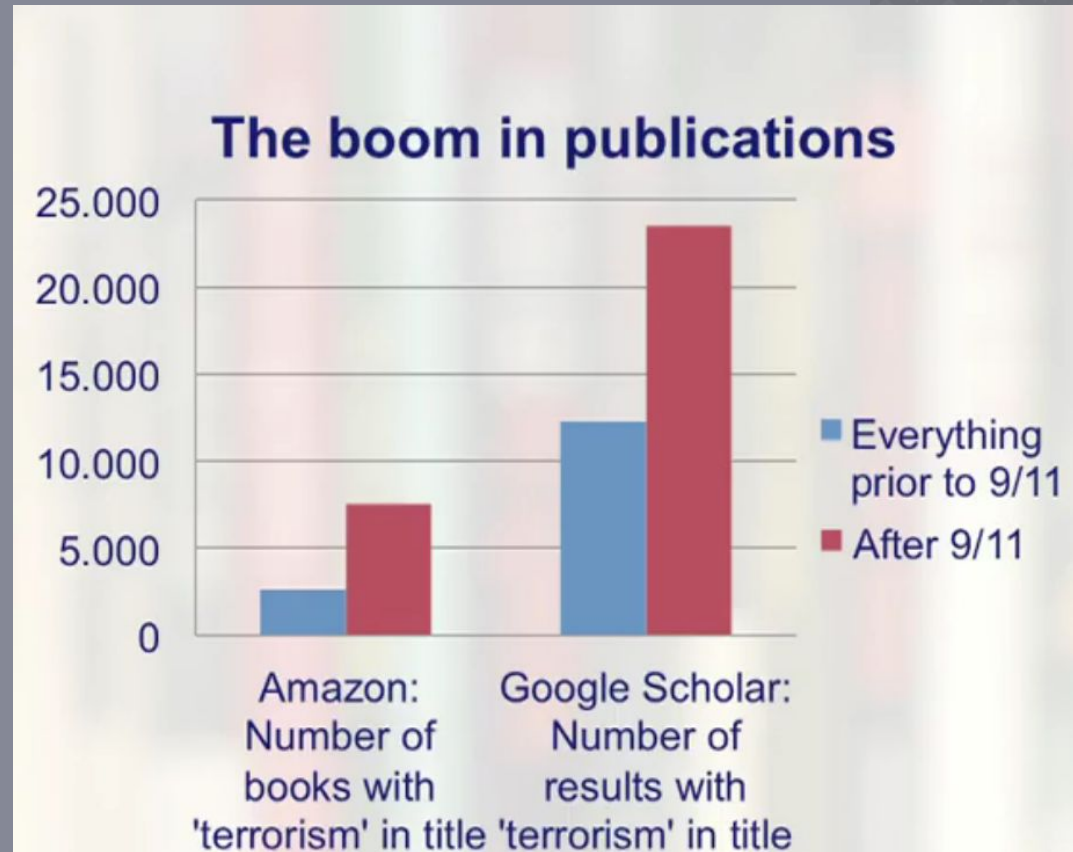
- attacks occurred on August 7, 1998
- over 200 people were killed in nearly simultaneous truck bomb explosions in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and in Nairobi, Kenya.

In response to the bombings , President Bill Clinton ordered operation Infinite Reach included a number of missile strikes on Al-Qaeda bases.



POST SEPTEMBER 11TH BOOM

- New research centers
- New training
- Policy advice (who does threaten to us and why?)
- Numerous publications



DISCIPLINES STUDYING TERRORISM

Political science(impact on politics caused by terrorism)

Military science(strategies to fight against terrorism)

International relations

Communication studies(role of the Media, consequences of terrorist attacks and limitation of impact on people)

Social Psychology(whether the mind of terrorist differ from ours or not)

DISCIPLINES STUDYING TERRORISM

A word cloud of disciplines studying terrorism. The words are arranged in a roughly circular shape, with 'intelligence studies' being the most prominent word in the center. Other words include 'economics', 'history', 'police studies', 'public administration', 'international law', 'conflict studies', 'anthropology', 'philosophy', 'criminal law', 'sociology', 'political geography', and 'criminology'. The words are in various colors (black, dark blue, red, brown) and orientations (horizontal, vertical, diagonal).

economics
history
police studies
public administration
international law
conflict studies
anthropology
philosophy
criminal law
intelligence studies
sociology
political geography
criminology

HOW TO STUDY TERRORISM?

- Behavior of individuals
- World political system

3 main approaches to study terrorism

Rational

- Political goals
- Martha Crenshaw

Socio-psychological

- the role of the media in promoting the spread of terrorism
- Jerrold Post

Multicausal

- Multiple causal factors

AUTHORS AND CENTERS

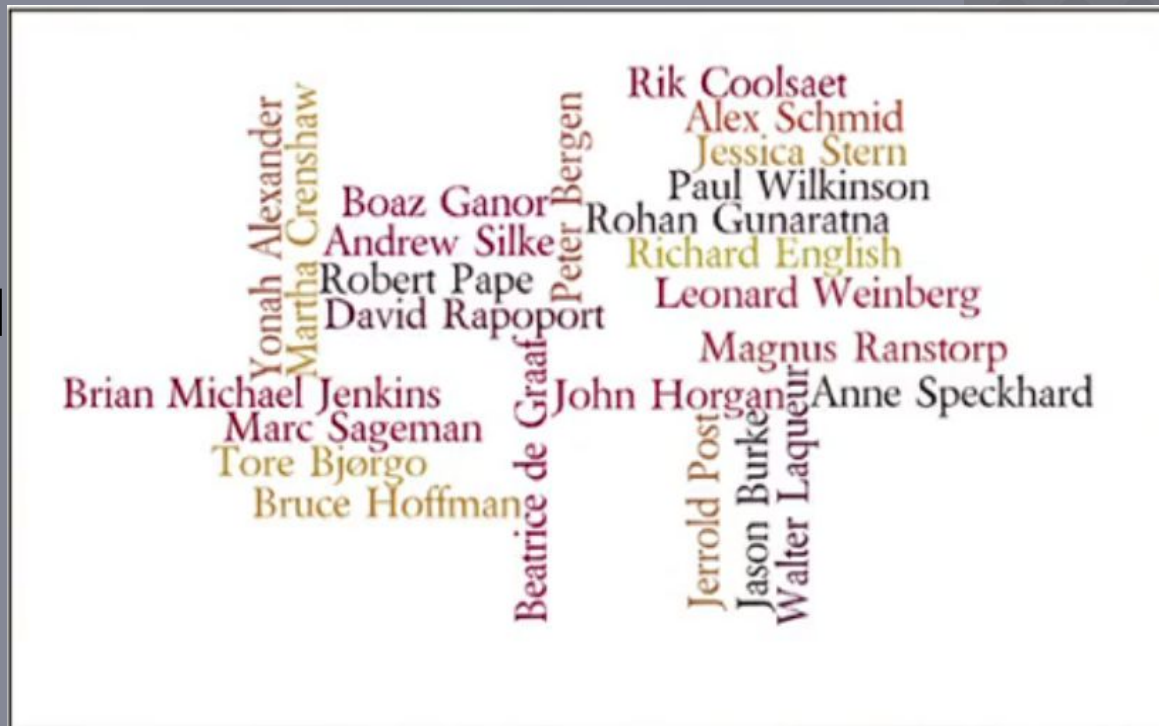
- Among the most significant authors of studies on terrorism there are very few ladies



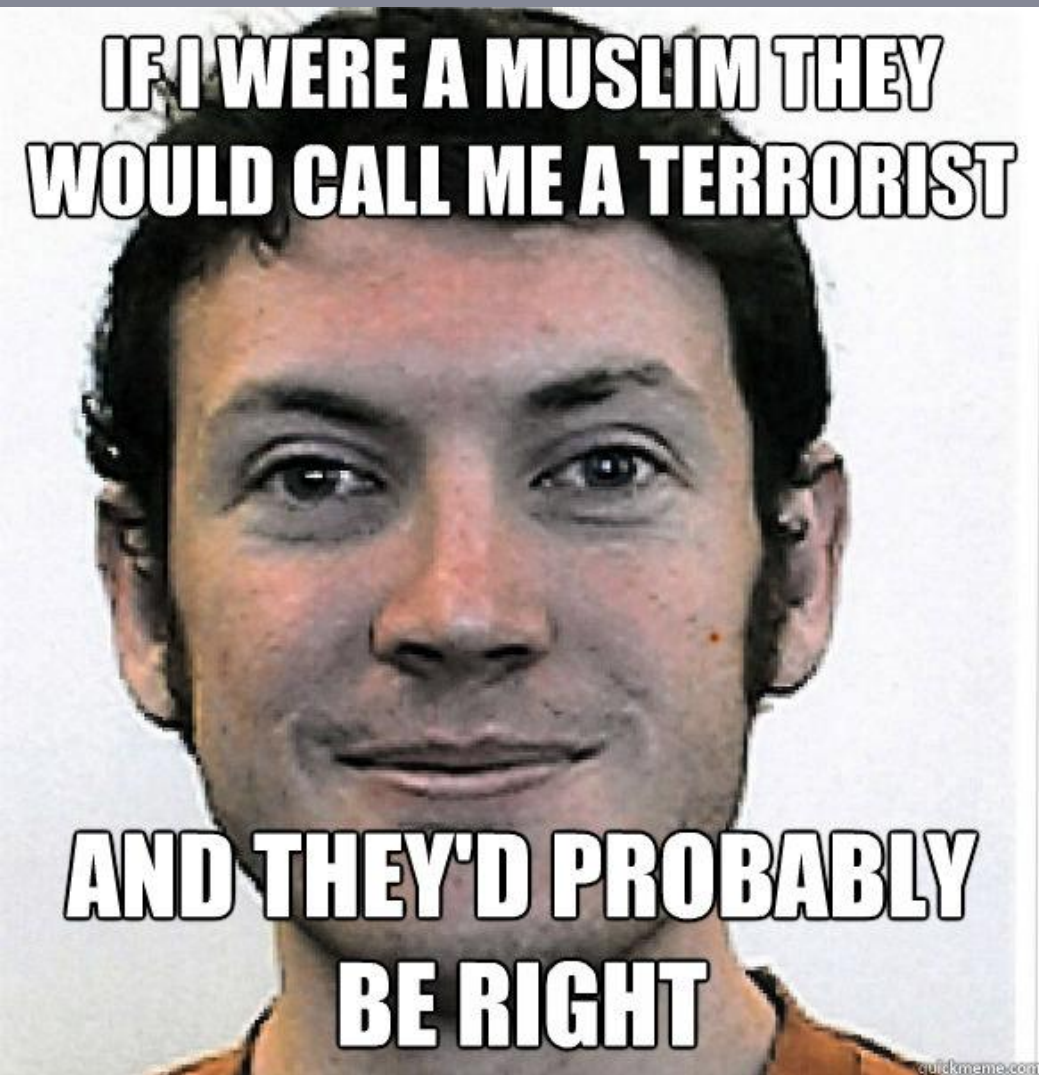
Beatrice de Gaaf from Dutch University said that many women had written books dedicated to terrorism

- Relatively new centers are in:
- The Hague
 - Oslo
 - Madrid 
 - Ankara

- NGOs
- Washington DC
- London
- St. Andrews in Scotland (prestigious)
- Herzliya in Israel
- Singapore



STUDY OF COUNTERTERRORISM



- Western media is biased to Muslim people

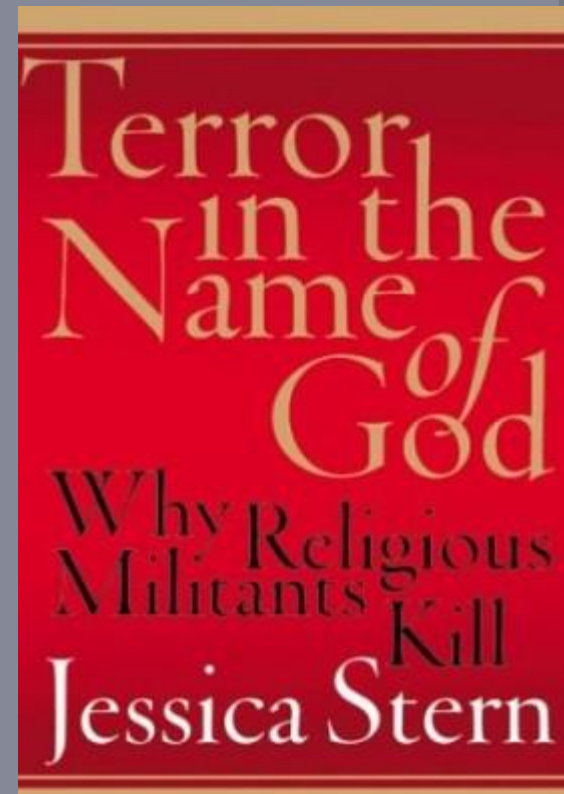
CHALLENGES OF STUDYING TERRORISM

- Lack of the universal definition in doing researches
- Subjective and politicized understanding
 - political agenda is always behind terrorism;
 - there are different views on terrorism, its reasons and consequences)
- Small numbers constitute problems for researches (lack of information)
- Complex and ever-changing issue (terrorism has change a lot in recent years)
- **SECRECY**

PROBLEMS OF SECRECY

- ⦿ Problems of interviewing people
- ⦿ Participant observation
- ⦿ Access to files and archives
- ⦿ Ethical problems
- ⦿ Reliability and validation

Interviewed prisoners
especially those who
wanted to commit a suicide



- Critical thinking towards terrorism after September 11th
- Positive attitude of scientists about latest researches
- Few comparative studies and few theory testing

- Selection bias to western interests
- Policy oriented nature of research



Current state of the art

- Andrew Silke (2009): The field of terrorism studies is beginning to stabilise from the biases in focus in the immediate aftermath of 9/11 and the war on terror
- Magnus Ranstorp (2009): The need for vigorous debates, critical self-reflexivity and alternative analytical assumptions and approaches
- Alex Schmid (2011): Terrorism Studies has never been in better shape than now

INTERVIEW WITH AKINOLA OLOJO

- ◉ International Center for Counterterrorism in Hague
- ◉ African countries are engaged to the fight against terrorism
- ◉ Application of soft power instead of force
- ◉ African perspectives
- ◉ Cooperation with western partners