An Annotated Bibliography on Domestic Terrorism

This study sought to distinguish psychological determinants that influence opinions regarding domestic and transnational terrorists and terror attacks. This study also addressed putative relationships between patriotism, religiosity, and dissociative experiences. Several relationships between self-identified political affiliations, strength of political beliefs, and strength of religious faith were found to predict beliefs surrounding terrorist events, such as whether the U.S. would be involved in any future attacks and if such attacks would be either religious or political in nature. Findings indicated that the more liberal a person's self-identification, the more likely he or she was to believe that the U.S. will be involved in an attack. Conservative self-identification related positively to the idea that a given attack would be religious in nature. As one's self-identified strength of political beliefs increased, so did the belief that terror attacks are religious in nature. As the strength of political beliefs decreased, the belief that terror attacks are of a political nature increased. As one's strength of religious faith increased, the belief that terror attacks are religious in nature decreased. Relationships were also discovered regarding Nationalism and Internationalism and their influence on how one perceived terrorism. Findings indicated that Nationalism was a negative predictor of the belief that terror attacks are derived from conspiracy. Also, Internationalism was a negative predictor of the belief that the U.S. would be involved in another terror attack. Finally, significant relationships were discovered between the Dissociative Experiences Scale (DES) (Carlson & Putnam, 1986) and Patriotism, Nationalism and Internationalism (Kosterman & Feshbach, 1989). Findings indicated that increased scores on the DES promote Patriotism and limited Nationalism and Internationalism. Implications of the results as well as limitations and suggestions for future study are also discussed. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2014 APA, all rights reserved)

his chapter examines how mass media reports about crime and terrorism in the United States, especially domestic terrorism threats, have been purposefully managed by police agencies to promote fear and support for heightened surveillance to protect citizens from risks. I argue that terrorism fears and what I will discuss as a "discourse of fear" were grounded in decades of mass media propaganda about "fear of crime," and that political discourse after 9/11 promoted the politics of fear: My comments are informed by three books that have examined the impact of mass media messages about fear, crime, and terrorism on mass psychology and public policy: Creating Fear: News and the Construction of Crisis, Terrorism and the Politics of Fear, and Terror Post-9/11 and the Media. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2015 APA, all rights reserved).

The terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, D.C. on September 11, 2001 as well as domestic terrorism in the United States and elsewhere in the world has prompted an analysis of the psychology of the terrorist. The perpetrators' profound sense of being wronged— their values undermined by foreign powers or a corrupt domestic power structure— has cried out for revolution and revenge. The fanatic ideology of the perpetrators has provided the matrix for a progressively more malevolent representation of the oppressors: the Image of the Enemy. The counterpart of the image of the Enemy is the idealized collective self-image of members of the movement, faction, or cult. The group narcissism of the white supremacists in the United States, the Aum Shinrikyo in Japan, and the Islamic extremists enhance their collective self-image as pure, righteous, and united. While the foot soldiers, as in any war, gain glory through martyrdom, the instigators and leaders have their own personal narcissistic goals (power and prestige) and plan. For the extremist Islamists the ultimate goal has been overthrow of the moderate Islamic governments; for the domestic terrorists, stabilization of the national

Explanatory models of attitudes toward U.S. domestic counterterrorism policy routinely incorporate individual concern over terrorism, but uniformly disregard concern about the government's use of domestic surveillance. Indeed, one of the most prominent works of this kind explicitly argues that ordinary Americans will not perceive that government monitoring targets people like themselves and thus domestic surveillance programs will not generate anxiety. We question this assumption on theoretical and historical grounds. Our research uses a unique probability sample survey to demonstrate that significant portions of ordinary Americans feel anxious about domestic government monitoring. Moreover, the results show that anxiety about government monitoring negatively relates to attitudes toward domestic counterterrorism policies. Although never included in previous models, and even plainly dismissed as irrelevant, felt anxiety about government monitoring importantly predicts attitudes toward domestic counterterrorism policies. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2013 APA, all rights reserved). (Journal abstract)


We abhor violence—so we say. But we do not, as a nation or as individuals in the United States, always act that way. The articulate authors in the collection of articles in the special issues "Toward Understanding and Treating Violence in America: Some Contributions From Group Dynamic and Group Therapy Perspectives," Parts I and II, of the International Journal of Group Psychotherapy (volume 65, numbers 1 and 2) on the subject give the reader a broad perspective from which to view this paradox and the dilemma in which it leaves us. I will organize my commentary into three sections: an overview of the commonality of themes in the articles in both issues, the video review, and the interview; suggestions of ways to address an implicit and, at times, explicit set of questions raised about the problem; and questions that remain unaddressed or unanswered. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2015 APA, all rights reserved). (Journal abstract)


Reviews the book, "American Skinheads: The Criminology and Control of Hate Crime," by Mark S. Hamm (1993). In the preface of the book, the author explains that his "book is about the relevance of Nazism to the understanding of modern developments in crime and delinquency."

The book consists of three parts and thirteen different chapters. The author presents his theory of terrorist youth subcultures on the formation of working-class consciousness that leads to working-class occupational goals and numerous other elements. This may be more appropriate for British skinheads than American ones because working-class backgrounds of skinheads tend to be weaker in the United States than Britain. There is an important section on the cultural legacy of Reaganomics and another on the future of American Neo-Nazism and domestic terrorism. Hamm concludes by making recommendations to prevent domestic terrorism including boycotting white power music, extending litigation against those who publish racist literature, and having the President propose "legislation to eliminate—not control but eliminate—gun ownership in America."

Lastly, the author recognizes the needs for more responsible media coverage and for future research on this topic. These last issues are imperative in order to advance our understanding of skinheads. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved)


The article relates the history of the Traumatology Certification Program from its beginnings at the laboratory of the Florida State University (FSU) Psychosocial Stress Research Program in 1996, a program that emerged as a response to one of the worst acts of domestic terrorism in the United States. Along the way the Program won a prestigious award, stimulated the establishment of the Traumatology Institute at FSU as its home, created the Certified
Traumatologist, Field Traumatologist, and Certified Compassion Fatigue Specialist certifications, and established fourteen other teaching institutes nationally and internationally. The Program's journey from Oklahoma City to Tallahassee to Tampa, and back to Tallahassee, are chronicled along with a description of the Program's Certification Standards, the courses, and the people who are part of this history. The final section of the paper discusses the importance of maintaining, reviewing, and improving the standards of practice for the field of traumatology, the certification standards that support such practices, and the accreditation standards for teaching institutes that teach the sanctioned courses. As a result there are more assurances that evidence-based best practices are taught with sensitivity to culture, region, nationality, language, and history. Moreover, developing competence in these best practices not only insures the protection of the public, it insures that such standards will permeate all levels of professional education from the training of paraprofessionals and volunteers through the education of graduate and doctoral students. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2014 APA, all rights reserved). (journal abstract)


Correction Notice: An Erratum for this article was reported in Vol 27(2) of Terrorism and Political Violence (see record rid[2015-15358-018/rid]). In the original article, there is a typo error appeared in the work's title. The title should have read "Introducing the United States Extremist Crime Database (ECDB)." This note describes a new and unique, open source, relational database called the United States Extremist Crime Database (ECDB). We first explain how the ECDB was created and outline its distinguishing features in terms of inclusion criteria and assessment of ideological commitment. Second, the article discusses issues related to the evaluation of the ECDB, such as reliability and selectivity. Third, descriptive results are provided to illustrate the contributions that the ECDB can make to research on terrorism and criminology. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2015 APA, all rights reserved). (journal abstract)


Reports an error in "Introducing the United States Extremist Crime Database (ECDB)" by Joshua D. Freilich, Steven M. Chermak, Roberta Belli, Jeff Gruenewald and William S. Parkin (Terrorism and Political Violence, 2014Apr), Vol 262, 372-384). In the original article, a typo appeared in the work's title. The title should have read "Introducing the United States Extremist Crime Database (ECDB)." (The following abstract of the original article appeared in record rid[2014-09144-008/rid]). This note describes a new and unique, open source, relational database called the United States Extremist Crime Database (ECDB). We first explain how the ECDB was created and outline its distinguishing features in terms of inclusion criteria and assessment of ideological commitment. Second, the article discusses issues related to the evaluation of the ECDB, such as reliability and selectivity. Third, descriptive results are provided to illustrate the contributions that the ECDB can make to research on terrorism and criminology. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2015 APA, all rights reserved)


U.S. Extremist Crime Database (ECDB) Study data of homicides by far-right extremists and arsons and bombings by environmental and animal rights extremists suggest that compared with men, relationships are catalysts for women's involvement in domestic terrorism; recruitment and opportunity differ by ideology and are not always effective in victimizing their intended hate group. We suggest an inter-disciplinary approach that considers criminological principles of strain theory along with sociological emphasis on gendered social networks and the strength of weak ties. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2015 APA, all rights reserved). (journal abstract)

The current study comparatively examines homicide events perpetrated by far-right extremists and "average" homicide events in the United States. Recent violence has highlighted the threat that far-right extremists pose to public safety and national security. To date, however, little is known about how such events compare to more common forms of homicide. Drawing from research on homicide, "hate crimes," and domestic terrorism, this study addresses this gap in the research. Original open-source data on far-right extremist perpetrated homicide are integrated with traditional homicide data to overcome methodological and other substantive obstacles that have precluded the study of this form of violence. A number of similarities and differences across these forms of homicide demonstrate the heterogeneity in the nature of homicide in the United States. Implications for policy makers and law enforcement, as well as the broader study of homicide and domestic extremism, are discussed. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved). (Journal abstract)

Gruenewald, J. A. (2010). Ideologically-motivated homicide in the United States, 1990--2008: A comparison of far-right and identity-based homicide events. (2010-99070-157). Hundreds of homicides have been perpetrated by far-right extremists in the United States in the last three decades, and scholars, as well as the Department of Homeland Security, have suggested that there remains a significant threat of violence from far-right extremists to public and national security. We to date, however, know very little about the entirety of this complex and heterogeneous form of violence, largely due to a number of conceptual, theoretical, and methodological challenges faced by scholars. In order to advance knowledge and understanding of far-right extremist homicide, and respond to these issues, this dissertation examines the nature of far-right perpetrated homicide in the United States between 1990 and 2008 from a criminal event perspective. Homicide events are quantitatively examined based on systematically collected open-search data and analyzed using descriptive and multivariate statistical techniques. In addition, variable-centered theme analyses are used to further an in-depth understanding of the similarities and differences in homicide subtypes in the context of interactions between homicide actors and the situational contexts in which homicides occur. This dissertation contributes to the scholarly literature on domestic terrorism, hate/bias crime, and homicide. This research also contributes to the ability of the police and other criminal justice administrators to recognize, investigate, and prosecute far-right perpetrated and other types of identity-based homicides. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved)

Hankoff, L. D. (1990). The neuroscience of violence. International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology, 34(2), v-x. doi:10.1177/0306624X9003400201 Discusses the possibilities that neuroscience offers concerning knowledge of aggressive behavior and the use of psychopharmacological interventions for both primary and secondary prevention of violence. Recent advances in neuroscience have helped pinpoint specific brain mechanisms involved in aggressive behavior, while other research has investigated the links between sex hormones and aggressive drives. The accumulating neuroscience of violence and criminality will eventually influence legal decisions involving criminal acts, although it is recommended that such evidence be reserved for the sentencing phase of the judicial process. Currently, there is a range of medication available to control impulsivity and aggression, as well as sexual aggression. Such agents include beta-blockers, serotonin modulators, and anticonvulsants. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved)

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Alcohol-related violence is a serious and common social problem. Moreover, violent behaviour is much more common in alcohol-dependent individuals. Animal experiments and human studies have provided insights into the acute effect of alcohol on aggressive behaviour and into common factors underlying acute and chronic alcohol intake and aggression. These studies have shown that environmental factors, such as early-life stress, interact with genetic variations in serotonin-related genes that affect serotonergic and GABAergic neurotransmission. This leads to increased amygdala activity and impaired prefrontal function that, together, predispose to both increased alcohol intake and impulsive aggression. In addition, acute and chronic alcohol intake can further impair executive control and thereby facilitate aggressive behaviour. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved). (Journal abstract)


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Reviews the book, Guys and guns amok: Domestic terrorism and school shootings from the Oklahoma City bombing to the Virginia Tech massacre by Douglas Kellner (2008). Given the speed with which it has been produced, Kellner has made a skillful job of not just re-imagining the events surrounding the Virginia Tech massacre of April 2007, but also of constructing a thoughtful response to the problems of violence, alienation and the 'crisis of masculinity' facing young men in the United States today. After the somewhat hit-and-miss introduction mentioned earlier, chapter one goes on to do what the introduction promised—it deconstructs the events surrounding the Virginia Tech shootings. Chapter two continues to explore these concerns in terms of general attitudes to youth culture, societal violence and male identity in an attempt to unravel the more predictable media constructions. To further this reading, in chapter three Kellner draws links between the rather disparate perpetrators of the major US massacres of recent years. In this context the final chapter urges American society to address each of these concerns if it is to make such events a thing of the past. However, while particular to events, policies and ideologies in the United States, this book clearly translates across many cultures that are also evidently failing to nurture, protect and, tellingly, educate their young people in the real-life consequences of violent acts. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved)

This paper will focus upon the perceived terrorist proliferation threat posed by one particularly notorious paramilitary movement of the American religious right, known as Christian Identity. These paramilitaries are considered right-wing domestic terrorists who aspire to obtain weapons of mass destruction. Christian Identity adherents maintain a deep and abiding hatred of the US government, and seek to destroy it through paramilitary actions justified by racist and genocide propaganda, as well as apocalyptic literature. In the USA, "domestic terrorism" is defined by the federal government as: "a violent act or an act dangerous to human life in violation of the criminal laws, to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in the furtherance of political or social objectives". The Christian Identity Movement, in particular, combines virulent antigovernment politics with an eschatological and apocalyptic vision, which ideologically and emotionally binds its adherents to one another. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2013 APA, all rights reserved)

This article is concerned with the preparation of future teachers and the continued Whiteness of teacher education. Using the critical race theory methodology of counter-storytelling, this article presents a composite story to highlight and analyze how race and racism influence the preparation of future teachers in ways that typically sustain rather than challenge the Whiteness of education despite widespread self-reports of successful multicultural teacher education. While a great deal has been written about the need to better prepare future teachers for the multicultural realities of contemporary public schools, less examined is the modus operandi of race-based dominance in teacher education. This article seeks to use an examination of the intersections of White racial domination and the daily business of teacher preparation as a learning tool for pushing forward endeavors to prepare all teachers to successfully teach all students. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2015 APA, all rights reserved). (Journal abstract)

Our critical analysis of the interactive fears and responses generated in and by the bioterror debate between 2001 and 2006 in the United States addresses the militarization of public health and the loss of human rights protections. Using a feminist approach that juxtaposes discourses from apparently disparate domains of art, law, and science, we examine the rationales and effects of letting the military and private corporations infiltrate, profit by, and exert power over institutions responsible for the public's health. We reframe the debate by contrasting the government's response to perceived threats of extrastate terrorism with the historical normalization of domestic sexual terrorism, including anthrax-laced mail sent to reproductive
choice clinics. To understand both the deeply submerged and the extraordinarily apparent gendered and racial logics that structure news, policy, and even scholarly communications in this arena, we examine a federal criminal case against an artist whose work is critical of bioengineering and bioterror industries; racial bias in the government’s response to the risks experienced by postal workers—primarily African Americans—as a result of the deliberate, criminal release of anthrax from a government lab; and the government’s measured response to the inadvertent importation of anthrax to New York City by an African dancer and drum maker. We conclude with recommendations for how government efforts might realign toward best practices to promote the public’s health and safety. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved)


Leading police associations in the United States and the United Kingdom have advocated that law enforcement adopt an intelligence-led policing model (ILP). Much like the situation with community policing, there does not appear to be a commonly accepted definition of ILP nor of the practical implications for police agencies’ mission, structure, and processes. This article presents a model of ILP that builds on community policing, problem solving, and continuous improvement business models that have been adopted by police departments. Examples of these practices are reviewed as a method of illustrating the promise of an ILP approach. A broad conceptualization of ILP is presented under the belief that ILP will be most likely integrated into law enforcement and will have the greatest impact if it is adopted from an “all crimes perspective. The article concludes with illustrations of the utility of ILP for addressing threats of domestic and international terrorism. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved). (journal abstract)


Why do some innocent kids grow up to become cold blooded serial killers? Is biology partly to blame? For more than three decades Adrian Raine has been researching the biological roots of violence and establishing neurocriminology, a new field that applies neuroscience techniques to investigate the causes and cures of crime. In *The Anatomy of Violence, Raine dissects the criminal mind with a fascinating, readable, and far-reaching scientific journey into the body of evidence that reveals the brain to be a key culprit in crime causation*. Raine documents from genetic research that the seeds of sin are sown early in life, giving rise to abnormal physiological functioning that cultivates crime. Drawing on classical case studies of well-known killers in history—including Richard Speck, Ted Kaczynski, and Henry Lee Lucas—Raine illustrates how impairments to brain areas controlling our ability to experience fear, make good decisions, and feel guilt predispose us to violence. He contends that killers can actually be coldhearted—something as simple as a low resting heart rate can give rise to violence. But arguing that biology is not destiny, he also sketches out provocative new biobehavioral treatment approaches that can change the brain and prevent violence. Finally, Raine tackles the thorny legal and ethical dilemmas posed by his research, visualizing a futuristic brave new world where our increasing ability to identify violent offenders early in life might shape crime-prevention policies, for good and bad. Will we sacrifice our notions of privacy and civil rights to identify children as potential killers in the hopes of helping both offenders and victims? How should we punish individuals with little to no control over their violent behavior? And should parenting require a license? The Anatomy of Violence offers a revolutionary appraisal of our understanding of criminal offending, while also raising provocative questions that challenge our core human values of free will, responsibility, and punishment. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2013 APA, all rights reserved). (jacket)


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investigate the causes and cures of crime. In The Anatomy of Violence, Raine dissects the criminal mind with a fascinating, readable, and far-reaching scientific journey into the body of evidence that reveals the brain to be a key culprit in crime causation. Raine documents from genetic research that the seeds of sin are sown early in life, giving rise to abnormal physiological functioning that cultivates crime. Drawing on classical case studies of well-known killers in history—including Richard Speck, Ted Kaczynski, and Henry Lee Lucas—Raine illustrates how impairments to brain areas controlling our ability to experience fear, make good decisions, and feel guilt predispose us to violence. He contends that killers can actually be coldhearted: something as simple as a low resting heart rate can give rise to violence. But arguing that biology is not destiny, he also sketches out provocative new biosocial treatment approaches that can change the brain and prevent violence. Finally, Raine tackles the thorny legal and ethical dilemmas posed by his research, visualizing a futuristic brave new world where our increasing ability to identify violent offenders early in life might shape crime-prevention policies, for good and bad. Will we sacrifice our notions of privacy and civil rights to identify children as potential killers in the hopes of helping both offenders and victims? How should we punish individuals with little to no control over their violent behavior? And should parenting require a license? The Anatomy of Violence offers a revolutionary appraisal of our understanding of criminal offending, while also raising provocative questions that challenge our core human values of free will, responsibility, and punishment. (PsychINFO Database Record (c) 2013 APA, all rights reserved).


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This article addresses the gap in the literature on U.S. domestic terrorism and counterterrorism in the 1970s by examining a once-notorious but now largely forgotten terrorist group, the Black Liberation Army (BLA). An outgrowth of the Black Panther Party, the BLA was directly responsible for at least 20 fatalities, making it amongst the most lethal "homegrown" U.S. groups of the period. This article seeks to shed new light on the BLA by exploring its relatively short but violent trajectory. By focusing on the group's origins, operations, ideology, and structure, the BLA can be understood as part of a wider landscape of homegrown political violence. The BLA emerged during the waning phase of a protest cycle that included the civil rights, Black Power, and anti-
war movements. Like other terrorist groups before and after, the BLA claimed to be acting in self-defense and on behalf of the people, presenting itself as an army resisting police occupation of minority communities. With the collapse of the extreme Left in the mid-1970s, the BLA’s prospects for creating a broader revolutionary base became remote. The article also examines law-enforcement responses to the BLA and the competing ways in which the Federal Bureau of Investigation and local police (and in particular, the New York Police Department) framed and countered the BLA threat. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2013 APA, all rights reserved). (journal abstract)

The researcher began by conducting a comprehensive review of literature addressing two criminal conspiracies: the Islamic cult al Qaeda and the Salvadorean gang Mara Salvatrucha, more commonly known as MS-13. The review was conducted to discover the extent to which congressional testimony, public documents, published scholarship, and media sources suggested a linkage between the two organizations that might facilitate al Qaeda’s stated goal to infiltrate the international borders of the United States and kill four million of its citizens. Available information on al Qaeda was found to be sufficient for the purpose of the study, clearly establishing the strategic goal of the Islamic cult as well as its linkages with organized criminal elements in Latin America, and a number of literary sources suggested a degree of collaboration between al Qaeda and MS-13. Available information on MS-13, however, was found to be far less instructive, and none of it authoritatively established either the willingness or the operational capacity of the Salvadorean gang to facilitate al Qaeda’s strategic goal. Al Qaeda thus emerged as the constant in the research equation, MS-13 as the variable, the principal target of inquiry. The researcher found that virtually all extant literature on MS-13 was presented in an intellectual vacuum, without due reference to the considerable amount of published scholarship that addresses gang subcultures, organized crime, and the modern phenomenon of transnational syndicated crime. The researcher therefore consulted these sources and correlated the information within them with known facts about MS-13 in a vastly expanded review of literature. Thereafter the researcher prepared a survey instrument that was designed to fill the most essential informational gaps revealed by the review of literature and employed purposive sampling to identify 44 agencies that were likely to have operational knowledge of MS-13. Twelve of the agencies agreed to participate in the study, and the researcher administered the survey instrument using semi-structured interviews with representatives of the participating agencies between August 2006 and September 2006, thus adding to the inquiry the perspectives of parties with pertinent professional knowledge. The findings of the suggest (1) that the goals, likely tactical capabilities, and organizational fecklessness of MS-13 combine to make the Salvadorean gang capable of providing the assistance necessary for the realization of al Qaeda’s stated strategic goal, (2) that said assistance could be provided most effectively by the oldest and most sophisticated cliques of MS-13 operating in southern California and other southwestern areas of the United States that have brokered the smuggling of illegal aliens and proscribed consumer goods across the nation’s international border for over twenty years, (3) that indirect evidence of collaboration between MS-13 and al Qaeda exists, and (4) that other transnational criminal syndicates are more or less capable of offering al Qaeda a measure of the same tactical assistance MS-13 might provide. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved)

While domestic and international terrorism have become the focal concern of the U.S. law enforcement and intelligence agencies, little is known about Arab Americans’ attitudes toward counterterrorism policies that center on aggressive law enforcement practices. Using survey data collected from 810 Arab Americans, this study reported the general pattern of support for antiterrorism measures, including surveillance, stop and search, and detention, and examined the effects of race, ethnicity, and religion on measures targeting the U.S. citizens generally and Arab Americans specifically. The results revealed that the majority of Arab Americans showed weak to modest support for aggressive law enforcement practice, especially those targeting Arab Americans. Arab Americans’ attitudes toward antiterrorism measures were significantly related to
their ethnic identities and religion with those who identified themselves as Arab Americans and Muslim showing less favorable attitudes toward counterterrorism measures. Arab Americans’ confidence in the federal government was also found to be positively associated with support for antiterrorism practices. Implications for research and policy are discussed. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved). (journal abstract)

Vaisman-Tzachor, R. (2006). Psychological Profiles of Terrorists. The Forensic Examiner, 15(2), 6-17. This article proposes a psychological framework for understanding the mind of terrorists based on scientific analysis of actuarial data, psychological analysis of multiple sources and synthesis of existing reports of existing reports from around the world. This study explores the likely psychological makeup of terrorists and their motivations based on the evidence of their action selection of means, selection of target, public statement, and characteristic histories. The discussion of a psychological profile in this study is offered in the context of its use in efforts aimed at greater security and terrorism prevention strategies. The framework is offered in conjunction with a thrust to develop a set of national terrorism prevention protocols which will effectively address the challenges presented by the thetas of domestic and international terrorism on U.S. soil and in international arenas. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved). (journal abstract)

Vetter, H. J., & Perlstein, G. R. (2003). Domestic terrorism USA. In M. Silberman, & M. (. Silberman (Eds.), (pp. 335-346). Upper Saddle River, NJ: US: Prentice Hall/Pearson Education. Although American diplomats, military personnel, business executives, and even tourists have been the targets of terrorism abroad, the continental US has been comparatively free from much of the violence that seems to be endemic to other parts of the world. This is not to deny, however, that the 1960s and 1970s were turbulent decades dominated by extremist political activity and violence. It was a period during which the nation experienced major social and cultural changes. The civil rights revolution broke up the caste system and changed relationships among racial and ethnic groups; there was a decline in respect for tradition and a weakening of informal social controls; and there was growing disenchantment with, if not outright rejection of, authority. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved). (chapter)

Vohryzek-Bolden, M. (2002). Right-wing terrorists and the threats they pose for Americans in the 21st century. Humboldt Journal of Social Relations, 27(2), 53-98. This article argues that while domestic terrorism is not new to the United States, Americans are more frequently becoming victims of terrorism on American soil and in greater numbers than in the past. Consequently, Americans need a better understanding of contemporary terrorism in order to permit a better assessment of the actual threat posed by individuals advocating and conducting acts of terrorism. This article aims to provide such an understanding by examining the ideologies, goals, and actions of political extremists and terrorist groups operating in the United States, the technological advances in terrorist tools and tactics, and the threat contemporary political extremists and terrorists pose to Americans and American interests. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved). (journal abstract)

While many Americans tend to believe that the biggest threat we face as a nation is international terrorism carried out by religious fundamentalists or “radicals”, the truth is that in recent years we face a burgeoning threat of domestic or homegrown terrorism. Today terrorism has taken on a new form in the United States with an increase in both the frequency and intensity of attacks perpetrated by radical environmental and animal rights groups. This dissertation documents the changing geographies, strategies, and methods of attack among radical environmental and animal rights groups in the United States. The specific questions asked are: (1) To what extent does ecoterrorism vary in geography, strategies and methods of attack in the United States?; (2) What prompted this change in strategy and targets of ecoterrorist groups in the United States and how has this change influenced the method of attack employed by these groups?; and (3) Is there a distinct spatiotemporal clustering of ecoterrorist incidents in the United States throughout the time period of interest (1970-2008)? To answer these questions, a Comprehensive Ecoterrorism Database (CED) was constructed and the incidents were mapped in a Geographic
Information System (GIS). A retrospective space-time permutation scan statistic was employed in SaTScan to determine where terrorism is clustered in both time and space. The majority of ecoterrorist incidents perpetrated in the United States showed a relatively stable, slowly increasing trend over time, with peaks in the 1990s and 2000s when the most actions took place. In terms of the spatial distribution of ecoterrorism, while larger numbers of events were perpetrated in urban centers like New York, it by no means implies that all ecoterrorist activity is focused in those areas. In fact, we see an array of ecoterrorism with very complex, unique geographies, with pockets of activity in the Southwest, Northeast, and Midwest. Furthermore, actions seem to indicate a trend towards targeting everyday places of business like banks, restaurants, and department stores. Using the space-time permutation model three separate analyses were carried out for the designated time period (1970-2008) to assess the sensitivity of parameters related to the spatial window. Overall, spatio-temporal clusters of ecoterrorist incidents were detected in places like Central California, South Florida, Central Arizona, Northwestern Oregon, the Mid-Atlantic, and Midwestern United States. In some cases, incidents contained within these clusters were carried out exclusively by a single group, employed a single attack type, and corresponding weapon type against a single target type. It was not surprising that a complex pattern of ecoterrorist activity emerged both temporally and spatially. Patterns of pervasive, sporadic, and isolated activity are discernible. This research further geographic analyses of terrorism and hazards research to date, by serving as a first step to understanding the behavior and motivations of terrorist groups, where these groups are targeting, and where in geographic space. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved)

Reviews the book "The Terrorist Next Door: The Militia Movement and the Radical Right" by Daniel Levitas. This book reminds readers that there are citizens whose actions and beliefs undermine the security of individuals, groups, and communities within the United States. The author is an acknowledged expert on the subject of racist, anti-Semitic, and neo-Nazi organizations. Using the story of Bill Gale, founder of the Posse Comitatus, as a center thread, the author moves through time and location to create a clear picture of the development of and connections between various groups organized around issues such as Christian Identity, antimunism, tax protest, opposition to the federal government, racist beliefs, farmers' rights, and anti-Semitism. Examined separately, each group might appear relatively innocuous, an element of society's fringe. The author also makes the reader aware that a cloud of silence failing to condemn these groups or lack of alternative group action may translate into tacit approval. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved)

Since 9/11, there has been an increase in domestic terrorism inspired by the Global Salafi Jihad ideology. Some of the individuals who undergo radicalization are U.S. college and university students. Radicalization is promoted on the Internet in ways that appeal to the young and impact those who are searching for their identities and places in life. Radicalization is complemented by the open environment of higher education, where college- and university-based organizations can become forums for the presentation of radical messages in a way that connects with the students. This article describes the four-stage radicalization process, explains why students are particularly vulnerable, and offers suggestions for implementing an effective response. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved). (Journal abstract)