

# [***FACT CHECK: No, Sky News Did Not Make A Post Referring To Sydney Mall Attacker As Islamic Terrorist; These posts cannot be found on the official Sky News account.***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BTW-Y3B1-DXXD-7007-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Daily Caller

April 18, 2024 Thursday 03:53 PM EST

Copyright 2024 The Daily Caller, Inc. All Rights Reserved

**Section:** ***POLITICS***

**Length:** 418 words

**Byline:** Anna Mock, Fact Check Reporter, [*Anna@checkyourfact.com*](mailto:Anna@checkyourfact.com)

**Body**

[*Link to Image*](https://cdn01.dailycaller.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/2024-03-23T140721Z_738057143_RC2MR6ACXIV9_RTRMADP_3_EARTH-HOUR-AUSTRALIA-scaled-e1713385670680.jpg)

A photo [*shared on Facebook*](https://www.facebook.com/100063586400325/posts/938676154928589/?mibextid=WC7FNe&rdid=VJzXF73WzIEOGdXF) appears to show posts from Sky News about the recent attack on a shopping mall in Sydney, Australia, referring to the perpetrator as a “Radical Islamic Jihadi Muslim Terrorist.”

**Verdict: False**

These posts cannot be found on the official Sky News account. Additionally, there is no evidence that the suspect was motivated by terrorism.

**Fact Check:**

Australian police revealed that the suspect who fatally stabbed six people at a shopping mall in Sydney may have been intentionally targeting women, according to [*CNN*](https://www.cnn.com/2024/04/15/australia/australia-sydney-mall-attacker-targeted-women-victims-intl-hnk/index.html). Five out of six people who died were women, and an additional 12 people were injured in the attack, the outlet reported.

A Facebook post allegedly shows Sky News X posts referring to the Sydney attack as a terrorist. The first alleged post shows it received over 40k views.

The first alleged post, supposedly published when the suspect was unidentified, reads, “BREAKING: Shots Fired In Public Area; Suspected Radical Islamic Jihadi Muslim Terrorist Attack Underway.” A second alleged Sky News post, purportedly published after the suspect was identified, reads, “Tragic Incident: Mentally Ill Man Accidentally Causes Multiple Fatalities In Public Shooting.”

“How the media brainwash people and cause hatred amongst communities,” the post's caption reads. [***(RELATED: Is An Islamist Terrorist Responsible For A Recent Attack At A Sydney Mall?)***](https://checkyourfact.com/2024/04/17/fact-check-is-an-islamist-terrorist-responsible-for-a-recent-attack-at-a-sydney-mall/)

These are not genuine Sky News posts, however. A [*keyword*](https://twitter.com/search?q=Radical%20Islamic%20Jihadi%20Muslim%20Terrorist%20(from%3ASkyNews)&src=typed_query&f=live) [*search*](https://twitter.com/search?q=tragic%20incident%3A%20mentally%20ill%20man%20accidentally%20causes%20multiple%20fatalities%20(from%3ASkyNews)&src=typed_query&f=live) for the words used in the alleged posts yields no matching results on Sky News' verified X account.

[*Nick Sutton*](https://twitter.com/suttonnick), head of digital output at Sky News, made an X [*post*](https://twitter.com/suttonnick/status/1779503785255080223) replying to the digitally fabricated screenshots. “Hi. I'm not sure where you got these screenshots from,” it reads. “But they are not genuine Sky News tweets about the Sydney attack.” Sutton included a screenshot of tweets Sky News sent the previous day to corroborate.

Hi. I'm not sure where you got these screenshots from. But they are not genuine Sky News tweets about the Sydney attack. These are the tweets we sent yesterday. [*pic.twitter.com/VcAjPcxkoS*](https://t.co/VcAjPcxkoS)

- Nick Sutton (@suttonnick) [*April 14, 2024*](https://twitter.com/suttonnick/status/1779503785255080223?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Check Your Fact recently [*debunked*](https://checkyourfact.com/2024/04/17/fact-check-is-an-islamist-terrorist-responsible-for-a-recent-attack-at-a-sydney-mall/) the claim that the suspect was an “Islamic terrorist.” The perpetrator, 40-year-old Joel Cauchi suffered from unspecified mental health issues, but investigators are not treating the attack as terrorism related, according to [*AP News*](https://apnews.com/article/sydney-shopping-center-stabbing-shot-bondi-22068107d1569dbc374f709a74539c30).

Check Your Fact reached out to a Sky News spokesperson for comment and will update this piece accordingly if one is received.

**Graphic**

A view of the Sydney Opera House before lights were switched off for the Earth Hour in Sydney, Australia March 23, 2024. REUTERS/Nikki Short

**Load-Date:** April 18, 2024

**End of Document**