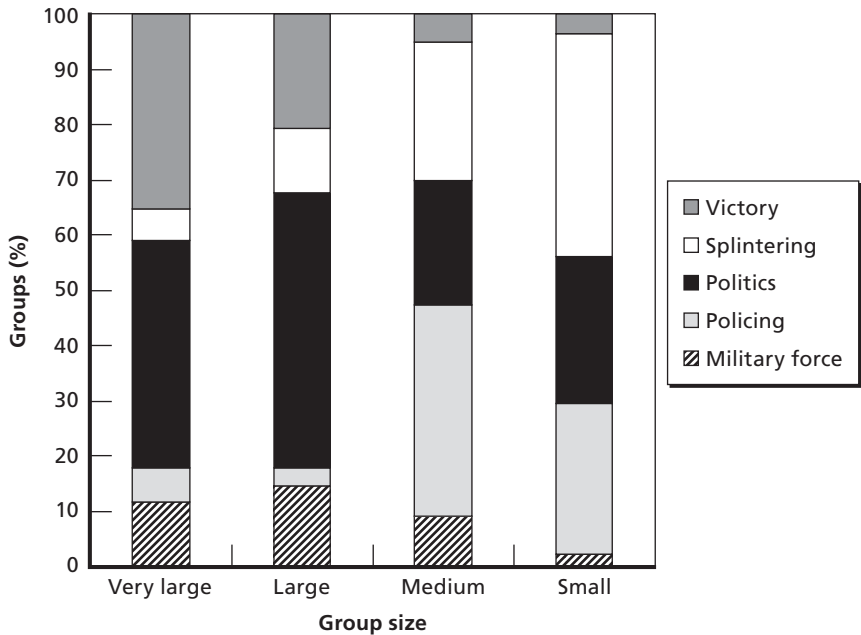


Figure 2.11
Size and End of Groups



RAND MG741-2.11

Conclusions

How do terrorist groups end? The evidence presented in this chapter suggests that most terrorist groups do not end through military force and that groups rarely achieve victory. Rather, groups end because they adopt nonviolent tactics and join the political process or because local law-enforcement agencies arrest or kill key members of the group. In cases in which a terrorist group has minimal goals, such as policy change, governments may be able to reach a negotiated settlement with the group. But where there is no bargaining room to allow terrorist groups back into the political arena, policing is most effective in defeating terrorist groups. Police have a permanent presence in cities, towns, and villages; a better understanding of local communities than other