

addition, terrorist groups capable of conducting an insurgency require different treatment from that given to terrorist groups that do not rise to the level of insurgents.

The most salient fact about religious terrorist groups is how hard they are to eliminate. As noted, 62 percent of all terrorist groups have ended, but only 32 percent of religious terrorist groups have ended. Does this result primarily from the fact that religious terrorist groups (median start year 1997) are more recent than the other groups (median start year 1988)? Our analysis suggests that it does not. As Figure 2.5 shows, the survivability of religious groups is substantially higher within *each* cohort. Of the 45 religious terrorist groups that *did* end, most (26) splintered. None achieved its aims. Of those that ended under pressure from authorities, most (13) fell to policing, while only

**Figure 2.5**  
**Survivability of Religious Groups**

