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SRA 211

Professor Moeller

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In the News 1

1. As an individual assignment come up with your definition of terrorism. How do you define terrorism?

I define terrorism as any act of violence or threat that is used as an act of political war to intimidate a population. I believe that this is an accurate definition because the military uses violence and threats all the time in war in both a defensive and offensive way which makes it fair game. However, to take it a step further to use violence or threats to scare or hurt a civilian population that has nothing to do with the war is what would make it terrorism.

2. In coming up with your definition, think what you know (or have heard) about terrorism outside of SRA 211. (or how it has had an impact on you)

The most common use of terrorism that comes to mind is domestic and international terrorism. As far as international terrorism, I think of the war between Ukraine and Iraq and how they are going back and forth in attacking each other's civilian populations. Then with domestic terrorism I think of January 6th when the Capitol was rushed as an act of a political attack on behalf of Donald Trump. Because this riot was used to intimidate the Democratic Party/Liberal Party I would say it's not just a regular crime but an act of terrorism.

3. Does Terrorism still exist? Provide an example of terrorism from the news in the last month.
(Cite the URL)

Yes it does. Even the process of planning an attack is considered terrorism. The example of terrorism that has come to mind is an attempted attack in my hometown of West Philadelphia. A 17 year old was arrested mid August for planning a national terrorist attack(Eberhart 2023). The teen was in contact with Al-Qaeda and had a number of guns(Eberhart 2023). He was also in the process of building bombs(Eberhart 2023). This applies as an example of terrorism because the teen was attempting to commit destructive criminal acts on behalf of a Islamic terrorist organization.

References

Eberhart, C. (2023). *Philadelphia teen charged with planning national terrorist attack*. Fox News.

<https://www.foxnews.com/us/philadelphia-teen-accused-planning-national-terrorist-attack>