Instructions: Reply to these peer responses must be minimum 400 words. To demonstrate knowledge of the readings, students must use citations in parenthetical reference format and a reference list in the initial post. A minimum of **2 sources in each response.**

Format: All assignments for the School of Security and Global Studies (papers, essays, exams, and Forums) must follow the Chicago Style Manual guidelines. Refer to Kate Turabian,*A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations,* 7th ed.Chicago: University of Chicago Press. The format for in-text citations is given in the Turabian guide linked above. Students are to use the **parenthetical form (P) within the text of the document and the reference list form (R) in providing a list of sources.**

**FYI: *You would not start/end a paragraph with research but with your own ideas and discussions. Author information cannot stand alone and your own ideas must be foremost.***

<http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html>.

Post 1

There are no global cities as New York City is, it is known as an international hub around the world and with this notoriety also makes New York a target to attack and terrorism.  This was proven in 2001 when the World Trade Centers were attacked by international terrorists.  The attack that killed thousands led the NYPD to take control of its counter-terrorism efforts and enact programs to help better protect the City and its citizens from harm and future attacks.  NYPD has seen both advantages and disadvantages to having its own counter-terrorism department.

            The week 5 lesson (n.d.) points out that some of the advantages are that local police have knowledge of their community, they can lead their own intelligence without the Federal rules and that they can use locals with knowledge to assist.  These are all great advantages to have, notably the advantage of first hand knowledge of the community.  This type of knowledge gives them the advantage when a crisis does occur because they are already familiar with their surroundings as well as have familiarity with its residence that will gain their trust.  There are disadvantages as well that week 5 (n.d.) points out and these include Federal interference, possible civil liberties violations and having to draw resources from other areas of the department.  While there are disadvantages to having its own counter-terrorism program the advantages outweigh the disadvantages.

            In 2009, the NYPD deputy commissioner Richard Falkenrath gave a lecture at a special policy report on just this very issue of the advantages that his city has seen with their counter-terrorism programs.  The lecture was reported on by Cohen (2009) whom gives great insight into what the NYPD is facing.  What makes the NYPD program work so well is that there is strong support from City officials (Cohen, 2009); this kind of support is crucial to have at the top and if the support trickles down the program will be able to have the resources and funding necessary to function well.  This type of support should be adopted by other large Cities in the same situation.  NYPD has one advantage that will possibly not be able to be met by other Cities but has enabled New York to use this program well, this is the fact that NYPD has 53,000 officers at its disposal and this enables them to maintain public order (Cohen, 2009).  While this has been a great advantage to New York, it may not be plausible in smaller agencies.  The next advantage discussed may also not work in smaller communities but has helped New York tremendously.  NYPD has set in place a program to counter WMDs and review buildings for ways to protect them as well as monitor the air quality of the City and subways to protect these assets (Cohen, 2009).  The technology that we see here that NYPD is able to use is obviously not able to happen all over the country, but we can be assured that these advancements NYPD has made are a great part of their counter-terrorism department.  The advancement of technology in counter-terrorism needs to keep up with the possible advancements that terrorists will make.  NYPD also does something that really benefits them and helps in the counter-terrorism efforts and should be adopted by all agencies; that is the fact they work closely with the private sector and health professionals to build a stronger community (Cohen, 2009).  Building a strong community in the way that the NYPD does has great benefits and advantages to countering terrorism because if there is a community effort to protect everyone then everyone will be more willing to be involved.

            The NYPD has done great things to better themselves and protect its citizens from terrorism.  Looking at their efforts and the advancements that they have made all agencies should adopt what the NYPD has done.  It is understandable if not all agencies can make the technological advancements or relocate their resources such as the NYPD has done, but everyone can be involved in community involvement and the protection of critical infrastructure.  The study of NYPD opens up new and innovative ways that help protect us from terrorism.

Post 2

One of the most important lessons that can be learned from the NYPD case study is that what goes on in the rest of the world affects the United States.  While Americans may be isolated by two oceans that keep many of the world’s problems away from our shores, that doesn’t mean that those problems won’t eventually reach the United States and that Americans can’t learn from other states experiences, especially in regard to international terrorism.  The overseas operations Finnegan describes, in which NYPD officers go to recent terrorist incidents, seems at first counterintuitive; the NYPD serves New York’s citizens, not the citizens of London or Manilla (2005).  However, their goal to learn the evolving TTPs of terrorist groups will actually be invaluable to the defense of the city.  In an effort to use the information gathered and put it to use, they have adopted the counter terrorism (CT) version of community policing.  The ability of a group of officers to dedicate their attention, full time, to CT allows trust to be built between communities and those officers, making the likelihood that individuals in those communities would report suspicious activities to the NYPD that much higher.

Another lesson that seems to have been learned since 9/11 is cooperation.  The federal intelligence agencies (CIA, FBI etc.) have a goal of protecting the United States and its citizens, however that goal can be accomplished more effectively by using all of the resources available, including state and local agencies.  The state and local agencies may lack the resources of the federal agencies, but may be able to provide actionable intelligence concerning threats to the city they protect.  One of the failures of the United States government on 9/11 was the unwillingness to share information between agencies.  This was partially due to legal issues concerning how intelligence was gathered and shared.  For example, intelligence gathered by means that would not be admissible in court were not given to the FBI by the CIA.  There were also issues of bureaucratic territorialism, in which agencies responsible for American security refused to share information with other agencies with similar responsibilities, resulting in the stove piping of information.

The future success of both federal and local intelligence gathering will depend on the continued cooperation and integration of agencies from different levels of government.  Similarly, while the threat posed by radical Islam has diminished somewhat in the years since 9/11, the return of complacency would allow for another catastrophic attack to occur in the United States.

Post 3

Answer this question regarding the post below: Thank you for sharing your ideas with us this week. What did you find most useful about the research you noted and how did that best support your own key arguments?

Terrorists to organize themselves, by accumulating funds to enable them to move around the globe unimpeded, weapons, supporters, and recruits as well as other kinds of material assistance, for instance, places to hide and communication means, and accessibility to targets that are vulnerable. Therefore, to effectively counter terrorism acts, there have been strategic and also comprehensive approaches and reliance on a wide range of measures and policies. The strategic approaches to countering terrorism usually encompass a number of objectives, addressing the diverse chronological phases in the occurrences of acts of terrorism.

The NYPD has made significant strides in the fight against terrorism which has effectively aligned with the Federal Government’s effort in combatting terrorism. Policy makers as well as counter-terrorism analysts can learn a number of lessons from the department’s efforts. For instance, the NYPD never abandons cases just because they have been overtaken by time. The case of an Al Qaeda operative who were spying buildings in Manhattan and date back to September 2001 have not been forgotten by the NYPD. It has a detective who is working on every link concerning the case. An additional lesson from the NYPD is the heavy reliance on countering terrorism should not be put on the Federal government. Local police departments should also rise up to the challenge in a much as the federal government is responsible for protecting the country’s borders. NYPD also has links with police departments and security services across the globe and does not have to rely on Washington for surveillance information. At NYPD the airspace that exists between action and information is very short thus speeding up investigations whenever threats are detected. The department does not only rely on word on the streets for intelligence, it has invested in hiring specialist in fields ranging from computer finance to language thus widening its ability to gather information (Finnegan 2018).

Among the department’s successes include the restructuring of intelligence, the change in culture among supervisors, analysts, investigators as well as the environment which was open to and gave ideas, integration, and engagement. Another NYPD success is on cyber intelligence after the development of a talented cyber unit. The department also got to have a deeper understanding of its turf in terms of intelligence and demographics. For instance, the department identified radicalization hotspots or where they were likely to take place among other demographic elements. However, the road to the current achievements has not been short of failures. The failure includes the use of alleged threats of terrorist prying to thwart attempts to improve security within the country. In some way, the act violates the civil liberties in some instances, as alleged in a case at the New York Court of Appeals by Talib Abdur-Rashid and Samir Hashmi (Murphy 2018).

Among the events which make the NYPD’s counterterrorism approaches successful include events that stretched between 2002 and 2014 where there were 16 terrorism plots that were targeted at New York from Al Qaeda, it affiliates groups and homegrown attackers. Of the 16 plots, three were stopped by NYPD, had a significant role in preventing other three and brought to book dozens of plotters as well as accomplices. One of the events that depicted failure in NYPD’s attempt to counter terrorism is the Manhattan subway explosion in 2017. The group responsible for the terrorist attack was unknown but the suicide bomber made some claims which linked the act to a terrorist organization (Deraden 2018).

In conclusion, NYPD has played a major role in protecting New York from the “wannabe” terrorists who wanted to travel out of the country and join terrorist organizations. In such scenarios, such individuals would have acquired terrorist training overseas and probable be directed back to the U.S to undertake attacks for the terrorist benefactors.