Annotated Bibliography on Terrorism (Political Science)

Name

Institutional Affiliation

Date

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**Introduction**

Terrorism is one of the most security concerns across the world.

Consequently, the United States is among the many nations that have been greatly affected by terrorism activities hence the necessity to have proper counter-terrorism legislative measures and policies. The United States and many other countries of the world are constantly facing terrorism as a significant threat of stability that has resulted in many losses of lives. Africa has emerged as the center of terrorist activities due to corruption in most states, the porosity of its borders, diverse sociocultural population as well as internal conflict within some states. Together, this has created a favorable environment for the terrorists to exploit these existing gaps in advancing their agenda.

While terrorism has been used for a long time to secure political objectives in history, international efforts to repress terrorism have been heightened in the recent past. In an effort to address terrorism, two major challenges pose a threat to the realization of success in the war against terrorism. Firstly, there has not been a consistent and universally accepted definition of terrorism. Secondly, there is a lot of disagreement among many states on the most relevant and appropriate methods of dealing with and addressing the threats that are related to the terrorist attack. For instance, the labeling of a violent group of Boko Haram of Nigeria as a terrorist group resulted in their massive persecution. However, this method, which was adopted by the government of Nigeria led to the expansion of the group instead of containing it.

**Case Description**

Borgeson, K., & Valeri, R. (Eds.). (2009). *Terrorism in America*. Jones & Bartlett Learning.

According to this book, one of the major issues that put the United States into its knees is the 9/11 terror. The attack remains a nightmare among U.S. citizens following its massive consequences concerning deaths and destruction of property. While many citizens have spent their years mourning their loved ones, the authorities and experts have focused on identifying ways in which 9/11 attacks could be prevented from claiming the innocent lives. Individually, the 9/11 attack could be prevented by conducting a background check among their passengers to determine their identity and connection to terror groups. The intelligence would have identified the terrorists and prevented their entry in the Airbus. Additionally, the 9/11 attacks could have been prevented by enforcing strict security check-ups at the airport to help in detecting dangerous weapons used by the terrorists to hijack the planes and rum them into buildings.

The 9/11 attack shamed the presidency of President George Bush on how to handle terrorist activities, and his speech tended to calm the situation and the focus of the United States on how to manage such events. George Bush's first term in office was challenged by the 9/11 attacks that claimed over 2500 lives. The 9/11 attacks did not only change the American perspectives concerning terrorism but also the perspective of the whole world that they need to fight terrorism. The attack leads to injuries to over six thousand people and a property loss of over ten billion U.S. dollars. The 9/11 attacks have led to ongoing wars between the government of the United States and Al-Qaeda to help dismantle the groups.

Gries, T., Meierrieks, D., & Redlin, M. (2014). Oppressive governments, dependence on the USA, and anti-American terrorism. *Oxford Economic Papers*, *67*(1), 83-103.

Universally, human rights involve the Right to equality and justice, Right to liberty as well as Right to respect and care and not limited to Right to life. In most instances, these Universal human rights are interdependent. Any state that respects and upholds these Human Rights tends to prosper socially, politically, and economically. Human rights are protected by both international laws and domestic laws of various states. For instance, the constitution of the USA protects fundamental human rights and freedom in line with international laws. However, some of the international laws on terrorism have been exploited by the USA government to stifle the Human rights. The United States and many other countries of the world are constantly facing terrorism as a major threat of stability that has resulted in many losses of lives. Africa has emerged as the center of terrorist activities due to corruption in most states, the porosity of its borders, diverse sociocultural population as well as internal conflict within some states.

Sullivan, M. P., (2011). *Latin America: terrorism issues*. DIANE Publishing.

According to the book by Sullivan (2011), one of the major issues affecting the USA to continue fighting terrorist attacks are the Latin Americans. Latin Americans continue to be a major problem in the USA, as many of them deal with issues of drugs. The exposure of USA to future terrorist attack remain likely to rise as compared to the past, and this is primarily so due to the involvement of the USA military in a war with Somalia and Afghanistan countries; a state that is politically considered failed due to its internal disintegration. Therefore, there is an urgent need for the United States to put the necessary legislation in place to deal with such a likely future terrorist attack.

Most importantly, these preventive and legislative measures must be in line with the international laws on human rights and must contribute to the development of the practical approach in dealing with terrorism not only in America but also Africa as a whole. The speech from former President George Bush declared fighting terrorism as a national goal. He emphasized that the government of the United States is aimed at fighting the various world terrorists like Sadam Hussein ("President Bush Addresses the Nation"). At that time, Sadam Hussein was using the innocent civilians to cover for his army. The former president George Bush indicated that the fight against terrorism is going to be accurate and would not involve the innocent civilians in Iraq. The journey to fight terrorism continued even with the elections of the president, including the former president Barrack Obama.

Spindlove, J. R., & Simonsen, C. E. (2013). *Terrorism today: The past, the players, the future*. Pearson.

The civil society groups have raised the alarm about the available legislation in the United States that addresses terrorism, specifically with respect to human rights. In many instances, the government of the USA has been accused by the many domestic and international watchdogs of using excessive force on families and people suspected of terrorism. Similarly, the invasion of Afghanistan was not an appropriate response to the 9/11 attacks because it overlooked all the diplomatic interventions that could be manipulated in the investigations to arrest the organizers of the crimes and their financiers.

Consequently, the invasion of Afghanistan was not a good response because it led to misuse of funds that could be used to conduct investigations in the matter as well as perform research to avoid such incidents in the future. Together, this has created a favorable environment for the terrorists to exploit these existing gaps in advancing their agenda. Additionally, the attack was not necessary because it led to the loss of innocent lives when citizens were caught in the crossfire between U.S. soldiers and the terror groups. Africa has emerged as the center of terrorist activities due to corruption in most states, the porosity of its borders, diverse sociocultural population as well as internal conflict within some states.

Townshend, C., (2018). *Terrorism: A very short introduction*. Oxford University Press.

From the historical records, human rights have been abused through killings, mistreatment, and discrimination that have in one way or the other inflicted suffering to human beings over the years. For many years, the meaning and understanding human rights and dignity have confined the thoughts of religion and philosophy. Nonetheless, the respect and dignity for human rights have been steadily on the rise over the years whereby international law has fostered some of the common Human Rights that every state should adhere to. The advocacy and drumbeat for human rights have been on the rise since World War II.

Consequently, the international community has acknowledged the importance and necessity to respect human rights. The attacks also led to immigration and deportation of a good number of individuals, as they feared for their security. The individuals who were in the United States were deported to help in heightening the security of the USA. The government of the USA and to improve its surveillance to ensure that it is able to note the probable changes in the security systems in the government and look for the ways through which they can effectively solve them. The government of the United States has improved its surveillance through the use of various phone networks and calls that go on in the United States.

Jongman, A. J. (2017). *Political terrorism: A new guide to actors, authors, concepts, databases, theories, and literature*. Routledge.

According to Jongman (2017), terrorism has increased due to issues of politics among government officials. Politics have played a major role in the increase of terrorism in nations. Political figures use government money in order to fund terrorists to kill and terrorize nations. While terrorism has been used for a long time to secure political objectives in history, international efforts to repress terrorism have been heightened in the recent past. In an effort to address terrorism, two significant challenges pose a threat to the realization of success in the war against terrorism. The recent rise in terrorism in the United States can be attributed to the intervention of America into Somalia and Afghanistan countries. However, more loss of life has been reported when counter-addressing these acts of terrorism, which have resulted in more loss of lives. Ultimately, this necessitated the need to establish the link between the extrajudicial killings and the implementation of terrorism laws.