

International Terrorism
Second Grade Students
International Relations Department
Lecture 5
political and social factors of
Terrorism
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Political Factors

Government repression leads to terrorism.

Examples of variables used to measure government repression are political rights, civil liberties and Human rights abuses.

Certain studies show that terrorism has a strong link with social injustice at the hands of the government rather than poverty.

1- When the government is unable to provide basic standard of living, citizens become displeased and this is when terrorist organizations are able to recruit. It is up to the government to provide the resources necessary for the people to survive. This includes hospitals, medical care, jobs and schooling. Many believe it is the job of the government to provide political freedom to their citizens.

2- Free countries and the countries with authoritarian regimes are not the nations with the most terrorism issues. It is the transition period from authoritarian regimes to democratic ones that experience more incidents.

When a state has very low respect for human rights, the citizens are more likely to have grievances with those in charge. In order to right the wrongs of the government, citizens may turn to terrorism.

3-domestic political instability is a main or deep cause of international terrorism because terrorism requires skills (mostly military and organizational) that can be honed in countries that are politically unstable or have experienced political instability.

Social Factors

1- Education

2- Religion: People who partake in religious terrorism believe that any acts they commit will be forgiven and perhaps rewarded in the afterlife.

Religious terrorism can be defined as: political violence that is motivated by an absolute belief that an other-worldly power has sanctioned, or sometimes commanded, terrorist violence for the greater glory of the faith.

3- A skewed gender balance and high proportion of unmarried males increases the association with intra-societal violence and instability. Political and criminally motivated violence is largely the work of young unmarried men.