Terrorism and Public Safety

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Homegrown: the Counter-Terror Dilemma

This documentary film by HBO discusses the experiences of a former intelligence officer Paul Mudd, who tells about his endeavors in the field when he used to investigate the cases of terrorists and convicted dangerous people. Mudd recalls his encounters with various terrorists especially Ehsanul “Shifa” Sadequee, who was accused of supporting terrorism online. The implication of various rules and regulations have been discussed as per the policies of the United States of America. The one hour 30 minutes documentary discuses about the various changes that the constitution of America went through after the incident of 9/11and how the immigration rules were made strict for everyone especially for the followers of a specific religion. The film specifically includes examples to emphasis the changes in a more appropriate way. These examples have also been presented as a proof that United States is always ready for any kind of challenge and has strong mechanism against terrorism.

**Hoffman, Chapter 1. Questions**

1. The concept of Terror or Terrorism has evolved visibly over the period of time. In the ancient times, terrorism used to include groups and not individuals but now the activities of terrorism are also carried on by single individuals.
2. The state imposed terrorism included the Nazis and the Soviet Union both. It was implemented in 1930 and 1940. The Nazis and the Soviets tried total political control over the society not allowing the general public to indulge in any kind of decision making for the state.
3. After World War 2, various groups of people arose who considered themselves as freedom fighters or the saviors of the society. These groups included Austrian resistance movement, Brave Fighters, Hong Kong Resistance Movement, Albanian Resistance movement, Gangjiu Dadul and many more.
4. The incident of 9/11 redefined terrorism in a new way that it shocked the whole world by the way that the terrorism was attempted. It shocked the whole world as a handful of people tried to take control of the whole state or the country by blackmailing the governments through hijacking of some air planes.
5. The United Nations and the international Law have taken many positive steps in order to gain control over the evil of terrorism. It has made the immigration laws very strict over the period of time. The United Nations keeps a strict check and balance over the movement of groups all over the world.
6. Any activity that includes terrorizing or unlawful use of violence or intimidation in order to get the political benefits or get the political aims fulfilled. These activities especially include victimization of innocent civilians.
7. The media validates terrorism as a popular tactic or an infamous way to get thing done by any group of people especially the governments because it includes the use of pressure. The terrorists can easily blackmail or pressurize a government to listen and even fulfill their demands by threatening of terrorism.
8. 1968 was the year when a new wave of terrorism was spread with the name of Trans national terrorism, in this kind of terrorism, the terrorists were over whelmed by the love of their country and fought for their country. The acts of terrorism were majorly conducted to get the political aims of their countries fulfilled.
9. The hijacking of the flight, moving from Athens to Rome, named as TWA Flight 847, was hijacked by Shiite Hezbollah terrorists. This hijacking unfolded many aspects of the relationship of terrorism with media, as the terrorists used media as an important source of communication between them and the government.
10. The media coverage of terrorism distorts the image and sometimes the “big picture” becomes unclear.
11. The media should be blamed for encouraging and even causing the terrorism.