

Review of: "Religiously motivated terrorism: a systematic review exploring causal pathways"

Mahazan Abdul Mutalib

Potential competing interests: The author(s) declared that no potential competing interests exist.

- 1. Points related to terrorism cases / statistics based on different categories of religions and regions (north america, south america, europe, africa, asia, etc0 is missing from text.
- 2. Examples of religiously motivated terorism in text are mostly about Muslims and terrorism groups such as ISIS etc. Its a known fact that terrorism can occur in differejt religions. Please refer to Iain Buchanan's book "The Armies of God A Study in Militant Christianity" for example, or continous religious terrorism agenda by the Zionist among Jews in Jurusalem, some Buddhist in Myanmar, and Hindu Extremist LTTE in India.
- 3. In relation to Islam, though I agree on different factors/ variables related to Muslims' terror, main issue related to Misconception of Islamic Teachings in Theology, Islamic Law and Jurisprudence, and Islamic Politics should be elaborated further. The most unique value of Muslims is just and modesty in Islam (Moderation in Islam) and the author should explore this value firther in the article.
- 4. Source of information should be specific and related to terrorism and religious terrorism for examples (not limited to):
- a. Journal of Terrorism Research
- b. Terrorism Research Initiative
- c. https://libguides.nps.edu/terror/journals
- 4. Impacts of terrorism to geopolitical stability and economic development is real. Please include this analysis in the article.
- 5. Explain clearly the indicators that were adopted to select the final 12 articles for further analysis.
- 6. The issue of "Context" is unclear.
- 7. In the case of Palestine amd Zionist war, Suicide Bombing is considered as an act of terrorism rather than self-defence. Please justify this fact.]
- 8. Correct Definition of Jihad should be established by referring to many moderate contemporary and previous islamic scholars. Merely present data and research findings associated to Jihad can cause misunderstandings among readers on the concept of Jihad itself.
- 9. I think whats missing in this analysis is "Educaction of Terrorism". Terrorism does not happen overnight and it has many forms. Perhaps the most important writing that should also be viewed by the author to establish the right cause of terrorism is "Pedagogy of the Oppressed" by Paoolo Freire. The issue of colonisation has cause terrorism to occur and its is basically cyclical..connection between the opressed and opressors. Politics, economy, and religions sometimes are used as tools to mobilize colonial agenda (domestic and international colonialization). Education has also be exploted with colonial mindset. In this perspective, terrorism cannot be associated to any specific religions.



10. The comments above are clearly reflect in Results. For examples, Terrorism is related to family and exist in the form of community education should be justify. Human has a lot of potential to maintain their humanity sensibility. Thus terrorism if continously preached and educated in any community must be infleunced by other factors. This issue should be elaborated clearly.

General comment

1. This article is accepted for publication upon correction / improvisation made by the author as suggested above. One main critical point that is missing in this article is a clear and concrete theory of terrorism itself. This article focus on "Religiously Motivated Terrorism Actions and Behaviors". The focus is acceptable but need to be linked to basic understanding and theories of terrorism in genaral. Religion can be used as a tool for terrorism same with education and politics. The real reasons and origin of terrorism should also be included in the analysis. Its beyond religion. This article seems to follow the methodology of Godfrey Garner and Maeghin Alarid-Hughes in "Origins of Terrorism

The Rise of the World's Most Formidable Terrorist Groups". The book has directly interpret the word Terrorism to uniquely contextualised to Islam. Referring to Iain Buchanan, "The Armies of God" and other articles such as "The Cambridge Companion to Religion and Terrorism: Part of Cambridge Companions to Religion, edited by James R. Lewis.