

robert pape dying to win

Robert Pape Dying to Win: Understanding the Mindset Behind Lethal Commitment

robert pape dying to win is more than just a phrase—it encapsulates a profound concept explored in political science and conflict studies. Robert Pape, a prominent scholar in terrorism research, delves into what drives individuals and groups to commit to extreme acts, even risking their lives, in pursuit of victory. His analysis challenges common perceptions about terrorism and violence, offering a nuanced understanding of the motivations behind such deadly resolve.

In this article, we'll unpack the core ideas behind Robert Pape's "Dying to Win" thesis, explore the psychological and strategic factors that lead to these extreme commitments, and discuss how this knowledge can inform policy and conflict resolution. Whether you're a student of international relations, a curious reader, or someone interested in the dynamics of terrorism, this exploration will shed light on the powerful forces shaping some of the most tragic and intense conflicts in modern history.

Who is Robert Pape and What is "Dying to Win"?

Robert Pape is a political scientist and professor who gained widespread recognition for his research on suicide terrorism. His book, **Dying to Win: The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism**, published in 2005, challenges the notion that suicide terrorists are simply irrational actors driven by religious fanaticism or psychological abnormalities. Instead, Pape argues that these acts have a clear strategic logic rooted in political objectives.

The central thesis of **Dying to Win** is that suicide terrorism is primarily a tactic used to coerce democratic states into withdrawing military forces from territories that the terrorists consider their homeland. This insight reframes the discussion from focusing solely on ideology or religion to understanding the strategic context behind such extreme actions.

The Strategic Logic Behind Suicide Terrorism

Pape's research involved analyzing data on suicide terrorist attacks worldwide from 1980 to 2003. He discovered patterns indicating that these attacks were usually aimed at democracies occupying territory. His conclusion was that suicide terrorism is less about blind hatred or religious extremism and more about a calculated effort to achieve tangible political goals.

This insight is crucial for policymakers and analysts alike because it suggests that addressing the underlying political grievances could reduce the motivation for suicide terrorism. It also means that counterterrorism strategies focused only on security measures without addressing root causes might be less effective.

The Psychological Dimension: Why Are People "Dying to Win"?

While Pape emphasizes the strategic aspect, the psychological dimension is equally important. What compels individuals to sacrifice their lives with such determination?

Group Identity and Social Pressure

One key factor is the role of group identity and social dynamics. Individuals who become suicide terrorists often come from tight-knit communities where honor, loyalty, and collective identity play a significant role. Being “dying to win” means more than just a personal choice—it can be a collective commitment where social expectations, family honor, or ideological narratives push individuals toward ultimate sacrifice.

Perceived Injustice and Desire for Revenge

Many suicide terrorists perceive themselves or their communities as victims of injustice or occupation. This perception of suffering and humiliation can fuel a desire for revenge and a belief that extreme sacrifice is justified.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main thesis of Robert Pape's book 'Dying to Win'?

The main thesis of 'Dying to Win' is that suicide terrorism is a strategic tool used by weaker groups to coerce democracies into making political concessions, particularly territorial concessions.

Who is Robert Pape, the author of 'Dying to Win'?

Robert Pape is a political scientist and security expert known for his research on terrorism, particularly suicide terrorism, and its strategic motivations.

What methodology does Robert Pape use in 'Dying to Win' to analyze suicide terrorism?

Pape uses a comprehensive empirical analysis of suicide terrorist attacks worldwide, compiling data on incidents, targets, and outcomes to identify patterns and motivations.

According to 'Dying to Win,' what is the primary motivation behind suicide terrorism?

According to Pape, the primary motivation is political, specifically the desire to compel democratic governments to withdraw military forces from territory that the terrorists consider their homeland.

How does 'Dying to Win' challenge common perceptions about suicide terrorism?

'Dying to Win' challenges the perception that suicide terrorism is driven primarily by religious extremism or irrational fanaticism, instead presenting it as a calculated political strategy.

What policy implications does Robert Pape suggest based on his findings in 'Dying to Win'?

Pape suggests that counterterrorism strategies should focus on addressing the political grievances, particularly territorial disputes, rather than solely on military or ideological responses.

Has 'Dying to Win' influenced counterterrorism strategies or academic research?

Yes, the book has significantly influenced both academic research and policy discussions by framing suicide terrorism as a strategic political act, leading to more nuanced approaches in counterterrorism.

Are there criticisms of Robert Pape's conclusions in 'Dying to Win'?

Some critics argue that Pape's focus on territorial control oversimplifies the complex motivations behind suicide terrorism, which can also include religious, social, and psychological factors.

Additional Resources

Robert Pape *Dying to Win: An In-Depth Exploration of Terrorism and Suicide Attacks*

robert pape dying to win is a pivotal phrase that points to the influential work of political scientist Robert Pape, whose seminal book "Dying to Win: The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism" has reshaped the academic and policy discourse surrounding terrorism, particularly suicide bombings. Pape's research, grounded in empirical data and strategic analysis, challenges common perceptions about the motivations behind suicide terrorism and offers a nuanced understanding of why individuals and groups resort to such extreme tactics.

This article delves into Robert Pape's "Dying to Win," examining his central thesis, methodology, and the broader implications of his findings on counterterrorism strategies. By integrating relevant keywords such as suicide terrorism, strategic logic, political violence, and counterterrorism policy, this analysis provides a thorough overview that appeals to scholars, policymakers, and readers interested in security studies.

Understanding the Core Argument of Robert Pape's Dying to Win

At the heart of Robert Pape's "Dying to Win" lies a counterintuitive argument: suicide terrorism is not primarily driven by religious fanaticism or irrational hatred but by strategic, political objectives aimed at coercing democracies to withdraw military forces from territories the terrorists consider their homeland. This perspective marked a significant departure from earlier explanations that largely emphasized ideological or religious motivations.

Pape's analysis is grounded in a comprehensive data set of suicide terrorist attacks from 1980 to 2003, which he meticulously examined to identify patterns and commonalities. His conclusion—that suicide terrorism is a calculated tactic designed to achieve specific political outcomes—has influenced both academic debates and practical policy frameworks.

The Strategic Logic Behind Suicide Terrorism

One of the defining features of "Dying to Win" is Pape's emphasis on the strategic logic underpinning suicide attacks. Unlike random acts of violence, suicide terrorism is portrayed as a deliberate strategy employed by weaker actors to compel stronger, democratic states to alter their policies. This logic is based on several key observations:

- **Target Selection:** Suicide attacks predominantly target democracies, which are perceived as more susceptible to public pressure and political costs associated with military occupations.
- **Coercive Goals:** The primary objective is to coerce the target state into withdrawing military forces from territory claimed by the terrorists, often linked to nationalist or territorial disputes.
- **Psychological Impact:** The willingness of terrorists to die amplifies the psychological effect on the targeted population, increasing the pressure on governments to respond.

This strategic framework offers a lens for interpreting suicide terrorism beyond simplistic or sensationalist narratives, highlighting the calculated nature of these acts.

Methodology and Empirical Data in Dying to Win

Robert Pape's methodological approach in "Dying to Win" is notable for its rigor and empirical grounding. He assembled a comprehensive database of 315 suicide terrorist attacks across 41 campaigns between 1980 and 2003, systematically coding variables such as targets, locations, perpetrators, and political contexts.

Data-Driven Insights

Pape's data analysis reveals several key insights:

1. **Concentration in Nationalist Conflicts:** Most suicide terrorist campaigns are linked to nationalist struggles rather than religious extremism.
2. **Effectiveness of Coercion:** Suicide terrorism has been successful in compelling democratic governments to withdraw forces in 75% of the cases studied.
3. **Geographic and Temporal Trends:** The majority of attacks are concentrated in the Middle East, South Asia, and parts of Southeast Asia, with an increase in frequency during periods of occupation or military intervention.

These findings provide a foundation for understanding the tactical considerations behind suicide terrorism and challenge generalized assumptions about its causes.

Critiques and Debates Surrounding Pape's Work

While "Dying to Win" has been widely influential, it has also sparked debates and critiques within the academic community. Some of the key points of contention include:

- **Religious Motivations:** Critics argue that Pape underestimates the role of religious ideology and martyrdom narratives in motivating suicide terrorists, especially in groups like Al-Qaeda.
- **Complexity of Motivations:** Others highlight that the motivations for suicide terrorism are multifaceted, involving personal, social, and ideological factors that may not be fully captured by a purely strategic model.
- **Policy Implications:** Questions remain about the practical applicability of Pape's recommendations, particularly in addressing the root causes of terrorism beyond military withdrawal.

These critiques underscore the complexity of the phenomenon and the need for multidisciplinary approaches in counterterrorism research.

Implications for Counterterrorism Policy and Strategy

The insights from Robert Pape's "Dying to Win" have significant implications for how democratic governments approach counterterrorism and conflict resolution. By framing suicide terrorism as a coercive strategy aimed at military withdrawal, Pape suggests that addressing the political grievances underlying occupation or territorial disputes is crucial.

Policy Recommendations Derived from Pape's Analysis

- **Address Political Grievances:** Rather than relying solely on military responses, policymakers should engage in diplomatic efforts to resolve territorial conflicts that fuel terrorism.
- **Managing Occupations:** Democracies should carefully consider the political costs and potential backlash of military occupations, which can trigger or exacerbate suicide terrorist campaigns.
- **Public Communication Strategies:** Governments need to manage public perceptions and reduce the psychological impact of terrorism to weaken the coercive leverage of suicide attacks.

These recommendations advocate for a more nuanced and politically informed approach to counterterrorism that goes beyond traditional security measures.

Comparative Perspectives: Dying to Win and Other Theories of Terrorism

When contrasted with other influential theories, such as the religious extremism model or socio-economic explanations, Pape's strategic logic framework offers a distinct vantage point:

- **Religious Extremism Model:** Focuses on ideological indoctrination and martyrdom but may overlook strategic calculation.
- **Socio-Economic Model:** Emphasizes poverty and lack of education as root causes but often struggles to explain why many terrorists come from middle-class

backgrounds.

- **Strategic Logic Model (Pape):** Centers on political objectives and coercion, highlighting the tactical nature of suicide attacks.

Understanding these differing perspectives helps enrich the discourse on terrorism and informs more comprehensive policy responses.

The Enduring Relevance of Robert Pape Dying to Win

More than two decades after its publication, "Dying to Win" remains a foundational text in terrorism studies. Its impact extends to academic research, security policy, and public understanding of suicide terrorism. Robert Pape's meticulous analysis offers clarity amid the complex and often emotionally charged debates on terrorism, emphasizing the importance of strategic context and political grievances.

In an era where terrorism continues to evolve, Pape's work encourages policymakers and analysts to look beyond surface-level explanations and to understand the underlying strategic calculations that drive suicide attacks. This approach not only sharpens analytical rigor but also points toward more effective and sustainable solutions to some of the world's most intractable security challenges.

[Robert Pape Dying To Win](#)

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robert pape dying to win: Dying to Win Robert Pape, 2005-05-24 Suicide terrorism is rising around the world, but there is great confusion as to why. In this paradigm-shifting analysis, University of Chicago political scientist Robert Pape has collected groundbreaking evidence to explain the strategic, social, and individual factors responsible for this growing threat. One of the world's foremost authorities on the subject, Professor Pape has created the first comprehensive database of every suicide terrorist attack in the world from 1980 until today. With striking clarity and precision, Professor Pape uses this unprecedented research to debunk widely held misconceptions about the nature of suicide terrorism and provide a new lens that makes sense of the threat we face. FACT: Suicide terrorism is not primarily a product of Islamic fundamentalism. FACT: The world's leading practitioners of suicide terrorism are the Tamil Tigers in Sri Lanka-a secular, Marxist-Leninist group drawn from Hindu families. FACT: Ninety-five percent of suicide terrorist attacks occur as part of coherent campaigns organized by large militant organizations with

significant public support. FACT: Every suicide terrorist campaign has had a clear goal that is secular and political: to compel a modern democracy to withdraw military forces from the territory that the terrorists view as their homeland. FACT: Al-Qaeda fits the above pattern. Although Saudi Arabia is not under American military occupation per se, one major objective of al-Qaeda is the expulsion of U.S. troops from the Persian Gulf region, and as a result there have been repeated attacks by terrorists loyal to Osama bin Laden against American troops in Saudi Arabia and the region as a whole. FACT: Despite their rhetoric, democracies—including the United States—have routinely made concessions to suicide terrorists. Suicide terrorism is on the rise because terrorists have learned that it's effective. In this wide-ranging analysis, Professor Pape offers the essential tools to forecast when some groups are likely to resort to suicide terrorism and when they are not. He also provides the first comprehensive demographic profile of modern suicide terrorist attackers. With data from more than 460 such attackers—including the names of 333—we now know that these individuals are not mainly poor, desperate criminals or uneducated religious fanatics but are often well-educated, middle-class political activists. More than simply advancing new theory and facts, these pages also answer key questions about the war on terror: • Are we safer now than we were before September 11? • Was the invasion of Iraq a good counterterrorist move? • Is al-Qaeda stronger now than it was before September 11? Professor Pape answers these questions with analysis grounded in fact, not politics, and recommends concrete ways for today's states to fight and prevent terrorist attacks. Military options may disrupt terrorist operations in the short term, but a lasting solution to suicide terrorism will require a comprehensive, long-term approach—one that abandons visions of empire and relies on a combined strategy of vigorous homeland security, nation building in troubled states, and greater energy independence. For both policy makers and the general public, *Dying to Win* transcends speculation with systematic scholarship, making it one of the most important political studies of recent time.

robert pape dying to win: *Theorie des Irregulären* Dirk Freudenberg, 2008-09-27

robert pape dying to win: Das Selbstmordattentat im Bild Verena Straub, 2021-09-03
Selbstmordattentate werden seit jeher von Bildern begleitet und durch diese bestimmt. Von Märtyrerpostern über Videotestamente bis hin zu Computersimulationen und Livestreams vom Tatort – die Bildproduktionen der Milizen sind auf vielfältige Weise an der Tat beteiligt und müssen als Akteure im politischen Feld ernstgenommen werden. Verena Straub zeigt erstmals die Geschichte sogenannter Märtyrерzeugnisse auf, die seit den 1970er Jahren in diversen politischen Kontexten operieren. In zahlreichen Falluntersuchungen analysiert sie deren ästhetische und mediale Bandbreite, ihre Handlungsdimensionen und Genderpolitiken, ihre künstlerischen Aneignungen und ethischen Herausforderungen.

robert pape dying to win: Analyse religiös motivierter Selbstmordattentate am Beispiel der Anschläge der Hamburger Zelle vom 11.09.2001 Daniel Zerbin, 2017-08
Das Phänomen des islamistischen Terrorismus weist seit den 1990er Jahren eine erschreckende Beständigkeit auf. Spätestens seit dem 11.09.2001 beschäftigt dieses Thema die Öffentlichkeit. Der Tenor der Analysen lautet größtenteils, die Ursachen der Taten seien auf Terrororganisationen zurückzuführen und/oder in der pathologischen Verfassung der Täter zu finden. Religiöse Motive werden a priori ausgeschlossen. Der Islamismus wird vom Islam getrennt und in einer Art moralischer „Bad Bank“ isoliert betrachtet. Die vorliegende Studie entwickelt einen alternativen Blickwinkel, bei dem vom Phänomen des Selbstmordattentates ausgehend, die Täter und ihre Prägung durch ihr religiös-kulturelles Umfeld untersucht werden. Vor dem Hintergrund kriminologischer Theorieansätze wird der 11.09.2001 beispielhaft betrachtet. Die Untersuchung verlagert mit der Benutzung der Allgemeinen Evolutionstheorie bewusst den Schwerpunkt der gegenwärtigen pathogenetischen Theorieansätze auf eine alternative Perspektive, um bisher nicht zur Aufarbeitung dieser Thematik herangezogene Wissensfelder fruchtbar zu machen. Mit dieser Analyse wird der Versuch unternommen, eine kritische Diskussion anzustoßen.

robert pape dying to win: Terrorismus als Erfolgsstrategie - Fallbeispiel Al-Qaida
Thomas Rohm, 2011 Studienarbeit aus dem Jahr 2010 im Fachbereich Politik - Internationale Politik

- Thema: Frieden und Konflikte, Sicherheit, Universität der Bundeswehr München, Neubiberg, Sprache: Deutsch, Abstract: Eigentlich waren wir der Ansicht, dass die Bombenanschläge in Riad und al-Khobar ein deutliches Signal waren. Eigentlich hätten die intelligenteren Entscheidungsträger der USA daraufhin alles daransetzen müssen, einen ernsthaften Kampf zwischen ihren Streitkräften und der muslimischen Nation zu vermeiden. Aber offensichtlich verstanden sie das Signal nicht. Dieser Auszug aus einem Interview der in London ansässigen palästinensischen Zeitung al-Quds al-Arabi mit Osama bin Laden vom November 1996 zeigt, dass es Terrorismus in seinem ursprünglichen Kern als Kommunikationsstrategie zu verstehen gilt. Eine Strategie, die durchaus auch scheitern kann. Die Opfer der Gewalt und das Publikum, an welche die Botschaft der Terroristen gerichtet ist, sind dabei keineswegs identisch. Wie Louise Richardson darlegt, sind die Opfer eines terroristischen Anschlages lediglich das Mittel, um das Verhalten eines größeren Publikums zu beeinflussen, in der Regel einer Regierung. Dass die Strategie von Terrorgruppen offensichtlich darauf abzielt, Zivilisten zu attackieren, um insbesondere demokratisch legitimierte Regierungen unter Druck zu setzen, um diesen politische Zugeständnisse abzuverlangen, daran besteht heute in der Terrorismusforschung kein Zweifel mehr. Ganz im Gegensatz dazu ist jedoch über die Frage, inwieweit Terroristen mit dieser Strategie erfolgreich sind, eine ernste wissenschaftliche Debatte entbrannt. Ob Terrorismus wirklich als Erfolgsstrategie anzusehen ist, oder präziser ausgedrückt, ob es Terroristen wirklich gelingt, durch gezielte Anschläge auf die Zivilbevölkerung ihre politischen Forderungen gegenüber der ausgewählten Regierung durchzusetzen, soll sodann auch die übergeordnete Fragestellung sein, unter der nachfolgende Ausführungen stehen. Die Analyse der politis

robert pape dying to win: Jahrbuch Terrorismus 2013/2014 Stefan Hansen, Joachim Krause, 2014-04-24 Seit 2006 veröffentlicht das ISPK die Buchreihe Jahrbuch Terrorismus, die zu einem vielbeachteten Standardwerk in der sicherheitspolitischen Forschungslandschaft geworden ist. Das Jahrbuch 2013/2014 enthält Beiträge von ausgewiesenen Experten zu drängenden aktuellen Problemen, etwa der Entwicklung von al-Qaida, zu den sog. Muhammad-Videos, zum Ende des ISAF-Einsatzes in Afghanistans und der sich anschließenden Transformation, zu den sog. Innentäterangriffen („green on blue“) oder dem Cyber-Terrorismus. Es bietet zudem Regionalanalysen zu aktuellen Schwerpunkten des transnationalen Terrorismus insbesondere im Nahen und Mittleren Osten sowie auf dem afrikanischen Kontinent. Des Weiteren werden unterschiedliche Lösungsansätze der Anti-Terrorismus-Politik untersucht, etwa der Einsatz der Streitkräfte im Inland, die Kommunikationsüberwachung oder der Einsatz von bewaffneten Drohnen. Das Jahrbuch thematisiert darüber hinaus gesellschaftliche Fragen der Bedrohungswahrnehmung sowie theoretische und methodische Fragen, beispielsweise zur Charakterisierung des Phänomens Terrorismus. Das ISPK erhebt überdies eine eigene quantitative Datensammlung zu terroristischen Vorfällen. Herausgegeben vom Institut für Sicherheitspolitik an der Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel (ISPK)

robert pape dying to win: Dying to Win: the Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism, (by) Robert Pape Robert Pape, 2005

robert pape dying to win: *Terrorismus - Der unerklärte Krieg* Bruce Hoffman, 2019-03-27 Das Standardwerk - vollständig überarbeitet, aktualisiert und umfangreich ergänzt! Die Bedrohung durch den Terrorismus hat eine nie gekannte Dimension erreicht. Religiöse und ideologische Konflikte werden vermehrt durch Terroranschläge ausgetragen, in besonderem Maße durch Selbstmordattentate. Terrorismus ist Krieg, ohne den Krieg zu erklären, und gleichzeitig eine sehr wirksame Möglichkeit auch militärisch unterlegener Gruppierungen, politischen Druck auszuüben. Der Terrorismusexperte Bruce Hoffman analysiert die verschiedenen Facetten des internationalen Terrorismus, beschreibt prägnant die Entwicklungen und kommenden Gefahren, die von ihm ausgehen werden, und welche Rolle die Medien dabei spielen. In der Neuausgabe seines Klassikers geht er auch auf die jüngsten Anschläge in Paris, Brüssel und Nizza ein, die die Welt beschäftigten, sowie auf die Veränderungen des Terrorismus durch Social-Media Kanäle.

robert pape dying to win: *Meine Hoffnung auf Frieden* Jehan Sadat, 2009-09-02 Jehan Sadat

hat das politische Erbe ihres Mannes angetreten: Mutig und entschlossen tritt die ehemalige First Lady Ägyptens seit vielen Jahren für Frieden und Versöhnung im Nahen Osten ein. Dieses sehr persönliche Dokument macht deutlich, warum Jehan Sadat für Frauen im Westen wie im Osten gleichermaßen Vorbild ist. In den Herzen der meisten Ägypter ist sie noch immer die wahre First Lady des Landes: Anwar Sadats Witwe Jehan. Er war meine Kraft, ich sein Licht, schrieb sie über ihren Mann, der 1981 bei einer Militärparade von Fundamentalisten erschossen wurde. In meinen Augen war Sadat ein Held, äußerte Helmut Schmidt, sichtlich bewegt, einmal in einer Fernsehsendung. Statt nach dem Tod ihres Mannes zu resignieren, setzte Jehan Sadat sein Werk beherzt fort. Zwischen Amerika und Kairo hin- und herpendelnd, vermittelt sie zwischen West und Ost, engagiert sich für die Rechte muslimischer Frauen. Dem Frieden in Nahost aber gilt ihr größtes Engagement. Dieses Buch ist das bemerkenswerte Zeugnis einer außergewöhnlichen Frau.

robert pape dying to win: Dead for Good Hugh D. Barlow, 2015-12-03 An easily accessible account of the development of martyrdom ...Barlow presents a masterful account of how religion, death and sacrifice developed into the cult of martyrdom of today. Mia Bloom, University of Georgia and author of *Dying to Kill: The Allure of Suicide Terror* Thoroughly researched, yet full of novel-like gripping narratives, this book succeeds in giving the reader a glimpse of what might happen in the mind of candidates to martyrdom while never losing sight of the overall context that brings this phenomenon into being, and fuels it. Gilbert Achcar, author of *The Clash of Barbarisms* Hugh Barlow is a gifted writer. In this book he uses his skills as a renowned sociologist to bring the reader a refreshing and engaging analysis...This is a must-read for anyone who is interested in understanding martyrdom operations from a broad historical and cultural perspective. Ami Pedahzur, University of Texas at Austin *Dead for Good* vividly describes how history gave rise to the suicide bombers of today. The passionate submission of ancient Jewish and Christian martyrs was largely supplanted by militant self-sacrifice as Islam spread and holy war erupted in the Crusades. In the Indian Punjab, the Khalsa Sikhs made warrior-martyrdom an instinct and policy in their defense of community and of justice. In a last-ditch effort to defeat the Allies in World War II, the Japanese transformed warrior-martyrs into martyr-warriors trained to sacrifice themselves in attacks on enemy carriers. The current suicide bomber is the latest phase: Whether motivated by nationalism, religious ideology, or a combination of both, the new predatory martyr dies for the cause while killing indiscriminately. Exploring martyrdom across cultures and throughout history, this book gives us new insights into today's suicide bombers and answers the common question Why do they do it?

robert pape dying to win: The Globalization of Martyrdom Assaf Moghadam, 2008 This unflinching analysis provides new information about the relationship between ideology and suicide attacks and recommends policies focused on containing Salafi Jihadism.--Jessica E. Stern, Harvard Law School Democracy and Security

robert pape dying to win: Presumed Guilty Todd H. Green, 2018-09-01 All of us should condemn terrorism--whether the perpetrators are Muslim extremists, white supremacists, Marxist revolutionaries, or our own government. But it's time for us to stop asking Muslims to condemn terrorism under the assumption they are guilty of harboring terrorist sympathies or promoting violence until they prove otherwise. Renowned expert on Islamophobia Todd Green shows us how this line of questioning is riddled with false assumptions that say much more about us than them.Ê Green offers three compelling reasons why we should stop asking Muslims to condemn terrorism: 1) The question wrongly assumes Islam is the driving force behind terrorism 2) The question ignores the many ways Muslims already condemn terrorism. 3) The question diverts attention from unjust Western violence. This book is an invitation for self-examination when it comes to the questions we ask of Muslims and ourselves about violence. It will open the door to asking better questions of our Muslim neighbors, questions based not on the presumption of guilt but on the promise of friendship.

robert pape dying to win: 'We Love Death as You Love Life' Raffaello Pantucci, 2015 Case study of how extremist Islamist thought can capture the imaginations of young Western Muslims--a close examination of the 7/7 bombers in London.

robert pape dying to win: Striving in the Path of God Asma Afsaruddin, 2013-05-07 In popular

and academic literature, jihad is predominantly assumed to refer exclusively to armed combat, and martyrdom in the Islamic context is understood to be invariably of the military kind. This perspective, derived mainly from legal texts, has led to discussions of jihad and martyrdom as concepts with fixed, universal meanings divorced from the socio-political circumstances in which they have been deployed through the centuries. Asma Afsaruddin studies in a more holistic manner the range of significations that can be ascribed to the term jihad from the earliest period to the present and historically contextualizes the competing discourses that developed over time. Many assumptions about the military jihad and martyrdom in Islam are thereby challenged and deconstructed. A comprehensive interrogation of varied sources reveals early and multiple competing definitions of a word that in combination with the phrase *fi sabil Allah* translates literally to striving in the path of God. Contemporary radical Islamists have appropriated this language to exhort their cadres to armed political opposition, which they legitimize under the rubric of jihad. Afsaruddin shows that the multivalent connotations of jihad and *shahid* recovered from the formative period lead us to question the assertions of those who maintain that belligerent and militant interpretations preserve the earliest and only authentic understanding of these two key terms. Retrieval of these multiple perspectives has important implications for our world today in which the concepts of jihad and martyrdom are still being fiercely debated.

robert pape dying to win: The Fear of Islam, Second Edition Todd H. Green, 2019-09-03
The Fear of Islam investigates the context of Western views of Islam and offers an introduction to the historical roots and contemporary anxiety regarding Islam within the Western world. Tracing the medieval legacy of religious polemics and violence, Green orients readers to the complex history and issues of Western relations to Islam, from early and late modern colonial enterprises and theories of Orientalism, to the production of religious discourses of otherness and the clash of civilizations that proliferated in the era of 9/11 and the war on terror. In this second edition, Green brings the reader up to date, examining the Islamophobic rhetoric of the 2016 US presidential election and the ongoing success of populist and far right parties in Europe. Green provides updated data on the rise of anti-Muslim legislation--for example, the Muslim ban in the United States and a wave of full-face veil bans in Europe--as well as the rise in anti-Muslim hate crimes on both sides of the Atlantic since 2015. This important book is essential reading for anyone who wants to better understand current views of Islam and to work toward meaningful peace and understanding between religious communities.

robert pape dying to win: Enemy Combatants, Terrorism, and Armed Conflict Law David K. Linnan, 2008-01-30 With a renewed emphasis on national and homeland security, the United States is once again seeking to balance the needs of the state with both the rights of its citizens as well as those of other nations. This book represents an interdisciplinary approach to the legal dilemmas borne out by the war on terror--against the specific background of Afghanistan, Iraq, and this new kind of conflict. It is a strong contribution to a broader debate visible since 9/11, which will remain in the public eye for the foreseeable future. It addresses the overlap between religion, ethics, armed conflict, and law, within the context of the current conflict. While many issues in areas such as intelligence, reconciliation of civil liberties, dealing with terrorist threats, and the permissible bounds of interrogation, treatment of prisoners and laws governing armed conflict have long standing precedents under domestic and international law, this war has challenged even long standing legal interpretations. The contributors to this volume explore those precedents and contemporary challenges to them. Now that traditional wars between nation states are no longer the rule, the terrorist threat has gained credence (popularly, terrorism and its claimed breeding ground in failed states), linked in practice to issues of intervention on the territory of states harboring such groups. In military circles the idea of armed struggle between modern military forces and what were formerly called guerillas has now largely been replaced by asymmetric warfare and the concept of intelligence and preventive action interchangeably within U.S. borders and overseas. Opposing views contemplate that different-and presumably lower-legal standards may apply in internal armed conflicts. Such legal issues are visible under current circumstances of asymmetric warfare in

conjunction with questions about prisoner status and detentions, including the permissible bounds of interrogation versus torture following the Abu Ghraib prison scandal in Iraq but also the treatment at the Guantanamo Bay facility of alleged Al Q'aeda captives from Afghanistan. All of the contributors in this book explore the changing circumstances against which these contentious new legal issues now unfold. The experts strike no consensus. Indeed, one of the work's many strengths can be attributed to the fact that the many facets of the ongoing debate are represented herein.

robert pape dying to win: Criminology Theory and Terrorism Joshua Freilich, Gary LaFree, 2017-10-02 Although there has been an increase in research on terrorism across the social and behavioural sciences in the past few decades, until recently most of this work has originated from political science, psychology or economics. Therefore, our focus in this book on criminological conceptual frameworks and empirical studies that engage terrorism and responses to it is unique. We include a distinguished group of researchers that offer their distinctive insights into criminological perspectives on terrorism. The contributors focus on criminological perspectives that have rarely, if ever, been previously applied to the study of terrorism. This includes a range of perspectives from rational choice to social disorganization; from strain to routine activities theory. This volume will advance understanding of terrorism by taking advantage of criminological contributions, and at the same time will serve as a useful update to the criminologists and their students already working in this area. It would also be a helpful introduction to those criminologists and their students who would like to be more engaged in this important area of research. This book was originally published as a special issue of Terrorism and Political Violence.

robert pape dying to win: Root Causes of Suicide Terrorism Ami Pedahzur, 2006-09-27 The book offers different theoretical and methodological approaches to the understanding of the root causes of suicide attacks.

robert pape dying to win: Constructing Religious Martyrdom John Soboslai, 2024-06-27 This study offers a new understanding of martyrdom across four religious traditions, analyzed through the lens of political theology.

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