

Manchester Terror Attack Proves that the War on Terror Is Failing: Ten Ways to Reduce Terrorism

By [Washington's Blog](#)
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Given that the Manchester terrorist was a [product of the interventions](#) in Libya and Syria, it's time to have an adult discussion about what it will take to stop terrorism.

10 Ways to Reduce Terrorism

There are 10 basic principles that serious, mature people need to discuss if we want to stop terrorism ...

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I. Stop Overthrowing the Moderates and Arming Crazy

If we want to stop terrorism we should - (wait for it) - [stop supporting terrorists](#).

Specifically, we're [arming the most violent radicals in the Middle East](#), as part of a [really stupid](#) geopolitical strategy to overthrow leaders we don't like (more details below). And see [this](#), [this](#), [this](#), [this](#) and [this](#).

We're [directly arming and supporting](#) folks who are committing summary execution, torture, kidnapping, and imposing Sharia law at the point of the gun.



But - strangely - we're [overthrowing the moderate Arabs](#) who stabilized the region and *denied* jihadis a foothold.

U.S. allies are directly responsible for [creating](#) and [supplying](#) ISIS.

If we want to stop terrorism, we need to [stop supporting the terrorists](#).

II. Stop Supporting the Dictators Who Fund Terrorists

Saudi Arabia is the [world's largest sponsor](#) of radical Islamic terrorists. The Saudis have [backed ISIS](#) and many other brutal terrorist groups. And the most pro-ISIS tweets allegedly [come from Saudi Arabia](#).

According to sworn declarations from a 9/11 Commissioner and the Co-Chair of the Congressional Inquiry Into 9/11, the Saudi government [backed the 9/11 hijackers](#) (see section VII for details). And declassified documents only [amplify those connections](#). And the new Saudi king has [ties](#) to Al Qaeda, Bin Laden and Islamic terrorism.

Saudi Arabia is the hotbed of the most radical Muslim terrorists in the world: the [Salafis](#) (both [ISIS and Al Qaeda are Salafis](#)).

And the [Saudis - with U.S. support - back](#) the radical “madrassas” in which Islamic radicalism was spread.

And yet the U.S. has been supporting the Saudis militarily, with [NSA intelligence](#) and in every other way possible for 70 years. And selling them [massive amounts of arms](#) (Trump just agreed to sell them [\\$110 billion](#) worth of arms.) And [kept them off of the list](#) of restricted countries for immigration.

In addition, top American terrorism experts say that U.S. support for brutal and tyrannical countries in the Middle east - like Saudi Arabia - is [one of the top motivators for Arab terrorists](#).



U.S. and NATO-supported Turkey is also [massively supporting ISIS](#), [provided chemical weapons](#) used in the massacre of civilians, and has been bombing [ISIS' main on-the-ground enemy - Kurdish soldiers - using its air force](#).

The [U.S.-backed dictatorships in Qatar and Bahrain](#) also massively fund ISIS.

And the U.S. and Saudis are apparently [committing repeated war crimes](#) in Yemen ... which will only fan the flames of terrorism.

So if we stop [supporting the tyrannies](#) in Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Qatar and Bahrain, we'll get a two-fold reduction in terror:

(1) We'll undermine the main terrorism supporters

And ...

(2) We'll take away one of the main motivations driving terrorists: our support for the most repressive, brutal Arab dictatorships

III. Stop Bombing and Invading When a Negotiated Settlement Is Offered

The U.S. [rejected offers by Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria to surrender](#) ... and instead proceeded to wage war against those countries.

Security experts - including both conservatives and liberals - agree that waging war in the Middle East *weakens* national security and increases terrorism. See [this](#), [this](#), [this](#), [this](#), [this](#), [this](#), [this](#) and [this](#).

For example, **James K. Feldman** - former professor of decision analysis and economics at the Air Force Institute of Technology and the School of Advanced Airpower Studies - and other experts say that foreign occupation is the *main cause* of terrorism. University of Chicago professor **Robert A. Pape** - who specializes in international security affairs - [agrees](#).

Indeed, the leaders of America and the UK [were warned](#) that the Iraq war would increase terrorism ... before they pulled the trigger.

Negotiating peaceful deals whenever possible will drain the swamp of terrorists created by war and invasion.

IV. Prioritize Stopping Terrorists Over Stopping the “Shia Crescent”

As the actions towards Syria by America and its [allies clearly demonstrate](#), our politicians are focused on curbing Russian and Iranian geopolitical influence much more than actually stopping ISIS and other terrorists.

The U.S. has inserted itself [smack dab in the middle](#) of a religious war ... choosing [violent Sunni Muslims](#) to counter the influence of Iran and the [influence](#) of Iran.

Amazingly, the U.S. military described terror attacks on the U.S. as a “[small price to pay for being a superpower](#)”:

A senior officer on the Joint Staff told State Department counter-terrorism director Sheehan he had heard **terrorist strikes characterized more than once by colleagues as a “small price to pay for being a superpower”**.

If we want to stop terrorism, we have to make it a priority.

V. Stop Imperial Conquests for Arab Oil

The U.S. has undertaken regime change against Arab leaders we don't like for six decades. We overthrew the leader of [Syria in 1949](#), [Iran in 1953](#), [Iraq twice](#), [Afghanistan twice](#), [Turkey](#), [Libya](#) ... and other oil-rich countries.



Oil pump jacks pump oil in Al-Jbessa oil field in Al-Shaddadeh town of Al-Hasakah governorate (Source: Reuters)

Neoconservatives planned regime change throughout the Middle East and North Africa yet again [in 1991](#).

Top American politicians admit that [the Iraq war was about oil, not stopping terrorism](#) (documents from Britain [show the same thing](#)). Much of the war on terror is really a [fight for natural gas](#) (Or perhaps to force the last few hold-outs [into dollars and private central banking](#). For example, [see this email](#) to then Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.)

We've fought the [longest and most expensive wars in American history](#) ... but we're [less secure than before](#), and there are [more terror attacks than ever](#) ([update](#)).

Remember, [Al Qaeda wasn't even in Iraq](#) until the U.S. invaded that country. And the West's [Iraq war](#) directly led to the creation of ISIS.

If we want to stop terrorism, we have to stop overthrowing Arab leaders and invading Arab countries to grab their oil.

VI. Stop Drone Assassinations of Innocent Civilians

Top U.S. warfighting experts [say that](#) American drone strikes INCREASE terrorism (and [see this](#)).

And yet Trump has increased drone strikes by [432%](#).

If we want to stop creating new terrorists, we have to stop the drone strikes.

VII. Stop Torture

Top U.S. terrorism and interrogation experts agree that [torture creates more terrorists](#).

Indeed, the leaders of ISIS were [motivated by U.S. torture](#). For example, Charlie Hebdo-

murdering French terrorist **Cherif Kouchi** [told](#) a court in 2005 that he wasn't radical until he learned about [U.S. torture](#) at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq.

And the [Secretary of Defense](#) any many other top military and intelligence experts say that torture doesn't do anything to keep us safer.

If we want to stop creating new terrorists, we have to stop torturing ... permanently.

VIII. Stop Mass Surveillance

Top security experts agree that mass surveillance makes us [MORE vulnerable](#) to terrorists.



Indeed, even the NSA admits that it's collecting [too MUCH information](#) to stop terror attacks.

In virtually every recent terror attack – in [Boston](#), [Paris](#), [San Bernadino](#), [Orlando](#), etc. – the suspect was already on a terror watch list, known to authorities, previously interviewed by the FBI, or the like. They were *already known* to authorities.

Mass surveillance simply [doesn't keep us safer](#). Indeed, instead of focusing on known bad guys and their associates, the government is flooded with surveillance data from spying on *everybody*. So they can't do their job to stop terrorists.

Stop it.

IX. Stop Covering Up 9/11

Government officials agree that 9/11 was state-sponsored terrorism ... they just [disagree on which state was responsible](#).



Because 9/11 was the largest terror attack on the U.S. in history – and all of our national security strategies are based on 9/11 – we can't stop terror until we get to the bottom of

what really happened, and which state was behind it.

X. Stop Doing It Ourselves

The director of the National Security Agency under **Ronald Reagan** – **Lt. General William Odom** [said](#):

By any measure the US has long used terrorism. In '78-79 the Senate was trying to pass a law against international terrorism – in every version they produced, the lawyers said the US would be in violation.

(audio [here](#)).

The Washington Post [reported](#) in 2010:

The United States has long been an **exporter of terrorism**, [according to a secret CIA analysis released Wednesday by the Web site WikiLeaks](#).

Wikipedia [notes](#):

Chomsky and Herman observed that terror was concentrated in the U.S. sphere of influence in the Third World, and documented terror carried out by U.S. client states in Latin America. They observed that of ten Latin American countries that had death squads, **all** were U.S. client states.

They concluded that **the global rise in state terror was a result of U.S. foreign policy**.

In 1991, a book edited by **Alexander L. George** [the Graham H. Stuart Professor of Political Science Emeritus at Stanford University] also argued that other Western powers sponsored terror in Third World countries. It concluded that **the U.S. and its allies were the main supporters of terrorism throughout the world**.

Indeed, the U.S. has [created death squads in Latin America, Iraq and Syria](#).

Some in the American military have intentionally tried to [“out-terrorize the terrorists”](#). As Truthout [notes](#):

Both [specialists **Ethan McCord** and **Josh Stieber**] say they saw their mission as a plan to “out-terrorize the terrorists,” in order to make the general populace more afraid of the Americans than they were of insurgent groups. In the interview with [Scott] Horton, Horton pressed Stieber:

“... a fellow veteran of yours from the same battalion has said that you guys had a standard operating procedure, SOP, that said – and I guess this is a reaction to some EFP attacks on y’all’s

Humvees and stuff that killed some guys - that from now on if a roadside bomb goes off, IED goes off, everyone who survives the attack get out and fire in all directions at anybody who happens to be nearby ... that this was actually an order from above. Is that correct? Can you, you know, verify that?

Stieber answered:

“Yeah, it was an order that came from Kauzlarich himself, and it had the philosophy that, you know, as Finkel does describe in the book, that we were under pretty constant threat, and what he leaves out is the response to that threat. But the philosophy was that if each time one of these roadside bombs went off where you don’t know who set it ... the way we were told to respond was to open fire on anyone in the area, with the philosophy that that would intimidate them, to be proactive in stopping people from making these bombs ...”

Terrorism is [defined](#) as:

The use of violence and threats to intimidate or coerce, especially for political purposes.

So McCord and Stieber are correct: this constitutes terrorism by American forces in Iraq. And American [officials have admitted](#) that the U.S. has engaged in numerous false flag attacks.

Indeed, many top experts - including government officials - say that America is the [largest sponsor of terror in the world](#) ... largely through the work of the CIA. And [see this](#).

Stop Throwing Bodies In the River

Defenders of current government policy say: “we have to do *something* to stop terrorists!”

Yes, we do ...

But we must also stop doing the 10 things above which *increase* terrorism. We have to [stop “throwing new bodies in the river.”](#)

But the powers-that-be don’t want to change course ... they gain tremendous power and influence through our current war on terror strategies.

For example, the military-complex grows rich through war ... so endless war is a [feature - not a bug](#) - of our foreign policy.

Torture was about [building a false justification for war](#).

Mass surveillance is about [economic and diplomatic advantage](#) and [crushing dissent](#).

Supporting the most radical Muslim leaders is about [oil and power](#) ... “a small price to pay” to try to dominate the world.

A leading advisor to the U.S. military - the Rand Corporation - released a study in 2008

called "[How Terrorist Groups End: Lessons for Countering al Qa'ida](#)". The report confirms what experts have been saying for years: the war on terror is actually *weakening* national security (see [this](#), [this](#) and [this](#)).

As a [press release](#) about the study states:

"Terrorists should be perceived and described as criminals, not holy warriors, and our analysis suggests that there is **no battlefield solution to terrorism.**"

We, the People, have to stand up and demand that our power-hungry leaders stop doing the things which give *them* more power ... but are guaranteed to *increase* terrorism against us, the civilian population.

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