

# Selective Empathy: Terrorist Attacks Rock Paris, Public Response to Tragedy Is Typically Disproportionate

By [Daniel DeLafe](#)

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Theme: [Crimes against Humanity](#)

*In light of the [Paris terror attack that killed at least 126](#), I have some observations to share regarding the social media response to such a tragedy. First, I want to share this particular story to help make a point: [New evidence emerges showing the US deliberately attacked the Doctors Without Borders hospital in Afghanistan](#).*

...the Associated Press published a [report](#) providing further confirmation that the facility was targeted and bombed by US military personnel **with full knowledge that it was a functioning hospital**. The attack lasted for an hour, destroying the building and killing 30 people, including at least 13 MSF staff members and 10 patients.

...  
The report follows a previous article citing a former intelligence official who said special operations analysts had mapped the entire area and drawn a circle around the hospital.

The new report adds to the growing body of evidence demonstrating that US forces **knowingly and deliberately destroyed a hospital** that was performing civilian functions, a grave violation of the Geneva Conventions and a violation of the US War Crimes Act. According to the latter, **those found guilty of committing such a crime can be subject to life imprisonment or death**.

Among the possible motivations for the attack is the fact that the hospital was the only major medical center in northeastern Afghanistan, and it provided aid to all those injured in the escalating conflict between US forces and the Taliban-led insurgency. Beyond those immediately killed, hundreds or even thousands will die as a result of their loss of access to medical care.

In a [statement](#) released on October 23, which reported an increase in the death toll from 22 to 30, MSF noted that the destruction of the hospital “will have a huge impact on access to surgical care for hundreds of thousands of people in the region... Last year, more than 22,000 patients received care at the hospital and more than 5,900 surgeries were performed.”

This is only one example among countless others I could use (many much worse), but it's recent and I only need one to make this point. **Where were all the “prayers” and “thoughts” for any of these people from most of you posting your condolences about what just happened in Paris?** I'm sorry if this offends anyone, or if you feel like I'm trying to take attention away from the lives lost and disrespecting those grieving, but that is the opposite of what I'm doing. I'm trying to honor them.

I'm simply trying to get you to think and to feel deeper, and to expand your circle of empathy beyond Paris in order to grasp the bigger picture of why these attacks happen. This opinion piece gets to the core of some of those reasons: [The Age of Despair: Reaping the Whirlwind of Western Support for Extremist Violence](#). A larger game is at work, one we often do not see.

Let's start by asking: Why are you more upset over one group of people being murdered and not another group? Or is the bombing of a hospital not terrorism? Do Afghan lives not mean as much as Parisian lives?

The events yesterday in Paris are heartbreaking and disturbing. What I find more disturbing is how easily people ignore why these things are even happening and who actually arms and funds Islamic extremists. How many just swallow the mainstream media propaganda and are therefore oblivious to history? Most disturbing is that 90% of the people that send their prayers and condolences online to those who died in Paris (as good as their intentions are), never seem to bat an eye at, or send a single prayer to, the millions of people slaughtered by the U.S./EU/Israeli/Saudi war machine, which created these extremist groups in the first place through direct and indirect results of Western foreign policy and Western proxy armies.

When an attack like this happens in the West, everyone is so, so sad – yet when hundreds of homes are leveled in Gaza, or elsewhere in the Middle East, there is relative silence! We should be equally upset about all of this senseless killing orchestrated by psychopaths in the highest echelons of society, not just what our TVs tell us we should be upset about. We should be sending our thoughts and prayers everyday to all the innocents murdered with our tax dollars, not just when an attack occurs in Europe or the U.S. Such events are also used as a fear-monger tactic and fuel to continue the very same policies and wars-for-profit that result in such attacks, whether orchestrated by extremists or by intelligence agencies.



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The biggest terror attack in Lebanon for 25 years. 41 people were killed in 2 suicide bombings on November 12, the day before the Paris attacks.

To those who expressed themselves over the Paris attacks, yet remained silent over

countless similar atrocities, **I ask: where were your condolences, your “thoughts”, your “prayers” for those killed in the attack on the Afghan hospital by US forces,** or any other war crime committed by or supported by your own government? What determined your care for one group of people and *not* another? Was it your attitude? Your popularity? Maybe it was the type of information you are exposed to, or deliberately expose yourself to? Was it your beliefs?

Most likely it's all of that - and more. The main question here is: Do you *really* have control over what you pay attention to and care about?

I guess terrorism is only what our psychopathic leaders and their media moguls tell us it is, and only then when it happens to us in the West, not when we're the perpetrators. It seems that a lot of people only take the time to share their condolences about a tragedy when it's trending and trendy to do so, and such trends are not only tracked and played upon by the power brokers in society, but are also manufactured and directed for larger political purposes. When Gaza was getting bombed to smithereens in summer of 2014, I didn't see half the response I saw over this recent attack on social media and in conversation.

I'm sad for Paris today. I'm thinking about it a lot. I know this article, or a Facebook post, or a Tweet, won't change anything in the grand scheme of things, but such things may do more than we think, and can plant seeds in people's minds, just like the TV does. It helps to vent our frustration with all the lies, and to counter them even just a little bit. Many people decided to use Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other social media to voice their concerns, their “thoughts and prayers” about Paris, and I completely understand why you did this.

You cared that people got killed for no reason. I get it. I feel that way everyday. But this is also a sinister manipulation of the public at large, and anyone who is familiar with Edward Bernays knows that powerful people put lots of time, money, and research into figuring out how to control what people think, like, and care about (I highly recommend the documentary series [The Century of the Self](#)). We all must understand how and why we are programmed by psychopaths in power, the richest of whom are in control of our own countries here in the West, and how these same people influence us to be *selective* with our conscience, with our caring.

Every single day, even my best and happiest days (like right now - I'm on tour with a band called The Gray Company, staying in a beautiful home in North Carolina with amazing friends, and having a blast!) I set some time aside to think of all the others dying at the hands of our government and the Secret Government, the National Security State, and its military industrial complex. I devote some time to reading and studying, and I try to post and disseminate information. I don't wait for the mainstream media to tell me when to be upset and when to care, and what is true and what isn't. I try to look and work it out and hold off on concluding. I choose to care because I value Truth, and I understand Truth hurts us in the process of seeking Her, and I'm willing to endure the pain of knowing for a chance to dance with Truth.

I wasn't always like this though. It takes hard work and effort to Love and to seek the Truth, to draw up Her bitter-sweet water and drink it and to be changed by Her - it's a constant effort to care and know how crazy the world really is while at the same time allowing yourself to be happy when necessary, and to appreciate your own life, and to strive in such a crazy world without letting it get to you and still succeed. I understand why so many shut this stuff out and just want to focus on their own life and success, or only spare a thought or

condolence when it's trendy to do so, especially when it's shoved in our faces, while other events get downplayed or ignored. It's easier to believe the lies and watered-down truth when it's spoon-fed to us – it's more comfortable and takes no effort. But will it help us grow?

I wasn't always like this. You also don't have to be the way you may be, to be manipulated by powers you don't understand. But only if you really want to seek knowledge, to objectively Love, to seek Truth – if you truly want to care MORE. Take the feelings you get from the Paris attacks, the sadness for those lives lost in the middle of a grander chess game, and use it as motivation to learn and to speak – to try and follow the moves on the board by unseen hands. Post your thoughts and feelings every single day about ALL the innocents dying, not just for one day – because such things happen every day, and we all carry the responsibility for it and for doing something about it. The least we can do is make an effort to really understand it, to pay attention and speak out as much as possible, rather than blindly accepting what the talking heads tell us is going down and whose deaths we should or should not care about.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said “Every man must decide whether he will walk in the light of creative altruism or in the darkness of destructive selfishness.” Of course, once you are aware of that decision, it's then up to you to choose. Choose wisely.

### **Daniel DeLafe**

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My first collection of poetry is available on Amazon:  
<http://www.amazon.com/Urban-Jungle-Mystic-Collection-2009-2015/dp/1508943141>

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