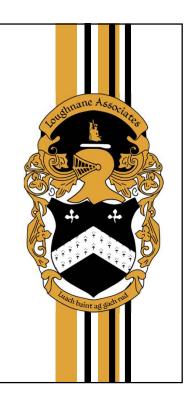
Finance and Violent Extremism Funding



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Value Touches Everything

Learning Objectives

TLO Describe the finance investigation challenges in instances of violent extremism.

	ELO 1	Define the elements of violent extremism.
	ELO 2	Describe possible similarities and differences in financing between organized terror finance activities and violent extremists.
	ELO 3	Describe potential funding and value transfer systems used by domestic terrorists and violent extremists.

"Domestic terrorism is both **persistent and evolving"**-National Strategy for Countering Domestic Terrorism (June 2021)

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Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2020: Purpose

- 1. Require certain reports or records for:
 - A. Criminal, tax, or regulatory investigations, risk assessments or proceedings
 - Intelligence or counterintelligence activities to protect against terrorism
 - Domestic terrorism added
- 2. Establishment of reasonably designed risk-based programs
- 3. Improve tracking of money sourced through criminal activity or intended to promote criminal or terror activity
- 4. Assess the money laundering, terrorism finance, tax evasion, and fraud risks to financial institution to protect the financial system from criminal abuse and safeguard the national security
- 5. Establish an appropriate framework for information sharing among financial institutions and others

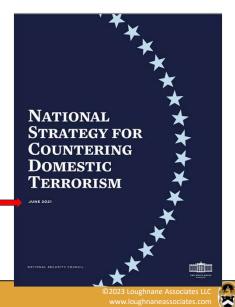


National Strategy for Countering Domestic Terrorism

Strategic Goal 1.3:

Illuminate transnational aspects of domestic terrorism.

- "(T)he Department of the Treasury, in coordination with law enforcement and other interagency partners, is exploring ways to enhance the identification and analysis of financial activity associated with domestic terrorists and their foreign counterparts, as well as enhancing engagement with financial institutions on domestic terrorist financing, including through existing provisions of the Bank Secrecy Act."
- Intelligence and law enforcement communities have already identified, and are now implementing, more robust information exchanges with foreign partners regarding the foreign connections



Is Domestic Terrorism a chargeable offense?

- May not be a chargeable offense solely for "domestic terrorism"
- It can be an enhancer of other charges
- For example, Timothy McVeigh, widely considered a domestic terrorist, was convicted of murder, conspiracy, and using a weapon of mass destruction in the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City that killed 168 people, but he was not convicted of domestic terrorism.

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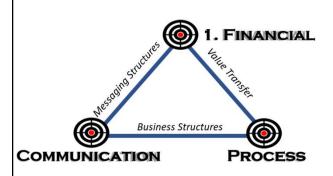


No Federal Domestic Terror List

- The FBI does not officially designate domestic terrorist organizations, but they have openly delineated domestic terrorist "threats."
- Domestic terrorism threats to include criminal activity by certain groups, such as the Proud Boys, or by individuals that adhere to a certain ideology, such as antifa.
- While the FBI has confirmed in public hearings that extremists are subjects of ongoing domestic terrorism investigations, it declines to designate any organization a "domestic terrorist organization." Doing so may infringe on First Amendment-protected free speech belonging to an ideological group in and of itself is not a crime in the United States



Financial Indicators and Actions Application



- Financial Elements
 - · How are they funded?
 - · What are the indicators?
 - · Where to look?
 - Look more to how it is spent
- Process
 - What are the mechanisms that could be supportive?
 - Behavioral Elements
- Communications
 - · Coordination, planning, and more

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What is Violent Extremism?

- A broad movement without a single central unified leadership animated by the sense that revolution is necessary in order to achieve a "national rebirth." (Pete Simi, PhD, Associate Professor, Chapman University)
 - From 1990 through July 2022, at least 545 individuals with U.S. military backgrounds committed criminal acts that were motivated by their political, economic, social, or religious goals.
 - This includes 151 individuals who are facing charges for their involvement in the breach of the Capitol building on January 6, 2021.



- 45% with military backgrounds plotted acts of violence
- 6.4% engaged in spontaneous violent crimes
- 32.6% who sought to commit premeditated violent attacks were successful in 10.8% attempts
- Those without military backgrounds were successful in violent attacks 55%
- 40% of crimes committed with military backgrounds targeted US government entities, military, or law enforcement

https://www.start.umd.edu/sites/default/files/publications/local_attachments/Extremism%20In%20the%20Ranks%20and%20After%20-%20Research%20Brief%20-%20July%202022%20Final.pdf

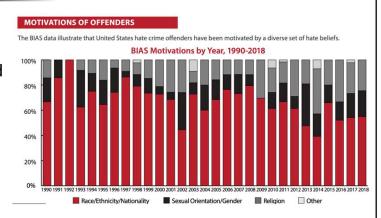
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Hate Crimes

Bias Incidents and Actors Study (BIAS)

- Characteristics, motivations and behaviors of a sample of individuals who committed crimes (1990-2018)
- Motivations: Race, ethnicity, and nationality; religion; sexual orientation, gender identity; age; disability



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Intelligence Community Assessment

- The Intelligence Community assesses that lone offenders or small cells of DVEs adhering to a diverse set of violent extremist ideologies and galvanized by recent political and societal events in the United Stated pose an elevated threat to the United States
- DVE attackers often radicalize independently by consuming violent extremist material online and mobilize without direction from a violent extremist organization, making detection and disruption difficult.

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Domestic Terror/Violent Extremism Financing

- Self-financing (usually through employment income or savings) is a significant source
- Difficult for continuous monitoring to detect because transactional data may not appear abnormal based on the risk profile
- Use of crowdfunding
- Private donations and membership fees
- Commercial activities like sale of merchandise or entertainment events
- Criminal activities
- Use of person to person transfers, virtual assets, cash transactions

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Brookings Institute - Antifa

- Both left- and especially right-wing extremists are difficult to categorize, with few robust organizations but strong informal networks.
- "Antifa" is a label under which left-wing extremism is often lumped.
- Antifa is not a group or an organization in any traditional sense; rather, it is a set of beliefs shared by a few activists, many of whom disagree with one another considerably.
- Many of its members today focus on what they consider to be antiracist activism.
- Do not have a tight organization or coherent command and control,
- In most places, it is a small group of informal activists.



Antifa Background



- A highly decentralized movement.
- Claim to be anti-racists who seek to combat neo-Nazis, white supremacists, and far-right extremists whom they consider "fascist."
- Members view themselves as part of a protest tradition that arcs back to opposition groups in Nazi Germany and fascist Italy prior to World War II.
- Traces its roots back to antiracists who mobilized in the 1980s while opposing skinheads, the Ku Klux Klan (KKK), and neo-Nazis.
- Antifa groups in the United States gained prominence following violent clashes in Source: "Are Antifa Members Domestic Terrorists? Background on Antifa and Federal Classification of Their Actions," Congressional Research Service, June 9, 2020

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Antifa "Obligations"

- Generally, four shared "obligations:" Antifa groups must:
 - (1) track the activity of fascist groups;
 - (2) oppose their public organizing,
 - (3) support antifascist allies attacked by fascists or arrested by police, and
 - (4) not cooperate with law enforcement.
- Adherents also believe that civil liberties protections provide safe harbor to ideas and people bent on harming vulnerable populations in the United States. Thus, Antifa followers tend not to accept that the conventional government capacities will thwart the rise of fascist movements

Antifa Characteristics

- Decentralized, consisting of independent, radical, like-minded groups and individuals.
 - · Groups likely do not share of "list of enemies" as a unifying structure does not exist to form one
 - Local groups might be more focused on the enemies they identify
 - May oppose different things depending on the group
 - No clear definition of what is "facist?"
- Its tenets can echo the principles of anarchism, socialism, and communism.
- May also support environmentalism, the rights of indigenous populations, and gay rights.
- Elements of Antifa commit crimes, some violent, to promote their beliefs.
 - · Nazi Punching, property damage
 - · May carry weapons, shields, helmets, clubs, bats, hammers, etc
- · Nonviolent activities include protests, including hanging posters, speeches, and marching.
- As a core purpose, Antifa groups track and react to the activities of individuals or groups they see as advocating fascism Nazis, racist skinheads, white supremacists, and white nationalists.

Antifa Action

- Antifa movement literature emphasizes ways to "take action."
- The same movement source that describes Antifa "obligations" urges followers to pursue some activities that appear to be fairly ordinary, lawful acts of protest and other activities that seem more confrontational.
- Among its suggestions, it encourages adherents to do the following:

Recruitment

Develop an online/social media presence to promote antifa views and recruit new members

Monitoring

Monitor the activities of groups and individuals who describe themselves as white nationalists, among others

Fundraising

- Throw fundraisers and set up promotional tables at various public events to recruit new members
- Join rallies held by like-minded organizations and stage counter-demonstrations to fascist rallies

Actions

- Compel organizations hosting speakers or rallies with a fascist bent to cancel such events. Protest can involve obstructing access to venues and intenOse lobbying of hosts. This activity has been called "no-platforming" (i.e., denying opponents a public platform)
- Remove or deface the publicly posted flyers of perceived enemies
- Publicize information and doxxing of perceived enemies
- Develop self-defense training regimens involving martial arts and the legal limits governing self-defense items such as pepper spray, retractable clubs, and firearms



The Base

- The group founded around July 2018 gains followers online, communicates using encrypted messaging applications, and encourages members to engage in paramilitary training.
- "Members of The Base communicate with each other through online platforms and encrypted online messaging applications and chat rooms...In these communications, they have discussed, among other things, acts of violence against minorities (including African Americans and Jewish Americans), Base military training camps, and ways to make improvised explosive devices." (FBI Agent testimony, Wisconsin District Court Case, 2021)





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The Base

- The Base is a white supremacist organization seeks to create a white ethno-state, committing acts against minority communities, including African-Americans and Jewish-Americans
- "Applicants submit an application form, which includes
 questions regarding the applicant's current associations with
 white supremacist organizations; the applicant's military,
 science, and engineering experiences and training; and the
 applicant's race and gender"
- Have particular interest in those with military and explosives experience
- Regional Training Camps, Georgia for one example





National Terrorism Advisory System



May 24, 2023, 2:00 PM ET

November 24, 2023 at 2:00 PM

SUMMARY OF TERRORISM-RELATED THREAT TO THE UNITED STATES

The United States remains in a heightened threat environment. Lone offenders and small groups motivated by a range of ideological beliefs and personal grievances continue to pose a persistent and lethal threat to the Homeland. Both domestic violent extremitss (DVEs) and those associated with foreign terrorist organizations continue to attempt to motivate supporters to conduct attacks in the Homeland, including through violent extremist messaging and online calls for violence. In the coming months, factors that could mobilize individuals to commit violence include their perceptions of the 2024 general election cycle and legislative or judicial decisions pertaining to sociopolitical issues. Likely targets of potential violence include US critical infrastructure, faith-based institutions, individuals or events associated with the LGBTQIA+community, schools, racial and ethnic minorities, and government facilities and personnel, including law enforcement.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- In May 2023, a now-deceased individual killed eight and injured seven others at an outlet mall in Allen. Texas, Law enforcement continues to investigate the an outer main in August, it ease, two motive bein of minds to investigate the motive behind the attack, but initial reporting suggests the attacker fixated on mass shootings and held views consistent with racially or ethnically motivated violent extremist (RMVE) and involuntary celibate violent extremist ideologies.
- In March 2023, a now-deceased individual shot and killed six people at a Christian elementary school in Nashville, Tennessee. Law enforcement continues to investigate the motive behind the attack and has indicated the individual studied other mass murderers.

RESOURCES TO STAY SAFE

- RESOURCES TO STAY SAFE

 Stay Informed and Prepared

 Be prepared for emergency situations and remain aware of circumstances that may place you at risk. Make note of your surroundings and the nearest security personnel.

 Keep yourself safe online and maintain digital.

 Keep yourself safe online and maintain digital end to be on before you have not been to be on the compared to the property of the



Fundraising and Crowdfunding



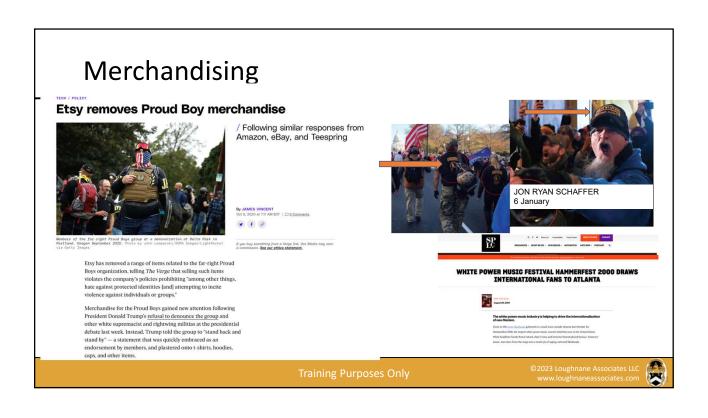
KICKSTARTER

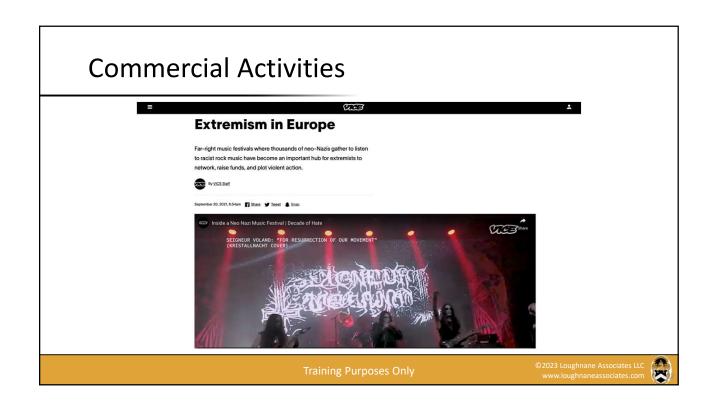


facebook

- Can quickly set up withdraws and deposits take an average of 2-5 business days
- Coaching and account support throughout the fundraising and donation proces
- Easy to use fundraising tools make setup fast (e.g., mobile app and superior add beneficiary feature) The GoFundMe Giving Guarantee -
- Offers "flexible funding"
- Specializes in technology and hardware product launches
- Regular email support hours; marketing and campaign strategy support
- Specializes in creative projects with robust reward level feature
- 14-day wait to withdraw and deposits take 5-7 business days
- Limited email support hours
- Requires Kickstarter approval to launch a fundraiser
- Can withdraw immediately and deposits take 7+ days Zero fees for charities registered with Facebool
- Nonprofits must undergo a 24-hour charity verification process, slowing down setup
- No donor guarantee policy
- Can withdraw immediately and deposits take 2-5 business days
- No donor guarantee policy for fraud protection
- Limited email support hours







Characteristics

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Offender Characteristics (BIAS)

CHARACTERISTICS OF OFFENDERS

Similar to United States political extremists, bias crime offenders are diverse in terms of demographic and background characteristics.

OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS & BIAS MOTIVATIONS

		Bias Motivation	
	Sexual Orientation/	Race/Ethnicity/	Religion
Offender G	ender /Gender Identity*	Nationality	(N = 235)
Characteristic	(N = 171)	(N = 671)	*
Violent	86%	72.6%	52.8%
Age (Median)	24	26	31
Female	4.7%	6.7%	8.5%
Married	12.8%	18.6%	27.3%
Children	15.7%	23.5%	23.3%
Military	9.2%	6.8%	16.3%
Education (High School or B	elow) 69.3%	72.8%	53.3%
Poor Work History	47%	40.1%	39.5%
Abuse	8.2%	4.8%	5.5%
Mental Illness	15.8%	15.1%	34.4%
Criminal History	56.6%	66.9%	58.2%
Substance Abuse	23.4%	23.4%	22.1%
Hate Group Member	20.1%	42.7%	34.5%
Trauma	11.7%	10.6%	14.5%

 $Note: \textit{Bias categories are not mutually exclusive.} \textit{ Offenders who selected their victims on the basis of two or more than the basis of the basis of the basis of two or more than th$

https://www.start.umd.edu/pubs/START_BIAS_MotivationsCharacteristicsOfHateCrimeOffenders_Oct2020.pdf

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Regardless of hate motivation, offenders displayed significantly higher rates of

- · low educational attainment,
- poor work performance,
- mental illness,
- substance abuse, andcriminal histories
- than the general population.

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QAnon Crime Map

QAnon is the umbrella term for a sprawling spiderweb of right-wing internet conspiracy theories with antisemitic and anti-LGBTQ elements that falsely claim the world is run by a secret cabal of pedophiles who worship Satan and are plotting against President Trump. Though some influential individuals are active in the movement, it is not an organized group with defined leadership. (Southern Poverty Law Center)

Characteristics based on 101 offenders (61 participated in

6Jan):

Age: 42 (Oldest 71, Youngest 18)

Female: 27 in sample Married: 44 in sample Parents: 57 were parents

Military/LE: 19 Unemployed: 19

Previous Criminal Record: 31



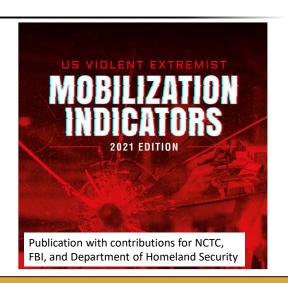
 $https://www.start.umd.edu/sites/default/files/publications/local_attachments/START\%20QAnon\%20Research\%20Brief_24September2021.pdf$

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Violent Extremism in US - Defined



Homegrown Violent Extremists

- A person of any citizenship who has lived and/or operated primarily in the United States or its territories.
- 2. Advocates, is engaged in, or is preparing to engage in ideologically motivated terrorist activities.

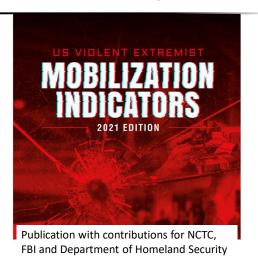
Domestic Violent Extremists

- An individual based and operating primarily within the United States or its territories.
- Without direction or inspiration from a foreign terrorist group or other foreign power who seeks to further political or social goals, wholly or in part, through unlawful acts of force or violence.

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Behavior Stages



Three categories of behavior an individual typically goes through on their way to carrying out an attack or travelling to join like-minded violent extremists:

Mobilization to violence

<u>Preparation</u> and planning an attack or travel

Developing <u>motivation</u> for violent extremist activity

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Preparation Indicators

Mobilization

Physical or virtual actions suggesting an attack or violent extremist travel may occur in the near term (weeks before an attack or violent extremist travel)

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Preparation Indicators

<u>Preparation</u> and Planning an Attack or Travel

Physical or virtual actions suggesting an attack or violent extremist travel may occur in the near term (weeks before an attack or violent extremist travel)

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Motivation Indicators

Developing <u>Motivation</u> for Violent Extremist Activity

Physical or virtual actions that build, solidify, or communicate violent ideological beliefs; these indicators do not necessarily suggest an impending attack or violent extremist travel.

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Accelerationism

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Accelerationism Origins



Based on the "magical idealism" philosophy of Julius Evola, 1898-1974 (Poland)

Movement tries to push beyond capitalism to build a new and just economic system

They are not part of a movement but embrace terror tactics as a political tool A belief that there is no political solution and the goal of "system collapse" for new governance to develop

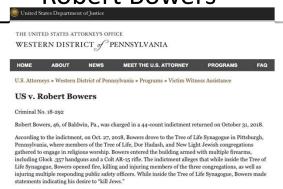
> Modern society is "irredeemable"

Communications over social media such as Telegram

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Robert Bowers



- October 31, 2018, drove to the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, PA
- Entered with multiple weapons and opened fire, killing 11 worshippers
- Had an account on website.gab.com
 - "The account...included a statement on his profile expressing the belief that 'jews are the children of satan', as well as several posts that referred to Jewish people using anti-Semitic KMR1." (superseding indictment)

Specifically, the indictment charges:

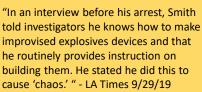
- Eleven counts of obstruction of free exercise of religious beliefs resulting in death;
 Eleven counts of use and discharge of a firearm to commit murder during and in relation to a crime of violence;
 Two counts of obstruction of free exercise of religious beliefs involving an attempt to kill and use of a dangerous weapon and resulting in bodily injury;
 Eleven counts of use and discharge of a firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence;
 Elight counts of obstruction of free exercise of religious beliefs involving an attempt to kill and use of a dangerous weapon, and resulting in bodily injury to a public safety officer; and
 One count of obstruction of free exercise of religious beliefs involving use of a dangerous weapon and resulting in bodily injury to a public safety officer.

The written information on this website will be updated as new developments arise in the case. If you have any questions, please contact the Victim Witness Coordinator.



Jarrett William Smith







- Expressed desire to travel to Ukraine to fight with Azov Battalion
- Suggested targeting Beto O'Rourke, cell phone towers, and a local news network
- On Facebook, discussed a plan with a UC for an attack in the US, search for other radicals, and killing members of Antifa
- Offered on Facebook to teach others to make cell phone explosive devices "in the style of the Afghans"
- Sentenced to 2.5 years for distributing information through social media about bomb making
- Anti-Defamation League: Smith was associated with the neo-Nazi Feuerkrieg Division
- "He's not far removed from adolescence...He is particularly vulnerable to extremists online



KMR1 is this the intended spelling? b/c Semitic is most common...may be the man's quote on the website. Kathryn Rinker, 4/15/2022

