

# New Forms of Terrorism

Terrorism has recently taken new forms in 2016. With the September 11<sup>th</sup> 2001 attacks on the Twin Towers anniversary passing more than fifteen years ago, society and culture have adapted to new norms of security in a variety of different manners. However with these newly enhanced security techniques, it is quite easy for people to still inflict mass harm on one another. Freedom depends on how you define the word, and definitions have changed over time. For example 'gay' used to mean happy, now 'gay' means being a man that likes another man. What does terrorism look like fifteen years after the 9/11 attacks in New York City?

The Transportation Security Administration, otherwise known as the TSA, was formed in response to the 9/11 attacks on American soil. Security was almost nonexistent at airports before the attacks on the World Trade Center, and was done privately by the airplane companies.<sup>i</sup> All one had to do was simply show the identification to make sure that it matched their ticket name (although two hijackers did not have proper identification), and then go through a metal detector to ensure that one did not possess a gun.<sup>ii</sup> Sharp objects, liquids, and other materials not permitted today, were all allowed.<sup>iii</sup> Three hijackers set off the metal detectors but after being "wanded" were allowed to pass with the small

## **New Forms of Terrorism**

box cutters in their back pocket because those were not illegal either. <sup>iv</sup> With all of this said, it is fairly undisputable that many of these security measures were necessary but is the TSA going too far? In May 2016 the TSA failed 67 out of 70 tests, that's a 95% failure rate, of their security measures allowing guns, fake explosives, and knives to be secretly passed through by undercover agents.<sup>v</sup> Are we really any safer since 2001 when anyone can drive a car into a street fair, or any number of sadistic acts that I do not dare to mention? The United States should probably focus more on the individuals allowed into the country and mental health, because once you live in the United States, one is 'free' to the 'pursuit of happiness.'

Gun control has been a major issue of the recent election as well, probably to turn the public's eyes away from the real issue. Let's face it; guns will never be banned in the United States. It is in our Bill of Rights, the First Ten Amendments to the Constitution, that we have the right to own a firearm.<sup>vi</sup> Therefore while increased background checks and other restrictions should happen and even the NRA believes so<sup>vii</sup>, mental health combined with Pharmaceutical drug lobbying, is an issue that is plaguing this country. Americans beginning in the 40's, 1 in 4 is on some sort of anti-depression medication.<sup>viii</sup> Over 90% of mass killings in the

## **New Forms of Terrorism**

last ten years have one thing in common; all of the shooters were on antidepressants, from the San Bernardino shooters to the Boston Bomber.<sup>ix</sup> Why have Politicians not brought this issue to light? For starters, over \$240 million has been spent on lobbying Politicians in 2015 alone.<sup>x</sup> Therefore it begs the question, why would any Congressional people say anything when that money is being spent on themselves? Lobbying will be discussed in a new Case Study to come...

Terrorism has taken many different forms since the 9/11 attacks. While the American public gave into some fear tactics by the Bush administration to create the 'Patriot Act' and the 'TSA', fifteen years later it is only now beginning to have more light shed upon it. From the digital hacks of Sony to Edward Snowden leaking new Hilary Clinton email information, it is commonly said "one person's terrorist is another one's freedom fighter."

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## **Brett Blazys, MBA**

Brett is the founder, motivator and visionary behind *Econ Evidence*. He started his consulting career as a peer-to-peer consultant and his outstanding, global success within the biotech area launched him into corporate consulting. Prior to starting *Econ Evidence*, Brett was a Senior Analyst & Operations Consultant for a Fortune 500 Clinical Research Organization and later received his MBA from the Rady School of Management. With years of international clinical consulting experience, in various countries across Europe and Asia, performing complex financial planning and optimization, he is the ideal leader for *Econ Evidence*. Contact Us today for Brett Blazys' CV.

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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ZGVgEVbwFk>

<sup>ii</sup>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airport\\_security\\_repercussions\\_due\\_to\\_the\\_September\\_11\\_attacks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airport_security_repercussions_due_to_the_September_11_attacks)

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[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airport\\_security\\_repercussions\\_due\\_to\\_the\\_September\\_11\\_attacks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airport_security_repercussions_due_to_the_September_11_attacks)

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[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airport\\_security\\_repercussions\\_due\\_to\\_the\\_September\\_11\\_attacks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airport_security_repercussions_due_to_the_September_11_attacks)

<sup>v</sup> <http://www.goodhousekeeping.com/life/travel/news/g3582/tsa-facts/>

<sup>vi</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_States\\_Bill\\_of\\_Rights](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Bill_of_Rights)

<sup>vii</sup> <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/04/24/5-facts-about-the-nra-and-guns-in-america/>

<sup>viii</sup>

<https://www.google.com/search?q=how+many+americans+on+antidepressants&oeq=how+many+americans+on+antidepressants&aqs=chrome..69i57.5903j0j4&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>

<sup>ix</sup>

[http://www.naturalnews.com/039752\\_mass\\_shootings\\_psychiatric\\_drugs\\_antidepressants.html](http://www.naturalnews.com/039752_mass_shootings_psychiatric_drugs_antidepressants.html)

<sup>x</sup> <http://www.opensecrets.org/lobby/indusclient.php?id=h04>