

**ABSTRACT** *from*

**- Cerfolio, N. The Origins of Terrorism: The Obliteration of a Sense of Belonging in *Belonging through a Psychoanalytic Lens*, December 30, 2020.**

This chapter further explores how oppression leads to a sense of humiliation, obliterating a sense of belonging and connection to humanity. This resulting alienation becomes an underlying motive driving revengeful war-generated terrorism. The author's humanitarian work during the Second Chechen war, in 2005, to give medical and psychological support to Chechens both trapped in Chechnya and those stranded as refugees in Ingushetia, provides a glimpse into this Muslim sense of shame as a result of war with the more powerful Russian army. While in Chechnya, the author describes her poisoning with suspected anthrax by an Russian FSB agent. Both the lack of Western medical knowledge concerning anthrax and the lack of validation of significant people in her life of being poisoned and becoming ill enhanced the author's sense of marginalization and identification with the Chechens. The Boston Marathon bombers, who are Chechen, illustrate how hate can provide a distorted sense of belonging to terrorists who have had their sense of survival threatened. Terrorism is an act of pseudo-self organization from the chaos of annihilation anxiety, an attempt to reconstitute a distorted sense of belonging. Hate is the glue that stabilizes the terrorist's tattered psyche with a malignant sense of object constancy.