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How Police Tactics are Adapting to the Evolving Threat of Terrorism

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Terrorism in the UK has been a large issue over the recent decades with several attacks happening in British territory. The threat level in the UK is constantly changing with the current level of threat being substantial and in Northern Ireland the threat level is severe (Cascianni, 2021). The highest threat level in recent times reached critical during the aftermath of the attack in Manchester in 2017 (MI5, 2021). There have been many attacks in the UK from various different terrorist organizations as well as lone wolf attackers with no allegiance to any terrorist organizations. The attacks that have happened in the UK have had different motivations for the attacks committed as well as different methods where some attacks have been coordinated and other attacks have aimed to cause mass damage as well as having a specific target. Also, some attacks have been unprovoked which can be seen in the murder of Lee Rigby (Roberts, Innes, Preece and Rogers, 2017). Research will be conducted to find out how the police and counter terrorism agencies are coping with the constant threat of terrorism and how they are developing their tactics to control and negate the threat of terrorism.

The main objective of this dissertation is to examine the evolving threat of terrorism and the threat that terrorism possesses to national and international security range of methods will be used when identifying how the tactics used by terrorists have changed, from the French revolution (where the word terrorism was coined as 'la terreur'), to modern times and terrorism as we know it today (Chaliand and Blin, 2007). This dissertation will also aim to see how the different agencies within the UK and internationally have liaised as well as looking at how different agencies and governments have adapted to these tactics over time and whether they are enough. Finally, the research that is being conducted will look at both eastern and western perspectives to terrorism and will enable the research to compare the different views. The reason this would be good is because there is no global definition for terrorism so it would make a good discussion to see the differences and similarities and a possible recommendation for the global definition of terrorism. This research will also be looking on how the definition of terrorism has changed over the years and how it has differed to what was previously called terrorism. The research for this dissertation will be conducted by talking to the public about their views of terrorism as well as looking at the various attacks that have happened to see why and how the attack happened, notably by reading into JESIP reports and comparing and evaluating the terrorist's methods and how police were able to nullify the threat.

Key Questions

The main research questions this paper will look to answer are:

1. How is terrorism perceived today and how has this perception changed over the last few decades?
2. How are terrorist threats and tactics evolving, and how have they evolved over the last few decades?
3. How are security forces adapting to these evolving threats?
4. Are these adaptations adequate to nullify these threats?
5. What else could police do to nullify threats?

Chapter 2

Literature Review

The focal point of this chapter is to examine and investigate the different literature on terrorism and how terrorism has changed over the last decades as well as analysing the police's response to terrorism.

The Definition of Terrorism

According to Stuurman there is no global definition to terrorism as the definition is constantly changing which therefore makes it difficult for international governments to liaise to confront and negate terrorism (Stuurman, 2019).This can be seen by examining the different definitions the various

governments and organization suggest should be the definition of terrorism. Table 1 shows the different ways that organizations around the globe define terrorism.

Organization	**Definition**
Syrian Government	The Syrian foreign minister Muallem said that any form of Bombing or attack carried out by military personnel or other organizations is terrorism he also added that if the public are being harmed or at constant fear of bomb runs conducted by military operations it can be labelled as terrorism (Gregor, 2013).
British Government	The Terrorism Act of 2006 says a terrorist act is intended to sway or pressure the government. The act also says that terrorism is planned to intimidate and put the public at severe endangerment. It can also be designed to cause harm to the royal family. The terrorist/ terrorist group must participate in a violent act and must have a motivation that is religious, ideological, or political (Legislation.gov.uk, 2006).
American Government	The American government say that terrorism must be used to intimidate or be used to try and manipulate the government. It can be used to cause serious harm to the public; it can be used to cause death among civilians. Terrorism can be defined as posing a threat or conducting a violent attack against the military (Perry, 2004.)
Northern Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)	NATO suggests that terrorism is the use of unlawful violence to persuade the public or a government. They also say the use of violence against the public for political or other motives (Nato.int, 2019).
Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)	The person must pose a threat against the state. For the person to be charged as a terrorist the individual must also be influenced by a foreign terror cell. The terrorist or terrorist group must be violent and commit criminal acts (Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2019).

TABLE 1
DEFINITIONS OF TERRORISM BY DIFFERENT BODIES

The table shows the different definitions the various different governments and organizations propose is the definition of terrorism. this shows the true complexity it hold when looking at forming a universal definition to terrorism and how it can make it difficult for governments to liaise to negate terrorism.

Ramsey debates whether terrorism should be defined or not. The reason for this is because of inconstancy the word terrorism or events that are labelled on events and individuals (Ramsay, 2015). The reasoning behind this suggested by Jackson is that for different events there are different labels which makes it difficult to have an overall definition to terrorism(Jackson 2018). An example of this would be to look at the mass shootings that happen every year in the USA and compare them with other mass shooting in the USA that are considered terrorism. to put into context looking at the Stoneman Douglas High school shooting in Parkland, Florida where the perpetrator killed 17 people using an M&P semi-automatic assault rifle and the motive of the attack was because he was expelled from the school as well as possessing many mental health problems (Berstein, McMillan Charash, 2019), comparing this attack with the 2017 Las Vegas strip shooting where the perpetrator killed 61 people using a total of 24 firearms which included a .223 calibre AR-15 style rifle. There was no motive behind this attack (Dolliver and Kearns, 2019), which looking at the USA governments definition to terrorism does not meet the criteria because there was no motive to sway the government as did it have any motivation (Perry, 2004). Examining the comparisons of the two shootings backs up Jackson's point of the labelling of terrorism being inconsistent (Jackson 2018). This also backs up one of the points made in Ramsey's debate which suggests that a definition of terrorism would give clarity behind events and make it easier for authorities to give out the correct sentencing for the individuals involved as well as negating the threat of terrorism (Ramsey, 2015).

The debate also holds the question of 'terrorism or freedom fighter?' question which looks at who has a right to use force without being labelled a terrorist (Ganor, 2002). This has been an argument that has been circling around for many years. This argument looks at how someone can be a terrorist or a freedom fighter. A freedom fighter is a person who fights in a revolutionary struggle and typically fights to overthrow a government this has been seen since the French revolution where terrorism was first labelled (Kafka, 2007).

The key argument for 'terrorism or freedom fighter?' would be looking at the Assad regime during the Syrian civil war where Assad the government of Syria used chemical weapons against civilians in response to the attacks, the civilians came together to fight for a cause to overthrow the government so the attacks against the civilians would come to an end. This makes a good argument because all though the freedom fighters are attacking the state, they are doing it in response to the war crimes that the Syrian government are committing which is also an act of terrorism in itself (Khaddour, 2015).

The Evolution of Terrorism

The first cases of terrorism that were reported were during the French revolution in the reign of terror which happened between the years of 1793-1794 where two rival factions. There is no exact death toll to the reign of terror however the death toll is expected to be in the tens of thousands. The word terrorism came from the word 'la terreur'(Kafka, 2007). Other early acts of terrorism were seen during 'the gun powder plot of 1605' where a group of Catholics in the UK attempted to assassinate King James in order to restore the catholic monarchy but failed after getting caught there were charged with treason and sentenced to death by burning at the stake (Nicholls, 2007). This raises the question on if it is in human nature to one rebel against authority and secondly how long has terrorism been around for?

Over the many years since terrorism has been around it has caused many problems and domino effects when an act of terror has been committed. This can be seen in the assassination of Franz Ferdinand. The assassination of Franz Ferdinand is one of the notorious terrorist incidents before 9/11. This is because the assassination was against the heir of the Austrian – Hungarian throne. The events that followed this would spark the start of World War 1 (Doak, 2009)

Chomsky and Vltchek suggested that Islamic extremism could stem from the country of Israel's creation as a result of the Baifour declaration, a statement by the British government (Freeman-Maloy, 2017). Although this is a controversial perspective on the rise of Islamic extremism, evidence suggests that when the Jewish people were liberated from the horrors of the Holocaust, they were migrated to a geographical area with people had different ideological views and religion, which caused great tension between Western countries and the Eastern countries situated there, as well as causing tension between Israel and Palestine (Webel and Arnaldi, 2016).

From the book written by Chaliand and Blin it stated that terrorists have used a range of tactics which include guerrilla tactics. Guerrilla tactics have been used by terrorists throughout history and can be seen in the present day, which can be seen with the tactics used against the state when the terrorist organization ISIS were trying to overthrow the Syrian government. Guerrilla tactics can be accompanied by guerrilla warfare which has been used by western countries throughout history which were commonly used by the French resistance during World War II, when the French résistance would ambush German forces that occupied French territory (Chaliand and Blin, 2016). The book also highlights that terrorism is not always an attack against the state; it also highlights that the state can attack citizens, or citizens can attack each other. This highlights the objective 'How is terrorism perceived today and how has this perception changed over the last few decades?' This can be seen by looking at the different ways terrorism can be interpreted; westerners typically possess the viewpoint that terrorism is an attack on the state or citizens of a country, however people from eastern states, such as Syria, may consider their government as a terrorist because of the repeated use of chemical weapons against their own people as well as the people who live in the middle east who may think that the militaries occupation in their country could be considered as terrorism(Chaliand and Blin, 2016).

Chaliand and Bllin raise the argument of whether or not acts of terrorism are caused, or can be caused, by a 'domino effect' resulting from the countless wars that have occurred in the Middle East. There are a number of examples and key pieces of evidence that can be used to back this argument up; one of the most recent examples would be when France intervened in the Middle East. ISIS responded with the Paris Attacks of 2015, and following these attacks, France then carried out airstrikes in retaliation (Chomsky and Vltchek, 2017).

Deflem said that 9/11 was attack that changed the definition of terrorism because of the damage that the attack had caused to USA as well as the laws and legislation that had followed during the aftermath of the attack (Deflem, M, 2004).

The Evolution of British Counterterrorism

According to (Fremont-Barnes and Winner, 2009) counter-terrorism in the UK was first seen during the Iranian embassy siege, also known as Operation Nimrod. This is because Margret Thatcher had told the BBC and other news agencies to broadcast the SAS' raid on the embassy live; Thatcher, who was the British Prime Minister at the time had instructed them to do this because 'it will show terrorists that have intent to coordinate and carry out attacks what will happen if they take hostages on British soil' (Fremont-Barnes and Winner, 2009). The British government and the SAS has previously learnt from the failures of the German KSK special forces in Munich in 1972, where Palestinian terrorists referred to as Black September took 9 members of the Israeli Olympic team hostage and killed them along with a German police officer (Fremont-Barnes and Winner, 2009).

Terrorism in the UK

Terrorism has been an ongoing problem in the United Kingdom for many years there have been many attacks from different groups and individuals the table below shows the different types of attacks that have happened in the UK as well as the methods, motivations and death toll.

Event	**Method**	**Fatalities**	**Motivation**
7/7 attack 2005	Suicide bombing	52	Islamic terrorism (Klausen, 2009)
Manchester attack 2017	Suicide bombing	22	Martyr for Islam (Jackson, 2018)
London Bridge attack 2017	Stabbing	11	Islamic extremism (Hunt, 2018)
Murder of Lee Rigby	Decapitation	1	Retaliation of British militaries involvement in Islamic countries (Cree, Clapton, and Smith, 2015)
Finsbury Park attack	Using a vehicle as a weapon	1	'Wanted to kill as many Muslims as possible' (Miller and Hayward, 2018)
Murder of Jo Cox	Shooting	1	Political and racial (Jones, 2019)
1999 Brixton attacks	Bombing	3	Attempt to cause race war in London (Dehanas, 2016)
Lockerbie aviation attack 1988	IED on aircraft	270	In intervention of military personnel in the gulf of Sydra (Lowe, Warbrick and Beveridge, 1992)

TABLE 2
DIFFERENT TERRORIST ATTACKS IN THE UK

The UK government will issue different reports on attacks which will be assessed to find out the motive behind the attack as well as why the attack wasn't prevented one of the ways the government will do that is by issuing a JESIP report (The UK Government, 2017).

The UK Government issued a Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Programme (JESIP) report of the Kerslake Arena bombing which gives information on how the security services such as MI5 and MI6 had knowledge that Salman Abedi was a threat to the UK's Domestic security however they didn't intervene in time which ended up in a catastrophic event which took many lives in which were mostly children (The UK Government, 2017).

Police/Counter-terrorism Agencies and their Response to Terrorism

The UK police work with different agencies as well as the government to ensure the safety of the citizens that live in the UK. The government also works alongside other governments from other countries so they can liaise and confront terrorism. Different government formed a Counter terrorism preparedness network where the different governments work with cities that have been largely affected by terrorism. They will share their experiences in order to find out how they can improve their security. The Strategic Coordination Report said they did this because "The threat of terrorism has not diminished rather it has become more complex." They also said that they explore implications in the design of their security to use as a lever in developing the threat of terrorism (Slettenmark, Fetz, Townsend - Drake and Moffett, 2019)

The police also work closely with the public they do this by notifying the public on what to do if they suspect anything suspicious with the slogan "Run, Hide and tell" as well as given out other various types of information on what to look out for in cases of reporting terrorism (London Metropolitan police, 2021).

Conclusion

This chapter analysed the various different academic literature there is in regards to terrorism. This chapter completed the objectives:

1. How is terrorism perceived today and how has this perception changed over the last few decades?
2. How are terrorist threats and tactics evolving, and how have they evolved over the last few decades?

The literature reviewed the argument to see whether having no universal definition to terrorism was a positive or negative factor the results showed that having no universal definition to terrorism results in no clarity of terrorism when reviewing attacks suggesting in different cases a terrorist could be classed as a freedom fighter or the other way round. The argument also proposed that having no global definition of terrorism means that individuals who commit the same style of attacks can be charged different which was proved with the comparison of the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting and the Las Vegas Strip shooting of 2017.

The chapter also looked at the evolution of terrorism and how terrorism has change over the decades from the French revolution to modern day which shows how the motives have changed and how states and governments can Cause tension which can lead to terroristic events as well as looking how the methods of terrorists have changed which can also be seen on the different attacks that have happened in the UK.

Finally this chapter analysed how the police partnered with different agencies as well as different governments to create a strategic coordination that helped them work together to learn from previous attacks that they had encountered. As well as looking at how the police work with the public to gain information of any potential terroristic activity as well as looking on how the police respond to attacks. This was seen by the police's response to the 2017 London bridge attack where the police managed to get to the scene of the attack as well as neutralizing the threat in 8 minutes (BBC, 2017).

Chapter 3

Introduction

This chapter aims to look at the general public's views to terrorism as well as the police performance. This will look at the first key question in this dissertation which is 'How is terrorism perceived today, from both western and eastern perspectives, and how has this perception changed over the last few decades?' The chapter will also look at on how terrorism has changed in the UK and internationally over the past decades this will also look at another key question for the dissertation

which is, ‘How are terrorist threats and tactics evolving, and how have they evolved over the last few decades?’

Research Onion

This chapter of the dissertation will be using the research onion when conducting research this is because it allows this chapter to have an understanding of the research that is being conducted to cover the dissertation question “How Police Tactics are Adapting to the Evolving Threat of Terrorism”. (Saunders Et Al, 2016)

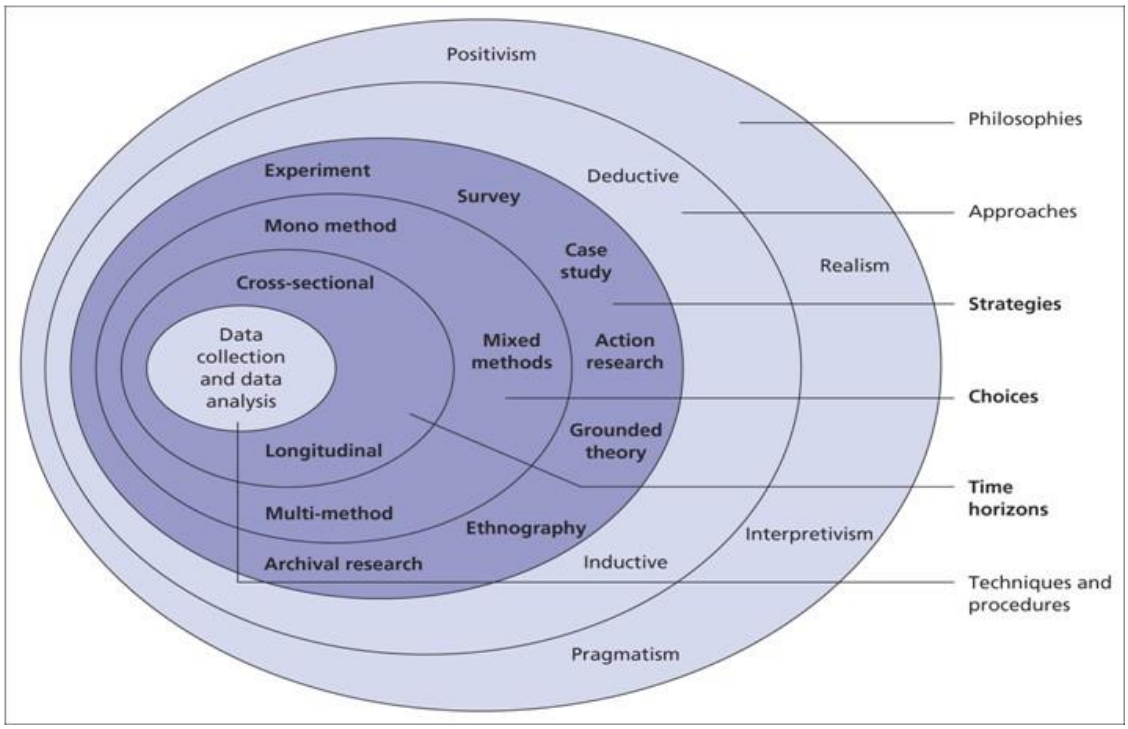

FIGURE 1
RESEARCH ONION (THINGS YOU SHOULD INCLUDE IN A PROJECT INITIATION DOCUMENT (PID), 2020)

Philosophic Research

The research will be based on philosophic realism according to Phillips he states that philosophic realism is “the view that entities exist independently of being perceived, or independently of our theories about them” (Gorski, 2013). This can be seen in the real threat that terrorism obtains as well as there has been people who conduct different research into terrorism as well as policing.

This research will be inductive because it will be observing the different theories on how terrorism has evolved whilst also looking at the various patterns police have followed in an attempt to nullify terrorism (O’Reilly, 2009).

Case Studies

Case studies will be used to compare different terrorist attacks with each other to look at the similarities of a variety of different attacks and how the police and counter terrorist agencies responded to the terroristic activities. As well as looking at the motive of the attacks and the mistakes made by police and counter terrorist agencies that could be learned from.

The uses of case studies are important to this dissertation because it enables comparison between the different terrorist attacks as well as using the comparisons to see if the police and counter terrorist agencies have made similar mistakes or followed similar paths when dealing with potential terrorist attacks or at the scene of a terrorist attack (Zainial, 2007).

Case studies will also be very useful to this dissertation because the studies will hold a lot of key information and data that is included in the terrorist attack for example it can hold a range of information such as the number of deaths, major injuries, minor injuries, the cost of damage, the

An online questionnaire was handed out to the general public to see what they thought the main causes of terrorism were as well as if they thought the police were doing a satisfactory job in dealing with terrorism and if they thought that the police's response to terrorism was adequate (Zainial, 2007).

Questionnaire

The first question in the questionnaire asked the public on what they thought terrorism is. This questionnaire is really useful in collecting primary data for the dissertation because it gets the public views on the topic which will give an in depth perspective on what people think of terrorism as well as what people think causes terrorism and other factors regarding terrorism. The questionnaire also asks the public on their views of the police performance regarding terrorism and counter terrorism performances, and also asks the public on their views on shoot to kill authority and other questions regarding the rights of potential terrorists (McLeod, 2018).

Question 1: 'What do you consider terrorism?'

This question is especially good because it asks the public on what they consider terrorism. This is a good question because it allows the public to voice their opinion on what they consider terrorism and it can create an algorithm to compare the answers between age groups and people from different ethnicities and backgrounds.

Question 2: 'What do you consider the main cause of terrorism?'

This question is interesting and vital because it could prove or disprove that a section of people within the UK are racist and use terrorism as a way to hurt other people, which could be considered as a form of terrorism in of itself. It will also allow the public to say what they think causes terrorism which can be compared to see on average on what people think is the main cause of terrorism.

Question 3: 'What do you consider the main terrorist threat to the UK at this current time?'

Like the previous question the possibility of proving or disproving that a section of the UK is racist can come from this question as well as looking at what people think the main threat is the UK is on an average scale.

Question 4: 'Does the threat of terrorism make you feel afraid?'

This question is highly important because it opens up a gateway to see how the threat of terrorism has caused fear among the public and it will be a good use of data within this project because it will be good to see the amount of people who have a fear of terrorism and to be able to see what age groups fear terrorism the most as well as being able to see the percentage of people who filled out the questionnaire and compare it with people who don't have a fear of terrorism.

Question 5: 'Has terrorism personally affected you?'

Like the previous question it would be interesting and a good question to ask for the project because it will enable people to talk about their experiences with terrorism which can be used in this project. It can also be useful because it will enable the possibility of seeing how many people who filled out the question have actually been affected by acts of terrorism whether they were involved in the initial act of affected by the aftermath of the attack.

Question 6: 'If yes, how? Leave blank if unwilling to share.'

This question is really important for the project because it looks into depth on how people have been affected by terrorism. This question will give an insight to how many people are roughly affected by terrorism. The information can also be compared to each other and to see what case of terrorism has roughly infected people the most.

Question 7: 'do you think terrorism is a threat to national security?'

This question would benefit the project because it gets the public perception on whether they think terrorism is a major issue in a domestic society.

Question 8: 'Do you think terrorism is a threat to international security?'

Like the previous question it has the same aims but rather than focusing on domestic security it focuses the scope on international security.

Question 9: 'In 2015, the Charlie Hebdo offices were subject to a terror incident as a result of their depiction of the Prophet Mohammed; do you think the media acts as a catalyst for terrorism?'

This question is important because it asks the public do they think the media have a part to play in the causes of terrorism.

Question 10: 'Do you think the media (including social media) should uphold principles to negate the threat of terrorism, especially as a result of their own actions?'

This question focuses on asking the public on their opinion of media platforms enforcing rules that makes sure people can't cause terror online for example radicalization.

Question 11: In 2019, a terror attack occurred on London Bridge where the attacker, armed with a fake explosive vest, was shot and killed. Do you believe this was an appropriate response?

This is a vital question because when the officer shot and killed the terrorist with the fake vest is caused mass controversy the question aims to get the public's opinion on that matter.

Question 12: if so, why?

This again asks the public for a more in-depth analysis on their opinion of the matter.

Question 13: 'do you believe the police should have shoot to kill authority in cases of terrorism?'

This like the question about the London bridge attack asks the public do they think the police should have the right to shoot to kill potential terrorists if they are causing a threat.

Question 14: Do you think that counterterrorism efforts in today's society are adequate?

Question 15: Do you feel that counterterrorism forces do enough to keep you safe?

Question 16: Do you think that counterterrorism forces do enough to negate terrorism as a threat?

The above three questions are vital because it asks the public on their views of the efforts to nullify terrorism as well as the performances from the police and counter terrorism agencies.

Conclusion

This research will be conducted using a mixed method approach to research this is due to the quantitative and qualitative research being conducted and having to analyse all aspects of the research before coming up with a final conclusion on the topic (McKim, 2016).

The use of longitudinal research will be used this is because the research will be looking at the various different terror attacks while analysing how these attacks have evolved over the decades while also focusing on how the police have adapted to the threat of terrorism and how they have used their methods and strategies to help nullify the threat of terrorism (Siegrist, 2012).

Chapter 4

Introduction

The main aim for this chapter is to piece together the different pieces of data and to analyse them. This will look at the key research questions:

- How is terrorism perceived today, from both western and eastern perspectives, and how has this perception changed over the last few decades?
- How are terrorist threats and tactics evolving, and how have they evolved over the last few decades?
- How are security forces adapting to these evolving threats?
- Are these adaptations adequate to nullify these threats?
- What else could police do to nullify threats?

The data collected will be analysed from the 70 respondents of an online questionnaire that was handed out to find out what the general public thought about terrorism and how the police responded to terrorism.

The process of analysing data is to systematically apply statistical and logical techniques to depict and explain as well as condensing and recapping data in order to critically analyse the data given (Shamoo and Resnik 2003).

The questionnaire was posted on various different social media platforms as well as being sent through email to participants. The questionnaire had a range of different diverse responses. Figures 2 and 3 show the different age groups and ethnicities that responded to the questionnaire.

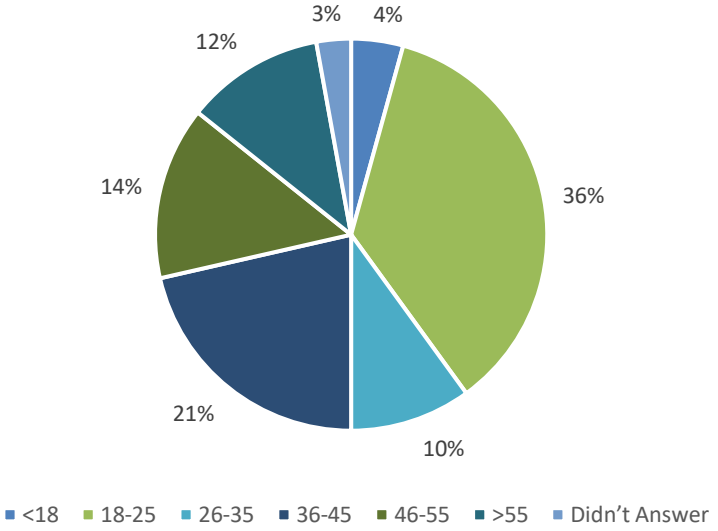

FIGURE 2
AGE GROUPS OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE PARTICIPANTS

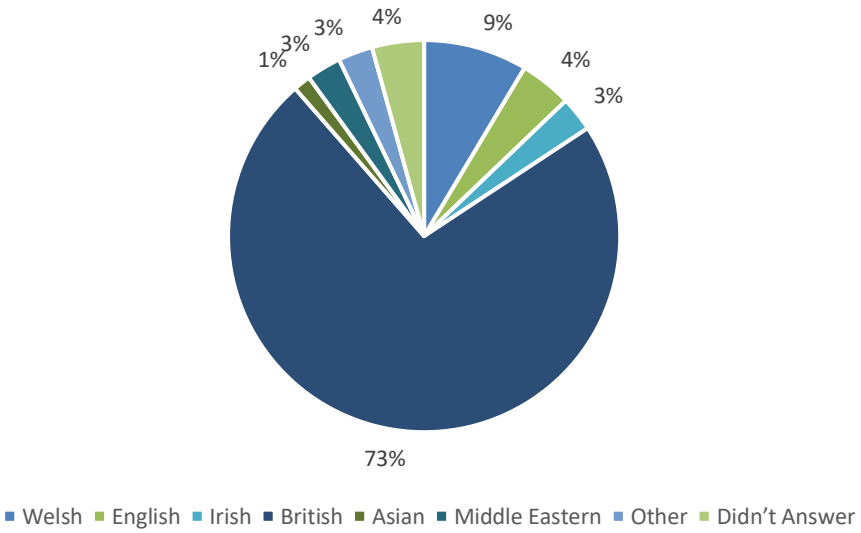

FIGURE 3
ETHNICITIES OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE PARTICIPANTS

Questionnaire Results

The first question in the questionnaire 'What do you consider terrorism?' had many different responses from the public the most common answer from the question was an act that included violence to cause fear to the public for political gain.

The second question 'What do you consider the main cause of terrorism?' also had a lot of similar answers with religion being the main answer to this question. There were other answers that were interesting opinions of the public; those opinions were that the British militaries involvement in counties abroad could be a big cause to domestic terrorism in the UK. This can be backed up with different terrorist attacks that have happened in the United Kingdom with the most notorious attack being the murder of Lee Rigby in 2013. Lee Rigby was in the British army as a musician who was murdered and decapitated in broad day light (Innes, Roberts, Preece and Rogers, 2016).

The third question asked the public on what they consider the terrorist threat to the United Kingdom at this current time. The responses to this question were mainly saying that the various

terrorist organizations such as IS as well as Al Qaeda and the Taliban were the main threats to the UK. The chart below shows the various answers that were given. A small percentage of people said the main threat to the UK were Muslims which show that a small percentage of people may be Islamophobic. Other answers also included the British government as a threat as well as the British police as they are deemed racist and a threat to people from different ethnicities. One participant also says that Russia could be a threat to the UK. This can be seen as a legitimate threat because in December 2020 over the course of two weeks the British naval force reported that nine Russian warships and submarines had been spotted in UK waters and were most commonly spotted in the British Chanel (Royal Navy, 2020). As well as the ex-KGB agent Sergei Skripal as well as his daughter who was killed by nerve agent in Salisbury, England in 2018 (Corera, 2020).

From the seventy people who answered the questionnaire 54.3% of the participants said that the threat of terrorism makes them feel afraid. 35.7% of participants said that the threat of terrorism doesn't make them feel afraid 8.6% said they were unsure and 1.4% said they had no opinion on the matter. This data shows that the majority of people have a fear of terrorism. This could be due to a range of factors such as previous experiences, social media and other factors.

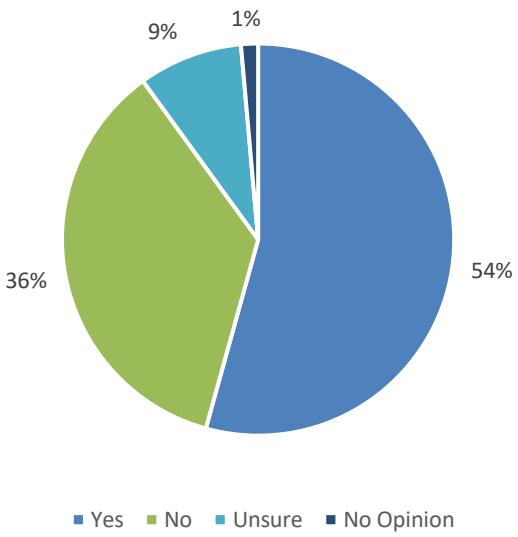

FIGURE 4
RESPONSE TO QUESTION 4

A question was asked to see how many of the participants have been affected by terrorism. The results show that 80% of the participants haven't been affected by terrorism which added up to 56 participants. However, 18.6% of people who completed the questionnaire had been affected by terrorism which added up to 13 people furthermore 1 person who completed the questionnaire preferred not to say whether they had affected by terrorism. These stats are important as well as interesting because it shows even from a small amount of people a significant amount of people from the overall group had been affected by terrorism in some sort of way which shows that terrorism is still a growing problem in the UK and the world.

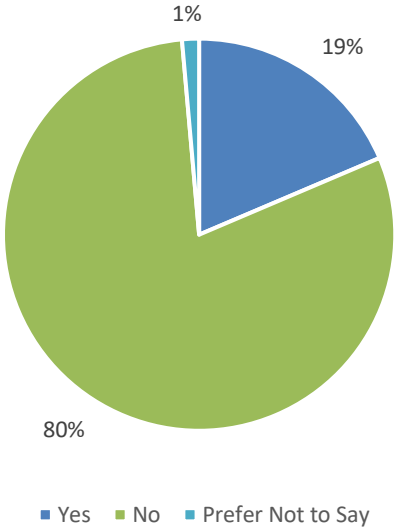

FIGURE 5
RESPONSE TO QUESTION 5

Following the question asking the participants whether or not terrorism had affected them a question was asked to the participants who had said that they had been affected by terrorism to give a brief summary on how terrorism had affected them. From the figure bellow it shows how the participants had been affected by terrorism.

"I used to live in Lebanon during the 2019-2021 protests which involved the state and its people"
"I was a taxi driver when a number of them (Al Qaeda) were convicted for a planned attack on the London stock exchange. It completely changed how people treated us. Me and my family who were also in the trade were subject to racist slurs even though we drove for a different firm were a different race White/ British and non Muslim"
"I was in Paris January 2015 (during the Charlie Hebdo attack) it made me realise how it could have been me and my family it was scary."
"I was in Sydney during the Lidnt chocolate shop siege in 2014 it was really scary how a terrorist incident could happen so close to home."
"I was in Sydney with my partner shopping when the Lidnt chocolate cafe was under siege. I remember watching the news and seeing the hostages holding an IS flag in the window. It was scary this happened in my city."
"I have seen people be racially abused for being Muslim or for being from the Middle East. It makes me angry how innocent people get blamed for terrorism."
"My father had to go to war after 9/11"
"I had to go on an operational tour with the British army."
"The police and government use terrorism to enforce laws and strip citizens of their rights."
"The Lebanese protests"
"The way I interpret the acts of the British military and their acts are equivalent to terrorism"

TABLE 3
RESPONSE FROM PARTICIPANTS IN RELATION TO EXPERIENCES WITH TERRORISM

The summaries given by the participants show the many different ways that terrorism has affected them internationally and domestically. The most common factor in the figure is the racial slurs and abuse to people from different backgrounds due to terrorism. This is important to this research on how terrorism has evolved and the police's evolvement because over the years in the UK there have been many attacks Aimed at the Muslim community this can be seen in a recent attack in Finsbury park in London when a white man hired a van from a company in Wales (BBC, 2018) and used the van as a weapon to run down people from the Muslim community, as well as internationally when a lone gunman attacked a mosque in Christchurch, New Zealand (Quek, 2019).

A question asked the participants if they thought terrorism was a threat to domestic security. 53 people (75.7%) said that they think that terrorism is a major threat to domestic security while 5 people (5.1%) said that they didn't think terrorism was a major threat and 12 people (17.1%) said that they were unsure. Furthermore the following question asked the participants if they thought terrorism was a major threat to international security in which 60 people (85.7%) said that they feel terrorism is a major threat to international security while 5 people (7.1%) said they don't think terrorism is a major threat and 5 people (7.1%) said they were unsure. This data shows that people think that terrorism is more of a threat on an international scale compared to a domestic scale this could be because of the many forms of terrorism as well as the different groups and individuals with all different intentions.

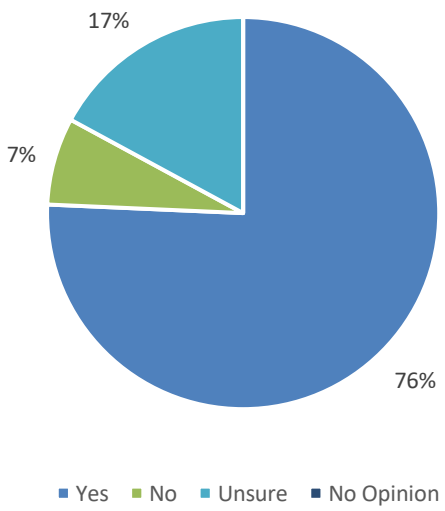

FIGURE 6
RESPONSE TO QUESTION 7

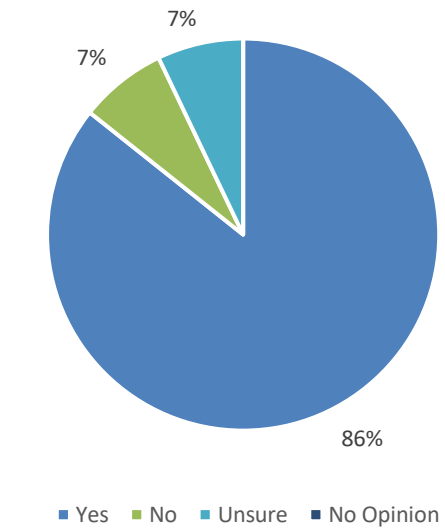

FIGURE 7
RESPONSE TO QUESTION 8

The questionnaire asked the participants whether or not they think that social media acts as a catalyst for terrorism. This question was asked because of the attack on the Charlie Hebdo offices in Paris in 2015. The terrorists attacked the offices due to the paper mocking the prophet Mohammed (Polonska-Kimunguyi, Gillespie, 2016).

From the seventy participants 47 people (67.1%) said that they think social media can act like a catalyst for terrorism. However, 11 people said they don't think social media can speed up the process of terrorism furthermore 12 people (17.1%) said that they were unsure or had no opinion about the matter.

Following the previous question that asked the participants if they thought that social media acted as a catalyst for terrorism, the questionnaire then asked the participants if they think that media such as the news and social media platforms should uphold more principles to negate the threat of terrorism. 53 people (67.1%) said that they think that media should have principles that negate the threat of terrorism, this links to the previous question where 47 people believed that social media acts as a catalyst for terrorism. However, 6 people said media shouldn't uphold principles this could be due to the fact it would infringe people's right to privacy.

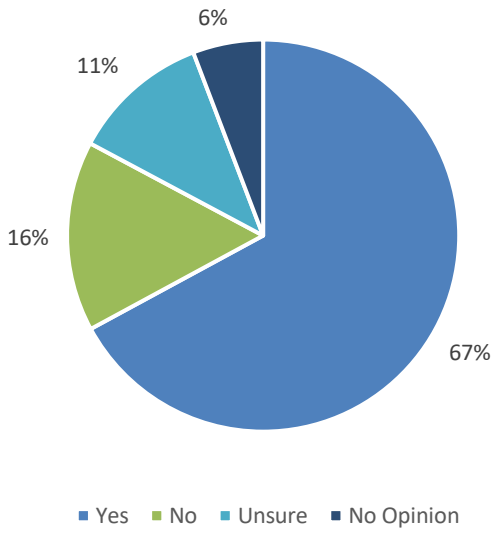

FIGURE 8
RESPONSE TO QUESTION 9

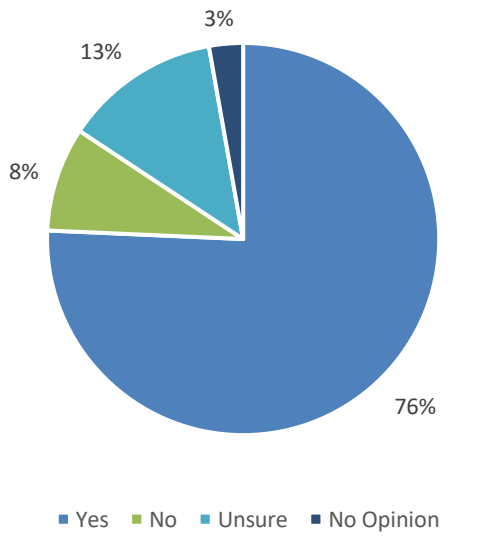

FIGURE 9
RESPONSE TO QUESTION 10

A question was asked to see what the participants thought of the police's actions during the 2019 London Bridge attack when a lone attacker armed with a fake explosive vest and a knife was shot and killed by an officer (BBC, 2019). 58 people (82.9%) said that the officer was in the right when he shot

and killed the attacker. 9 people (12.9%) said they think the officer shouldn't have shot and killed the attacker while 3 people (4.3%) were unsure. The following question asked why they thought the officer was in the right or wrong when he shot and killed the attacker. There was a range of different responses to this question with a small portion of them being racist one of the answers said "Muslims should be shot on sight" Which again shows that racism can be a large problem when it comes to terrorism. Some of the answers to this question were:

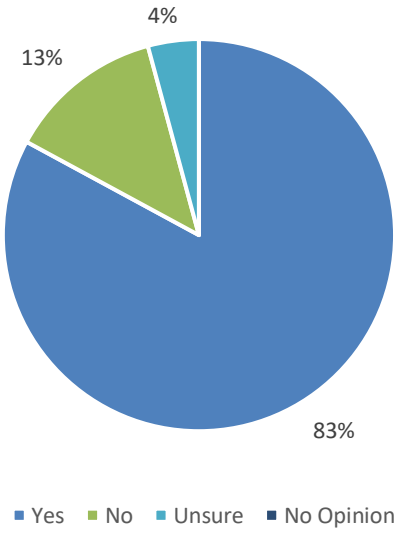

FIGURE 10
RESPONSE TO QUESTION 11

Right	**Wrong**
Although the vest was fake, the police had no way in knowing. They were going by the information they had.	Everyone has the right to life.
London had been subject to a number of horrendous attacks over the years, and I understand the panic and terror a man with a vest would cause so I believe the officer was in the right.	They have a right to a fair trial.
In this case, yes 100%. He was intent on hurting others and not acting quickly could have led to more lives lost.	I don't believe the police should be judge, jury and executioner.
If the explosive vest was real it would have killed many more people.	People will see this and martyr the man who was killed.

TABLE 4
RESPONSE OF PARTICIPANTS IN RELATION TO THE ACTS OF THE POLICE OFFICER AT THE SCENE OF THE 2017 LONDON BRIDGE ATTACK

The following question asked the participants if they thought that the police should have shoot to kill authority in terrorist situations. In response to this question 46 people (65.7%) said yes and 14 people (20%) said no while 10 people (14.3%) were unsure. This shows that people would feel safer if police were to use shoot to kill athority however this could go aggaisnt the geneva convention.

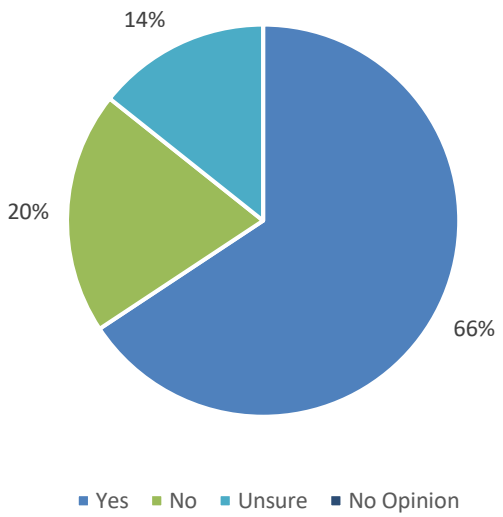

FIGURE 11
RESPONSE TO QUESTION 13

In the questionaire there were two questions that asked the participants if they thought that todays counter terrorism efforts are adequate as well as asking if the participants thought that counter terrorism forces do enough to negate the threat of terrorism. 32% of people thought that the efforts in todays counter terrorism were adewuate while 26.6% thought that the efforts were inadequate and 35.7% were unsure. This shows that looking all the participants only a third of them thought that the efforts were adequate which potentually shows that overall people are not confident with the efforts the counter terrorism. This could be due to many different factors such as the most recent attacks where counter terrorism forces as well as the police had kniwledge of the attackers and didnt act which ended up with a mass loss of life an example of this would be the Manchester attack were the MI5 and MI6 had knowledge of the attacker but didnt act (Craige, Farrelly, Santos, Smith,Pollard and Jones, 2018). Furthermore, 43.3% of people thought that counter terrorism forces were doing enough to negate the threat of terrorism while 28.6% dissagreed and 35.7% were unsure.

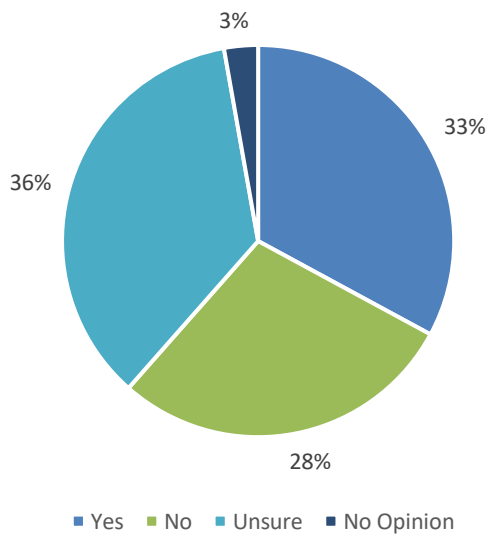

FIGURE 12
RESPONSE TO QUESTION 14

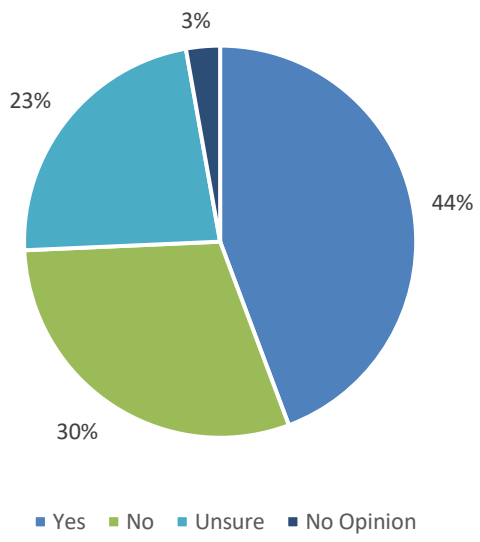

FIGURE 13
RESPONSE TO QUESTION 15

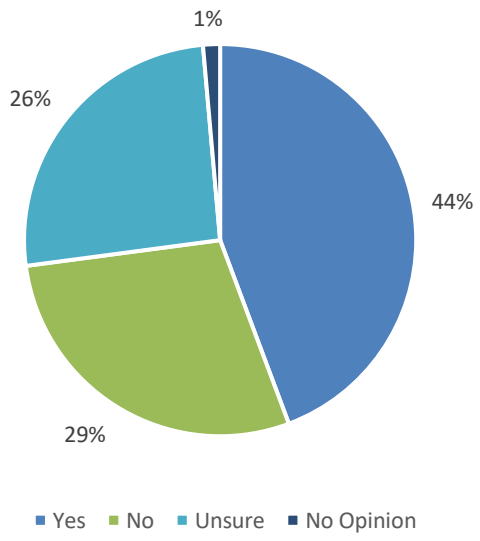

FIGURE 14
RESPONSE TO QUESTION 16

A short interview was conducted with a person who is associated with the counter terrorism service. The interviewee wished to remain anonymous. They spoke about how the police's efforts in coping with terrorism. they key aspects they spoke about was their response time as well as the different training the police conduct for different scenarios as well as the different sections of the police service that are used for different situations within the police and their fight against terrorism. The interviewee said that the police aim to respond to an incident to either nullify the threat or set up cordons around the area as soon as possible they stated that this was seen during the attack in London where the police managed to get to the scene and nullify the threat in 8 minutes. They also said that the police work closely with social workers and schools to help children who are at risk of being radicalized into joining a terrorist organization or who are at danger of committing serious terrorist crimes. A question was asked to the interviewee on how the police have managed to adapt to terrorism after the 7/7 bombings and they said that the police work closely with a number of departments within the government to try and identify threats and investigate them before an attack has happened, they said this could be seen when a young White boy from Llantrisant, Bridgend planned a lone wolf attack in Cardiff during a concert and the principality stadium. The young boy

was seen posting images supporting Al Qaeda on social media while also posting the IS flag. The police had seen this and acted instantly seizing his mobile device and laptop. They then found the evidence and arrested him before any harm could be done. This shows that social media can have a big impact on terrorism.

Conclusion

The main findings in this research were gathered from interviews with personnel affiliated with counter terrorism as well as asking the public about their thoughts about the police's response and efforts with coping with the rising demand of terrorism via a questionnaire. One of the key findings from the questionnaire was that a small number of the participants had racist views when talking about terrorism and how the police should deal with terrorism. This highlights the problem with racism in the UK and the world and how racism can lead to terroristic events which have been seen in the past in Christchurch, New Zealand and in Finsbury Park, London. This point also proves that far right groups such as the English defence league (EDL) and other groups can cause serious tension between different backgrounds in the UK. The questionnaire also highlighted that 50% of the participants felt that counter terrorism forces within the police were doing enough to keep the British public safe as well as working to the best of their ability to negate the ongoing threat of terrorism. Furthermore, one of the key findings from this questionnaire was that 65.7% out of the 70 participants thought that police should have shoot to kill authority in cases of terrorism. This means that the participants think that police should be able to shoot individuals who are engaging in terroristic activities to neutralize the threat of terrorism.

The study also found that the police have improved drastically with their counter terrorism efforts. After a short interview with a person who is affiliated with counter terrorism they said that the police have been working with different agencies and departments such as the military as well as the ministry of defence. This has been seen in the past and most notoriously with what is regarded the first act of counter terrorism showed to the public during the Iranian embassy siege where the SAS worked closely with the police to nullify the threat that the terrorists possessed when they had entered the embassy and held hostages. This was a big step in Britain's counter terrorism efforts as Margret Thatcher ordered that the SAS efforts in nullifying the threat was to be broadcasted live which acted as a deterrent for terrorists in the UK (Fremont-Barnes and Winner, 2009).

The interview also had key points saying that the police were using the internet as well as social media to find at risk people and make sure that they cannot commit potential attacks this was seen in South Wales when the police stopped an attack in Cardiff.

Recommendations

A recommendation would be to train the police in high risk areas so they know how to identify radicalization. Whilst simultaneously being able to deter youths who have family members affiliated with terrorist organizations.

A second recommendation would be that people who have been convicted of terrorism or charged with terrorist offences depending on the severity of the offence after leaving prison as well as being closely monitored to ensure that they are not a threat to the public. If this happened the London bridge attack of 2017 could have been avoided.

A further recommendation would be to have more plain clothed officers at concerts and other venues where there are mass crowds of people so that if an act of terror did erupt the police would already be at the scene. This could relate back to the previous point which emphasises monitoring and identification of terrorist groups and potential targets.

Finally the police and other agencies should work closely with prisons reforming inmates that have been incarcerated for terrorism. As well as doing routine checks in prisons to ensure that people are not being radicalized.

Implications

This research found that the participants did not have faith in the police's efforts when it came to counter terrorism this can be seen during the Manchester Attack when the police as well as MI5 and MI6 had knowledge of Salman Abebi but did not act on their knowledge which resulted in the loss of

many lives (The UK Government, 2017). The research also showed that terrorism is constantly evolving and there is no way the police can control the high levels of extremism due to the radicalization that happens in prisons and on various platforms within the internet such as chat rooms on the Dark web and social media and due to the fact that handbooks written by terrorist organizations such as 'inspire' are easily accessible on the Dark web as well as the accessibility to blueprints to design firearms and ammunitions for firearms and improvised explosive devices.

Other implications found during this research was that in the terrorism act of 2006 it states that a person suspected of terrorism can only be detained for 30 days without sufficient evidence which can implicate prosecution of potential terrorists (Terrorism Act 2006).

Limitations

The research conducted could be seen as bias due to the fact that members of the police service didn't complete the questionnaire. Which meant that people who have a negative opinion on the police could be saying negative comments against the police which was seen in the comment made by a participant when they were asked how they was affected by terrorism "the police and government use terrorism to enforce laws and strip citizens of their rights and liberty."

This research was also conducted during the Covid-19 pandemic where national and local lockdowns were enforced for large periods of time which meant that face to face interviews couldn't be conducted due to the dangers of Covid-19 and online interviews with other interviewees couldn't go ahead because they didn't feel comfortable talking about sensitive information online due to the fear of the information being compromised. However, a questionnaire was constructed to engage with the public and to collect their thoughts however there were some responses that were inappropriate with people completing the questionnaire and putting inappropriate answers which had to be removed from the questionnaire because their answers did not talk about their feelings on the police or their response to terrorism.

Further Research

If this research were to be conducted again and without the limitation of Covid-19, it would make a more clear and less bias approach to this research if a questionnaire was available for members of the police service and to see how they feel the police's progress with counter terrorism was. As well as handing out questionnaires in person to the public as it would make a more diverse approach to gathering research.

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