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Trends. Palestinian Mothers and the Death of Terrorism

Editor

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Most definitions of terrorism include at least two components: (1) violence or the threat of violence to achieve a political objective and (2) human victims that are innocent. Although terrorism may have been a viable concept in some previous eras with strict prescriptions and proscriptions of warfare that rendered the latter more like a deadly game, it is a vacuous concept at present.

The problem is with the notion of innocent victims. There are none. Off-duty military and police officers will be a threat as soon as they are back on duty. Women and children—even if not operational cadre themselves—may provide social support for adversaries. And children may grow up to be combatants, while women may give birth to them. Others who become victims may pay taxes or otherwise support the infrastructure of an adversary. One is part of the problem or part of the solution. In fact so-called rules of war--developed and effected by the powers that be--serve as the ultimate in subjugated discourse. Be constrained by them and remain subjugated.