Terrorism and Torture

FREE Public Lecture Series
August 2007 University of Western Australia

In the wake of the terrible events of 9/11 the response against terrorism has included:

- pre-emptive war
- illegal kidnapping and indefinite detention of ‘suspects’ the world over
- ‘legalized’ practice of certain forms of torture by Western governments

Do these strategies reduce the risk of terrorism or increase the likelihood of further atrocities?

The public relies on the media to inform on these important issues, but what is real and what is spin?

These questions will be explored in a series of public lectures presented by the Institute of Advanced Studies.

In parallel to the public lecture series, a three-day symposium (9 – 11 August) presented by the Institute of Advanced Studies will provide an in-depth scholarly exploration of these issues. For details visit: www.ias.uwa.edu.au

This event represents an interdisciplinary collaboration of international experts from four perspectives: (1) media and communication studies, (2) experimental and clinical psychology, (3) public perceptions and political science, and (4) criminal justice and law.

Public Lecture Series (all lectures will be held in the Social Science Lecture Theatre from 6 – 7 pm)

6 August – Engaging with the media
Professor John Tulloch, Brunel University

8 August – Reporting about torture: Dilemmas and solutions
Professor Doris Graber, University of Illinois

9 August – From the terrorists’ point of view
Professor Fathali Moghaddam, Georgetown University

13 August – Outsmarting the terrorists
Professor Ron Clarke, Rutgers University

Speakers’ biographies

John Tulloch – Professor Tulloch has written several books on risk, security, and media. In a remarkable twist of fate, his career in media and risk perception took a sharp turn when he experienced the horrors of terrorism and the associated media frenzy first hand. As a survivor of the 7/7 London bombings, the image of his face swathed in bandages and blood with his business suit blackened and frayed, was seized upon worldwide as the iconic face of terror victims. He has since published a book, One Day in July: Experiencing 7/7 (2006).

Doris Graber – Professor Graber is perhaps the highest profile American analyzing the politics of the mass media. She has published extensively on the politics of terrorism and torture and their implications for the media and civil liberties, including her recent book, Media Power in Politics (2006).

Fathali Moghaddam – Professor Moghaddam is an expert on inter-group conflict, collective aggression, terrorism, perceived injustice, and health and culture. He has published widely on the psychology of terrorism including his latest book, From the Terrorists’ Point of View: What They Experience and Why They Come to Destroy (2006).

Ron Clarke – Professor Clarke is an expert in the application of crime prevention techniques. He has consulted with the United Nations, the European Union, and various policing organizations around the world. He is one of the world’s leading criminologists with more than 150 books and articles. He has recently coauthored the book, Outsmarting the Terrorists (2006).

All welcome. No RSVP required.

For more information please contact the Institute of Advanced Studies
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