

Solutions proposed for uprooting terrorism everywhere.

UPROOTING TERRORISM EVERYWHERE

by Charles Carrington Cox

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The image is a book cover with a red color scheme. The top half features a large, glowing red globe of the Earth. The bottom half shows a desolate, sandy landscape with several tree stumps and exposed roots, suggesting deforestation or a barren environment. The text is overlaid on the globe and the landscape.

Uprooting
TERRORISM
Everywhere

CHARLES COX

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Charles Carrington Cox

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CHAPTER II

WE COMMIT TO DESTROYING THE MONSTERS

Everything we have been talking about so far revolves around unpardonable behaviors against which the good guys continually play defense. Civilized countries have been tiptoeing around the question about respecting precious national sovereignty dating back to the 1930s. The crowning non-achievement of that decade was allowing the National Socialists in Germany to bully their way into power and re-arm themselves to the teeth. This was a country that had been made into a pariah and basket case by the winners of World War I who then demanded full payment by a bankrupt country of major indemnities for the destruction it had caused in the war.

Well, of course there also happened to be a worldwide depression going on from the late 1920s into the '30s. The Weimar Republic was fragile, virtually bankrupt, and politically on the rocks. Adolf Hitler's violent paramilitary wing of the burgeoning Nazi Party, the Storm Detachment (*Sturmateilung* - SA), was the assemblage of thugs who played a major role in the 1920s and '30s in helping the party ultimately gain control of the streets and then of the government through violent means. These intimidating Brown Shirts led by Ernst Rohm, mimicked Benito Mussolini's notorious Black Shirts not only in costumes but also in extreme violence, specialized in providing security at Nazi events. They disrupted meetings of all the competing factions and fought opposing-party members, especially German Communist Party (KPD) activists, in the streets. They physically intimidated all defenseless minorities: Gypsies, socialist trade unionists, and their favorite victims - Slavs and Jews.

Outside observers cataloguing the composition of the SA hit list in the 1930s would have been unknowingly reading the profiles of Germany's targeted victims during the inevitable war in the 1940s. Their demographics coincided exactly with the above-mentioned

groups targeted for eventual annihilation. The Germans victimized millions of those minorities in territories ranging from the English Channel to western Russia.

Meanwhile, the victorious powers were coping with their own problems; they were not interested in paying attention to Germany. The map of Europe was being rearranged. The Ottoman Turks were going out of business in the southeast. The French had been rescued from their German tormentors and were licking their wounds. The British had their heads in the sand, fatigued after the tough sledding in World War I. The Russians had sorted out their system via bloodbaths and imprisonment. They were the only power of consequence paying attention to the agendas being hatched by Germany. What about the Americans? The 1917–18 military campaign was costly, and most Americans were only minimally interested in events in Europe. Finally, the Western powers were distracted as they coped with the serious challenges generated by the Great Depression (1929 to the late 1930s). The Nazi sideshow enjoyed relatively clear sailing in the '30s and grew into a juggernaut.

This hands-off fiasco with Germany serves as a poster child of what can occur when the world community neglects its responsibility to extinguish flare-ups before they become raging fires.

It would be divine if everyone decided to stop picking fights. The citizens of all countries must be educated to stop suspecting and even detesting people from different ethnic, racial, social, political, and religious backgrounds. Small children aren't born with these sentiments or biases; adults inculcate them in those young minds. Harmful actors populate legions of radical political and religious leaders who instill these feelings and fears in the young to facilitate the recruitment of innocent followers to join their ranks and help them carry out their detestable agendas. It's much easier to brainwash and recruit poor, uneducated, unemployed targets for

all those obvious reasons. When the number of followers reaches a certain critical mass, the leaders' successful fundraising efforts resonate more positively among the donors who would finance the chaos. The bottom line here: there is an urgent need to shrink the pool of potential innocent followers while putting the violent players out of business the moment their noxious agendas come to the attention of the civilized world community.

Even honest, hardworking leaders have fallen prey to the allure of swelling their ranks of followers, many of them raking in additional financial resources for their mosques or churches, by failing to condemn murderous movements, sublimating any feelings of guilt or concern. Actually, we know many of them fall in step with such enterprises for their own gain. Reference has been made to this reality in earlier sections here, citing the actions or inaction of clerics in Sri Lanka, India, Northern Ireland, and Colombia. To them we would add the Muslim clerics who have chosen not to denounce the barbarous behavior of all these jihadist groups we've been talking about here. Any of those clerics who have been assisting in the brainwashing, recruitment of militants or fundraising efforts to support the jihadists should be denounced and dealt with by someone immediately.

Some rays of hope are appearing. Interestingly, in a 2014 speech, Pope Francis efficiently and summarily excommunicated the members and supporters of all mafia groups in Italy and he denounced the actions of violent insurgent groups such as Boko Haram and ISIS. The Pope also declared peace with evangelical movements around the world, declaring it was unseemly for religious leaders to be competing feverishly to lure away believers of another set of guidelines and beliefs. In fact, the Pope also displayed a strong interest in collaborating with evangelist groups in various joint undertakings. Refugee relief and repatriation assistance would be excellent candidates for such initiatives among Christian movements. Presumably the Europeans would jump on

this bandwagon; desperate refugees from Africa and the Middle East would outnumber them by a two-to-one ratio within another minute or so.

Recently I read a short blurb about a demographer who apparently published a well-documented finding that, since the beginning of human civilization in our world, religion had killed more people than cancer. Interesting, and we all might be able to further buttress his findings if the two killers happened to be running sort of neck and neck at this juncture. Murderous jihadists and other Islamic fanatics might be adding 25% per month to the demographer's religion column, digging a progressively wider and deeper hole for cancer's race to the bottom in the ranking battle.

One would wonder if the world of Islam's accepted code of conduct embraced adherence to some hard-and-fast policy of excommunicating, expelling, executing, murdering or otherwise punishing followers who appear to be breaking some rules as stipulated in the Quran. The concern over the apparent lack of condemnation of such behavior has been voiced by a legion of Muslim scholars and leaders, but we still don't appear to be witnessing red cards being handed out to bad actors like those leading Boko Haram, al-Qaeda, Taliban and ISIS, for instance. Since ISIS has declared a blanket *jihad* against Shiites and even some Sunnis, this rabid behavior must be rising to the level of a blanket *fatwa* lurking out there, hanging over the heads of everyone in the world – except those of the leaders of the insurgencies. (Should this set-up be truly be characterized as a terrifying *carte blanche* or more accurately a *carte noire*?) Why wouldn't the Muslim leadership worldwide openly and angrily denounce the ISIS and similar leaders, thereby putting them in additional political and military peril, eroding their follower base and increasing the likelihood villagers and others would rat them out to those pursuing them.

Such measures would help convince potential young Muslims and random expatriate volunteers to desert this and all other violent, hate-driven movements – or to not join them in the first place. The terrorists' recruitment efforts would be undermined dramatically, leaving the murderers with an alarmingly shrinking and ultimately eviscerated fighting force.

Along these lines, we would hope those in the worldwide Muslim movement writ large were already contemplating launching a massive Internet blitz to counteract the current virtual monopoly enjoyed there by the numerous forces of evil. This would be an important contribution, especially within the realm of undermining the recruitment of fighters and certain categories of specialists such as bomb makers, computer experts, terrorism propagandists and fundraisers. I saw a cartoon somewhere a few years ago that depicted an ISIS-like figure dressed like the Pied Piper leading a long line of children behind him to be slaughtered in a desert in some godforsaken place. We all should be embarrassed by our inability to smother these evil peoples' takeover of Internet and social media playgrounds. An army of hackers should be engaged to take control of this battlefield. Should we beg the Russians, Ukrainians and Chinese to sell us technical assistance to deal with this humiliation?

The senior worldwide Muslim leadership in general appears to be inclined to help the world deal aggressively with ISIS and similar radical movements. The condemnation of these groups' platforms and actions is being expressed by many senior clerics. Mr. al-Baghdadi, a violent Sunni activist, currently doesn't appear to enjoy any noteworthy support from senior Sunni leadership anywhere.

Saudi Arabia, which has a longstanding strategic relationship with the United States and the West at large, is concerned about radical regime change movements at home and elsewhere. Their leadership has certainly become alarmed by the continuous background noise linking government and royal family members to

financial support for ISIS, Taliban and al-Qaeda. The Saudis are weighing in positively to help crush the radical Houthi Shiite insurrectionists in Yemen.

Egyptian Sunni leadership has already been engaged militarily against ISIS terrorists in neighboring Libya in response to that group's beheading of twenty-one innocent Egyptian Christian guest workers in Libyan oil fields. That movement's provocation of chaotic situations along that international border region is another irritant to the Egyptians.

The Jordanians were infuriated when ISIS beheaded a captive jet fighter pilot of theirs whose aircraft was shot down in northern Syria. That trusted ally of the West immediately launched an even higher-profile bombing campaign to destroy ISIS militants.

Morocco, another staunch ally, has traditional, cordial ties with Jordan, former colonizer France, the rest of Western Europe, and the United States.

Abu Dhabi and Oman will normally follow the lead of Gulf States giant Saudi Arabia.

Turkey has become increasingly involved in northern Syria, even rallying assistance from some branches of fierce Kurdish fighting units, to confront ISIS and eliminate their genocidal campaign near Turkey's northwestern border.

The above is a snapshot of what ISIS has bought into by taking up arms against its brother and sister Sunnis in the widening theater of battle. They are challenging law-abiding Sunnis in regions where overwhelming percentages of the populations want nothing to do with ISIS's band of evil, heretical Sunnis. These people are on a veritable kamikaze mission, having brought an impending *jihad cum fatwa* down upon themselves.

Shi'a-majority country leaders are key members in the ranks of ISIS enemies to the death, and not solely due to their membership in

Shi'a ranks. The elephant in that room, Iran, a Traditional Twelver Shi'a state, currently is ruled firmly by mullahs led by Grand Ayatollah Sayyid Ali Hussein Sistani. Iran and Shi'a militias are actively confronting ISIS, and not simply because the jihadists are Sunnis, but because they are destabilizing the whole region. The Iranians also garner good-guy points with the US and the West to ameliorate their overall economic and political situation at home. They confront severe internal hardship due to serious economic and political sanctions imposed by Western countries which insist they abandon their efforts to become another major military power possessing nuclear weapons.

It's not surprising to see Iraq's ancient Shi'a movement become a motivated player in the fight to obliterate ISIS. Iraq and Syria represent the second I and S in the ISIS acronym. Iraq is one of the first two countries currently targeted to be absorbed into the new so-called caliphate. Saddam Hussein's minority Sunni government controlled Iraq until the dictator suffered his untimely demise, and now the revered Islamic scholar Ayatollah Sayyid Ali Hussein Sistani leads the Shi'a majority there. Lately the Iraqi armed forces, assisted by American advisors, seem to have rallied somewhat against ISIS, clearly not relishing the idea of suffering through another round under a rabid Sunni dictatorship.

At this point we can go out on a limb and state that the impressive coalition comprised of the above-cited and other illustrious Muslim leaders will be a crucial partner to help the international community hunt down and exterminate ISIS and similar offshoots over the relatively short term. These leaders could also play an important role in counteracting the terrorists' recruitment efforts by forcefully attempting to dissuade young people everywhere from volunteering to become hunted-down genocidal murderers.

Let's be friends, even with seemingly bizarre individuals and cultures. Now it behooves us to address how civilized society should

prepare future generations to prevent movements like ISIS from gaining traction in the first place. The path to achieve happier outcomes resides in cultivating friendly, constructive behaviors in children at an early age.

The key to opening that door everywhere is found in the simple concept of internalizing tolerance and understanding of other people, their customs and religions, even their bizarre quirks. Anthropologists find these random aspects enlightening, and frequently very entertaining. How can you possibly hate and kill people you understand and even enjoy, especially when they understand and respect you in return? They have a right to follow their customs and religions peacefully, even if their activities and opinions appear to be stranger than strange.

Therefore, we close this chapter's depressing presentation with a list of strange, "different" things individuals and movements around the world think and do which tend to make other people suspicious of them. Hey, let's face it. Everyone else and every other culture are clearly "strange" in one way or another. Imagine hearing such colorful and revealing but nonthreatening utterances like those encased (or nut-cased) in the following samples:

"All those Catholics drink like lunatics. So do the Protestants and most other Christians. These people are setting bad examples for their young children, don't you think? **After all, drinking alcohol is a sin, isn't it?**"

"Mormons don't drink alcohol or any beverages with caffeine. Even Coca-Cola is prohibited! They don't smoke or utter curse words. That's crazy enough, but then they go around in that boring black and white uniform knocking on doors to recruit followers. They appear to be twenty-year-old children but they wear these badges that depict them as 'elders'. Who are those kids trying to kid? Isn't that illegal? Shouldn't these pests be forced to leave

people alone? **The religion police should arrest them as soon as they approach peoples' doors."**

"My friends say the Muslims are the craziest ones. They smoke like chimneys, drink coffee and tea all day long. This makes them become nervous, hypertensive insomniacs. They won't even have a beer or whisky to calm their nerves and help them sleep. **Have you ever seen any people that blindly self-destructive?"**

"While we're wondering about the Muslims, can you tell me why they always hide their women behind all those black veils and robes? They must be punishing them; it's a thousand degrees Celsius in those deserts and yet they have the women staggering around ready to faint. **Shouldn't there be laws against that?"**

"The indigenous tribes in some of those crazy jungle countries sometimes have twenty or thirty gods and other kinds of deities they dance around for and chant to. What's the program: do they pray to a large number of gods hoping at least **one** of them will forgive them for something bad they did, or to make it rain or stop raining? **Shouldn't they be forced by the government to select and worship only one god?"**

"The Americans have five or ten different kinds of churches in every town - Catholic, Episcopalian, Jewish, Mormon, Baptist, Evangelical and Muslim, just to name only a few. All they seem to do is compete fiercely with each other win over followers. This scenario looks seriously exhausting, confusing and complicated. Why doesn't their government simplify everything? **They need to force everyone to agree on only one legal religion for the whole country."**

"Africans can have as many wives as they want, even if they can't afford to care for all of them very well. Don't they realize it's almost impossible to keep one wife happy and obedient? **Why are they crazily multiplying their problems?"**

“The Muslims are crazy with the wife thing as well. They can have as many as four of them if it is clear they possess the financial resources to support such a family. Why would a smart Muslim man buy into such trouble voluntarily? **Now he must confront warfare on two fronts: the women are always fighting with each other AND with him!**”

“Married Frenchmen deal with that kind of troublesome situation by having numerous girlfriends. (The “accepted” extra girlfriend quota over there is one extra, but not all of them follow that guideline.) Even their presidents do this. So do the Italians and their presidents. Most of these people are Catholics. What’s going on with strong supervisory vigilance at the Vatican level? Shouldn’t their church punish these ‘role model’ leaders at the top who spin out of control like this? **Isn’t their Pope Catholic?! Can’t he stop them?**”

“The Americans have a national song that says they live in ‘the land of the free and the home of the brave’. If every adult male American has at least five guns for ‘self-defense’, I’m thinking that means none of them can be brave at all. **Everyone is scared to death of everyone else over there.**”

“Why do the Muslims bang their heads on floors and chant things five times a day? They all have bruised foreheads and they waste so much time doing this. Can’t their god get their commitment message if they bang it out just once a day? **They’re just wasting time and risking blunt-force-trauma-generated brain damage.**”

“Catholics can escape punishment easily if they confess their sins just once a year to a priest who lurks nearby in a dark, secret box. Apparently this earns them *carte blanche* permission to get in trouble for a full year until the next confession. Then they can confess just one thing, apologize again and get to be covered for yet

another year. **How can that practice be both crafty AND legal in a religion?"**

"While we're on the confession thing, people say all Jews feel guilty about everything all the time. I can list many other religions whose followers are much worse than Jews. **Is that carte blanche guilt thing of theirs a healthy habit?"**

"Black people everywhere spend most of their time dancing and singing. When they're not dancing and singing they're watching *other* black people dancing and singing. **Aren't almost all of them poor and just acting like they're happy?"**

"Those freaks who have tattoos all over their bodies and rings through their noses and ears are real losers. Others have pink hair and wear jeans with holes in the knees. **Don't they know they'll never get respect, a job or respectable friends parading around stupidly like that?"**

"Speaking of crazy behaviors, why do Jews and Muslims totally refuse to eat pork, even though they agree pigs are much smarter than people? (Well, at least they do agree on *one* thing, but who made that silly dietary rule in the first place?) **Are those religions monitored by some kind of Nazi-like, food-police apparatus? This all sounds so crazy."**

"Speaking of food, why won't Jews eat shellfish? Don't the shells help keep the fish clean? **Why are all these people sticking by crazy rules made three thousand years ago anyway?**

"African men like to let their wives get very fat to prove they are rich enough to feed large fat families. What kind of crazy custom is that? **All it does is make their food and clothing costs skyrocket to overstuff all those 'full figures'."**

"Some of those evangelical pastors in America have churches the size of football stadiums and they fly around in private airplanes. Why do their members allow them to beg for so much money from

them just so they can buy airplanes? **I'm guessing those pastors have girlfriends to visit everywhere, just like the French and Italians.**"

"Speaking of the evangelists, I've noticed their sermons promise that 'all church members will become as rich as their pastors' as long as they believe in God, lead a Christian life, work hard, and come to their church religiously by bringing large cash donations. **Shouldn't these rich pastors be put in prison for lying blatantly to their flocks?"**

"Muslims fear and detest dogs, saying they should be killed. Hey, look at the Chinese. They aren't afraid of them. In fact, they buy them, slaughter them and eat them. When will these Muslim people finally decide to embrace lovable canines that could chase robbers away from their houses at night? **No one is begging them to eat the dogs, right? What's wrong with those people?"**

"Have you noticed that when Arabs meet in the street or anywhere else they ask about each other's health, grandparents, parents, wives, children, grandchildren, shops and factories, sheep, goats, grapes, olive groves, fruit trees and at least ten other things? People say they are just being polite and showing they care about their friends and acquaintances. **You know what I think? Actually, they're cagily trying to gather strategic information** about how the other guy's businesses are faring, how they're fighting diseases in their crops or livestock, how much a daughter's dowry might cost, things like that. Otherwise, why else would they spend (waste!) so much time just exchanging all those ceremonial news items? What if each one of them had four wives and sixteen children to report about? That would waste at least half a day. Don't they remember that time is money. **They have to clothe and feed twenty-one people plus their goats!"**

"Did you hear that a favorite song of the author of this book is "(You Gotta) Fight for Your Right (To Party)" released by the Beastie

Boys in 1986? I never would have read this amazingly excellent book if I'd known about that beforehand. Serious, intelligent people just don't listen to stupid groups like that. **Shouldn't he be arrested by the US Thought Control Bureau or the Behavior-Modifying Police immediately? Shouldn't they at least have this book burned and have him prohibited from publishing anything else in the future?"**

There is one reasonable response to all of the questions above: leave these people alone. Let them lead their own lives. As long as they aren't threatening or attacking you, why should you worry about them or what they think? By the way, it wouldn't kill us to learn something about why they have certain customs and habits. Listen to what they say. Perhaps they're not as crazy as you think. You might even enjoy hearing some of their answers.

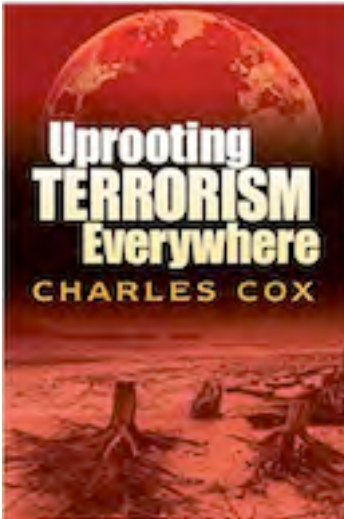
It would be marvelous if everyone could move on and shed biases and feelings of hatred aimed at historical enemies. It would be uplifting if people stopped buying into feelings of hatred drilled into them since childhood about some religion or tribe who "slaughtered our forefathers in the late 1400s, burning their homes and stealing all their livestock. We got back at them in 1687, managing to kill 4,500 of those villagers and burn their crops, thereby insuring most of them would starve that winter. We fought them again during and after World War I; both sides took heavy casualties but we think we were victorious." ***Move on.***

Let's go out to the jungle for the last one. An Indian chief in a remote area of the Brazilian Amazon region told me his tribe would never make peace with a traditional enemy tribe with which they had fought for countless generations. (Among their atrocious actions: they would steal women from my friend's tribe.) The reason: "That unmanly group began using rifles and shotguns during their wars against us while my ancestors always respected the tradition of real, manly warriors and took down those gutless enemies with bows and arrows, the arrows with poisonous tips."

I asked him when they had fought their most recent battle; he said tribal lore placed that event at sixty or seventy years ago. I mentioned hearing recent talk circulating in the region about several tribes starting to petition state and federal government agencies and local politicians for the construction and staffing of a sorely needed school and clinic up there, two crucial services lacking in my friend's region near the end of the world. Their prospects for success depended upon organizing a large and vociferous lobbying turnout by all the tribes. The message to my friend: "You need to bury the hatchets (and guns and bows and arrows) and form a coalition to fight the good fight to get the school and clinic. Think of your children. These are crucial services needed by the community. Your overall tribal strength in this remote region comes from your numbers. **Every** tribe must join the effort." His response: "We refuse to join any coalition that includes those cowards down the river." It's a shame. They're unable to move on.

Actually, the naked truth is that every country on this earth is comprised of conglomerations of tribes. Most of them have sorted out at least some of their most challenging differences, albeit begrudgingly at times. Have a look at the history of the somehow United Kingdom. (Well, those tribes are still arguing a lot over there but they've suspended the bow-and-arrows thing.)

Babies born in jungles, deserts, mountains, urban slums, mansions or anywhere else don't come into this world with built-in biases or feelings of hatred toward any people, regardless of their race or creed. Black, white, brown, and yellow babies play together at preschool age. They have no strange fears or feelings about their playmates. The grown-ups inculcate discriminatory and inflammatory thinking and behaviors in their children and in the offspring of others. Adults are to blame for all this. Shame on us.



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