

Science of Knowledge II

Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg

Dr. Marcel M. Baumann

DAAD Guest Lecturer

Department of Political Science, University of Freiburg





Please feel free to contact me!!



Don't be shy!

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There are no stupid questions. There are only stupid answers!!



Lecture Series







Travelling to Indonesia with German Thought

Universitas Atma Jaya Yogyakarta Lecture Series on New Trends in Applied Social Theory and Conflict Studies

speaker _

Dr. Marcel M. Baumann

Areas of expertise: Peace and Conflict Studies, Social Theory. Terrorism, Conflict Transformation

Lecturer and Senior Researcher, Department of Political Science, University of Freiburg Visiting Lecturer, Department of Sociology, FISIP, Universitas Atma Jaya Yogyakarta

Science of Knowledge I

Science of Knowledge II

03NOV 2016

Critical Theory

○ 07.30-10.00 **○** Room 4306, Campus 4 FISIP UAJY

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Lecture Series





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Dialectic of Enlightenment

⊙ 10.00 - 12.00 🔾 Ruang Diskusi, Basement of Campus 2 UAJY



Hannah Arendt & Günther Anders in Yogyakarta



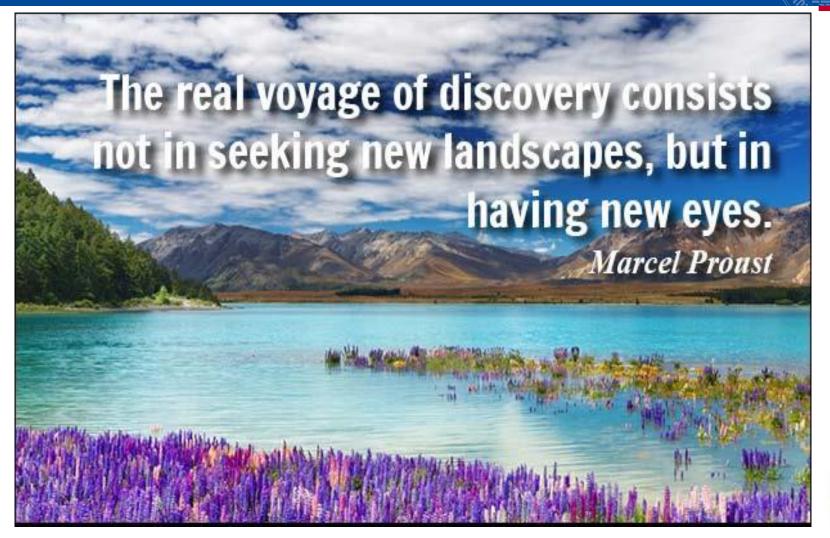
Conflict Transformation: from Northern Ireland to Maluku



Overview about today's lecture

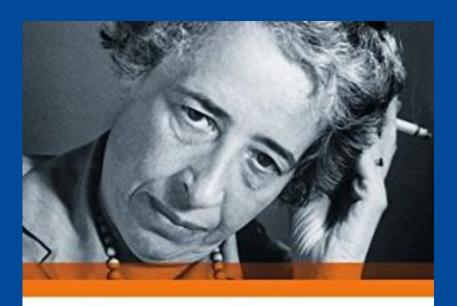
- Review of last lecture: Where are we?
- Applied science
- The dangers of applied science: Project Camelot
- HOW? Qualitative approaches: Discourse analysis (Foucault)
- HOW? Quantitative approaches:
 Questionnaire analysis
- Application: Conflict analysis
 - Terrorism studies







Werturteilsfreiheit Value-free judgements



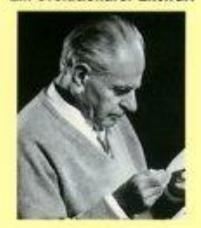
Hannah Arendt

Denken ohne Geländer PIPER

KARLR. POPPER

Objektive Erkenntnis

Ein evolutionärer Entwurf

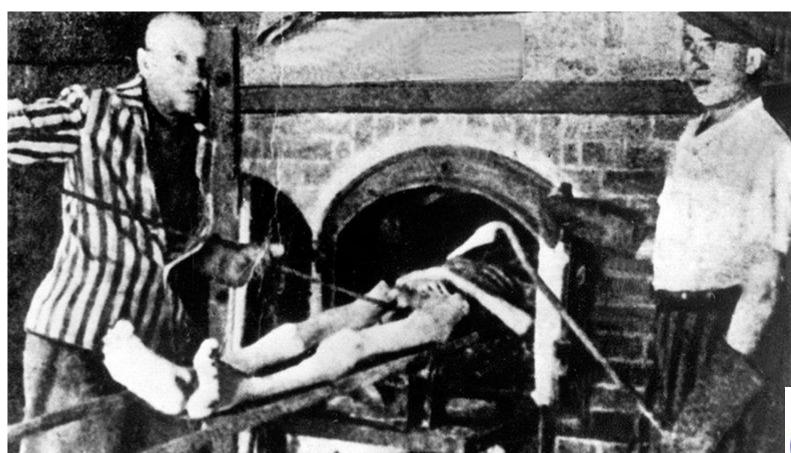




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Neutral when faced with genocide?









We can't do research about the gas chambers in an objective way

Normative science

Danger: Lumpenintellectuals

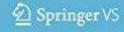


What is terrorism?





Methodology:
Interpretative sociology
integrated with
Ethics / Moral Philosophy





What is "terrorism"? Understanding "terrorism"



- Terror: "terreur" (French), "terror" (Latin): great fear; "terrere" (Latin): to frighten
- The aim of terrorists is not terror; terror can be a method used to achieve certain aims
- Politically motivated violence; resistance
- Political violence
- Anarchists, communists pedophile?
- United Nations: does not have a definition of "terrorism"



What is "terrorism"? Understanding "terrorism"

- Bruce Hoffman: political in aims and motives; violent or threatening violence; designed to have far-reaching psychological repercussions beyond the immediate victim or target; conducted either by an organization with an identifiable chain of command or conspiratorial cell structure or by individuals or a small collection of individuals; perpetrated by a subnational group or nonstate entity
- Terrorist or freedom fighter?



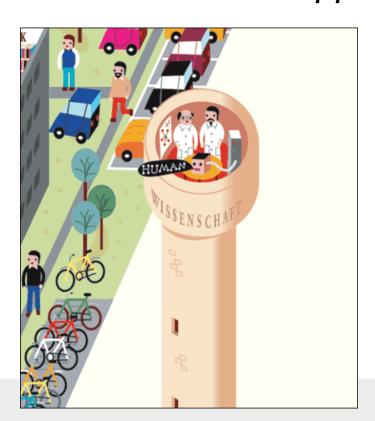
Applied science

- "pure science"
- basics research (Grundlagenforschung)

Thesis: "Any research that is not applied, is

useless"???

Ivory tower





Applied science



- A very, very big danger: "Auftragsforschung":
 Mission-oriented research: research funded by and for somebody
- Project Camelot: military funded social science
- Germany: SFB 700 (FU Berlin)
- Other bone of contentions:

Evolution or creation?

Predictions of Political Economy



Military-Science: Project Camelot

- 1964: Project Camelot: SECRET counterinsurgency study by the United States Army
- Team of psychologists, sociologists, anthropologists, economists, and other intellectuals to analyze the society and culture of numerous "target" countries, with a special focus on Latin America; the first target country was Chile
- Goal: enhancement of the Army's ability to predict and influence social developments in foreign countries; study of cultures in developing countries in order to "influence" and "control" unfolding events

Project Camelot



- Scholars in South America discovered its military funding and criticized its motives as imperialistic
- American Anthropological Association (AAA): senior members uncovered Project Camelot; AAA developed a Code of Ethics for research; in Europe: Johan Galtung
- Dangerous development, ongoing until today:
 Intellectuals as informants, spies
- Herbert Marcuse and others

Recent exmple from Germany: SFB 700





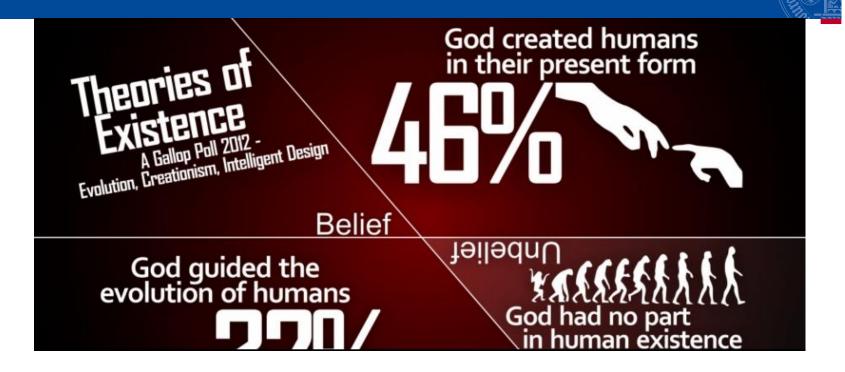


Auftragsforschung: mission oriented research

- Mission-oriented research: focussed on the premises and conditions of the government
- Guided-research, contracted research
- Lumpenintellectuals: bogus research
- 2007: "Research" on Afghanistan: supported the government position, without any critical reflection; no questions asked
- Researchers in Germany are too scared to voice any criticism against the SFB 700
- SFB 700: not only useless, but very dangerous



Evolution or creation?



Jesus versus Darwin

Was Isaac Newton a creationist?

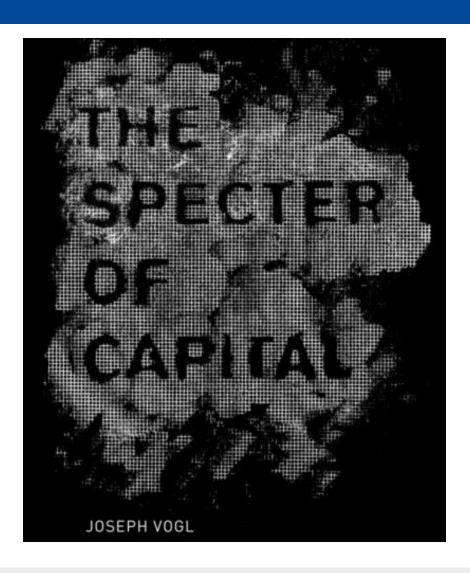


Predictions of Political Economy

- 1997: Nobel Prize in Economics for Robert Merton and Myron S. Scholes
- 1973: Robert Merton, Fischer Black and Myron Scholes: Black-Scholes formula
- Black-Scholes formula: How can one eliminate the risks of the financial markets by trading in risks (hedge funds)? They formulated a general model for the structuring of trade in financial derivatives and for equalizing trends within the entire system: calculating and predicting of risks
- However: Only a few months after they got the Noble Prize, their own Hedgefund "Long Term Capial Management" lost billions and crashed.

Recent examples: financial crises, Brexit





Neo-Marxist analysis of classical liberalism



The market knows best?

- aim: to demystify finance capitalism by tracing the historical stages through which the financial market achieved its current autonomy
- Classical and neoclassical economic theorists have played a decisive role here: ignoring early warnings about the instability of speculative finance markets
- "The market knows best": this is a secular version of Adam Smith's faith in the market's "invisible hand"
- Vogl shows that financial theory, assisted by mathematical modeling and digital technology, itself operates as a "hidden hand," pushing economic reality into unknown territory.
- Vogl challenges economic theorists to move beyond the neoclassical paradigm to discern the true contours of the curren epoch of financial convulsions



Brexit

- June 2016: United Kingdom of Great Britan and Northern Ireland: decided in a referendum to leave the European Union
- During the referendum campaign: a series of estimates, calculations and predictions: almost like doom's day, the end of the world
- Financial turmoil, economic downturn
- Third World War

None of this predictions became true!



Political Economy: Conclusions

- Ideology: there is a normative background in all economic theories: liberalism, Marxism et al.
- Be careful with predictions!
- Because you might be hold to account!

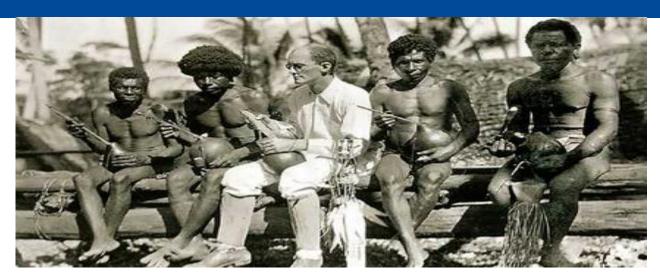


HOW? Qualitative approaches

- Literature review, text analyses
- Qualitative text analysis et al.
- Discourse analysis
- Ethnographic research
- Comaprisons, historical comparisons, archive research
- (Creative) Thinking: Denken heißt
 Überschreiten: Thinking means Transcending









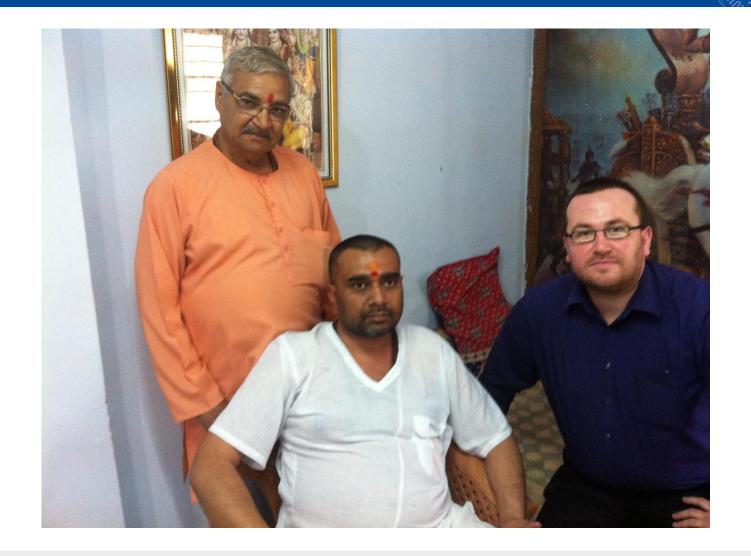


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Field Research

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Be careful: Goldfishbowl dilemma







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Thinking





Discourse analysis



- in general terms: approaches to analyze written, vocal, or sign language use, or any significant semiotic event
- Michel Foucault
- Ruth Wodak: Critical Discourse Analysis
- Linguistics, analysis of speech acts



Michel Foucault (1926 – 1984)



- French philosopher, historian, social theorist, philologist, literary critic
- Post-structuralist, postmodernist
- What question did he ask?
 - What is the relationship between power and knowledge?
 - How can power and knowledge be used as a form of social control (through social institutions)?
 - Which role does power play in the evolution of discourse in society?



Foucaultian discourse analysis



- Order of Discourse (1971) L'ordre du discours
- discourse describes "an entity of sequences, of signs, in that they are enouncements (énoncés)" (Foucault in the Archeology of knowledge)
- Foucault examines the mechanism, which control discourse (prohibition, division between sane and insane, will to truth, commentary, author, disciplines, rituals, societies of discourse, doctrines, Social appropriation of discourses)



Foucaultian discourse analysis



Conclusions:

- Discourse and power are interlinked and can hardly be disconnected from each other, thus discourse means power; discourse is biased trough the desire for power
- Subjects and worlds of subjects are very much constructed by their discourses and language
- Knowledge is both the creator of power and creation of power



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Foucaultian discourse analysis

- Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison (1975) Surveiller et punir: Naissance de la Prison
- analysis of the social and theoretical mechanisms behind the massive changes in Western *penal systems* during the 18th and 19th century: transformation from a cruel penal system, based un torture, torment and public humiliation towards a penal system, based on principles of humanity and moderate punishment



Conclusion: discourse analysis

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- The important question: HOW?
- How is language used ….?
- How is language used in the relationship between power and language?
- Why are certain issues excluded?
- How are they excluded
- Why are certain issues/terms/words used at the expense of others?



- Mindanao: Southern Philippines
- Philippines: largest Catholic country in Southeas Asia
- Mindanao: many Muslim areas, significant Muslim population
- Many violent conflicts: Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF)
- Peace process: 2012: Peace agreement



Application: Foucault in Mindanao?

Discourse of conflict and peace in Mindanao:

- "Mindanao as an enclave"
- "the bad Moro is under your bed"
- "dark, dodgy, dirty corner of the corner"
- Moros as trouble-makers

Excluded from the discourse:

- Self-determination
- Sharia law



- central government in Manila looks down to Mindanao in a post-colonial manner: although Mindanao was never colonized, has always been perceived as an enclave, a dodgy area, where nobody wants to go to anyway
- Manila and parts of Luzon where seen as international tourists attractions, while Mindanao: pocket of villain, dark corner of the country
- Luzon: tourist paradies
- Mindanao: travel warnning or even travel ban



- The "Moro problem" involves Muslim separatism and violent conflict in the southern Philippines.
- Philippine Muslims, known as Moros, have been considered "trouble makers" in Mindanao by a succession of Philippine governments. The historical roots of the Moro problem can be traced back to the Spanish colonial period.









HOW? Quantitative approaches



- Data collection
- Data analysis, Regression analysis
- Primary data
- Secondary data
- Questionnaire-based, surveys
- Opinion polls



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Questionnaire analysis





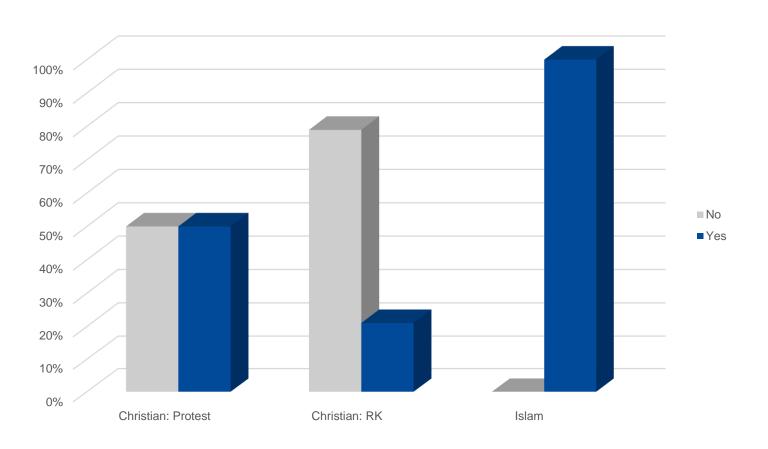




Example: Mindanao

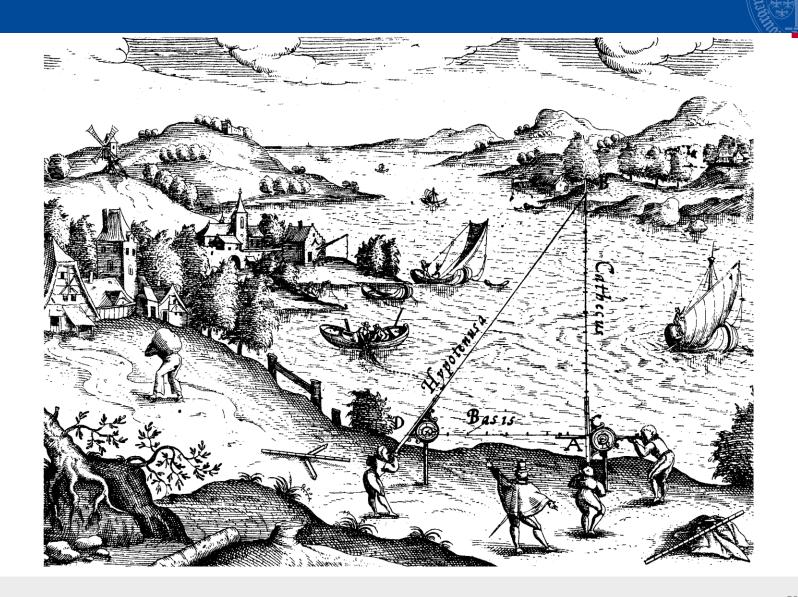


Do you support the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL)?





Triangulation: a new buzzword





Don't use buzzwords!



Triangulation
Discourse
Implementation
Deconstruction



Application: Conflict Studies

- Starting point: develop a (sociological) theoretical framework; are apply an existing framework
- Conflict typology: What kind of conflict is our research about?
- Causes or drivers of conflict: political, ethnicity, religion, land, ressources
- Clarification of all terms used: definitions
- Methodology: qualitative or quantitative?
- Comparison or case study?
- Which data is going to be used?



Application: Conflict Studies



- Which data? Interview data, newspaper sources, 5 archive research
- Expert interviews
- Participatory observations, taking field notes

Analysis. Qualitative or quantitative?

Both approaches are equally important. None is better than the other.

Conflict Analysis: Youth bulge

- Youth bulge thesis: Conflicts are more likely to arise, if the percentage of youth within society is high
- More youth = more conflicts
- World Bank research: tried to confirm the thesis
- BUT: Framework and methods can be disputed
- How would you define the concept of "youth"?



Application: Terrorism research

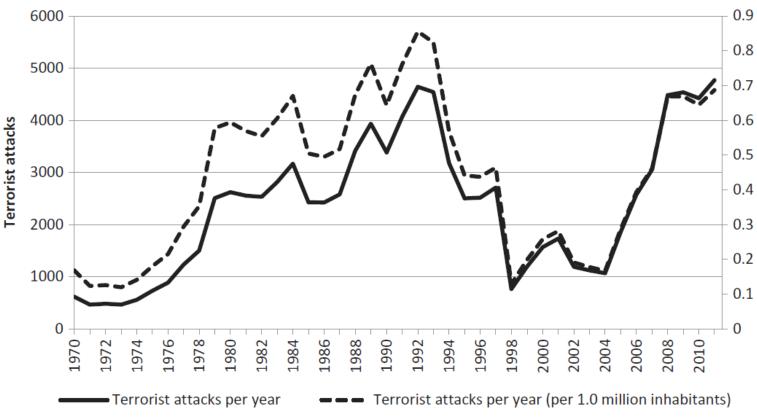
- "New terrorism" = higher brutality? An empirical test of the "brutalization thesis"
- Brutalization thesis: New terrorism is more brutal than old terrorism
- Method: Quantitative, empirical data from the Global Terrorism Database (GTD)



The Global Terrorism Database (GTD)

- The GTD: more than 100,000 terrorist incidents since 1970, it is the most comprehensive dataset on domestic and international terrorism.
- The GTD contains more than 75 variables describing individual acts of terrorism. They provide information about the date/time and site of the attack as well as information about the terrorist organization that carried it out, the type of attack (e.g., bomb attack or hostage-taking), the tactics/weapons that were used, and the damage/victims.

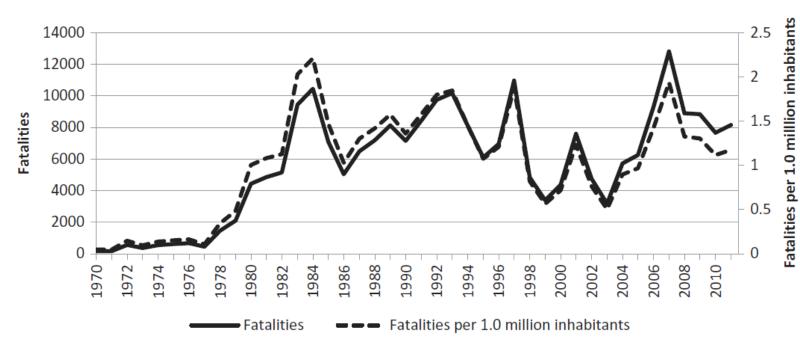




Terrorist attacks per 1.0 million inhabitants



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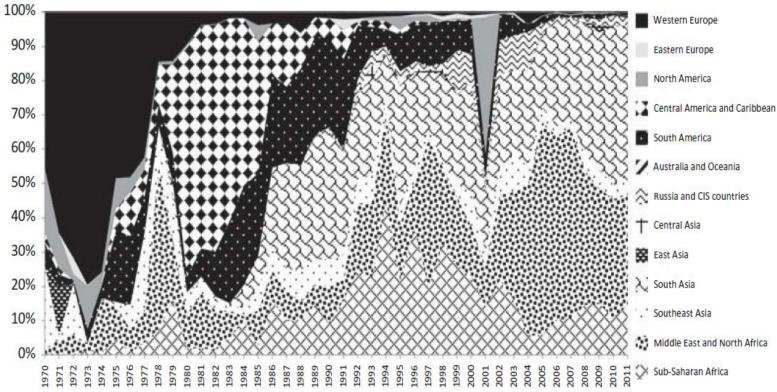


Figure 4. Percentage of fatalities due to terrorist attacks by world region.



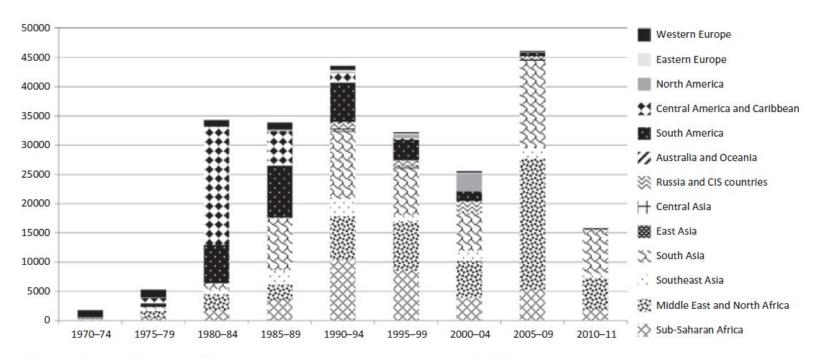


Figure 5. Absolute number of fatalities due to terrorist attacks by world region.

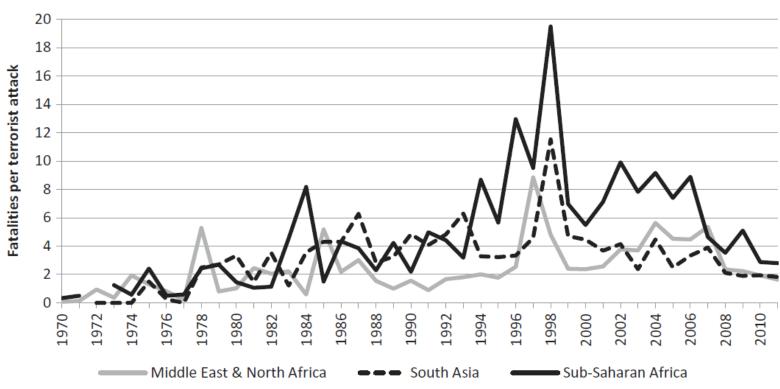


Figure 7. Fatalities per terrorist attack (averages for three world regions).



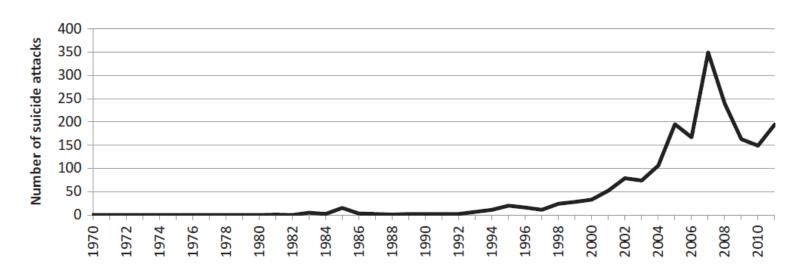


Figure 9. Number of suicide attacks per year (worldwide).



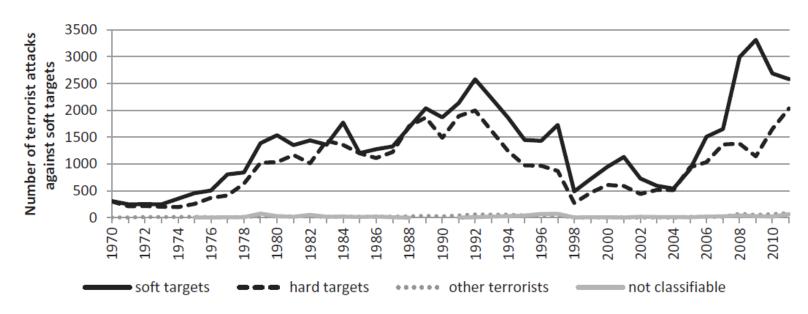


Figure 11. Number of terrorist attacks against soft and hard targets.



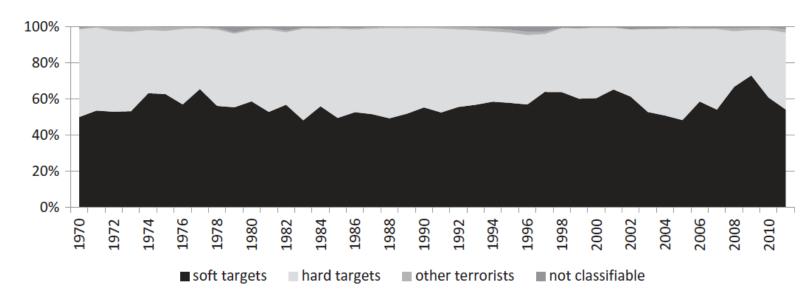


Figure 12. Percentages of terrorist attacks against soft and hard targets.



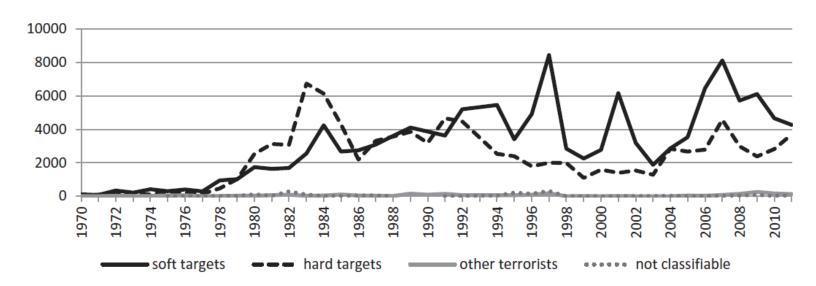


Figure 13. Fatalities due to terrorist attacks against soft and hard targets.



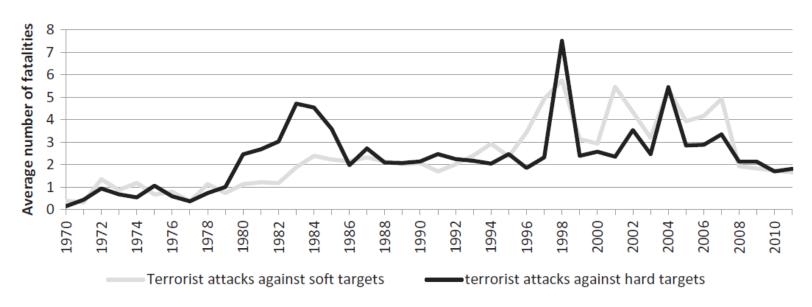


Figure 15. Average number of fatalities per terrorist attack by target type.



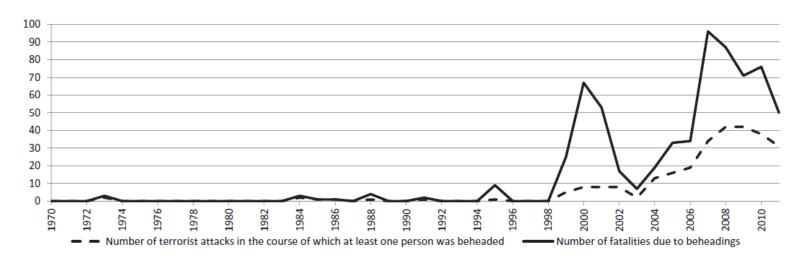


Figure 17. Number of beheadings (terrorist attacks and fatalities).



Table 6. Overview of the results.

Indicator	Starting point	
	Early 1990s	9/11
More terrorist attacks;	No	No
more fatalities due to terrorist attacks;	No	No
more fatalities per terrorist attack;	Partially	No
more suicide attacks;	No	Yes
more terrorist attacks against soft targets;	No	No
more fatalities due to terrorist attacks against soft targets;	Partially	No
average number of fatalities due to terrorist attacks against soft targets;	Partially	No
more suicide attacks against soft targets;	No	No
more beheadings.	No	Yes



Conclusions



- Applied science: be aware of the dangers: mission-oriented research
- Field research: advantages
- Ivory tower: has advantages, too
- Thinking: of course!
- Nobody should claim ownership of what counts for good or bad research
- Transparency: about the research interest, data, sources and methodology
- Qualitative or quantitative? Your own choice.





Thank you very much for your attention!

