



RESEARCH PAPER

Feminine Involvement in Violence: Differentiation between Myths and Realities: An Examination of Insurgency, Secession, Extremism, and Terrorism

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ABSTRACT

This study looks at how to women are involved in revolt, separatist, extremist, and terrorist activities in an effort to distinguish between these beliefs and realities. Understanding women's motivations, involvement, and influence in various settings is the goal in order to debunk preconceptions and illuminate the complex realities. By dispelling widespread beliefs and preconceptions and illuminating the complicated realities of women's experiences in insurgency, separatist, extremist, and terrorist activities, this study aims to examine the intricacies of feminine involvement in violence. The involvement of women in violent movements calls into question long-standing assumptions and poses significant queries regarding gender, agency, and the nature of violence. The methodology used in this research is qualitative method and also used historical, descriptive, and analytical to understand the feminism involvement. Women in violent movements have a variety of reasons and experiences, which should be acknowledged and addressed. It suggest to create are specific measures and regulations that take into consideration the complexity of women's role in violence. Encourage women to take part in peace building and conflict resolution initiatives and to be empowered. Dispel popular misconceptions and preconceptions that support false beliefs about women's involvement in violent crimes.

KEYWORDS Feminism, Extremism, Terrorism, Feminism Involvement

Introduction

From the era of socratese women have been anticipated symbol of peace. They have been seen with the eye of sympathy; empathy; and delicacy. With the passage of time their soft image further empowered when the feminist waves and debates began to be active and people have been enlightened with women rights belonging to their political; social; and economic life. Males were declared as victor through violence and females have been portrayed as victim of violence. In contemporary world with growing literature and flow of electronic/social media the role of women in violent activities carried by secessionist movements; insurgent groups; extremist organizations; and terrorist networks is highlighted but most of research and media reports depict women as 'beauty with gun', 'fary and fire', 'innocent evil', and 'deadly virgin'. These kind of stereotyped behavior further authenticates the soft image and peaceful nature of females. Although, academic work and scholarly research exists on the contrif females in peace and the discrimination with women but it will not be wrong to write that women have been involved in acts of violence while the literature has not been as produced as needed to explore their role. This piece of research is an endeavor to dig out violent participation of women affiliated with insurgent groups, secessionist movements, extremist networks, and terrorist organizations. Throwing light on 10 cases of violent acts in which women played

the role as propagandist, fund raiser, trainer, operationalist, and leader the paper is an effort to argue that peaceful nature of women is just one side of coin. The need is to look at the other side which explicates the violent engagement of females with various networks and organizations. To put life in the argument the researchers excavated The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF); Frente de Libertação de Moçambique (FRELIMO); and The Mau Mau Movement from Africa, Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC); The Weather Underground; Right-Wing terrorism; and Left-Wing Terrorism from America, The Red Army Faction and The Brigette Rosse (Red Brigade); from western Europe, Partiya Karkerên Kurdistanê (PKK) and The Chechen Separatist Movement from Euroasia and eastern Europe, and lastly Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) from Asia. Some of these movements fought to change social/political system (from capitalism to Communism), some were against colonialism, and multiple other objectives as to develop separate state and to have the right to abort the child. Whether to escribe the aims of these groups and to discuss the success or failure this particular research illuminates the violent engagement of women along side the men under the umberalla of twelve secessionist groups, insurgent movements, and extremist/terrorist organizations.

Literture Review

The roles and experiences of female militants in the Kurdistan Workers' Party and Tamil Tigers are investigated. The author emphasizes the agency and autonomy of female warriors and contradicts the widespread belief that women primarily play support roles (Alison, 2018).

The experiences and roles of female terrorists, dispelling the myth that they exclusively participate in terrorism as sympathizers or victims. The author draws attention to the variety of ways that women participate in terrorism as well as the necessity for more complex and gender-sensitive theories of terrorism (Sjoberg, 2017).

Women's roles and experiences in separatist movements in Northern Ireland and the Basque Country are examined in this study. The author emphasizes how different women's participation in secessionist movements is and how comprehending secessionism requires more complex and gender-sensitive methods (Kaifa, et. al., 2024; Irvin, 2018).

Material and Methods

The research employs historical, descriptive, and analytical approaches to proceed and draw a conclusion. For this purpose, qualitative method has been used. All the data given in this study are composed of released papers in print media, books, and journals, and official reports of the organizations for instance secondary methods for the research were consulted and analyzed thorough understanding of how women participate in violence, emphasizing the intricacies and variances among different situations.

The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) and female role

The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) had been established in the context of antiimperialist sentiments towards Ethiopia. Before the Ethiopian rule, in 1890, Eritrea was the colony of Italy and later had been traveled around to other European powers during the 20th Century (Connell, 2003). Zondi and Rejouis discover, "this pattern of shifting foreign control for the better part of sixty years catalyzed the nationalist sentiments that eventually ignited Eritrean desires to break from Ethiopia (Zondi, 2006)." In 1952, Great Britain gave Eritrea to Ethiopia under the provision, "it be considered part of a federation with its own partial autonomy (Iyob, 1995)." Later, the emperor of Ethiopia Haile Selasse neglected the Britain's instructions and immediately proclaimed Eritrea a province of Ethiopia without any autonomy, this decision had provoked anger in the

Eritrean population (Marcus, 2023). As a response, in 1960, the first anti-colonial armed group, the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) had been evolved, from which the EPLF established later as a breakaway faction (Eritrean People's Liberation Front EPLF, *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 2015).

Research on the EPLF explains the role of females in its operations and the impact of gender equalizing objectives. Zerai argues, "females were first able to join EPLF operations in 1973 (Zerai, 1994)." Sorenson indicates, "accounts of the Eritrean struggle for independence agree that women played a major role at all levels within the movement, which considered the improvement of the women's situation an indispensable part of its democratic goal. Bernal notes, "the EPLF represented a model of a new kind of nationalism built from the bottom up by women and men together. While other social movements integrated females in supporting roles, the EPLF specifically and deliberately integrated females into its ranks as fighters alongside the group's men (Bernal, 2001)." Female's involvement into the EPLF was so methodical that "once its main objective liberation was achieved many female combatants felt displaced and unsure of how to reintegrate back into civilian life (Bernal, 2001)." However, this movement achieved success when In 1993, "Eritrea was officially declared an independent state (Eritrean People's Liberation Front EPLF, *Encyclopedia Britannica* 2015)."

Frente de Libertação de Moçambique (FRELIMO) of Mozambique; integration of young girls

Mozambique was the colony of Portugal. In 1932, António de Oliveira Salazar came in power in Portugal and implemented 'O Estado Novo' (The New State), this was an ideological agenda, which promoted the relations between Portugal and its colonies, together with Mozambique (Newitt, 1981). Through this particular agenda, white migration had been encouraged from Portugal to Mozambique. The best amenities, jobs and property had been kept absolutely for whites and had been prohibited to Africans, who had already been remained in a second class status among the Europeans. In 1962, Frente de Libertação de Moçambique (FRELIMO) was created and in 1964, the group had launched 'luta armada' (armed campaign) (Sumich & Honwana, 2007). This organization with different tactic to fight, it deployed predominantly young females in battle. West describes, "girls as young as ten directly participated in guerrilla operations (West, 2000)." It was in the start, the females just played supportive role but later, in 1966, Munslow points out, "the recruitment and arming of females in FRELIMO was so substantial that male elders and other authority figures began complaining that 'girls with guns' slung over their shoulders presented an unacceptable challenge to 'traditional' social relations (Munslow, 1983)." In spite of a huge cultural/social opposition, West investigates, "by 1970, female participation in FRELIMO's armed campaigns had become institutionalized West, 2000."

The Mau Mau Movement of Kenya; female terrorists as prostitutes

In 1890s, Kenya was the colony of Great Britain (Curtis, 2003). Kikuyu was the Kenya's largest single ethnic population, anti- British sentiment had been emerged with the establishment of the Mau Mau militant movement in 1950s (Lewis, 2007). Curtis argues, "among many Kikuyu grievances, land ownership was the clearest example of inequity and exploitation," and likely what finally sparked the movement to action (Curtis, 2003)." Initial research on Kenyan females of the Mau Mau Movement marginalizes their input Presley argues, "this preconception comes from scholars' failure to acknowledge the colonialist laws that negatively impacted and thus, galvanized Kenyan females just as much as Kenyan males. (Presley, 1988)" Clough inserts, "female participation in the movement steadily increased throughout its duration (Clough, 1988)."

The females of this movement adopted a different strategy from other organizations, to achieve the target, they as prostitute, deceived the British soldiers and committed murders (White, 1990). Kamunchulah particularly, points out in his research on Kenyan females, an association between Kenyan women's activism and prostitution, noting, "the Mau Mau Movement's success is largely attributable to a complicated network of communication facilitated by prostitutes who laid 'tender traps' to seduce and subsequently assassinate British soldiers and Kenyan loyalists (Kamunchulah, 1975)." James Franks in his book, gives reference of Corsfield report and argues, "females of the Mau Mau movement held every type of responsibility, including the organization and maintenance of the supply lines directing food, supplies, medicine, guns, and information to the forest forces, recruitment, and officiating at initiation ceremonies (Franks, 2004)." Presley increases the argument, "their service extended into battle as well, as females regularly joined the forest forces and served as combat troops (Presley, 1988)." Peacock calls the Mau Mau's tactics as "textbook guerilla," he explains, "the problems British forces had in combatting them, saying: The Mau Mau would use children or women to spy on British garrisons and destroyed infrastructure in order create distractions to draw out the military and police (Peacock, 2012)."

Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC); female's attachment

The tumultuous period in Colombia known as "La Violencia (Bailey, 1967)" in the absence of law and order, provided an opportunity to the establishment of several small guerilla groups with communist-based ideologies to bring a revolution in the country (Dudley, 2004). In all the groups, Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC) gained popularity in 1966. Rabassa and Chalk calculate, "by the 1980s, the group encompassed approximately 3,600 members in more than 32 fronts across Colombia (Rabassa and Chalk, 2001)." In the beginning of 1990s, was "marked by expanding membership reaching up to 10,000 mid-decade (Rochlin, 2003)."

There has been prominent female participation in FARC since its creation, but female members have been remained in problems. there have been allegations of abuse against women in the ranks, particularly, concerning reproductive rights. "In many ways, the insertion of women in FARC is predicated on penetrating in women's biological capacity for re-production, either through forced contraceptives and abortions. Controlling pregnancies within the movement permits FARC leaders to retain some control over the actions and decisions of their fighters (Cohn, 2013)." Although, Drost claims, "females still comprised approximately 30-35% of FARC membership in 2011," it means, recruitment efforts and utilization does not indicate signs of diminishing the role of females despite the controversies (Drost, 2011).

The Weather Underground of U.S. and the Female's involvement

In 1969, at the Ann Arbor campus of the University of Michigan, The Weather Underground Organization (WUO), in general, known as the Weather Underground, had been created (Berger, 2006). It was a leftist organization, which wanted to bring Marxist-Leninist revolution by overthrowing the U.S. government. It declared its agenda that U.S. by intervening in Vietnam, wants to impose imperialist policies round the globe. Through a great revolution, in U.S. a classless society would be established (Varon, 2004). Females at large scale, joined this terrorist organization.

Women achieved leadership positions in the organization, as Celia Sojourn, Diana Oughton, Linda Sue Evans, Susan Stern, Laura Whitehorn and Cathy Wilkerson. Even one of the founders was female 'Kathy Boudin' (Lader, 1979). The females established their own groups under the umbrella of the Weather Underground. As the Women Brigade, The Motor City Nine and Cell 16 come a head to propagate the message of the organization with the objective, to recruit the members. . Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz an active member of

the radical women's liberation group, (Cell 16), verbalized about her personal recruitment agenda telling that she would like their group to travel around the every corner of the state and give information to women the reality and recruit the local people, poor and working-class people, in order to construct a new society (Frost, 2001). However, among all, Timothy Leary gained popularity, who committed, "the bombing of a police memorial twice in Haymarket Square in Chicago, rampaging through downtown Chicago two years in a row, the bombing of Congress and the Pentagon and the bombings of various banks and post offices nationwide) displayed a higher level of violence or ruthlessness on the part of the women (Jacobs, 1997)."

Right-Wing terrorism in U.S. and the Role of Females

Blee argues, "Many Right-wing organizations have also targeted females in U.S. for recruitment in the past, particularly, after the arrival of the Internet (Blee, 2005)." In these organizations, Stormfront and the WorldChurch of the Creator(WCOTC) are common, which recruit women's pages in usual (Cunningham, 2007). Women played a great role at all levels within the movement, one of the more traditionally productive writers within a splinter group has been Elisha Strom, known as the Angry White Female. Schabner argues, "women such as Lisa Turner (WCOTC) and Rachel Pendergraft (Ku Klux Klan, KKK) have risen to positions of power and influence within their respective organizations(Schabner, 2002)." Nesbitt claims, "women overall have become important agents for recruiting other members, especially women, through the Internet. The females have been high-flying over time for their activism within the movement, achieving martyr status, "including Kathy Ainsworth who was killed when she tried to bomb a Jewish home in 1968, and Vicki Weaver who was killed at the standoff on Ruby Ridge in 1992 (Cunningham, 2007)." Blee discovers two areas of racial terrorism in which women violence is increasing: 'strategic terrorism' against the state and 'narrative terrorism' against racial minorities (Blee, 2005). However, "female's roles in 'strategic terrorism' remains principally centered around lending legitimacy to this form of terrorism, whereas women engage in more overt acts of violence in narrative racial terrorism in U.S (Blee, 2005)."

Another movement in U.S. Anti-Abortion Movement, proved the involvement of females at high level. Above all, the name of Shelley Shannon can be seen, "who is serving a thirty-one year prison sentence for the 1993 attempted murder of an abortion provider in Wichita, Kansas and a spate of arsons and bombings she committed in 1992. Shannon also committed two acid attacks against women's health centers in 1992 (Cunningham, 2007)." The internet has been a major source for recruitment, propaganda broadcasting and intra-group participation for women. Moreover, the internet generated transnational opportunities for females, for example, "Melissa Guille who runs the Canadian Heritage Alliance website in Canada from her London home (Richmond, 2005)." Blee makes the case, "Right-wing White power movements in the United States have seen the success of female militancy in cases such as Palestine and Chechnya, as well as historical cases such as the Weather Underground and Black Panther party, which may result in growing female involvement in strategic and narrative violence (Blee, 2002)." In Cunningham's point of view, "4 To date, for most observers, women are ignored in right-wing movements because they have had little to no role in violent organizations and/or actions, although this perception is increasingly being shown to be incorrect (Cunningham, 2007). In fact, there is an official view "right-wing organizations as a pressing threat to United States security.

Left-Wing Terrorism in the United States today; affiliation of women

Although, in the 1960s and 1970s, U.S. had experienced many other violent left-wing groups, except the Weather Underground, in which females have been recruited at a high level. In contemporary era, ecoterrorism is posing a serious threat to the internal security of the country. Particularly, the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) and Animal Liberation Front (ALF) is anticipated by the FBI, the most momentous domestic terrorist

hazard within the United States. Ecoterrorist groups are looking to link their movement with other social justice movements, they are broadening their ideological and geographic reach by expanding their ideology and their philosophy is consisted of “antiwar, anarchist, anti globalist, anticapitalist, and rights-focused (animals, women, racial, developing world), ideas (Cunningham, 2007).” Females have been involved actively in the ELF and ALF however, their all levels are unidentified but in visible and males are on leadership positions. Although, females are engaged to train terrorists, they also participate in violent operations. “The ALF’s Arson Guide features a woman burning down a McDonalds entitled Arson-Around with Auntie ALF (Anti-Defamation League. n.d., 2016).” The profile of the roles of females, however, is not available but Beyler argues that there is a great participation of women in ALF and in other like-minded organizations (Beyler, 2005).

The Red Army Faction; females as leaders

To dismantle the international system of capitalist/imperialist economy and to impose the Marxist-Leninist revolution, the Rote Armee Fraktion or Red Army Faction had been established (Stefanik, 2009). For about 30 years, the RAF obliterated Germany since 1970s. Moncourt argues, “the younger generation challenged the older generation to ‘face up to the past’...pointing to many ex-Nazis that were in government and business (Faction , 1971).” The political climate of the country became burning when students started protests throughout the territory. The circumstances went beyond control, when 1960, in a demonstration, a policeman shouted a 28 years old student (Benno Ohnesorg) and he died. Stefanik notes, the event as “a psychological turning point for many future RAF members (Stefanik, 2009).” Ultimately, in 1970, Andreas Baader, Gudrun Ensslin, Horst Mahler, and Ulrike Meinhof had established the RAF (della Porta, 1995). Becker explores, “the RAF were self-appointed champions and leaders of the German people in an armed revolution which they hoped to have launched with acts of terrorism (Becker, 1981).”

It is argued that the success of the RAF was because of its substantial and considerable female membership. Although, the participation of females in the organization, was from its birth, among all, Ulrike Meinhof gained extreme popularity. In fact, the RAF was called the “Baader-Meinhof Gang” by German media to give credit to her and the group’s co-founder Andreas Baader (Stefanik, 2009). The media selected her because “she was articulate, well-educated and even provocative at times. Her academic achievements were laudable and she was also a mother and wife. At least to outsider admirers, she balanced career and family and represented a new kind of German woman (Stefanik, 2009).” In spite of her name and deep link with the RAF, many of the researchers argue that “Meinhof was never in real, a leader of the organization, but an ideologue and propagandist. She had capitalized on her journalistic reputation by working on Konkret to disseminate the RAF’s message and to magnetize recruits (Passmore, 2011).”

Females of RAF also played their role at practical ground terrorist operations, for instance, in 1975, an attack exclusively was covered by media, “in which five RAF members led by female operative Hanna Krabbe stormed the German embassy in Sweden, took eight hostages, detonated explosives and ultimately killed two diplomats in April 1975 (Gray, 2015).” Gonzalez-Perez excavates, “there is a general consensus among scholars that 33% of RAF’s membership were female (Gonzalez-Perez, 2008).” Russell and Miller affirm, “60% of the RAF’s leadership was female (Russell & Miller, 1977).” Although, Merkl refuses this calculation, but estimates, “females were at least as likely as men to have attained leading positions in the RAF (Merkl, 1995).” While, Weinberg and Eubank go opposite by arguing, “women who carried out attacks or served as leaders [in RAF] were exceedingly rare (Weinberg & Eubank, 2019).”

The Brigitte Rosse (Red Brigade) of Italy; female involvement

In 1960s, Europe had experienced student radicalization and social discontent at a large scale. Throughout the continent, there had been a plethora of ultra-leftist groups. Among all these groups, the Brigate Rosse or Red Brigade (normally known as BR), had been lingered one of Italy's "most dominant and violent extremist organizations since World War ii (Sundquist, 2010). three radical University students (Renato Curcio, Margherita Cagol and Alberto FranceschiniThe) had created the group on October 20, 1970 (Rosso, 1976). It is important to note here, that one of the group's founders (Cagol) was female. Della Porta finds, "the Red Brigade's Marxist-Leninist ideology became more prevalent as documents surfaced indicating that, the working class [was] the revolutionary subject, and the capitalist system was the enemy (Della Porta, 1995)." The was divided on several agendas and in 1977, two factions of this organization came into being, the First Position (Prima Posizione) and the Second Position (Seconda Posizione). It has been argued that the former was much more violent than the later.

About female's participation in the organization, Jamieson highlights, "Although women had fought alongside men as partisans in the Second World War and assumed an increasingly important role in the workplace, trade unions, and political formations, the law discriminated heavily against them and in favor of men. Women were essentially defined by their roles as daughters, wives, and mothers in Italy (Jamieson, 2000)." Eager makes the argument, "many women in the Red Brigade had been previously active in the Italian feminist movements of the 1960s, but had moved to political violence because they felt such movements were too constricting (Eager, 2016)." Since 1970 to 1984, females had been consisted one fourth of all left-wing terrorists in Italy. While, Jamieson calculates, "between 1969 and 1989, 945 females were investigated for left-wing terrorist crimes in Italy out of a total of 4,087 individuals 23.1% (Jamieson, 2000)."

The Red Brigades continued its terrorist activities in Italy from 1980 to 2000, however, it had lost public support later, because it began to target the popularized and respectable figures as the BR's 1978 kidnapping and murder of the popular former Prime Minister. Aldo Moro, had fabricated a severe public backlash against the group. Ultimately, in 2003, extreme counterterrorism efforts by Italian security forces had ended its terrorist activities by the removal of key leaders of the organization (Sundquist, 2010).

Partiya Karkerên Kurdistanê (PKK); female terrorists

PKK is a Turkish terrorist organization, whose main objective is to establish an independent Kurdish homeland from territory inside Turkey (Migdal, 2004). In late 70s, the Turkish government had started to implement deliberately anti-Kurdish legislation. "Laws that made speaking Kurdish punishable by up to twenty years of in prison along with similarly draconian laws ultimately led to the creation of the Kurdistan Workers Party, or PKK, in 1978 (Kreyenbroek, 2005)." The PKK's deployment of females in its operations is prominent. Data from the Chicago Project in Security highlights, "between 1996 and 1999, females participated in eight attacks that killed 18 people and injured 109.

The Chechen Separatist Movement; involvement of females:

After the demise of USSR, in 1991, to make an independent Chechen Republic of Ichkeria, efforts have been begun by the divided Chechen people. To achieve the objective, Two Chechen Wars have been fought, (The First Chechen War from 1994 to 1996 and The Second Chechen War from 1999 to 2009). Cunningham investigates, "since 2002, Chechens have increasingly utilized female in operation especially as suicide bombers (Cunningham, 2007)." Cook makes the case, "growing numbers of women are participating in radical Islam through a nationalist frame, citing Chechnya as an example (Cook, 2005)." Meier writes, "Women were first used in suicide attacks beginning in June 2000 (Meier, 2004)." Abdullaev argues, "since October 2002 the majority of suicide attacks have been undertaken by women (Abdullaev, 2004)." A huge number of separatist attacks are linked

with females, Data from the Chicago Project on Security and Terrorism finds, "a total of 24 Chechen separatist attacks that involved female operatives in the last 15 years, resulting in 343 casualties.

The Chechen females in history earned their own name "Black Widows". Cunningham explains, "Chechnya's Black Widows: Fear + Sympathy + Publicity = The Perfect Terrorist (Cunningham, 2007)." These Black widows attacked on Russian as well as on general public since 2002. In these attacks, a Moscow rock concert in July 2003, the Moscow theater hostage-taking in October 2002, the Beslan elementary school attack in September 2004, and the downing of two planes in August 2004 are included (National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, 2016). Nivat explores, ". . . more Chechen women seem to be participating actively in the separatist-turned-jihadist struggle than in the larger and longer-running Palestinian conflict (Nivat, 2007)." Russian officials utilize a "profile" of Chechen female terrorists as "young, widowed, desperate for revenge, or hapless victims forced into attacks through blackmail or rape." But this profile is rejected by Myers who find female suicide attackers are not necessarily "young, religious, poor, widowed, grieving, or raped (Myers, 2004)." But in fact, this is a "high value franchise (Abdullaev, 2004)." There is the confirmation, "the Chechens are mobilizing women differently in the past year, pulling them straight from their homes into an attack rather than pulling them out of society and putting them in the mountains for training for attacks weeks later (Cunningham, 2007)."

Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) of Sri Lanka; integration of women

After independence of Sri Lanka, immediately, a conflict has been escalated between the Sinhalese Buddhists and Tamil Hindus. DeVotta notes, "within the first decade of Sri Lankan dependence, Sinhalese Buddhist politicians belonging to the United National Party (UNP) and Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) worked to guarantee that their community would receive preferential treatment in all institutions comprising the Sri Lankan state (Parliament, judiciary, security forces, public education, and the bureaucracy). This produced significant displacement and marginalized the Tamil Hindu minority (DeVotta, 2009)." In 1976, the establishment of LTTE had been occurred as the result of this marginalization. DeVotta explains, "at its height (mid- 1990s to 2006), the LTTE controlled approximately one quarter of Sri Lanka (DeVotta, 2009)." Conspicuously, the LTTE is the only terrorist organization, which has assassinated two world leaders: former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi (May 1991) and Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa (May 1993). During the 1980s, the Sri Lankan government cracked down on the males of this terrorist organization and as a response, the females were taken in the group to replace the male operators and leaders.

Female involvement in the LTTE became so considerable that in 1986, the group configured an all-female unit known as the 'Freedom Birds'. Stack O'Connor explores, "these Free Birds are responsible for about 200 suicide bombings, and they accounted for 30-40% of the LTTE's total suicide attacks. The LTTE eventually permitted the females "to hold press conferences, publish literature and films, and hold public commemorative events on the group's behalf(O'Connor, 2007).

Conclusion

From history to recent era women have been considered soft hearted, kind natured, and lovable creature. Looking at the previous literature and academic writings a bunch of research exists on nonviolent and peaceful role of women. This paper on the other was an endeavor to enlighten the reader with violent acts carried by females along side the men in various secessionist groups, insurgent organizations, extremist and terrorist networks. Rather to concentrate on the objectives of these groups and to differentiate between secession; insurgency; extremism; or terrorism, explicitly the social

investigation has illuminated women's engagement as propagandist, fund-raiser, lobbyist, trainer, or leader to ignite the flame of violence under the umbrella of secessionist; insurgent; extremist; or terrorist groups. Taken into account twelve cases from different parts of the world the researchers argued that peaceful and nonviolent nature of females is merely general perception and wrong understanding. Women affiliated with violent groups likewise men have been seen to be activated to achieve the goals either political or social. Throwing light on practical examples from America to Africa and from Europe to Asia this piece of research explored and explained involvement of females affiliated with violent groups.

Recommendations

Instead of categorizing women who participate in violence as victims or offenders, create rules that acknowledge their agency and autonomy.

To guarantee that their viewpoints and experiences are taken into consideration, increase the number of women participating in peace talks, conflict resolution, and counterterrorism initiatives.

Dispel myths and prejudices about women's involvement in violence by acknowledging that they are neither naturally violent nor peaceful. Rather, a variety of intricate circumstances, such as social, political, and economic ones, frequently motivate their participation in violence.

Encourage more women to participate in peacebuilding and conflict resolution initiatives, acknowledging their vital role in fostering long-term stability and peace. This involves encouraging women's involvement in peace talks, resolving disputes, and rebuilding after a conflict.

Create counterterrorism tactics that are sensitive to gender and take into account the various roles and experiences that women play in terrorist and extremist organizations. This involves endorsing deradicalization initiatives that cater to the unique requirements and circumstances of women.

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