

SOCIAL MEDIA'S ROLE IN DOMESTIC TERRORISM

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BREAKING IT DOWN

"Domestic terrorism is defined by statute as any act dangerous to human life that violates U.S. criminal laws and appears to be intended to intimidate or coerce a civilian population, influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion, or affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping. The act in question must occur primarily within the jurisdiction of the United States." (2019)

"The public relies heavily on news media for information about terrorism. The accessibility and omnipresence of the media have altered how most Americans learn about the world and how the world works." (Kellner, 2013)



"Violent extremists are increasingly using social media for the distribution of propaganda, recruitment, target selection, and incitement to violence. Through the Internet, violent extremists around the world have access to our local communities to target and recruit like-minded individuals and spread their messages of hate on a global scale." (2019)

COMMON MISCONCEPTION



There is the idea that guns do not kill people but rather that people kill people. This is true however, less people are likely to be killed if the access to deadly weapons was reduced. In Australia, mass shootings and gun related deaths were almost completely eradicated.



POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

Enacting gun control as Australia has which allows for citizens to sell their guns back to the government at market price, and makes allowances for certain cases to own a gun

Monitoring internet forums is a viable option, because it has been shown that the attackers typically engage in forums to express their issues to feel supported

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