

Department of Justice, Law and Society
Master's Comprehensive Examination
Terrorism and National Security
Spring, 2013

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer any **two** of the following four questions. Include in your answers references to the relevant literature, case law, and/or other sources. Label each answer by number. Please begin each answer on a new page. Remember to write your 4-digit ID number on all pages.

1. Is an individual's reasons for getting involved with terrorism similar to a group's reason for using this tactic/strategy against a state? Explain why or why not.
2. If you were the chief counterterrorism advisor to the US President, what would your advice be for prioritizing current threats? Outline what you see as the greatest threats from groups, individuals, states, or movements and rank order them based on your own criteria.
3. To what extent does criminological theory and empirical evidence help us to understand the sources of terrorism? To what extent does criminology and conventional criminal justice research fail to help? What disciplines outside of criminology offer complementary approaches to understanding terrorism?
4. What are the primary types of extremist ideologies? Under what circumstances, if any, should domestic counterterrorism authorities ignore such extremism? Under what circumstances should they deal with it? How? What, if anything, should be done about websites that promote extremist ideologies on the Internet? Explain your answer.

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1. Police regularly argue that they are society's front line of defense against crime, while critics argue that the police are unable to prevent or control crime. A significant body of empirical research has developed which measures the capacity of police to control crime. Please summarize the major findings from that literature and discuss what it suggests about the ability of police in a democratic society to control crime.
2. Some commentators have suggested that community policing is at odds with police subculture. Which aspects of police subculture potentially conflict with the principles of community policing? Does police subculture represent a serious threat to the effectiveness of community policing strategies?
3. One of the most important sources of law and order in the prison is the correctional officer. One of the most important sources of law and order in the figures in the free world is the police officer. Officers can be, among other things, agents of service or repression. Describe and analyze the role or roles played by correctional officers *or* police officers. If you were a reformer, what would you suggest be done to encourage correctional or police officers to make a contribution to the humane to daily life in prison or the free world.
4. The problem of prisoner re-entry is an important one for our times. Please think of three criminological theories and their implications for prisoners re-entering society. What do these theories say about the likelihood of recidivism? What are the policy implications for re-entry programming?

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1. What is the purpose of the Social Contract? Does it achieve this purpose? If so, how? Which of the Social Contract models catalogued on the Reading List would most readily solve contemporary society's most demanding issues, as you define them? Be sure to cite the relevant literature.
2. It is often said that the United States of America is a common law country. What is common law, and what are its origins? What are the main rules that govern the operation or application of common law? Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of common law? Is it, in fact, true that the United States is a common law country?
3. Describe and evaluate different approaches to the issue of race and equality (e.g. anti-discrimination & affirmative action) in American jurisprudence and constitutional law since World War II. Be sure to cite the relevant literature and identify the leading legal theorists on these topics.
4. What is the source and what are the limits of the obligation to obey the law? Consider the views of several leading theorists, and discuss how their views on the source of this obligation inform their views on its limits.