

Handout 1. Defining Terrorism Worksheet

What is terrorism? Your task is to work in small groups and develop your own group definition of terrorism. In order to do this you should briefly discuss the events of September 11, 2001 and consider how terrorism differs from other forms of violence. For example, how is terrorism different from warfare? Different from criminal violence? Different from politics?

Recognizing that there are many points of view about what terrorism is your challenge is to try to develop a definition with which your group is comfortable.

Step 1

Select a group recorder, someone who will write down your group definition and present it to class.

Step 2

Take 10 minutes to review the facts of the terrorist attacks on September 11. Briefly review the day's events.

Step 3

Take 20 minutes to develop a group definition of terrorism. Write down your own group definition for presentation to the class at the end of the period.