



Terror and Taboo: The Follies, Fables, and Faces of Terrorism

By Joseba Zulaika, William Douglass

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Terror and Taboo is about the mythology of terrorism; it is an exploration of the ways we talk about terrorism. It offers incontestable evidence to support the idea that we give power to terrorism by the way we write and talk about it. According to Zulaika and Douglass, we make terrorism worse by the way we represent it in the media and in everyday conversation. Through their examination of terrorism, they propose to remove the taboos surrounding terrorism. ***Terror and Taboo*** is full of examples to ground the authors premise, ranging from specific examples, such as tendency to talk more about where Timothy McVeigh shopped for weapons than about the international traffic in arms by legitimate nations, to more theoretical interpretations that will be familiar to readers of cultural studies books.

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

'Terror and Taboo' examines the complicity of governments, the media, the arts, academia, and violent activists themselves in constituting 'terrorism' as a substitute for genuine political debate. The authors draw upon the lessons and perspectives afforded terrorism literature, social anthropology, and their own field work with Basque violence to question the very validity and utility of the entire concept of terrorism.

About the Author

Joseba Zulaika is an Associate Professor in the Basque Studies Program at the University of Nevada. He is the author of *Basque Violence*. **William Douglass** is a Professor of Anthropology and Coordinator of Basque Studies at the University of Nevada.

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