The Roots of Terrorism Phenomenon from the Jordanian Students' Perspective

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This study investigates the causes behind the growth of terrorism phenomenon from the Jordanian students' perspective in the light of gender, and college. A questionnaire consisting of four sections distributed on 40 items was used to collect data from 583 students at Al-Balqa Applied University. The study used the descriptive analytical approach to analyze the data. The results revealed high rates in growth of terrorism in all domains where the political reasons were ranked the highest. The respondents' views varied according to gender and college, whereas differences were in favor of male students and humanities colleges, respectively.

Keywords: Al-Balqa Applied University, Jordan, Jordanian University students, terrorism phenomenon

INTRODUCTION

The world has experienced during the past century and the beginning of the current century a noticeable increase in terrorism operations as well as an increased number of terrorist organizations. Consequently, the terrorist activities have started threatening the internal security of many states, governments, citizens as well as this gravely affected many states' economic, social, and military establishments (Ansari & Bajwa, 2022). The terrorist organizations have become more organized and more effective in carrying out their operations with the used of modern technology. Thus, the terrorist organizations have become more organized and more effective in carrying out their criminal acts along with using pre-planned and scientific approaches (Albahar, 2019).

Specialists disagree on defining terrorism due to differences in opinions and orientations towards terrorism in one hand, and the difference in the states' stands on the other hand as some individuals may consider certain action as terrorist act, while others would consider it as a legitimate act. In addition, the definition of terrorism interacts with certain concepts such as: political violence, political crime, and organized crime. Terrorism is normally tied to violence and terrifying actions which are carried out to achieve a political objective (Qasim, 2007; Willy et al., 2021). According to Arabic anti-terrorism agreements that were signed in Cairo on April 22, 1988, terrorism is defined as every act of violence, or threats, whatever its motive and criminal act should occur whether on individuals or group level that aims to cause horror and fear among people whether by inflicting harm to them or putting their life and safety in danger or inflicting harm to the environments or public or private property, or exposing national resource to danger (General Secretariat of the Council of Arab Interior Ministers, 2005).

The Jordanian government submitted a bill to the parliament prohibiting terrorism in 2006 in which article 2 states that "a terrorist act is an intentional act, carried out by any means and leads to the killing of

any person, inflicts bodily harm to that person or causes harm to private and public properties, international commissions and facilities or diplomatic delegations if the purpose of such act is to destabilize public order and causes society's safety and security to a danger, hinders constitution's rules implementation, forces the state to do or not do any act, or disturbs national security through spreading fear and or violence (Obeidat et al., 2022). American FBI defines terrorism as illegal use of force or violence against persons or property to cause fear or forcing government, civilians or certain entities to carry out certain political or social goals (Labovic, 2019).

Terrorism takes various forms according to the nature and targets of the terrorists. It is categorized into four types: internal and external state terrorism. Internal terrorism occurs through dictatorship by authority which practices torture and inhumane treatment against its people and restricting their basic liberties while in the external level, the state terror occurs when military units of a given state conduct operations against another state's civilians (Harasees, 2007; Riyanta, 2022). The second type of terrorism may occur by individuals or groups and it is committed through certain individuals who act by themselves (lone wolf) or within a certain group's framework. This type of terrorism is directed against the existing political institutions or certain states. The third form of terrorism is classified according to the purpose where terrorist movements seek achieving several targets, such as certain ideology that terrorists believe in or keeping certain religious values. With regard to separatist terrorism, it aims to achieve the separations from the central authority. The last form of terrorism is psychological terrorism which is meant to conduct pressures on a certain person through the spread of rumors defaming lies, and accusations constantly until his/her spirits collapses (Harasees, 2007; Riyanta, 2022).

Terrorism is considered to be a complicated and intertwined phenomenon where several factors in the society participate in its rising in which personal and psychological elements merge with other cultural political and economic determinants. As a result of these factors combined with the phenomenon of terrorism, it evolves for the purpose to achieve its objectives through indulging in violence, killing and other terror means. Terrorist groups solve their disputes through eliminating their opponents.

From a comprehensive review of the related literature, it can be assumed that there are different reasons for being involved in terrorist activities such as religious, political, social and economic reasons. These reasons are described below in detail:

Religious Reasons

The lack to trust worthy religious authority in some counties has led to the rise of ignorant religious figures who judge people's whereabouts through these figures' mood and ignorance. Without going back to religious anchored belief, a dispute arises. This condition of disable thoughts has led to the rise of vision and orientation differences among extremists as well as conservatives. In addition, the governments combat against unofficial religious orientation, through treating, for instance, all Islamic movements' whether extremists or moderates at the same level, has caused moderate movements to be disable in confronting extremists and fundamentalists (Refaat, 2021). Furthermore, religious institutions and official establishment operate under government's umbrella, and function in accordance to government's directions and policies affect terrorists' behaviours. As such, religious establishments in the Arab and Islamic worlds lack independence and perform poorly in confronting extremists. Official religious establishments focus their efforts on defending the political system that rule the Islamic world; consequently, they are ineffective in their endeavor in combating terrorism. In addition, citizens have lost trust in such official directive organizations. Also, citizens felt that such organizations provoke them and push them towards being more extremists (Shemella, 2021). Moreover, among religious factors that huge sections whether public or political have come to the conclusion that many Arab countries do not abide by Islamic teachings and faith. This factor has caused many people to consider their governments as "infidels", and must be confronted with more extreme stands especially against political work and practices. This was evident in the Arab Spring Uprising when the Islamic movements took over political rule in some countries. Even though, some of these movements had failed such as in Egypt and Tunisia (Biagini, 2020).

Political Reasons

Political reasons are represented in restricting authority or monopolizing authority to be in the hands of very few numbers of individuals without sharing it with others or with the people's main stream due to the absence of liberties, freedom of speech and democracy in the Arab and Islamic societies and lack of opportunity for peaceful changes in front of political parties and movements. This kind of dictatorship has caused frustration and hopelessness among many Arabs and Muslims. Some people were convinced that there is no possibility of political reforms to take place in their societies through peaceful means. As a sequence, many have resorted to violence as the only means available for change and reforms. This situation has coincided the timing in which some Arabs countries have signed settlement and peace agreement with Israel, the Arabs archenemy. Such agreements caused public to consider it as unfair and a denial of Palestinians and Arabs' legitimate rights (Al-Al-Jarad, 2006).

The repercussions of the September 11th incident and America's declaration a comprehensive war against terrorism which followed by extreme treatment against Muslim ethic groups in several Western societies have been accompanied by the negative Westerners' consideration of Arab and Islamic region as a source of evil and terrorism in the world. As a result, Arabs were convinced along with Muslims in the Islamic countries that the United States of America is waging a comprehensive war against Arab and Islamic countries so as to take over their region, exploit its resources and work on remapping the region politically and geographically in a way that serves the USA best interest (Al-Otaibi, 2007; Aujali, 2006)

In addition to the aforementioned, Iraq occupation by America enflamed the hatred and animosity in the Arab world against America and many Western players (Bayoumi, 2004). The political and religious oppression against the Palestinians through confiscating their land and free movement restrictions; the unconditional American support to Israel have caused a state of anger, animosity and psychological repression among Arabs and Muslims (Mayer, 2021).

Social Reasons

These social factors include the rise in social and family dysfunction in some of current societies. Incoherent families and societies have caused deviant thoughts to evolve paving the way for intellectual extremism. In addition, poverty, social and economic differences among society members, and some segment's feeling of being treated unequally and discriminated have constituted an important factor of extremism components (Asquith & Bartkowiak-Théron, 2021; Barakat, 2009). The absence of social justice in wealth sharing and differences in income, services, basic facilities distribution among population in addition to the wide spread of suppression of intellectuals have led to the growth of frustrated classes. Instead of providing security and dialogue at the family, school, university and the state levels, all of these have provided a receptive environment for suppression that is accompanied by radical thinking among segments of society who are subjected to suppression repression (Bayoumi, 2004; Danna et al., 2022). Morals disintegration increased and the corruption of certain society's groups amplified in unacceptable way under some fake justifications such as "openness or modernization" have led other groups to reject such phenomenon in a way that swept society to radicalism especially religious extremism (Shashkova, 2018).

Bad social raising of children by families has created in children psychological disturbance and thinking deviation among the youths which are considered to be social factors that lead to extremism (Rababah et al., 2021). Furthermore, audiovisual satellite broadcasting avalanche and internet with its negative and positive characteristics have made education and thinking sources to be varied and countless, thus, education is not restricted to family, school and worship places. The randomly established poor neighborhoods at metropolitan's outskirts and such neighborhood crowded with very poor inhabitants who were forced to leave their original living place after being subjected to deprivation and suppression have provided fertile land for radicalism and deviance (Bayoumi, 2004).

Economic Reasons

The economic factors are represented in the constant high prices, and differences in wages and the increase of prices which result in people's feeling of frustration, and anger. Extremism in speech and deeds

evolve in some classes of society which ultimately result in strikes and protest (Brutovská & Béreš, 2022). In addition, the decrease in wealth sources, commodities and goods, services, and its bad distribution within society, unjust distribution of income, and important institutions and basic facilities such as: education, and health within society as well as the increase of unemployed university graduates, unemployment among youth gave a rise for extremism (Mureeb, 2009). In sum, by focusing on these with comprehensive and balanced look, we notice that extremism sources are intertwined interactive. Thus, it is not right to hold on to one source; rather radicalism and extremism roots may due to political, economic or social factors.

Youth and Extremism

The universities in any society represent the illuminating center of civilization and science. Thus, they endeavor to develop society economically, scientifically and culturally through carrying out the university basic duties and task, such as education, scientific research and serving society. Such university's duties are in constant change and development according to society's development and progress. Such society's progress directs university to seek modernization, development, innovation and creativity. Taking into consideration that such elements are civilized necessities which are imposed by economic, political, social, cultural changes (Badran, 2002; Sakarneh, 2014)). All of these cannot be achieved without having a university's effective and competent management. Without such management, it would be impossible for university to move on towards future regardless of the university's capabilities (Morsi, 2002). University is a society for education, in which learning and teaching take place, and students ought to learn citizenship meaning, concepts, dimensions, requirement and obligations, because life consists of learning, teaching, intellect, politics, sociology, economy, culture, heritage, present and future.

Thus, university, with all the aforementioned combined, constitutes one of the major stations in the life of individual, leaving through its events, experience, expertise and educational reaction, the deepest fingerprints in the building of human's social personality (Gogan & Ray, 1998). Based upon this, it is possible to consider experiences and reactions as the central point in determining the shape of learner's social personality, draws its directions and form. Thus, either, it makes learner a decent citizen, through good behavior that represents citizenship concepts, through adaptive personality with the surroundings and be homogeneous with such surroundings elements, in one hand, or instill in learner the seeds of tension and disunity which ultimately lead to the creation of disable personality that drifts aimlessly in radical and extremism currents, in the other hand.

In spite of the important role that university plays in the shaping the life of university's youth in various aspects socially, culture, intellectual, economically and politically, the prevalence of any negative phenomenon among young people and the rise of moral problems such as terrorism indicates the failure of such institutions, and assures their shortcomings. They may concentrate their efforts on students scientific and academic aspects while they ignore or pay no or little attention to student's behavior, morals and education in general (Hidayah, 2021). The university plays a significant role in achieving intellectual security which is considered to be a grand national responsibility. This is represented in building nation's youth in the scientific cultural and skills aspects, crystallizing their intellectual structure with its various dimensions, fortifying students and directing them towards the right and safe path. Achieving such aims leads to the forming of solid foundation of building a culture that is intellectually balanced in which students receive, react with it and carry out its components (Maliki, 2006; Rababa'h, 2007).

Jordan's Combat of Terrorism

Jordan faces several challenges, terrorism among them. Terrorism targets Jordan despite its moderate role, its medial mission, openness and acceptance of others. Jordan has adopted anti radical thought strategy. This strategy was not restricted to the security aspect, despite its vitality, but also exceeds security to include deeper levels of intellectual, cultural and social aspects. For example, throughout the years, Jordan has launched initiatives for Islamic Jurisprudence dialogues which are based on faith principle headed by the elite of religion philologists with those who changed to extreme stands and position (King Abdullah II Speech on 23.10.2014).

In the time when terrorist organizations invest great efforts to employ the new media to be on their side, we find Jordan invest a distinctive effort to keep pace with instruments and mechanisms block electronic terrorist and radical thoughts through the creation of electronic war sections and psychological war and anti-terrorism media in number of anti-terrorism public institutions. War against terrorism is not only restricted on security and military war, but it also goes further to multiple levels and objectives as a cultural and technological war.

King Abdullah II has assured the necessity to combat extreme thoughts through the Jordanian state institutions, such as education, media and religious guidance teaching. This must be within an integrated framework that aims to raise cultural, intellectual and religious awareness to encounter and combat extremism to protect the youth. King Abdullah II pointed out that the war against terrorism will last for fifteen years with multiple fronts. His majesty expected the war on terrorism should include military operations and numerous anti-terrorism requirements. The King focused on the war against extremism whatever its kind is and whatever its supporters may be. He stated that the world should not declare a war against one kind of terrorism and ignore the rest (King Abdullah II speech on 11/12/2014).

The return of infidelity thoughts after Arab spring uprisings, and the rise of deviant Jihadi organization as a result of ideological and intellectual differences within the Jihadi organizations have threatened the region by more violent acts. Also, it is expected the rise of more violent and radical organizations in future, accompanied by the increase of Jihadi divisions, and expositions in particular, may contribute to the continuation of heretic organizations even in their wide spread. The recent era, especially after the break out of the Arab risings and protests, has witnessed the rise of some Jihadi organizations which exceed in their radical belief and thoughts all the true requirements of the Islamic True Jihad. Overtime, such organizations have become closer to be more heretic streams rather than Jihadi organizations and in a way that can be described as heretic Jihadi organization. Some of those organizations have been established by forces through expositions and separation from other organizations and in a way, they force status queue. Even some of these heretic organizations have begun assaulting other Jihadi organizations, and they accused those who do not pay allegiance to them of being infidel. Examples of these organizations are ISIS in Syria and Iraq, Signatories by blood headed by Mukhtar Ba Mukhtar in Northern Mali and Ansar Sharia organization in Libya and Tunisia.

The subject of intellectual extremism nowadays in particular, and after the break out of Arab spring uprisings, is considered an important issue that has caught countless thinkers and government officials' attention especially in countries that have strong relation with terrorism prevalence. Consequently, terrorism research, causes and eradication have tackled this issue. In addition, many countries have started building military alliances, enact legislation plans and strategies to counteract terrorism (Rababah et al., 2021; Salah et al., 2022). However, the effort in this context has not been satisfactory because the provided solutions were scratching the surface of the problem not digging its roots and the main reasons for terrorism evolvement.

Terrorism with all its types and shapes has not come to existence from vacuum. There are many reasons that facilitated terrorism to evolve and grow. As such, knowing such reasons is very essential to deal terrorism. Thus, the educators play a vital role in such matters through studying the conditions, reasons and instigations which lead the youth to fell in the terrorism claws. Also, universities have a role in teaching medial values through faculty staff and who are moderate in their behavior, thinking and faith. Also, it is important to provide students with opportunities to express their thoughts and respond to their enquiries especially in religious matters, through the utility of mind, and straight thinking in the treatment of terrorism phenomenon, and abandon violence and build trust bridges between both sides.

The importance of this study stems from the subject importance it investigates. To understand the reasons behind terrorism from Jordanian youth perspective is considered beneficial in bringing forward appropriate suggestions which may be effective in the war against terrorism. And to achieve society's ultimate goal, and live in peace and harmony, this study sheds the lights on perspectives that can keep the youth immune against terrorism, and deviation by running after society's hostile groups.

It is matter of fact that terrorism as a phenomenon has not received enough attention or serious studies in the Arab countries. Terrorism is a very serious epidemic that works against humanity. Thus, current study

contributes to the existing literature relevant to terrorism. Furthermore, it is hopeful to have more studies in this context especially studies that cover different aspects of terrorism phenomenon which were not covered by previous studies.

The literature review has revealed the scarcity of field studies conducted in this context with the Jordanian society. As a result, this study aims to clarify the reality of terrorism and reasons from the Jordanian students' perspectives through responding to the following two questions:

1. What are the reasons for terrorism phenomenon from Balqa Applied University students' perspective?
2. Do terrorism causes differ from Balqa Applied university student perspective due to gender difference (male/female) and type of college (scientific/ Humanities)?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Zogby (2003) sought examining Arab American attitudes of her September 11 attacks. The study consisted of 508 Arab American persons. The results revealed that 83% of the participants supported president Bush in his war on terrorism. Also, 69% supported America in its war against states supporting terrorism. Whitney and Smith (2002) conducted a public survey to invest public opinion on terrorism. The sample consists of 3262 man and woman American who are over 18 years of age. In addition, a sample consists of 1000 persons was selected from 6 European countries: UK, Italy, Poland, Holland, Germany and France. The results show that 91% of the respondents' view that terrorism is dangerous on them and 61% from Americans believe that Islam constitutes a real danger that Americans face. Murshed and Pavan's (2011) study aimed at gathering information from individuals representing the Global Salafi Mujahedin (i.e., Muslims participated in terrorism acts against an enemy for the purpose of establishing a new Muslim political rule). Among the participants were leaders from Egyptian Islamic groups, Algerian Salafi groups and Al-Qaida. The results revealed that 71% of the Muslim terrorism has college level education and 41% are skilled professionals and all the participants have criminal history and deviant behavior.

Kamel's (2006) study reported a number of reasons that lead to the involvement of young people in terrorism, including family disintegration and the formation of a distorted and negative body image in the victim since childhood, loss of psychological privacy, poverty shocks and emotional failure, child neglect and abuse, immoral them in various ways, repeated exposure to authoritarian oppression (the authority of parents, teachers, the state, the police, etc.), lack of follow-up in education, as the individual is drawn from a young age to ambiguous processes (cult group) and being exposed to brainwashing and intellectual pollution, dictatorship education at all levels, political revenge and the ideological struggle over power, the widening of the gap between the classes of society without the existence of opportunities to rise in the social ladder and move vertically, lack of awareness of the danger of the population explosion and the encroachment on agricultural lands, the spread of incorrect religious concepts, especially the misunderstanding of the idea of jihad for the sake of god, lack of a sense of justice as a value, international oppression and the loss of peoples' rights.

Holmes (2004) studied the Americans' attitudes toward terrorism. The study tool consisted of eight questions about trends toward terrorism before and after September 11. The scale used consisted of items related to global terrorism, local terrorism, the possibility of wars, the possibility of calling in reserve soldiers, and security external trips, internal trip security, security in public places and malls. The study sample consisted of 45 individuals whose ages ranged between (18-78). The most interesting items was the one related to security in foreign trips, and the least important item was the one related to security in malls and public places. The sample members showed a noticeable interest in all the items of the scale, and the item related to the possibility of the United States entering the war received the most attention, while the item related to calling up the reserves was the least interested according to the sample's point of view.

Wike (2010) studied the foundations that support terrorism in the Islamic world. This was done in an opinion poll in six Islamic countries: Jordan (9607 Muslims), Indonesia (970 Muslims), Lebanon (563 Muslims), Morocco (1,000 people), Pakistan (1,203 Muslims) and Turkey (956 Muslims). He found that support for terrorist bombings against civilians has decreased between in the years (2002 and 2004) in the

six countries included in the study. The study showed that the trend of the study sample towards supporting terrorist bombings against Westerners in Iraq between the years (2004 and 2005) has decreased in the countries included in the study, where support decreased in Jordan from (49%) to (7%) and in Pakistan from (46%) to (29%) and in Morocco from (66% to 56%) and in Lebanon from (65%) to (49%). When the supporters of violence against civilians were asked about their confidence in Osama bin Laden, it was found that (71%) of Jordanians, (57%) of Pakistanis, (48%) of Indonesians, (39%) of Lebanese, (7%) of Moroccans, and (5) %) of Turks trust Osama bin Laden.

The Center for Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan (2005) conducted a study on Arab attitudes towards terrorism directed against the United States, Britain and France. The study sample consisted of (1200) individuals from Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, and Syria and Egypt who are university students, businessmen, and media professionals. The study found that the Arabs' religion and culture do not constitute a reason for tension between Arabs and the West and the Arabs view that what distinguishes the West is individual freedom and wealth, while Arabs are distinguished by religion and family ties. Also, it revealed that the Arabs show a negative tendency towards the West in general, but this tendency is more negative towards America and Britain where (57%) of the respondents showed a positive attitude towards France while (25%) of the respondents showed a positive attitude towards all of America and Britain. As such, (83%) of the Lebanese, (96%) of the Syrians and (88%) of the Jordanians believe that Israel's destruction of agricultural land in the West Bank is an act of terrorism; (55%) of the Lebanese, (33%) of the Egyptian and (21%) of the Jordanian considered attacks against Israeli civilians an act of terrorism; (25%) of the Lebanese, (18%) of the Jordanians, and (3%) of the Palestinians considered attacks against the Israeli military an act of terrorism; and (96%) of the Syrians, (84%) of the Jordanians, (92%) of the Palestinians and (75%) of the Lebanese consider Hezbollah a legitimate resistance. When these groups were asked about Hamas, (87%) of the Jordanians; (95%) of the Syrians, (85%) of the Egyptians; (94%) of the Palestinians and (62%) of the Lebanese considered it an organization of legitimate resistance.

The Center for Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan (2006) conducted an opinion poll on the killing of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, who led al-Qaeda in Mesopotamia. The survey sample size included 1104 individuals distributed over all regions of Jordan. The results showed that (61.8%) of the respondents considered the destruction of the World Trade Center towers in New York a terrorist act, (77.3%) of the respondents considered armed operations against the coalition armies in Iraq terrorist operations; (40.3%) of the sample considered armed operations against Israeli civilians terrorist operations; (90.8%) of the respondents considered the killing of Palestinian civilians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip by Israel terrorist operations; (62.3%) of the respondents consider the bombings of the London Underground terrorist operations; (79%) of them members of the sample considered the bombings in Sharm El-Sheikh terrorist operations: and (93.4%) of the respondents considered the bombings in hotels in Amman terrorist operations.

Al-Malkawi (2022) analyzed the King of Jordan Abdullah II's visions toward terrorism under enhancing intellectual security among the youth through the king's initiative against terrorism. He examined the king's speeches and concluded that terrorism issue comes in the first place in the king's entire speeches or 37% of his speeches. Youth issues come in the second place with (34%) in the king's entire speeches. At last came intellectual security with 27%. Thus, the author recommended that it is necessary to activate king Abdullah II's visions that aim at combating terrorism, enhancing intellectual security among youth.

Thawabiah and Harahsheh (2009) investigated Al-Tafileh university students' attitude towards terrorism. In order to achieve the study's objectives, an attitude scale against terrorism was developed and applied over a sample of 103 male and female students randomly chosen. The results of the study revealed that students' attitude towards terrorism was negative. In the same vein, Nawafah (2022) studied the Jordanian public attitude towards terrorism news stations. The study used the descriptive approach. The sample of the study consisted of 833 participants chosen via random strata sampling approach. The study revealed that public attitude towards terrorism which the channels broadcast was medium. The author justified this to the Jordanian public's awareness of terrorism and using logic towards terrorism analysis.

The Dutch Bureau for Criminal Investigation (2010) conducted a study over a group of young people is the first and most important motivating factor towards terrorism, while religious beliefs or sectarian element are marginal factors. The study showed that the family's way of raising children plays a vital role in converting young people into extremism. As such, extremists had been raised in dysfunctional families. The study concluded that exterminating extremism is a nation and social duty which must not be ignored. Also, it should not forbid one type of extremism and neglect other types.

Kate (2010) investigated reason that motivates extremists to withdraw from extremism groups that practice violence on a given stage in an attempt to include such young men back into society. It also investigated the factors that hinder or enhance such inclusion. The results revealed that the best ways to counteract extremism is to encounter the reasons that cause individuals to withdraw from extremist group after staying a long time with them. In so doing, it is possible to force individuals to leave extremist group if they do not leave them voluntarily. This can be achieved through following a preventive policy based on the question "Why some radicals leave or withdraw from extremist groups that practice violence?".

Titan (2017) studied the relationship between extremism and self-concept among students of higher education institutions in the Governorate of Qalqilya. The study community was made up of the students of Al-Quds Open University and the students of the Islamic Da'wa College, where a simple random stratified was conducted on a sample of 430 students. The results showed that the quantitative degree of extremists was an average of (0.45) among students of higher education institutions in Qalqilya.

Al-Rawashdeh (2012) aimed to identify the factors and manifestations of ideological extremism from the perspective of Jordanian university youth and its relationship to some variables such as gender and place of residence. The study was conducted on a sample of (229) students from the University of Jordan, University of Science and Technology. The study concluded that Jordanian youth reject ideological extremism despite the presence of some of its manifestations. The study recommended addressing the ideological extremism by addressing social factors and controlling a specific and comprehensive concept of the term ideological sympathy.

Ghoneim and Al-Sayedah's (2012) study aimed to research the attitudes of students of Princess Basma's College towards extremism and university violence by exploring the variables of violence. The study sample consisted of 900 students. The study concluded that students' inclinations to violence are low, and that there are statistically significant differences in students' attitudes towards violence according to the gender variable, the level of academic achievement and the academic level.

Bremond et al. (2012) studied the role of ideas of African American students towards violence and extremism. The study sample consisted of (552) students from the University of Southern Louisiana. The study concluded that it is necessary to prepare special programs and public awareness in order to influence the attitudes of young people through the men of the African American community.

Badarneh (2012) aimed to identify the degree of prevalence of manifestations of intellectual extremism among the students of the University of Jordan and its relationship to economic, social and academic factors from the viewpoint of the students of the University of Jordan themselves. The study sample, consisting of 5225 male and female students, was chosen randomly from the study population by 2%. The study showed that the degree of prevalence of manifestations of intellectual extremism among students was a medium degree with an average of (0.32). The economic, social and academic factors played a major role in the prevalence of manifestations of intellectual extremism in which the academic factors came first, and the economic factors ranked second, while social factors came in the third place. The study recommended activating the university's role in educating students about the dangers of intellectual extremism through offering a customized course and holding seminars on it.

METHODS

The Population and Sample of the Study
The population of the study consists of all students in BAU their second semester 2021/2022. A random strata sampling approach used to select the study's sample which included 583 male and female students as shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1
SAMPLE'S DISTRIBUTION ACCORDING TO ACADEMIC STUDY'S VARIABLE

Variable	Gender	Number	Percentage %
Gender	Male	194	33.3
	Female	389	66.7
Faculty	Scientific	259	44.4
	Humanities	324	55.6
Total		583	100%

THE INSTRUMENT OF THE STUDY

Based upon relevant literature review, a questionnaire has been developed so as to be the main study's tool to collect data from study's participants. It consists of 48 items divided into 4 domains: religious, economic, social and political reasons where items' average from 1 to 1.8 is considered very law; 1.8 to less than 2.6 is low; from 2.6 to less than 3.4 is medium; from 3.4 to less than 4.2 is high; and from 42 to 5 is very high. In order to assure the questionnaire validity and reliability in both format and content, it was submitted a panel of 10 arbitrators, faculty members, who are experts in the field to be reviewed. Their valuable suggestions were taken into consideration. Consequently, the final format included 40 items distributed onto four domains. With regard to the questionnaire's consistency, a questionnaire was distributed on a pilot sample of (30) students where alpha Cronbach scale results revealed the overall questionnaire's consistency rate was 0.91 which is acceptable value, as it is shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2
ALPHA CRONBACH CONSISTENCY FOR TOOL'S CATEGORY

Category	Consistency value
Religious reasons	0.92
Economic reasons	0.89
Political reasons	0.92
Social reasons	0.91
Tool as a whole	0.91

PROCEDURES

After preparing the study's instrument, Al-Balqa Applied University administration was contacted in order to obtain university approval to conduct the study and to provide facilities for field requirements. Also, a list of students' names that are willing to participate in the study was obtained. The questionnaire copies were distributed over to participants by hand, in which 620 copies were distributed (37 were discarded). The analysis is performed using the statistical software SPSS. In order to have response for questionnaire's items, means and standard deviations were used. In addition, "T" test was utilized for independent variables so as to find variance in gender and faculty type variables.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

To answer the first question which states, "What are the reasons for terrorism phenomenon growth from Al-Balqa Applied university students' perspective?" the results are shown in Table 3.

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TABLE 3
MEANS AND SD AND ESTIMATION OF CATEGORIES OF THE STUDY

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Rank	Category	Means	SD	Degree
1	Political reasons	4.10	0.38	High
2	Economic reasons	4.00	0.47	High
3	Social reasons	3.92	0.48	High
4	Religious reasons	3.81	0.76	High
	Total	3.95	0.45	High

The total a whole was with a mean of 3.95 and SD at (0.45) at a high degree.

POLITICAL REASONS

To find this category, the means and standard deviations were calculated. The results are shown in Table 4.

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TABLE 4
MEANS AND SD OF ITEMS OF POLITICAL REASONS CATEGORY IN DESCENDING ORDER

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No	Item	Mean	SD	Degree
9	Sep.11 attacks, American's war declaration against terrorism	4.50	0.50	V. high
4	Negative look at Arab and Islamic regions as terrorism sources	4.39	0.53	V. high
3	How level of political participation, in decision making that improve citizens life	4.30	0.68	V. high
5	The presence of American air bases in some Arab countries	4.28	0.66	V. high
8	Liberty and democracy absence in Arab and Islamic societies	4.19	0.71	High
1	Political radicalism growth in Israel	4.15	0.61	High
10	Political corruption prevalence	4.11	0.55	High
2	Chaotic relationship between the rulers, lack of trust between the two	4	0.60	High
6	American's Iraqi occupation which contributed to hostility increase in the Arab world against the Americans	3.84	0.66	High
7	Severe censorship and control over thoughts direct it towards rulers' goals	3.26	0.69	Medium
	Total	4.10	0.35	High

Table 4 shows that item 9, which states "Sep. 11th events and America's war declaration against terrorism" has the highest means of (4.50) and with SD (0.50) at very high degree. This due to the suffering of the Arabs and Muslims visitors and residents in America. This suffering takes the form of threats, against the interrogation. Also, putting aversion of Muslim charities bank accounts even through these organizations have no relation with terrorists who carried sep.11 attacks nor against American interest in or out of American. Consequently, the Arabs have become sure that America is in war against Islam and

Muslims. Thus, this item is considered to be the main reason for political terrorism. Item 7, which states that "strict control over free thinking and direct it in a way that serves the political system goals and directions", had the lowest rank with a mean of 3.26 and SD at 0.69 medium degree. This is due to the fact that students are convinced that freedom of speech is considered political and social rights protested for every member in the society and individuals differ in the way and means of speech. Also, the Jordanian constitution guarantees freedom of speech to every citizen, without breaking the laws of the kingdom. Thus, this has the lowest rank in this category.

POLITICAL REASONS

TABLE 5
MEANS AND SD OF ITEMS FOR ECONOMIC REASONS CATEGORY IN DESCENDING ORDER

No	Item	Mean	SD	Degree
14	Unemployment among youth leads to religious extremism and terrorism	4.58	0.61	v. high
15	Western control over Arabs wealth	4.40	0.77	v. high
17	Arab and Islamic economic belonging to super-to-super powers	4.22	0.78	v. high
16	Privatization and negative results on worker's	4.11	0.73	high
12	Freeze many Muslim charity organizations bank accounts after sep.11	4	0.66	high
18	Discrepancy between ways and high prices	3.59	0.91	high
20	Injustice in service and wealth distribution	3.48	0.98	high
19	Deviant groups' monetary support helps in attracting youth to join them	3.40	0.99	high
11	Decrease in wealth, commodities and service resources	3.31	0.93	medium
13	Wide gap between rich and poor countries because of globalization	3.15	0.91	medium
Total		4	0.76	high

Table 5 shows that item 14 namely "unemployment among youth leads to religious extremism and terrorism" which has the highest means at 4.58 and SD at (0.61) with very high degree. This is due to the unemployment which has created several negative reflections on society because of three major factors: slow economic growth, massive migration from neighboring countries and services and goods high prices.

SOCIAL REASONS CATEGORY

TABLE 6
MEANS AND SD OF ITEMS FOR SOCIAL REASONS CATEGORY ITEMS IN DESCENDING ORDER

Q No.	Item	Mean	SD	Degree
Q21	Poor social upbringing followed by families in raising their children, and the psychological type that it leaves behind	4.64	.63	v. high
Q23	Official silence on manifestations of moral corruption	4.39	.57	v. high
Q24	The lack of social justice among members of society.	4.30	.66	v. high
Q29	The sectarian strife that exists in the Arab countries	4.19	.61	high

Q26	Society's lack of response to the needs of young people.	4.11	.73	high
Q30	The prevalence of manifestations of oppression and intellectual oppression instead of security and dialogue.	4.11	.60	high
Q27	The spread of slums in the cities of some countries	3.59	.99	high
Q28	The spread of illiteracy and ignorance among some families in the Arab world	3.33	1.26	medium
Q22	The weak role of social and media institutions in explaining the reality of terrorism and renouncing it.	3.312	1.1147	medium
Q25	Rapid social changes	3.269	.9955	medium
Total		**3.92**	**.47**	**high**

Table 6 shows that item 21 which states, "Religious sheiks' youth exploitation in the name of religion" has the highest means of (4.64) and SD of (0.63) at very high degree. This due to the role of media in spreading moderate thoughts to defeat extremism; however, some Sheiks have taken the advantage of satellites and age in the name of religion through fighting the infidels and to join terrorist groups as they are characterized by Jihadi groups. Consequently, countless of youth joined such terrorist groups and they do not know the backgrounds, political and religious attitudes of such Sheiks; thus, this item has the highest scores. On the other hand, item 25 which states, "Rapid social changes" has the lowest means of 3.26 and SD 0.99 with medium degree. This is due to participants' belief in the vital role of educational system in Jordan

RELIGIOUS REASONS CATEGORY

Table 7 shows the religious reasons category items with details in descending order

TABLE 7
MEANS AND SD OF ITEMS FOR RELIGIOUS REASONS CATEGORY IN
DESCENDING ORDER

No	Item	Means	SD	Degree
35	Other religion's believers' insult to Islam	4.59	0.49	v. high
39	Religious awakening growth in Arab and Islamic world	4.48	0.75	v. high
32	Lack of ruling by what God has revealed	4.30	0.66	v. high
33	International pressures on Arab and Muslim countries to cause hardships on Muslim organization	4.19	0.61	High
36	Receive (Fatwa- religious ruling)	4.11	0.73	High
38	Create Shari coverage to enhance infidel approach through using verses in correct	3.69	0.63	High
40	Religious guidance organizations belonging to the ruling authority	3.59	0.99	High
31	Lack of trust worth religious reference groups	3.33	1.26	Medium
37	Impose secular thoughts by official bodies	1.11	3.22	Medium
34	Government encountering against unofficial religious attitudes	0.99	3.26	Medium
Total		**3.81**	**0.48**	**High**

Table 7 shows that item 35 which states, "the abuse of other religions believers to Islam" has the highest means of (4.49) and SD of (0.49) with very high degree. This due to the Western politics which carries some cultural stereo typing of an ugly picture about the Arab Muslim person who lives in the past and within extreme and primitive societies that produce violence and terrorism. This is accompanied by

picturing themselves as worthy of respect and their religion (Christianity) is the ideal development for human kind, on the other hand. Even they distorted the image of prophet Mohammad (P). Thus, hatred campaign against Islam is still going on in the Western world. Even they hold conferences to discuss Islamophobia which dealt with subjects that cause fear from Islam and its cultural, economic and social dimensions. All of these have caused the item '35' to have high scores. While item 34 which states, "Governments' war against unofficial religious attitude" has the lowest means of (3.26) and SD (0.99) with medium degree. This is due to the participants' belief that government represented by the ministry of Awqaf and Islamic affairs has encouraged the building of Quran memorizing centers which have also lessons in religious teaching and guidance which enhance religious values among the youth. Also, the Al-Balqa Applied University as well as other universities work on enhancing morals and religious values among students consequently participants considered this item as the least in causing terrorism.

DIFFERENCES IN THE REASONS OF TERRORISM VARIATION DUE TO GENDER AND FACULTY TYPE

To answer the second question which states "Do the differences in the reasons of terrorism vary with the difference of gender and faculty type variables?", T-test has been conducted. The results are shown in Tables 8 and 9.

Gender Variable

TABLE 8
THE RESULTS OF THE T-TEST OF THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN GENDER IN THE REASONS OF TERRORISM

Category	Gender	Count	Means	SD	T-value	df	P
Political reasons	Male	194	4.42	0.42	19.50	581	.000*
	Female	389	3.95	0.29			
Economic reasons	Male	194	3.97	0.77	-7.58	581	.000*
	Female	389	3.48	0.70			
Social reasons	Male	194	3.94	0.46	-9.96	581	.335
	Female	389	3.88	0.46			
Religious reasons	Male	194	39.7	0.49	-3.43	581	.001*
	Female	389	3.82	0.46			
Total	Male	194	3.95	0.47	-1.26	581	.206
	Female	389	3.90	0.45			

*Statistically significant at σ ≤ 0.05

Table 8 shows that there is statistically significant variation due to gender variable, in favor of male students because the males might be more interesting in politics, social and global events more than females do. Also, the Jordanian culture gives male more facilities and opportunities to participate in dialogues and follow political events in comparison with females. Thus, these variants come in favor of male students.

Faculty Variable
Table 9 show that there are statistically significant differences in the political, economic, social and religious causes of terrorism from the point of view of university students, attributed to the student's college, and in favor of students of humanities colleges. The study revealed that social, cultural and educational preventive measures have a significant contribution to limiting the spread of extremism along with the previous fields. These results correspond with Badarnah's (2012) findings which indicated the impact of the academic field and then the economic and social extremism. Thus, it is necessary to create a social and cultural life that nourishes and secures democratic ideas, human rights and public freedoms, and

be committed to the principles of dialogue and acceptance of differences and other opinions, promote opportunities to join secondary groups such as clubs, centers and associations, disseminate the culture of volunteering, provide care and charity in terms of belonging and sense of social responsibility, and support programs of education and work through students' unions, clubs to compete on programmatic and intellectual bases.

TABLE 9
THE RESULTS OF THE T-TEST OF THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN FACULTY IN THE REASONS OF TERRORISM

Category	Faculty	Count	Means	SD	T-value	df	P
Political reasons	Scientific	259	4.02	0.35	-4.92	581	0.00
	Humanities	324	4.17	0.34			
Economic reasons	Scientific	259	2.99	0.30	-72.60	581	0.00
	Humanities	324	4.46	0.17			
Social reasons	Scientific	259	3.46	0.25	-44.29	581	0.00
	Humanities	324	4.29	0.19			
Religious reasons	Scientific	259	3.34	0.22	-52.98	581	0.00
	Humanities	324	4.31	0.17			
Total	Scientific	259	3.31	0.22	-49.79	581	0.00
	Humanities	324	3.48	0.17			

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The results of the study indicated the importance of preventive measures and their impact in limiting the spread of extremism in Jordanian society. Also, the results indicated the size of the economic problems experienced by the Jordanian citizen contribute to the spread of behaviors and manifestations of extremism. Reducing prices and taxes, supporting projects and productive sectors, and preserving wealth and public money, and justice in the distribution of incomes contribute to creating an environment capable of combating all forms of extremism and limiting its spread.

The study emphasized on the importance of dealing with the issue of extremism in a preventive manner because of its great role in curbing extremism, and starting immediately to implement measures that ensure its limitation and prevent its spread in the Jordanian society as the results of the study indicated that preventive measures in the political, partisan, trade union and economic fields have a high impact on limiting the spread of extremism, and that social, cultural. Educational methods also help in limiting the spread of extremism, which confirms the importance of preventive measures and their ability to limit the spread of extremism in Jordanian society.

Focusing on implementing well-studied preventive measures in the political and civil society spheres can greatly contribute to limiting the spread of extremism, as political reform comes at the forefront of these measures to rebuild trust between the citizens and the state. Also, they contribute to broadening the base of political participation. Enabling political parties to compete impartially in order to alternate power and implement the principle of elected government enhances the opportunity to limit the spread of extremism in society and contributes to the involvement of young people in partisan and union work. This can end all pressures and restrictions that are imposed on labor unions due to their vital role in raising the level of extremism in Jordanian society.

Hence, the study recommends implementing deliberate and continuous preventive measures to limit the spread of extremism in the Jordanian society through achieving political reform and democratic transformation in which all popular groups participate, applying the principle of social justice and equality in the distribution of jobs and opportunities and wealth, strengthening the status of political parties by enabling them to gain power and implementing programs that preserve the status of labour unions and their historical and important role in regulating the affairs of professions, improving the conditions of its

members and defending their rights, reducing prices and taxes, supporting the productive sectors, salaries, guarantee funds, aid and insurances and protecting them, applying the principle of free education in all its stages, developing teaching methods and relying on educational activities in integrating the students in the surrounding community, developing a media plan that targets the media and social networking sites to raise awareness of the dangers of violence and staying away from it and recognizing its negative effects on society and its stability, supporting preventive measures that limit the spread of extremism and ensure its success and interaction with it, spreading the culture of volunteering through charities and belonging to them, implementing development and charitable programs in all parts of the country, and following up and linking them with the participating entities, such as universities and the private sector.

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