The Psychological Effects of Bioterrorism
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A large part of terrorism isn’t the after effects of a terrorist attack, but it is the mental fear that exists in not knowing. In the time immediately following a terrorist threat, people panic. Questions fly about when, where, who, how bad is it going to be? At this instant, the terrorists are halfway to succeeding in their mission. Despite the fact that no act has been committed, fear has been spread throughout an entire country.

Following the bioterrorism attack in 2001 on Americans, the world has an entirely new enemy to fear. Terrorism with biological agents has even more of an effect psychologically then terrorism without it. With bioterrorism there is no need for a threat to be made – all of the questions of when, where, how bad – they’re always on people’s minds. There’s a new question to be considered though – what.

People are now worried not just about the immediate effects of an attack like that on the World Trade Center or the London Rail System. Now there is concern about the release of the smallpox virus in a crowded, dense area, or deadly anthrax spores being thrown to the wind over New York City. The psychological effect that predicted bioterrorism has had on our world is enormous, and there hasn't been a large scale attack, or even threat, in seven years.