



Rampage in New Zealand – how the media instrumentalize and censor



On March 15, 2019, 50 people were killed and 50 injured, thus far, in an attack in Christchurch, (New Zealand). Although it must be assumed that the assassin is a mentally confused individual and acted on his own, the terrorist attack was shamelessly exploited for the so-called “fight against the right”.

On the 15th of March, 2019, 50 people were killed and 50 injured in an attack on two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand. According to eyewitness reports, an individual perpetrator equipped with a helmet camera and bulletproof vest, shot with a semi-automatic weapon, in a targeted manner those present in a mosque in the district of Riccarton. Then, at his car, he exchanged his self-loading gun and returned with another one, to the scene of the crime. The perpetrator then drove to a mosque in the Linwood district and shot another seven persons.

He fled and was caught a short while later by the police. The shooter was a 28-year-old Australian, according to the police. He was officially accused of murder by a court just a few days after his arrest. He broadcasted his bloody deed live via camera on Facebook. He also posted links to download a 74-page manifesto, entitled: “The Great Replacement”.

The perpetrator also sent copies of the manifesto to the Prime Minister's office and about 70 other addresses in New Zealand.

The terrorist attack is a reminder of Anders Breivik, who published a 1,500-page manifesto in English on the island of Utøya (Norway) before his shooting spree on July 22, 2011.

The 17-minute video of the rampage in New Zealand, which was streamed live on Facebook and then spread rapidly over the net, triggered a fierce debate in the established and social media: How is this even possible? And why did network control fail completely?

Facebook, YouTube, Google and Twitter later blocked the footage at the request of the New Zealand police. However, it still circulates on the net. By March 17, Facebook had deleted worldwide 1.5 million videos of the attack. The video triggered a discussion as to whether the shootings could be a deception or “false flag” action.

The information channel SKB NEWS pointed out “many inconsistencies”, e.g. that the cartridge cases in the original video had vanished into thin air, and that no blood could be seen.

The German journalist and Youtuber Oliver Janich and other freelancers, who watched the entire streamed video, came to a completely different conclusion: The video seems “absolutely real”. It was very disturbing; also pools of blood could be seen and screams heard, Janich said.

In the following, two conspicuous patterns will be discussed more in detail:

1) “The brutal terrorist attack of Christchurch was quickly instrumentalized by those (politicians and media) who instrumentalize everything.” With these words the Czech-born

video journalist and media scientist Dushan Wegner assessed the behavior of the political realm and the media after the terrorist attack.

Here are some examples:

– Although it must be assumed that the assassin is a mad, mentally confused and extremist individual, the terrorist attack was shamelessly exploited for the supposed “fight against the right”. Media on the left, like the German daily “taz”, even blamed the AfD (new German conservative political party) “for the escalation of terror”. Dushan Wegner rightfully said: “Whoever isolates excerpts from the »Manifesto« in order to equate his own political opponent with the terrorist, completes the terrorist’s work”.

Even the German journalist Dr. Hugo Mueller-Vogg had already pointed out in an article on FOCUS ONLINE from September 4, 2018, that the slogan “Fight against the right” is a dishonest strategic term. This slanders everything that is not “left”. Yet nobody can actually deny that “right” and “democratic” are not necessarily opposites, says Mueller-Vogg.

– Although the terrorist in his “manifesto” also labeled himself an “eco-fascist”, this was hardly ever mentioned by the big media, probably because it cannot be instrumentalized by them.

– Also politics know how to use the “favor of the hour” as the media called it: New Zealand's Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern has announced a ban on the sale of assault rifles and semi-automatic weapons. Transitional measures will ensure an immediate ban. But do terrorists not get their weapons illegally?

2.) The fact that the terrorist acted like in an ego-shooter game was NOT addressed. A complaint received by Kla.TV pointed this out. Even FOCUS ONLINE wrote that the death-shooter recorded the blood crime in a “sick, first-person shooter video”, but they did not go into it any further. First-person shooter games are a category of computer games in which the player fights other players or computer-controlled opponents with firearms, but also uses knives, chainsaws, etc.

A connection between first-person shooter games and real violence is often denied. Yet it is a fact that the assassins in the following acts of violence owned first-person shooter games: the school massacre in Littleton (Colorado) on April 20, 1999; the shooting at the Gutenberg-Gymnasium in Erfurt (Germany) on April 26, 2002, in Winnenden (near Stuttgart) on March 11, 2009 or the rampage in Munich on July 22, 2016.

According to the police, the Munich shooter – and as recently the shooter in New Zealand – “moved like in a computer game”. The German media psychologist Rudolf H. Weiss was quoted on n-tv.de as follows in an article about the shooting in Munich: “These (FPS) games contribute greatly to the brutalization of society – but it is presumptuous to say that every player becomes an assassin.” He refers to a recent US study by the State University of Ohio, according to which pronounced consumption of shooter-games can reduce empathy and increase the disposition to violence.

Conclusion: Once again, media and politics have managed to shamelessly exploit terrorist attacks in their favor. And through this, have disregarded the fact that these are mentally-confused extremist perpetrators who have nothing to do with either the “right” or “left”, nor with religion or climate protection. Also verifiable connections – as with first-person shooter games – are simply faded out, not to say censored!

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