

*These notes refer to the Counter-Terrorism Act 2008
(c.28) which received Royal Assent on 26 November 2008*

COUNTER-TERRORISM ACT 2008

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part 7 – Miscellaneous

Amendment of definition of “terrorism” etc

Section 75 – Amendment of definition of “terrorism” etc

203. *Section 75* gives effect to Lord Carlile’s 12th recommendation in his January 2007 report on the definition of terrorism. This was that the definition of terrorism in section 1(1) of the 2000 Act be amended to include, in paragraph (c), the purpose of advancing a racial cause (in addition to a political, religious or ideological cause). Although a racial cause will in most cases be subsumed within a political or ideological cause this amendment is designed to put the matter beyond doubt that such a cause is included. A similar amendment is made to paragraph 4(2)(c) of Schedule 21 to the Criminal Justice Act 2003 which makes provision in relation to the minimum term for mandatory life sentences. That paragraph provides that the starting point for a murder done for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause will be life. And similar amendments are made to other pieces of legislation where these words appear.