

September 22, 2015

Mark Steyn is annoyed.

As the week ended, Obama's palace guard in the American media were demanding that every other Republican candidate distance himself from Donald Trump's failure to correct, among thousands of attendees at his events, one who apparently is under the reprehensible illusion that the President is a Muslim.

Any candidate who plays this game with the Obamamedia is a fool. Assuming for the sake of argument that the questioner is genuine and not a plant (like, say, the 14-year old all-American schoolboy clockmaker who didn't make a clock at all and is the son of a belligerent Muslim activist and perennial Sudanese presidential candidate whose brother runs a trucking company amusingly called Twin Towers Transportation), putting all of that to one side, there are several entirely reasonable responses one could make to the gentlemen of the press:

1) Unlike Hillary Clinton's under-attended "rallies", a voter doesn't have to undergo a background check or sign a piece of paper pledging to support her in the election before being permitted into a Republican candidate's presence. So at our campaign events there are all kinds of people with all kinds of views - and it goes without saying I won't agree with them all. If you find that odd, maybe you've been covering Hillary too long.

2) Why does one Republican candidate's "scandal" get hung around the neck of every other guy's? I'll answer your question to me about Donald Trump's gaffe after you ask Bernie Sanders, Martin O'Malley, Lincoln Chafee and Joe Biden about Hillary Clinton's server and how she handled Benghazi. Till then, get lost.

3) In the normal course of events, the President - who is supposed to serve as president of all the people, not just the half of the country that voted for him - should command a certain respect. But this particular president has compared the members of the loyal opposition to terrorists and to the more hardcore Iranian ayatollahs. And none of you media bigfeet huffing and puffing about lèse-majesté gave a crap about that. So, if you'll forgive me, as someone designated a terrorist and ayatollah by Obama, I'm disinclined to rise to defend the President's amour propre. Go hector someone else. ...

Furthermore, a blog named Personal Liberty says you can blame the president and Hillary for the refugee crisis in Europe.

Over the weekend, another 34 refugees died trying to flee the war-torn Middle East and escape to Europe. They drowned when the boat they were on capsized as they were trying to make it from Turkey to Greece.

So far this year, nearly 400,000 desperate migrants have made it safely to Europe. An estimated 3,000 people died along the way, including Aylan Kurdi, the 3-year-old Syrian boy whose lifeless body was found on a Turkish beach. He, his mother and his 5-year-old brother all drowned when their boat capsized.

An even more horrifying story came out of Austria, where smugglers abandoned a refrigerated truck alongside the highway. When the doors were finally forced open, authorities found the bodies inside of 71 people who had suffocated, including that of an 18-month-old girl.

The humanitarian crisis is absolutely horrific. And frankly, the blame for it can be laid squarely at the feet of President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe Biden and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. As Fred Hiatt put it in The Washington Post, the Obama administration has presided “over a humanitarian and cultural disaster of epochal proportions.” ...

PJ Tatler quotes Ralph Peters who says 2,000 years of Christian civilization have been destroyed on this president's watch.

The Islamic State has managed to destroy two thousand years of Christian civilization in the Middle East in just a couple of years, Lt. Col. Ralph Peters noted on The O'Reilly Factor last week. And he placed the blame squarely on President Obama's cowardly, feckless, incompetent foreign policy. ...

... The archbishop of Canterbury [recently warned](#) British Prime Minister David Cameron that his government's refugee policy was discriminating against Christians because Christians are not among the refugees being helped in UN camps. They're not in the UN camps because they fear persecution from radicalized Muslim refugees.

Kevin Williamson puts on his old copy desk hat and shows how the NY Times distorts the news. This is a little long, but it illustrates how the real story gets turned on its head.

MEMO FROM: Copy desk

TO: New York Times Foreign desk

RE: Diaa Hadid for AM international; mark-up attached

HEAD: Jewish Man Dies as Rocks Pelt His Car in East Jerusalem [ED: “As rocks pelt his car”? How exactly did the rocks go about doing this? Are these special angry Palestinian rocks that get up off the ground and hurl themselves at Jews? Unless we're talking about The Rock, in which case he's going by “Dwayne Johnson” these days, I don't think a rock is capable of committing an act of violence on its own.]

BYLINE: Diaa Hadid

DATELINE: Ramallah, West Bank, 14 September 2015

COPY: The man was identified in local news reports as Alexander Levlovich, 64. His death was reported as the police and Palestinian youths clashed [ED: Is it the case that the police and the Palestinian youths “clashed,” or is it the case that the police tried to stop violent crimes from being committed? Do the police “clash” with bank-robbers or muggers?] for a second day at Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, amid tensions [Who is tense about this? Are Jews experiencing “tension” over being allowed to move about freely for the purposes of having dinner?] over increased visits by Jews for Rosh Hashana. The two-day holiday began at sundown on Sunday. ...

Here's the NY Times article [Williamson](#) referred to above.

A Jewish man died early Monday morning after attackers pelted the road he was driving on with rocks as he was returning home from a dinner celebrating Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year, the Israeli authorities said. Prime Minister [Benjamin Netanyahu](#) called an emergency meeting to discuss rock-throwing, mostly by [Palestinian](#) youths.

The man was identified in local news reports as Alexander Levlovich, 64. His death was reported as the police and [Palestinian](#) youths clashed for a second day at a contested holy site in Jerusalem, amid tensions over increased visits by Jews for Rosh Hashana. The two-day holiday began at sundown on Sunday.

A statement from the Israeli police said the assailants were throwing stones on Sunday night on a road that runs between a [Palestinian](#) and Jewish neighborhood in East Jerusalem. The police said the stone-throwing "led to a self-inflicted accident," as the man lost control of the car and smashed into a pole. ...

Jewish World Review

[Get Lost, You Palace-Guard Creeps](#)

by Mark Steyn



Isis prepare to behead a group of Christian men on a beach in Hillary Clinton's Libya.

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Any candidate who plays this game with the Obamamedia is a fool. Assuming for the sake of argument that the questioner is genuine and not a plant (like, say, the 14-year old all-American schoolboy clockmaker who didn't make a clock at all and is the son of a belligerent Muslim activist and perennial Sudanese presidential candidate whose brother runs a trucking company

amusingly called Twin Towers Transportation), putting all of that to one side, there are several entirely reasonable responses one could make to the gentlemen of the press:

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4) As to respect for the office, the President is so respectful of the papacy that his White House reception for Pope Francis will be filled with gay bishops, transgender activists and pro-abortion nuns. Apparently His Holiness is expected to have a thicker skin about dissenting voices than King Barack.

5) If I understand you shrill little twerps correctly, I'm supposed to point out to this guy in New Hampshire that the President is not a Muslim but a Christian. Well, his father and step-father were both Muslims, which means, as far as Islam is concerned, he was born a Muslim. Has he renounced it? My fellow candidate Ted Cruz entered this world in Calgary, Alberta in 1970, which means that he was born a British subject and a citizen of Canada. I don't suppose the Queen cares about that one way or the other - unlike your average Islamic scholar in Qom or Cairo. Yet you media types made such a big deal out of it that Ted was obliged to write to Ottawa to renounce even any theoretical Canadianness. Have you inquired of your buddy the President whether he's done anything similarly clarifying?

6) As to whether he's a Christian, have you asked him whether he has attended even semi-regularly any church other than that of Jeremiah ("God damn America") Wright? A man is free to attend the Westboro Baptist Church but if he chooses to do so I'm not obligated to defend his Christianity. And frankly, whatever the President's personal faith, there is no dispute that his leadership of the western world has been an utter catastrophe for Christians around the planet. Some of the oldest Christian communities on earth have been entirely extinguished on Obama's watch: in Mosul, Iraq, which was an American protectorate on the day he took office, not a single Christian remains. Every single one of them is dead or fled. So, instead of jumping through your preposterous hoops and speaking up for the most powerful man in the world, I would rather speak up for the powerless - for the Nigerian schoolgirls, for the Yazidi, for the Copts in Egypt, and for all the other beleaguered Christian communities in the world this feckless president has set alight and watched burn.

7) Oh, and one other thing. This kind of super-fake-o lame-ass nothing controversy that you dowager duchesses of the press are having the vapors about is precisely why the political

process has fallen into such disrepute and your own industry is bankrupt. No real person cares about this "scandal". So, unless you've got a question about the economy or immigration or something real, screw off outta here.

Personal Liberty

Blame Obama and Clinton for the refugee crisis

by Chip Wood

Over the weekend, another 34 refugees died trying to flee the war-torn Middle East and escape to Europe. They drowned when the boat they were on capsized as they were trying to make it from Turkey to Greece.

So far this year, nearly 400,000 desperate migrants have made it safely to Europe. An estimated 3,000 people died along the way, including Aylan Kurdi, the 3-year-old Syrian boy whose lifeless body was found on a Turkish beach. He, his mother and his 5-year-old brother all drowned when their boat capsized.

An even more horrifying story came out of Austria, where smugglers abandoned a refrigerated truck alongside the highway. When the doors were finally forced open, authorities found the bodies inside of 71 people who had suffocated, including that of an 18-month-old girl.

The humanitarian crisis is absolutely horrific. And frankly, the blame for it can be laid squarely at the feet of President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe Biden and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. As Fred Hiatt put it in The Washington Post, the Obama administration has presided "over a humanitarian and cultural disaster of epochal proportions."

Remember, it was Obama who first declared that Bashar Assad had to go as the president of Syria. It was our president who warned what would happen if Assad dared to cross a "red line" in the country.

Instead, Assad continued to wage war against his own countrymen, including the use of chemical weapons. And our response? As Glenn Harlan Reynolds put it in USA Today, "Since then, the United States has postured a bit, but done nothing of consequence. The signal to our enemies: It's safe to ignore us. The signal to our friends: It's foolish to rely on us."

Sad, but true. So now more than 4 million Syrians have fled their war-torn country. Most are in refugee camps in Jordan and Turkey. Meanwhile, 7 million more have been displaced in their own country, as their cities have been turned to rubble.

Then there's Yemen. Two years ago, Obama bragged that the country demonstrated the success of his anti-terrorism policies. That didn't last long. Now the terrorists have taken over, the country is being ravaged by civil war, and even the pro-Obama website Vox.com says the U.S. response has been "cringe-worthy."

And let's not forget about Iraq. It wasn't too long ago when Biden and other administration lackeys were describing the country as an administration success story. Obama even mocked ISIS as a JV terrorist team.

So we pulled all but a handful of our troops out of the country – and ISIS went on the march, raping women and girls, beheading captives, and destroying historic artifacts. It now controls major chunks of Iraq and Syria – much of it captured with vehicles and weapons we left behind.

Libya is another example of our failed interventionist policy. Here's how Reynolds described that debacle in USA Today:

Under President George W. Bush, the United States reached an agreement with Libyan strongman Moammar Gadhafi under which Gadhafi would give up his weapons of mass destruction in exchange for the United States no longer trying to depose him. But just years later, the Obama administration, spearheaded by then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, went ahead and toppled him anyway.

How has that worked out for us – and the world? As Reynolds put it:

Now Libya, too, is wracked by bloody civil war, and sending waves of refugees pouring into Europe. At the time, Hillary thought the war on Gadhafi would be a strong selling point in her 2016 presidential campaign ('We came, we saw, he died,' she joked after Gadhafi fell, and advisor Sidney Blumenthal told her to tout her 'successful strategy' to the press); now she's not talking about it much.

No, she's not. Which is all the more reason why we should.

Sad to say, the present crisis has "Made in the USA" stamped all over it. And the situation is only going to get worse.

Until next time, keep some powder dry.

PJ Tatler

[Ralph Peters: '2000 Years of Christian Civilization Destroyed on Obama's Watch'](#)

by Debra Heine

The Islamic State has managed to destroy two thousand years of Christian civilization in the Middle East in just a couple of years, Lt. Col. Ralph Peters noted on *The O'Reilly Factor* last week. And he placed the blame squarely on President Obama's cowardly, feckless, incompetent foreign policy.

ISIS has been spreading across the Middle East like a plague of locusts, and as they have spread, they have targeted religious minorities, particularly Christians, for destruction. In Syria, **tens of thousands of Assyrian Christians** have been attacked and displaced.

They are the forgotten refugees.

A Catholic priest who visited Kurdish Iraq last fall [described the wounded souls](#) of the Christians who had taken refuge there. They had been forced from their homes in northern Iraq in the summer of 2014.

“Without question, we are talking about genocide here. Genocide is not only when the people are killed, but also when the soul of a people is destroyed. And that is what is happening in Iraq now,” Fr. Andrzej Halemba, head of Aid to the Church in Need’s Middle East section, said Oct. 28. “It is the most tragic thing that I have ever experienced.”

“I have seen people who have been deeply wounded in their soul. In the various crises in this world I have often seen people who have lost everything. But in Iraq there are Christians who have had to leave everything and take flight three or four times. They can see no light at the end of the tunnel.”

[Last spring](#), hundreds of Assyrian Christians fled to Lebanon after ISIS jihadists stormed their villages in Syria’s northeastern province of Hasakeh.

Members of Lebanon’s Assyrian community did their best to welcome the new refugees, but the displacement had left them traumatized.

The group has seized at least 11 of the 33 Assyrian villages in the region, and kidnapped more than 200 members of the ancient Christian sect, which numbered around 30,000 in Syria before the war ...

“The villages of Khabur are empty now, there is no one left except some fighters,” lamented Chorbishop Yatron Koliana, as he oversaw the distribution at his diocese.

“Our people have experienced a great tragedy in Syria,” he added with a sigh, saying that many of the new arrivals were traumatized. “They are depressed. Some of them have chronic illnesses. Their lives are difficult.”

“How can we be comfortable, living on aid?” asked 50-year-old Simaan, who fled his village Tal Hormuz.

He railed against what he called international indifference to the plight of Assyrians under attack by ISIS in Syria and neighboring Iraq.

“The whole world, from the UN to the United States and Russia, is responsible,” he said angrily. “They (ISIS) have destroyed our whole civilization...and the world is watching.”

[In July](#), 4,000 more Assyrian Christian families were among the 120,000 people who fled Hasakeh to escape ISIS forces who had entered the city looking to carry out a mass ethno-religious slaughter.

Fleeing Muslim persecution, Christian refugees are often targeted and persecuted anew by fleeing Muslim refugees.

[An egregious example](#) from last April: 12 Christian refugees lost their lives during a particularly harrowing trip — not due to their boat capsizing, but through Islamic violence.

[The International Business Times](#) reported:

Italian police have arrested 15 Muslim immigrants in Palermo, for allegedly having thrown Christian refugees off the rubber boat that was taking them to Italy after a fight for “religious reasons”, according to media reports.

Those arrested – from Mali, Guinea and Ivory Coast – were part of a group of 100 that were rescued off the Libyan coast by the Italian coastguard.

The archbishop of Canterbury [recently warned](#) British Prime Minister David Cameron that his government's refugee policy was discriminating against Christians because Christians are not among the refugees being helped in UN camps. They're not in the UN camps because they fear persecution from radicalized Muslim refugees.

National Review

[Returning to the Copy Desk, Briefly](#)

by Kevin D. Williamson

MEMO FROM: Copy desk

TO: *New York Times* Foreign desk

RE: Diaa Hadid for AM international; mark-up attached

HEAD: Jewish Man Dies as Rocks Pelt His Car in East Jerusalem [ED: “As rocks pelt his car”? How exactly did the rocks go about doing this? Are these special angry Palestinian rocks that get up off the ground and hurl themselves at Jews? Unless we’re talking about The Rock, in which case he’s going by “Dwayne Johnson” these days, I don’t think a rock is capable of committing an act of violence on its own.]

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A statement from the Israeli police said the assailants were throwing stones [ED: At . . . ?] on Sunday night on a road that runs between a Palestinian and Jewish neighborhood in East Jerusalem. The police said the stone-throwing “led to a self-inflicted accident,” [ED: This is a quote, sure, albeit one without specific sourcing, but are we really going to pretend this was “self-inflicted”?] as the man lost control of the car [ED: “was driven off the road”] and smashed into a pole.

Palestinians scuffled [ED: At what point does a “scuffle” with “riot police” become, you know, *rioting*?] with the Israeli riot police after security forces blocked a road leading to the Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem’s Old City on Monday.

Luba Samri, a police spokeswoman, said the rock-throwing appeared to have caused the accident but that “nothing is 100 percent sure.” The police, with a court’s permission, said no more details about the case could be published while an investigation was continuing.

On Monday, Mr. Netanyahu said he would call a special meeting after Rosh Hashana ends Tuesday evening to discuss “harsher punishments and strict enforcement” and other means to combat rock-throwing.

The government had already said, on Sept. 2, that it was considering harsher measures against Palestinian stone-throwers **[ED: “harsher measures against Palestinian stone-throwers,” or against, as above, *mostly* Palestinian stone-throwers?]**, including more use of live ammunition and tougher minimum sentences.

Israeli security forces have increasingly grappled with rock-throwing, particularly along a highway in the occupied West Bank that is mostly used by Jewish settlers and on roads leading to Jewish neighborhoods in Jerusalem. **[ED: Hmm: Jewish settlers, Jewish neighborhoods: Does a trend seem to suggest itself to you?]**

[ED: Here at the end of the eighth paragraph in this story about a Jewish man being murdered for the crime of driving while Jewish, I’m wondering if we’re going to get a straightforward statement of the fact that this Jewish man was murdered for the crime of driving while Jewish.]

Last week, the Israeli police reported that stone-throwing episodes **[Palestinian stone-throwing episodes, or mostly Palestinian stone-throwing episodes, or what?]** had increased 53 percent in 2014 from the previous year.

Palestinians frequently argue that rocks and crude incendiary devices are among their only weapons to press for independence, and to defend themselves against Israeli forces during confrontations. **[ED: Was there a confrontation with Israeli forces under way? Or was there a confrontation with a 64-year-old Jewish man driving home from dinner under way?]** For some young Palestinians in areas where there are frequent tensions, their use has become a rite of passage. **[ED: So, the Palestinian bar mitzvah, you’re saying?]**

In East Jerusalem, Ms. Samri, the police spokeswoman, said protesters had thrown rocks **[ED: A protester throwing rocks isn’t a protester; he’s an “assailant.”]** at officers who had entered the contested holy site of the Al Aqsa Mosque — revered by Jews as the Temple Mount and known to Muslims as the Noble Sanctuary, one of the three holiest sites in Islam **[ED: It’s a holy site in Judaism, too, no? The holiest site, right?]** — so they could allow non-Muslims, including Jews, to enter the area.

Three people were arrested, Ms. Samri said. Palestinians posted photographs on social media of a bloodied elderly man who they said had been hit in the eye with a rubber bullet. The violence began Sunday, when youths holed up in the mosque overnight, **[ED: What’s mosque policy on this?]** hoping to confront **[ED: By “confront,” do you mean “pelt with rocks” or “murder,” by any chance?]** the police and Jewish visitors.

Similar clashes **[ED: By “clashes” you mean stonings of Jews driving home from dinner?]** took place in July, as Jews held an annual fast day commemorating the destruction of two ancient temples believed to have once stood **[ED: Is this seriously in dispute?]** at the holy site.

The tensions that led to the fighting **[ED: Was there “fighting” over the course of this episode? At what point was Mr. Levlovich “fighting”? Surely the word you are looking for is “assault” or “murder.”]** are a product, at least in part, of growing Palestinian fears that Jews are visiting the Temple Mount as part of an Israeli plan to assert sovereignty over the site or to divide it.

Non-Muslim prayer is banned at the site, and Mr. Netanyahu has repeatedly said he has no intention of changing that.

Many Palestinians do not believe his claims, noting that some nationalist Jewish activists have been agitating for increased access and prayer rights at the site, and that some members of Mr. Netanyahu’s government have supported the call for open Jewish prayer there.

After the clashes on Sunday, Uri Ariel, a right-wing minister **[ED: Right-wing may be a fair characterization; strange that it is the only political characterization in the entire story.]** who has urged Jews to pray on the Temple Mount, visited the site in what was interpreted by some **[ED: Whom?]** as a provocation.

Israel recently outlawed an organization of Muslim women who chase and shout at Jewish visitors at the holy site, along with an affiliated, less-vocal **[ED: But more stone-throwy?]** group of men. The government accused both groups of inciting violence. **[ED: Given the actual, you know, *homicidal violence* at the site, is this really an occasion for “the government accused”?]**

Before the ban was imposed, Muslim women were barred from entering the Al Aqsa Mosque during the early morning, when foreign visitors and Jews are allowed to enter the site, said Aviv Tatarsky, a researcher at Ir Amim **[ED: Mr. Ariel is “right-wing,” so what is Ir Amim? “An Israeli left-wing activist non-profit organization founded in 2004,” if Wikipedia is to be believed. Why the inconsistent use of political characterization?]** an organization that advocates for Palestinians in Jerusalem.

This site is in the Old City of Jerusalem, in territory Israel seized from Jordan in the 1967 war and then annexed in a move that has not been internationally recognized.

The compound has a special status: It is administered by the **[ED: right-wing? Left-wing? Islamist? What?]** Islamic Waqf trust, under Jordanian custodianship, but Israel controls security. Tensions over the site have mounted over the past year and have often resulted in **[ED: “resulted in”? Are we to believe that tensions perpetuate violence with no human agency involved?]** violence **[ED: On whose part?]**

ED: We’re not seriously thinking about running this copy as is, are we?

NY Times

Jewish Man Dies as Rocks Pelt His Car in East Jerusalem

by Diaa Hadid

RAMALLAH, West Bank — A Jewish man died early Monday morning after attackers pelted the road he was driving on with rocks as he was returning home from a dinner celebrating Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year, the Israeli authorities said. Prime Minister [Benjamin Netanyahu](#) called an emergency meeting to discuss rock-throwing, mostly by [Palestinian](#) youths.

The man was identified in local news reports as Alexander Levlovich, 64. His death was reported as the police and [Palestinian](#) youths clashed for a second day at a contested holy site in Jerusalem, amid tensions over increased visits by Jews for Rosh Hashana. The two-day holiday began at sundown on Sunday.

A statement from the Israeli police said the assailants were throwing stones on Sunday night on a road that runs between a [Palestinian](#) and Jewish neighborhood in East Jerusalem. The police said the stone-throwing “led to a self-inflicted accident,” as the man lost control of the car and smashed into a pole.

Ynet, an Israeli news site, quoted a woman who said that she was a passenger in the car and that it crashed after being hit by a thrown object. The site did not identify the woman.

Luba Samri, a police spokeswoman, said the rock-throwing appeared to have caused the accident but that “nothing is 100 percent sure.” The police, with a court’s permission, said no more details about the case could be published while an investigation was continuing.

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In East Jerusalem, Ms. Samri, the police spokeswoman, said protesters had thrown rocks at officers who had entered the holy site — revered by Jews as the Temple Mount and known to Muslims as the Noble Sanctuary, one of the three holiest sites in Islam and the holiest site in Judaism — so they could allow non-Muslims, including Jews, to enter the area. Many Palestinians also refer to the site as Al Aqsa Mosque, named after the holiest shrine there.

Three people were arrested, Ms. Samri said. Palestinians posted photographs on social media of a bloodied elderly man who they said had been hit in the eye with a rubber bullet. The violence began Sunday, when youths holed up in the mosque overnight, hoping to confront the police and Jewish visitors.

Similar clashes took place in July, as Jews held an annual fast day commemorating the destruction of two ancient temples revered by Jews as having once stood at the holy site.

The tensions that led to the fighting are a product, at least in part, of growing Palestinian fears that Jews are visiting the Temple Mount as part of an Israeli plan to assert sovereignty over the site or to divide it.

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Correction: September 16, 2015

An earlier version of the headline with this article misstated the location of the rock-throwing attack. As the article correctly noted, it was in East Jerusalem, not the West Bank.

Correction: September 16, 2015

An earlier version of this article misstated the officers' actions during the clashes. They fought with protesters on the perimeter of Al Aqsa Mosque, but did not enter it. The article also referred imprecisely to the area that Muslim women were barred from entering during the early morning. It is the entire compound, not Al Aqsa Mosque itself.

HISTORIC PLAGUES

Black Death
1348



Caused By
Poor
Hygiene

BRING
OUT
YOUR
DEAD!!



ISIS
2015



Caused By
Inept Foreign
Policy





