



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

October 8, 2025

The Honorable Pam Bondi
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W.
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Bondi:

We are deeply concerned with the Department of Justice's recent removal of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) study "*What NIJ Research Tells Us About Domestic Terrorism*", from the DOJ's website.¹ This Study concluded that violent acts committed by far-right extremists in the United States have outpaced those committed by far-left extremists or other groups.² Yet, despite these findings, recent public statements by the Administration have advanced false claims that "the Radical Left" is the primary driver of political violence in our nation.^{3, 4} This deliberate mischaracterization undermines public trust and the DOJ's own mission of impartial justice and integrity.⁵

Since the 1960s, NIJ research and data collection have been an essential tool for policymakers, law enforcement, and communities to understand the patterns of domestic extremist violence. The Study reviewed data of extremist incidents from 1990 to 2020 and concluded that far-right extremists were responsible for the vast majority of ideologically motivated killings during this period.⁶ These findings of the NIJ Study are also consistent with a 2025 Cato Institute study, which found that since 2020, right-wing extremists were responsible for 44 politically motivated deaths, while left-wing extremists were responsible for 18 deaths.⁷

The decision to remove the NIJ study from DOJ's website, coupled with misleading claims from Administration officials and a recent Presidential Memorandum targeting "left-wing terrorism"⁸, raises serious questions about whether the Department is suppressing evidence-based research in favor of political narratives.

¹ <https://x.com/AaronBlake/status/1968043368820445435>

² <https://web.archive.org/web/20250911012550/https://nij.ojp.gov/topics/articles/what-nij-research-tells-us-about-domestic-terrorism>

³ <https://x.com/RapidResponse47/status/1942742576207126932>

⁴ <https://x.com/RapidResponse47/status/1967704570135711966>

⁵ <https://www.justice.gov/>

⁶ <https://web.archive.org/web/20250911012550/https://nij.ojp.gov/topics/articles/what-nij-research-tells-us-about-domestic-terrorism>

⁷ <https://www.cato.org/blog/politically-motivated-violence-rare-united-states>

⁸ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/09/25/trump-domestic-extremism-political-violence/>



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At a time when domestic terrorism threats persist, transparency and reliance on credible data are essential. Attempts to obscure or distort findings to advance a political agenda only hinder the ability of policymakers and communities to effectively prevent future violence.

Therefore, to ensure that evidence-based research remains accessible to both policymakers and the American public, we ask that you provide a written response to the concerns raised in this letter by Tuesday, October 28, 2025.

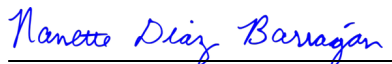
Specifically, we request that you address the following questions:

1. What was the rationale for the removal of the NIJ study *"What NIJ Research Tells Us About Domestic Terrorism"* from the Department of Justice's website?
2. Were there any formal or informal communications between the White House and the Department of Justice directing, recommending, or otherwise suggesting the removal of this study? If so, please provide copies of such communications.
3. As of September 26, 2025, the DOJ's Office of Justice Programs has a notice on its homepage stating that websites and materials were being reviewed under recent Executive Orders, and that some pages would be temporarily unavailable.⁹

What specific Executive Orders are being used as the basis for the Department of Justice's review of its websites, and how did those directives lead to the removal of the study?

We, the undersigned Members of Congress, urge you to provide a timely and complete response to the questions outlined above. The American people deserve answers about why this research was removed and whether political considerations guided this decision.

Sincerely,



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress

⁹ <https://www.ojp.gov/>



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