

RESPONSIVE READING

Worship Leader:

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

RESPONSIVE READING

Congregation:

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

RESPONSIVE READING

WL: While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son.

C: She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

RESPONSIVE READING

WL: And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

RESPONSIVE READING

WL: But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

RESPONSIVE READING

C: Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

RESPONSIVE READING

WL: When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

RESPONSIVE READING

WL: When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

RESPONSIVE READING

C: But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

RESPONSIVE READING

WL: On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived.



silent night



Oh Holy
NIGHT



March 25th Death

March 25th (Enunciation)

+ 9 Months...



December 25th



2 Things in Common



Both are charming and everyone is waiting for them to be over.



The long winter and dark night

400 years of silence

Conquered and subservient to Rome

Line of kings had failed

Religion was growing increasingly corrupt



2 questions about the night

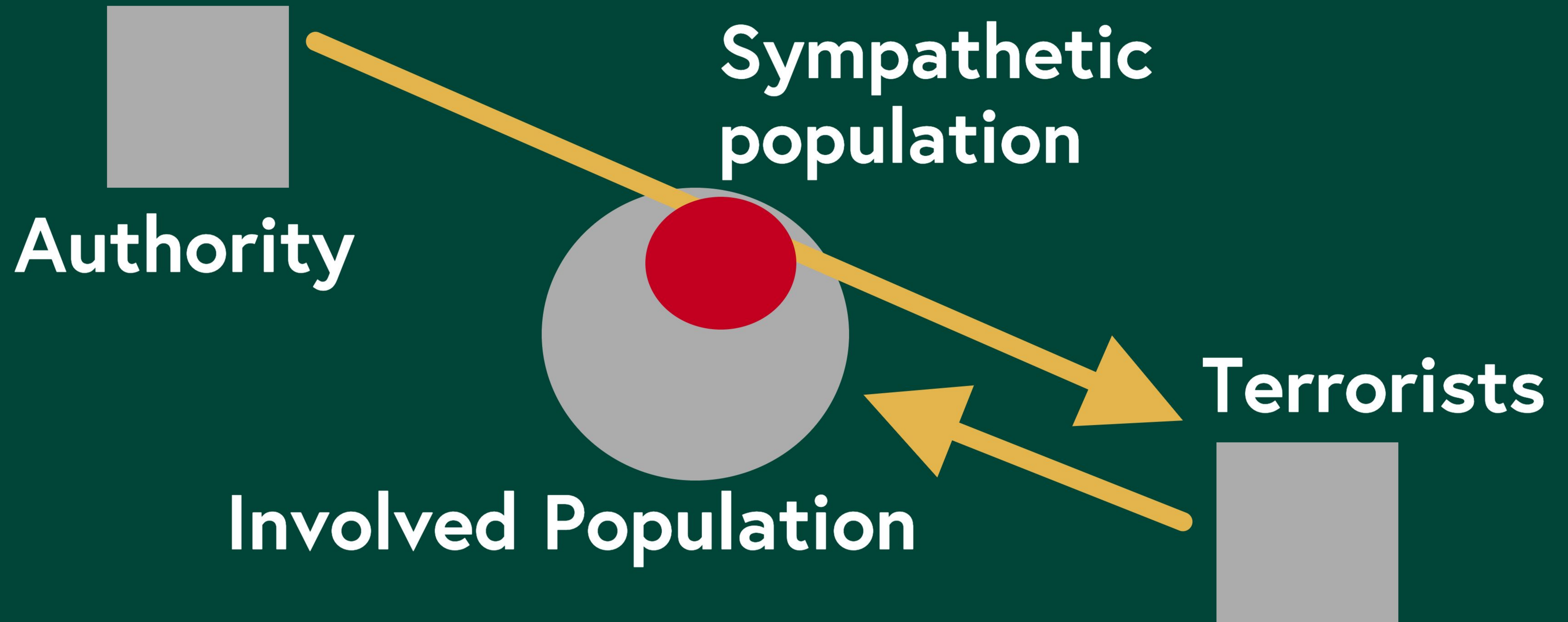
Why is it *still* night?

When will it be over?

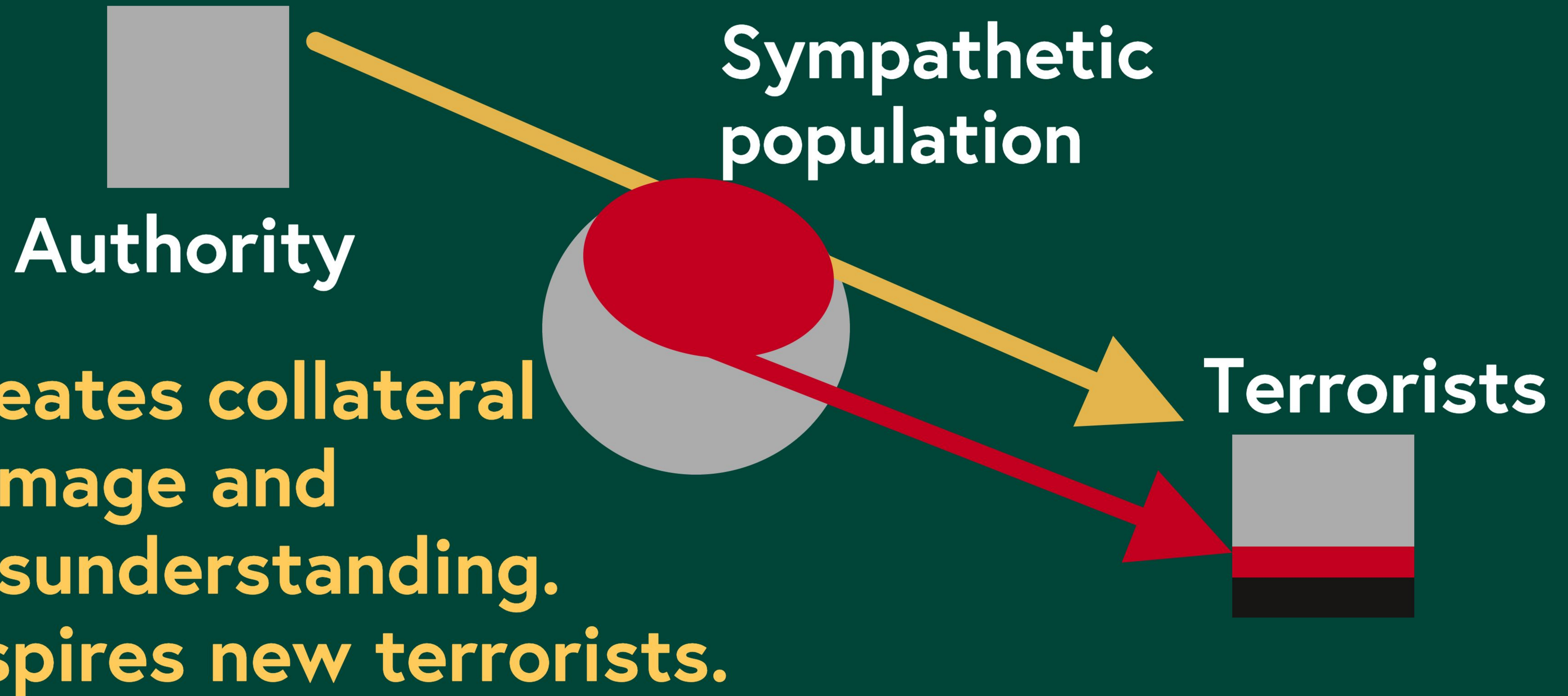
International policy and counterterrorism



4 Interplaying groups

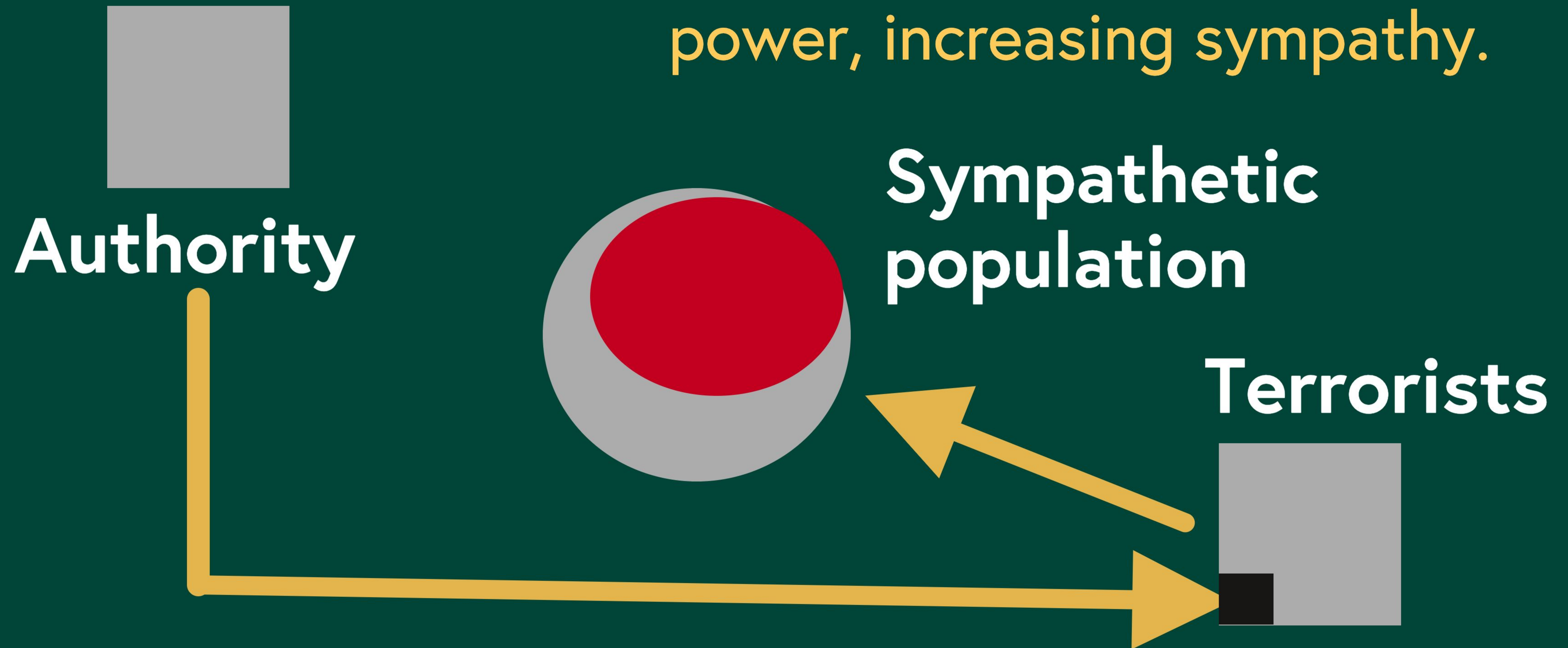


Direct Suppression



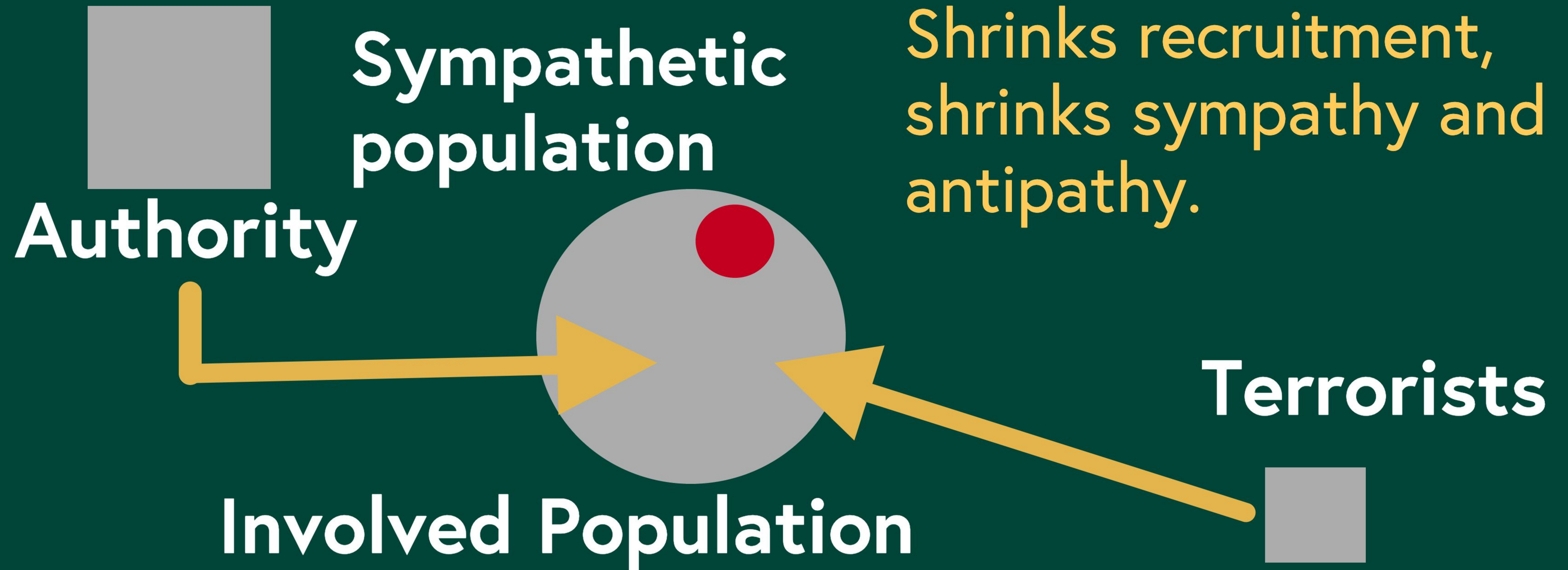
Infiltration

Infiltration can't make a big enough dent, and actions taken are still blamed on the authority power, increasing sympathy.

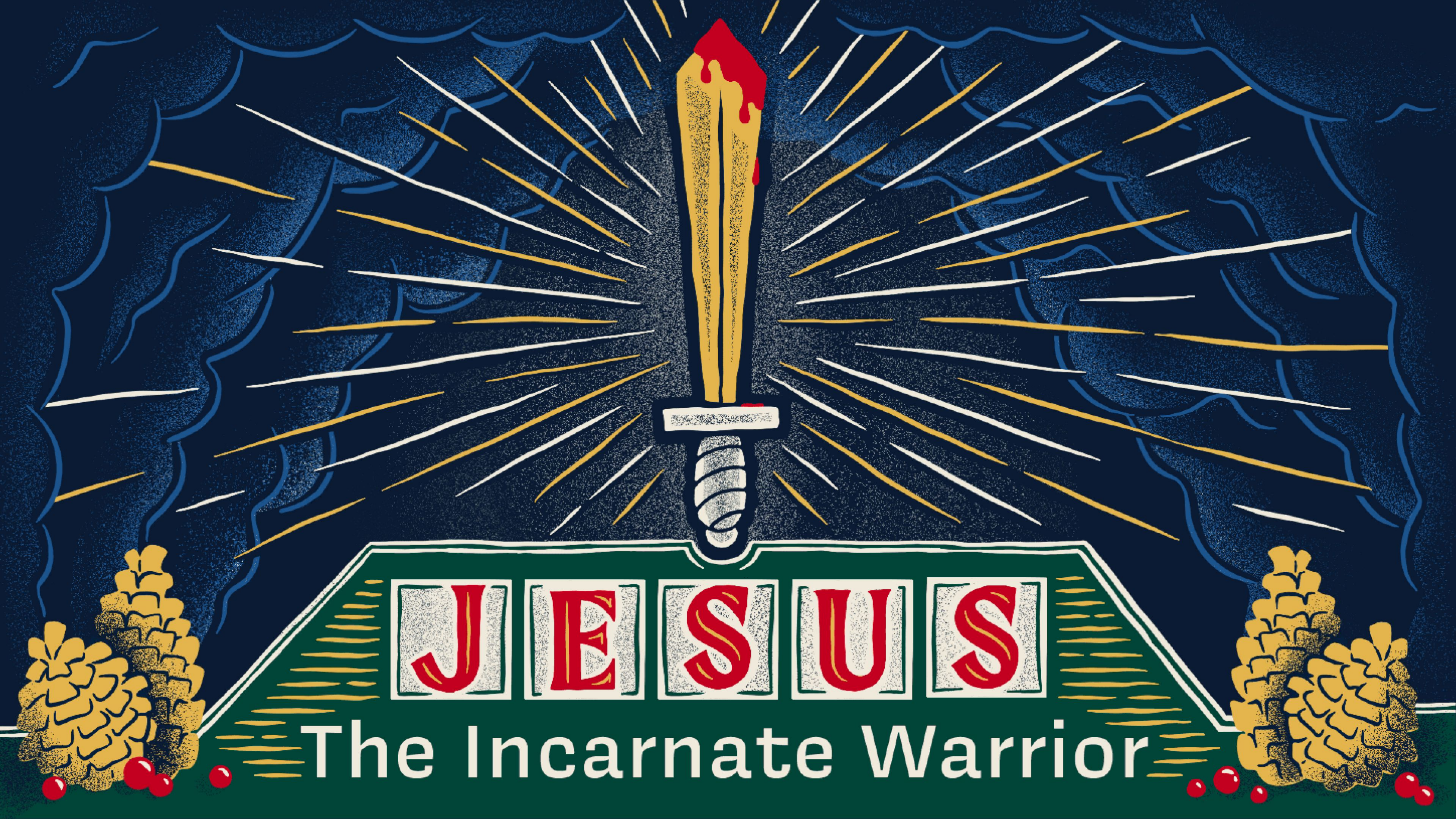


Counterinsurgency

Seek to win legitimacy by creating good in the involved population. Shrinks recruitment, shrinks sympathy and antipathy.



You have to
create a rebellion
against the rebellion
to save some of the
rebellious.



JESUS

The Incarnate Warrior

He is a warrior

**Jesus is the anointed counterinsurgent
against the great rebellion.**

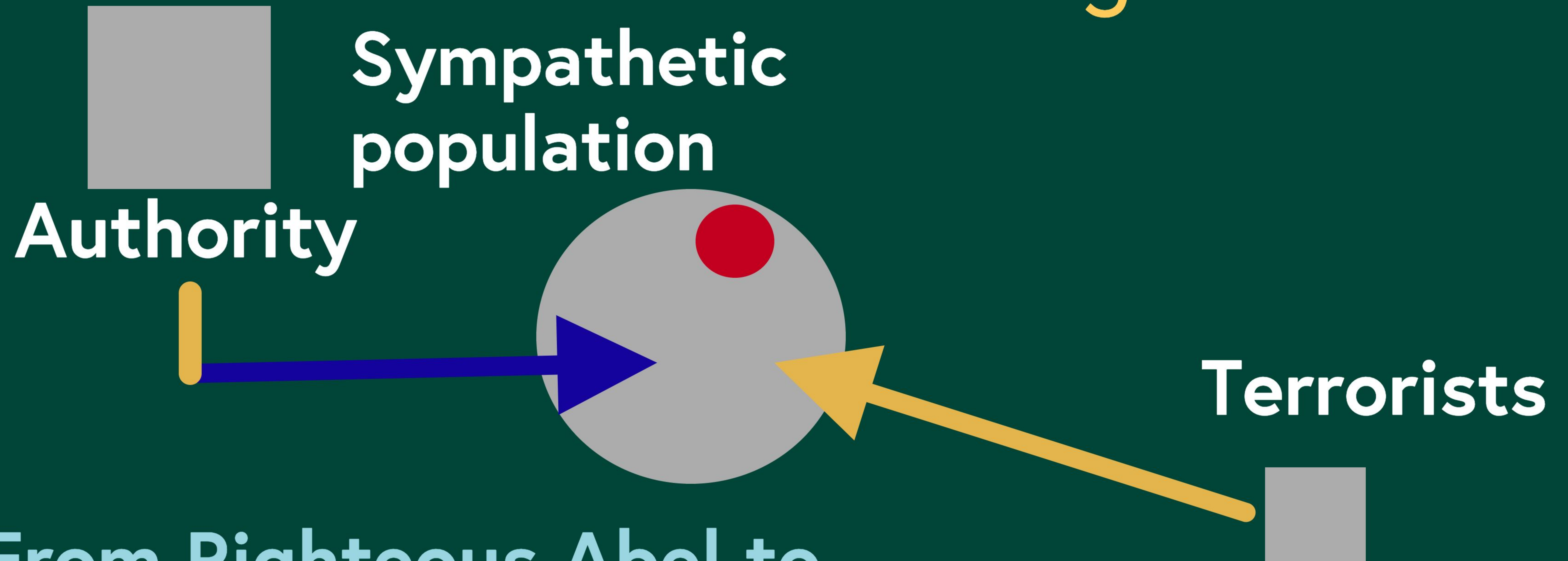
He is a warrior

Jesus is the anointed counterinsurgent
against the great rebellion.

The rebel against the rebellion to
save rebels.

Counterinsurgency

The most
dangerous work



"From Righteous Abel to
Zechariah..." Mt 23:35, Lk 11:51



Why the night persists

The rebellion against
the rebellion isn't done
winning the rebellious

Isaiah 9:1 – 2

Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honour Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan—

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of darkness a light has dawned.

John 8:12

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 9:4-5

**"...While I am in the world, I am
the light of the world."**

Matthew 5:14 – 17

"**You are the light of the world.** A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people **light a lamp and put it under a bowl.** Instead they put it on its stand, and **it gives light to everyone** in the house. In the same way, **let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.**

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.