

McVeigh's life, it is easy to see why he may have committed such a horrendous act. At a young age, McVeigh's parents divorced. Quite traumatized by this, he withdrew himself and became socially introverted. He was bullied by both the other people in his neighborhood and also by the people in school. This contributed to his growing hatred of bullies even into adulthood. He viewed weapons as the "great equalizer" since his pre-teen years and was often seen experimenting with different guns in his free time (Linder). He joined the Army, left with honorable discharge, and fell into periods of depression and thoughts of suicide. His depression turned to anger, however, and most of it was aimed at the government. His anger led him to participate in many bank robberies and other crimes in order to get money for anti-government projects.

The anger that Timothy McVeigh had for the government was brought on by the conflict between the Branch Davidians Group and the federal government in Waco, Texas in 1992 during a raid for illegal weapons. During this "disastrous confrontation," agents from the federal government killed members of the group, which created intense controversy (Kearns 67). McVeigh felt that the agents were not being fair in their actions. He believed the federal government was a tyranny, and he wanted to take revenge for the government's aggression. There are many theories regarding why McVeigh bombed the federal building in particular. The most prominent one involves McVeigh's belief that the agents responsible for the Waco incident worked at the federal building. They did not, however. Regardless, he held a grudge for many years, slowly formulating a plan (Kearns 67).

On April 19, 1995 McVeigh and his partners bombed the federal building. They loaded up a rental truck with six thousand pounds of explosives made from fertilizer and motorcycle