Bombings Deter Visitors To Capital - New Research

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More than a quarter (26 per cent) of adults in Britain, France and Germany say they have been â€˜put offâ€™ from visiting or travelling in London following the bombings on 7 July and the attempted attacks on 21 July, according to the findings of a new CNN/TIME poll conducted by TNS, and published today.
The research â€“ conducted between 26 â€“ 31 July â€“ reveals that almost a third of those interviewed in Britain (31 per cent) a France (32 per cent) have been put off from visiting London following the bombings, compared with just one in five (20 per cent) in Germany.

Interestingly, in all countries, a significantly higher proportion of women than men said they were put off from going to, or travelling in, the UK capital â€“ 40 per cent women compared with 21 per cent men in Britain, 37 per cent versus 26 per cent in France and 27 per cent versus 12 per cent in Germany.
The poll â€“ conducted just three weeks following the Tube and bus bombings in London â€“ also reveals that people in Britain are considerably more likely to be put off using public transport as a result of security fears. Some 21 per cent of respondents in Britain â€“ rising to 33 per cent among respondents from the Greater London area â€“ agreed that security fears had put them off using public transport, compared with just 14 per cent in France and eight per cent in Germany.

The research shows that a majority of people across all three countries would be prepared to accept some degree of added inconvenience in return for tighter security on trains and buses in the future.

This was highest in Britain, with 71 per cent of respondents saying they would be prepared to accept either delays and longer journey times or higher travel costs or both, compared with just 49 per cent in France.
A spokesperson for TNS commented: â€œIn the immediate aftermath of the London bombings, it is not surprising that a significant proportion of people â€“ not only in Britain but also in France and Germany â€“ have been deterred from visiting London or travelling around the city. At the same time, the bombings have clearly made many people â€“ particularly in Britain â€“ wary about travelling on public transport in case there are any further attempts to bomb similar targets in other parts of Europe.

â€œPeople in Britain also seem to be generally supportive of the introduction of additional measures on trains and buses to make them safer, even if this meant increased journey times or increases in the price of tickets to cover the additional costs involved. The bombs in London â€“ together with those in Madrid in 2004 â€“ have graphically demonstrated the vulnerability of public transport networks to terrorist attacks, and users of those services are realising that tighter measures need to be put in place to guard their safety in the future.â€•
The research was undertaken between 26 and 31 July 2005 among representative samples of approximately 1,000 adults in each of Britain, France and Germany using TNS Ncompass international Omnibus. The margin of error is +/- three per cent.

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