

Protecting Children and Young People from Radical Influence

The media can be full of reports about terrorism, extremism and radicalisation, causing often undue worry and concern to parents. Whilst the impact that such issues has on our lives cannot be overstated, it is important to acknowledge that attacks are still rare. It is also important to be confident that having a good understanding of your son or daughter would empower you to identify and respond to any concerns that you may have. If you are worried about the behaviour of your son or daughter, talk to them. It could turn out that your concerns are unfounded. However, if your child has become involved in a situation that they need help with, being able to talk to you about it will be the starting point for resolving such issues.

If you are worried about the type of material available online, talk to your service provider, ask about parental controls, make your home internet access safer.

We also encourage you to visit our website for information on our PREVENT and Safeguarding pages.

How can radicalisation occur?

- Self-radicalisation
- Online communities
- Charismatic individuals' speeches may be used
- Propaganda
- Books, pamphlets, CDs or DVDs
- Vulnerable people identified and targeted
- Grooming of vulnerable adults
- A process very similar to Child Sexual exploitation can take place
- Offers of gifts such as jewellery or clothes may be used

What are the Warning Signs?

- Extreme behavioural change
- Transitional period in life
- Changes in faith or ideology
- Expressions of support for violent extremism
- Narrow/limited religious/political views
- Attendance at certain meetings or rallies
- Them and us rhetoric (dehumanisation)
- Possession of propaganda DVDs/CDs
- Access to violent extremist web site
- Secrecy on the internet

Look at the following resources:

- StopHateUK.org.uk: 0113 293 5100
- Educateagainsthate.org.uk
- Victimsupport.org.uk 0151 343 4025
- Let'stalkaboutit.info
- Anti-Terrorist Hotline: 0800 789 321.
- FamiliesMatter.org.uk
- NSPCC.org.uk: 0808 800 5000
- SIGMA Hate Crime Unit 0151 777 3020 Mobile 07921 698 319