

EXTREMISM & RADICALISM

EXTREMISM

THE SUPPORT OR PROMOTION OF AN IDEOLOGY BASED ON VIOLENCE, HATRED, OR INTOLERANCE THAT AIMS TO:



- DENY OR DESTROY THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS OF OTHERS.
- UNDERMINE, OVERTURN, OR REPLACE THE UK'S SYSTEM OF LIBERAL PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY AND DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS.
- INTENTIONALLY CREATE A PERMISSIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR OTHERS TO ACHIEVE THESE RESULTS

RADICALISM



RADICALISATION IS THE PROCESS BY WHICH INDIVIDUALS COME TO SUPPORT EXTREMISM AND, IN SOME CASES, PARTICIPATE IN TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. IT INVOLVES THE ADOPTION OF EXTREME VIEWS AND IDEOLOGIES THAT CAN LEAD TO EXTREMIST ACTIONS

How does radicalisation happen?

Radicalisation is a complex and gradual process where individuals, often young people, are drawn into extremist ideologies and behaviours. This process can involve several stages and methods, including:



1. **Grooming:** Individuals may be targeted and groomed either online or in person. This grooming process can be subtle and manipulative, making the individual feel valued and understood by the recruiter.
2. **Exploitation:** This can take many forms, including sexual exploitation. Extremist groups may exploit vulnerabilities, such as emotional distress or social isolation, to manipulate individuals into their cause.
3. **Psychological Manipulation:** Recruiters often use psychological tactics to influence and control the thoughts and beliefs of individuals. This can involve creating a sense of belonging and purpose within the extremist group.
4. **Exposure to Violent Material:** Individuals may be exposed to violent and extremist content, including videos, articles, and social media posts. This exposure can desensitise them to violence and normalise extremist views.
5. **Inappropriate Information:** Extremist groups may spread misinformation and propaganda to shape the individual's worldview and justify their actions.
6. **Risk of Physical Harm:** As individuals become more radicalised, they may be encouraged or coerced into participating in extremist acts, which can pose serious risks to their physical safety and even lead to death.

Signs of radicalism

If a child or young person is being radicalised, their daily behaviour may increasingly revolve around an extremist ideology, group, or cause. For instance, they might:



- Isolation:** Withdrawing from family and friends.
- Behaviour Changes:** Increased anger, secretiveness, or disrespect.
- Online Activity:** Accessing extremist content or engaging with radical groups.
- Altered Appearance:** Adopting symbols or styles linked to extremism.
- Justifying Violence:** Supporting violence for societal change.
- Scripted Speech:** Talking in a rehearsed manner.
- Extremist Material:** Possessing extremist symbols or literature.
- Disengagement:** Losing interest in usual activities.

What to do if you think a child or young person is being radicalised?

ACT EARLY

It might seem minor, but if something feels off, seeking help early can ensure we support the person you're concerned about as soon as possible.

We understand that sharing your concerns can feel daunting, but in most cases, further police involvement isn't necessary.

The right support could involve assistance with education, substance abuse, or managing mental health issues.

If there is immediate danger, call 999.



Safeguarding concerns – No immediate threat

If you're concerned about possible terrorist activity or risk of radicalisation and there is no immediate threat, you can either:

- ✓ Complete a Prevent referral form
- ✓ Contact your Kent and Medway Prevent Team
- ✓ Call the Police on 101
- ✓ Visit actearly.uk or call 0800 011 3764 for confidential advice
- ✓ Visit Gov.uk/prevent for guidance on the Prevent programme
- ✓ Visit Kent Police's possible terrorist activity page.
- ✓ Call the Anti-Terrorism Hotline on 0800 789 321.

