



Understanding and Preventing Extremism

Learning Outcomes:

- Explain what is meant by the terms extremism, terrorism and radicalisation.
- Suggest factors which contribute to the formation of extremist ideologies.
- List several ways people can reduce the risks associated with extremism in their communities.

Ground rules

- Come up with 5 rules which your table thinks will help the class to have positive, informative discussions and debates on this topic.



Key Concepts



Work on your own to fill in your handout by covering the following:

- explain what you understand by the terms extremism and terrorism.
- suggest possible causes of extremism and terrorism.
- add ideas on possible solutions to tackle terrorism.

Definitions

- What were your definitions of extremism and terrorism?
- **Extremism:** holding extreme political or religious views.
- **Terrorism:** the unlawful use of violence and intimidation to bring about political or social change.




Key Questions

- Are extremism and terrorism the same thing?
- What types of extremist groups are there?
- What do you understand by the word 'radicalisation'?




FBI Wanted Poster



Most Wanted Terrorists

Maliciously Damaging and Destroying, and Attempting to Destroy and Damage, by Means of Explosives, Buildings and Other Property; Possession of a Destructive Device During, in Relation to, and in Furtherance of a Crime of Violence

DANIEL ANDREAS SAN DIEGO



Aliases: Andreas San Diego, D. Andreas San Diego, "Andreas"

DESCRIPTION

Date(s) of Birth Used:	February 9, 1978	Hair:	Brown
Place of Birth:	Berkeley, California	Eyes:	Brown
Height:	6'0" (1.80 m)	Complexion:	Light
Weight:	160 pounds (73 Kg)	Sex:	Male
		Race:	White
		Citizenship:	American

Scars and Marks: San Diego has the following tattoos: a round image of burning hillsides in the center of his chest with the words "It only takes a spark" printed in a semicircle below; burning and collapsing buildings on the sides of his abdomen and back; and a single leafless tree rising from a road in the center of his lower back. These tattoos may have been significantly altered or covered with new tattoos.

Remarks: San Diego has ties to animal rights extremist groups. He is known to follow a vegan diet, eating no meat or food containing animal products. In the past, he has worked as a computer network specialist and with the operating system LINUX. San Diego wears eyeglasses, is skilled at sailing, and has traveled internationally. He is known to possess a handgun.

CAUTION

Daniel Andreas San Diego is wanted for his alleged involvement in two bombings in the San Francisco, California, area. On August 28, 2003, two bombs exploded approximately one hour apart on the campus of a biotechnology corporation in Emeryville. Then, on September 26, 2003, one bomb strapped with nails exploded at a nutritional products corporation in Pleasanton. San Diego was indicted in the United States District Court, Northern District of California, in July of 2004.

REWARD

The FBI is offering a reward of up to \$250,000 for information leading directly to the arrest of Daniel Andreas San Diego.

SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS

If you have any information concerning this person, please contact your local FBI office or the nearest American Embassy or Consulate.

- Read the Wanted poster and look for clues about what can lead a person to be involved in extremist activities.

What factors or feelings might lead people to get involved in terrorism or violent extremism?

- A lack of identity, purpose or sense of belonging
- Demonising of others as different, leaving people feeling separate and/or insecure
- Defending their culture, way of life or beliefs
- Sense of injustice regarding the treatment of their culture or beliefs
- Pressure or influence from violent extremist groups, including through social media
- Dehumanisation – indifference to violence through violent games, radicalisation process dehumanising 'others'
- Lack of understanding of faith
- Lack of critical assessment of information
- Poverty, unemployment, lack of education and the promise of a better life



What can communities do to help reduce these factors?

- Use a different colour pen to annotate your group's list to add ways people can reduce the impact of such factors.
- Eg next to 'lack of understanding of faith' you might add 'RE lessons in schools'.
- How many of your ideas could you do yourselves, e.g. could you help people feel included, ensure you report online discrimination etc?



Malala Yousafzai – Youth Activist



- Malala Yousafzai is an activist for female education. She was attacked by the Taliban (religious extremists). She is quoted as saying:

‘The extremists are afraid of books and pens. The power of education frightens them.’


- Why do you think Malala says extremists are frightened by education?
- To what extent do you agree?
- Why?

Reflection

- Revisit your key concepts sheet.
- Add any extra ideas IN A DIFFERENT COLOUR and amend anything you no longer agree with.
- What have you learned about your role in helping the community?



Questions?

- Do you have any questions on this topic?
 - Is there anything that you would like to comment on? Or that worries you?
- 
- Add a question to the question box if you do.
 - Otherwise, just post your blank slip of paper into the box.



Signposting



- If you want to talk to someone about today's lesson:
 - Tutor
 - Head of year
 - Childline: 0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk
 - Police: 101
 - Report online content:
<https://www.gov.uk/report-terrorism>