

Introduction

As a parent you might be worried about how radicalisation might affect your child.

We have put together this leaflet to help you understand more about radicalisation and how you can deal with these issues. In Ealing we understand what makes children vulnerable and we consider the risk of radicalisation as no different from other forms of harm.

Should I be worried?

Despite the high levels of media attention given to these issues, the chances of them affecting you as a parent are very low.

It is important to remember that most people will never support terrorism and that the amount of young people that become involved in terrorism is very small. However terrorists and extremists will try to influence children and young people to radicalise them to their cause.

Aim

Our Prevent programme is designed to work closely with families, the local community and professionals.

We want to help children, to prevent them from being drawn into terrorism or extremism. We do this by supporting those who are vulnerable to radicalisation; by challenging extremist ideologies; mentoring them and working with the local community sectors and institutions.

Prevent covers all types of terrorism and extremism, including the extreme right wing, Daesh or Al Qaida groups or other causes.

What to look out for

You know your child better than anyone else, and are best placed to notice any changes in their behaviour. It is the job of everyone to prevent the radicalisation of young people. Parents, teachers, friends and family all have a part to play in making sure that extremist ideas are challenged. Encouraging young people to learn about and understand alternative points of view is an essential role of a parent. However if you have a concern, always talk to someone who can help you.

Remember:

- Children and young people want to push the boundaries. They are searching for an identity in a confusing world.
- Many terrorists and extremists are increasingly reaching out to children and young people through the internet and social media apps such as snapchat, telegram and Instagram and online gaming consoles.

Concerns:

- Unfortunately there is not a checklist of what makes someone become vulnerable to radicalisation. Every individual and their circumstances are unique.
- You may be concerned about your child's behaviour, social or emotional well-being.
- You may be concerned about your child experimenting with alcohol or drugs.
- You may be dealing with a difficult time in your child's life.
- You maybe concerned about your child showing an interest in travelling to an area of conflict or may have concerns about your child showing sympathy to a terrorist act or cause.

I have concerns - what should I do, who should I contact?

It is important to seek professional help and advice from someone who can do something to help you, your child and your family. For example, your child's school, college or even your GP.

Call us.

You can talk to a member of the Ealing Social Care Team on

0208 825 8000

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Outside of these hours you can call our Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on

0208 825 5000

If you believe there is an immediate threat to your child or others please call the Police on 999.