

Community Awareness Briefing

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Why are we here?

We want to talk about violent extremism, which takes many forms

We want to build awareness of how people become radicalized to violence

We want to ensure our communities are protected

And, most importantly, we need your help

Violent Extremism

A wide range of threats...

- White Supremacists
- Eco-terrorists
- Neo-Nazis
- Al-Qa'ida or ISIL-inspired groups



All Violent Extremist Groups

- Look for vulnerabilities
- Focus on grievances
- Provide a community of interest (in-person or online)
- Promote violent action as solution
- Hold a black and white narrative

Why would someone join a violent extremist group?

Ideological

Personal

Sociopolitical

Group

Community

Some in the United States join for all of these factors, and
No single factor leads to radicalization
no matter how extreme

Example of the ISIL Narrative



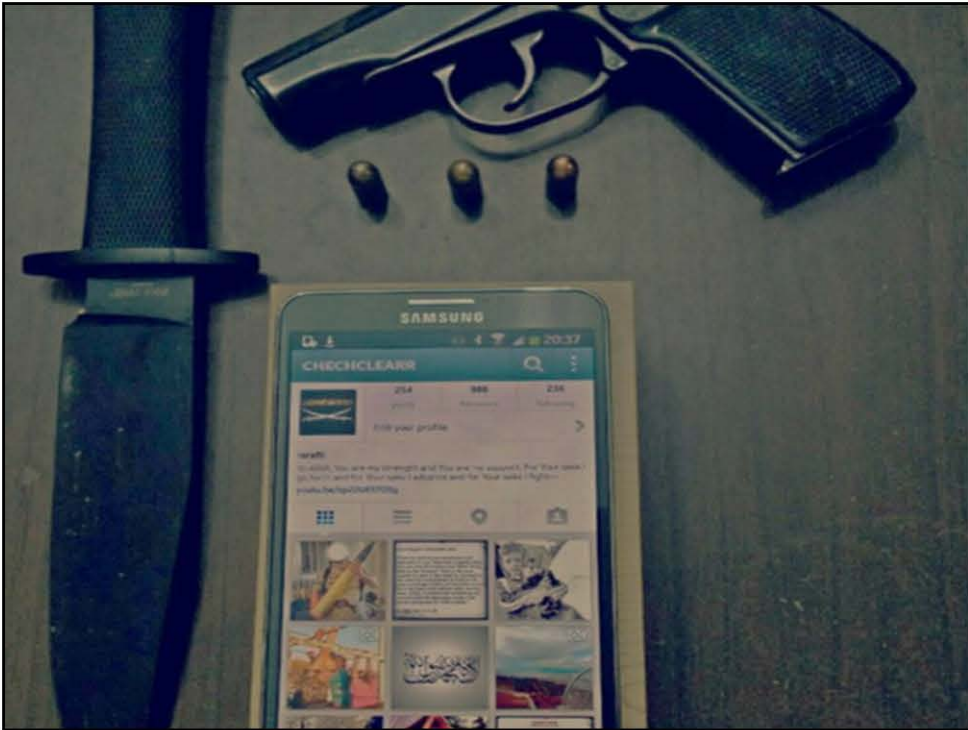
ISIL's Use of Social Media


- Tailored messaging to Americans in English
- Sophisticated use of Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Kik, Ask.fm, WhatsApp, Tumblr, Flickr, Snapchat











Abu Fulan al-Muhajir @Fulan2weet
Bilad al-Sham
A stranger. Currently fighting in Syria, to make the word of Allah the highest!

673 answers 673 likes 0 gifts

Make a gift

Ask me a question

300

Ask

answers

Answers · 13 Retweets

R the bathrooms clean
Yes. But they don't become clean by themselves. We need to clean them
2 days ago 4 people like this

How can I convince my family please help me
daawa. Talk to them. Tell them to imagine them being in Syria and nobody wanted to help them
2 days ago 3 people like this

are martyrdom operations allowed in islam
Yes. But of course there are certain conditions
2 days ago 1 person likes this

Recent Trends



Abdullah Elmir



Sabina Selimovic



Salma Halane



Samra Kesinovic



Zahra Halane

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Moner Mohammad Abusalha

- Grew up in a gated community in Florida
 - *“He was a nice kid ... Everyone got along with him.”*
- Outgoing and funny, loved basketball
 - *“He’d play basketball with any hoop anywhere he could find one.”*



Moner's Last Words



Community Responses

Minnesota's Somali community acts to counter ISIL recruiters

Program developed with Justice Department aims to encourage vulnerable teens to stay in school and reject extremism

December 3, 2014 11:45AM ET | Updated 8:06PM ET

by [Hilary Brueck](#) - [@Hilarx](#)

Somali community leaders in Minneapolis are working with U.S. authorities to develop a program inspired by gang-prevention methods to steer disaffected youths away from extremist groups overseas.

The program — a mix of mentorship, psychological care and after-school programs — has been developed to give more opportunities to mostly young Somali-American men in Minnesota, home to the largest population of Somalis in the United States.

What can you do?

- **Stay safe online**
 - Know who your kids are talking to online and what sites they are visiting
- **Have open communication**
 - Talk with your kids about what is happening in the world
- **Look for behavior changes**
 - Have a conversation with your loved ones; find out what might be triggering their changes