

Community Awareness Briefing (CAB)

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Response





Similarity is the recruitment.
Recruitment begins at an early age...indoctrination.
Find the young, find the lost, find the vulnerable.
5105202983

Response

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Violent Extremism

A wide range of violent extremist groups

- Neo-Nazis & White Supremacists
- Animal Rights & Eco-terrorists
- Black Separatist Extremism
- Militia Extremism & Sovereign Citizens
- Al-Qa'ida & ISIL-inspired Extremism



Talking Points:

Tee-up: What is violent extremism and what does it look like?

Violent extremism is a particular form of violence that is motivated by an ideology.

Violent Extremism takes many forms, from international terrorist organizations to domestic terrorist groups.

The images below all demonstrate some type of violent extremism inspired by a different ideology.

Image 1: The Animal Liberation Front conducting a raid in 2004 of a farm which raised hens for eggs.

Image 2: The mass shooting at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston perpetrated by USPER Dylann Roof.

Image 3: The Earth Liberation Front allegedly attacked the 2007 Seattle Street of Dreams and burned down five multi-million dollar eco-friendly houses, calling them "McMansions".

The U.S. Government understands there is a wide range of threats from violent extremism and our concern is not solely on the al-Qaeda or ISIL-inspired varieties. There are other types of violent extremists—such as those listed here—who commit violence in this country and of concern to law enforcement. However, we are here today to talk about al-Qaeda / ISIL-inspired varieties because the U.S. Intelligence Community currently assesses the primary threat comes from them. These groups are committed to conducting attacks against United States interests, including attacks inside the U.S.

Ask the audience:

- To illustrate this, can anyone guess what kinds of violent extremist groups carried out the most attacks in the past five years?

conducted a study on terrorist attacks in U.S. between 2000 and 2013 and the

Between 2000 and 2013, the vast majority of the attacks, about 200, were carried out by environmental and animal rights violent extremist groups, according to a study by the University of Maryland at College Park and the Department of Homeland Security.

. During the same time 5 attacks were conducted by al-Qaeda and its affiliates. And yet, I bet you remember the ones perpetrated by al-Qaeda or ISIL-inspired individuals, not the ones perpetrated by the other groups.

- This illustrates that while there may not be as many in number, the al-Qaeda related attacks have a large scale and very high impact on our communities, which highlights why we are focusing on them today.

Sourcing:

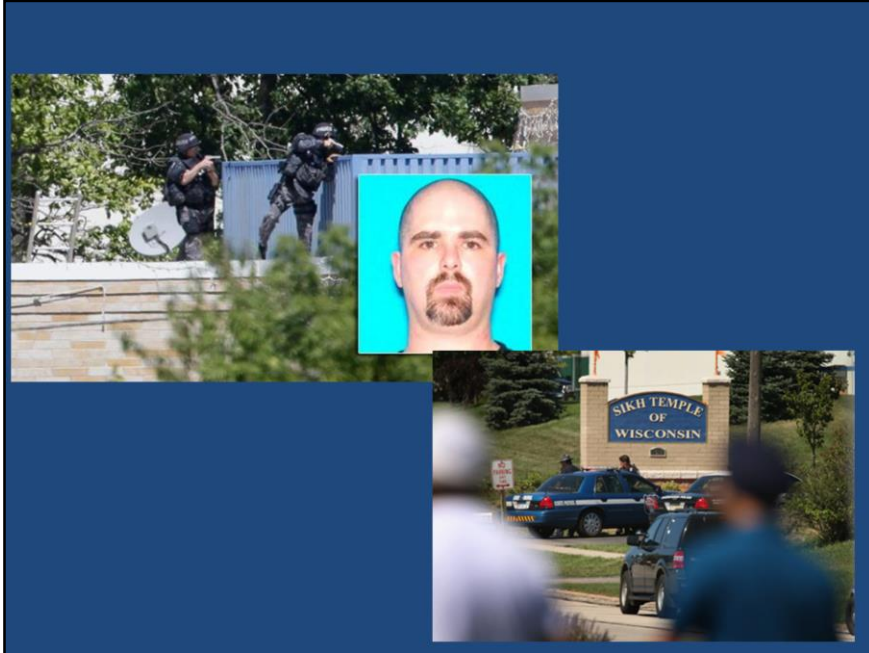
<http://www.start.umd.edu/research-projects/terrorism-and-extremist-violence-united-states-tevus-database>

https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2009/september/domterror_090709

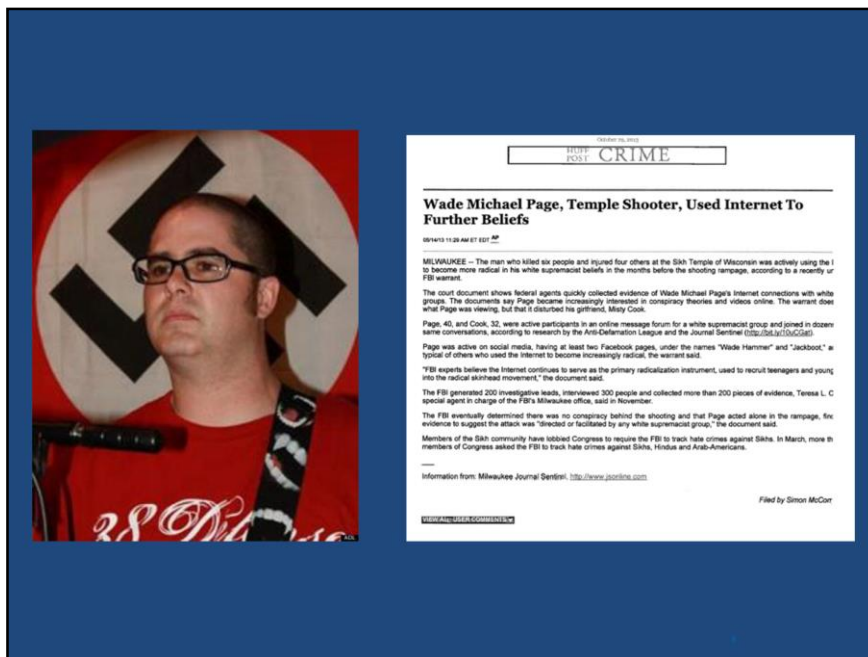
<http://www.cnn.com/2015/10/14/politics/justice-department-domestic-terror-council/>

http://www.animalliberationfront.com/ALFront/photos_videos/dudeinshed.jpg

http://blog.oregonlive.com/breakingnews/2008/03/huge_fire_consuming_woodinville.html



Wade Michael Page: Violent White Supremacist. Committed mass shooting at Sikh *Gurdhwara* (temple) in Oak Creek, Wisconsin on August 5, 2012. Wade killed six people in the temple, severely wounding a first responder police officer. Page killed himself as responding police officers closed in on his location.



Wade Michael Page used the internet to further his beliefs, fuel his hate.

All Violent Extremist Groups:

- Look for vulnerabilities
- Focus on grievances
- Provide a community of interest
- Promote violent action as the solution
- Hold a black and white narrative

Talking points:

Tee-up: Regardless of ideology, all violent extremists share similar ways of attracting recruits and appealing to our youth. While these groups may have completely different agendas and beliefs, they have several similarities:

Look for vulnerabilities:

- Perhaps a teen being bullied at school or missing a parental figure in their life;
- Adolescents are especially vulnerable developmentally because they haven't fully developed their higher level reasoning;

Focus on grievances:

- Feeling upset with local community or other perceived or real political injustice;

Provide a community of interest:

- Perhaps in a local center in the community, or more likely, it could be an online community such as a micro-blog, Facebook, or other social media network;
- Youth especially need a sense of belonging, according to developmental

theorists;

Promote a violent action as solution

- Violent action is the only effective solution, highlighted as a duty;

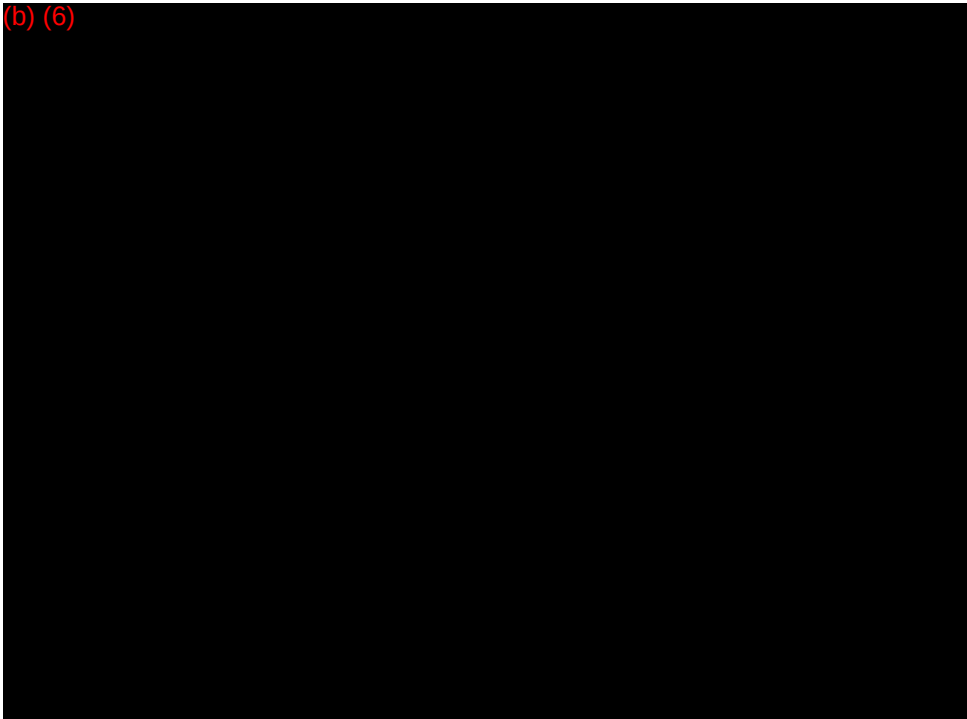
Hold a black and white narrative

- The group will reduce the situation down to make someone feel they have no other choice but to act. There is no critical thinking or nuance but rather an “us versus them” point of view.

Sourcing:

NCTC Product, “Radicalization Dynamics: A Primer,” June 2012 (UNCLASSIFIED)

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Talking Points:

As you can see from these pictures, violent extremists come from all types of backgrounds; there is no one profile.



Talking Points:

Tee-up: Why would someone want to join a violent extremist group and what drives it?

Definition: Radicalization refers to the process by which individuals come to accept a violent extremist narrative and conclude that non state violence and their participation in it is necessary and justified to affect political or societal change.

- Radicalization is not a linear process. It involves the interplay of personal, group, community, sociopolitical, and ideological factors.
- No single factor accounts for why one individual radicalizes while another does not.
- These factors can be both positive and negative. For instance, a personal desire to belong and make a difference in society can be a motivating factor for radicalization and so can a desire for revenge.

Ideological factors – Ideology provides individuals an interpretive framework for the world and life events as well as a set of values, beliefs, and goals for a movement or social entity. It also establishes the rationale for individual and collective action.

- This is often present at some point in the radicalization process but, contrary to the common belief, it is *not always* a main driver.

Personal factors – At the personal level, vulnerability to radicalization and the pursuit of violence depend on an interaction of personality traits – enduring individual characteristics, drivers, and needs – and the contextual and situational factors in a person's life. Personal factors can include:

- **Personal needs** (such as a need for belonging and purpose,);
- **Personal context** including anxiety, frustration, humiliation, desire for revenge, traumatic experience, and developmental and life-history events;
- **Triggering personal events** such as losing a job or perceived discrimination.

Sociopolitical factors – Political and societal level conditions, events, and grievances can help drive an individual to seek an ideological explanation or reinforce existing beliefs. Sociopolitical factors come in a variety of forms and can be specific or nonspecific, for example, anger at US foreign policy toward a particular country or conflict or frustration with the political, economic, or conflict situation in their home country or primary ethnic group. Sociopolitical factors include:

- Broad common grievances;
- Aggression against and oppression of Muslims by non-Muslims;
- Western economic exploitation;
- Western attack on Islamic values.

Group factors – Group factors are a driving force in the radicalization and mobilization of most individuals who pursue terrorist violence. Group affiliations often evolve from preexisting relationships. Group dynamics consist of:

- Emphasizing a collective identity;
- Creating an echo chamber;
- Dehumanizing opponents.

Community factors – Select characteristics of communities have been shown to encourage individuals and groups that support terrorist to emerge. When grievances, both real and perceived, are combined with insularity, isolation, and a lack of trust in societal and political institutions, they can create the conditions that encourage a small minority to adopt a radical and even violent ideology.

- Community factors are especially salient in some diaspora communities whose members may experience socioeconomic pressures and discrimination in the broader society.

- Such factors often are aggravated by charismatic ideologues who manipulate perceptions to exacerbate feelings of threat and encourage the development of a siege mentality.
- Community factors can include: (1) Religious discrimination; (2) Tensions with law enforcement; (3) Weak civil society and mistrust of government; and (4) Insularity and isolation.

Radicalization is often fueled by grievances which can be local or global. We have also found that personal experience is not necessary for an individual to feel aggrieved by a particular incident or issue. For instance, treatment of refugees, or anti-Islamic rhetoric can add to grievances that aren't necessarily personally experienced but affect a group to which an individual feels strong ties.

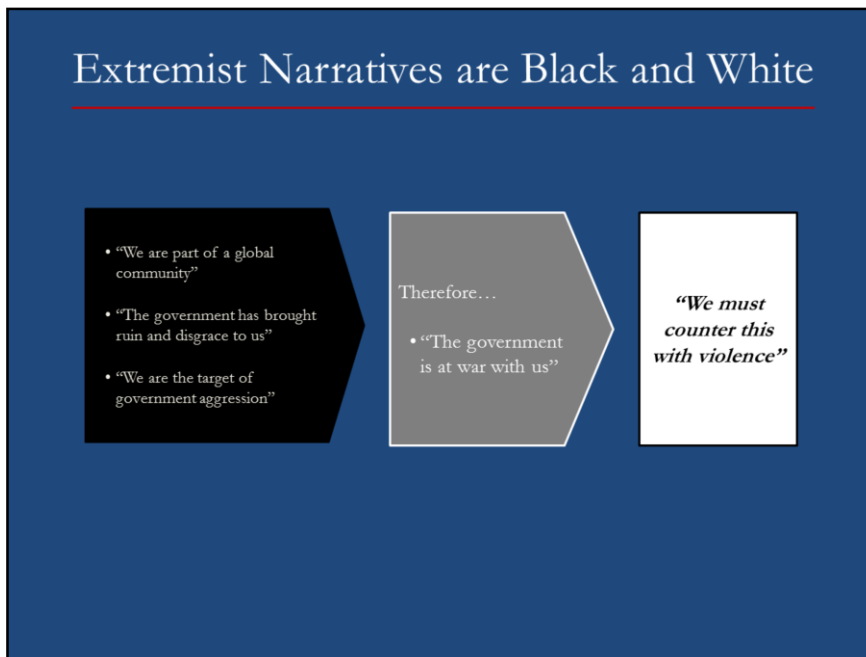
We differentiate between this process and the **Mobilization** process which refers to the process by which radicalized individuals take action to prepare for or engage in violence or material support for violence to advance their cause. Violence occurs when the individual mobilizes to action.

It is important to note a few caveats:

- (1) No single factor leads to radicalization
- (2) Most people who radicalize do not mobilize
- (3) A person may have some or all of these factors and not become violent
- (4) Therefore, there is no profile of an individual who will radicalize or mobilize.

Distinguishing differences between the processes of radicalization and mobilization is important because radicalization focuses on a person's thoughts and speech, which are likely to be protected under the First Amendment and therefore not illegal. On the other hand, mobilization deals with behavior in preparation for violent action, which, although it may involve acts guaranteed by the Constitution or federal law, is more likely to constitute illegal conduct that is the proper basis for law enforcement investigation.

Sourcing: NCTC Product, "Radicalization Dynamics: A Primer," June 2012
(UNCLASSIFIED)



Talking Points:

Tee-up: Violent extremist narratives often build off of real or perceived problems in society, many of which have mass appeal, but their solution is the outlier.

All violent extremist narratives are simplistic but you can always find three key parts:

- They identify a problem;
- They identify an enemy who created the problem;
- They encourage violence as the only solution.

The violent extremist narrative creates and justifies the logic that extremists use to continue espousing hatred, and ultimately violence by dehumanizing the "other" and positioning them as an "enemy."

Source: NCTC Product, "The Structure of Violent Extremist Ideologies" Feb 2012 (UNCLASSIFIED)

Example of a Violent Extremist Narrative



Talking Points:

Tee-up: This short video provides an example of this type of violent extremist narrative.

This English language video was created by al-Qa'ida in March 2014 as a promotional video for a new English language magazine called "Resurgence."

- It is sophisticated both in its media quality as well as in its content.
- This video represents how much terrorist media exploits grievances, using compelling images, to convince audiences it is justified in using violence.
- It uses audio from a 1965 Malcolm X speech – to justifying violence including the quote "talk the language that they understand" — with images of U.S. soldiers, militants, a purported attack on a U.S. base in Afghanistan and the Boston Marathon bombings.
- It presents the U.S. as a ruthless and aggressive enemy to be fought, and uses the words of an American activist—Malcolm X—to justify violent struggle.

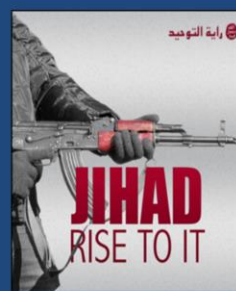
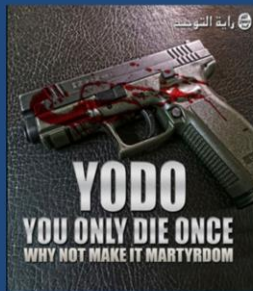
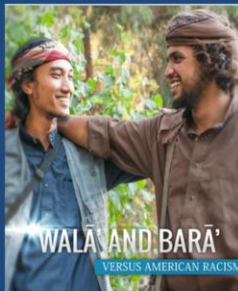
Ask the Audience:

- What stands out to you from this video?
- What language is it in?
 - Why is it in English, who are they trying to target?
- Does anyone recognize the speech that they used?
- Has anyone seen this type of video, which matches it in production quality, from other types of violent extremist groups?

Sourcing: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/al-qaeda/10687163/Al-Qaeda-unveils-new-magazine-aimed-at-Western-jihadis.html>
<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/mar/10/al-qaeda-launch-english-language-web-magazine-resu/>

ISIL's Messaging Effort

Largest online effort of any terrorist group



Talking Points:

Tee-up: How and where would our kids see these sorts of violent messages?

- The use of social media by violent extremists has intensified in the past year with the rise of ISIL. ISIL has a keen sense of how to attract their target demographics, keep them engaged, and spread their messaging and news via social media to highly interested individuals.
- For the first time ever, foreign fighters are using social media to document their activities in real time. These accounts spread real-time information from the battlefield, publish links to new videos and official statements; and share photographs of battles, equipment, and meetings.
- There are also question-and-answer sessions, chats, pictures, and videos on a variety of platforms.
- ISIL has also done a good job of framing their messaging using cultural references to promote themselves, as evidenced by the pictures highlighted.

Sourcing:

<http://www.clarionproject.org/docs/Issue%2011%20-%20From%20the%20battle%20of%20Al-Ahzab%20to%20the%20war%20of%20coalitions.pdf>

<http://icsr.info/2014/04/icsr-insight-inspires-syrian-foreign-fighters/>
http://thelede.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/01/29/a-dutch-jihadist-in-syria-speaks-and-blogs/?_php=true&_type=blogs&_php=true&_type=blogs&_r=1
<http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2014/06/ISIS-iraq-twitter-social-media-strategy/372856/> <https://pando.com/2013/11/29/forget-snapchat-and-whatsapp-for-a-second-kik-is-the-dark-horse-of-the-internet/>
<http://www.cnbc.com/2015/09/23/instagram-hits-400-million-users-beating-twitter.html>
<https://instagram.com/about/faq/>
<https://instagram.com/about/faq/>
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/jjcolao/2014/01/06/the-inside-story-of-snapchat-the-worlds-hottest-app-or-a-3-billion-disappearing-act/>
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/news/10658647/What-is-Telegram-the-new-WhatsApp.html>
<http://techcrunch.com/2015/09/21/telegram-now-seeing-12bn-daily-messages-up-from-1m-in-february/>
<https://instagram.com/about/faq/>
<https://instagram.com/about/faq/>
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/news/10658647/What-is-Telegram-the-new-WhatsApp.html>
<http://safety.ask.fm/ask-fm-guide-for-law-enforcement-requests/>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsbeat/article/31249209/askfm-owners-considered-shutting-down-social-network>
<https://about.twitter.com/company>



Ask the audience:

- Who here has a Facebook or knows what it is?
- Now, who has a Telegram account or knows what that is?
- What about justpaste.it?

NOTE: All of these social networking tools and apps are free. Some may have additional capabilities for which users pay but because they are all free they are very accessible to users, especially children.

BACKGROUND: Below is a breakdown of all the social media websites listed on this slide:

Facebook: Social networking site that enables users to connect with contacts through posting pictures, statuses, and reposting articles. It has both private and public messaging capabilities but does not encrypt messages like some of the others on this list.

Whatsapp: Cross-platform mobile messaging app that does not charge users. Utilizes internet connections to send video, picture, and text messages in private and group messages.

Kik: Smartphone cross-platform messenger app developed in Ontario, Canada that also includes a built in browser. Has over 150 million registered users.

YouTube: Video hosting website with public messaging capabilities.

Instagram: Photo editing and sharing app that allows users to use photo filters to edit their pictures before sharing them on the Instagram website and other social media websites both privately and publically. The app has over 400 million users. (The app is owned now by Facebook.)

Surespot: Messenger app that uses end to end encoding software to encode messages that cannot be read without users sharing a “key” with their intended recipient.

Snapchat: A private and public image sharing app that allows users to specify the time a recipient can view a picture, or snap, and message before it disappears. An estimated 50 million people use the app with a median age of 18 years old.

Tango: Cross-platform mobile messaging app that allows users to send text and picture messages as well as complete video and voice calls using their cellular network. Also enables users to “find friends” by GPS location reporting in the “people nearby” feature. Users can follow “channels” to browse content.

Telegram: Cross-platform messenger app developed in Germany that enables users to message contacts whom which they have shared their contact information. Users can chat with individuals or groups and send messages that will self-destruct after a specified time. The app contains enhanced security measures which make messages and senders less easy to track. In September 2015 it reported 12 billion messages were being sent daily.

Tumblr: Public and private microblog platform and social networking website with over 260 million different blogs. Users can post multimedia and follow other user’s blogs and posts.

Flickr: Online photo management and sharing app that lets users upload an unlimited number of photos and either share privately or publically through email, RSS feeds, and the Flickr website. Operates on smartphones as well as computers and has over 92 million registered members.

Viber: A multi-platform messaging app that enables users to use text and photo messaging as well as location-sharing and calls with other Viber users. This app is popular for its encrypted system that lets users send messages without threat of outside monitoring. It has more than 400 million users who are primarily based in the Middle East, Europe, and South America.

Ask.fm: An online social network that enables users to post questions to each other and then answer them in both an anonymous and attributed manner. As of March 2015 the website had 150 million monthly users.

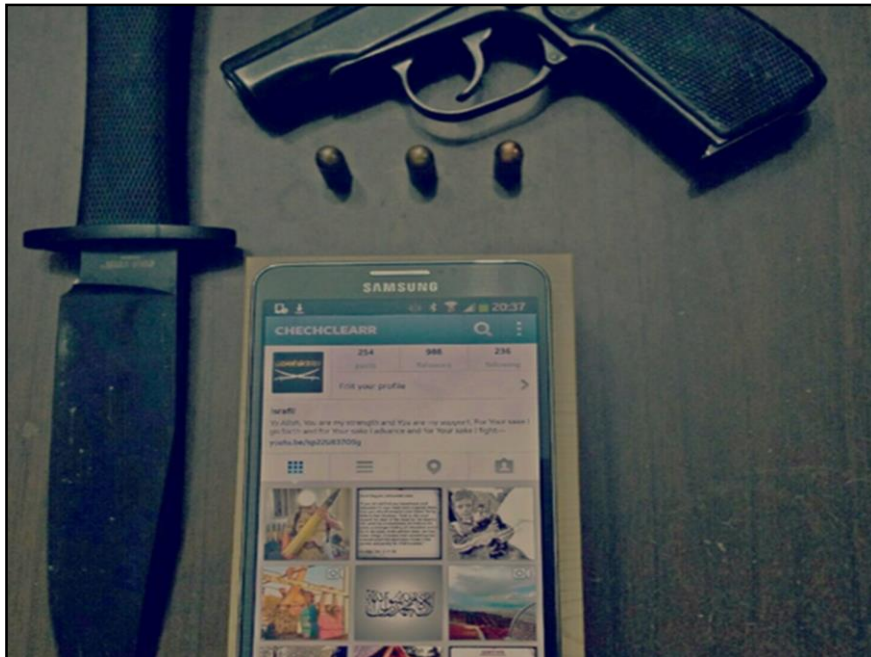
Twitter: A popular social media website that lets users publically and privately share posts of 140 characters or less as well as short videos, called “vines”. The website has 316 million active monthly users and an average of 500 million tweets are sent per day in over 35 languages.

Justpaste.it: A website that enables users to paste pictures and text and distribute the link. This easy-to-use website supports pictures, text, and video and can be accessed on phone or computer.

Sourcing:

<http://www.clarionproject.org/docs/Issue%2011%20-%20From%20the%20battle%20of%20Al-Ahzab%20to%20the%20war%20of%20coalitions.pdf>
<http://icsr.info/2014/04/icsr-insight-inspires-syrian-foreign-fighters/>
http://thelede.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/01/29/a-dutch-jihadist-in-syria-speaks-and-blogs/?_php=true&_type=blogs&_php=true&_type=blogs&_r=1
<http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2014/06/ISIS-iraq-twitter-social-media-strategy/372856/> <https://pando.com/2013/11/29/forget-snapchat-and-whatsapp-for-a-second-kik-is-the-dark-horse-of-the-internet/>
<http://www.cnbc.com/2015/09/23/instagram-hits-400-million-users-beating-twitter.html>
<https://instagram.com/about/faq/>
<https://instagram.com/about/faq/>
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/jjcolao/2014/01/06/the-inside-story-of-snapchat-the-worlds-hottest-app-or-a-3-billion-disappearing-act/>
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/news/10658647/What-is-Telegram-the-new-WhatsApp.html>
<http://techcrunch.com/2015/09/21/telegram-now-seeing-12bn-daily-messages-up-from-1m-in-february/>
<https://instagram.com/about/faq/>
<https://instagram.com/about/faq/>
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/news/10658647/What-is-Telegram-the-new-WhatsApp.html>
<http://safety.ask.fm/ask-fm-guide-for-law-enforcement-requests/>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsbeat/article/31249209/askfm-owners-considered-shutting-down-social-network>
<https://about.twitter.com/company>

Legal: The intent of this slide is to demonstrate how readily available social media outlets are being used for terrorist purposes. DSOP has deemed these USPERs necessary to understand the information. NCTC Legal concurs.

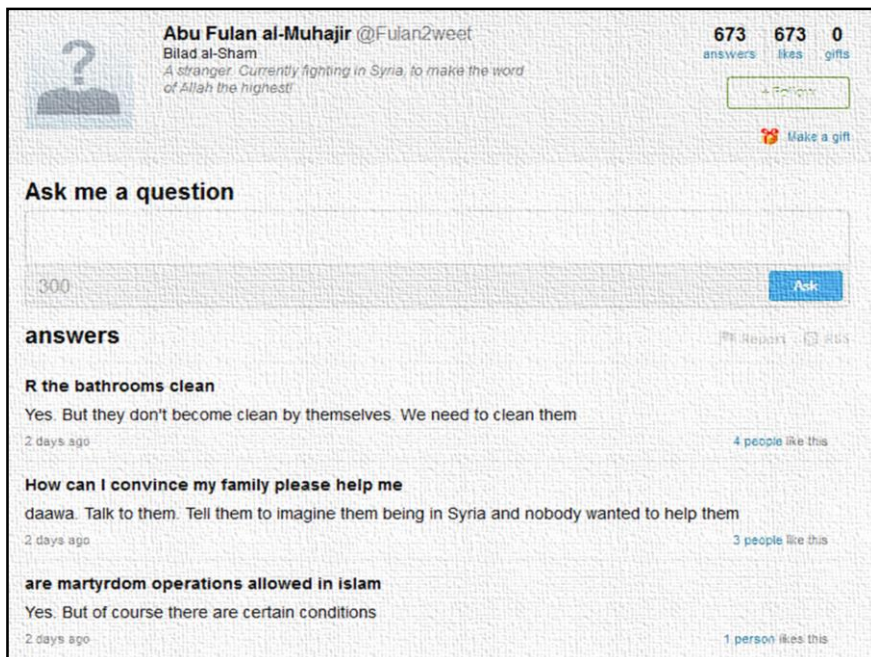


Talking Points:

Tee-up: This picture is taken from a Tumblr account of a Dutch foreign fighter, which had a caption “Tools of Jihad.”

This snapshot shows how ISIL sees the media as important as actual weapons such as the knife and gun. It also shows us that every ISIL fighter is also a recruiter.

Sourcing: <http://checkclear.tumblr.com/>



Talking points:

Tee-up: With the use of social media, recruiting online is an increasingly interactive process, not just one-sided. ISIL and its supporters follow a specific and time tested strategy for luring people into their group and indoctrinating them, similar to other types of predators who lure youth online.

Target a certain audience: ISIL targets youths who are vulnerable and searching for meaning in their life. The target audiences are both religious and non-religious Muslims.

- Isolation enhances vulnerability.

Start with building trust: Building friendship allows ISIL recruiters to create a sense of belonging for youths.

- Giving gifts and making promises for the future creates a sense of trust.
- Exploiting hardships in the youth's life allows the ISIL recruiter to draw the youth away from their other social circles.

Then introduce violent extremist views: Once trust has been built ISIL recruiter will introduce violent extremist views and, through various propaganda, justify the use of violence.

- Will call the youth to action and press upon them the need to act to defend certain ideologies or groups.
- Recruiters paint a picture of “The Caliphate” as a place of safety and piety and oppose all contradicting evidence as Western propaganda.

Ask.fm: One of the most commonly used sites by ISIS recruiters is Ask.fm. ASK.fm is a social media app that allows users to anonymously post questions and receive answers from other anonymous users.

- Users can easily connect and receive information from anonymous ISIL supporters or fighters on the ground.
- Individuals come here to ask questions about traveling to Syria that are anonymous.
- When questions get specific, however, they get told “Message me on Kik or Telegram” which is a secure site to answer more specific operational questions.

Sourcing:

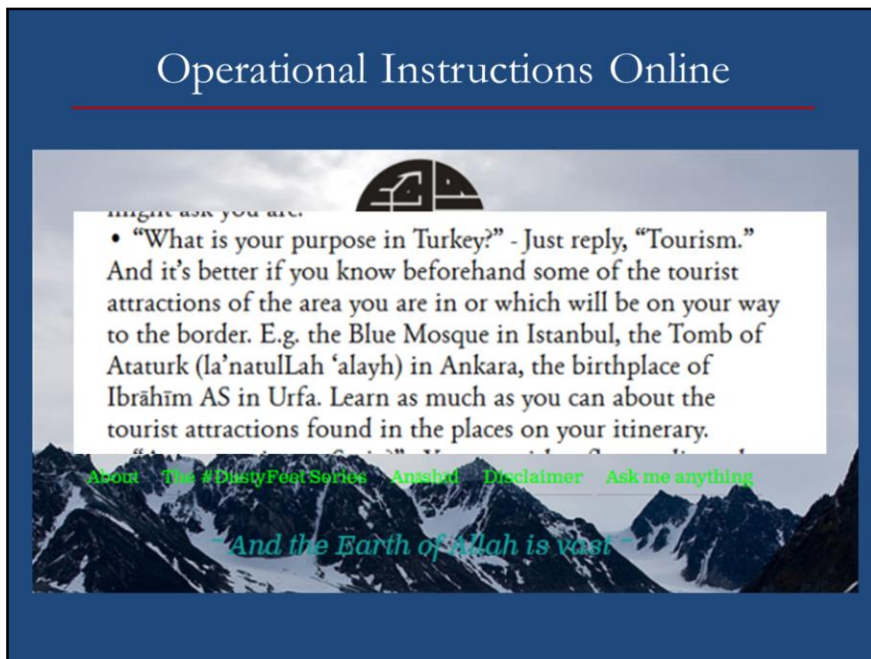
<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/apr/15/facebook-jihadis-action-syria-terror>

<http://europe.newsweek.com/isis-using-paedophile-grooming-tactics-lure-young-jihadi-brides-314140?rx=us>

<http://www.businessinsider.com/the-manual-al-qaeda-and-now-isis-use-to-brainwash-people-online-2015-7#ixzz3fcDqx2IY>

http://mobile.nytimes.com/2015/06/28/world/americas/isis-online-recruiting-american.html?_r=1&referrer=

<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/06/01/journey-to-jihad>



Talking Points:

Tee-up: Social media also allows extremists to easily distribute operational instructions. One of the chief concerns regarding fighters travelling to Syria is the ease with which they can get there.

The picture highlights an example – the “Dusty Feet” Blog, a blog posted on Tumblr which outlined how to travel to Turkey and then cross the border into Syria.

- Even after Tumblr took down the blog, others had reblogged it on their pages and therefore its information will never be completely unavailable to youth. Others continue to post original content, which is modeled after Dusty Feet.

Unlike other countries that have had foreign fighters, entry into Syria has been made easier due to the unrest in Iraq and the numerous facilitators in Turkey.

- ISIL supporters have posted very detailed directions on how to get to Syria via social media and micro blogging websites.

- There are multiple blogs and at least 12 e-books (some are 70 pages long) that explicitly provide operational instructions for how to get through Turkish security and answer their questions, how to look inconspicuous, how to cross into Syria by foot, what to pack to remain unsuspicious, how to be prepared to fight, and how to get in shape before the journey. These also provide quotes from religious texts to justify fighting.
- Youth, some as young as 15 years old, with absolutely no travel experience have been able to use the directions online in order to travel to Syria.
- These blogs are very easy to find online.

Sourcing:

<http://soufangroup.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/TSG-Foreign-Fighters-in-Syria.pdf>

<http://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/FBI-Terror-plot-suspect-planned-mosque-attack-to-5367722.php>



Talking points:

Tee-up: There are four main themes ISIS uses in enticing recruits to join their efforts:

Humanitarian concerns: ISIS focuses on the plight of Syrians under the Assad regime, as well as the general suffering of Muslim communities around the world. They also focus on civilian casualties of Western military action, although often they embellish or outright lie.

Anti-Islamic sentiment: ISIS uses occurrences of anti-Muslim sentiment, via public statements by official figures and/or actual physical attacks on individuals or Muslim institutions, to prove their claim that the West is against Islam.

State building: A theme that is particular to ISIL is the idea of building up a legitimate state or Caliphate. This theme differentiates ISIL from other violent extremist groups, such as al-Qaeda, which never aimed to establish a caliphate immediately. This narrative leverages feelings of economic disenfranchisement and social exclusion of Muslim communities in the West to promote the caliphate as a place where they have a purpose and are part of a broader transnational movement.

- Their messaging portraying the group's combat successes and governance efforts probably has helped convince prospective Western travelers of the legitimacy of ISIL's goals and the benefits of living in ISIL's self-declared Caliphate.
- ISIL's English-language Dabiq magazine often highlights the group's supposed military victories and depicts ISIL members running prosperous markets, distributing food to the needy, and taking care of orphans, among other state-like activities.
- Fighters also advertise their accommodations, food, and lifestyle in Syria, probably to excite Western audiences and convince them of the alleged normalcy of life in ISIL-controlled territory.
- Their messaging calls for recruits to travel to serve as teachers, gym instructors, chefs, religious teachers, media managers, and more in order to continue to build the caliphate.

Adventure: Thrill seeking is a big motivator for individuals going abroad. There is growing number of individual who are going to Syria/Iraq looking for an adventure, to fight and be a warrior/hero, or simply to engage in violence, and do not necessarily do so for ideological reasons.

Sourcing: http://www.vice.com/en_uk/read/syrian-jihadist-selfies-tell-us-a-lot-about-their-war

Example of ISIL Propaganda



Talking points:

Tee-up: The themes of ISIS propaganda are often voiced by peers, who studies have shown are the most influential voices for youth. For example, we have here an ISIL propaganda video that has gone viral and that features the Australian teenager, Abdullah Elmir, who was 17 when he traveled to Syria. Within the first four months, was featured in an ISIS propaganda video. Since then, Abdullah has appeared in a multiple other videos.

- Abdullah — identified as “Abu Khaled from Australia” — stands clutching an assault rifle while delivering a 90-second speech with between 70 and 100 heavily armed fighters stand behind him. He claims the group will eventually take control of the US and UK, and directs a threat to Tony Abbott that Islamic State will also take its fight to Australian shores.
- Themes: Us vs them; Warped religious overtones; Sense of belonging;

greater cause; heroism.

While this video may appear fake and staged, youth seem to be genuinely affected by it. Elmir was traveling with a friend who didn't make it to Syria, but was interceded by his father and is now back at school in Australia. When he saw this video, he didn't think it was fake but instead expressed admiration.

[Note for presenter: Briefly introduce this slide, then play it, and then ask the audience the questions listed below.]

Ask the audience:

What stands out to you about this video?

What do you think a teenager sees when they watch this video?

What is the reality of the situation? Do you think he is in charge after 3 months with ISIL?

Sourcing: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-10-21/australian-is-fighter-threatens-tony-abbott-in-video/5830040>



Talking Points:

Tee-up: While in the 80s through the 2000's, the main profile of foreign fighters was older white men. Now, that profile has changed, including an increasing amount of minors, young adults, and females. This slide focuses on ISIL's recruitment of children under the age of 18.

1) UK - Khadiza Sultana, 16, Shamima Begum, 15, and Amira Abase, 15: Three girls from London who left together to travel to Syria. They were from successful middle class families and were doing well in school. Their example emphasizes that those who become FFs aren't just the disenfranchised and economically disadvantaged. Some of the primary drivers in their cases were:

- Personal: one of the girl's mother died from cancer; all struggled with identity issues.

- Community: all come from a community in East London that in general appears to be struggling with what it means to be Muslim and British.
- Group: group think and peer pressure was big for these girls; in one post, one was shaming the others. They also had a friend who had gone months before them successfully, given them more confidence and desire to follow in her footsteps.

2) Australia -Abdullah Elmir, 17: returning back to the example from before, Elmir is another example of a minor who was drawn into ISIL. Let's explore a little what he was like before he created that video.

- Elmir went to school at East Hills Boys High School in Western Sydney and was a quiet student who liked video games. He had a job at the butcher shop. He was the son of an Australian-born mother and Lebanese-born father and grew up in Western Sydney. Elmir came from a good Lebanese-Australian family who did not hold extreme religious views. He had a love of theatre and last year, wrote about looking forward to more great performances.
- In June, Abdullah told his family that he was going on a fishing trip with a friend. Shortly afterwards, he admitted to his family that he was in Turkey and about to "cross the border". He was traveling with another teen, a 16 yr-old named Feiz, but Feiz's family intercepted him in Istanbul and convinced him to travel with him to Lebanon where he was counselled. The father of Feiz has said that his son is now back at school and settling back into his life.
- Personal & Ideological: as we saw in his propaganda video, Elmir was really drawn by a desire to be a hero and a sense of adventure.

3) UK - Zahra and Salma Halane, 16 (twins): Zahra and Salma are sixteen year old twins who grew up in Manchester. They were planning to become doctors, having just finished their first year of college. In June, they disappeared overnight from their home.

- Zahra and Salma come from a family of ten, and their parents are of Somali descent.
- It is believed they were radicalized over the internet.

- Their father Ibrahim and mother Khadra travelled to Syria to try to bring them home, but without success.

4) Austria - Samra Kesinovic, 16, and Sabina Selimovic, 15: Samra and Sabina were two average teenage girls growing up in Austria. You would expect them doing average teenage things — so it might come as a surprise to learn they ran away from home in April to join ISIS.

- Samra and Sabina both come from Bosnia refugee families who settled in Austria during the 1990s. They both converted to Islam and began trying to convert their friends.
- According to the head of their school, they were suspected to be behind vandalism incidents in which tables and walls had the words ‘I love Al Qaeda’ written on them.
- Before they disappeared, the teens informed friends that they were headed for Syria. Soon thereafter, they posted images of themselves holding AK47s surrounded by armed men on social media.
- In September, they relayed a message to loved ones that they wish to escape. In November, Samra was reportedly “beaten to death” while attempting to flee Raqqa.

Sourcing: <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/in-depth/terror/australian-teen-abdullah-elmir-is-new-public-face-of-islamic-state/story-fnpdbcmu-1227097275395?nk=cde078974f2bfa3e39a77714d946e1b0>
<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/sydney-teen-jihadist-abdullah-elmir-in-second-is-video-as-school-parents-share-concerns-20141028-11cpsg.html#ixzz3HS5jpgna>
<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/sydney-teen-jihadist-abdullah-elmir-in-second-is-video-as-school-parents-share-concerns-20141028-11cpsg.html#ixzz3HS6GQgSJ>
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/islamic-state/11179934/Australian-teenager-in-Isil-video-an-idiot-says-family.html>
<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/nsw/bankstown-butcher-now-a-killer-in-waiting-jihadist-abdullah-elmir-worked-at-a-butcher-in-bankstown/story-fni0cx12-1227100409185?nk=e7bd28a0c9ad18313a529f3957daedf2>
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2749939/The-British-jihadi-bride-hell-bent-murder-whining-lost-cat-Terror-twin-tweets-fears-missing-kitten-posting-pictures-holding-AK47.html#ixzz3HSlvpAug>
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2749939/The-British-jihadi-bride-hell-bent-murder-whining-lost-cat-Terror-twin-tweets-fears-missing-kitten-posting-pictures-holding-AK47.html#ixzz3HSlvpAug>

<http://nypost.com/2014/09/10/gun-wielding-austrian-teens-tried-to-join-ISIL-recruit-others/>

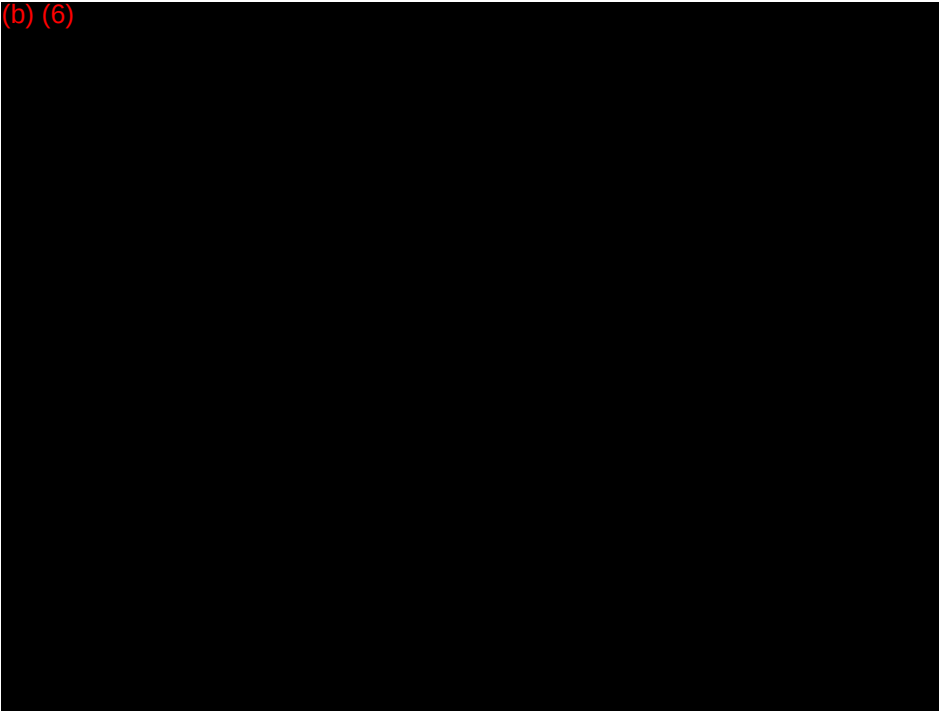
<http://m.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2014/10/the-teenage-fans-of-ISIL/381736/>

<http://www.express.co.uk/news/world/522671/Islamic-State-Samra-Kesinovic-Sabina-Selimovic>

<http://www.ryot.org/photos-samra-kesinovic-sabina-selimovic-ISIL-poster-girls-runaways/807773>

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3331846/Teenage-Islamist-poster-girl-fled-Austria-join-ISIS-beaten-death-terror-group-trying-escape-Syria.html>

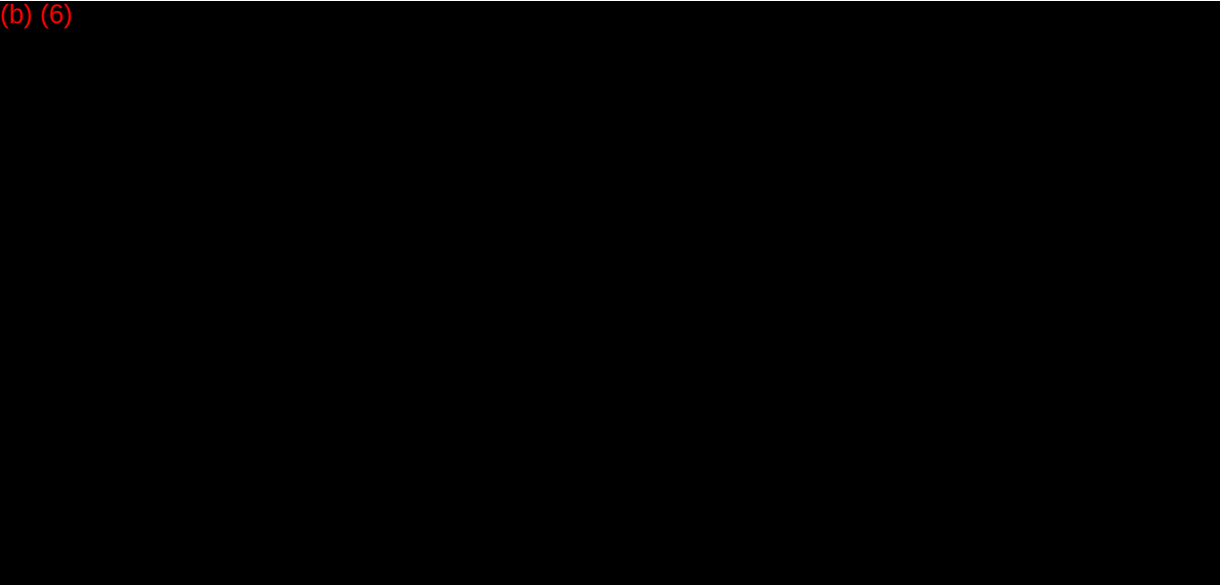
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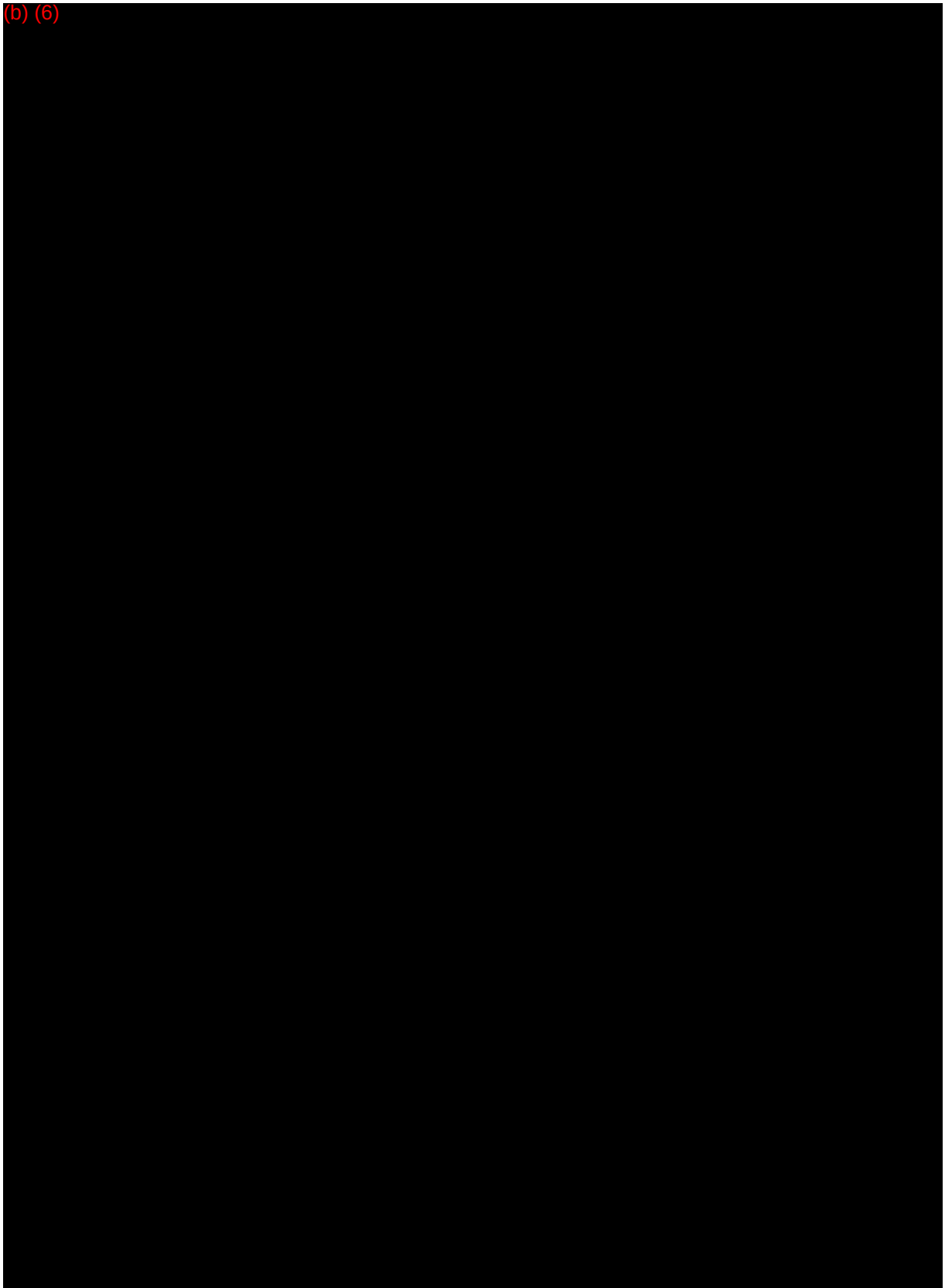
Talking Points:

Tee-up: The cases we just discussed were of individuals from outside the US, but now we turn to the instances of minors and females from within the United States.

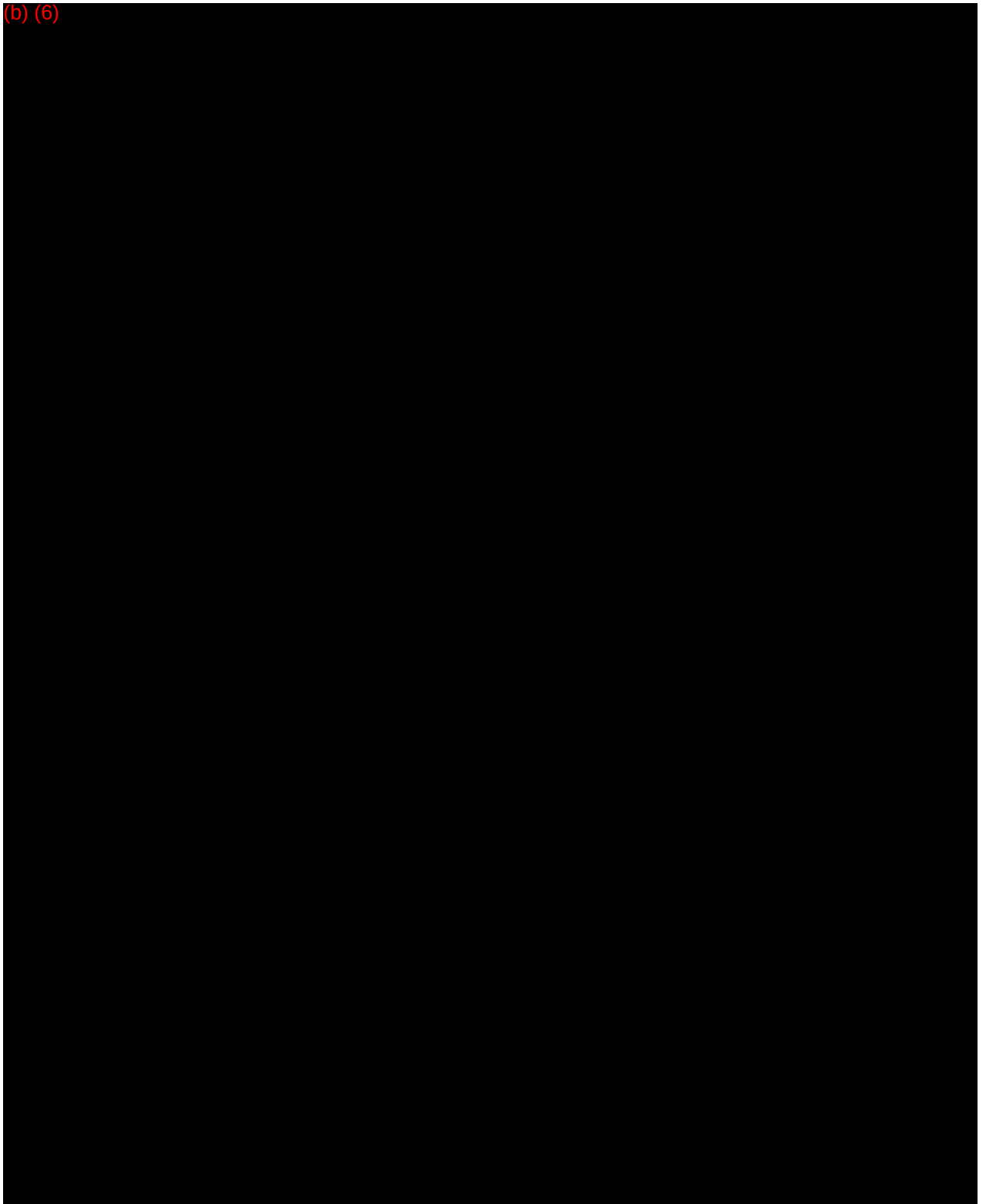
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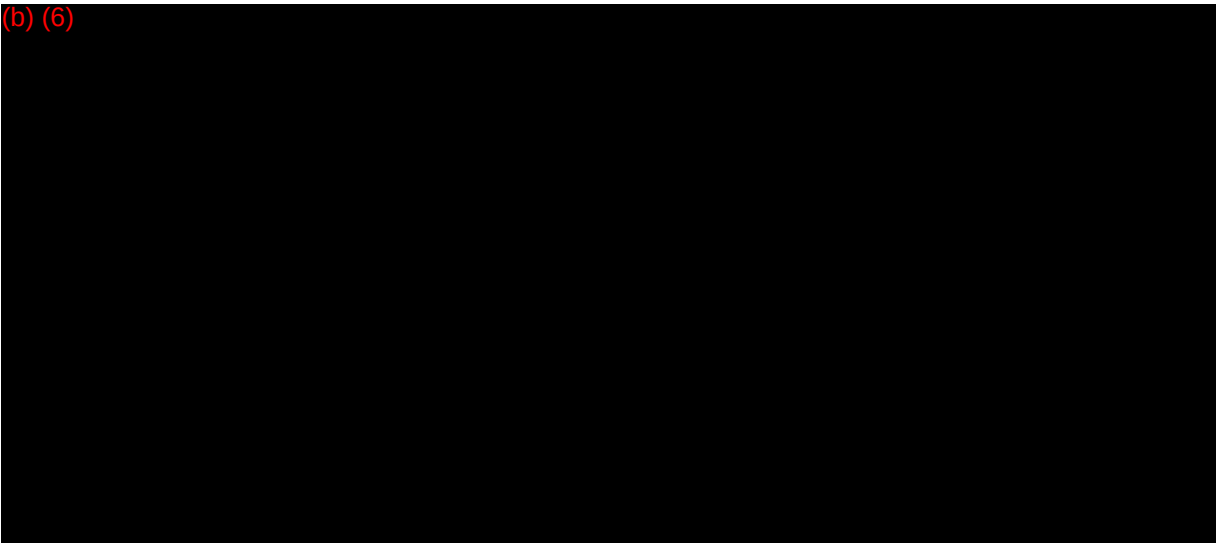
(b) (6)



(b) (6)



(b) (6)



Sourcing:

<http://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2015/04/22/agents-some-in-minnesota-lost-multiple-sons-to-extremists/>

<http://www.startribune.com/6-facing-terror-charges-over-isis-plans-don-t-fit-stereotypes/301625671/>

United States District Court Northern District of Illinois Eastern Division, United States of America V. Abdella Ahmad Tounsi, Plea Agreement

<http://chicago.cbslocal.com/2013/04/22/federal-suspects-father-my-son-is-no-terrorist/>

<http://www.vocativ.com/world/isis-2/munther-omar-saleh-queens-college-isis-pokemon/>

<http://www.newsday.com/news/new-york/munther-omar-saleh-fareed-mumuni-charged-with-supporting-islamic-state-prosecutors-say-1.10731131>

<http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/nyc-crime/feds-halt-isis-supporter-new-york-bomb-plot-article-1.2260244>

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/bolingbrook-plainfield/chi-feds-bolingbrook-man-facing-terrorism-charges-20141006-story.html>

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/bolingbrook-plainfield/chi-feds-bolingbrook-man-facing-terrorism-charges-20141006-story.html>

<http://www.cnn.com/2014/10/07/us/who-is-mohammed-hamzah-khan/index.html>

<http://www.clarionledger.com/story/news/2015/08/12/timeline-what-do-we-know-jaelyn-young-and-muhammad-dakhlalla/31535681/>

http://www.al.com/news/index.ssf/2015/08/mississippi_residents_accused.html

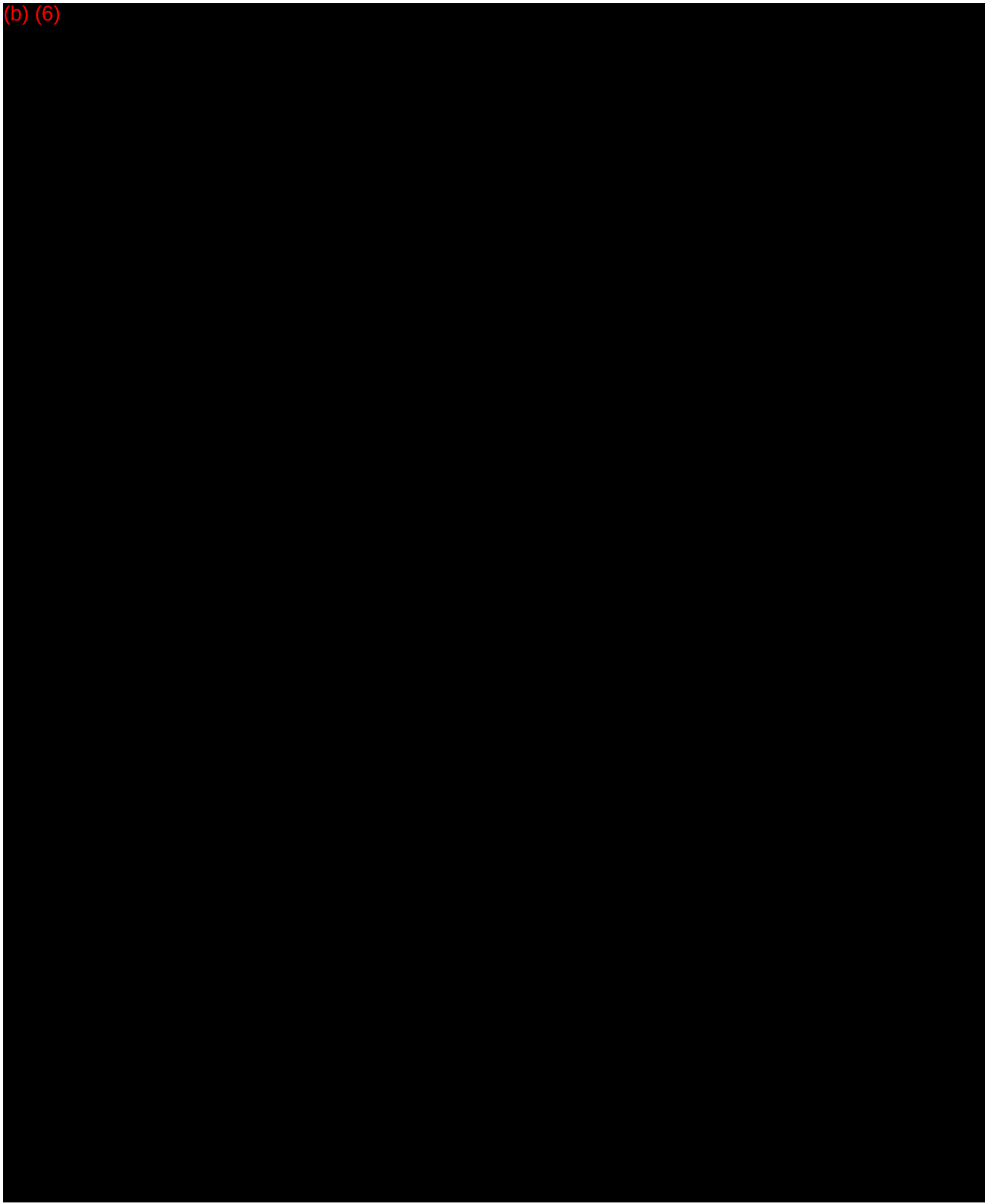
<http://www.cnn.com/2015/08/12/us/mississippi-couple-isis/>

<http://www.buzzfeed.com/ellievhall/woman-journey-from-chattanooga-to->

isis#.ItWEDyjeR

LEGAL: These individuals all traveled to conflict zones and were stopped at the airport. The intent of this slide is to open the aperture of the audience to demonstrate that there is no single profile for an individual who attempts to become a foreign fighter. All of these individuals have been charged with material support to terrorism. These identities have been deemed necessary to understand the information. For these reasons, Legal clears.

(b) (6)



(b) (6)



Sources: <http://www.buzzfeed.com/ellievhall/gone-girl-an-interview-with-an-american-in-isis#.wbWb1NpDM1>
http://www.al.com/news/birmingham/index.ssf/2015/04/meet_hoda_muthana_the_quiet_gi.html

What can YOU do?

- Stay safe online
- Have open communication
- Look for behavior changes
- Know your resources

Talking points:

Tee-up: You are also key to protecting our youth from being preyed upon by extremists. What can you do?

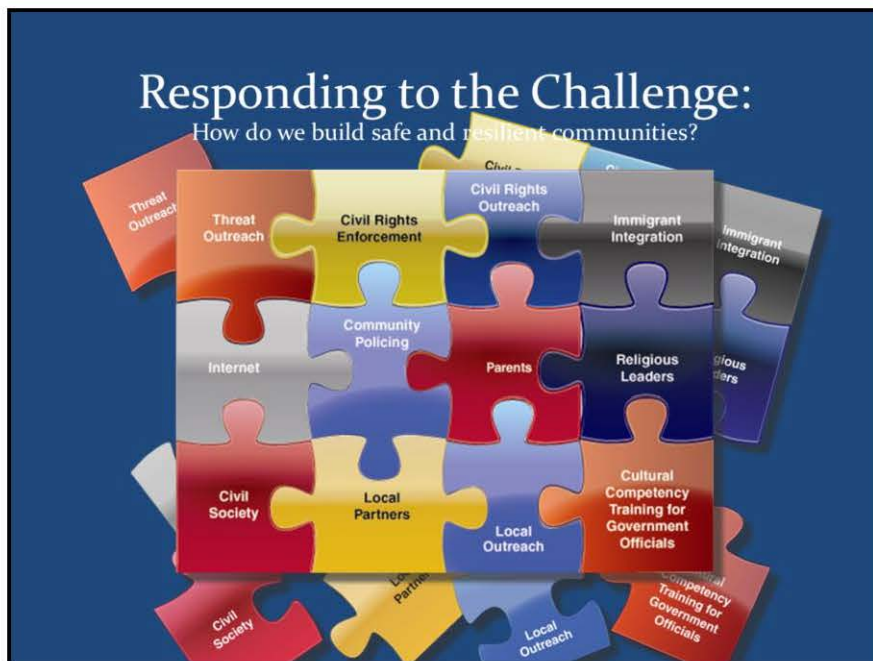
The above actions may seem simple and obvious but they can actually make a real difference. (See below success story which can be paraphrased for presenting.)

- In Washington State a girl who is being called “Alex” lives with her grandparents.
- She began talking to people who directly identified themselves as members of the Islamic State while searching for information about the situation surrounding the beheading of James Foley.
 - Several people began to send her gifts including a \$200 gift card to an Islamic bookstore.
 - A man began to send her scarves as well as books and pamphlets about Islam that were extreme in their ideology.
 - He also told her not to go to her local mosque, as they could not

provide her with correct teachings because they had posted a statement disavowing the Islamic State on their mosque's website.

- Over the course of three months he began to pressure her to do more and more extreme things, culminating in trying to get her to travel with her little brother to Austria, where the man would introduce Alex to a Muslim man who was willing to marry her.
- Her grandmother found out about this man after noticing that Alex was staying up late every night on the computer and receiving strange packages. She tried to intervene.
 - After Alex protested the grandmother took it upon herself to directly engage the man on Skype and told him to stop talking to her granddaughter. Alex still logs on to Skype and the matter is not completely resolved but her grandmother is trying to keep a watchful eye on her.
- Awareness of Alex's online tools and habits allowed her grandmother to recognize warning signs and stop Alex from departing to Austria for probable onward travel to Syria.

Sourcing: http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/28/world/americas/isis-online-recruiting-american.html?_r=0



Changing the Narrative



Changing the Narrative



Changing the Narrative

MPAC HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE
ON 'SAFE SPACES INITIATIVE'
AT NATIONAL PRESS CLUB

Watch the video

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HERB.ORG

SAFE SPACES
INITIATIVE:
TOOLS FOR DEVELOPING
HEALTHY COMMUNITIES



Condemning ISIS



We are here because ...



Talking Points:

Tee-up: In this video, we show why we are here from the perspective of someone personally and directly affected by violent extremism: a mother. This video features a statement by Mohammed Khan's mother Zarine Khan (USPER) after her son was charged with material support to ISIL.

- In October 2015, while his parents slept, Mohammed Khan (USPER), 19, quietly fled his home in Chicago along with his 18-year-old brother and 17-year-old sister to join ISIL. They were detained at O'Hare International Airport.
- When the agents showed up at the family home, their mother thought her kids were asleep in their rooms.

We are here to ensure this doesn't happen again to another mother, father, or you.

Sourcing:

FBI Press Release: <http://www.fbi.gov/chicago/press-releases/2015/federal-grand-jury-indicts-mohammed-hamzah-khan-for-allegedly-attempting-to-support-terrorism-overseas>

Criminal indictment:

http://www.justice.gov/usao/iln/pr/chicago/2015/pr0109_01a.pdf

Zarine Khan (USPER) public statement, released to the press.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/bolingbrook/ct-terrorism-parents-speak-out-met-20150113-story.html>

http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/three-american-teens-recruited-online-are-caught-trying-to-join-the-islamic-state/2014/12/08/8022e6c4-7afb-11e4-84d4-7c896b90abdc_story.html

<http://www.cnn.com/2014/10/07/us/who-is-mohammed-hamzah-khan/>

<http://abc7chicago.com/news/bolingbrook-teen-pleads-not-guilty-to-isis-terror-charge/473194/> <http://www.nbcchicago.com/news/local/Mohammed-Hamzah-Khan-281283631.html> <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2015/01/09/chicago-mohammed-hamzah-khan-indicted-material-support-islamic-state/21498415/>

