

# Radicalization

The **BLUF** highlights what we at **The Threat Lab** are watching, listening to, reading, and thinking about. In this issue, we feature three artifacts to help us better understand radicalization and learn strategies to interrupt pathways to violent extremism.



## ARTICLE

From Michael Wolfowicz, Yael Litmanovitz, David Weisburd, and Badi Hasisi's article, **Cognitive and behavioral radicalization: A systematic review of the putative risk and protective factors**, "This systematic review and meta-analysis examines risk and protective factors for radicalization in democratic countries. The review includes 127 studies, half of which were published from 2018-2020. Among 101 risk and protective factors analysed, the most significant factors are those known to be related to criminal attitudes and behaviours, and social-psychological factors."

### Read the article

<https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/better-evidence/radicalization-putative-risk-and-protective-factors.html>



## BRIEF

From the RAND Corporation's Research Brief, **What Do Former Extremists and Their Families Say About Radicalization and Deradicalization in America?**, "To assist with the nationwide effort to find answers, RAND Corporation researchers interviewed former extremists, as well as their families and friends, to gather and then analyze first-hand accounts of extremist radicalization and deradicalization...The results offer insights to policymakers and members of community organizations who are working to develop antiextremist policies and practices, as well as to other researchers who continue to look for answers to this growing problem."

### Read the brief

[https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research\\_briefs/RBA1000/RBA1071-1/RAND\\_RBA1071-1.pdf](https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_briefs/RBA1000/RBA1071-1/RAND_RBA1071-1.pdf)



## VIDEO

From Erin Marie Saltman's talk, **How young people join violent extremist groups — and how to stop them**, "In the aftermath of horrible atrocities and attacks in places like Belgium, France, but all over the world, sometimes it's easier for us to think, 'well these must be sociopaths; these must be naturally violent individuals; they must have something wrong with their upbringing.' And what's really tragic is that oftentimes there's no one profile. Many people come from educated backgrounds, different socioeconomic backgrounds; men and women, different ages; some with families, some single. So why? What is this allure? And this is what I want to talk you through, as well as how do we challenge this in a modern era."

### Watch the video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H Y71088saG4>

The Defense Personnel and Security Research Center (PERSEREC) founded **The Threat Lab** in 2018 to realize the DoD Counter-Insider Threat Program Director's vision to incorporate the social and behavioral sciences into the mission space. Our team is headquartered in Seaside, California, and includes psychologists, sociologists, policy analysts, computer scientists, and other subject matter experts committed to workforce protection.

To be added to our distribution list, please email [dodhra.ThreatLab@mail.mil](mailto:dodhra.ThreatLab@mail.mil)

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