

## Finding the Balance: Countering Extremism and Combating Stereotypes

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Young people are exposed to discussions of extremism every day through social media, news and overheard conversations between adults. As an educators, the topic can be challenging to teach because the situation is always changing and evolving and worse, classroom conversations can themselves lead to stereotyping, bias and bigotry when discussing perpetrators and victims.

The following resources will help you teach about extremism while ensuring that the threat is neither over- nor under-exaggerated. They include:

- strategies that discourage the reinforcement of biased ideas during discussion;

- resources to equip students to be savvy consumers of online material and propaganda;
- background information for educators and administrators on the causes and observable signs of student violence and extremism; and
- evidence-based suggestions for keeping schools safe.

## Lesson Plans

### LESSON PLAN

#### **Addressing Hate Online: Countering Cyberhate with Counterspeech (En español)**

HIGH SCHOOL

High school students define, discuss and learn more about cyberhate and explore the role of counterspeech in being an online ally.



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### LESSON PLAN

#### **Anti-Muslim Bigotry and Being an Ally**

MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL

Middle and high school students explore the connection between anti-Muslim acts of bigotry and the misunderstandings and stereotypes about Muslim people, and identify ways they can be allies in the face of bias and discrimination.



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LESSON PLAN

## **Outsmarting Propaganda: Combatting the Lure of Extremist Recruitment Strategies**

HIGH SCHOOL

Teach high school students what propaganda is and how it has been used to recruit young people into extremist groups and how to counter those strategies.





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LESSON PLAN

## **Terrorist Attack in Paris and Scapegoating**

MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL

Use this lesson to teach students about the Paris attacks and understand the ways in which Muslim people and Syrian refugees are being scapegoated as a result of the terrorist attacks.



**Freedom House/Flickr**

## Educator and Parent Resources for Discussing Issues of Extremism and Stereotypes with Young People

TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

## Empowering Young People in the Aftermath of Hate (In English and en Español)

Tools, tips and strategies for what educators and family members can do to help young people discuss and deal with the aftermath of hate-inspired events.



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### TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

## Gun Violence and Mass Shootings

Tips and strategies for parent and family roundtable discussion with youth about mass shootings, violence, guns and gun laws.



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## Islamophobia and Being an Ally

In the wake of terrorist attacks and ISIS, here are tips and strategies for parent and family roundtable discussion with youth about Muslims, islamophobia and being an ally.



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## Nice, France and Our Response to Terrorist Attacks

Have a parent and family roundtable discussion with youth about the 2016 attacks in Nice, France and understanding the complexities around incidents of terrorism.





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TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

### **Propaganda, Extremism and Online Recruitment Tactics**

Tips and strategies for parent and family roundtable discussion with youth about propaganda, extremism and recruitment tactics of terrorist groups.



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TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

### **Helping Students Make Sense of News Stories about Bias and Injustice**

When there are national news stories that involve incidents of bias and injustice, young people want to be part of the conversation.





**Loavesofbread**

## Teaching Tools & Strategies

### TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

#### **Challenging Biased Language**

On a daily basis—in the lunchroom, at the grocery store, in school hallways and even at home—people hear and sometimes use words and phrases that demean or ridicule. Here are some strategies for responding.



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## Creating an Anti-Bias Learning Environment

Tips for the classroom educator to create an anti-bias learning environment.

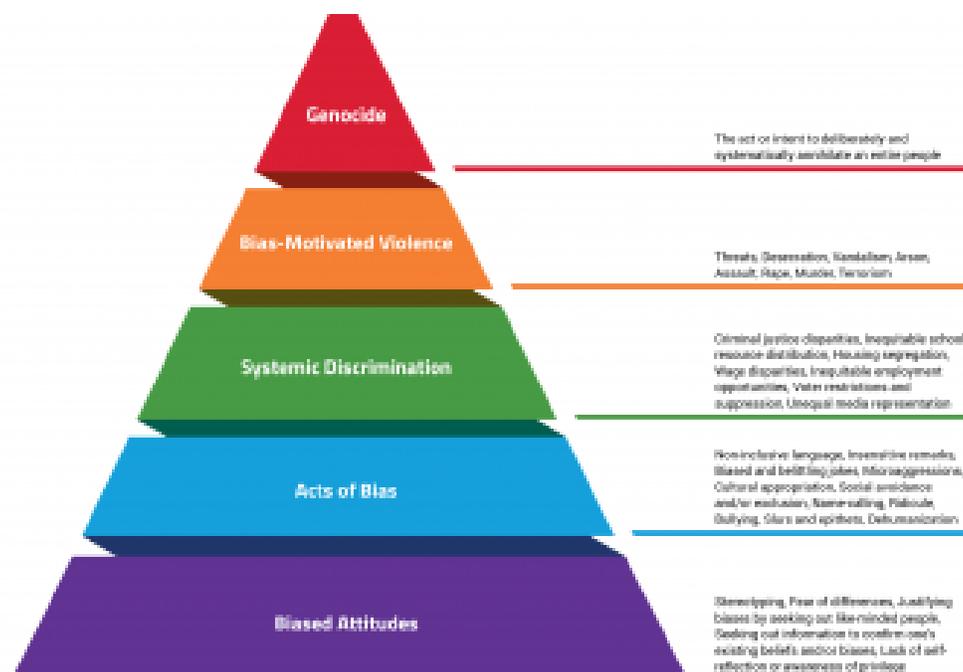


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### TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

## Pyramid of Hate (en Español)

A visual of a pyramid which shows biased behaviors, growing in complexity from the bottom to the top.



Background Reading on Bias and Extremism

## **Murder and Extremism in the United States in 2018**

Each year, ADL's Center on Extremism tracks murders perpetrated by all types of extremists. In 2018, every single extremist killing – from Pittsburgh to Parkland – had a link to right-wing extremism. This report provides key insights into the crimes, including motivations behind these violent attacks.

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TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

## **Myths and Facts about Muslim People and Islam**

This resource dispels stereotypes and myths about Muslim people and Islam, suggest ways that educators can address these important topics in the classroom and provide relevant key words and definitions.



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REPORTS

## **The ISIS Impact on the Domestic Islamic Extremist Threat: Homegrown Islamic Extremism 2009-2015**

Read the full comprehensive report, The ISIS Impact on the Domestic Islamic Extremist Threat: Homegrown Islamic Extremism 2009-2015. In 2015, 80 U.S. residents were linked to...

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## **With Hate in their Hearts: The State of White Supremacy in the United States**

Read ADL's latest report, "With Hate in Their Hearts: The State of White Supremacy in the United States." This comprehensive report covers the historical roots to the modern iterations of white supremacist ideology and groups.

## Other Resources

### **Mass Violence and Extremism Backgrounder: Information for Educators and School Administrators**

This backgrounder strives to provide comprehensive information that is relevant and appropriate for all school districts. It delves into some of the causes and observable signs of student violence and extremism and provides a set of steps for schools to take that may aid in discouraging attacks. This resource is a joint project of ADL and The National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism.