



As you may or may not know CONTEST is the Home Office's current Counter Terrorism Strategy. It is subdivided into four pillars, known as 'The Four Ps';

PROTECT: Strengthening our protection against terrorist attacks

PREPARE: Where an attack cannot be stopped, to mitigate against it's impact

PURSUE: Stopping terrorist attacks

PREVENT: Reducing the number of people becoming or supporting violent extremists

The three key objectives of Prevent are;

- 1) Respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from those who promote it
- 2) Prevent people being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support
- 3) Encourage working with other agencies and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation

Although the biggest threat to national security continues to be from Al Qaida (AQ) and its affiliates, the emergence of Extreme Right Wing (XRW) groups also pose a formidable challenge to the safety and stability of our communities. Individuals and groups involved in both Islamic extremism, the Extreme Right Wing, and those who promote other negative ideologies, target and recruit vulnerable members of our communities. Prevent aims to identify and support these individuals. Young people, particularly those who aren't academic, have been bullied, have a destructive home life, who may suffer from low self esteem, and whom don't feel needed and valued by society are particularly at risk from being radicalised.

And that is where you can help. As it is your role to support, monitor and assist young people you are in a prime position to spot those at risk from radicalisation and can intervene at an early stage. It is important to recognise that if an individual is vulnerable to radicalisation by extremist organisations they are also vulnerable to criminal activity, bullying, cyber bullying and sexual exploitation.