DISENGAGEMENT FROM RADICALISATION

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RADICALISATION:

- EXTREMIST VIEW OF THE WORLD
- RIGID, BLACK + WHITE PATTERN OF THINKING (WRONG / RIGHT)
- AIMED AT OVERTURNING THE STATUS QUO (often causing harm towards others)

RADICALISATION AS A COGNITIVE SHIFT:

- Experience a grievance
- Feeling unheard
- Become more accepting of using violence

RADICALISATION AS AN EMOTIONAL RESPONSE:

CONNECTION WITH OTHERS WHO SHARE SAME VIEWS

Social status / excitement / belonging / community / acceptance

RELATIVE DEPRIVATION

- DISCONTENT AROUND BEING DEPRIVED OF SOMETHING THEY FEEL ENTITLED TO E.G. POWER & SOCIAL STATUS
- HOSTILITY TOWARDS CHANGES IN THE WORLD THAT WOULD OFTEN BE SEEN AS GOOD. (e.g. White supremacy as a response to multiculturalism) (change)
- PEOPLE WHO FIND THEMSELVES HEADING TOWARDS RADICALISATION EXPERIENCE A LOSS OF POWER

OFTEN MOTIVATION FOR RADICALISATION

INDIVIDUALS WHO SUBSCRIBE TO THESE IDEAS MAY NOT ALWAYS BE ENGAGING IN VIOLENCE BUT CAN STILL HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT e.g. entering politics with a view of disruption

Can counteract by reaching people...

CHALLENGES:

- Potential harm to communities that are already marginalised
- Need to approach this by identifying who actually perpetrates the harm
- YOUTH - we don't want to label and immediately criminalise them. Their brains work differently to adults and are still developing.

THERE IS A TENDENCY TO THINK OF DISENGAGEMENT AS MORE PRODUCTIVE BUT DERADICALISATION IS ALSO IMPORTANT

Deradicalisation is more difficult as it involves changing the way that people think

MAJA WHITAKER
Laidlaw College

RADICALISATION IS ALL OF OUR PROBLEM...

The responsibility is not just on certain minorities

COVID CONSPIRACY THEORIES → Lead to DIVISION & FRACTURING

We need to take our rules seriously!

DISENGAGEMENT FROM RADICAL IDEAS NEEDS PARTICIPATION AND TO INVOLVE PROFESSIONALS, NOT JUST STAYING WITHIN COMMUNITY

Belief in conspiracy theories can be a gateway to RADICALISATION

Often people are trying to tell a story that makes sense to them in a confusing world

PEOPLE ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE DRAWN INTO CONSPIRACY THEORIES WHEN THEIR NEEDS ARE UNMET

- MEANING
- SENSE OF BELONGING & COMMUNITY
- SENSE OF IDENTITY
- SENSE OF SECURITY & CONTROL

WHEN OUR NEEDS ARE THREATENED AND NOT MET... We are ALL ripe for radicalisation → BECOMES A PART OF OUR IDENTITY

FOCUS ON SHARED VALUES THAT PROMOTE SOCIAL COHESION AND CRITICAL REASONING

Values like AROHA go across faith and social divides

NOT HELPFUL

- Telling people they are stupid
- otherning
- Overwhelming people with facts + theory (FACT → THEORY → INFO → FACT)

relate to people with genuine AROHA

- MAINTAIN LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIPS
- ACKNOWLEDGE CONCERNS
- NOT TELLING PEOPLE WHAT TO THINK BUT HOW TO THINK E.G. CRITICAL THINKING
- BE ALERT TO "IN" AND "OUT" GROUP THINKING

ARIF SAEID
Ministry of Social Development

MEET WITH: People in prison, radicalised individuals and their families, groups etc...

Some meetings are very TOUGH

ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO DISENGAGE

Collaboration → GOVERNMENT, MOSQUES, COMMUNITY, COMMUNITY LEADERS, ACADEMIA

ISSUE: When people come out of prison, they are often rejected and unwelcome in their communities. They find belonging by going back to engaging with the same group as before

THERE ARE STILL LOTS OF IMPROVEMENTS TO BE MADE - THE COMMUNITY NEEDS PROPER RESOURCES

PEOPLE NEED TO BE REHABILITATED PROPERLY

- Recruit the right people to work with individuals
- Engage with them at the right time and right level
- Prepare families before people are released from prison - talk, identify signs to look for + resources etc
- Mosques need to be prepared eg. know how to include person

SOME OVERSEAS EXAMPLES

- INDONESIA: Focus on family disengagement.
- EUROPE: A network of organisations work together to offer programs in prison. When people are released they engage with a network in their city (wrap-around services).
- UK: Prepare the family and educate them on what to look for. Are provided an anonymous number to call if help is needed. (SIGNS TO LOOK FOR; ANONYMOUS HELPLINE)

Work with people EARLY - the first time they go to prison. The problem gets worse with each subsequent stay in prison

"From the backyard to the table..."

EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE INVOLVED IN THE DISCUSSION

JESSICA BORG
Department of Corrections

WE LEARN, RESEARCH and ADAPT...

- WE EVALUATE AND LOOK AT GAPS, OPPORTUNITIES, LEARNINGS ETC
- FOCUS ON REHABILITATION PROGRAMS FOR THOSE IN CORRECTIONS CARE
- ANY ENGAGEMENT OR REHABILITATION IS voluntary. You cannot engage with people who don't want to engage

DO NOT YET HAVE A SPECIFIC PROGRAM FOR DERADICALISATION - There are multiple pathways that you can take for this...

The drivers of extremism are varied. WE HAVE CHOSEN TO TAKE AN INDIVIDUALISED APPROACH

UNDERSTAND THAT PEOPLE HAVE DIFFERENT VIEWS BUT WON'T ALWAYS ACT VIOLENTLY

THERE IS NO SINGLE MODEL OF DISENGAGEMENT THAT IS UNIVERSALLY APPLICABLE... Must be tailored to different countries, individuals, environments etc.

THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DISENGAGEMENT AND DERADICALISATION

Deradicalisation involves changing identities & attitudes and is difficult. People hold their beliefs close. (We mostly walk in the disengagement space)

WHEN SOMEONE IS IN CORRECTIONS CARE, A THOROUGH ASSESSMENT IS TAKEN

Helps to understand the multiple factors and pathways that lead to RADICALISATION

(VALUES, COGNITIVE UNDERPINNINGS, PERSONAL GRIEVANCES, BELIEF SYSTEMS, MORAL DEBATE ISSUES, ANTIPATHY)

Encourage individuals to reject the idea that violence is the ANSWER

WE CAN ONLY GO SO FAR BY OURSELVES... THIS REQUIRES A collaborative approach

ENGAGEMENT & INPUT FROM OTHERS WILL MAKE THIS A SUCCESS STORY

Q&A

The focus of the Royal Commission report was on cohesion across faiths and groups...

THE LEVEL OF TOLERANCE FOR HATE SPEECH IS IMPORTANT!

WHAT MORE CAN WE DO TO FORGE A cohesive society?

Royal Commission Report

Are there guidelines available for people to be better more cohesive?

social cohesion MATTERS TO EVERYONE

Those in power should change how they SPEAK... Some of the language used is PROBLEMATIC

Describing immigrationists as a strain on resources rather than a boost

Include and acknowledge communities "over-represented" in statistics

ARE MODELS BEING USED FOR DERADICALISATION FOCUSED TOO MUCH ON FAITH-BASED RADICALISATION?

Motivations are now split between faith, identity & anti-authority

THIS IS WHY AN INDIVIDUALISED APPROACH WAS CHOSEN

ONE WAY

THIS HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS BEING A CONCERN

Avoids focusing on only one issue or belief system

'there is no "ONE SIZE FITS ALL" program...'

THE DRIVERS OF RADICALISATION ARE DIVERSE. (Social, economic, psychological) DO WE NEED TO REFRAME THINGS TO DEAL WITH THIS SITUATION?

(Radicalisation: FRUSTRATION, UNEMPLOYMENT, LACK OF KNOWLEDGE, LOSS OF POWER)

He tangata, he tangata, he tangata...

Social and economic drivers are not always major parts of radicalisation. Some radicalised individuals are highly educated, knowledgeable, and in stable employment.

RADICALISATION CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE

THERE IS A GROWING RECOGNITION OF MISOGYNY + FAMILY VIOLENCE AS PREDICTORS FOR VIOLENT EXTREMISM. THIS SHOULD BE IN CONVERSATIONS

GRIEVANCES AGAINST WOMEN + OBJECTIFICATION TO JUSTIFY VIOLENCE ARE OFTEN THE BEGINNING OF VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Violence against women is often factored into trying to understand drivers of radicalisation.

INTERNATIONAL EXAMPLES OF VIOLENT EXTREMISM ARE HIGHLY GENDERED

Keen to see conversations around these attitudes and what leads to them etc. (e.g. why people feel threatened, insecure or sidelined etc.)

Acts of violence draw on normalised social values and two assertion of power against "social others"

WE NEED TO APPROACH FROM ALL ANGLES, BUT ALSO HAVE A FLAX ROOTS APPROACH AND DEEP CONVERSATION. Radicalised people are still someone's child...

Hopefully progress will be made on what's acceptable or unacceptable...

CONVERSATIONS NEED TO HAPPEN IN AREAS WHERE THREATS ARE LIKELY TO HAPPEN & RADICALISATION IS OCCURING. WE NEED TO NORMALISE HAVING KORERO AROUND TOPICS SUCH AS IDENTITY, CULTURE AND FAITH.

More resources should be available on korero. Still requires skill building etc.

Prior to March 15, the focus was in one direction. Now it has opened up to thinking about ideologies of violent extremism in a broader sense & other risks to community and wider society.

WHAT COULD BE DONE BETTER AND WHAT'S BEEN DONE DIFFERENTLY SINCE THE ROYAL COMISSION REPORT THAT WILL HELP US AS A NATION GET IN FRONT OF ISSUES OF RADICALISATION?

CORRECTIONS: APPROACHES ARE changing... We value engagement and trying to come up with solutions TOGETHER.

- Rehabilitation space: working on an approach that will work for NZ
- Engagement with organisations and community needs to be strengthened further
- For more info sharing happening across agencies. Having helpful intelligence with a balance of human rights (DANGER / vulnerability)
- The challenge is that people don't want to engage (can't engage if they aren't identified)

YOUTH NEED TO BE INCLUDED. They have their own insights & wisdom to contribute.

HOW CAN YOUTH BETTER UTILISE SPACES LIKE THIS HUI AND BE INVOLVED?

There is a youth session happening at this hui. Will need more specific youth spaces at future hui.

AN INVITATION FOR PANEL TO JOIN AT THE TABLE TO Korero

He Whenua Taurikura HUI

30 October - 1 November 2022