

Radicalisation – November 2022

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This summary is prepared for the 2022 three-month trial of the Forward Project of the Social Change Lab - Susilo Wibisono & Winnifred R. Louis – details of the methodology and all summaries available here: <http://www.socialchangelab.net/forward.html> . Feedback welcome, to w.louis@psy.uq.edu.au .

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Month/Year	November 2022
Key term	“Radicalisation” and “Radicalization”
Database	Google Scholar
Link to database	https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/17p2fFHcyHQ0-hhlzNb2ZV-nzAUPxBPYs1fXsVC1_IRY/edit?usp=sharing

Overview

We found 128 documents that contains “radicalisation” or “radicalization” term in Google Scholar for the period of November 2022. They include theoretical and empirical papers, case studies, books, book chapters, thesis, and book reviews. Among the 128 documents, 35 of them emerge when a quotation mark is used to specify “radicalization”. Not all of those documents specifically focused on the topic. We only found 14 documents categorised as relevant to the topic and 2 articles that were partially relevant. Due to time constraints, only 37 documents (out of the 128) were examined.

The majority of the documents were written in English, although there are some others that were written in French (13 documents), Portuguese (two documents), Russian (two documents), Arabic (one document), Finnish (one document), Germany (one document), Indonesian (one document), Italian (one document), Polish (one document), Slovenian (one document), and Spanish (one document). The summary below is only limited to literature that was written in English. It is also only based on those articles that were found to be “relevant” and “partially relevant” to the topic.

Methodologies

Both qualitative and quantitative approaches were used to obtain primary and secondary data on this topic. A variety of approaches were used to achieve the aims of the

research. Methodologies included link analysis (Gerster et al., 2022), social network analysis (Adams & Pawiński, 2022), biographical analysis (Kanol, 2023), case analysis (Szymkiewicz, 2022), multiple comparative analysis (Moeller & Scheithauer, 2022), and more.

Participants

Radicalisation in young people continues to attract a great deal of scholarly attention. In November 2022, there were some papers investigating youth radicalisation by focusing on the factors that influence their involvement, and the potential risks of this phenomenon (Meerendré et al., 2022; Sepp, 2022; Talukder & Tanvir, 2022). Evidence-based understanding of the potential factors and risks of young radicalisation is important in order to design effective preventative methods, as well as to deradicalise those who have been engaged in extremist groups.

In the papers from this month, Muslim extremists continue to be groups of interest for some scholars (Meerendré et al., 2022; Ramandi & Daghi, 2022; McCann, 2022; Sigillò, 2022). Scholars were interested in understanding the radicalisation pathways of their members and supporters, as well as the factors that lead this type of extremism to spread at the global level.

Key Findings

Of the many issues covered in this topic, online radicalisation continues to be a popular issue to be discussed in November 2022 (Gerster et al., 2022; Ortiz, 2022; Talukder & Tanvir, 2022; Yu, 2022). Studies have found that software prototypes like web mining and AI methods provide a platform for understanding and spreading extreme thoughts and actions (Yu, 2022). Moreover, scholars continue to examine the potential influence of video gaming in meta-verse (Ortiz, 2022). In Ortiz's paper, no sign of radicalisation was found in this context, but video gaming in meta-verse was found to increase the sense of loneliness and sadness and thus potentially increases vulnerability to being radicalised.

Other scholars have focused on social media as a popular platform in spreading radical thoughts and to some extent, the calls for radical actions. To understand the role of social media in facilitating the rapid spread of radical ideologies, the motives behind youth engagement in radicalised activities were examined (Talukder & Tanvir, 2022). Social media platforms are argued to facilitate the formation of extremist online communities which have critical roles in encouraging extreme thoughts and values among young people (Gerster et al., 2022).

The association between radical ideologies and terrorism also continues to be interrogated (McCann, 2022; Moeller & Scheithauer, 2022; Piotr, 2022). The pathway to violent extremism is found to be affected by an interplay of cumulative vulnerabilities and different life stages (McCann, 2022; Moeller & Scheithauer, 2022). Areas that are more likely to be threatened by violent actions and terrorist attacks were found to have a higher prevalence of extreme ideas and violent actions (Ramandi & Daghi, 2022).

Selected References – Radicalisation – November 2022

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