



Brainstorming Sessions on Extremism:

Summary from All Groups:

1. Reasons:

1. Unfair and inaccurate media reporting
2. Intentional and unintentional misquoting of religious texts
 1. Ignorance: the youth are not learning
 2. Lack of analytical thinking
3. Ignorance of the “other” (fear of the unknown)
4. USA Foreign Policy (specifically the occupation of Muslim lands.)
Injustice
5. Troubled Social conditions
 1. poverty
 2. broken families
 3. failure in public life
 4. addressing mental health issues
6. Distrust between law enforcement and Muslims

2. Solutions:

1. Positive Media Coverage
2. Education in general to youth specifically.
3. Political activism to address injustice
4. Charitable projects to help the oppressed
5. Outreach and dawah work and transparency in masjid and opening doors of the masjid.
6. Terrorism needs to be defined and should be clarified so that it is made clear that it has nothing to do with Islam.
7. Building trust between youth and the leaders in the community.
8. Better education, both religious and non-religious.