# Met Police warn parents about extremism risks linked to Netflix series



Counter Terrorism officers from the Metropolitan Police have issued a warning to parents regarding the potential risks of their children becoming involved in extremism, particularly in light of the Netflix series "Adolescence." The four-part programme has resonated significantly, prompting important discussions on topics such as misogyny and online safety.

The show's narrative revolves around 13-year-old Jamie Miller, who becomes embroiled in "incel" culture—an online community associated with involuntary celibacy—ultimately leading him to commit a violent act against a female classmate. Detective Superintendent Jane Corrigan, the Met’s Prevent Co-ordinator, noted, "While it's a fictitious drama, the story is grounded in a reality that we are seeing more and more in our work within Counter Terrorism Policing."

In light of the show's content, which some experts have deemed alarming, authorities are urging parents to stay engaged with their children's online activities. They have advised that awareness of certain behaviours could indicate vulnerability to radicalisation. Parents should particularly look out for an increase in misogynistic comments, a lack of empathy, and a shift in the language their child uses.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has supported the decision to make "Adolescence" free for streaming in secondary schools across the United Kingdom. This move has sparked various opinions, with critics cautioning that it may inadvertently push children toward seeking out violent content online. Such concerns were highlighted by some experts who deemed the reactions from authorities as a potential overreaction.

The series has become a phenomenon, amassing nearly 100 million views since its release, and has led to increased scrutiny of school environments. Education experts have reported a troubling trend of boys displaying misogynistic attitudes, which some have described as a "tsunami of rage" among young males. Detectives have echoed these concerns, indicating that not only are children being referred to the Prevent programme for ideologies rooted in extremist views, but many others who may not be reported remain a concern.

Additionally, figures indicate a significant rise in terrorism-related arrests among children, with 43 reported in 2023 and 39 the following year, compared to just three in 2002. Detective Superintendent Corrigan highlighted the significance of early intervention, stating the importance of dialogue between parents and children to address any troubling signs. She noted, "We've had referrals and provided support through Prevent to a whole range of children," emphasising the reality that circumstances can affect many families.

Sorcha Eastwood, an MP, has voiced strong concerns regarding children's exposure to harmful content online and called for "guardrails" to protect youth navigating digital platforms. She emphasised the urgency for legislation to better safeguard children, labelling current measures as insufficient in addressing the dangers inherent in today’s digital landscape. Eastwood also suggested that the government is failing to adequately address these issues, calling their response to the proliferation of harmful content on social media platforms inadequate.

Moreover, the debate continues as groups push for more substantial restrictions on online content and financial penalties for companies hosting such material. Figures such as former England football manager Sir Gareth Southgate have also condemned the "toxic influencers" contributing to these societal issues, underlining the growing consensus about the necessity for stronger protections for young people.

As concerns continue to mount surrounding the influences of online culture on youth behaviour, parents are advised to be vigilant about their children's interactions with digital media. Resources and support options are available, with law enforcement officials encouraging open communication to help mitigate the risks of radicalisation.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.lbc.co.uk/news/uk/report-children-prevent-misogynist-police-parents/> - This article supports the claim that Counter Terrorism officers are warning parents about the risks of extremism, particularly related to misogynistic content online, and the importance of early intervention through programs like Prevent.
* <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2025/03/28/adolescence-netflix-sinister-emojis-used-incel-teenagers/> - This piece provides insight into how the Netflix series 'Adolescence' has highlighted concerns about incel culture and the use of emojis by teenagers to communicate about extremism, reflecting the broader societal discussions sparked by the show.
* <https://www.straitstimes.com/life/red-pill-and-black-pill-deciphering-the-language-of-the-manosphere> - This article delves into the language and ideologies within the manosphere, which is relevant to the themes of 'Adolescence' and the impact of online culture on young people's attitudes towards gender and violence.
* <https://www.noahwire.com> - This source is mentioned as providing the original information but lacks specific content on the current topic; hence, its explanation is limited.
* <https://www.courts.michigan.gov/492eca/siteassets/publications/benchbooks/evidence/evidbb.pdf> - Although unrelated to the specific claims about 'Adolescence' and extremism, this document touches on broader issues of evidence handling and legal precedence, which could inform discussions around digital evidence in extremist cases.