

Diary of a Badman 'Staying Safe' Toolkit

Introduction

Diary of a Badman – 'Staying Safe' is an interactive workshop based on a fictitious film involving the Youtube hit sensation Humza Arshad of the famed 'Diary of a Badman' series.

The workshop combines humour, street language and key messages and aims to highlight how young people can be drawn towards extremism. It recognises the importance of sign-posting help and guidance from responsible people in our communities to those who need it most.

The 'Diary of a Badman' phenomenon first hit the YouTube screens approximately 3 years ago and quickly became a hit internet sensation that to date has received approximately 40 million hits on YouTube.

The Badman series has already shown that young people from different backgrounds and communities can easily relate to the central character played by Humza Arshad.

This episode, as with all others in the Badman chronicles feature a community dilemma, moral and socio-cultural issues and a resolution. The typical target audience is young people at Key stage 3 to 4 though the issues have relevance to a wider demographic.



Facilitators/Teachers Notes



Requirements:

- Audio / visual capability
- Copy of Badman episode either on disc or portable media
- A4 paper and pens for group exercises
- Flipchart & markers (optional)
- PowerPoint (optional)

The workshop is designed to be delivered between 45 minutes to 1 hour though there is a degree of flexibility in the method of delivery. The product could be delivered in a traditional school or college setting or in a community facility. Key questions are provided both on screen and as part of this toolkit and a lesson plan template has been provided to support teaching and learning at Key Stage 4.

The product is aimed primarily at young people between the ages of 11 and 18, however this doesn't preclude delivering to persons outside of that age range. Certain groups of young people will already be aware of the profile of the Diary of a Badman series on the internet which will be advantageous in terms of credibility and interest levels.

Humza has developed the Badman series looking at community issues set against the backdrop of contemporary life in the UK. Whilst this episode and most other have references to Muslim religious and cultural identity there are clear potential cross over themes into other forms of extremism such as the Far Right, internet safety and the safeguarding of young people. The workshop can therefore be delivered to young people of any background and provides the opportunity to discuss often sensitive issues with peers in a safe learning environment.

There are opportunities to continue learning on this thematic with other Prevent products such as CONVICTION, ACT NOW or PATHWAYS all of which can be accessed online. Please contact your local prevent representative for more information on these programmes.

Characters

Humza (Badman) - is a stereotypical young guy in today's society who does wrong, makes mistakes, has no respect for anyone and gets into trouble however, he also has an understanding of what is morally right and wrong and will often use his popularity to influence people into doing the right thing.

Khalid (Cousin) - is Humza's cousin who has come to stay with Humza whilst his parents are on holiday abroad. Khalid appears to be seeking religious guidance but is also young and impressionable which makes him vulnerable.

Islamic Speaker – runs the local Islamic study circle which is popular and well attended by mainly young males. The speaker is well versed and offers a correct interpretation of the Qur'an and Hadith.

Extremist Recruiter – is a young male who has been active in trying to radicalise other young men. He has a small but dedicated following but is not welcome at the local study circle which he has previously tried to recruit from. The recruiter uses firebrand language and is against anything regarded as Western.

JP- is Humza's close friend and confidante. JP expresses his concerns to Humza about his cousin at a time when Humza doesn't quite realise what might be happening to his cousin.

Group Discussion



The following questions can be inserted onto a PowerPoint slide and displayed or written up on flipchart paper and used to prompt an initial discussion with the wider group. This will help to break the ice and help to assess the knowledge levels of the group.

- What do you understand by the word 'Extremism'?
- What is terrorism?
- What does a terrorist look like?
- What are the different kinds of extremism / terrorism? Name as many as you can.
- Can you think of some recent examples of terrorist acts?
- Why do you think people commit terrorist acts?

Smaller Group Discussion

The question sheets (attached) will aid the facilitator in splitting the collective group up into three smaller groups and handing out a sheet for each group for discussion. Once the group discussions have taken place as well as the wider feedback from each group, then the final question below to the group as a whole is suggested:

Question to All -

- If you had a concern about somebody you knew, what would you do and why?

Group A



- ❖ Describe Humza's attitudes at the beginning of the movie compared to the end. How has his views changed?
- ❖ What is Khalid angry about when he talks to Humza in his room?
- ❖ What sort of current issues in the UK or elsewhere could have made Khalid angry? Think of things that you might have seen on the news over the last few weeks or months.

Group B



- ❖ Humza catches Khalid looking at websites and images on the internet. What part can the internet play in people being drawn towards extremism or terrorism?
- ❖ How can we stay safe on the internet?
- ❖ Describe what is happening in the study circle. What messages are being delivered by the main speaker and the speaker in the corner of the room?
- ❖ How is Khalid being drawn towards extremism?

Group C



- ❖ In what ways can Humza help Khalid? What options are available to him?
- ❖ What are the dangers of Khalid continuing his association with the 'extremist leader'?
- ❖ Khalid was caught looking at extremist material on the internet. Think of a time when you might have seen something on the internet that concerned you. What did you do about it?