



# 'I grew a beard and my dad flipped out!' Co-option of British Muslim parents in countering "extremism" within their families in Bradford and Leeds

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**"I grew a beard and my dad flipped out!" Co-option of British Muslim parents in countering "extremism" within their families in Bradford and Leeds"**

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**Title**

**‘I grew a beard and my dad flipped out!’ Co-option of British Muslim parents in countering “extremism” within their families in Bradford and Leeds**

**Abstract**

*Research on the effects of counter-terrorism has argued that Muslims are constructed as a ‘suspect community.’ However, there remains a paucity of research exploring divisive effects membership to a ‘suspect community’ has on relations within Muslim families. Drawing from interviews conducted in 2010-11 with British Muslims living in Bradford or Leeds, I address this gap by examining how co-option of Muslim parents to counter extremism fractures relations within Muslim families. I show that internalising fears of their children being radicalised or indeed radicalising others, means parents judge young Muslims’ religious practices through a restrictive moderate/extremist binary. I advance the category of ‘internal suspect body’ which is materialised through two intersecting conditions: the suspected Muslim extremist to lookout for and young Muslims at risk of radicalisation. I delineate the reproductive effects of terrors of counter-terrorism on Muslims’ experiences as they traverse state, intra-group and individual levels.*

**Keywords:** counter-terrorism, extremism, Muslim, radicalisation, suspect

**Word Count:** 9,248

**Introduction: Co-option of Muslim parents in countering extremism**

Young British Muslims have come under intense public scrutiny because of their perceived vulnerability to radicalisation (Choudhury 2007; McDonald 2011; Shterin and Spalek 2011; Hosseini 2013; Robinson et al. 2017). Hamid (2011, 247) notes that ‘In

1  
2  
3 the popular imagination the words “Muslim” and “youth” together most often trigger  
4 associations with violent extremism.’ Such conceptions are stoked by a populist  
5 account of young Muslims being turned to extremism produced from a range of sources,  
6 including state actors. This narrative is premised on Islamist enemies of western  
7 civilisations encouraging young Muslims to launch suicide attacks against their fellow  
8 citizens within Britain’s borders. For example, in 2006, former Home Secretary, John  
9 Reid, attended Leyton cricket ground to meet the East London Muslim community ‘to  
10 warn Muslim parents’ (quoted in Travis 2006; also Lambert and Parsons 2017, 57)  
11 about the threat from extremism. Reid urged them to surveil their children for ‘telltale  
12 signs’ and confront extremism within their households:  
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26 There is no nice way of saying this but there are fanatics who are looking to  
27 groom and brainwash children, including your children for suicide bombing.  
28 Grooming them to kill themselves in order to murder others... look for the  
29 telltale signs now and talk to them before their hatred grows and you risk losing  
30 them forever...in protecting our families we are protecting our community (Reid  
31 quoted in Travis 21 September 2006).  
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41 The warning spread through the media and sparked immediate protest amongst  
42 Muslims, including Ahmed Versi (quoted in Travis 2006), editor of *Muslim News*, who  
43 argued that it was ‘farical for him to ask parents to spy on their children and report  
44 them to anti-terrorist police.’ Reid’s account highlights political uses to which terror  
45 are put within preventative counter-terrorism and its pernicious effects by inculcating  
46 fear and suspicion of fellow Muslims, including family members. Young Muslims are  
47 deemed vulnerable to radicalisation and Muslim parents, potential harbingers, making  
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3 the (Muslim) household a suspect site. Nickels et al. (2012, 340) argue that  
4  
5 construction of suspect communities in news discourse fosters a socio-political  
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7 environment where state violations of civil liberties are permitted. Terrorism-related  
8  
9 discussions dominate the 'Muslim public sphere' so that Muslim communities are not  
10  
11 only 'embroiled in the debate; they passively monitor the individuals around them and  
12  
13 the events that affect their community' (Spalek and Weeks 2017, 967).  
14

15  
16 The security agenda has 'crept into the ordinary and the mundane,' burdening  
17  
18 families with preventing extremism (HM Government 2015). Focus is placed on  
19  
20 Muslim families' role in assisting security and law enforcement agencies by offering a  
21  
22 'protective resource' (Crown 2017, 1) such as self-esteem and belonging or 'ethical  
23  
24 anchoring' (Mattsson et al. 2016, 253; Huq 2017, 1045) against radicalisation and  
25  
26 terrorist recruitment to redress the tide of British foreign fighters travelling to Syria  
27  
28 (Awn and Guru 2017) or daughters becoming 'jihadi brides'<sup>1</sup> (Saeed 2016, 1, 2; Pearson  
29  
30 and Winterbotham 2017). A number of government-sponsored initiatives involving  
31  
32 Muslim parents/families have been devised including Families Against Stress and  
33  
34 Trauma (FAST), Educate Against Hate site portal (Department for Education and Home  
35  
36 Office 2018) offering parental support to keep 'children safe from the danger of  
37  
38 extremism,' and #MakingAStand campaign (Home Office 2014) working with Muslim  
39  
40 women, particularly mothers, to counter terrorist recruitment. The Prevent strategy  
41  
42 places onus on parents to police their children, including removing their passports if  
43  
44 suspected of travelling to join IS (House of Commons 2017, 27). Failure to intervene is  
45  
46 regarded as Ashencaen Crabtree (2017, 259-6) notes, as 'complicity and irresponsible  
47  
48 parenting as well as being guilty of failing to inculcate proper British citizenship values  
49  
50 in progeny.'  
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3 Muslim parents are enlisted in countering terrorism, but are also deemed  
4 responsible for its allure. The Radical Awareness Network (RAN) (2017, 55; also  
5 Anderson QC 2016, 126) argues families may provide 'risk factors' to reintegrating  
6 returned foreign fighters depending on their ideological influence or relationship to the  
7 returnee, citing the family as a potential 'breeding ground' for radicalisation. Family  
8 law has entered the realms of counter-terrorism to 'safeguard' children that have been  
9 taken to Syria and Iraq (Crown 2017, 15; Pearson and Winterbotham 2017). A notorious  
10 case was Bradford-based sisters Sugra, Zohra and Khadija Dawood who travelled to  
11 Syria with their nine children in 2015. Stanley and Guru (2015, 353; also Robinson et  
12 al. 2017) note the emergence of 'childhood radicalisation' as a new 'category of abuse,'  
13 that places the (Muslim) family under increased scrutiny from social workers,  
14 community workers, nongovernmental as well as security and law enforcement agencies  
15 involving psychological repercussions on children and families.

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17  
18 A limited number of studies have documented detrimental impact of counter-  
19 terrorism measures on Muslim families (Brittain 2009; Choudhury and Fenwick 2011;  
20 Guru 2012; Stanley and Guru 2015; Ragazzi 2016; Ashencaen Crabtree 2017).  
21 Literature on the 'suspect community' notes how families are stigmatised within their  
22 communities following arrests or home raids (Author forthcoming; Choudhury and  
23 Fenwick 2011, 77). There remains a paucity of empirical research exploring Muslim  
24 parents' role in countering extremism (Awan and Guru 2017). In addressing this gap,  
25 this article draws on qualitative interviews with 26 Muslim males and females living in  
26 Leeds or Bradford undertaken in 2010-11 to explore how co-option of Muslim parents  
27 to counter extremism within their households produces 'internal suspect bodies' through  
28 intersecting fears of the Muslim groomer and Muslim youth at risk of radicalisation.

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3 Ascendance of 'Muslim' as a political category has particular salience in  
4 Bradford following the 1989 Rushdie Affair and 'riots' of 1995 and 2001. Emergence  
5 of the 'home-grown terrorist' following 7/7 is significant to Leeds through its  
6 connection as home-place to three of the 2005 London bombers. During my fieldwork,  
7 the Coalition Government issued their revised Prevent strategy (2011) which identified  
8 Leeds and Bradford as two of 25 'priority areas'<sup>2</sup> for tackling terrorism. Elsewhere  
9 (Author forthcoming) I explored how the internal suspect body is produced through  
10 fears of Muslims informing on fellow Muslims within the context of Prevent, producing  
11 mistrust within Muslim communities. Here, I contribute further examination of the  
12 terrors of counter-terrorism (Hillyard 1993, 262) by exploring Muslim parents' roles in  
13 undertaking internal surveillance of their children's religious identities, Islamic spaces  
14 and networks in which they engage. Hickman et al.'s (2012, 93) research on 'suspect  
15 communities' contends that 'suspectification' (the practice of making an individual or a  
16 community suspect) although initiated by state authorities, is reproduced by a range of  
17 individuals/groups, including within the suspect community. In adopting a networked  
18 approach, I shift analysis of the effects of counter-terrorism on the suspect community  
19 from state-centric approaches (for example, Greer 2010, 2014) to explore how Muslims  
20 are co-opted into diverse positions of suspect/suspector. Terrors of counter-terrorism  
21 traverse state/Muslim relations (Bonino 2013, 385) to infiltrate Muslim households and  
22 are retransmitted by the subjugated group (Foucault 1977, 27). As Butler (1997b, 2)  
23 contends, subjection 'signifies the process of becoming subordinated by power as well  
24 as the process of becoming a subject.' Internal suspect bodies are produced within  
25 Muslim households where Muslim parents internalise external Islamic markers such as  
26 the hijab, jilbab and Islamic beard as signifiers of extremism, precipitating internal  
27 disciplinary measures. Muslim parents/family members become complicit in governing  
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3 young Muslims' religious identities within the parameters of 'moderate Muslim' which  
4 domesticates Muslims (Tyrrer 2008, 63) and, by extension, subjects them to the system  
5 of white dominance from fear of their children being targeted by state counter-terrorism  
6 measures. Anderson QC (quoted in Joint Committee of Human Rights 2016, 4), UK  
7 Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation, found that Muslim parents fear talking  
8 about terrorism to their children in case they are referred by 'half trained' teachers  
9 under Prevent. Subjection has ideological, psychic and emotional effects on both those  
10 that suspect and are suspected, creating intra-familial tensions. New subjectivities are  
11 nonetheless produced as relations are (re)negotiated.

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22 The article contextualises how co-option of Muslim parents in countering  
23 extremism maps onto wider challenges occurring within Muslim households. These  
24 concern the role of religion and its relationship to culture, which has meant young  
25 Muslims' religious practices often differ from their parents, and raises questions of  
26 parental responsibility to instruct on Islam that have increasingly become embroiled  
27 with countering extremism. I then discuss key findings to illustrate how internal  
28 surveillance is undertaken within Muslim families involving monitoring young  
29 Muslims' religious identities and engagement in Islamic spaces through two key fears,  
30 firstly, becoming radicalised or indeed, radicalising others, and secondly, being targeted  
31 by state counter-terrorism police and the impact of these measures on Muslim families.  
32 I conclude that Muslim families are (in)securitised by counter-terrorism measures,  
33 legitimised by a pathological account of Muslim, particularly Pakistani families, as  
34 simultaneously a threat to national security and British values within narratives of  
35 extremism.



### ***Religious revivalism***

A notable body of research since the 1980s recognises increased salience of religion as a ‘marker of identity’ (Choudhury 2007, 3; also Hutnik 1985; Lewis 1994; Hamid 2011; Ryan 2014; Robinson et al. 2017) for Muslims. Researchers contend that religiosity or ‘new’ Islam is characterised by disassociation from culture towards ‘pure’ Islamic tenets (Kashyap and Lewis 2013) involving heightened reflexivity and questioning taken-for-granted assumptions concerning being Muslim (Kibria 2008, 245), particularly amongst Muslim migrant youth. Jacobson’s (1997) ethnographic study of young British Pakistanis in London found that they made a ‘fundamental distinction’ between religion and ethnicity as identity categories. Parents were criticised for holding onto culturally bound interpretations of Islam leading to divergent religious practices between parent/child that strains relationships between Muslim youth and their parents and local community (Lynch 2013, 251). Ryan (2014, 446) contends that young Muslims’ revived interest in Islam presents a means of ‘carving out space and identity in migratory contexts.’ Further, it supports a ‘critical stance’ in respect to the ‘host’ society and parental authority circumscribed by ethno-cultural norms. Religiosity is also gendered; a ‘strong’ Muslim identity offers a ‘sense of masculinity among young Muslim men’ (Choudhury 2007, 3). For women, religion provides a counter to parental and community constraints.

### ***Religious leadership and parental responsibility***

Ashencaen Crabtree (2017, 257) notes that trust in parenting as a ‘private domestic matter’ has been undermined by government bodies. Conservative and religious

parenting, particularly Muslim parenting, is viewed with suspicion as potential seedbeds for Islamist extremism and separatist cultural values (Scourfield et al. 2013; Fathi and Hakak, in press). Perceived failure for Muslim parents to answer young Muslims' questions concerning religion (Abbas 2012, 350) or balancing mainstream and ethno-religious culture of their families with societal demands (Robinson et al. 2017, 268), has prompted concerns of their vulnerability to radicalisation. Pathologised accounts of parent/child relations, for example, Bolognani's (2007, 359) study of young Pakistani males in Bradford, argue that the 'generation gap,' 'scarce interaction between parents and children,' parents' 'obsolete or inappropriate principles for dealing with the problems of urban Britain' and delegation of 'moral education' to mosques and madrasas are to blame for young Muslims becoming radicalised. This view is reflected in former Prime Minister, David Cameron's (2011), infamous 'failure of state multiculturalism' speech presented at the Munich Security conference in which he argued that in the UK, 'some young men find it hard to identify with the traditional Islam practiced at home by their parents,' that along with failure to identify with British values, makes them vulnerable to radicalisation. More recently, the controversial Casey Review (2016, 128-131) commissioned by David Cameron to review integration, details a litany of challenges affecting Muslims including sectarian divisions, lack of formal hierarchy and English-speaking imams, and 'need for clearer interpretation of Islam for life in the UK' that present Muslim populations as a threat to social cohesion.

Concerns of growing religious extremism and estrangement from British society (Cantle 2001; Casey Review 2016) abound in policy and academia. Reporting on a survey examining Muslim religiosity, Policy Exchange note, 'religiosity amongst young Muslims is not about their parents' cultural traditions' but is 'more politicized.' This is evidenced by 'asserting one's identity in the public space, such as by wearing a Hijab'

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3 (Mirza et al. 2007, 5). Since the government's definition of extremism is 'vocal or  
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5 active opposition to fundamental British values' (HM Government 2011, 107), public  
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7 performances of Muslim identities risk conflation with extremism (Brown and Saeed  
8  
9 2015). There remains limited work exploring how young Muslims negotiate their  
10  
11 religious identities with their families within the wider context of counter-terrorism that  
12  
13 this article addresses.  
14

### 15 16 17 18 19 20 ***Surveilling Islamic spaces*** 21

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23  
24 Current religious activism is influenced by youth movements from the 1990s  
25  
26 and 2000s (Hamid 2011). Organisations such as Young Muslims UK stimulated  
27  
28 religious revivalism among second and third generations and influence contemporary  
29  
30 debates concerning religious authenticity and authority and citizenship requirements.  
31  
32 Spaces in which young Muslims access Islamic knowledge have come under scrutiny  
33  
34 following the growth of militant Islamist movements and fears of young Muslims  
35  
36 becoming radicalised (Hamid 2011; Brown and Saeed 2015; Saeed and Johnson 2016).  
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38 Islamic Student Associations (ISAs) in particular have become 'sites of suspicion by  
39  
40 parents' (Michael 2011, 212) following concerns of young Muslims becoming  
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42 radicalised by militant or reformist movements that adopt teachings not shared by  
43  
44 parents. ISAs have increasingly been framed by the security agenda. The 2015 Counter-  
45  
46 terrorism and Security Act (HM Government 2015) placed a statutory duty on public  
47  
48 agencies, including universities, to report extremist activities (Saeed and Johnson 2016,  
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50 37). Michael (2011, 212) observes that constructions of Muslims as suspect by state  
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52 and society has influenced how Muslims understand 'risks within their own local  
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3 worlds.’ Pressure to monitor ISAs not only perpetuates young Muslims’ association  
4 with extremism and role of such groups in radicalising Muslim youth, but incites fears  
5 amongst Muslim parents of their children being targeted by state counter-terrorism  
6 measures (Saeed and Johnson 2016, 42-3). Dominance of the moderate/extremist  
7 binary means visibly Muslim students face heightened securitisation.  
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## 13 14 15 **Methodology**

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20 The research is informed by what I term an ‘inter-bodily-relational’ (IBR)  
21 theoretical framework. It approaches identity formations as operating through a  
22 ‘network of relations’ (Foucault 1977, 26) involving embodied, affective, vocal, and  
23 spatial subjects that are located within intersecting contexts (local, national, and  
24 international). The IBR builds from relational approaches that seek to draw connections  
25 between experiences of race/racism across time and space (see Goldberg 2009). A  
26 relational approach sensitised me to the difficulties of researching a ‘suspect  
27 community,’ including how I could be positioned as both challenging and reproducing  
28 the culture of fear (Hunter 2009) experienced by Muslims in Britain. I was an insider as  
29 someone of Muslim heritage and shared concern of the effects of the ‘war on terror’ on  
30 Muslims’ experiences, but an outsider as a non-Muslim who could ‘pass’ as ‘white  
31 English.’ As I was not expected to know about Islam or being Muslim, participants  
32 provided in-depth explanations of religious observance which enriched accounts.  
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48 The sampling criteria comprised Muslim males and females from any  
49 denominational, ethnic or national background aged above 18 (for ethical reasons).  
50 Half were from the Pakistani diaspora and a further six from other South Asian regions  
51 reflecting official statistics where 82 per cent of the Bradford Muslim population are  
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3 Pakistani and 65 per cent in Leeds (DCLG 2009, 31). However, these categories mask  
4  
5 important distinctions regarding culture, denomination, language and patterns of  
6  
7 migration (Nasser 2003, 9). The remainder were Iraqi heritage (reflecting the growth of  
8  
9 a sizeable Leeds-based Iraqi community following the first Gulf War) or white British  
10  
11 reverts. 24 were British and 17 British-born. The sample was equally split by gender.  
12  
13 The majority of women were Bradford-based reflecting mobilisations following the  
14  
15 1995 and 2001 disturbances involving Pakistani Muslim women '(re)defining intra- and  
16  
17 inter-community relationships' (Burllet and Reid 1998, 270). Only one woman did not  
18  
19 wear hijab; three wore both hijab and jilbab, enabling me to examine how Islamic  
20  
21 markers contributed to (gendered) practices of identity construction, how these changed  
22  
23 during participants' life-courses and impacted familial relations. However, I did not  
24  
25 speak to women wearing the face veil or niqab which would have diversified the  
26  
27 sample. One participant wore the niqab occasionally but did not classify herself as a  
28  
29 'niqabi.'<sup>3</sup> For the male sample, one participant wore a topi (Islamic cap) and had a  
30  
31 beard; another had a 'light beard' (Moustafa's description) but the remainder did not  
32  
33 adopt Islamic markers except during prayer.  
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38 Sampling combined purposive, snowball and opportunistic techniques. The  
39  
40 Bradford-based sample developed from a research placement with a racial justice  
41  
42 organisation. The Leeds-based sample built from participation with a local Stop the  
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44 War group, Leeds University Islamic Society and other university contacts which helps  
45  
46 explain why 15 of the Leeds-based participants were aged 18-30. This enabled me to  
47  
48 explore particular challenges facing young Muslims within spaces associated with  
49  
50 extremism such as universities and ISAs. It is important to note the methodological  
51  
52 limitation of reading parents' responses through their children's accounts. **However, the**  
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54 **article also draws on parents' accounts**, providing a diverse picture of the impact of  
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3 counter-terrorism measures on Muslim families. I also attended relevant  
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5 events/meetings to get a sense of what was happening ‘on the ground,’ which informed  
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7 interview questions.  
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10 Methods included a participatory social map which took participants’ situated  
11  
12 positions as the starting point of inquiry and oriented in-depth qualitative interviews.  
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14 Maps explored the different contexts comprising participants’ social worlds (religion,  
15  
16 family, education and so forth) and relations formed within them. This approach  
17  
18 enabled participants’ interpretations to emerge rather than pre-empting the significance  
19  
20 of the ‘war on terror’ on Muslims’ life-worlds.  
21

22  
23 Data analysis examined how participants are embedded in various intimate and  
24  
25 wider social relations (Gilligan 1982) which impact identity constructions. Analysis  
26  
27 focused on the forms of governance involved in managing Muslim identities and how  
28  
29 these traverse state, group (intra- and inter-), and individual levels of social experience.  
30  
31 What emerged through the analyses were diverse ways participants’ experiences were  
32  
33 shaped by a culture of fear. The next sections present research findings to explore  
34  
35 British Muslim family members’ role in countering extremism within the context of  
36  
37 increased religious revivalism and association of young Muslims with radicalisation.  
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### 42 **Religious resurgence**

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44 In Bradford, participants reported that movements such as Young Muslims and  
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46 adult branch, Islamic Society of Britain, have been influential for young Muslims,  
47  
48 including women, since the 1990s. A significant change reflected in scholarship  
49  
50 (Hutnik 1985; Lewis 1994; Hamid 2011; Ryan 2014; Brown and Saeed 2015) has been  
51  
52 the shift from ethno-cultural ascriptions to religion. As Zanaib,<sup>4</sup> a 32-year-old  
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54 Pakistani-heritage Muslim woman living in Bradford explains, ‘15 or 20 years ago  
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3 people defined themselves far more with their ethnicity – Asian or whatever – now it’s  
4 more their faith.’ A number of participants reported differences in Islamic practice to  
5 their parents and siblings showing that generational division is not the only explanation  
6 for divergent understandings of Islam within Muslim families. Nonetheless,  
7 participants explained that there was a gap in Islamic knowledge (Bolognani 2007) from  
8 their parents as Ula expresses:

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18 [My sisters and brothers] haven’t found answers through our childhood and  
19 upbringing from our parents so I think we’re all on our individual journey trying  
20 to find it ourselves.  
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24 *-26-year-old Indian-heritage Muslim woman, Bradford*  
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28 Religious differences may invite scrutiny from family members. Whilst emphasis is  
29 placed on Muslim males as susceptible to radicalisation, my research showed that  
30 Muslim parents also feared for their daughters (Saeed 2016). I draw from Hamida to  
31 explore how fears of young Muslims being turned to extremism transmitted by state  
32 actors co-opts Muslim parents into looking for ‘telltale’ signs of extremism. Hamida is  
33 recounting when she started university at the age of 18. From late adolescence she  
34 performed a more recognisable Muslim identity through religious observance and  
35 affiliation to her university’s ISA. She had worn the hijab from age seven but decided  
36 to wear the jilbab at 19. Hamida tells me increased focus on Islam post-9/11 and being  
37 questioned about being Muslim encouraged her to undertake a ‘religious journey.’ This  
38 explains differences in religious observance to her parents and siblings. Her transition  
39 prompts her parents to treat her as an internal suspect body:  
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3 [parents were being asked to look for] signs that people were becoming  
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5 radicalised...when young people start you know becoming a bit more reclusive,  
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7 joining different - have different friends...which are symptoms of being a young  
8  
9 person, but these are the things that my parents were hearing and then they were  
10  
11 realising that I was becoming a bit of a recluse because I was a young person  
12  
13 and I just wanted to hang with myself and I didn't want to sit with my family  
14  
15 because they're obviously not cool [both laugh]! Or...that I had a new group of  
16  
17 friends because I'd gone to university...but these are the signs that the  
18  
19 government were telling people to look out for and obviously for my parents  
20  
21 they did kind of think ok so...does this mean that...our child is -? 'Cos I'm the  
22  
23 youngest as well, and 'cos my brothers and sisters are very different to me and  
24  
25 they just kind of got on with life...whereas I've gone down the more religious  
26  
27 path...they were proud but at the same time they were wary of what was  
28  
29 happening with me and who was influencing me because...the influence wasn't  
30  
31 from home...so it was that fear...of the unknown - where is she getting this  
32  
33 knowledge from? Who is she talking to? ...What groups is she...involved with?  
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36  
37 *-24-year-old Pakistani-heritage Muslim woman,*

38  
39 *Bradford*

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41  
42 Narratives of inter-generational tensions perceived as characterising Muslim  
43  
44 communities (Lewis 1994) have bolstered claims of young Muslims' vulnerability to  
45  
46 radicalisation by fusing ideas about cultural pathology and identity conflict (Alexander  
47  
48 2000). Important here is how this narrative comes to frame interactions between  
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50 Muslim parents and their children where young Muslims' estrangement from their  
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52 parents and desire for solitude are viewed through the prism of extremism. By looking  
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54 for signs of extremism, Hamida's parents are co-opted into reproducing pathologised  
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2  
3 constructions of Muslim youth as vulnerable to extremism and thus suspect, and as  
4 fundamentally different from normative young people (Hamid 2011, 247). Khalida  
5 Khan (2009, 15), Director of the faith community organisation, An-Nisa, explains that  
6  
7 singling out young Muslims limits understanding of 'the wider picture of youth  
8 disaffection' that is not specific to Muslims' experiences. Normal life changes  
9 including attending university and making new friends are no longer seen as innocuous  
10 'symptoms' of being a young person, with significant implications for relations within  
11 Muslim families.  
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19  
20 Internal surveillance involves disciplinary techniques; subjected to a  
21 'normalizing gaze' (Foucault 1977, 184), Hamida's behaviour must be questioned and  
22 justification provided. Hamida highlights psychological effects on both the suspect and  
23 suspecter. Her parents experience an internal conflict: 'proud' yet fearful of their  
24 daughter's religiosity arising from the *possibility* of radicalisation. Psychological costs  
25 of being suspected are indicated where even in Hamida's re-telling the word extremist  
26 remains unsaid: 'does this mean that...our child is....?' The internal suspect body is  
27 another example of pre-emption characterising counter-terrorism (McCulloch and  
28 Pickering 2009) where suspicion is enough for intervention. State definitions of  
29 moderate/extremist infiltrate Muslim households meaning Islamic practices are re-  
30 signified as 'signs' of extremism. Importantly, this binary encourages intra-familial  
31 divisions where choosing a 'more religious path' singles Hamida out from her siblings  
32 as worthy of suspicion.  
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48 Saba, also a Bradford-based Pakistani-heritage woman (aged 22), takes a  
49 comparable religious journey to Hamida. She becomes more observant whilst at  
50 university, deciding to adopt the hijab and jilbab aged 19, which causes her family  
51 concern:  
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5 Interviewer: You mentioned about this divide between moderate and extremist  
6  
7 – how do you think that operates?  
8  
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10  
11 Saba: To me it's like really frustrating because...I had that...from my  
12  
13 family – they were like ok yeah you can do the whole Islam thing  
14  
15 but why don't you just be a bit more moderate? The more  
16  
17 changes you make the more they kind of go – and then  
18  
19 sometimes they come out with these words that they don't really  
20  
21 understand like “Wahhabi” and it's like ok let's talk about what  
22  
23 “Wahhabi” is and they don't actually know.  
24  
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28  
29 Saba's account shows that the moderate/extremist binary is not the remit of state  
30  
31 governance (Tyrer 2008), but structures how Muslims govern family members. The  
32  
33 more religiously observant Saba becomes, the more restrictions she faces. Judged as  
34  
35 having gone beyond the parameters of acceptable Muslimness, Saba is subjected to  
36  
37 internal controls to 'be a bit more moderate.' As with Hamida, internal surveillance  
38  
39 involves bringing Saba in line with a normalised Muslim identity, the 'moderate  
40  
41 Muslim.' Pantazis and Pemberton (2009, 646) observe that specific groups such as  
42  
43 Salafists and Islamists are 'singled out' by police as posing a particular threat. Here, the  
44  
45 internal suspect body materialises where young Muslims' identities conform to  
46  
47 dominant conceptions of 'extremists' such as Wahhabis. Saba's family's judgement is  
48  
49 not based on Islamic knowledge, but subjection to state understandings of 'good' and  
50  
51 'bad' Muslims (Mamdani 2005; Jacoby 2017), indicated by her family's use of  
52  
53 'Wahhabi' without understanding its meaning, which frustrates Saba.  
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### Family members countering extremism within Islamic spaces

The category 'internal suspect body' emphasises the significance of the body to suspectification. As Saba illustrates, Muslim parents interpret young Muslims' adoption of Islamic markers as signifiers of extremism and in turn, subject their children to surveillance and control:

...when I was part of the [ISA] I got a lot of girls and boys calling me and saying I started to grow a beard and my dad flipped out, he's taken my phone off me, he's looking through my phone saying I can't go to uni tomorrow, you can't go to Friday prayers 'cos you're turning to extremists...something as simple as the beard – if they're waking up for morning prayers some parents do get quite scared because of the way we've been conditioned.

Saba describes how visual markers and religious activities are no longer interpreted through religious frameworks, but political categories of moderate/extremist. Foucault (1977, 26) notes the 'subjected body' is also the 'productive body.' Muslim parents actively participate in governing young Muslims in accordance with state parameters of 'moderate Muslim.' Following Butler (1997b, 2), subjection involves dependency on the discourse of extremism which is not of Muslims' choosing but 'paradoxically, initiates and sustains' agency. Muslim parents become complicit in constructing young Muslims as suspect where the body is central to this production. Shterin and Spalek (2011, 148) contend that 'emphasis on the conspicuous Islamic aspects of identity' such as growing the beard or wearing the headscarf, 'raises suspicion of alienation from and

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2  
3 “radicalisation” against the rest of society.’ Subjection has psychic effects (Butler  
4 1997b). Perceptual frameworks are altered so that the beard triggers fears of loved ones  
5 ‘turning to extremists’ because parents are ‘conditioned’ to equate visibly Muslim  
6 bodies with extremist bodies. Psychic impact is demonstrated here by one father  
7 ‘flip[ing] out’ after his son grew a beard and subsequently restricting his son’s  
8 communications and movements, particularly spaces associated with extremism.  
9

10  
11 The internal suspect body is located within what Moustafa (British-Pakistani  
12 Muslim male aged 26) termed ‘internal politics’ within Muslim communities ‘among  
13 competing internal and among external representations’ (Brubaker 2013, 4). This is not  
14 to divorce the internal suspect category from the wider counter-terrorism context, but to  
15 highlight how ‘suspectification’ traverses state/Muslim relations. The category  
16 ‘moderate Muslim’ attracted criticism from several male participants. The beard (and  
17 clothing) functions as measures of ‘degrees of alterity’ (Tyrer 2010, 105) from  
18 acceptable performances of Muslimness in Britain. Abrah, a British Muslim male of  
19 Bengali heritage (aged 30) who does not have a beard and wears western clothes  
20 (except at mosque), says he would be identified as a ‘moderate Muslim,’ but disagrees  
21 with the term since it involves ‘conforming to western society’ by placing British norms  
22 above outward expressions of Islam: ‘*giving in* and *shedding off* to fit in.’ Comparably,  
23 Mohammed, a 43-year-old Iraqi-born British Muslim male associates the ‘long beard’  
24 with problematic expressions of Islam that hinder ‘ordinary’ Muslims from integrating.  
25 For him, outward expressions are not markers of Islamic principles:  
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50 They call them you know with long beards and burqa...fundamentalists and...us  
51  
52 “moderate Muslims”...I’m sorry I’m the fundamentalist...I adopt the  
53  
54 fundamentals of Islam – they adopt the outer surface...  
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5 Mohammed also rejects the ‘moderate Muslim’ category which he argues misrepresents  
6  
7 Islamic observance. Instead, he takes up the position of ‘fundamentalist’ which for him  
8  
9 means following authentic Islam. He realigns fundamentalism with a non-extremist  
10  
11 subjectivity defined by peaceful observance. Mohammed highlights that the body can  
12  
13 be deceptive in expressions of Islam and is embroiled in conflicts within Muslim  
14  
15 communities concerning external/internal religious observance. Being a ‘good Muslim’  
16  
17 means following Islamic principles rather than adopting outward expressions such as  
18  
19 the beard (he is clean shaven) or burqa for women. Mohammed nonetheless reaffirms  
20  
21 state logics governing Muslim populations by reading certain visible expressions of  
22  
23 Islam (the long beard and burqa) as extremist and incompatible with integration.  
24  
25

26  
27 Parental responsibility to instruct Muslim youth on ‘correct’ Islam is bound up  
28  
29 with countering extremism, which shifts the focus from moderate/extremist to  
30  
31 deciphering in/authentic Islam since participants associated extremism with inauthentic  
32  
33 interpretation. This role involves suspecting Muslims of being extremists and  
34  
35 importantly, their children being radicalised by them. Farooque, a British-Muslim  
36  
37 parent born in Kashmir (aged 44) highlights the complex network in which the internal  
38  
39 suspect body operates as a relational and unfixed category that may be aligned to a  
40  
41 particular community, here a local (Leeds-based) mosque, yet does not reflect a  
42  
43 homogenous ‘Muslim community’ indicated by diverse claims to so-called Islamic  
44  
45 interpretation in contention:  
46  
47  
48  
49

50 I’m not denying that there are nutters – like I was saying to my son, you know  
51  
52 he goes to local mosque and he used to come out and talk to other geezers who  
53  
54 seemed like the religious figures you know, young lads. So I said...one thing...I  
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1  
2 want to make sure is that you understand we all are human beings...the problem  
3 is that people...tend to tell you the extremist view...I want them to learn that  
4 you don't go on other versions of interpretation or what people...make up...  
5  
6 [My son] said and I have trusted him...it's ok dad I understand that – so I trust  
7 him – he's not going to concoct a plan against certain individuals.  
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16 Suspecting there 'are nutters' (internal suspects) compels Farooque to undertake  
17 internal surveillance of the mosque his son attends to 'make sure' he is not being  
18 radicalised. Farooque treats the mosque as a suspect site or 'seditious space' (Michael  
19 2011, 212). He is unsure whether the presumed religious figures can be trusted,  
20 illustrating how suspicion infiltrates Islamic spaces amid lack of consensus concerning  
21 Islamic interpretation and fears of the dangerous uses to which teachings may be put.  
22 For Farooque, parental responsibility requires ensuring his son understands 'correct'  
23 Islamic interpretation that is inclusive rather than closed characteristic of 'extremist'  
24 viewpoints. Extremist views are treated as inauthentic interpretation ('what people  
25 want to make up') with potentially violent consequences. As suspicion is premised on  
26 uncertainty, Muslims occupy unstable positions along the spectrum of  
27 suspector/suspect. Farooque's suspicions are alleviated after checking his son has not  
28 been influenced by extremist ideology, enabling him to move from suspected to trusted.  
29 Muslim fathers have an active role in countering extremism which paradoxically  
30 involves treating young Muslims as internal suspect bodies to mitigate risks of  
31 radicalisation.  
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51 Similarly, Shahid, a British-Pakistani Muslim male and father (aged 29),  
52 discusses internal surveillance he undertakes in his self-ascribed role as 'watcher' of a  
53 Leeds-based Mosque following 7/7 from fear of infiltration by extremists:  
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5 ...I watch them [attendants]...because I...believe...it takes one person who then  
6  
7 entices other people...and it's finding that one person...the last thing I want is  
8  
9 somebody from my own immediate family...to be enticed...so when people go  
10  
11 into...a new culture I like to have a better idea *of them* so that some young  
12  
13 person isn't hoodwinked...  
14  
15

16  
17  
18 Like Farooque, Shahid treats the mosque as a suspect site which he actively watches to  
19  
20 protect family members from being radicalised. He treats unknown attendees as  
21  
22 internal suspect bodies until he can ascertain a 'better idea of them.' Muslim families'  
23  
24 trust in the mosque potentially makes it a site for exploitation:  
25  
26

27  
28 ...the way that many people are brought up, religion is the be all and end  
29  
30 all...you can go to 100 houses in Leeds and drag the kids out at two o'clock in  
31  
32 the morning – as long as the word “mosque” gets mentioned, parents are quite  
33  
34 happy you know.  
35  
36

37  
38  
39 In this imagined scenario, Muslim families are securitised through failure to recognise  
40  
41 risks of extremists infiltrating the mosque and radicalising their children; a fear Shahid  
42  
43 says is felt within the mosque.  
44  
45

46 Muslim parents also viewed university spaces as suspect sites. Radical groups  
47  
48 like Hizb ut-Tahir operating on campuses, including in Bradford in the 1990s, affected  
49  
50 how Muslim parents interpreted their children's current religious activities (Brown and  
51  
52 Saeed 2015, 43). Family members intervened to ensure young Muslims were not  
53  
54 radicalised by groups operating on university campuses. Jacinta discusses her uncle's  
55  
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3 fears after she began performing a more religiously observant Muslim identification  
4  
5 whilst at university:  
6  
7  
8

9 [my uncle] was concerned that there were a lot of Islamic groups up and coming  
10 then – he didn't...know what I was involved with...he just wanted to make sure  
11 that I was aware that they're not all right...most times you've got to follow your  
12 heart...and I think he was concerned that what if she does get in with the wrong  
13 one...and she's radicalised?  
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19  
20 *-30-year-old Pakistani-heritage Muslim woman, Bradford*  
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23

24 Crucial here, as with Farooque, is family members intervening to ensure young  
25 Muslims are able to distinguish between 'correct' Islam and extremism ('the wrong  
26 stuff') to protect them from radicalisation. Extremism is again positioned beyond the  
27 boundaries of Islam. Jacinta is treated as an internal suspect body. This category  
28 operates relationally: those who are 'risky' (Muslim groomers) and those who are 'at  
29 risk' (young Muslims like Jacinta) (see Heath-Kelly 2012, 78). Family members are co-  
30 opted into the ideological battle against extremism that evokes a 'hearts and minds'  
31 approach. Jacinta must 'follow her heart' to ensure her religious journey takes the right  
32 path.  
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44 Parental fears are centred on internal conflicts not only between culture and  
45 religion, but between Islam and political Islam. Hamida must convince her parents that  
46 her ISA 'represents Islam, not political Islam,' and thus a non-threatening interpretation.  
47 She undergoes a 'family intervention' with her parents and siblings to ensure she is not  
48 becoming radicalised:  
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5 Interviewer: Did you feel that [your parents] were spying on you?  
6  
7

8  
9 Hamida: No, thankfully my parents – they weren't spying on me...But  
10 they had the conversation with me...at one point I had a family  
11 intervention to make sure...I was alright and not doing anything  
12 wrong which made me laugh...they...all sat down and my  
13 brothers and sisters and my mum and dad said look what are you  
14 doing? Can you please just explain to us what's happening? Are  
15 you part of anything extreme? Is anything wrong...? And I was  
16 like no, I'm just part of the Islamic Society – nothing is  
17 happening, we just put on random events and that's it! ...after  
18 them understanding what I was doing they were...fine...it was  
19 that fear of – she's our youngest daughter – we don't know what  
20 could happen, we don't know who her friends are, we don't know  
21 what she's doing...  
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41 Although Hamida says that her parents were not spying on her, she is materialised as an  
42 internal suspect body by them where intervention is required. In part, the intervention is  
43 a protective strategy to ensure she is 'alright.' It also involves checking *she* is 'not  
44 doing anything wrong.' This second motivation highlights how the internal suspect  
45 body operates through intersectional fears of young Muslims being turned to extremists  
46 and culpability in endangering others. That Hamida does not explicitly name 'the  
47 conversation' indicates the pervasiveness with which conversations concerning  
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3 radicalisation are being had within Muslim households. Her laughter at being treated as  
4  
5 suspect contrasts starkly with the formality of the family intervention which is planned  
6  
7 in advance to ensure all immediate family members are present. Hamida is the target of  
8  
9 collective suspicion with potentially detrimental consequences for her familial  
10  
11 relationships. Distrust concerning who might be influencing their daughter and the type  
12  
13 of knowledge being inculcated, illustrates how Muslim parents are enlisted in the  
14  
15 ideological battle to counter extremism that potentially involves parents closing down  
16  
17 social spaces young Muslims engage in to mitigate risks of radicalisation (Saeed and  
18  
19 Johnson 2016). As ideological effects of extremism are difficult to detect, Muslim  
20  
21 parents experience powerlessness and uncertainty: 'we don't know what could happen.'  
22  
23 Their fears are compounded by Hamida's gender and age. Gendered scripts concerning  
24  
25 vulnerability to radicalism have been strengthened by cases of British Muslim women  
26  
27 deemed 'jihadi brides' travelling to Syria (Saeed 2016, 1) to marry fighters, mother  
28  
29 children and propagandise (Pearson and Winterbotham 2017). Nonetheless, as with  
30  
31 Farooque, trust is recuperated where young Muslims reach an 'understanding' with their  
32  
33 parents concerning their religious views/activities.  
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#### 46 **Parents protecting Muslim youth from state counter-terrorism measures**

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50 So far accounts have focused on internal surveillance Muslim parents undertake  
51  
52 to ensure their children are not radicalised or radicalising others. This section explores  
53  
54 another effect of heightened securitisation of young Muslim identities: parents' fears  
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3 that their children will be subjected to state counter-terrorism measures.  
4  
5 Unsurprisingly, Muslim parents are wary of their children becoming politically engaged  
6  
7 because legitimate protests are often conflated with extremism (Song 2012, 147; Lynch  
8  
9 2013, 249). Parents are influential in depoliticising Muslim youth to protect them from  
10  
11 state targeting, as Ali discusses:  
12  
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14  
15  
16 ...as I was telling you before about the beard – I can't do that...and like my  
17  
18 parents are always saying...don't join Stop the War and these other political  
19  
20 things because they'll take you away...they see that they should protect me  
21  
22 because I'm only young and they see what's going on and I'm thinking yeah I  
23  
24 shouldn't really get involved and I think that's most of the Muslim community  
25  
26 like they're keeping quiet because they don't want to be locked away.  
27

28  
29 *-23-year-old Pakistani-heritage male, Leeds*  
30  
31

32  
33 Ali's parents intervene to 'protect' him from terrors of state counter-terrorism ('they'll  
34  
35 take you away') emerging from heightened securitisation of young Muslims' identities.  
36  
37 Muslim parents are complicit in reproducing the conditions of being suspect – a position  
38  
39 which Ali internalises, resulting in a depoliticised Muslim subjectivity. The culture of  
40  
41 fear permeating Muslim families and communities inhibits opportunities for young  
42  
43 Muslims' engagement with legitimate political process where they can vent frustrations,  
44  
45 potentially increasing their vulnerability to radicalisation (Kundnani 2009, 6).  
46  
47 Subjection operates here through self-surveillance: 'keeping quiet' *and* deciding not to  
48  
49 grow a beard, further evidencing the significance of the body to suspectification.  
50  
51

52  
53 Having witnessed multiple interviews undertaken by counter-terrorism officers  
54  
55 with Muslim male staff members at her place of work following 7/7, Samrina, a 43-  
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2  
3 year-old British-Pakistani Muslim mother living in Leeds, notices how counter-  
4  
5 terrorism officers align wearing ‘traditional clothes’ with extremism. As a mother of a  
6  
7 devout Muslim male in his twenties whom she describes as having a ‘Muslim beard’  
8  
9 and wears ‘traditional clothing’ whilst at mosque, her observations raise personal  
10  
11 concerns:  
12  
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15  
16 My son, he goes to mosque and he’ll change his clothing – it’s about comfort  
17  
18 because you’re sitting on the floor for a long time listening to sermons or  
19  
20 praying...and it’s like, you need some training – can I offer you some training  
21  
22 because I train on these issues? ...and of course [the officers] don’t want  
23  
24 training – they want to stay in that level of ignorance...some of the assumptions  
25  
26 they make about Muslim, Pakistani families are amazingly inaccurate and  
27  
28 ignorant and I think they get away with far too much because...they don’t want  
29  
30 to improve on it...it’s the power and...control – and *you people* need to fit in  
31  
32 with us and the way that they oppress us through the government and the  
33  
34 media...  
35  
36  
37  
38

39  
40 Samrina locates state counter-terrorism measures within a racialised trajectory of  
41  
42 pathologised Pakistani Muslim families (Alexander 2004) posing a risk to security and  
43  
44 British values to legitimise state intervention. Households are treated as suspect sites  
45  
46 based on racialised ‘assumptions’ transmitted through government and media discourses  
47  
48 rather than wrong-doing which in turn, securitises Muslim families.  
49

50  
51 By violating private/public boundaries, the home raid most clearly exemplifies  
52  
53 how families are securitised by counter-terrorism measures. Samrina narrates how  
54  
55 Hassan, a British-Pakistani Muslim male and father living in Leeds, is charged with  
56  
57  
58  
59

1  
2  
3 intention to commit acts of terrorism after two of his friends undertake a family trip to  
4  
5 Pakistan. On their return, the two men are charged with training for terrorism. Due to  
6  
7 Hassan's friendship with them, he is treated as a terror suspect, leading to his home  
8  
9 being raided and subsequent detainment in the highest security prison, Belmarsh, for  
10  
11 two years before being exonerated:  
12  
13

14  
15 They raided his house and took him...they accused him of...intention to commit  
16  
17 acts of terrorism and they accused the other two for going for training...when  
18  
19 they couldn't make that stick they changed it – because he went for an  
20  
21 appeal...they were using things like personal letters him and his wife had  
22  
23 written to each other before they got married...that they wanted a large number  
24  
25 of children and...they wanted them to be...practising Muslims – they were using  
26  
27 this kind of information to imply...this is your agenda...He was completely  
28  
29 exonerated...but he's had two years of his life taken away...it's damaged that  
30  
31 family in so many ways.  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36

37 Hassan is traumatically removed from his family and subjected to repeated court  
38  
39 appearances meaning children and families are 'retraumatised' (Brittain 2009, 5; also  
40  
41 Ragazzi 2016, 735). Hassan's desire to have a large family of practicing Muslims is  
42  
43 used as evidence of his terrorist ambitions, illustrating how constructions of (Pakistani)  
44  
45 Muslim families as risky are propagated within the criminal justice system. To support  
46  
47 the family, Samrina puts herself within the gaze of counter-terrorism by acting as a  
48  
49 character witness and driving Hassan's wife and children to Belmarsh. Samrina is  
50  
51 interrogated at home by counter-terrorism officers which demonstrates why families  
52  
53 placed under state suspicion may become ostracised within Muslim communities  
54  
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3 through fear of association (Author forthcoming). Devastating impact of home raids  
4  
5 within Muslim communities prompted the Association of Muslim lawyers to produce *A*  
6  
7 *guide to anti-terror raids for Muslim communities* (Nawaz and Warraich 2007) to  
8  
9 prepare families. Homes are subject to a Police Search warrant meaning family  
10  
11 members are denied access to their home and belongings following arrest, bank  
12  
13 accounts are frozen, and transport seized. Wives and children of suspected terrorists  
14  
15 become ‘invisible victims of state protection of the political and civic body’ (Ashencaen  
16  
17 Crabtree 2017, 261) that as Samrina laments, ‘damages’ Muslim families ‘in so many  
18  
19 ways.’  
20  
21  
22  
23

#### 24 **Conclusion: (In)Securitising Muslim families**

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26  
27 The study contributes an important theoretical and empirical gap concerning the  
28  
29 psychic, emotional, ideological and disciplinary effects of state counter-terrorism  
30  
31 measures on Muslim families. It highlights how Muslim families are simultaneously  
32  
33 (in)securitised through increased focus in government and media discourses on  
34  
35 countering extremism within their households, engendering intra-familial tensions. I  
36  
37 contribute the internal suspect body category to address how suspectification is  
38  
39 undertaken by Muslim parents, involving surveilling their children’s religious  
40  
41 performances and instructing young Muslims to adopt a ‘moderate Muslim’  
42  
43 identification in line with state prescriptions. This category is materialised where  
44  
45 Islamic markers such as the beard and jilbab and religious practices are treated as  
46  
47 signifiers of extremism. Parental responses are connected to fears of their children  
48  
49 becoming radicalised or indeed radicalising others, as well as to protect them from state  
50  
51 targeting. By viewing their children’s behaviour that is typical of young people as they  
52  
53 find out who they are and make new friends through the lens of extremism, Muslim  
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3 parents perpetuate conceptions of young Muslims' vulnerability to extremism and as  
4 fundamentally different from their non-Muslim peers. Terrors of counter-terrorism are  
5 networked across state and Muslim relations and are internalised within Muslim  
6 households and retransmitted (Foucault 1977, 27). Effects of being suspect are thus  
7 more pervasive than those under official suspicion and prompt a range of subject  
8 positions to be taken up: suspected, suspector, trusted, which are unstable and relational.  
9  
10  
11  
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15  
16 The study thus also contributes an important political argument of the need to  
17 move beyond state-centric accounts of the suspect community to understand how  
18 counter-terrorism measures pervade Muslim families and communities, not just those  
19 under official suspicion. Racialised framings of Muslim families, particularly Pakistani  
20 families, as seedbeds of extremism transmitted through policy and media discourses,  
21 legitimises state intervention and burdens families with countering extremism within  
22 their households. A shift in the narrative of Muslim households as suspect sites is  
23 required. Further, challenges facing young Muslims to navigate religious expression  
24 with societal demands need to be viewed outside the scope of extremism.  
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35 How the body is read affects practices of suspectification. Participants  
36 highlighted an important re-focusing from moderate/extremist to in/authentic Islam  
37 which posits extremism outside the fold of Islam. Importantly, Islamic principles  
38 cannot be read off the body. External markers do not mean Islamic principles are being  
39 followed nor that Muslims adopting Islamic dress or the beard are extremist. However,  
40 emphasis on sectarian divisions shifts focus from the negative impact of state policies,  
41 both domestic and foreign, as a problem endogenous to Muslim populations that  
42 conceals western influence (Jacoby 2017, 1658) and further subjects Muslims to  
43 delimitations of state governance. Rather, what is required is more acceptance of a  
44 range of Islamic identities that can enable young Muslims to belong in Britain and  
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3 mitigate not only fears of state intrusion, but intra-family tensions that are produced as a  
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5 result. Since the internal suspect body is an unfixed and relational category, young  
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7 Muslims can move from suspect to trusted by opening up communication channels with  
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9 family members to challenge, learn from and ultimately accept their religious identities.  
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### 15 16 17 18 **Disclosure statement**

19  
20 No potential conflict of interest was reported by the author.  
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### 23 24 25 **Notes**

26  
27 <sup>1</sup> Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Helen Ball (2015), stated 60 women have travelled  
28  
29 to Syria to join ISIL, 18 of which are youths.

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31 <sup>2</sup> Revised Prevent Duty guidance (HM Government 2015, 8) states that the Home  
32  
33 Office will ‘continue to identify priority areas for Prevent-related activity.’  
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36 <sup>3</sup> The term ‘niqabi’ refers to Muslim women who wear the niqab (face veil).

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38 <sup>4</sup> Names are anonymised to protect participants’ identities.  
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