



STUDY GUIDE

ISLAMIC TERROR: WHAT MUSLIM AMERICANS CAN DO

KEY TERMS: Muslim terrorism radicalism ideology propaganda

NOTE-TAKING COLUMN: Complete this section <u>during</u> the video. Include definitions and key terms.	CUE COLUMN: Complete this section <u>after</u> the video.
<p>What truth must mainstream Muslims come to terms with?</p> <p>What can be done by government to eliminate the possibility of 'lone-wolf' terrorist attacks?</p> <p>What 'uncomfortable but necessary' conversation must mainstream American Muslims have in terms of funding for supremacist ideology?</p>	<p>What is Mr. Dara arguing for?</p> <p>What is Mr. Dara's strategy for defeating the radicalization of Muslims?</p>

DISCUSSION & REVIEW QUESTIONS:

- At the beginning of the video, Mr. Dara shares with us the reality that, “... I, along with my mainstream Muslim brethren, in America and abroad, must come to terms with an ever more apparent truth: that we are the only ones who can lead a winning fight against the radicalism crippling our faith.” In what ways is radicalism crippling the Muslim faith? Why do you think Mr. Dara feels that American Muslims and other mainstream Muslims must be the ones to lead the fight against radicalism?
- Mr. Dara explains that, “We have the benefit of living in a nation that protects freedom of speech and association, a nation that values the marketplace of ideas, a nation that allows us all to practice our faith, no matter our religion. We have the opportunity to speak out and challenge radicalism in a way others abroad cannot.” What are these ways that American Muslims can speak out that others cannot? What makes it the case that American Muslims can ‘challenge radicalism’ in ways that others cannot?
- When outlining what American Muslims must do to fight radical ideology, Mr. Dara states, “We have to change the way we think about Islamic law and vilify the medieval judicial practices that persist in the Middle East.” In what ways do they need think differently about Islamic law? How do you think vilifying medieval practices will help to defeat extremist ideology?
- Mr. Dara further proposes that American Muslims, “...must have the uncomfortable but necessary conversations about where much of the funding for this cancerous supremacist ideology is coming from—Saudi Arabia.” What do you think makes facing this reality uncomfortable and necessary? What do you think Mr. Dara hopes would come from having such conversations?
- At the end of the video, Mr. Dara warns, “We [American Muslims] carry with us a responsibility to our country, our faith and our children... But the way things are heading, our children may grow up with less opportunity and freedom than we did.” What responsibility does Mr. Dara feel American Muslims have towards their country, faith, and children? What is Mr. Dara referring to when stating that American Muslim children may end up with less opportunity and freedom than his generation has? What opportunity and freedom is Mr. Dara referring to?

EXTEND THE LEARNING:

CASE STUDY: Syed Farook and Tashfeen Malik

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the article “Who were Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik?” then answer the questions that follow.

- Who were Syed Farook and Tashfeen Malik? What did they do? How did their actions damage the Muslim faith?
- What do you think motivated Syed Farook to become radicalized? What do you think could have been done to prevent him from becoming radicalized?
- Who, in Mr. Farook’s life, do you think that Mr. Dara would say had a responsibility to prevent him from becoming radicalized? What responsibility did Syed and Tashfeen have to their own child? What do you think will happen to their child now? Explain.



QUIZ

ISLAMIC TERROR: WHAT MUSLIM AMERICANS CAN DO

1. **Who can lead a winning fight against radical Islam?**
 - a. The United Nations
 - b. The US Army
 - c. Fellow Muslims
 - d. Christians in the Middle East

2. **Which of the following characterized Sayed Farook's background?**
 - a. Poverty
 - b. An inability to integrate into American society
 - c. Lack of opportunity
 - d. None of the above

3. **What can the government do to eliminate the possibility of a radicalized lone wolf?**
 - a. Stricter gun-control laws.
 - b. More Homeland Security employees.
 - c. Detailed background checks of every American Muslim.
 - d. Nothing

4. **American Muslims are under siege by _____.**
 - a. a fringe group of bigoted Americans.
 - b. a fringe group of Muslims abroad.
 - c. a fringe group of Pakistani immigrants.
 - d. They are not under siege.

5. **Anyone that engages in any act of terrorism is doing God's work.**
 - a. True
 - b. False



QUIZ - ANSWER KEY

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Who were Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik?



By [Saeed Ahmed](#), CNN

Updated 7:23 PM ET, Fri December 4, 2015



(CNN)They were a married couple who left their baby with grandma while they carried out the deadliest mass shooting in the United States since the [December 2012 rampage at Sandy Hook](#).

Syed Rizwan Farook, a U.S. citizen, and his wife, [Tashfeen Malik](#), a permanent resident, [massacred 14 people](#) at a holiday party Wednesday at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino, California. [San Bernardino shooting: Who were the victims?](#)

Farook and Malik were later killed in a shootout with police. The attackers' specific motives remain unclear, but here is what we know about them:

They were husband and wife

Farook, 28, and Malik, 29, were married.

He got to know Malik through an online dating service, Farook family attorney Mohammad Abuershaid said. They met face to face when Farook visited Saudi Arabia, where Malik had moved from her native Pakistan around the age of 18 or 20, according to the lawyer.

She later came to the United States on a fiancée visa and became a legal permanent resident.



This image of Syed Rizwan Farook appears on the dating site iMilap.com.

The couple left their 6-month-old girl with Farook's mother Wednesday, saying they had a doctor's appointment.

The grandmother became concerned when she saw reports of the shooting and couldn't reach Farook.

Farook worked for the county

Farook, an American citizen, was an environmental health specialist with the San Bernardino County health department, which was hosting the holiday party at the Inland Regional Center where the attack took place.

He had been there five years. [Records](#) list a man with his name and title who worked at the agency and made \$53,000 in 2013.

He graduated from California State University, San Bernardino, with a degree in environmental health in 2010.

A graduate student ID card from California State University, Fullerton, with Farook's name on it was spotted by CNN on Friday inside his Redlands townhouse. Jeff Cook, a spokesman for that school, said that records indicate a student by that same name had been enrolled in Cal State Fullerton's environmental engineering graduate program.

The university issued a statement Friday saying, "Syed Rizwan Farook attended Cal State Fullerton for one semester in Fall 2014 in the online graduate program in environmental engineering. He is not currently enrolled."

Police haven't pinpointed a motive

Farook was at the party but left abruptly before the shooting. He seemed angry, witnesses told police. He returned. And, along with Malik, he went into the building and began firing, authorities said.

There are no indications his job was in jeopardy, police said. They're also unaware of any criminal history. Farhan Khan, Farook's brother-in-law, told reporters he was at a loss, too.

"I have no idea why he would do something like this. I have absolutely no idea. I am in shock myself," Khan said.

He said the family, like the rest of America, will have to wait for the police investigation for answers. Farook and Malik didn't appear to have left behind a note, a law enforcement official said.

He may have been radicalized

Law enforcement officials told CNN that Farook had been in touch via phone and social media with at least one person whom the FBI suspected of international terrorism. Officials wouldn't elaborate.

It appears Farook was radicalized, which contributed to his motive, though other things -- such as workplace grievances -- may have also played a role, other law enforcement sources said.

The officials said these contacts were not considered high-priority terrorism subjects. And it had been at least a few months since the last known communication, they said.

Neither Farook nor Malik were on any list of potentially radicalized people, and there are no clear ties to overseas terrorist groups as of now, officials said.

Farook's relatives knew him as conservative but didn't think he or his wife were extreme, according to the family's attorneys.

"He was a normal guy," Abuershaid said.

Sources: Malik posted allegiance to ISIS

As the attack was underway, investigators believe Malik expressed allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi in a Facebook post, three U.S. officials familiar with the investigation told CNN.

Malik made the post on an account with a different name, one U.S. official said. The officials did not explain how they knew Malik was behind the message.

A law enforcement official said it appeared ISIS may have inspired the attack, but none of the officials said the terror group directed or ordered the attack.

"This is looking more and more like self-radicalization," one law enforcement official said.

[What we know about Malik](#)

Farook kept a low profile

Those who knew Farook described him as quiet.

"He's a little bit shy, a little bit withdrawn. He doesn't mix with people easily," said Mustafa Kuko, director of the Islamic Center of Riverside where Farook was a regular.

Doyle Miller, Farook's landlord, said he had "no cause for concern" when he rented out a townhouse to him in Redlands.

"He had no red flags whatsoever; everything checked out," Miller said. "He had good credit reports ... everything.

"We screen our people pretty good. It's unbelievable what's going on."

Farook's family knew him as someone who "always kept to himself," as did his wife, according to Abuershaid.

He enjoyed target practice

Farook had a profile set up on iMilap.com, which describes itself as "a site for people with disabilities and second marriage."

The profile said he "enjoys working on vintage and modern cars, reads religious books, enjoys eating out sometimes."

It also said Farook "enjoys traveling and just hanging out in the backyard doing target practice with his younger sister and friends."

He would go to firing ranges by himself, said David S. Chesley, another lawyer for Farook's family.

A representative for iMilap told CNN Farook logged on just twice in 2010 and wasn't active after that. He didn't contact anyone, nor did anyone contact him, the site said.

[Social media mourns, prays after shooting](#)

He was devout in his faith

His father told the New York Daily News that Farook was religious.

"He would go to work, come back, go to pray, come back," [he said](#).

Kuko, the Islamic Center director, said Farook would come to the center for morning and night prayers.

He shares the same name as his brother and father

It's important to note Farook's middle name -- Rizwan. His father also is named Syed Farook, as is his older brother. Like him, they have different middle names.

Farook and Malik 'came prepared' for the attack

The couple was "dressed in dark, kind of tactical gear," San Bernardino police Chief Jarrod Burguan said. They carried rifles and semiautomatic handguns.

Two handguns recovered have been traced to Farook. He purchased them legally three or four years ago, an official said. Two rifles were purchased by someone else, possibly a former roommate, also legally three or four years ago. Officials said they don't think that person had anything to do with the shooting.

"These were people that came prepared," Burguan said. "There had to have been some degree of planning that went into this."

They tried to cover their tracks

Two relatively new cellphones were found smashed and tossed in a garbage can near one of the crime scenes, law enforcement officials said. Officials suspect the phones were damaged to hide call histories. A computer found at the couple's home was missing a hard drive. Investigators have subpoenaed email service providers to retrieve communications.

They had a bomb lab in their townhouse

Inside the garage of the couple's rented townhouse, authorities found 12 pipe bomb-type devices and hundreds of tools, many of which could be used to make improvised explosives. Authorities also found thousands of round of ammunition.

They intended to inflict more damage

A bag believed to belong to the shooters was found inside Inland Regional's conference room. Inside, investigators found three rudimentary explosive devices packed with black powder and rigged to a remote-controlled toy car. The remote for the car was found inside the SUV where Farook and Malik were later killed, a law enforcement official said.

The pair planned to use the remote to detonate the explosives from a distance, the official said. Either it didn't work because of distance or they didn't do it. Officials later rendered the explosive devices safe.

They died in a hail of bullets

After carrying out the attack at Inland Regional, Farook and Malik led police on a chase. Farook fired at officers while Malik drove, officials said. They died in the shootout, which involved 21 officers.

[Complete coverage of the shooting](#)

CNN's Greg Botelho, Jim Sciutto, Pamela Brown, Evan Perez, Joseph Netto, Barbara Starr, Deborah Feyerick, Michael Martinez, Joshua Berlinger, Ashley Fantz, Joshua Gaynor, Jason Hanna, John Newsome, Stella Chan, Nadia Kounang, Steve Almasy, Kyung Lah, Alberto Moya, Catherine E. Shoichet, Andy Rose, Tina Burnside, Dave Alsup, Artemis Mostaghian and David Shortell contributed to this report.