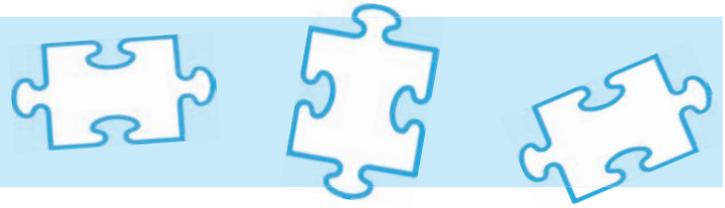


Foreword



In today's world barely a week goes by without us hearing of yet another atrocious terrorist attack. These are uncertain times and, for children, it can be incredibly upsetting for them to see and hear such violence happening both at home and abroad.

Following the devastating Paris attacks in 2015 the NSPCC's Childline service received hundreds of calls from frightened young people who were seeking reassurance and answers. Even now we still hear from children who are petrified about what is going on around them and fear that they or their loved ones could be hurt by terrorists.

Terrorism is a difficult and complex issue but it must be confronted head on. For this to happen children need to be able to talk openly about it and know how to stay safe from anyone who may attempt to radicalise them for dangerous acts.

Teachers are well placed to have these challenging conversations with young people. They can explain what terrorism is and how people are tricked into joining terrorist groups. They can reassure them that there is a lot of goodness in the world, and explain why it is crucial that we celebrate one another's differences and cultures.

If we are to reassure our young people, encourage their tolerance of others, and prevent them from being groomed into acts that could hurt themselves or others, we must talk with them and educate them. This book sets out to help teachers do just that.

The Internet and 24-hour news cycle means that it is impossible to shield children from the reality of terrorist attacks. But, with open conversation and clear explanations, we can help them feel safe and know that the world is still a good place.

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