

News from Info-Cult

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Opinion: Federal anti-radicalization efforts have taken too narrow an approach

[By Herschel Segal](#)

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Day after day, we read or hear about radicalized youth adopting extremist ideology. Events have abundantly proved that our country is not immune to the contagion. The attacks that killed two Canadian soldiers last year made plain our vulnerability.

Those terrorist acts also showed we've been relatively lucky, because neither of the attackers had prepared the means to inflict mass casualties. In that regard, they stood in contrast to the inept would-be bombers of a Via Rail bridge, and the fumbling young Muslim converts in Victoria who dreamed of exploding pressure-cookers on the grounds of the B.C. legislature. If either of those terrorist dreams had come true, Canada would have suffered its own 9/11.

Why, then, has the prevention of radicalization not commanded considerably more discussion at the highest level of our public discourse?

Montreal's centre for the prevention of violent extremism, to open in September, represents an excellent local initiative and points the way for further action. Meanwhile, however, most of the anti-radicalization attention at the federal level, and virtually all the budgeted resources, are instead being spent on law enforcement.

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Education

2016 Annual International ICSA Conference, Dallas, United States, June 30-July 2 (Pre-Conference workshops June 29th).

The [International Cultic Studies Association](#) (ICSA) is conducting its 2016 Annual International Conference with [Info-Secte/Info-Cult](#) of Montreal.

This year's theme is **Recovery from Cults and High-Control Groups**. There will be a track on the conference theme as well as tracks addressing the needs of mental health professionals, former members, researchers, families, and others.

For the Call for Papers click here:

<http://infosect.freeshell.org/infocult/2016CallForPapers.pdf>

For more information: <http://www.icsahome.com/events/conferenceannual>



**International ICSA
Conference 2016
Dallas, Texas**

Opinion: Federal anti-radicalization efforts have taken too narrow an approach

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Why, then, has the prevention of radicalization not commanded considerably more discussion at the highest level of our public discourse?

Strengthening security agencies in the wake of terrorism has traditionally been the reaction of politicians. Such a policy can easily be understood, and no one can dispute its necessity. However, by treating only the endgame, law enforcement chases the horse long after the barn door has been torn off its hinges.

I have served for three decades on the board of InfoCult in Montreal. Since its inception, InfoCult has sought to understand the dynamics behind the radicalized mind. The organization's strategy has been to understand the psychological trajectory of the "true believer," and promote prevention through intervention.

Events are clearly proving that what we need in Canada are substantial resources that target the basis of the extremist appeal. The fight against radicalization requires, on the one hand, a major effort to identify why receptive people are succumbing to the extremist message and, on the other, a focus on working with the families of those people.

Family members are the ones most likely to notice risk situations. As recent events in Quebec prove, a significant part of prevention can come from tipoffs called in by parents and siblings. Not all families, however, are willing to alert the police. We should therefore make it easy for them to communicate with agencies that are not connected to law enforcement.

The Internet is a key battleground. Anti-radicalization programs in social media should be quadrupled in scope — and then quadrupled again. The first challenge is to systematically analyze the tactics being used by the various terrorist groups. The subsequent task is to guide the targeted audience into questioning the propaganda being sent their way. Engage the young in this manner, and at the same time provide trained people with whom they can interact.

At the national level in Canada, we seem to be reacting on the run. This is problematic, because we may be running faster than we should in terms of deciding the best ways to proceed.

In the coming election campaign and debates, we should hope that our federal leaders make known their respective stances. While we read of wannabe jihadists going overseas or being interdicted at airports, we can't know the number of them lurking in our midst. Who can tell how many suggestible teenagers are today reading bomb-making manuals on the Internet, and listening to demented demagogues inciting them to mass murder?

It's time for Stephen Harper, Justin Trudeau and Tom Mulcair to make known their plans to prevent the radicalization of young Canadians.

<http://montrealgazette.com/news/national/opinion-federal-anti-radicalization-efforts-have-taken-too-narrow-an-approach>

The Author



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Herschel Segal is a Montreal businessman and long-standing board member of Info-Cult.

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Education

Info-Cult's Web Site

Different pages on our website are updated on an ongoing basis and a number of documents and programs are available in their entirety. For example:

Governmental Reports

This page <http://infosect.freeshell.org/infocult/ic-gov.html> provides a range of government studies and reports, legal decisions and other documents from 19 countries and the Council of Europe.

Publications and Documents by Info-Cult and Colleagues

Recent additions are available in their entirety at:
<http://infosect.freeshell.org/infocult/ICPubs.html>

Bookmark our site: www.infocult.org and keep up to date

New Acquisitions:

The combined list which includes the library acquisitions since 1999 can be found here: <http://infosect.freeshell.org/infocult/ic-selacq.html>. If you would like to know about the rest of our collection (journals, newsletters, file, videos, etc...) please contact us. Additional information on these acquisitions can be found on our web site at: www.infocult.org See: Info-Cult's **Library Collection and Documentation**.

New Acquisitions, June 2015

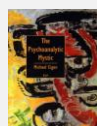
BOOKS



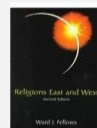
Bretton-Granatoor, Gary
[*A Jewish Response to Cults*](#)
 UAHC Press
 C1997, New York



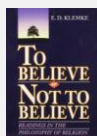
Derocher, Lorraine
[*Intervenir auprès des sectes religieuses en protection de la jeunesse : un défi*](#)
 Presses de l'Université du Québec
 C2015



Eigen, Michael
[*The Psychoanalytic Mystic*](#)
 Free Association Books
 C1998, London



Fellows, Ward J.
[*Religions East and West: Second Edition*](#)
 Harcourt Brace College Publishers
 C1998, Fort Worth



Klemke, E.D.
[*To Believe or Not to Believe: Readings in the Philosophy of Religion*](#)
 Harcourt Brace Jovanovich
 C1992, Orlando



Lafargue, Daniel
[*Zoom back camera: La face cachée de l'ennéagramme*](#)
 Éditions book-e-book
 C2014, Sophia Antipolis



Lecombat, François
[*L'audace d'être laïque: Une vie de lutte contre la scientologie*](#)
 Publibook
 C2014, Paris

BOOKLETS

CCMM
[*Exit Counseling : « Le conseil en sortie d'emprise mentale », rencontre franco-américaine du 29 juin 2013 à Bordeaux*](#)
 Belle page
 C2014



CCMM
[*Manifeste pour une législation efficace de protection des victimes d'emprise mentale*](#)
 Belle page
 C2014

GUIDES



CIC
[*D'Église en Ashram : Cartographie de la diversité religieuse à Genève*](#)
 Altar Roto Presse
 C2014, Genève

ACTS

FECRIS

[Actes du Colloque Européen : Sectes et le faux débat des droits de l'homme, 20^é anniversaire de la FECRIS](#)

Organisé par la FECRIS et AVISO
C2014

FECRIS

[Acts of the European Conference: Cults and the False Debate on Human Rights, 20th Anniversary of FECRIS](#)

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C2014

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Info-Cult's **free email service** offers subscribers: articles on cults, new religious movements and related subjects, announcements of upcoming conferences, television programs and updates about Info-Cult. For more information about this service:

http://infosect.freeshell.org/infocult/Options_EN.html



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Online at:



<https://www.canadahelps.org/services/wa/dnm/en/#/page/16231>

Or by:

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<http://www.youtube.com/user/infosecte>