

# PARTNERING IN PRACTICE: PREVENTING SOCIAL POLARIZATIONS

*Participant*

*Workbook*



## PARTNERING IN PRACTICE : PREVENTING SOCIAL POLARIZATIONS

### PARTICIPANT WORKBOOK

November 2018

A workbook produced by the Canadian Practitioners Network for the Prevention of Radicalization and Extremist Violence (CPN-PREV).

This publication was funded by Public Safety Canada's Community Resilience Fund (CRF). It is a workbook that was conceived to be used as a guide for the youth participants of the Partnering in Practice: Preventing Social Polarizations conference that will be held from November 30<sup>th</sup> to December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 at the Lister Conference Center of the University of Alberta (UofA) in Edmonton, Alberta.

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Keywords: radicalization, PVE/CVE, social polarizations, workbook, guide, youth

#### Acknowledgment

The authors would like to express their gratitude to Dr. Heather Lawford, psychology teacher at the Bishop University and co-director of the Center of Excellence for Youth Engagement (CEYE) of the Students Commission of Canada, as well as the Sherpa/RAPS team of the Integrated Health and Social Services University Network for West-Central Montreal (CIUSSS West-Central Montreal) for their contributions.

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# **WORKBOOK**

## **Mind the Gap! Youth and Practitioners Summit**

### **How to use this workbook**

This workbook includes a set of activities that will help you integrate and organise the information that you will gather during these 4 days.

It will provide a support to consolidate the main ideas emerging from the formal events and informal conversations that you will have with researchers, practitioners and other youth.

This workbook is intended as a tool where you can put down your thoughts and complete some exercises in order to develop your personal understanding of the concepts that you will hear before, during and after the presentations and activities.

Finally, we hope that you will take advantage of this tool to share your ideas and suggestions with your colleagues and teammates.

By sharing your voice, you are making a real difference in preventing radicalization and extremist violence!

# Who I am

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**My name/pseudo**

**Where I come from**

**Something about me**

**Pronouns**

Please feel free to personalise your workbook with stickers or coloured notes!

Some materials could be provided

## **Mind the Gap! The importance of opening up the dialogue between youth and practitioners**

Welcome to the Mind the Gap summit ☺

You might ask: what's a practitioner? Good question...and throughout this conference keep asking when words are used that are new to you. And throw a few of your own back at adults. We are sure you have some we need to know. Groups of people who work or play together develop their own code "languages" to speedily communicate ideas; we'll need to work together to decode these as we talk. Don't be intimidated; we all have our unique languages.

Use Google all you like and feel free to compare/discuss what you found with others:

Dictionary

**prac·ti·tion·er**  
/prak'tiSH(ə)nər/ 🔊

*noun*

a person actively engaged in an art, discipline, or profession, especially medicine.  
"patients are treated by skilled practitioners"

Our summit is based on a desire to shift how adults conceptualize the practitioner–youth relationship. Instead of seeing youth as future adults, it is time for adults to value your contribution as active members of society for who you are now rather than based on who you will become (Lawford & Ramey, 2017). Adults here would like to support you in making your voices heard and recognizing your partnership as transforming citizenship and society.

Our way of doing this is by connecting you with practitioners around a horizontal partnership where your and practitioners' views around social polarizations and violent radicalization, are heard with respect and without judgment. In doing so, we want to open up the dialogue and bridge the existing gap, increase respect for multiple voices & places, reflect on trust & power relations and create common solutions.

This workbook is yours to work/play through creatively!

We hope this journey with us will be transformative in beautiful ways for you.

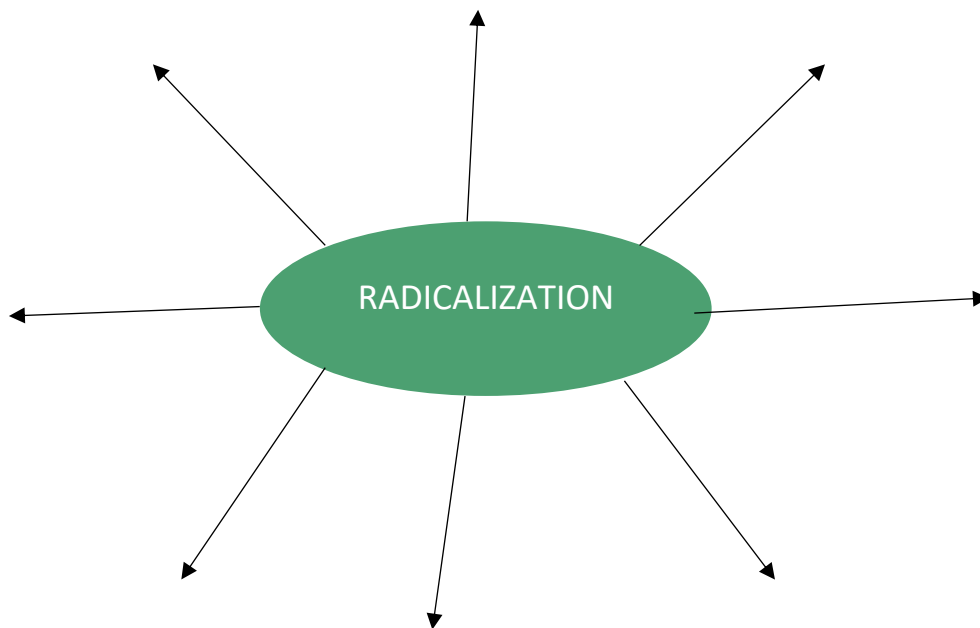
Chayda and the CPN-PREV team

## **DAY 0**

Before attending the event, please complete the following exercises:

# What comes to your mind when you think of radicalization?

Use this page to brainstorm about radicalization!



# Self-reflection exercise

a) Indicate where you stand in relation to each statement:

<b>I have a good knowledge of the phenomenon of violent radicalization</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Disagree</b>
<b>Thinking about violent radicalization makes me feel uncomfortable</b>	Agree	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Disagree
<b>I have already been exposed to the consequences of violent radicalization</b>	Agree	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Disagree
<b>Violent radicalization is a threat in Canada</b>	Agree	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Disagree
<b>Young people can actively help prevent violent radicalization within their communities</b>	Agree	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Disagree
<b>Radicalized people are also terrorists</b>	Agree	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Disagree
<b>Violent radicalized individuals are suffering from social exclusion</b>	Agree	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Disagree
<b>Social media focuses more on violent radicalization than on other forms of violence</b>	Agree	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Disagree
<b>Talking about violent radicalization can make people more likely to radicalize</b>	Agree	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Disagree
<b>Having certain religious backgrounds increases the chances to become radicalized</b>	Agree	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Disagree

b) Explain and discuss your answers in group with your facilitator.

## DAY 1

# Conference journal

Indicate what, in your opinion, are the takeaways of the day regarding the following areas.

**Learning/  
Gaining Knowledge**



**Experiencing  
feelings and emotions**



**Putting the information  
learned into practice**

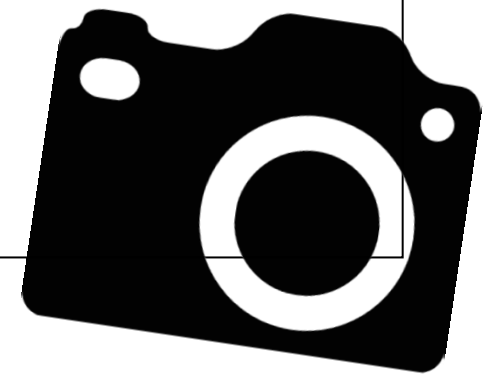


**Creating a sense of  
connection**



## The picture I would take

- a) If you had to use an image to summarize the main lessons learned today, what would you chose? You can illustrate your thoughts with a drawing or by describing the picture that you would take.



- b) Explain and discuss your answers in group with your facilitator.

## DAY 2

# Conference journal

Indicate what are the takeaways of the day regarding the following areas.

**Learning/  
Gaining Knowledge**



**Experiencing  
feelings and emotions**



**Putting the information  
learned into practice**

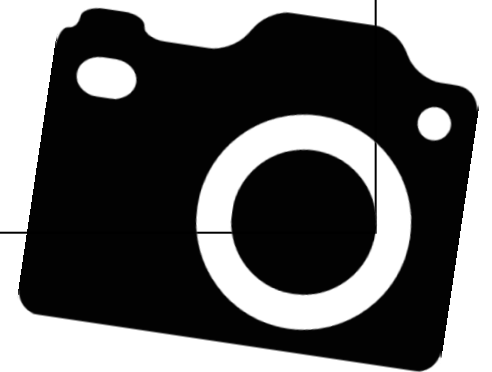


**Creating a sense of  
connection**



## The picture I would take

- a) If you had to use an image to summarize the main lessons learned today, what would you chose? You can illustrate your thoughts with a drawing or by describing the picture that you would take.



- b) Explain and discuss your answers in group with your facilitator.

After attending the conference please complete the following exercises:

# Terms and definitions

a) Read the following definitions and add your comments in the blank space:

Concept	Definition	My comments
<b>Polarization</b>	Division into sharply contrasting groups or sets of opinions or beliefs.	
<b>Social polarization</b>	Differences between groups are accentuated around various breaking points: ethnic, linguistic, religious, ideological, etc.	
<b>Radicalization</b>	A dynamic process that emerges from the inter-community frictions, competitions and opposing political, social and economic interests of groups, and where normal practices of dialogue, compromise and tolerance are gradually being abandoned in favor of increased engagement in confrontational tactics. (Schmid, 2013)	
<b>Violent radicalization</b>	The process by which an individual or group (or a State) adopts a system of beliefs (e.g. philosophical, religious, political, economic, ideological), including the willingness to resort to, support or facilitate the use of violence to bring about changes in society. (CPN-PREV/RAPS)	
<b>Extremism</b>	A multifaceted phenomenon that involves radical beliefs and ideologies, often associated with conspiracy theories and "us vs them rhetoric". (CPN-PREV)	
<b>Violent extremism</b>	A multifaceted phenomenon that involves radical beliefs and ideologies, often associated with conspiracy theories and "us vs them rhetoric" to further hate, xenophobia and associated violence. (CPN-PREV/RAPS)	
<b>Terrorism</b>	"Terrorist attacks are often carefully choreographed to attract the attention of the electronic media and the international press. [...] Terrorism is aimed at people watching, not at the actual victims. Terrorism is theater". (Jenkins, 1975)	

- b) Add any relevant concept or definition regarding the topic of radicalization, violent radicalization and extremist violence that you have learned during the conference:

Concept	Definition

- c) When you think about these terms, what characters, situations, or events come to your mind?  
Please cite at least 2 examples.

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3. \_\_\_\_\_

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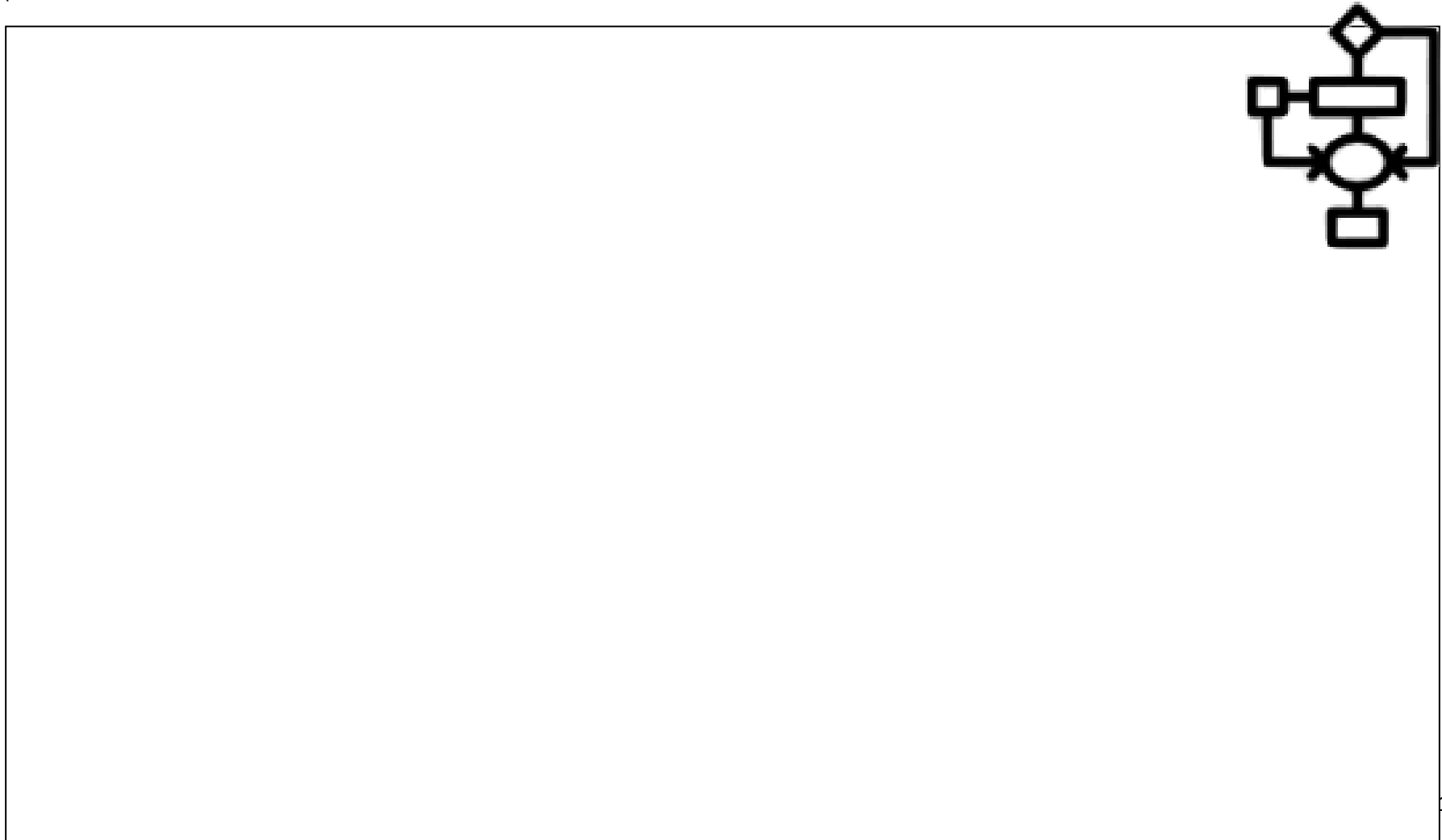
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# My radicalization diagram

Draw a diagram illustrating the connections between the concepts defined above. You can use symbols, images, keywords or any element that helps to understand how each term is related to the others and what is their impact on the social space:

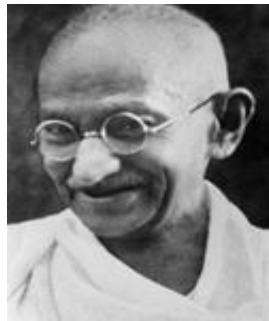


# Stories of Radicalization

Look at the following images, read the descriptions, get to know these people and try to complete by adding missing pictures and your own examples:



**Martin Luther King Jr.** was one of the most visible spokesperson for the civil rights movement. He fought racial inequalities through nonviolent resistance.



**Gandhi** was the leader of the Indian independence movement, he led India to independence through nonviolent civil disobedience.



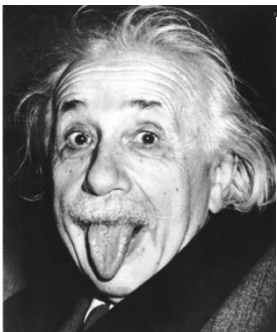
**Aung San Suu Kyi** is the first State Counsellor of Myanmar. She is an activist and human right militant, and she was one of the most prominent political prisoners.



**Nelson Mandela** was a political leader who led the deinstitutionalisation of racism movement through radical reconciliation. He served 27 years of imprisonment for conspiring "against" the state.



**Malala** is a Pakistanis activist who is fighting for females and children education. Her actions led her to be the recipient of a Peace Nobel Prize.



**Einstein** was a German theoretical physicist. His work influenced greatly different areas of science.

## Stories of social polarization



The **No Global movement** is arguing against globalization and capitalism to focus on sustainable development.



The **women's liberation movement** was a political alignment which challenged the social structures that considered women second-class members of society through systematic oppression.

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## Stories of violent radicalization



**Martin Couture-Rouleau** was the perpetrator of a ramming attack in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu inspired by ISIS.



**Alek Minassian** is the protagonist of a vehicle-ramming attack in Toronto in April 2018 that killed 10 people and injured 16.

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## DAY 3

# Circles of wisdom

Think about the process of generating and sharing ideas and fill the circles below:

Something I would  
like to share with a  
professional

Something I would  
like to share with a  
young person

Something I would  
like to share with my  
team

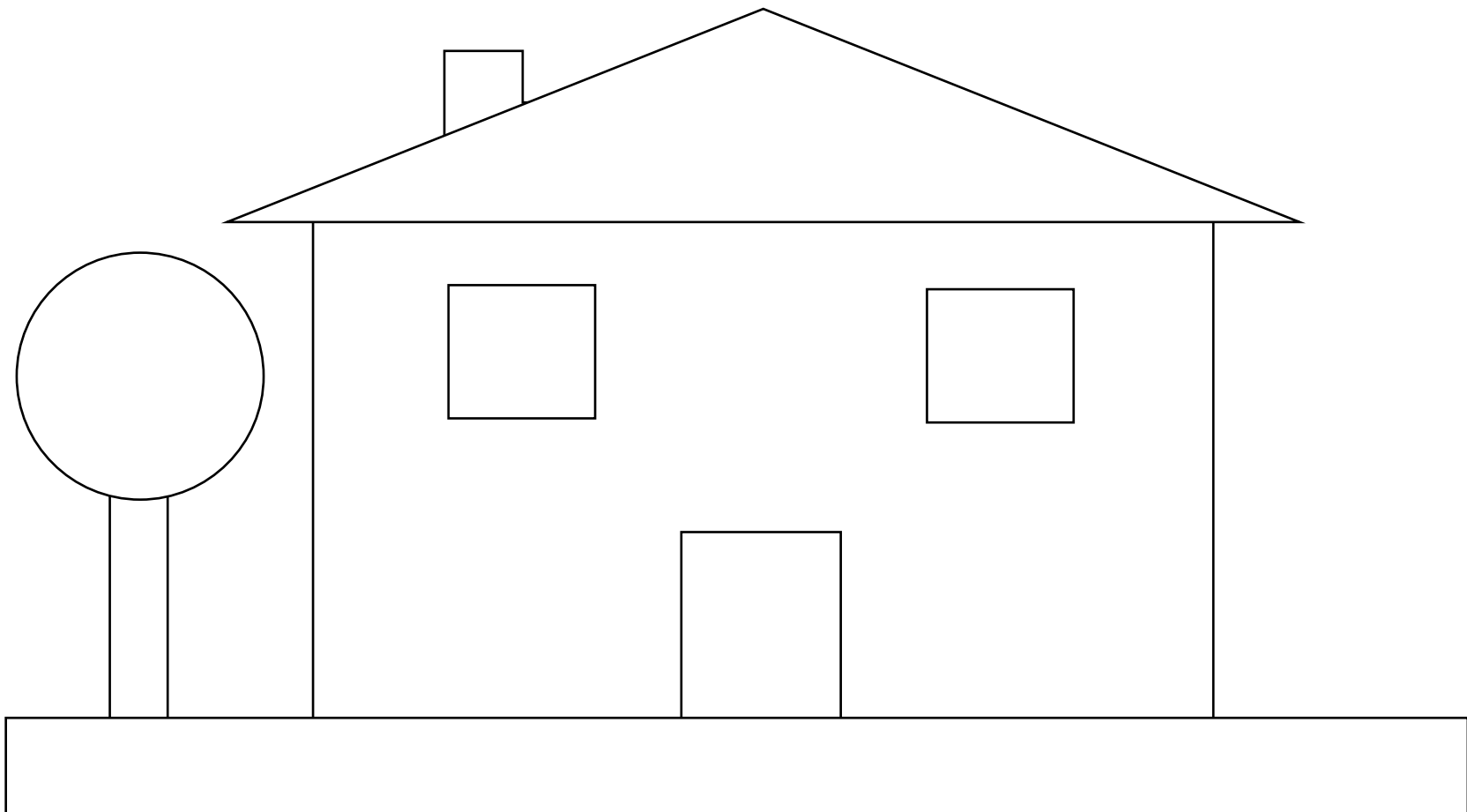
Something I would  
like to share with all  
participants

Something I would  
like to share with my  
community

## DAY 4

### The community house

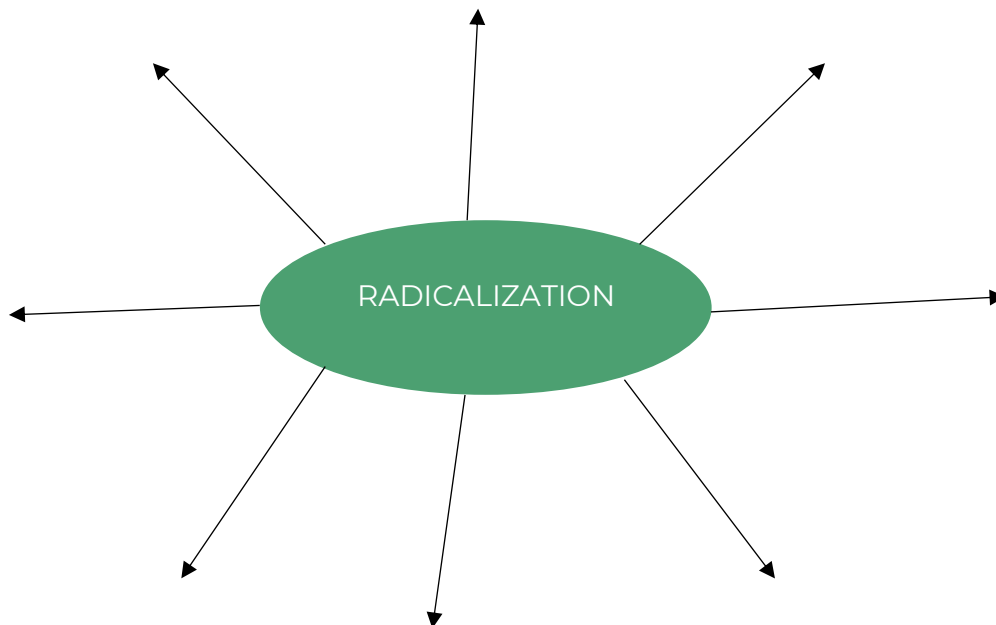
Think about your community as a house. If you had to fill it with the lessons learned and the ideas shared during this event, what elements would you use? Where would you place them in order to create the conditions to prevent violent radicalization? You can add additional shapes and ideas to the drawing.



Now that you know more about this topic, please complete the following exercise:

## What comes to mind when thinking of radicalization?

Use this page to brainstorm about radicalization!



Please feel free to continue use this workbook to note and share your inspiring ideas on how to prevent violent radicalization within your community!

Thanks for your participation 😊

# Reflection Activity!

Please use the following template to tell us more about your thoughts. You may fill it out, cut them out and share them with the rest of your table!

I FEEL THAT...

I Think THAT...

I want to take action ...

...











**Hey!** Did you make any friends at the conference and want to keep in touch?  
 Help yourself to this page to write down your friends' contact information so you  
 can keep in touch after the conference!



*\*Only share information you are comfortable sharing.*

