



Design a Role Play in Four Stages

Key message

This activity has been designed to engage young people in role play exercises to so that they may better understand the factors which may contribute to the radicalisation of an individual and which also contribute to bringing the cycle of radicalisation to an end.

Key words: understanding radicalisation, factors contributing to radicalisation, raising awareness

Summary

The objective of this exercise is for participants to determine how and why a person may become involved in radical activity and crucially, what factors might bring a cycle of radicalisation to an end. By stimulating debate, this role-play exercise can provide a forum for participants to consider the nature of radicalisation, explore grievances, analyse and put forward moral arguments.

Module	Group size	Group age	Duration
• Prevention	• medium • large	• 12 - 15 • 16 - 19 • 20 - 24	• 1 hour

Purpose

- To explore the complex pathways that lead to involvement in radical behaviour
- To promote discussion through role play
- To help the group become more comfortable with role play
- To use this format to clarify misinformation and dispel street myths

Participants

Suitable for use with all groups, non-gender specific.

Description

Step 1:

The facilitator tells the group that they are going to explore four different stages a person might progress through when getting involved in radical type behaviour.

Step 2:

Break the main group into four smaller working groups with each group being given one of the stages to focus on. They are to discuss as a group what might be going through the person's mind at this point and what might be the implications of their behaviour. Each group then designs a role play that captures what they feel the person might be going through and what might be their reality.

Step 3:

The groups then present their role plays starting with the group 'thinking' and ending with the group that focused on 'what next?'

Step 4:

The facilitator initiates a group discussion on the themes emerging and issues presenting through the series of role plays.

Materials needed

Blank pages, Pens or markers

Methodology

Devising and enacting role play scenarios, Large group discussion and debate

Advice for Trainer

In Step 1 when the facilitator introduces the four stages at which an individual may become radicalised, mention the following four scenarios:

1. Thinking of becoming involved
2. Contact with radical group/cause
3. Engagement with radical activity
4. What happens next?

These will be the basis for the role play exercises which the participants design.

Source / Literature

Original material developed for the purpose of the YCARE project.



CC - Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike
<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Design a Role Play in Four Stages. Retrieved %s, from %sThu January 22, 2026 from <https://toolbox.ycare.eu/courses/YCARE197/>

<https://www.ycare.eu>

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein