

Southport Inquiry- Phase 2

'Non-Ideological Extreme Violence'

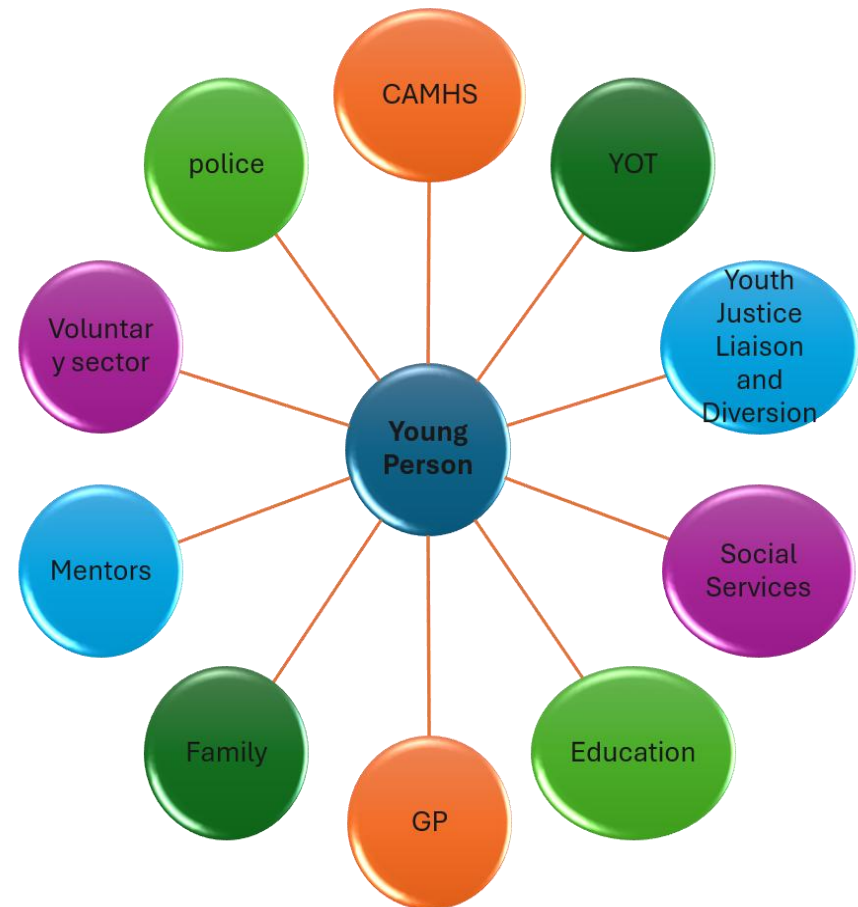
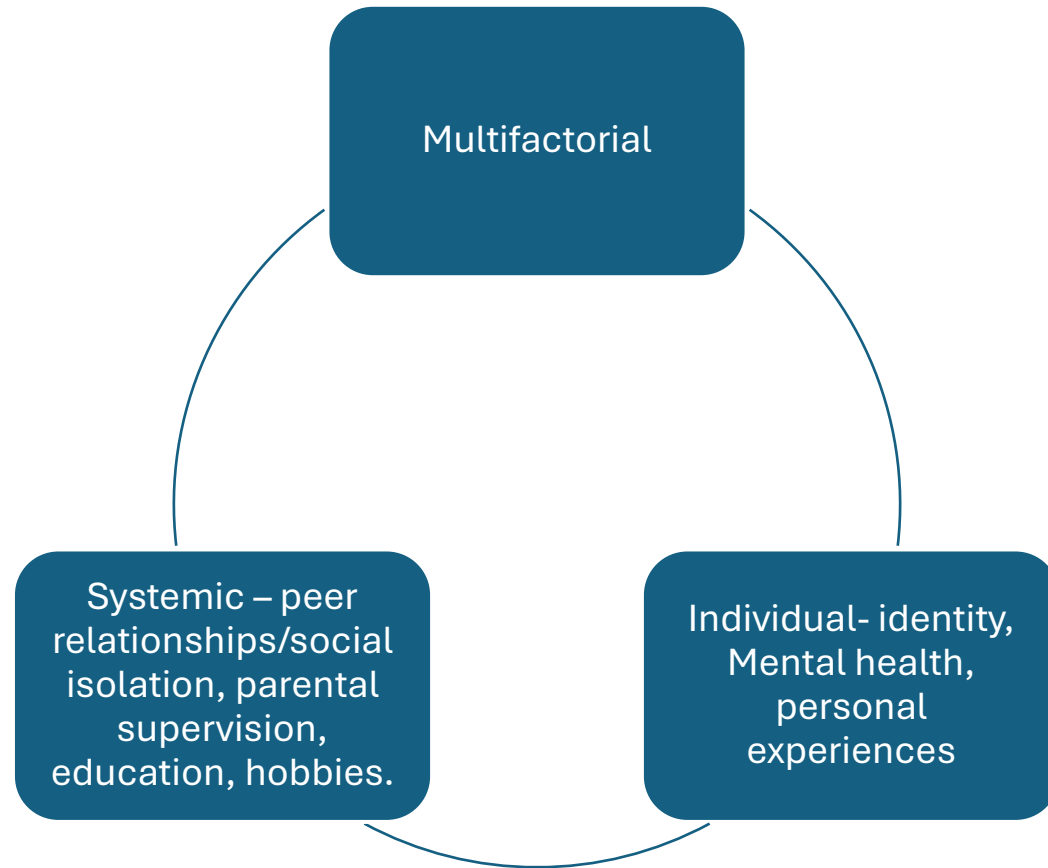
A psychiatric perspective

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How do grievance, unmet need, trauma, developmental vulnerability or social isolation develop into fixation and progress along a pathway towards serious violence in children and young people?



How adequate are current diagnostic, clinical and risk assessment frameworks for NIEV, particularly where a child or young person causes serious concern but does not meet thresholds for mental health diagnosis, statutory intervention or criminal justice action?

- 'Non-Ideological Extreme Violence' (NIEV) is not a clinical diagnosis
- Professor Cassam has explored this further in his presentation

How adequate are current diagnostic, clinical and risk assessment frameworks for identifying NIEV, particularly where a child or young person causes serious concern but does not meet thresholds for mental health diagnosis, statutory intervention or criminal justice action?

Risk assessment being developed internationally include:

- **Assessment of Risk for Extremist Violence in Adolescents (AREVA)**

A structured professional judgment instrument tool that focuses on factors that increase Risk or reduce resilience

- **Terrorist Radicalization Assessment Protocol (TRAP-18)**

A structured professional judgment instrument for those engaged in risk assessment of persons of concern for acts of terrorist violence.

Clinical Assessment aid

- **Harmful Online Use Screening Examination (H.O.U.S.E)**

is an aid to clinical assessment and formulation of individuals who may be vulnerable and at risk of harm to others by dint of their online activities

Borum et al 2026 AREVA Under consultation

It focuses on assessing risk and resilience across 5 domains which include:

- Behaviour
- Mindset
- Social and relational context
- Individual factors
- Maturity of Judgement

Guldimann et al 2020 reviewing TRAP -18 identify

8 Proximal Warning Behaviors:

Pathway, fixation, identification, leakage, last resort, directly communicated threats, security testing, and energy bursts.

10 Distal Characteristics:

Personal grievance/moral outrage, framing by an ideology, failure to affiliate with a group, dependence on a virtual community, thwarted occupational goals, and changes in thinking or emotion, among others.

Structured Professional Judgement tools with adaptations

- SAVRY (Structured Assessment of Violence Risk in Youth), Borum t al, is a validated Structured Professional Judgment tool used to evaluate and manage violence risk in adolescents aged 12 to 18- **currently under review to be updated**
- Can be adapted to include other factors like mental health and used with case vignettes to create different scenarios
- Has 24 risk items and 6 protective factors
- SAPROF- YV (SAPROF-Youth Version) is a structured professional judgment tool used to assess 16 dynamic protective factors
- It evaluates resilience, motivational, relational and external protective factors
- It is used along side the SAVRY

From a forensic child and adolescent perspective, how should agencies distinguish between risks to children and risks posed by children to others, and what interventions may reduce fixation, disrupt escalation and support safer outcomes?

Multiagency approach (Police, Education, social care, Health, voluntary sector)

- structured professional judgment assessment tools
- Identifying a lead agency
- structured forum like MAPPA or MASH

Individual factors

- Gradually-increasing social isolation
- Lack of parental and professional oversight (often manufactured by the individual)
- Ideological transition from victim to warrior (Meloy)
- Neurodiversity/Mental Health

Interventions



Multiagency

- Education/vocation- ensure kept engaged, needs a sense of belonging and achievement
- Parental support – psychoeducation around online risk and monitoring, supervision and parenting (e.g Non Violent Resistance NVR training)
- Treatment of Mental disorder, if present
- External monitoring
- Internet safety

What Next ?

- Definition
- Tools still in development and validation
- Research still outstanding
- Legislation to ensure online safety

Thank You

- Dr Enys Delmage, Consultant in Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry, Ngā Taiohi – National Youth Forensic Unit (New Zealand)
- Dr Nina Champaneri Consultant Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatrist- National Clinical Lead (United Kingdom)

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