

A Practitioner's Response to 'Understanding Radicalisation: Implications for Criminal Justice Practitioners'

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Summary: This is a practitioner's response to 'Understanding radicalisation: Implications for criminal justice practitioners' by Orla Lynch (Irish Probation Journal 2017). That article examined the complexities of defining the processes of radicalisation alongside the challenges for criminal justice professionals in responding to radicalised persons. This response considers the key points highlighted by Lynch and reflects on how we as professionals may begin to better understand and engage with radicalised persons. Further, it engages with some of the possible methods of assessment and intervention highlighted by Lynch and considers how they could be utilised in practice. These include the Returnee 45 model and the Community Policing and Radicalisation model. The importance of community embeddedness and legitimacy and a clear focus on the care of individuals and communities, as part of a response to radicalisation, is also highlighted.

Keywords: Radicalisation, probation, terrorism, de-radicalisation, disengagement, assessment, intervention, care, community engagement.