

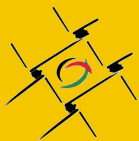


STUDENTS AGAINST
SURVEILLANCE

ANTI-CVE CAMPUS TOOLKIT

IN COLLABORATION WITH

PALESTINIAN
YOUTH
MOVEMENT



حركة
الشباب
الفلسطيني

#VIGILANTLOVE



STOP LAPD SPYING!



OUR MISSION

In collaboration with Palestinian Youth Movement (PYM) and Stop LAPD Spying Coalition (SLAPDS), and Vigilant Love (VL), MSA West has created this toolkit as a resource for California students to understand and identify Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) programming on their campuses and within their communities.

CVE programming is being implemented through universities to impact not only students, but the communities of color that surround our campuses. Our community organizational partners (listed above) initiated a collaborative strategizing and organizing effort by building a coalition to connect various student organizations to communities through various local convenings, educational workshops, and organizing efforts.

MSA West has been working within the statewide California anti-CVE coalition and the national anti-CVE coalition to advocate on behalf of Muslim students in California. This toolkit is an attempt to streamline and condense the research that has been gathered on CVE and surveillance by our close partners. The toolkit is also an effort to demystify and simplify the concept of surveillance and present a more localized approach to understanding the impacts of surveillance on our communities.

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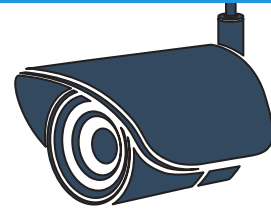
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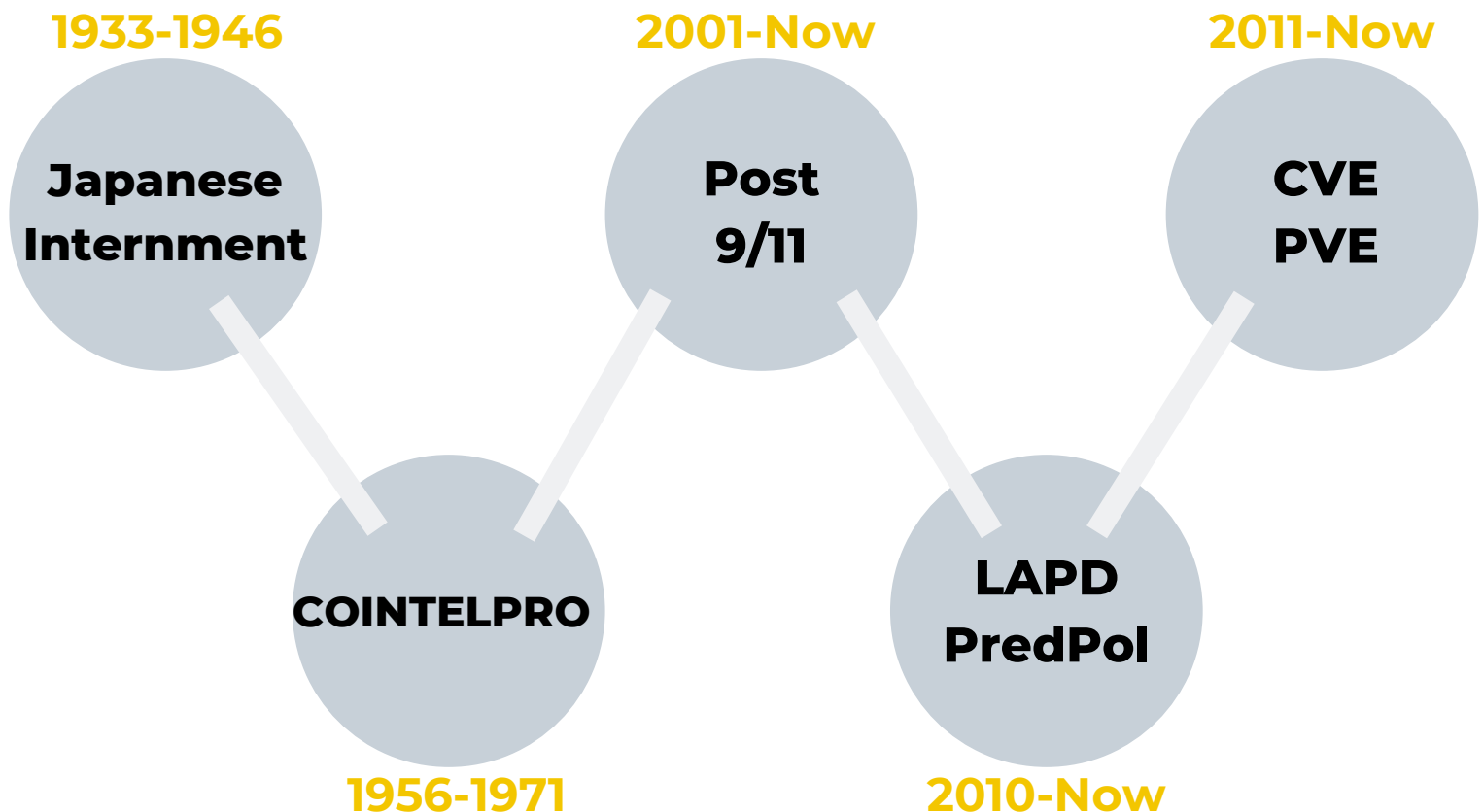


GENERAL OVERVIEW OF SURVEILLANCE

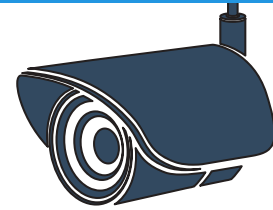
Common Themes: Intersectionality of Surveillance

- **Dismantle** leadership and community trust
- **Scapegoat** tactics and negative media attention
- **Propagate** internal division within community

Surveillance Timeline 1933-Now



GENERAL OVERVIEW OF SURVEILLANCE



Japanese-American Surveillance & Incarceration (1933-1946)

WHAT?

Before and during WWII, the US government heavily surveilled and ultimately incarcerated 120,000 Japanese-Americans in camps.

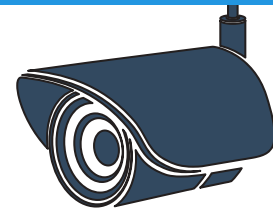
WHO?

Japanese-Americans were seen as **enemies of the state** long before Pearl Harbor. Issei (first generation) immigrants arriving on the West Coast and Hawai'i in the early 20th century were met with vehement, sometimes violent opposition. Anti-Japanese crusaders seeking to drive out “the yellow menace” cast these immigrants as an invasive species infiltrating the country in preparation for “colonization” by Japan. This **“Japanese problem”** was largely framed as a battle for self-preservation: The racial and moral purity of (white) America was under attack by a barbaric horde of “tiny brown men” and their overly fertile wives.

HOW?

For nearly a decade prior to the outbreak of war, various federal agencies had been conducting surveillance in Japanese American communities in anticipation of a possible war with Japan. Despite the swift arrest and detention of all whom prewar surveillance had identified as suspect, calls for stronger measures soon came from West Coast political leaders, who drew upon five decades of anti-Japanese sentiment. Under the advisement of the War Department and the Department of Justice, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt issued **Executive Order 9066**, which rounded up over 120,000 Japanese-American men, women and children. The **internment/incarceration camps** were run by the army and Immigration and Naturalization Service.



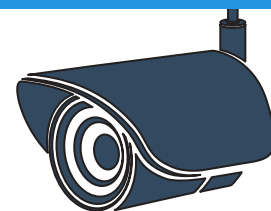


GENERAL OVERVIEW OF SURVEILLANCE

Japanese-American Surveillance & Incarceration (1933-1946)

HOW?

- 1. Infiltration:** The US government utilized shady tactics including frequently resorting to *illegal wiretaps*, opening mail, accessing private bank accounts, and breaking into the offices and residences of suspected spies. They also used *informants* to pass on information about potential “suspects”.
- 2. Targeting Leadership:** The *FBI* and *ONI* (Office of Naval Intelligence) created blacklists that were ultimately used by the government to begin rounding up what were now “enemy aliens” within hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Investigators were “generous with the title of suspect,” flagging individuals for “merely making a speech in favor of Japan,” heading a dojo, or subscribing to “nationalist” magazines. Men who held prominent positions within the community—Japanese language school instructors, Shinto priests, leaders of *kenjinkai* or other cultural associations—also attracted the suspicion of federal agents.
- 3. Psychological warfare:** The *Japanese American Citizens League* (*JACL*) believed that assimilation and a hearty showing of American patriotism was the best way to combat discrimination. As it became increasingly clear that war with Japan was merely a matter of time, a segment of *JACL* leadership “responded with a patriotic zeal” and took it upon themselves “to judge and evaluate the loyalty of members of the Japanese community.” Viewing it as their contribution to the war effort, they passed on the names of community members suspected of subversion, and aided federal authorities with intelligence gathering.



GENERAL OVERVIEW OF SURVEILLANCE

COINTELPRO- COunter INTELligence PROgram (1956-1971)

WHAT?

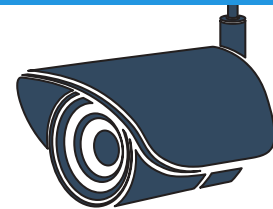
COINTELPRO is a program established by the FBI to **discredit** and **neutralize** any activity that is seen as a “threat” to national security and political stability of the U.S. In reality, the FBI used this as a tactic to criminalize and derail social and civil-rights movements.

WHO?

COINTELPRO was first created to target communism in the U.S. and USSR espionage. However, later on the FBI used this tool to surveil civil rights and social groups, such as the **Black Panther Party (BPP)**, the **Puerto Rican Independence Party** (Independistas), **Southern Christian Leadership Conference**, the **American Indian Movement**, and the **Anti-Vietnam War movement**.

HOW?

With the shift from focusing on espionage to civil rights groups, the surveillance emphasis became more **racial** than political. The FBI implemented diverse tactics to dismantle these movements. The FBI directed its operatives to “misdirect, discredit, disrupt and otherwise neutralize” groups and their leaders. The FBI carried these operations in collaboration with the **CIA**, **NSA** (National Security Agency), and the **Department of Defense**. [Although the courts tried to protect the rights of private citizens from surveillance, Franklin D. Roosevelt and following presidents have used “executive power” to give the FBI the authority to spy on groups and individuals under the guise of “subversion” or national security.](#)



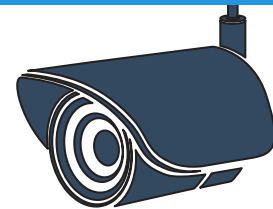
GENERAL OVERVIEW OF SURVEILLANCE

COINTELPRO- COunter INTELLigence PROgram (1956-1971)

HOW?

1. **Infiltration:** physical infiltration through spies, wiretapping, and *black bag* operations (covert entry into groups to secretly obtain information).
2. **Targeting Leadership:** The FBI targeted the leadership through methods of active surveillance, public humiliation, false charges, and even neutralization (assassination).
3. **Psychological warfare:** through infiltration and false media propaganda, the FBI created a state of paranoia among members of those affected groups, which stretched to a large scale fear in communities. For example, the negative portrayal of the BPP leadership created mistrust among Black Panthers and the larger Black community.





GENERAL OVERVIEW OF SURVEILLANCE

Post 9/11- Cyclical Surveillance

WHAT?

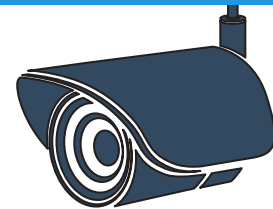
- In this period, the focus of state-sanctioned surveillance became **International Terrorism (IT)**, also known as the **“war on terror”**
- Gov agencies like the FBI systemically tied Islamic ideology to IT
- Mainstream media further promoted this association with negative and false propaganda
- Justified for more invasions on privacy of Muslim communities and upheld unjust and Islamophobic policies

WHO?

- The **main targets** of this mode of surveillance have been **Muslim** communities across the U.S.
- Targets included Muslim non-profits, community groups, mosques, neighborhoods with high concentrations of Muslims, and any Palestine-related organization.
- Under this focus on IT, the Muslim has become the **“new terrorist”**

HOW?

- Dramatic shift from disguised tactics to structures that are **actively** and **intentionally spying** on communities, particularly Muslim ones (e.g. Department of Homeland Security).
- This method of surveillance is unique in that it was **cyclical** in nature, meaning that governmental agencies and mass media were reinforcing each other’s anti-Muslim framing to feed into the cycle of surveillance and criminalization of Muslims.
 - [E.g. terrorist attacks by so-called “Muslim extremists” receive 357% more media attention than non-Muslim ones.](#)



GENERAL OVERVIEW OF SURVEILLANCE

Post 9/11- Cyclical Surveillance

HOW?

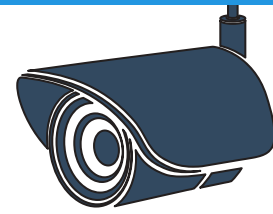
1. **Systemic infiltration:** Creation of structures like the DHS, ICE, Guantanamo Bay, and FISA courts
2. **Targeting Leadership:** Targeting the Muslim leaders in mosques, community organizations, and foundations.
3. **Psychological warfare:** creating community paranoia and distrust in leadership.

WHY?

- Linking terrorism to Middle Eastern and majority-Muslim countries to justify **imperialistic projects** abroad.
- To **monitor** and **disempower** Muslim communities by keeping them under a constant state of surveillance and paranoia.



GENERAL OVERVIEW OF SURVEILLANCE



LAPD Spying and Predictive Policing (PredPol) Programs

WHAT?

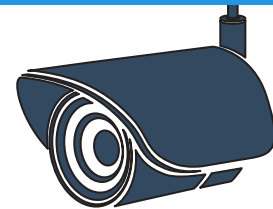
- PredPol is a program that was founded by **Jeff Brantingham**, which utilizes crime databases to "predict" crime.
- This program is deeply flawed because of its inherently **racialized structure**.
- PredPol is not efficient and further criminalizes Black and brown communities
- **Broken window policing** is a criminology theory that was initiated in the 80s and 90s to criminalize minimal crimes to "prevent bigger crimes." In reality, this strategy was used to justify the criminalization of communities of color.
- Predictive modeling is based on stereotypes which often lead to **erroneous** information. The PredPol model assumes that cultural factors are "noise" and that human behavior can be operationalized to predict crime. However, this algorithm **oversimplifies** the complex human behavior and reduces it to numbers.
- Surveillance programs rest on the "**Radicalization Theory**."
 - Junk science theory, which suggests that early 'signs' of radicalization can be identified through 'indicators.' The theory purports the idea that such 'signs' inevitably lead to 'extremist violence,' justifying the intervention of law enforcement

WHO?

- PredPol programs targets predominantly **Black and brown communities** in Los Angeles and was later expanded to other communities around the U.S. and the world

HOW?

- [‘LAPD uses a location-based predictive policing technology created by PredPol Inc. PredPol is based on a **statistically driven model** used to predict “clusters of earth quake aftershocks.’](#)

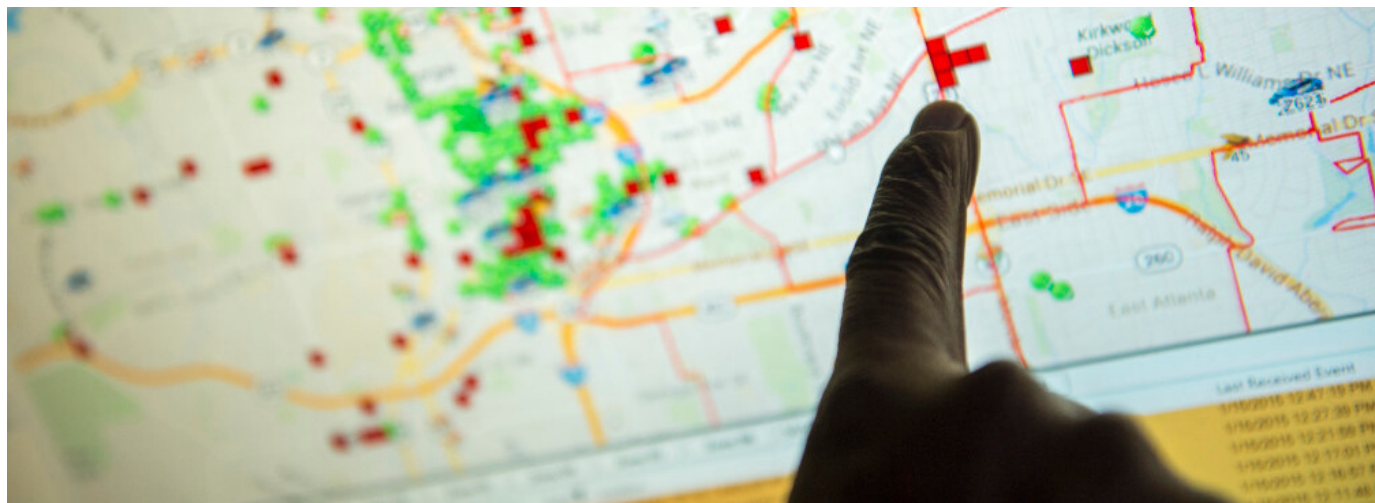


GENERAL OVERVIEW OF SURVEILLANCE

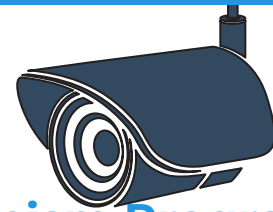
LAPD Spying and Predictive Policing (PredPol) Programs

HOW?

- **Predpol** predicts crime patterns throughout Los Angeles using the time and location of historic crime data.
- Time and location data points are fed into an equation that evaluates a year's worth of crime data.
- The output is a list of blocks with an **assigned probabilities of crime**, which creates a priority list for police to patrol.
- Predictive policing thus, **enables the criminalization** of spaces in Los Angeles, particularly **communities of color**.
- *More information* on how the PredPol program works can be found in the Resources page below.



GENERAL OVERVIEW OF SURVEILLANCE

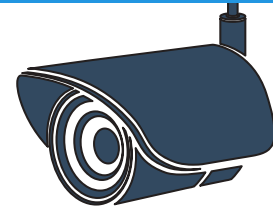


The Countering/Preventing Violent Extremism Programs: 2011-Present

WHAT?

- **CVE- Countering Violent Extremism**
 - The program was officially launched under the **Obama Administration** in 2011 as part of a strategy to address "radicalization" in American communities
 - Evolution from **external** (federal agents) to **internal** (nonprofits and groups) community policing.
 - More malevolent than sending an agent. The DHS is essentially gaining the information they need more accurately from the communities and without being directly involved and exposed.
 - Based in similar framework as **Black Identity Extremism (BIE)** programs, which were created by the FBI (2017) to silence groups like the Black Lives Matter movement by linking them to "extremism." *More info* in the Resources page.
- **PVE-Preventing Violent Extremism**
 - A program that uses risk-assessment tools to document and classify youth in **K-12** setting to "prevent radicalization"
 - Using anti-Muslim indicators such as "being an immigrant" or "living in poverty" to document students as "potential radicals"
 - These programs are baselessly targeting Muslim, immigrant and other communities of color as though they are inherently prone to "terrorism." There is **no empirical evidence** that CVE programs reduce or prevent "violent extremism."
 - The **Stop LAPD Spying Coalition** worked with Union of Teachers LA to reject PVE and CVE in the LA Unified School District. *More info* on Resources page.
- **PVE in California**
 - "**PVE Non-Profit Pilot Grant Program**": PVE is administered by the Calif. Gov's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), and consists of \$625,000 in grants issued to five (5) CA non-profit organizations
 - Evidence shows that California's PVE is linked to federal CVE programs designed and implemented by DHS and FBI.

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF SURVEILLANCE



The Countering/Preventing Violent Extremism Programs: 2011-Present

WHO?

- CVE is directly and explicitly targeting Muslim communities
- In almost every statement by the White House, CVE is referred to in relation to ISIS, Al-Qaeda, and Taliban, reinforcing the **false and stereotypical image** of the brown, Muslim terrorist.
- Muslims are inherent suspects in the program
- Targeting **financially vulnerable** organizations and groups serving **Muslim** and or **migrant populations of color**
- In PVE the main target are youth of color in **k-12** institutions

HOW?

- This program is supposed to be **cost-effective**, **less direct**, and **more intelligent** in tracking and countering *"terrorist tendencies."*
- DHS has given the seat to community organizations and groups to monitor their own community members.
- PVE programs rely on racist and **Islamophobic categories** similar to those used in **gang injunctions and databases** (e.g. CalGang)
- Relies on heavily biased and Islamophobic guidelines to "detect" terrorism.
- [PVE and CVE programs are often deceptively framed as "public health" and "youth" programs that offer mental health and social services to marginalized communities.](#)
- Such a false framing only attempts to mask CVE and PVE's true objectives: to surveil, profile, and collect intelligence on Muslim, immigrant, and Black and Brown communities.



WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?



General Impact of CVE Programming

- **Manipulative programming** used to racially target communities
- This is seen as a national threat to our Muslim communities and allying communities of color
- This can directly impact the **wellbeing and safety of Muslim students** and their communities
- Muslim students and youth are one of the main targets of the program
- This can **hinder advocacy and activism** on campus as it increases paranoia among students
- This program **disrupts leadership** and **sows community distrust** among Muslims across the U.S.



WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?



Direct Measured Impacts

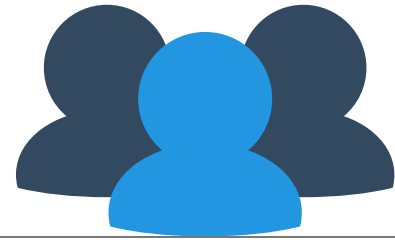
- **On-campus Surveillance**
 - A DHS informant with direct connections to FBI secured a role as an MSA advisor at a California university and played the part for several months before it was revealed who he was (this took place in 2017)
- **DHS/Police Surveillance**
 - CVE contracts often stipulate that police/ or DHS must be incorporated into programming and this results in 1) more police/ intel on campus as well as 2) more police/ intel in community under the guise of community organizing.*
 - Some universities have thus partnered with law enforcement in various capacities
 - *University of San Diego*
 - Directly built a coalition between USD, SDPD, and a few other orgs to bring law enforcement into religious spaces throughout San Diego
 - *University of Southern California*
 - Worked with UCLA professor Jeff Brantingham on developing predictive policing technologies,
- **Deportations**
 - [There are a large number of East African and Arab Muslim refugees who have been deported through CVE frameworks, the list is insurmountable however.](#)
 - There are direct links that have been found between CVE work domestically/ transnationally and deportations

*Zahzah, Yazan "Warcare Economies: Countering Violent Extremism in San Diego" Master's thesis, San Diego State University, 2020.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

National CVE Programming

University Affiliations



Tuesday, November 14, 2017
All Day Program

Town & Gown
USC Campus
665 Exposition Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA

For more information on the summit, please visit www.uscsummitonextremism.com

The USC Sol Price School of Public Policy will host an intensive one-day summit convening counter-terrorism experts, local and international city stakeholders, nonprofit leaders, and others to discuss public safety and how to detect and deter race, religion, and ideological motivations of homegrown radicalization and extremist recruitment.

Program attendees will explore methods for implementing successful community-led extremism prevention efforts, expanding risk mitigation strategies, and developing a policy brief highlighting joint solutions and opportunities to influence global policy.

Please visit the Summit website to register to attend and learn more about the featured speakers and further event details.



Thank you to our sponsors



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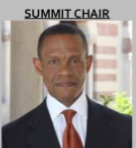
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Constance L. Rice
Founding Co-Director of the Advancement Project;
Board Chair of the Urban Peace Institute



Sasha Havlicek
CEO
Institute for Strategic Dialogue



Dr. Erroll Southern
Summit Chair
Director, USC Price Safe Communities Institute
Director, USC Price Homegrown Violent Extremism Studies Program

DHS CVE Grant Applications (Awarded)

Alameda County Sheriff's Office (\$500,000)	Hennepin County Sheriff's Office (\$500,000)
America Abroad Media (\$647,546)	Heartland Democracy Center (\$423,340)
City of Arlington, Texas Police Department (\$47,497)	Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (\$500,000)
Crisis Intervention of Houston, Inc. (\$500,000)	Nashville International Center for Empowerment (\$445,110)
City of Los Angeles, Mayor's Office of Public Safety (\$500,000)	National Consortium for Advanced Policing (\$200,000)
City of Houston, Mayor's Office of Public Safety & Homeland Security (\$500,000)	Peace Catalyst International, Inc. (\$144,000)
Denver Police Department (\$481,313)	Police Foundation (\$499,835)
Dearborn, City of (Inc.) Police Department (\$51,521)	National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (\$500,000)
Masjid Muhammad, Inc. (\$531,194)	Tuesday's Children (\$847,002)
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (\$500,000)	Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (\$300,000)
Global Peace Foundation (\$453,497)	Rochester Institute of Technology (\$145,000)
Green Light Project (\$298,760)	Seattle Police Department (\$409,389.85)
Illinois National Justice Information Authority (\$396,083)	University of San Diego (\$970,542)



California CVE: on Campus

Through our community-campus coalition efforts, we hope to utilize the information in this report to identify potential targets, strategize collaboratively and develop a campaign to push CVE out of our schools. The convenings through which this report was compiled were part of a larger coalitional effort for us to build relationships between different student and community grassroots organizations, and to connect campus and community organizing in the long-term, beyond this campaign. As these campus CVE programs are impacting both students and community, it is imperative that we strategize and organize together!

- [Read the Condensed CVE Campus Report here](#)

WHAT CAN YOU DO?



Step 1 : Identifying CVE

RESEARCH TOOLS AND TIPS

- Type in your school name and:
 - “Countering violent extremism”
 - “Confronting extremism”
 - “Countering Extremism”
- **Indicators of CVE programming**
 - Language and trigger words:
 - Violent Extremism
 - Counterterrorism Prevention & intervention
 - Radicalization
 - Predictive policing
 - Confronting Extremism
 - Terrorist recruitment
 - Counterterrorism intelligence
 - Hate & Extremism
 - Incitement
 - Interdiction
 - Resilience or building resilience
- **CVE can take any shape on campus:**
 - **E.g. course on CVE, a conference, a school event, grants for student organizations to host events on combating “extremism”**





WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Step 1 : Identifying CVE

FILE A PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

- Under the **California Public Records Act (CPRA)** you can file a PRA request to find information on public institutions and their affiliation with CVE/DHS programming

TIPS FOR FILING CAMPUS PRAS

- [Read the PRA Guide here](#)
- If you find information about a CVE program on your campus, please contact scapscoalition@gmail.com to add the information to the Campus CVE Report,

Step 2: Organize and Get Involved!

GET INVOLVED IN LOCAL WORK

- **Join the work of the statewide anti-CVE coalition**
 - This coalition is comprised of various community and student organizations committed to putting a stop to the implementation of CVE programs through university and college campuses. We have compiled research and hosted a few student convenings in Los Angeles and Orange County to gather students, professors, and community organizations to strategize together towards a campaign dedicated to stopping CVE on campus.
 - If you are a student, community member, or part of a community org and want to join the coalition/organize with us, please contact scapscoalition@gmail.com.
 - Stay tuned for webinars that will cover the CVE campus research and the current state of CVE in California.
- **ISA Cohort**
 - Join MSA West's Islamic Sacred Activism Cohort to learn more about surveillance and how to advocate against it.
 - *More information* is linked in the Resources page below

RESOURCES

[Stop LAPD Spying Coalition PredPol Report Summary](#)

[Stop LAPD Spying - Dismantling Predictive Policing in Los Angeles Full Report](#)

[Condensed Academia / Campus CVE Report](#)

[Project South - Islamophobia & U.S. Surveillance Policy: A Brief Summary](#)

[UTLA PVE Opposition Letter](#)

[#NoPVEinCA Letter to the Governor](#)

[Asian Americans Advancing Justice-LA #NoPVEinCA One-Pager](#)

[Intersectionality of Surveillance - Black Identity Extremism and Countering Violent Extremism Programs](#)

[Brennan Center - CVE: A Resource Page](#)

[Fatema Ahmad, Muslim Justice League - "Why "Countering Violent Extremism" Programs Won't Stop White Supremacists"](#)

[Stop LAPD Spying PRA Guide](#)

[Majdal Center - Countering Violent Extremism: Surveillance of San Diego's Muslim Communities](#)

[MSAW Islamic Sacred Activism Cohort](#)



www.msawest.org

For more information contact

MSA West: aid@msawest.org

Students and Communities Against Policing and Surveillance Coalition: scapscoalition@gmail.com