

Courageous Conversations: Preventing Violent Extremism

FREE

Tuesdays, October 24, November 7, and November 14

7-8:15 pm in the UUCSC Sanctuary

Facilitated by Nancy Richman and Barbara (Bina) Holtzman

*While these sessions build upon each other, it is not required to attend all three.
Come to one or the entire series!*

From back-to-back deadly shootings to the disturbing rise of antisemitism, racism, homophobia, and censorship, hate is fueling violence, polarization, and division.



With grant support from the Department of Homeland Security, the URI Media Education Lab developed the **Courageous RI** program to prevent rising violence and extremism in Rhode Island with authentic and respectful conversation.

COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS, one component of Courageous RI, is a media literacy program developed to reduce the hate that leads to violence by building a coalition of empowered people who recognize, analyze, and resist harmful forms of expression and communication.

Thinking critically about what we hear, read, and see is important for people of every background, across the political spectrum. It is an ongoing process of listening, learning, and reflecting that has the power to stop hate in our communities. By participating in the UUCSC Courageous Conversation series, you will access practical tools and support that increase tolerance, problem solving, and appreciation of other points of view.

October 24: Why Media Literacy Matters

What is media literacy and how can it help people to respond to disinformation & hoaxes?

Confront the many forms of disinformation, hoaxes, and propaganda that are part of everyday life. Experience the practical power of strategies for critically analyzing media messages that shape public opinion. Consider the power of media literacy as a civic skill and examine how people of all ages learn to spot disinformation and hoaxes.

November 7: Preventing Violent Extremism

How is violent extremism affecting our society and what can we do about it?

Learn how to analyze media representations of mass shootings and build new knowledge about the growing problem of violent extremism. It's important to take a step back from us-vs-them frameworks that are common in media depictions of violence and to understand the power of small acts of unexpected kindness.

November 14: Falling Down the Rabbit Hole

What can you do to support people in your life who may be moving towards radicalization?

Discover how to intervene and support individuals drawn into networks of disinformation, propaganda, and hate. Learn to identify signs of radicalization and employ questioning and active listening strategies to disrupt the process. Be a guiding light towards a more positive pathway.

Stay Curious, Not Furious!

**Registration required. For questions or to register please email nrichman618@gmail.com.
Include your 1) name, 2) phone number, 3) dates you plan to attend.**