

PRESS RELEASE: 29th June 2015

Claystone Responds to David Cameron's Call for Fightback Against Intolerance

The killing of more than 30 Britons in Tunisia is a chilling reminder of the threat posed by terrorists, both here in the United Kingdom and abroad. Our response must be thoughtful but forthright. The scourge of terrorism has continued to blight our communities for over a decade despite an extensive introduction of a raft of counter-terrorism measures. We must pause and reflect.

A report on radicalisation and extremism, commissioned by Claystone, authored by Professor Arun Kundnani, has highlighted the on-going difficulty in challenging terrorism through the sole prism of religious ideology. Recognising that the route to terrorism is complex and multi-factorial affords us a more comprehensive approach to tackling the problem by seeking to address those factors. This, we believe, allows us to better protect our country from this terrible crime and in doing so reduce the risk we all face from terrorist attacks.

We urge the Prime Minister to recognise the urgent need for a grounded evidence base upon which to shape robust counter-terror proposals and to recognise the complex interplay of socio-religious factors that underpin these terrorist acts.

Notes to Editors

1. A full copy of Professor Kundnani's report is on the Claystone website <http://www.claystone.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Claystone-rethinking-radicalisation.pdf>
2. For more information, please contact the Claystone Press Office on **020 3417 4464**, email press@claystone.org.uk
3. Claystone is an independent think tank formed to offer research, analysis and reasoned solutions to foster social cohesion in relation to Muslims in Britain.

END