

News Item

Newspapers Help to Radicalise Far Right, Says UK Anti-Terror Chief | The Guardian

By Jim Waterson March 20, 2019

Britain's counter-terrorism chief has said far-right terrorists are being radicalised by mainstream newspaper coverage, while also criticising the hypocrisy of outlets such as Mail Online, which uploaded the "manifesto" of the gunman in the Christchurch terror attack.

Neil Basu, one of Britain's top police officers, said it was ironic that while newspapers have repeatedly criticised the likes of Facebook and Google for hosting extremist content, <u>sites including the Sun and the Mirror</u> rushed to upload clips of footage filmed by the gunman as he attacked two mosques in New Zealand.

"The same media companies who have lambasted social media platforms for not acting fast enough to remove extremist content are simultaneously publishing uncensored Daesh [Islamic State] propaganda on their websites, or make the rambling 'manifestos' of crazed killers available for download," Basu said in an open letter to the media on how to report terrorism.

He appeared to be singling out Mail Online, which uploaded the New Zealand's terrorist's 74-page "manifesto" to its website and made the document, which included an explanation of his far-right ideology, available for users to download from one of the world's biggest news outlets.

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Source: Newspapers help to radicalise far right, says UK anti-terror chief | UK news | The Guardian