

# Prevent: a comment

*We included a feature on Prevent in PSE 84, and PSE 85 carried an in-depth discussion article by a London ESOL teacher. We print here the most detailed of several favourable comments on that article circulated by other practitioners. The editors of PSE welcome further discussion on Prevent.*

'Yes, I agree, great read and great contribution to the Prevent debate. This is a very informative and knowledgeable article with loads of excellent points, not least the reminder that it should absolutely be possible for us to fight against the rise of racism and increased targeting of Muslims post Brexit and Trump, whilst at the same time speaking out against the far right in all its manifestations, including those within Islam. I found it shocking to read that some of those fighting against fundamentalism are being targeted as racists from some quarters on the left. It made me realise that a more superficial adherence to campaigns I might think I'm largely in agreement with is not good enough. In our campaign against Prevent, we need to get informed and critique where necessary, especially, as the article points out, when it comes to providing accurate information rather than scare stories, in our classrooms. Thanks for bringing these points to this forum and a must read for anyone wanting to get a broad and in-depth perspective in the Prevent debate. As the article says, we need more discussion and less silencing. I also recommend reading the, much longer, article referenced at the bottom.' (Becky Winstanley, ESOL teacher, east London)

**For copies of material from PSE 84 and 85, go to [www.post16educator.org.uk](http://www.post16educator.org.uk) or email [cwaugh1@btinternet.com](mailto:cwaugh1@btinternet.com). (The other article referred to below is Cowden, S. (2016) 'The Poverty of Apologism: The British Left, Feminism and the Islamic Right', *Feminist Dissent*, (1), 67-80.)**



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