

# Towards a Fruitful Concept of Radicalization

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Dr. Rik Peels, Philosophy Department & Faculty of Religion and Theology  
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, [h.d.peels@vu.nl](mailto:h.d.peels@vu.nl)

## 1. Introduction

- Popularity and origin of the term
- Key-question
- Problems with superficial understandings
- Why we need a proper definition of radicalization
- Extreme beliefs, [www.extremebeliefs.com](http://www.extremebeliefs.com)

## 2. Desiderata

- Cognitive and behavioral radicalization
- Role of violence
- The problems of the few
- Absolutism and contextualism
- Operationalization

## 3. Challenges to the Concept of Radicalization

- Mark Sedgwick's challenge
- Arun Kundnani's challenge
- Quassim Cassam's challenge

## 4. Absolutism and Relativism about Radicalization

- Absolutism
- Relativism/contextualism

## 5. Combining Absolutism with Relativism

Absolutism:

- The subject
- Temporality
- Continuum/continua
- Moderate to extreme
- Constitutive elements of behavioral radicalization
- Constitutive elements of cognitive radicalization
- Two ways to distinguish radicalization from activism/reformation

Relativism:

- Incommensurable scales

- Radicalism/extremism and perspective

## 6. Objections and Replies

- Three contexts: security, integration, foreign policy
- Where do we draw the line?
- Mass-intrusion and racism
- Overlooking 'root-causes'
- Defining radical behavior

## 7. Conclusion

- Main conclusion
- The radicalization process and radicalization processes

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