

## Anger over Christchurch video on social media

18th March, 2019



People all over the world are angry because the video of the massacre at a mosque in Christchurch, New Zealand is still on social media sites. On Friday, a terrorist gunned down and killed 50 worshippers who were praying at

two mosques. The gunman live-streamed a video of the shootings on Facebook. The video has spread across social media. Many people think social media companies have not done enough to take the video off their sites. As the video continued to spread, many social media users posted messages asking people to stop sharing it. One user said: "That is what the terrorist wanted." Another user said social media sites quickly take down music videos but not terror videos.

Facebook said it acted quickly to take the video down. A spokeswoman said: "New Zealand Police alerted us to a video on Facebook shortly after the live-stream commenced. We quickly removed both the shooter's Facebook and Instagram accounts and the video." YouTube said it removes "shocking, violent and graphic content" as soon as people tell them about it. The UK's Home Secretary Sajid Javid said social media sites must do more to stop the spread of "sick material" online. Mr Javid said: "It is wrong and it is illegal. Online platforms have a responsibility not to do the terrorists' work for them. This terrorist filmed his shooting with the intention of spreading his ideology."

Sources: [cnn.com](http://cnn.com) / [vanityfair.com](http://vanityfair.com) / [bbc.com](http://bbc.com)

## Writing

What three things must we do to end the hatred? Will these happen? Why (not)?

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

angry / mosque / New Zealand / worshippers / social media / video / sharing / terror / Facebook / live-stream / shocking / violent / graphic / online / responsibility / ideology

## True / False

- a) The video of the terror attack is still online. T / F
- b) The article said most people thought social media sites did enough. T / F
- c) The article says websites asked people to stop sharing the video. T / F
- d) Someone said social media sites do not take down music videos. T / F
- e) Facebook said it acted quickly to remove the video. T / F
- f) Facebook deleted the shooter's Instagram account. T / F
- g) The UK's Home Secretary called the online content "sick". T / F
- h) The UK's Home Secretary said the terrorist didn't want to share ideas. T / F

## Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. <b>angry</b>     | a. circulated |
| 2. <b>killed</b>    | b. took steps |
| 3. <b>spread</b>    | c. remove     |
| 4. <b>continued</b> | d. unlawful   |
| 5. <b>take down</b> | e. murdered   |
| 6. <b>acted</b>     | f. prevent    |
| 7. <b>graphic</b>   | g. ideas      |
| 8. <b>stop</b>      | h. furious    |
| 9. <b>illegal</b>   | i. detailed   |
| 10. <b>ideology</b> | j. carried on |

## Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) Is social media a good or bad thing?
- c) What should happen to people who upload such material?
- d) Why are people interested in "sick material"?
- e) What responsibilities do social media sites have?
- f) What message do you have for people in Christchurch?
- g) What will social media be like in 20 years from now?
- h) What questions would you like to ask social media sites?

## Phrase Match

- |                                       |                           |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. People all over the world          | a. messages               |
| 2. worshippers who were praying       | b. spreading his ideology |
| 3. The video has spread across        | c. sharing it             |
| 4. many social media users posted     | d. take the video down    |
| 5. asking people to stop              | e. stream commenced       |
| 6. Facebook said it acted quickly to  | f. at two mosques         |
| 7. shortly after the live-            | g. online                 |
| 8. shocking, violent and              | h. are angry              |
| 9. stop the spread of "sick material" | i. graphic content        |
| 10. the intention of                  | j. social media           |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you know about Christchurch?
- How did you feel when you heard this news?
- How can people hate others so much?
- What can we do to help people affected by this tragedy?
- What can social media sites do to reduce hatred?
- How can we protect people against terrorists?
- Why is the video still being shared online?
- What advice do you have for social media sites?

## Spelling

- the video of the mrcaesa
- 50 eprrhosiwps
- praying at two mqseous
- As the video teoucinnd
- semssage asking people to stop sharing it
- That is what the oesrrrti wanted
- Police aedlert us to a video
- oemvder both the shooter's Facebook
- nlioevt and graphic content
- It is wrong and it is ielllga
- have a ryonpeiliitsbs
- the intention of spreading his ydogieol

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. h	2. e	3. a	4. j	5. c
6. b	7. i	8. f	9. d	10. g

## Role Play

### Role A – Social Media

You think social media websites are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their websites. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): video, news or games.

### Role B – Video

You think video websites are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their websites. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): social media, news or games.

### Role C – News

You think news websites are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their websites. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): video, social media or games.

### Role D – Games

You think games websites are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their websites. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): video, news or social media.

## Speaking – Websites

Rank these with your partner. Put the best websites at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |           |                    |
|-----------|--------------------|
| • Amazon  | • Studying English |
| • Weather | • Social media     |
| • News    | • YouTube          |
| • Games   | • Google           |

### Answers – True False

a	T	b	F	c	F	d	F	e	T	f	T	g	T	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.