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The Honorable Lisa O. Monaco
Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Deputy National Security Adviser
Office of the Homeland Security Advisor
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

armed groups such as ISIS, especially as many federal officials acknowledge ISIS does not pose a credible threat of attack within the United States and the number of Americans who have allegedly traveled to join ISIS ô let alone returned ô is miniscule.

Harmful associations with ISIS and other armed groups play into fear-mongering about American Muslim communities. They are amplified and distorted by the media and can be exploited by individuals and groups who promote anti-Muslim rhetoric. Government and law enforcement authorities have the power to significantly shape public discourse and send a strong message to the American public that fundamental rights such as equal protection and religious liberty must be defended. Singling out one community for special interventions and enhanced monitoring may have the effect of aggravating existing prejudices and reinforcing intolerance.

Relationship to Abusive Counterterrorism Practices

In assessing CVE and urging basic safeguards, we are mindful of the larger context of ongoing abuse in federal counterterrorism practices. CVE programs are certainly bound to fail unless the government ends abusive counterterrorism practices that fuel distrust in law enforcement. Specifically, the mutual trust and respect for rights that ought to form the basis for community policing of any kind have been jeopardized, if not extinguished, by vjg"HDÌøu"rtcevkeg"qh" pressuring law

or individuals to collect an

Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign
Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund
The Sikh Coalition
Vøruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights
UNITED SIKHS
United States Council of Muslim Organizations
United Voices for America

cc: The Honorable Eric Holder, Attorney General
    The Honorable Jeh Johnson, Secretary of Homeland Security
    The Honorable James Comey, Director of the FBI