

1. What is an Involuntary Celibate?

This is an individual with a desire for, but lack of, romantic and sexual success.

'Incel' is an abbreviation of involuntary celibate and we'll use the term Incel in this briefing.

2. Incels express intense hatred for women and believe that they are entitled to sexual and romantic attention. They perceive women as denying them this need.

They believe the world is unfair, that sexual success, which they place a very high value on, is impossible for them.

3. They hate and often celebrate violence against young girls because they will one day become women.

They also target conventionally attractive men and heterosexual couples because they are sexually successful when Incels are not.

8. How do you get support for yourself or someone else?

Professionals can refer by completing [This Referral](#) and emailing to: gateway@westmidlands.police.uk

Referrals can be made by a **member of the public** by contacting the PREVENT advice line on **0800 011 3764** or via the 'Make a Referral' button on the West Mercia Police Website - [Here](#)



4. Almost all self-identified Incels are male and most Incels describe themselves as 'blackpilled.' This describes their lack of hope.

The phrase 'rope or cope' is often used in their spaces online. It means Incels can choose to kill themselves or engage in activities that prevent them engaging with their reality.

7. Activity on-line

There is a broad online Incel presence, including forums such as incels.is and communities on larger platforms such as Reddit.

The largest Incel forum, incels.is, claims around 40% of its users are in Europe and 40% in the USA. The percentage of users in the UK was not recorded.

6. Where has the modern Incel movement come from?

The Incel movement evolved out of several communities including early Incel communities which were initially gender-inclusive, 'pick-up artist' groups helping men achieve sexual success, and 'red pill' communities who claim that society is dominated by women.

5. A very small proportion of Incels have moved towards mass violence. A minority of users encourage violence in online spaces, with suicide also normalised and encouraged by some users.

Those vulnerable to being drawn into mass killing or harming others are potentially suitable as a Prevent referral.