

Student Worksheet #1:

10 Crucial Questions to Analyze a Movement: Social Justice or Hate Movement? Red Flags of Radicalized Social Justice Movements

- 1. What are the movement's stated goals in their original documents, manifestos — and do its actual actions match those goals?**

Is it solving real injustices, or is it using justice-language to disguise a different agenda?

- 2. Does the movement promote inclusion, equity, and human dignity for all — or does it apply double standards that exclude, scapegoat, or dehumanize certain groups?**

True social justice cannot come at the cost of others' rights, dignity, or safety — fairness must be applied universally.

- 3. Does the movement encourage violence, intimidation, or hatred against ordinary people — including neighbors, dissenters, or groups with different views?**

Calls to harm others, even “symbolically” (ex: destruction of property, blocking entrances to public spaces, vandalism) are a major warning sign.

4. **Does it tolerate civil discourse, debate, and self-critique — or does it punish disagreement and enforce ideological purity?**

Healthy movements allow questions; harmful ones suppress them.

5. **Does the movement rely on emotional manipulation, conspiracy thinking, or misinformation and propaganda — rather than facts and reasoned argument?**

Propaganda thrives on fear and confusion; justice requires clarity and truth.

6. **Who benefits — politically, financially, or socially — if the movement gains power?**

Is it uplifting communities, or concentrating control in the hands of a few?

7. **Does the movement recognize the complexity of history and social systems — or does it oversimplify everything into good vs. evil, us vs. them?**

Oversimplification often precedes dehumanization.

8. **Does it encourage active citizenship, nonviolence, and democratic participation — or bullying, silencing, and top-down control?**

Social justice strengthens democracy; authoritarianism hollows it out.

9. **Is the movement transparent about its methods, leaders, and funding — or does it hide its true agenda or backers?**

Secrecy and manipulation are common tools of propaganda.

10. **What would the world look like if the movement fully achieved its goals?**

Would it lead to more freedom, fairness, and dignity for ALL — or more fear, division, and control?