



# BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Take this.

## POLICY STAKEHOLDER RECOMMENDATIONS

### Extremist Exploitation of Digital Games

Video games are the most profitable form of entertainment media, estimated to be worth more than \$170 billion in global revenues this year by the FTC. Online multiplayer games are powerful avenues for fun, empowering, and engaging connections with other people, and gaming can help build life-long connections and active communities.

The power of such games to build connection and community can also be utilized by extremists – both by those looking for opportunities for recreation, as well as those aiming to recruit to their cause. To address these concerns, Take This and CTEC have been examining the state of extremism in digital gaming spaces and have found compelling evidence indicating extremist exploitation of gaming content and communities. This problem is not unique to online multiplayer games, but it remains a threat to gaming communities and the industry as a whole.

### Next Steps

Increasing the safety of our online communities and pushing back against extremist exploitation that threatens the safety and freedom of American citizens will require the combined efforts of policymakers, the game industry, civil society, and subject matter experts. Your office can take action in the coming months to drive progress in the fight against extremism in our online and offline communities by:

### Take action!



Additional resources!

- Support legislation to create a national commission on online video games and extremism. The commission should include games experts, and its recommendations should be applicable to games.
- Support legislation to refocus transparency reporting initiatives and help create online environments that incentivize thriving communities and positive play.

Take This is the leading mental health advocacy organization in games, providing research, advocacy, and training to the games industry and gaming communities. The Middlebury Institute's Center on Terrorism, Extremism, and Counterterrorism (CTEC) is a research center that specializes in the study of emerging trends in extremism and terrorism.

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