

National Threat Evaluation & Reporting Program

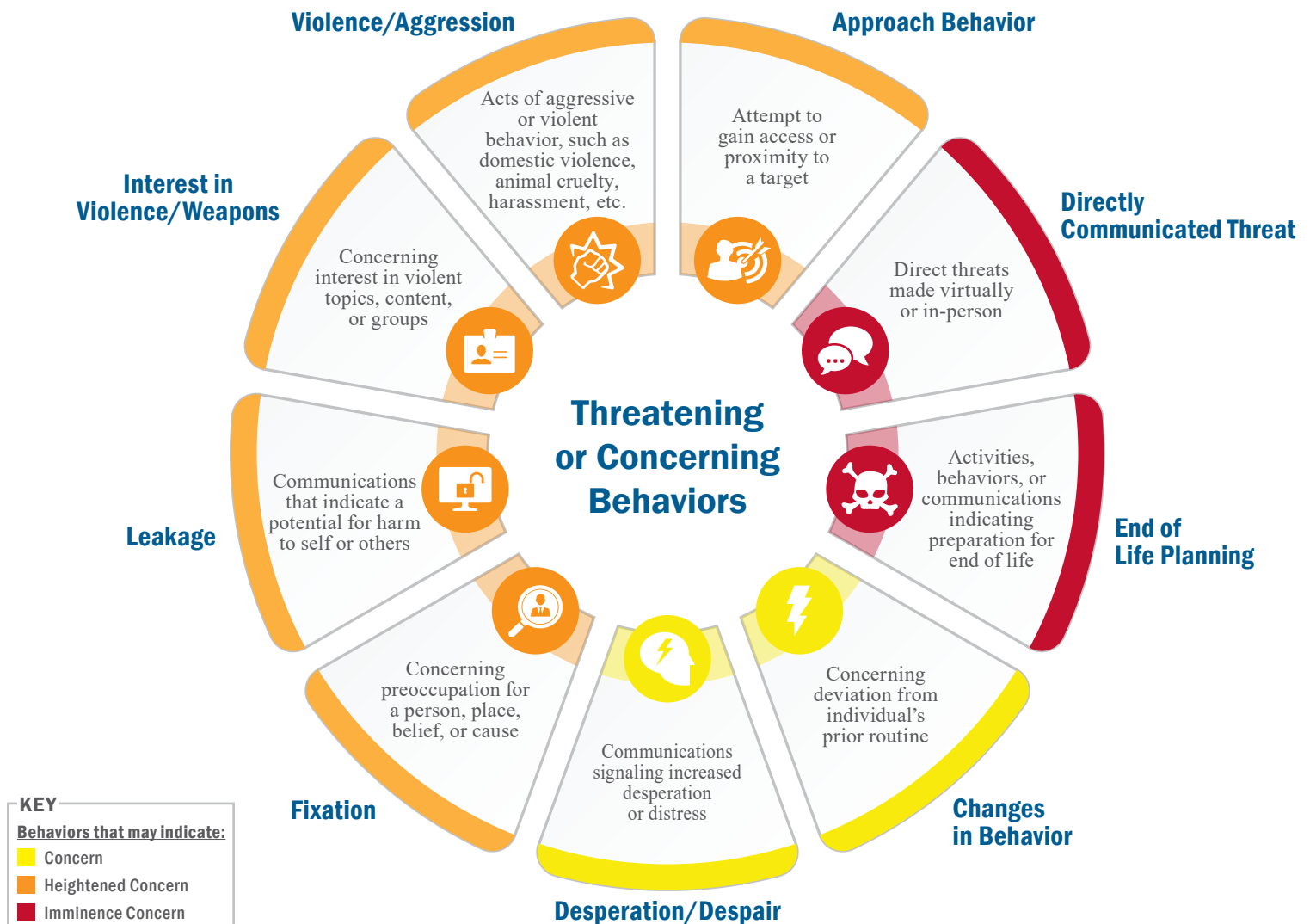
Behavioral Approach to Violence Prevention



Many individuals who are planning to engage in targeted violence display threatening or concerning behaviors that are observable to others. Utilizing behavioral threat assessment and management (BTAM), a proactive, evidence-based method of investigation, analysis, and management that focuses on an individual's patterns thinking and behavior, can determine whether, and to what extent, an individual may be moving towards an act of intended violence. Further, BTAM can assist with the development of intervention techniques designed to move an individual away from conducting a potential attack.

Identifying Threatening or Concerning Behaviors

Those who have perpetrated acts of targeted violence have no profile. The following represent common threatening or concerning behaviors identified across a wide variety of completed and averted acts of targeted violence. Alone, these threatening or concerning behaviors may not signal an attack.



Assessing Threatening or Concerning Behaviors

These behaviors should be assessed within an individual's totality of circumstances, including life stressors, personal risk factors, and threat mitigators, to identify if a person is moving along a pathway to violence.



NOTE: Vetting threatening or concerning behaviors to determine the potential for intended violence will require additional information. Please report this activity to 9-1-1 or consult with your local BTAM team who can investigate, assess, and manage a potential subject of interest while adhering to the individual's privacy and civil rights.

Want to learn more about identifying threatening or concerning behaviors?

Please contact NTer@hq.dhs.gov