



# QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

## **Explaining Extremism and Addressing Islamophobia**

1. How have recent terrorist attacks affected American culture? American politics?
  - How have they affected American public opinion?
  - How have they affected your community or school?
  - Have you experienced and/or witnessed an increase in anti-Muslim sentiment or behavior? How?
  - Have you personally, or has anyone you have seen, defended Muslims from criticism? What happened?
  - Please support your answers with specific examples.
2. Describe religious-based bullying in schools. Are you aware of incidents of religious-based bullying in your school or your children's schools?
  - What happened?
  - How did the teachers and/or administration react?
  - Did parents or a parents' organization become involved?
3. What is religious literacy?
  - How will learning about less familiar religions (such as Islam) make a student more successful?
    - In English classes? In social studies courses? In the job market?
  - How can educators broaden their curricula to include the lived experiences of people from diverse groups?
  - What are the benefits of exposing young people to the diversity of belief and practice that exists within religious groups?
4. What are some stereotypes about Islam and extremism? Are there positive characterizations?
  - How can young people be taught to debunk negative stereotypes?
5. How would you define Islamophobia? Is it different from anti-Muslim sentiment?
  - How can young people be taught to recognize and overcome Islamophobia?