

Lib Dems block Theresa May's new tough line on extremism

I thought it was too good to be true, although it seemed like an election ploy to sound tough on treason (at last) Last [the Guardian](#).

A Home Office strategy to tackle non-violent extremism has been discreetly shelved after Liberal Democrats in the coalition government blocked the proposals as too hardline and an affront to civil liberties.

A leaked copy of the 28-page report, seen by the *Observer*, reveals a series of measures designed to counter extremism . . .

It is understood that senior Lib Dems refused to approve the strategy, despite promises by the Home Office that it would be published before the general election.

The quiet burying of the heavily-trailed strategy means that there has been no official strategy to counter non-violent extremism during the five-year term of the coalition government, the issue emerging as the final major row between the Tories and Lib-Dems.

The strategy document, *A Stronger Britain, Built on our Values*, includes a number of proposals to take tougher action against individuals propagating extremism, broadly defined as "vocal or active opposition to British values".

The strategy's publication was delayed for months amid arguments about how strongly worded it should be. Sources said it was due to be unveiled at a speech last month by May at the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors in London.