

# Campus Safety CONFERENCE 2021

Be Vigilant



## Preventing School Shootings: How Behavioral Analysis and Assessment Can Prevent Tragedies

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## About Me

- Psychologist/researcher
- Author of:
  - *Why Kids Kill: Inside the Minds of School Shooters*
  - *School Shooters: Understanding High School, College, and Adult Perpetrators*
  - *Warning Signs: Identifying School Shooters Before They Strike*



# About this Session

## Session Takeaways

- There is no one type of school shooter.
- There is no one cause of school shootings.
- Rampage attacks result from a complex combination of biological, psychological, and social factors.

# Killing Up Close

- “The resistance to the close-range killing of one’s own species is so great that it is often sufficient to overcome the cumulative influences of the instinct for self-protection, the coercive forces of leadership, the expectancy of peers, and the obligation to preserve the lives of comrades. . . Most simply cannot or will not do it.”
  - *On Killing*, by Lt. Col. Dave Grossman

# What is wrong with the perpetrators?

# Bio-Psycho-Social Model

- **Psychology**
  - Psychopathic, psychotic, traumatized
- **Biology**
  - Genetic/developmental/medical issues
  - Damaged masculinity
- **Social**
  - Conflicts, failures, consequences
  - Violence immersion
  - Fame-seeking

# Psychology

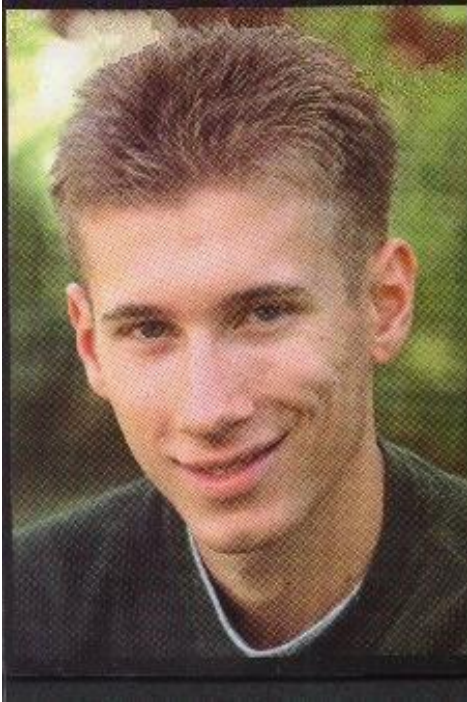
Three categories



# Psychopathic Shooters

- Extreme narcissism
- Reject morality
- Lack of empathy, guilt, remorse
- Sadistic
- Impression management
- Entitled and easily enraged

# Eric Harris



- Columbine H.S.
- Littleton, Colorado
- April 20, 1999
- Age 18
- Killed: 8
- Wounded: 13
- Psychopathic

## Eric Harris: Extreme Narcissism

- “Ich bin Gott” (German: “I am God”)
- “I feel like God and I wish I was, having everyone being OFFICIALLY lower than me.”
- “My belief is that if I say something, it goes. I am the law, if you don’t like it, you die.”

## Eric Harris: Rejection of Morality

- “‘Morals’ is just another word.”
- “I really don’t give a good god damn about what you think is ‘right’ and what is ‘wrong.’”
- “There’s no such thing as True Good or True evil.”

## Eric Harris: Lack of Empathy

- “Kill all retards. . . People spend millions of dollars on saving the lives of retards, and why. I don’t buy that shit like ‘oh, he’s my son, though!’ so the fuck what, he ain’t normal, kill him. Put him out of his misery. He is only a waste of time and money.”

## Eric Harris: Sadistic

- “I want to tear a throat out with my own teeth like a pop can. I want to gut someone with my hand, to tear a head off and rip out the heart and lungs from the neck, to stab someone in the gut, shove it up to their heart, and yank the fucking blade out of their rib cage! I want to grab some weak little freshman and just tear them apart like a wolf, show them who is god. Strangle them, squish their head, bite their temples in the skull, rip off their jaw, rip off their collar bones, break their arms in half and twist them around, the lovely sounds of bones cracking and flesh ripping, ahhh...so much to do and so little chances.”

## Eric Harris: Impression Management

- “If [I] have to cheat and lie to everyone then that’s fine. . . I have confidence in my ability to deceive people.”
- "I could convince them that I'm going to climb Mount Everest, or I have a twin brother growing out of my back. I can make you believe anything.”

## Eric Harris: Impression Management

- Apology letter to owner of van he robbed:
  - “I strongly feel I owe you an apology and explanation. . . I am truly sorry for what I have done.”
- Teacher’s reaction to Eric’s essay about his arrest:
  - “It’s not one action that makes a person. I would trust you in a heartbeat.”



## Eric Harris: Journal entry

- “Isn’t America supposed to be the land of the free? How come, if I’m free, I can’t deprive a stupid fucking dumbshit from his possessions if he leaves them sitting in the front seat of his fucking van out in plain sight and in the middle of fucking nowhere on a Frifuckingday night. . . Fucker should be shot.”

## Eric Harris: Impression Management

- Parent of a friend
  - “The ultimate little gentleman.”
- Teacher comments
  - “Positive attitude and good cooperation.”
  - “Strong interest and participation.”
  - “Eric is doing awesome!”
- Probation officer (early termination, 2/3/99)
  - “Really nice young man. Seems responsible and remorseful. . .  
Prognosis: Good. Eric is a very bright young man who is likely to succeed in life.”

## Psychopathic: Their Place in the World

- World does not provide recognition/satisfaction
- They are chronically frustrated
- They deserve better
- This is an injustice
- Resentment → Rage

# Psychotic Shooters

- Hallucinations
- Delusions
- Impaired social/emotional functioning
  - Profound alienation
  - Envy more successful peers

## Kip Kinkel



- Thurston High School
- Springfield, Oregon
- May 20-21, 1998
- Age 15
- Killed: 4
- Wounded: 25
- Psychotic

## Kip Kinkel: Psychotic

- Hallucinations
  - Heard 3 voices starting at age 12
- Paranoid delusions
  - Prepared for invasion by China
  - Thought government might have put computer chip in his brain

## Kip Kinkel: Anguish and Rage

- “I don’t know who I am. . . I hate myself for what I’ve become. . . I am repulsive. . . My eyes hurt. They hurt so bad. They feel like they are trying to crawl out of my head. Why aren’t I normal?”
- “I am so full of rage that I feel I could snap at any moment. . . I sound so pitiful. People would laugh at this if they read it. I hate being laughed at. But they won’t laugh after they’re scraping parts of their parents, sisters, brothers, and friends from the wall of my hate. . . Please. Someone, help me. . . Oh God, I am so close to killing people. So close.”

## Kip Kinkel: Psychotic

- “I have just killed my parents! . . . I’m so sorry. I am a horrible son. I wish I had been aborted. I destroy everything I touch. . . My head just doesn’t work right. God damn these VOICES inside my head. I want to die. I want to be gone. But I have to kill people. I don’t know why. I am so sorry! Why did God do this to me?”



## Psychotic: Their Place in the World

- There's something wrong with them
- They don't measure up
- They can't function in the world
- This isn't fair
- Envy everyone else
- Hallucinations/delusions
- Anguish + Envy + Psychosis → Rage

# Traumatized Shooters

- Unstable, chaotic, fragmented families
- Parental substance abuse
- Parental criminal behavior
- Physical, sexual, emotional abuse
- Frequent relocations
- Changing caregivers

## Jeffrey Weise



- Red Lake H.S.
- Red Lake, Minnesota
- March 21, 2005
- Age 16
- Killed: 9
- Wounded: 7
- Traumatized

## Jeffrey Weise: Traumatized

- “My mom used to abuse me a lot when I was little. She would hit me with anything she could get her hands on, she used to drink excessively, too. She would tell me I was a mistake, and she would say so many things that it’s hard to deal with them or think of them without crying.”

## Jeffrey Weise: Traumatized

- “Most people have never dealt with people who have faced the kind of pain that makes you physically sick at times, makes you so depressed you can’t function, makes you so sad and overwhelmed with grief that eating a bullet or sticking your head in a noose seems welcoming.”

## Jeffrey Weise: Traumatized

- “I had went through a lot of things in my life that had driven me to a darker path than most choose to take. I split the flesh on my wrist with a box opener, painting the floor of my bedroom with blood I shouldn’t have spilt. After sitting there for what seemed like hours...I had the revelation that this was not the path.”

## Jeffrey Weise: Traumatized

- “So fucking naïve man, so fucking naïve. Always expecting change when I know nothing ever changes. I’ve seen mothers choose their man over their own flesh and blood. I’ve seen others choose alcohol over friendship. I sacrifice no more for others, part of me has fucking died and I hate this shit. I’m living every man’s nightmare and that single fact is kicking my ass. I really must be fucking worthless. This place never changes, it never will. Fuck it all.”

## Jeffrey Weise: Traumatized

- “16 years of accumulated rage suppressed by nothing more than brief glimpses of hope, which have all but faded to black. I can feel the urges within slipping through the cracks, the leash I can no longer hold.”



## Traumatized: Their Place in the World

- Beaten down at home
- No stability/safety
- Often beaten down at school
- Victimization after victimization
- Depressed and angry
- Victimization → Rage

# Multi-determined Violence

- Most people who are psychopathic, psychotic, or traumatized never kill anyone
- Many factors come together to cause rampage attacks

# Biology

# Nikolas Cruz

- **Genetic**

- Mother: 28 arrests
  - Assault with tire iron
  - Homicidal threat: burn down friend's house and kill her
- Half-sister: 17 arrests
  - Twice charged for weapons in school

- Elder abuse and battery of disabled person
- Prison: attempted murder of police officer

- **Developmental**

- Mother arrested buying crack during pregnancy
- Cruz: developmental delays

## Pre-natal/Post-natal Issues

- **Eric Houston:** mother hospitalized w/pneumonia during pregnancy; hospitalized in infancy: meningitis/encephalitis; pneumonia, severe asthma; developmental delays
- **Dylan Klebold:** nearly died at birth (pyloric stenosis); life saved by emergency surgery; hospitalization
- **Seung Hui Cho:** hospitalized in infancy (whooping cough, pneumonia); heart problem as toddler—traumatized by procedure
- **Adam Lanza:** poor maternal health; decreased fetal movement; Cesarean birth; stopped breathing at 8 days, hospitalized; developmental delays

## Damaged Identity/Masculinity

- Biological challenges
  - Birth defects
  - Unusually short
  - Obese
  - Poor coordination/unathletic
  - Unattractive

## Eric Harris: Body-Related Issues

- Congenital leg problem
- Chest deformity: surgery at ages 12 and 13
- Teased for having a big head on a skinny body
- “I have always hated how I looked. . . That’s where a lot of my hate grows from. The fact that I have practically no self-esteem, especially concerning girls and looks and such.”
- “how fucking weak I am”
- **“the weird looking Eric KID”**

## Eric Harris: Sex

- 11/12/98: “Maybe I just need to get laid. Maybe that’ll just change some shit around.”
- 3/22/99: “shit left to do: . . . Get laid.”
- 4/3/99: “Right now I’m trying to get fucked . . . why the fuck can’t I get any? I mean, I’m nice and considerate and all that shit, but nooooo. I think I try too hard. But I kinda need to.”



## Guns Enhancing Status

- “I feel like God and I wish I was.”
- “I want to grab some weak little freshman and just tear them apart like a wolf, show them who is god.”
- “I would love to be the ultimate judge and say if a person lives or dies — be godlike.”
- “We...have...GUNS! . . I feel more confident, stronger, more God-like.”

# Elliot Rodger: Biological Inferiority

- “I was the shortest kid in my class — even the girls were taller than me. . . It instilled the first feelings of inferiority in me.”
- “I was physically weak compared to other boys my age. Even boys younger than me were stronger.”
- “I felt so small and vulnerable.”

## Elliot Rodger: Social Inferiority

- “I felt inferior and undesirable.”
- “I was scared that she might view me as nothing but an inferior insect.”
- “I felt like such an inferior mouse.”
- “They made me feel so inferior and worthless and small.
- “I was extremely unpopular, widely disliked, and viewed as the weirdest kid in the school.”

## Elliot Rodger: Sex

- “Turning 21 as a kissless virgin was indeed a dark day. How pathetic it was, to be 21 and still a virgin while kids were having sex at the age of 14?”

## Guns Enhancing Status

- Tried to stretch himself to be taller
- Took karate class, worked out
- Armani clothes and Gucci sunglasses
- Drove BMW: “I had always wanted this, since I cared a lot about my appearance.”
- “After I picked up the handgun, I brought it back to my room and felt a new sense of power. I was now armed. *Who’s the alpha male now, bitches?*”

## Elliot Rodger: Sadism

- “I have lived a life of pain and suffering, and it was time to bring that pain to people who actually deserve it. I will cut them, flay them, strip all the skin off their flesh, and pour boiling water all over them while they are still alive, as well as any other form of torture I could possibly think of. When they are dead, I will behead them and keep their heads in a bag. . . Once they see all of their friend’s heads roll onto the street, everyone will fear me as the powerful god I am.”

## Sadism = Self-Elevation

- “He is sadistic because he feels impotent, unalive, and powerless. He tries to compensate for this lack by having power over others, transforming the worm he feels himself to be into a god.”
  - Erich Fromm
- Eric Harris: “weird-looking Eric KID” → “god-like”
- Elliot Rodger: “kissless virgin” → “powerful god”

# Social Factors



## Social Stresses

- Educational issues
- Romantic failures
- Legal trouble
- Conflicts with peers
- Loss of potential future
- Thwarted military aspirations

## Eric Harris: Social Failures/Frustrations

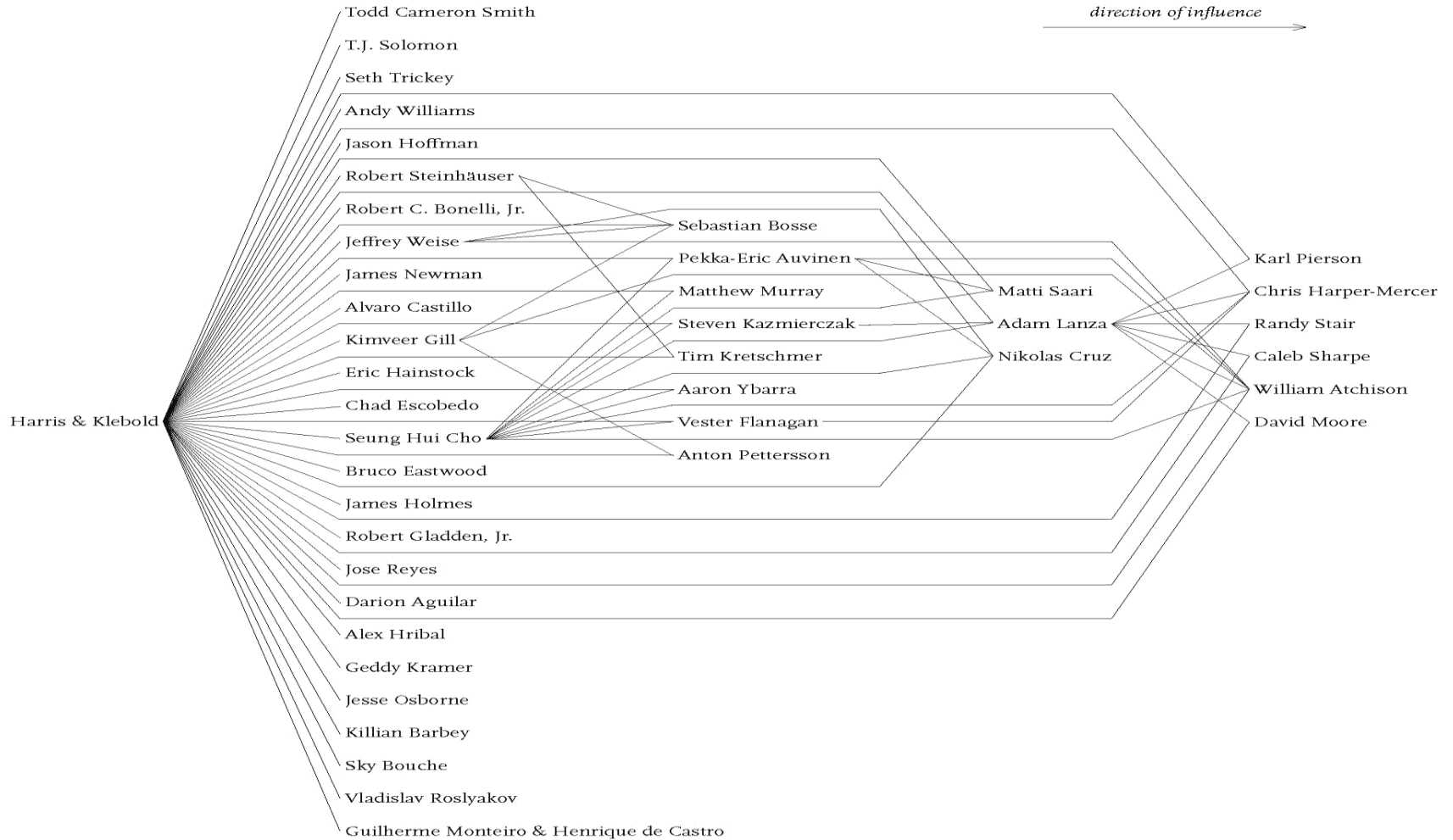
- Teased/harassed by peers
- Rejected by girls—repeatedly
- Disciplined by administrators
- Arrested by police
- Failed military aspirations
  - “I would have been a fucking great marine.”
- The world failed to acknowledge his greatness.

# Kip Kinkel: Social Stresses

- Gifted but dyslexic
- Unrequited love
- Poor athlete—disappointment to father
- Star athlete going out with girl he liked
- Two suspensions for aggressive behavior
- Arrested for throwing rocks off bridge
- Suspended/arrested for having gun in locker

## External Influences: Violence Immersion

- Role models and ideologies
  - Hitler, Manson, serial killers, mass murderers, school shooters (Columbine)
  - Nazism, Satanism, misogyny, white supremacy
- Obsessed with violent media
  - Books, movies, videogames
- Fame-seeking



## Eric Harris: Ideology of Superiority

- “I love the Nazis too . . . I love their beliefs and who they were, what they did, and what they wanted.”
- Nazi ideology:
  - Source of power to identify with
  - Ultra-masculine, militaristic
  - Despite body issues, he was the master race
  - Justification for murder

## Drawn to Hitler/Nazis

- Marc Lépine
- Luke Woodham
- Andrew Wurst
- Eric Harris
- Jeffrey Weise
- Kimveer Gill
- Pekka-Eric Auvinen
- Steven Kazmierczak
- Jose Reyes
- Karl Pierson
- Elliot Rodger
- Chris Harper-Mercer
- William Atchison
- Nikolas Cruz

## Chris Harper-Mercer: Satanism

- “here I am , 26, with no friends, no job, no girlfriend, a virgin. I long ago realized that society likes to deny people like me these things. People who are elite, people who stand with the gods. People like Elliot Rodger, Vester Flanagan, The Columbine kids, Adam Lanza and Seung Cho. Just like me those people were denied everything they deserved, everything they wanted. Though we may have been born bad, society left us no recourse, no way to be good. I have been forced to align myself with demonic forces.”
- “666 For Satan I do this, for the Darkness I do this 666.”



## Drawn to Satanism

- Eric Houston
- Clay Shrout
- Luke Woodham
- Andrew Wurst
- Steven Kazmierczak
- Chris Harper-Mercer
- William Atchison
- Nikolas Cruz

## Fame as Self-Enhancement

- Chris Harper-Mercer re: Vester Flanagan
  - “So many people like him are all alone and unknown, yet when they spill a little blood, the whole world knows who they are. A man who was known by no one, is now known by everyone. His face splashed across every screen, his name across the lips of every person on the planet, all in the course of one day. Seems the more people you kill, the more you’re in the limelight.”
    - August 31, 2015

## Fame-Seeking

- Eric Harris: “I want to leave a lasting impression on the world.”
- Nikolas Cruz: “I am nothing. I am no one. My life is nothing and meaningless. . . With the power of my AR[15] you will all know who I am.”
- Randy Stair: “I’ll make the news headlines . . . I’ve always desired to be famous; to make a name for myself and inspire others ... I want to leave my mark. . . Screw fame, gimme infamy ... In 25 days I’ll go into the history books . . . The human race will remember my name for a century.”

## Combination of who they are and what happens to them

- **Biological**
  - Genetic
  - Developmental
  - Body issues
- **Psychological**
  - Psychopathic
  - Psychotic
  - Traumatized
- **Social**
  - Conflicts
  - Failures
  - Consequences
- **External influences**
  - Role models
  - Ideologies
  - Fame-seeking

# Threat Assessment

## Responding to Warning Signs

# Barriers to Reporting

- Denial: General
  - It can't happen in our town/school.
- Denial: Specific
  - He would never do it.
  - He's too young/small.
  - He's from a good family.
  - He's just joking.

# Follow Where the Evidence Leads

- Case at a high school
- Multiple students involved
- Evidence was gathered
- Administrators struggled to take the threat seriously

## Follow Where the Evidence Leads

- “They weren’t isolated. . . They did not fit what we thought was the profile for the kind of student that would plan something like this. They were engaged in school. They were involved in a sport. They seemed to have a large base of friends. They even had some popularity amongst the student body.”



## Follow Where the Evidence Leads

- “They looked like normal kids. I mean literally just looked like normal kids. They were on the wrestling team! . . . Looking at them, I will say this; when I heard it was the one kid who I had met before, I was like no way! What are you kidding? No way!”

## Warning Signs

- Warning signs are **comments** and **behaviors** that indicate someone is planning an attack
  - Leakage and threats
  - Attack-related behaviors

## Explicit Threats

- Jesse Osborne told a boy, “When I come back with a rifle, you’re going to be the one I shoot.”
- Luke Woodham told his ex-girlfriend he would “put a bullet” in her head.
- Brenda Spencer told a classmate “that she ‘would blow his brains out with a gun.’”

## Implied Threats

- Robert Flores: “You better watch your back if you’re going to flunk me.”
- Wayne Lo: “I have the power to bring the whole school to its knees.”
- Valery Fabrikant: “You know who I am and you know what is going to happen.”
- Bryan Oliver: “I watched five movies about serial killers and thought of you the whole time.”

## Explicit Leakage

- Eric Hainstock: the principal “is not going to make it through homecoming.”
- Michael Carneal: “He told us that he was gonna come to school and start shooting people. He kept saying that Monday was the day of reckoning.”
- Mitchell Johnson: “He told me yesterday that all the people who broke up with him. . . he was going to come to school tomorrow and shoot them.”

## Indirect Leakage

- Evan Ramsey told a peer he was plotting an “evil day.”
- Caleb Sharpe gave notes to friend saying he was going to do “something stupid” that would get him killed or jailed.
- Bryan Oliver warned friends not to go to school because “something bad” was going to happen.

## Attack-Related Behavior

- *Selecting* the victims
- *Planning* when, where, and how to carry out the attack
- *Surveying* the venue
- *Obtaining* the necessary weapon(s)
- *Practicing* with firearms
- *Experimenting* with explosives
- *Recruiting* an accomplice

## Evidence of Imminence

- “Sometimes I feel like just getting a gun from somewhere and going on a rampage.”
- “I stole my Dad’s shotgun and Friday at noon I’m getting revenge in the cafeteria.”
- **More details → more imminent risk**
  - Time, place, method, access to means



## Grandiose Fantasies

- “It’ll be like the LA riots, the Oklahoma bombing, WWII, Vietnam...all mixed together.”
- “We will hijack a hell of a lot of bombs and crash a plane into NYC.”
- “I have a goal to destroy as much as possible. . . I want to burn the world.”
- “I say “KILL MANKIND” no one should survive.”

“First we will go to the house of --- and --- in the morning before school starts. . . We go in, we silently kill each inhabitant and then pin down --- and ---. Then take our sweet time pissing on them, spitting on them, and just torturing the hell out of them. Once we are done there we set time bombs to burn the houses down. . . then get totally prepared and during A-lunch we go in and park in our spots. With sunglasses on we start carrying in all of our bags of terrorism and anarchism shit into our table. Being very casual and silent about it. It’s all for a science/band/English project or something. Then, we sit down, play some pump-up music, light a \$50 stogie, and get ready to start throwing out the first wave of crickets [small bombs]. Then we light them and throw them as far as we can. . . Then I open fire. . . Then if we can we go upstairs and go to each classroom and pick off fuckers at our will.”

## Michael Carneal: Leakage

- “He told us that he was gonna come to school and start shooting people. He kept saying that Monday was the day of reckoning.”
- He warned friends to avoid the lobby on Monday morning.
- A peer reported that Carneal said, “the hypocrites in the prayer group were going to go down.”
- At least five students saw Carneal with a gun in school.

## Evidence of Imminence

- Time: Monday morning after Thanksgiving
- Place: School lobby
- Method: shooting
- Access to means: yes
- Victim selection: students in prayer circle

# Associated Features

Common Themes in the Writings of  
School Shooters

## Common Themes

- Rage/revenge
- Envy/resentment
- Injustice collecting
- Victimhood/misery
- Dehumanization and contempt
  - People deserve to die
- Delusions: paranoid/grandiose

## Rage

- Jeffrey Weise: “16 years of accumulated rage.”
- Kip Kinkel: “I am so full of rage that I feel I could snap at any moment.”
- Eric Harris: “I’m coming for EVERYONE soon, and I will be armed to the fuckin teeth and I WILL shoot to kill and I WILL fucking KILL EVERYTHING! . . . If you got a problem with my thoughts, come tell me and I’ll kill you, because. . . god damnit, DEAD PEOPLE DON’T ARGUE! God DAMNIT I AM PISSED!!”

## Envy/Resentment

- Sebastian Bosse: “Jocks are all of those who think they are above others because of expensive clothes or beautiful girls on their side. I loathe these people.”
- Seung Hui Cho: “Oh the happiness I could have had mingling among you hedonists, being counted as one of you.”
- Dylan Klebold: “I see jocks having fun, friends, women. . . I hated the happiness that they have.”



## Injustice Collector

- Eric Harris: “If you pissed me off in the past, you will die if I see you. Because you might be able to piss off others and have it eventually blow over, but not me. I don’t forget people who wronged me.”

## Misery/Self-Pity

- Dylan Klebold: “My existence is shit to me —how I feel that I am in eternal suffering, in infinite directions in infinite realities. . . Let’s sum up my life ... the most miserable existence in the history of time.”
- Chris Harper-Mercer: “I have always been the most hated person in the world. Ever since I arrived in this world, I have been under siege from it.”
- Luke Woodham: “I suffered all my life. No one ever truly loved me. No one ever truly cared about me.”

## Victimhood and Revenge

- Luke Woodham: “I am not insane! I am angry. This world has shit on me for the final time. . . I killed because people like me are mistreated every day. I did this to show society ‘push us and we will push back!’ I suffered all my life . . . I am malicious because I am miserable.”

## Dehumanization and Contempt

- People deserve to die
  - Jocks, preps
  - Whores, bitches
  - Snobs, hedonists
  - Retards, idiots, zombies, robots

## Dehumanization and Contempt

- Eric Harris: “YOU KNOW WHAT I LOVE!!!? Natural SELECTION!!!!!!!!!!!!!! God damn it’s the best thing that ever happened to the Earth. Getting rid of all the stupid and weak organisms.”
- Elliot Rodger: “I imagined how sweet it would be to slaughter all of those evil, slutty bitches who rejected me.”
- William Atchison: “Kick natural selection up to the max and allow only the smartest and strongest to live, as all of these degenerates meet a brutal, well-deserved death.”

## Seung Hui Cho: Delusional

- Paranoid:
  - “Congratulations. You have succeeded in extinguishing my life. Vandalizing my heart wasn’t enough for you. Raping my soul wasn’t enough for you. Committing emotional sodomy on me wasn’t enough for you. . . To you sadistic snobs, I may be nothing but a piece of dog shit. You have vandalized my heart, raped my soul, and torched my conscious again and again. You thought it was one pathetic, void life that you were extinguishing.”

## Seung Hui Cho: Delusional

- Grandiose:
  - “Thanks to you, I die, like Jesus Christ, to inspire generations of the Weak and Defenseless people — my Brothers, Sisters, and Children — that you fuck. Like Moses, I spread the sea and lead my people — the Weak, the Defenseless, and the Innocent Children of all ages that you fucked and will always try to fuck — to eternal freedom.”

# Reading Between the Lines

Insider References



## Posted by William Atchison

- What is the significance of this post?
  - Natural Selection
  - Wrath
  - Killer
  - Humanity is Overrated

## T-shirts worn by school shooters

Natural Selection: Eric Harris

Wrath: Dylan Klebold

Killer: T.J. Lane

Humanity is Overrated: Pekka-Eric Auvinen

## William Atchison: User Names

- Sturmgeist88
- Rebdoomer
- Nativenazi

- William Atchison User Names:
  - Sturmgeist88: Pekka-Eric Auvinen (Sturmgeist89)
  - Rebdoomer: Eric Harris
  - Nativenazi: Jeffrey Weise

## Innocent or Ominous?

1. Student names his shotgun Arlene.
2. Student asks himself, “Am I just a supreme gentleman?”

# Ominous

- Elliot Rodger:
  - “I’m the perfect guy and yet you throw yourselves at these obnoxious men instead of me, the supreme gentleman.”
- Alek Minassian (Toronto van attacker):
  - “All hail the Supreme Gentleman Elliot Rodger!”

## “Natural Selector’s Manifesto”

- “Hate, I’m so full of it, and I love it.”
- “Like some other wise people have said in the past, human race is not worth fighting for or saving. . . Only worth killing.”

## Eric Harris

- “HATE! I’m full of hate and I love it.”
- “The human race isn’t worth fighting for anymore . . . people just aren’t worth saving.”
- Karl Pierson: “I am filled with hate, I love it.”



# Writing Sample

## Warning Signs/Themes

- Role models
- Ideologies
- Violent media
- Sadism
- Fame-seeking
- Guns enhancing status
- Rage/revenge
- Envy/resentment
- Injustice collecting
- Victimhood/misery
- Dehumanization/contempt
- Delusional
- Threats
- Leakage
- Attack-related behavior
- Evidence of imminence

## Domains to Investigate

- Leakage, threats, attack-related behavior
- Recent social stressors
- Capability of killing
  - Psychopathic, psychotic, traumatized
  - Desperate, enraged, believe others deserve to die
- Evidence of imminence

## Resources

- *The Anatomy of Violence: The Biological Roots of Crime*, by Adrian Raine
- *Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines: Intervention and Support to Prevent Violence*, by Dewey Cornell
- *Enhancing School Safety Using a Threat Assessment Model: An Operational Guide for Preventing Targeted School Violence*, by the National Threat Assessment Center, United States Secret Service

## Resources

- *Why Kids Kill: Inside the Minds of School Shooters*, by Peter Langman
- *School Shooters: Understanding High School, College, and Adult Perpetrators*, by Peter Langman
- *Warning Signs: Identifying School Shooters Before They Strike*, by Peter Langman

## Reminders

- Access to the presentation
- Evaluations
- Social Media

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