

Two Tragedies In Every Mass Shooting

by

Phil Rasmussen

Recently nineteen children and two adults were killed at an elementary school by a deranged teenager. There is no doubt that this is a sad, heart-breaking tragedy for the families of the people killed. Our hearts and prayers go out to the survivors and families. Their lives were forever changes in a few moments of time.

Almost immediately after the mass shooting, law enforcement, the media, and parents were asking why did, eighteen year old, Salvador Ramos go on such a rampage.

Typically law enforcement will try to find the “trigger” that set off such inhuman behavior. They will look for notes and letters that might indicate reasons. They will look at phone and computer records. However, regardless of what is found, they will not find the root cause(s) for what Ramos, or any other mass killer, did or will do.

The reason for not finding out the whys and wherefores of these brutal, barbaric, and monstrous acts is simply because we are not willing to face ourselves. We are the cause for these acts!

Like a wildfire out of control, almost simultaneously, the left and gun-control advocates were on air espousing the need to confiscate firearms and create more firearm regulations as the media announced the [breaking news](#) of the Texas mass shooting. This almost immediate response by the gun grabbers demonstrate a greater desire to achieve their agenda than it does for the heart wrenching sadness and loss of loved ones. In light of 19 elementary aged children being killed, this was such callous behavior on the part of the left. There is no excuse for such behavior.

However, such cold-hearted, unfeeling, and uncaring behavior does provide a starting point for understanding why Ramos lost control and entered the killing fields of an elementary school.

The severe, detrimental effects of the COVID restrictions, better referenced as house-arrest, for school aged children and teens is fairly well documented. As medical and health personnel continue researching COVID and its effects, we are finding out just how devastating the restrictions, perpetrated and forced on Americans by the left, actually are. But these restrictions and other COVID responses are only part of the problem.

For generations the left, socialists, and communists in the United States have waged a war in our schools and society. Their intent is to break down the family unit, eliminate religious teaching and training, discredit our history, morals and ethics, and gain social and political control over the minds of our children. This war has been ongoing for more than 50 years. And in the past decade it has only intensified.

Today, our youth are losing their individual identity. The leftist and socialist onslaught of the LBGQTQA sexual orientation movement, the critical race theory exploitation, and gender identity issues is not only confusing, but is causing severe mental anguish and emotional torment among children of all ages.

Since 1885 (yes that date is correct) we have been taught by parents, teachers, and employers two basic “social” principles when interacting with others:

- Don’t talk politics and/or religion.
- Don’t rock the boat.

For the past century we have essentially kept our heads down, refused to speak up when things are wrong, failed to teach the principles of right living to our children, ignore the laws of the land, our community, and even our own rules. When proper boundaries are not established and maintained between. . .

- Ourselves in marriage
- Ourselves and our children
- Ourselves and others
- Ourselves and our leaders
- Ourselves and our government

. . .there should be no question as to why we are where we are politically, socially, and economically.

We are where we are, and our children are where they are, because **WE** have failed as parents, guardians of the future, citizen, and humans. **WE** are the reason why mass shootings, murder, rape, assault, theft, and corruption exists.

More gun control laws and/or firearms confiscations are not the path to reduced shootings. These shooting and the shootings of individuals are not a gun but rather social issue. There are many countries where citizen have firearms, but they don’t have the number of mass shootings that the US has.

Our forefathers established the Second Amendment in order for Americans to protect themselves against the possibility of a tyrannical government. Removing the Second Amendment allows the confiscation of firearms and the rule of tyranny. The Second Amendment also allows us to protect ourselves not only from a tyrannical government but also from those who wish to do us harm. Ukraine is an excellent example of why gun ownership is so important.

While the gun control advocates understand this ownership need, it is counter to their agenda of seizing control of our social, economic and political well-being.

Creating more gun control laws and/or confiscating firearms is not the answer to these mass killings, or for that fact, the murder of individuals. Let's look at two simple and sensible approaches which have saved lives.

Although first invented in the 19th century, the "seat belt" did not come into common automotive use until the early 1990s when all states made it mandatory to wear them. Seat belts were first used in the aviation industry to help save airline pilots and passengers in the event of a crash. They were later used in car racing (1922) because they not only help to protect the drivers in case of a crash but they also kept the driver in his seat so that he could maintain control over his vehicle. According to the NHTSA, in 2020 more than half of the people who died in vehicle crashes were not wearing seat belts.

Similar results can also be found in the mandatory use of helmets for motorcycles and bicycles. It should be noted that vehicles, motorcycles, and bicycles were not confiscated or made illegal. Instead proper legislation was implemented and, more importantly, enforced.

In 1980, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, or MADD was formed with the aim to stop drunk driving. MADD did not call for the confiscation of vehicles. Nor did MADD call for the abolition of alcohol, which was tried in 1920-1933. Instead MADD fought for laws and regulations which would regulate the consumption of alcohol and reduce intoxication crimes. MADD has been credited with raising the national drinking age to 21, putting the responsibility for alcohol consumption upon the "server," and enforcing drunk driving laws.

Prior to the implementation of both examples, thousands of lives were lost annually. In fact the number of lives that were lost in either example exceeds those lost to shootings, whether mass or individual.

As mentioned confiscation of firearms is not the issue but rather the enforcement of current laws, rules, and regulations.

As details of the Texas shooting unfold, we should not concentrate on whose fault it was that allowed 21 people to be killed. The details revealed should be used to improve active shooter training and response. There are still many questions to be answered. However, the fact remains that Ramos did the killing. Whether he used a rifle or a knife is immaterial. By the way, note that I said rifle and not an AR15. The reason for this is that if you take the handgrip off the AR15 and replaced the stock and forward barrel support with wood instead of metal or plastic, it would look and operate just like any other semi-automatic rifle. Don't get caught up in the "assault weapon" imagery that the media wants you to believe.

Ramos' actions are a social issue not a firearm issue. **WE** need to face ourselves and what **WE** have allowed to happen.