



## Shootings: Who is Responsible and How to Tackle This Risk

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Déjà vu all over again. Don't be surprised if we awake to this nightmare in America time and again because if the status quo turns the other cheek, we will witness this tragedy on the reoccurring basis.

I am not surprised that politicians whose empty and meaningless ideas of risk management are incapable of devising a solution and all they do is express their concerns and condolences to the victims. Rather than solutions, the first words uttered from their mouths are condemnation of firearms. Again, attacking the foreground issue and dismissing the background of potential clues and solutions.

Of course, many people advocate gun prohibition. No problem. Just imagine this scenario: That someday guns are abolished with no trace of producers or dealers. In this equation, the only ones that will not disappear are the mentally ill people who commit these outrageous crimes of rampage.

Do you think their sick motives to hurt others will stop with the abolishment of guns? The answer is no. People with mental disorders in their fully committed desires to inflict pain and torment on others will find another method of killing. In the absence of guns they will use knives, axes, wood beams, homemade explosives and even vehicles as what happened most recently in Austria. When the next attack occurs with the use of any aforementioned object, will we prohibit those as well?

It is crystal clear that the solution is not prohibition but management. In a past article, I enunciated the process of obtaining a driver's license during which an exam, driving test and documentation are required

to earn the privilege of driving a vehicle. Why that kind of test, examinations and other requirements cannot be taken into consideration at the moment someone wishes to purchase a gun? Why is there no psychological and behavioral profiling in place? Why a person is allowed to buy more than one gun? Why do we not know if some of these people buying guns are taking medications related to mental illness? Where are the background checks? Why people with criminal records can obtain guns? Who the heck in the government can give us an answer to these questions? Why president Obama and congress can't present a solution? Why they are so incompetent? Obtaining a driver's license is far more challenging than purchasing a gun in the United States.

By law, driver's licenses must be renewed periodically. The same process should apply to gun owners but more often. With so much technology, why cannot guns be properly tracked down? Can the NASA or some else invent a GPS system for weapons? Our company for instance develops apps and software for geolocation. Can someone invent a tracking system to detect weapons close to sensitive city targets such as schools? Why schools don't have a system interfaced with law enforcement to identify student with criminal record or students that are gun owners?

On the other hand, social media plays a huge role and needs to finally be held accountable. The risk management for these types of tragedies is not a responsibility limited to law enforcement but all of us. Haven't you noticed what all these criminals have in common? Yes, social media. They love Facebook, Twitter, My Space and others to post and broadcast their intentions or at least to give us clues. It is unacceptable that these individuals navigate and hang out through social media while their content



passes without scrutiny. I understand that these media outlets are not legally obligated and have a battalion of attorneys to defend their position. Still, it is not morally acceptable. Profiles of people posing with grenades, guns or flashing disturbing conduct that can place others at risk should be examined and reported to law enforcement. They are just as accountable as our inept government in protecting we the people. I am not talking about prohibition but rather risk management and enforcing higher standards from social media who should face a class action suit from the victims. In the meantime, while we wait for the next massacre, I leave you above with the picture of the Oregon college gunman with a rifle posted on My Space.

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