

Cause and effect of columbine shooting essay



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Deviant behavior is any behavior that violates social norms and is disapproved by a group in society. Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold are a prime example of deviant behavior. These two children embarked on murder massacre, killing twelve students and one teacher, injuring twenty-one others. The pair then committed suicide after their devilish act. The children were both bullied daily at school. One friend of the deviant duo said “ Jocks threw human fetus at them”. The two boys were a part of dark group called the “ Trench coat Mafia”. There were many warning signs before this massacre took place.

The boys made home videos known as the Basement Tapes. Where they enacted being in charge yelling and screaming racial slurs and pretending to murder others. A group called TAG, Threat Assessment Group is trying to understand the murders and why the boys wanted to kill. They are going to perform a psychiatric autopsy on both Eric and Dylan. TAG needs to learn the life story of the deceased, personality, habits, and trouble signs. The parents of the murders claim their children lived happy, normal lives; however happy, normal high school seniors don't try murder their classmates.

TAG will start by speaking with people who were there the day of the murders, friends of the killers, pretty much anyone who knew the killers. TAG has questions did the boys shoot alone, specific actions and behaviors during the murders, were they laughing or joking, did they speak in a creepy calm tone of voice. They are interested in the smallest of details down to did the boys take a drink during the massacre. TAG states there are warning signs to a mass murder. The warning signs are as follows: threats, references of mass

murders, police and military interest, weapon comments, stalking, depression and extremely unreasonable.

Many people agreed that both boys showed many of these signs. Klebold was placed in a juvenile diversion program before Columbine. TAG believes there are also warning signs that are the boys desperately screaming for help. These warning signs are suicide, fame, revenge and anger. When Eric's girlfriend broke up with him he pretended to commit suicide in order for her to come over. Eric also became a completely different person in High School. He was prescribed Luvox an anti depression medication. Eric became very syndical, TAG believes he even shown qualities of a mood disorder.

TAG also stated they believe " reassessment grew to anger and sadness grew to depression for these boys". One key point for TAG was when a classmate of Eric's told them that in a psychology class Eric would speak about a recurring dream he had where he came into school, shooting and it always ended with him blowing up the school. Both Harris and Klebold had very normal homes, as their families stated they lived very normal lives. They had caring, ordinary families. Both families did not participate in this study. It is also very difficult for TAG to perform their studies with so many lawsuits still pending.

The parents of both the kids were unaware of some many warning signs their sons displayed. Both boys played murderous video games and one of their favorite movies was the deranged Natural Born Killers. Before high school the boys were very normal, bright and participated in sports. Neither of the boys performed in any organized sports while in Columbine H. S. Klebold and

Harris also kept diaries explaining how they were severely bullied. Three days before the Columbine Massacre Klebold attended the senior prom. Harris was very adamant on serving in the US Marines; days before the massacre Harris found out he was turned down by the Marines.

TAG believes that is what put him over the edge. There was an evolution of motive for the boys started with anger, depression, revenge and suicide. One of the keys to life is socialization. Socialization is the extended period of dependency for human children allows them to learn the complexities of culture through human affection and interaction. Both Harris and Klebold both lacked any socialization skills. Their school was not welcoming, a place that should be fundamental to socialization. Their family environment seemed to be normal however; this is not something we confirm.

With children making homemade bombs and destruction home videos makes me wonder how normal their life could really be. The groups that they surrounded themselves by were angry kids just like them, maybe not to the extent Harris and Klebold were but the Trench coat Mafia had felt the same abuse. It is a known statistic that if the media coverage is big enough after a massacre like this, police expect another attack within 2 weeks. TAG believes that theory comes from the power, respect, the flashy suicide and the legacy you leave behind. Harris and Klebold's lack of socialization and deviant behavior is key to their demise.