

# [Columbine book report essay](https://assignbuster.com/columbine-book-report-essay/)

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Columbine by Dave Cullen is based upon the true story of the author’s research that took ten years to find out why did Eric Harris and Dylan Kleblod decide to go on a shooting spree at the Columbine High School in Columbine, Colorado on April 20, 1999, and what became of the survivors? As the author explains in his book, the two young men Eric and Dylan had a plan to blow up their school, surpass Columbine in horror, and leave a “ a lasting impression on the world. ’’ The bombs that they planted in the school failed, but they instead proceeded to shoot anyone on site with the heavy numbers of weapons that both shooters had. In this revelatory book, Dave Cullen produces a profile of two teen killers that are the outcome of psychopathology.

He reveals two radically different killers. Eric Harris, the brutal mastermind, and Dylan Klebold, the quivering depressive who wrote in his journal obsessively about love and attended the Columbine prom three days before they opened fire on students. They were able to fool everyone they knew in such manner. The Columbine shooting unfolds in an unforgettable life story of two honor students with a healthy circle of friends and family with undetectable dark personalities. They secretly stockpiled weapons in their basements. They recorded themselves practicing shooting prior to the actual shooting in the Columbine high school. Dave Cullen with a sharp investigative eye and psychological acumen was able to find hints to their intended plans by finding warnings they left behind all around them, and with the help from hundreds of interviews, thousands of police files, testimony from world-class psychologists brought in by the FBI, and the two boy’s videos and journals.

He is able to deliver the first comprehensive account of the horrific tragedy in the Columbine school shooting. The bombs that were planted in the school cafeteria were set to go off at 11: 18, but failed therefore Eric and Dylan went outside and began their mass murder by randomly shooting anyone who was in site. As they cleared the crowds by killing them, they went back into the high school down the hallways and ended in the library where they continued to shoot students and faculty members.

The two senior students Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold urdered a total of 12 students and 1 teacher. They also injured 21 further students, with three other people being injured while attempting to escape the school. Then they both committed suicide and the shooting stopped at 12: 08 am. The Columbine High School massacre is the fourth-deadliest mass murder committed upon a school campus in the United States history. As for the families of the victims who were killed and injured became severely devastated and yet to add on how they’re loved ones were murdered. Many of the survivors that were wounded suffer from long-term physical and emotional problems.

Dave Cullen writes on how they where dramatically devastated. But also states that a lot of the victims and survivors were able to forgive the two shooters quite fast, and that was a tremendous recovery of such mass murder. Victims were devastated and most felt a rush to closure and healing which had to begin immediately as the author states. He states as his research continued the students resented it terribly and students began to turn on each other from such pressure and devastation. Many students were later interviewed by local police officers and media sources. Most of them mentioned how they will never forget the mass shooting and how they often fear of further shooting by former students. In conclusion with my own personal opinion, I always had a hard time understanding why these two young men would even think about committing such massacre in there own school.

They both had caring family and friends and a bright future ahead if they didn’t become killers. From reading this book I have been able to become familiar with the way of thinking in certain individuals and why they decide to commit crimes and murders. I think that this mass massacre done by Eric and Dylan shocked the whole world.

Since I found out about this shooting in Columbine, I always thought to myself, that it would trigger an influence on other people and students around the world to go on mass shooting sprees, and specifically on school campus. Recently another psychopath killed 12 and injured 58 people at a local movie theater during a midnight screening of the film the The Dark Night Rises. I also believe that there can be many factors that persuade people to kill others. Some factors may be the media, using violent tv shows, movies, internet media and violent video games.

Also it may be an outcome of a violent early child hood or personal experiences that may have been the initiative to a psychopath. Whatever the cause may be we will never know when a psychopath will decide to kill for the first time or yet to kill again.