

Tragedy Averted: Know the Signs®



“We Can’t Avoid Accountability”

Dr. Owens, High School Administrator

Colonel Chris Owens



Warning Signs You Shouldn't Ignore

SAY SOMETHING

Georgia School Safety Specialist Certification © GA. P.O.S.T. Approved (IHR27G)

Col. Chris Owens

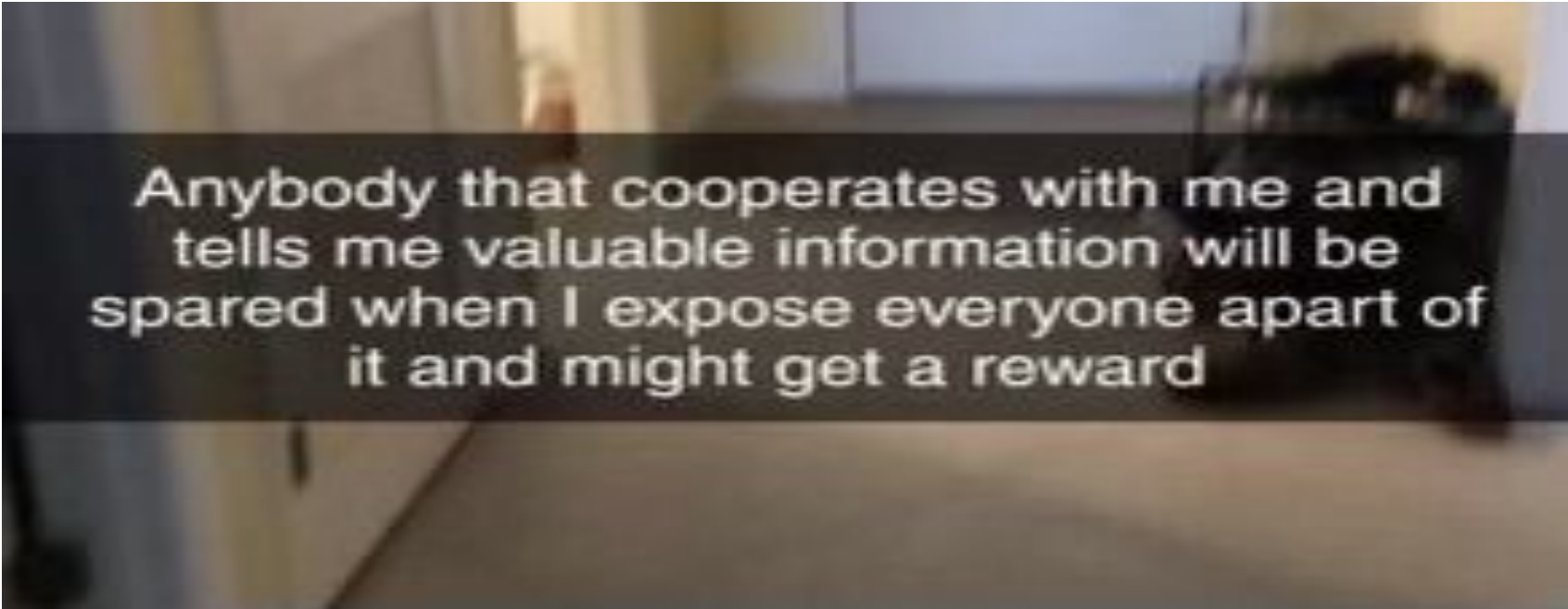
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Threat or Leakage?

A blurry video frame showing an indoor setting. A black semi-transparent text box is overlaid in the center. The text inside the box reads: "Anybody that cooperates with me and tells me valuable information will be spared when I expose everyone apart of it and might get a reward".

Anybody that cooperates with me and tells me valuable information will be spared when I expose everyone apart of it and might get a reward



TODAY is the day

- Teaching a child to read requires patience and time.
- These investigations are much the same.
- Know all of the information before a decision is made or action is taken!
- Learn to identify **Red Flags** and signals so they aren't missed.

- NOT ALL WARNING SIGNS CONTAIN OR EXHIBIT VIOLENCE OR THREATS

Missed Signs and Red Flags

Why are these not reported?

- 1-No one wants to be right
- 2-People don't want to be wrong
- 3- Social consequences
- 4-Fear of retaliation/I might be next!




Pathway to Violence

What draws students to violence?

- ★ Violent video games
- ★ Violent movies or books
- ★ Life altering/triggering events
- ★ Bullying
- ★ Off medications/drug use
- ★ Inconsistency in life



A young man with brown hair, wearing a dark hoodie, is sitting at a wooden table in a library, focused on writing in a notebook. He is holding a blue pen. In the background, other students are visible, some sitting at tables and one standing near bookshelves. The scene is brightly lit by large windows.

PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE BEFORE IT STARTS



It's about to go down when the bell rings



get
out
21

LIES
IVE
AUGH

7
6



Kind of way
I don't care
get your little
boyfriend
bye now

Hey
I already
have this Planned

You
are
an
animal

SHE'S USELESS TO THIS

WORLD

go away
you little
runt

Pain
"Oh man" that

I will I need you in my
I finally live She broke up
get the With me because
option I was "To Nice"
To do Yeah Triangle
Crim

If I ever
hear her

Please go away

BITCH

Talk about
me in any

She is not the one for

I just want
to be alone

ME

You're just a

waste of space!

HAPPY me

Be gone

HAPPY you

FILTH

Fuck you... you stupid little

wrist slitter HAHA

JUST
DIE
already

There will

That's enough and

Minced

Yes it was

If she ever ask anything

oh noher. Go Now

from me i'm just gain to say

OMG 60%

I'm nauseous

Face Plant

be con

last it vbest

I'm going to

how
much
can
I
right
on
one
paper

Suicide
PIF

SSO
AN
with
Lyrical

TLC Student- writing and drawing from his journal

one for



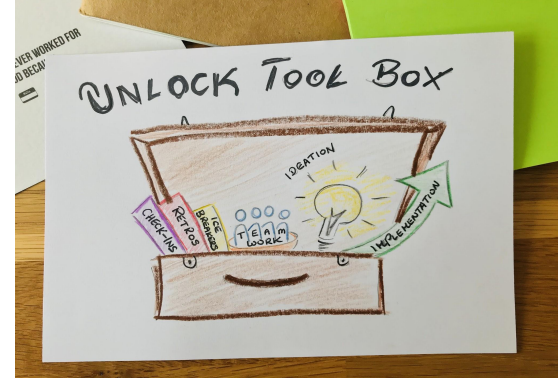
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Fascination with Weapons

- Guns
- Knives
- Swords
- Explosives
- Anything used to kill or cause great bodily harm to others



Ideation of Others



- Ideation of previous violent attackers and killers
- Mimic dress of others
- Poor personal hygiene
- Obsession with past shooters and killers
- The need to be famous, higher body count, etc.

23 attacks have referenced Columbine



entering a church
office

Mt. Horeb Middle School Wisconsin- Shooter

14 Year old Latino student

-Pumped up kicks-song about school shooting

-Stated that people addicted to porn or drugs can get help. “No help for me”.

-Called himself a “Columbiner”

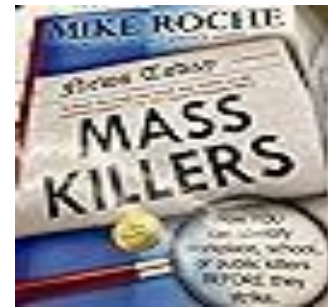
-Visited a school shooting sight

7 hrs for reunification- LEO's were interviewing students

No food, meds, limited bathroom use, etc.

FACTS

- The latest USSS study of mass killers shows 85% made some type of concerning communication prior to the attack.
- In Mike Roche's book "Mass Killers" he shares that "81% of school shooters studied shared leakage of their intentions to at least one person."
- "Leakage is our greatest opportunity to identify mass killers before they strike." (Roche)



Behaviour

- Outbursts
- Violent tendencies
- Abuse to animals (talking about killing animals or being cruel toward them)
- Expressing desire to harm weaker persons
- Drug or alcohol use
- Social-emotional challenges
- Threats can be direct, indirect, implied or cryptic



High School

During a deposition a teacher claimed that an assignment she had issued for this student was not looked at until the day before the massacre at the High School.

*In an email from the teacher it stated that the assignment was for the student to submit an “autobiographical sketch” in which the student wrote the he “feels terrible and that his family is a mistake”.

*The teacher told local law enforcement that after the November 30th shooting; the counselor claimed he spoke to the shooter about the subject matter of the Sept.8th email around the time it was sent. The attorney said the counselor never did that. This was another potential contact with concerning behavior from the shooter. (Missed sign)

*20 days before the shooting another email was sent to the counselor which said the student “was having a rough time right now”. (Missed Sign)

*On Nov. 29th the day before the shooting an English teacher sent an email to the Dean of Students and the Assistant Principal and another school official. That email warned them that the student was “looking at bullets on his phone” as essays were being passed out. The teacher said that the student did not attempt to hide his phone from her. (Red flag)

*A teacher saw something disturbing on the student’s desk and took her phone out and snapped a picture. The words; “the thoughts won’t stop, help me” and a drawing of a bullet and the phrase “blood everywhere.”(Red flag)

*Sheriff's Office interviews from classmates revealed "leakage" prior to the massacre. The shooter told students *"If I ever tell you not to come to school sometime, don't"*. The student thought he was joking. (Missed sign)

**The next day the shooter showed the student a picture of a gun. And on a subsequent day he showed a student a bullet. (Red flag)*

*THE DAY OF THE SHOOTING A TEACHER EMAILED THE COUNSELOR AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL STATING HE WAS WATCHING VIOLENT VIDEOS ON HIS PHONE. (Missed sign)

*The attorney stated “Everybody’s assuming that everybody else is doing something and no one’s doing anything”.

**The attorney further stated “to hear adults-to hear teachers, to hear school administrators- be sworn to tell the truth across the table from me and my team and tell me that these things aren’t concerning-just normal behavior for kids from Oxford-nothing’s concerning about bullet holes in a guy with blood everywhere-two different drawings of a firearm at school-looking at bullets on a phone- ladies and gentlemen I can’t think of anything more grotesque and concerning,” Attorney Johnson said. “Apparently the only thing that was going to stop ETHAN CRUMLEY from the school’s perspective that day was if he would have handed them his manifesto and just said, ‘why don’t you read what I’m going to do today.’”*

Could this be considered gross negligence?

WHO: Oxford High School (Michigan)

Nov. 30, 2021.....15 year old male student shooter

- Shared online videos of beheadings and violent sex
- Photo of him holding a plastic bag with a dead cat
- Obsessed about gaining notoriety
- Suspected to have been sexually assaulted by one of his Mom's boyfriends
- Weeks before he talked about painful 4th grade memories



Action Items

- 1- We can be proactive.
- 2-Identify a problem or ID concerning behaviour.
- 3-Red **FLAGS** do exist! Don't miss the SIGNS
- 4-Where did the issue start? (home or school)
- 5-Who is the target and why?
- 6-LEAKAGE happens
- 7- How can we help return them to a productive student?

QUESTIONS???

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