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ARMED AND DANGEROUS - NISIE

At the end of the school year, many parents and students make summer vacation plans; some students are preparing to leave for college, and others might be ready to do absolutely nothing. The last couple of months of school is so energized with excitement that many have let their guard down. But what happened in Uvalde, Texas, proved that students may never be safe in school.

It was a typical day for most students, many were beginning to reach the cafeteria for lunchtime, and others were already sitting at the lunch tables with their meals as "A" lunch was underway. The cafeteria was usually loud with conversation amongst students, and cameras were installed to catch students leaving their trash behind. But the security cameras caught something much more sinister that day. At about 11:19 am, several witnesses heard Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris say, "GO! GO!" the two-gunman proceeded to pull out their shotguns from their black duffle bags and began firing at other students. Rachel Scott and Richard Castaldo became the first casualties; both were shot on the grass while eating lunch near the west doors. The shooters would continue to shoot at students throughout the school cafeteria. At 11:23 am, a 911 caller from Columbine High School reported an injured student in the parking lot. Deputy Gardner arrives on the scene and is met with gunfire shortly after

reaching the parking lot. After barely being missed by two bullets that hit surrounding cars, he entered the west side of the building. School surveillance cameras capture a massive crowd of students rushing up the stairs from the cafeteria to exit the building. Minutes later, another 911 call, this time from the school library.

The panicked caller begged for help as the sound of bullets echoed in the background. She provided the operator with her name (Patti Neilson); as Patti hurried to give details, you could hear shots getting closer and closer. Her loud, panicked voice turned into a petrified whisper, then the call dropped. It is now 11:27 am. After shooting a teacher, the assailants continued to fire aimlessly outside the library hallway and threw two pipe bombs. Students and teachers trapped in the school are hiding. One administrator hid in the ceiling; others were in locked classrooms or small cabinets.

At 11:28 am, police were still being dispatched to Columbine High School. In the last 10 minutes, Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris have utterly terrorized and brutally murdered their classmates, but the sickening event was not over. 11:29 am The boys entered their school library, shot across the front desk, walked towards the windows, and continued shooting at students and police below. They then turned around and began shooting throughout the library, hitting cabinets and causing

debris to injure students. There were over 50 students frantically avoiding gunfire. Many of them were hiding under desks. Witnesses described the gunman as excited and were seen smiling. Ten more students were killed in less than 10 minutes, and another 12 were wounded. By this time, police had yet to engage the shooter further, and SWAT was not on route until 11:35 am; the 13th and the final victim were killed by that time. Dylan and Eric began shooting with less enthusiasm into empty classrooms and didn't try to enter the locked classrooms where students and teachers were hiding. They made their way back towards the cafeteria, throwing more pipe bombs. There were bombs placed throughout the school, including a car bomb in the school parking lot. A witness hiding in the cafeteria where the shooters were still trying to detonate more bombs hears one of the gunmen say, "Today, the world's going to end. Today's the day we die." Dylan and Eric begin to make their way back up towards the library, but their behavior has become even more random. Finally, at 12:06 pm, a team of five officers entered the high school. A few minutes later, gunshots were heard again, but Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris had killed themselves this time, officially ending the nightmare.

Still to this day, their motive is unknown. Many falsely believe Dylan and Eric were bullied, but there was

zero evidence of bullying. These boys had decent home lives; one of them even drove a BMW to school.

By the time the Columbine massacre was over, 12 students and one teacher had lost their lives. Twenty-seven others were injured; one student was paralyzed. For 47 minutes, unsuspecting students were left to fend for themselves without meaningful intervention by police. Students who escaped, parents, and neighbors stood outside of Columbine High in horror as the never-ending gunshots echoed around the school grounds.

The aftermath of Columbine left law enforcement and the FBI responsible for answering the difficult question—why didn't police engage the shooter sooner? The answer was frustrating. There was no active shooter protocol for local police agencies or SWAT to follow. In 1999 law enforcement wasn't as familiar with active shooter threats. In 2002 the US Justice Department-funded the active shooter program Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training, or ALERRT. Since 2002 over 100,000 police agencies have been trained to engage an active shooter. During the Columbine Massacre, SWAT and police waited outside the school to assess the threat before engaging the shooter, giving the shooters more time to kill students. After Columbine and the implementation of the ALERRT program, law enforcement now knows to engage the shooter and take down the threat immediately. But, there were not many changes to gun laws. The 10-year ban on AR-15 has long ended.

On May 24, 2022, a shooter walked

into Robb elementary school and killed 19 students and teachers. The Robb Elementary shooter timeline isn't as precise as Columbine yet. The FBI is currently investigating why they did not follow the ALERRT procedure by engaging the shooter immediately and stopping the threat. Why did the police stand in the hallway outside the classroom while a monster brutally murdered those children? The police station was just five minutes away. They had immediate access to the school, but instead of stopping the shooter, they stopped parents from saving their kids. One mom was handcuffed before she ran in to save her son and daughter. In an interview with CNN, Retired FBI agent Greg Shaffer said he believed the Uvalde police and state officials made mistakes that may have led to more casualties in the attack.

Surviving students have described a horrifying scene that is not fit for real life. The shooter first killed 4th grader Amerie Jo Garza, she had just received an award for the A-B Honor roll. She was murdered while trying to dial 911. Videos quickly circulated

the Internet of parents being tackled and cuffed as they were trying to save their children. Police pepper-sprayed one parent. Witnesses also reported police going into the school to rescue their children while leaving the rest of the students behind.

What went wrong here? What continues to go wrong? A tiny percentage of mass shootings are done with illegally obtained guns.

Before I finished writing this article, two more mass shootings occurred. In Tulsa, Oklahoma, four people were killed with an A.R. 15 rifle purchased just hours before the attack. As of June 2, 2022, there have been 224 mass shootings. This isn't happening at the same rate in other countries. Where does the solution lie? Lawmakers and voters alike demand gun reform, but the NRA's control over Republican and Democrat lawmakers makes change difficult.

But what do Americans want? Do they want to be free from the constant threat of gun violence, or do they want to be free to own guns?



STUDENTS REACHING FOR THE STARS AND BEYOND

Margarita Herrera was the guest speaker for the Round 1 Boxing Scholarship Banquet held at TCC Trinity River Campus on May 20th. Ms. Herrera shared her journey from immigrating to the U.S. from El Salvador at a very young age. She shared that her mother had her when she was 16 and that her home life was difficult due to domestic violence and poverty. And while that was part of her personal history, she was determined not to have that experience shape her future.

So much so that she graduated from UT Austin with a degree in aerospace engineering, an achievement few Latinas and Females, in general, have achieved. Her passion for problem-solving and being proficient in the universal language of math and science led to her desire to major in engineering. And she is not done yet as she plans to receive her master's degree in mechanical or systems engineering next.

Ms. Herrera credits her success to family support, teachers, mentors, and the scholarships she was awarded. Including Round 1 Boxing that, allowed her to attend U.T. In closing, she shared that her goal is to become the first female to travel and land on the moon. I would not bet against her, and you shouldn't either. So maybe, she has already reached the stars, so the moon is the next logical step.

The rest of the evening involved witnessing deserving young people receive their scholarship awards. I was struck at how articulate these young people were in their acceptance message. Especially since I know how hard public speaking can be for most of us. The colleges and universities that I will be attending are varied from local community colleges to out-of-state universities. And their choice of study is varied as well. However, one thing is clear they all have Las Ganas (The Desire) to succeed.

I want to thank Joe Hidrogo, Founder and Coach for Round 1 Boxing, for all he does to support higher education through his scholarship fundraising. In addition, every year, he helps provide meals for students and their families through his food giveaway program. This includes providing turkeys for Thanksgiving and Christmas for families in need. Last, I want to also acknowledge all the event volunteers, especially the emcee, Pastor Bernie Henyon for keeping the program on task and making us laugh in the process. Below is a complete list of the

2022 receipts and contact details for Joe Hidrogo if you would like to help support their mission. By A. Govea

Students: Abby Amador, Chasten Dale Komole Musenda, Crystal Zamora, Diego Perales Rodriguez, Dylan Contreras, Karina Hernandez, Kendell Taylor, Leo Mireles, Mai Lu Martin-Cole, Ryann Vance, Yasmeen Ramirez, Zachary Lee Program Director Joe Hidrogojshidrogo@sbcglobal.net

By A. Govea



CROSS-RACIAL SOLIDARITY AGAINST RACIST VIOLENCE: THE LEGACY OF VINCENT CHIN

By Jenny Manrique

Forty years ago, on the eve of his wedding, a young Chinese American named Vincent Chin was fatally beaten with a baseball bat on the streets of Detroit by two white men shouting anti-Asian slurs. The miscarriage of justice that followed – neither assailant served a day in jail for the crime – marked the birth of the modern day Asian American civil rights movement.

What made Chin’s killing even more egregious, said Helen Zia, author and veteran activist for AAPI and LGBTQ communities who worked in Detroit at the time of Chin’s murder, was that “there was no question in anybody’s minds, had the killers been black or Asian, had they not been white, they would have gone to prison for a very long time. So the sense of injustice was great.”

Zia spoke at an Ethnic Media Services briefing on May 27th to highlight plans for a special 40th anniversary commemoration of Chin’s death in Detroit (June 16-19) and efforts to build stronger cross-racial solidarity to confront today’s surge in racist violence.

Noting the parallels between 1982 and 2022, Zia recalled that Chin’s murder occurred amidst mounting public fears that manufacturing jobs were relocating to Asia even as inflation, fueled by an oil crisis, had already hit 20%. Meanwhile the Reagan administration was dismantling social safety programs such as unemployment benefits, food stamps, and mental health services – policies whose impacts are still being felt today.

“There were people in the C-suites, the heads of the auto industries, people in the halls of Congress saying we are at war because Japan makes fuel efficient cars,” said Zia, ignoring the fact that German cars were even more fuel efficient. “It was a scapegoat to blame some external force for the difficulties that were happening internally in America.”

That has happened repeatedly in American history, Zia noted, pointing to the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 that banned Chinese laborers from immigrating to the U.S., and the Trump administration’s national security program that focused counterintelligence

resources on fighting “Chinese espionage.”

Then, as now, Asian Americans came together with Black Americans, Arab Americans, and people from all walks of life, social classes, and faiths to denounce racist violence, Zia said, despite concentrated efforts to keep people divided, including misinformation implying that much of the rise in anti-Asian hate crimes are committed by Blacks.

‘Replacement theory’ drives racist-fueled attacks

Zia noted that the majority of assailants against Asians are white and that Black leaders – from Jesse Jackson to Stacey Abrams to Kareem Abdul-Jabbar – have denounced Asian violence, even as Asians have mobilized to support the Black Lives Matter protests in the wake of George’s Floyd murder.

“A study done by the University of Michigan that came out in the summer of 2021 shows that 75% of the attackers of Asian Americans are white,” said John C. Yang, president and CEO, Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAJC).

“This hate is based on the ‘replacement theory’ in which extremists argue that all of our communities of color are seeking to replace white Christian males with guns,” Yang noted. “There’s a great deal of despair, but we’ll do all we can to help dismantle it.”

Yang spoke of the strong support he personally received from Black, Latino and Native American civil rights leaders following incidents such as the mass shooting of Asian beauticians in Atlanta last year. “There is an allyship I found among my communities of color,” he added.

Lisa Cylar Barrett, director of Policy at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, singled out “a running narrative” that holds that if one group gets ahead automatically, another group is left out or falls behind. The narrative is perpetuated by “a white power structure that seeks to maintain control and is fearful of the growing communities of color in this country.”

“We’ve had folks in political offices and media stations, corporate representatives creating an environment where misinformation and disinformation has become normalized,” Barrett said. “And we have to do more to push back against that narrative with stories that really help folks see the humanity in one another.”

Poor data on hate crimes

Michael German, a fellow with

the Brennan Center for Justice’s Liberty & National Security Program who formerly investigated white supremacists for the FBI, argues that until there is more accurate official data on hate crimes, “people won’t understand that white racism is much more common in our society, that it in many ways is foundational in our society.”

Right now, he called official data on hate crimes “so poor.”

Despite passage of the Hate Crime Statistics Act in 1990, requiring the Department of Justice to collect “accurate data,” the DOJ’s policy has been to defer the investigation of hate crimes to state and local law enforcement, though only about 15% of police departments acknowledge such crimes occur within their jurisdiction, German pointed out.

While the Bureau of Justice’s National Crime Victimization Survey reports an average of 230,000 violent hate crimes a year, the DOJ prosecutes just 25 defendants a year.

“There were always racist dog whistles that politicians would use to try to get votes,” German said. “But what’s occurring now is that they are actually openly supporting these causes, appearing at campaign events with members of right-wing militant groups.”

Speakers noted that the Biden-Harris administration has issued a directive to federal agencies to look

at how they can “make racial equity real.” The Justice Department, meanwhile, is expected to release several new initiatives in the coming week aimed at addressing the recent rise in hate crimes that are mostly targeting Black and AAPI communities.

These efforts need to permeate down to other elected officials in legislatures and school boards, and to the community, the speakers agreed.

Zia also pointed to states like Illinois and New Jersey that passed bills to create curriculums for K-12 that acknowledge the real history of Asian Americans. At least nine other states are discussing similar initiatives.

Events commemorating Vincent Chin

Vincent Chin’s legacy will be honored through a series of live streaming events at Vincentchin.org. The site includes a guide translated into several Asian languages that tell the stories of cross-racial solidarity and understanding among communities and the history of civil rights in America.

Alongside other Asian-American organizations, AAJC is leading the “Unity March” on June 25, a multicultural event where Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Pacific Islander, LGBTQ+, Muslim, Sikh Arab and Jewish people will come together in Washington D.C. to demand cultural equity and racial justice.

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Damas y caballeros
Permitanme cantar este corrido
Sobre la tragedia
que pasó en Uvalde, Tejas

El 24 de mayo del año 2022
Un monster perturbado vino de una oscuridad
Armado con armas automáticas recién com-
pradas
Le quitó la vida a 2 maestras y 19 ángeles

Una oscuridad nunca
ha cubierto los calurosos skies de Uvalde
Mientras se escuchaban los disparos
A lo largo del pequeño y tranquilo vecindario

¿Por qué alguien haría esto?
¿Por qué nos pasó esto?
¿Por qué sucedió esto aquí?
¿En esta tranquila ciudad de árboles?

Mientras los disparos se llevaron las vidas de los
angelitos
Algunos de los niños y maestros
Usaron sus teléfonos para llamar al 911
Pero no one came to rescue

Desde la primera llamada que se hizo
90 dolorosos minutos
Los niños y los maestros esperaron
Esperaron a que la policía los salvara

La policía de Uvalde, DPS, y la migra
No hice nada durante 90 minutos
Mientras los niños yacían en la tragedia
Y mientras los maestros rezaban por socorro

Los padres fueron tratados horriblemente
Ellos no tenían problemas con la valentía
Porque esos eran sus hijos
Los ángeles de Uvalde

La policía esposó e inmovilizó a los padres
Pero algunos padres se liberaron
Se liberaron para rescatar a sus bebés
Mientras los rinches esperaron 90 minutos

Finalmente el monstruo fue asesinado
Pero la tragedia durará por muchas genera-
ciones
Porque en este día el monstruo tomó las vidas
De 21 ángeles en la ciudad de los árboles

Estas tierras han visto tragedia antes
Nuestro pueblo ha visto injusticias más de un
vez
Siempre nos reunimos
Juntos sanamos y vencemos

Así que digamos nuestras oraciones
Nuestras oraciones por las familias
Para los valientes maestras
Y por los ángeles de Uvalde

by Cruz Ortiz
translated by Anthony Medrano y Laura Barberena

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YOURSELF BUT NOT BY
YOURSELF, INTERESTED?



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Se acerca el fin de la cobertura de emergencia de COVID-19; millones de niños podrían perder su seguro médico

Por: Jenny Manrique

Unos 40 millones de niños inscritos en Medicaid o CHIP (Programa de seguro médico para niños) en todo el país, corren el riesgo de perder su seguro médico debido a la expiración de la Emergencia de Salud Pública (PHE en inglés) por el COVID-19. La PHE ofreció garantía federal de cobertura continua de Medicaid durante la pandemia, una disposición incluida en la Ley de alivio del coronavirus de Familias Primero, aprobada en marzo de 2020.

Programada para finalizar el 15 de julio,

Ahora, los estados deben verificar nuevamente la elegibilidad de todos los inscritos en Medicaid, incluidos los niños.

Según el Departamento de Servicios de Atención Médica de California (DHCS en inglés), de los 5,7 millones de niños cubiertos por Medi-Cal en el estado, entre 800.000 y 1,2 millones perderán su cobertura.

“Esto afectará de manera desproporcionada a los niños étnicos, que tienen más probabilidades de depender de Medicaid para obtener cobertura”, dijo Mayra Alvarez, presidenta de The Children’s Partnership durante una conferencia de prensa organizada por Ethnic Media Services el 20 de mayo.

“El 75% de los más de cinco millones

de niños cubiertos son niños étnicos que perderán los servicios críticos de atención primaria y preventiva, especialmente importantes para nuestros más pequeños”.

Durante la PHE, las familias podían permanecer inscritas en la cobertura de atención médica a través de Medicaid sin renovaciones administrativas adicionales ni tener que demostrar su elegibilidad. Hubo flexibilidades con las pruebas y tratamientos de COVID, vacunas, acceso a telesalud y otros programas públicos.

“Los niños todavía necesitan ponerse al día con sus visitas de niño sano que no solo se perdieron durante esta pandemia, sino que son clave durante los primeros años de vida de un niño cuando ocurre el 90% de su desarrollo cerebral”, dijo Álvarez.

Para Georgina Maldonado, directora ejecutiva de la Iniciativa de Salud Comunitaria del Condado de Orange estos cambios son parte de las barreras sistémicas “que hemos estado luchando históricamente como comunidad”.

“Si esto está funcionando, ¿por qué traer de vuelta la barrera que históricamente nos ha impedido obtener cobertura de salud?”, cuestionó Maldonado. “A lo que nos enfrentamos es que la mayoría

de los padres nunca ha navegado por el sistema de administración de atención médica en nuestro condado y nuestro estado, nunca han tenido beneficios en el pasado. La inscripción y la cancelación de la inscripción son vitales”.

El gobernador de California, Gavin Newsom, ha lanzado una iniciativa multimillonaria para priorizar la salud mental de niños y jóvenes, incluyendo inversiones en cuidado temprano y aprendizaje. Gracias a organizaciones de base como la de Maldonado, los niños indocumentados ahora son elegibles para la cobertura completa de MediCal. A pesar de todos estos esfuerzos, menos de la mitad de los niños sin seguro que son elegibles para Medicaid están inscritos en el programa.

Es por eso que Children’s Partnership ha estado trabajando con la asambleísta Blanca Rubio (D) en la ley AB 2402 que garantiza la cobertura continua de Medi-Cal durante varios años para niños de 0 a 5 años. El Senado ha incluido este proyecto de ley en sus prioridades presupuestarias que actualmente se encuentran en negociaciones con la Asamblea.

“La oposición al proyecto de ley proviene de personas que creen que la pobreza es una responsabilidad personal, y que debería haber pasos

para que las personas demuestren su elegibilidad para estos programas”, contó Álvarez. “Otros están preocupados por el costo de los programas en general”, agregó.

A nivel federal, la expiración del PHE hará que 80 millones de personas, incluidos 37 millones de niños, verifiquen su seguro médico, dijo Joan Alker, profesor de investigación en salud y director ejecutivo del Centro para Niños y Familias de la Universidad de Georgetown.

“Las familias podrían perder la cobertura ya que no serán elegibles si sus ingresos aumentaron un poco. Los adultos pueden ser elegibles para la cobertura del mercado subsidiado y los niños pueden ser elegibles para CHIP”, explicó Alker. “En algunos estados como California, Medicaid y CHIP están ahora en un solo programa. Pero en Texas, Georgia y Florida, no”.

Una vez que vence la PHE, los estados

tienen 12 meses para verificar la elegibilidad de todos. Alker tiene la esperanza de que con la predicción de un aumento repentino de COVID en otoño e invierno, Xavier Becerra, Secretario del Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos, otorgará al menos otra extensión de 90 días (más allá del 15 de julio) a la PHE.

“No es tan fácil inscribirse en la cobertura del mercado, particularmente para familias con dominio limitado del inglés. Me preocupa mucho que estas sean las familias que vamos a perder durante este proceso. Vamos a necesitar mucho apoyo de la comunidad para educar a la gente y ayudarla a través de esta transición”, dijo Alker.

Actualizar información de contacto

Los defensores de la atención médica animan a las familias a dar un paso simple: actualizar su información de contacto.

“Es fundamental porque los condados que son beneficiarios (del programa Medicaid) generalmente se comunican con las familias todos los años a través del proceso de redeterminación de renovación”, explicó Yingjia Huang, subdirectora adjunta del DHCS.

En abril, el Departamento lanzó una iniciativa llamada **“embajadores de cobertura del DHCS”** para alentar a las organizaciones y defensores comunitarios a correr la voz a través de mensajes en las redes sociales, folletos y llamadas en 90 idiomas además del inglés, para que las familias actualicen sus direcciones y números de teléfono.

Huang instó a las familias a comunicarse con sus condados por teléfono o a través de las páginas <https://www.mybenefitscalwin.org> o <https://www.coveredca.com>.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my opinion in the Uvalde tragedy (Mary Dominguez-Santini)

Here are my three cents-

People are quick to start pointing fingers and turning tragedies like Uvalde into a political agenda, this tragic tragedy could have been prevented if the Chief of Police Arredondo would have called the shots instead se sentó en sus laureles a “pensar” that cost 21 innocent victims their life, totally unacceptable he should be removed immediately and not allow to be sworn either to city council that’s a slap on the face to all victims’ families

Gun control? Absolutely yes! But we need to remember guns don’t shoot themselves the government has to toughen up on who can purchase a weapon especially those assault rifles, extensive background checks should

be implemented alongside a 30 to 60 waiting period and psychological evaluation whatever it takes to avoid these criminals get their hands on guns

Mental Awareness absolutely plays a role no individual in their right mind would commit such a horrible crime, federal government should fund non-profit organizations servicing mental awareness and Suicide prevention instead of giving the money to the cities , because the non-profits do the work and don’t get the funding and we all know the active role our non-profits play when it comes to workshops, resources and information

Political parties start to stop blaming each

other they need to do their job and come up with a reasonable solution to preventing another tragedy striking our communities, STOP promoting HATE on ethnicity and political parties and get to work for the people!



UVALDE

About three years ago I wrote an entire column regarding guns for another newspaper, and yes, I am a gun owner. I am not going to elaborate on that column, nor quote you statistics. Let's just talk common sense about Uvalde.

Many years ago, upon graduation from my university, I voluntarily entered the military during the Vietnam war. I was not sent to Nam even though I had a specialty suited to it. When I later volunteered for Vietnam, young and full of piss and vinegar, I was turned down as I was too short timewise. I won't use the language here that I used with that sergeant, but it was words to the effect, I don't care, get my heinie over there. He called back in three days with my assignment.

I was putting my life on the line, and I knew it. Of course, your moms never understand, and she wasn't about to find out for some time.

The officers at Uvalde knew they should put their lives on the line if necessary, and it was necessary, but they didn't!! They weren't fresh out of school but had SWAT training, very recent active shooter training. The events began at 11:28AM when the shooter crashes his grandmother's truck behind

the school. 911 was first called at 11:30. I won't go into the entire timeline (which I have) but it was not until 12:58, ONE AND A HALF HOURS LATER, that the shooter was killed. NINETEEN Officers with tactical gear stood immediately outside the classroom door in the hallway too chicken-poop to go in for over forty minutes.

The door was not barricaded with desks and tables, it was simply locked, until a janitor opened it with a key. A T-post driver could have rammed it open.

An FBI analyst said this was the biggest failure with an active shooter by law enforcement in history. Steven Claw, the Director of Texas Dept. of Public Safety (DPS) finally said, they didn't need a leader, each and every officer

should have charged into the shooting.

While officers stood outside that door, fourth graders, very young children, were still calling 911, come in and help us. And on top of that, had they gone in, they could have rushed students already shot to hospitals to save them.

HEADS SHOULD ROLL.

But I am most appalled at our miserable Governor Greg Abbott and our miserable Senator Ted Cruz, who by the way have both disappointed us in several ways in the past.

Our dearest Guv failed miserably when we recently had a bad winter, he wasn't prepared, and several people died as a result.



I possess a CHL, Concealed Handgun License which I have held ever since they came out many years ago. I had to take classroom training and firearm training on the range to qualify. But not too long ago Guv Greg passed a law, ruling, whatever, that anybody could open carry in Texas, no license or even training, the Wild West all over again. Law enforcement officers at every level were opposed to it.

But in Uvalde statements Guv Greg said, "There are thousands of laws restricting guns, but that doesn't stop them. HOW ABOUT ONE LAW GREG, A BAN ON ASSAULT WEAPONS, WHICH YOU VEHEMENTLY OPPOSE!!

When President Clinton took office there was a high gun crime rate. He banned assault rifles, that crime went down. When the Sunset law ended the ban, gun crime spiked. It's that simple. Yes it is.

You sat there and made excuses regarding mental conditions. Other countries have mental problems, YET THEY DON'T HAVE THE SHOOTINGS. Sure, it should be addressed, but it's not the only solution as you pretend it is.

And still, you refuse to back universal background checks for all gun sales. The voters need to refuse you this November. But I guess you and your GOP buddies are really

hard up for the big bucks from the NRA.

And now comes Rafael Edward Cruz lovingly know by Abbott, Trump, and his mother as Teddy. He certainly is not loved or even liked by most members in the Senate. (Described as kind of a butthole).

Dear Teddy ran out on Texas during the same bad winter. Instead of staying to help his constituents, Teddy ran off to get a tan at a Mexican resort. Later he had a row with airline employees at an airport in Montana. They had to call security. Cruz tried to throw his weight around by saying, "Do you know who I am?" They replied, "Why, don't you know who you are?"

At the Uvalde speeches, Cruz along with his other idiot GOP members insisted that all teachers be armed with weapons. In the first place, the vast majority of teachers don't want to do this. And in the second place, what happens when a student takes a weapon from a teacher?

Then stupid Cruz insisted that all student buildings have only one door. What happens then Ted when there's a fire and everybody tries to get out of one door?

Not to be outdone by his own arrogance and stupidity, here comes another Ted Cruz reply: A

reporter asked him why is it that all the shootings are only happening in America? Arrogant Cruz not knowing any intelligent answers says, "I'm sorry you think American exceptionalism is awful." And then he just walked away.

I guess we will have to wait until the 2024 election to make sure that we can make Ted Cruz walk away for good.

There is something else noteworthy. In their almost fake condolences almost every Republican had exactly the same wording as if they cut and pasted it from each other's.

QAnon and other extremist conspiracy goons stated that this was a false flag, that the shooting was just staged. It's reminiscent of that extremist Alex Jones who stated that the Sandy Hook massacre was just staged, just a false flag, and he got sued for it.

And how many of these Republican goons posed with assault weapons in their campaign ads. For God's sake folks, vote these SOB's out of office for good.

Jim Stodola
A real Patriot

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