

Richard J. Maybury's

U.S. & World Early Warning Report

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SINCE 1982



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More school shootings coming How to protect your children

Fasten your seat belt, this will be a hair-raising ride. I will try to keep it as gentle as possible without hiding the truth. I'd rather not be drawing your attention to this awful subject at all, but I'd never forgive myself, which I shall explain. Here we go.

In numerous movies, you've seen the Thompson submachine gun. Patented in 1920, the "Tommy gun's" drum magazine held an awesome 100 .45 cal. rounds. In full-auto, it fired at a rate of 600 rounds per minute. Soldiers called it the trench sweeper.

Before gun controls began in 1934, this fearsome military weapon was openly advertised and sold mail order to anyone. Including teens.

The Tommy gun was so simple it required no training for use as a school sweeper. Just open the shipping carton, load, and blaze away.

Yet, as far as I have been able to determine, no student or teacher was ever shot at by a Thompson.

And, school shootings of any kind were almost unknown until the 1960s.

This is without a doubt...

...my most important warning ever: to me the evidence is convincing that violence in the public schools has begun to skyrocket.

The schools were already in trouble due to a century of political tinkering with them. Now, I believe, the advent of smartphones has brought them to the breaking point.

If you have school-age children or grandchildren, I will give suggestions for keeping them safe. The suggestions may also solve some of your most worrisome family problems. This will all come clear when we understand where the disaster came from.

Here's the story

Under "School shootings in the U.S.," Wikipedia reports a plethora of revealing statistics about known incidents. I've boiled them down for you to this:

In the 19th century, meaning the days of the so-called wild west (it wasn't really wild compared to America today) school murders were practically non-existent. This in spite of the fact that there were no gun controls, and due to the vast surplus of Civil War weapons, much of the population, including youths, were armed to the teeth.

In mid 20th century, school murders became far more common despite gun controls.

The 21st century has already brought more school murders than all of the 20th century. It's not yet an epidemic, but as I will show, it is almost certainly headed in that direction.

Every school shooting is blamed on guns

Each time, most of the news media go on a hysterical anti-self defense campaign. They obviously hope this will lead to confiscation of all firearms.

Never, never, never is a school shooting blamed on the school.

Long ago my wife and I were public school teachers. We still follow the school reform follies.

In the 19th century and until the 1920s, most education that was not done by parents or self-education was done by teachers in 190,000 one-room school houses. By and large, this system worked far better than today's. Google "How the One-Room Schoolhouse Approach Got It Right," by Jennifer Miller.

Here, I believe, is the key to understanding what went wrong in the 20th century: typically a neighborhood one-room school contained 10 to 40 kids ages 6 to 15. With all ages mixed, *a child had few real peers*. And, older children helped protect, tutor, mentor and care for the younger ones.

¹ "The Not So Wild, Wild West," Mises Institute website, Feb. 15, 2010.

**Every teacher knows...**

...you never learn something as well as when you teach it. A one-room school wasn't so much a classroom as a tutoring center.

Tutoring didn't just flow from older to younger. It also flowed younger to older. If, say, a 10-year old was a whiz at math, and a 15-year old wasn't, the younger child would coach the older one.

In short, a one-room school operated much like a large family. Everyone helped everyone else. But schools today are...

...yet another collectivist experiment

"Scientific socialism" (aka Marxism or collectivism) became the rage among intellectuals in the late 1800s and 1900s. These people abhorred independent small neighborhood schools, preferring instead to turn out "the new socialist man," with all of us stamped from the same collectivist cookie cutters.

In the aftermath of the 1917 Russian Revolution, Russia became the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. It was widely seen as the new, advanced economic prototype for all countries to follow. (See the 1981 movie **REDS**.)

Power hungry politicians and bureaucrats around the world fell in love with the Soviet Socialist example of central planning. Especially in education.

In the Soviet tradition of economic regimentation, they eradicated one-room schools and erected what we have today worldwide — giant mass production factory-model schools. Strongly influenced by Marxist John Dewey,² these were at first proudly called "platoon schools."³

Today, instead of 10 to 40 kids, schools have become industrial-size plants. The average high school in the US has about 750 students. The one in the February Florida shooting had over 3,000, all packed like sardines into a few acres.

Each child is collected into this Soviet mass production scheme at age five. Then, like toasters riding an assembly line, all move along in lockstep at the same pace, till the assembly line ends and they go out the door at age 17 or 18.

Key point: all children in a given classroom are peers, meaning roughly the same age. They're on the same page at the same time, regardless of what the individual child may actually need.

In this global collectivist experiment, every child grows up a guinea pig, surrounded, engulfed by peers. The protectiveness the older ones naturally felt toward younger ones was made impossible and simply discarded.

If there is an iron law of human psychology...

... it must be that behavior is never improved by crowding. Indeed, this may be true of all species.

As lab rats are gradually crowded, they begin going crazy and attacking each other. Then at some point, after a critical mass is reached, the violence spreads like a prairie fire.⁴

Please read that paragraph again; we'll come back to the lab rats in a few minutes.

Each factory-type school is a gigantic experimental peer pressure cooker. We now have the fourth generation of pressure-cooked parents and teachers trying to raise the fifth generation of pressure-cooked children. It's no wonder teachers are obsessed with crowd control.

In 2014, the US Attorney General referred to "the school-to-prison pipeline."⁵

It's all a far cry from the 10-year old quietly, gently tutoring the 15-year-old one-on-one.

In today's factory-model schools, what the individual child needs takes a back seat to what socialists thought socialism needed a hundred years ago.

Yet we all grow up being told by the mass-production schools that they are a normal, natural, healthy environment, and if we cannot thrive in them, it must be our fault, not that of the schools.

After observing this experiment for 43 years, I am convinced that most of the surly attitudes, depression and bad behaviors generally blamed on teen hormones are actually caused by insufferable peer pressure. After at least eight years (K through 7) of daily anxiety, what child wouldn't be a little wacko?

Look at what is known about the killers

In the vast majority of cases they have the same characteristics:⁶

1. Different in some way that is noticeable.
2. An outcast. A black sheep.
3. Living in constant fear of bullies.
4. Often ridiculed.

Humans are profoundly gregarious creatures. If you have never been roundly ridiculed, you can't imagine how much it hurts.

² "Was Dewey a Marxist?" by William Brooks, St. Lawrence Institute website.

³ "Gary Plan," *ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA* website.

⁴ "The Urban Animal: population density and social pathology in rodents and humans," *BULLETIN OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION* website, Feb. 2009.

⁵ "Expansive Survey of America's Public Schools Reveals...", Dept. of Education website, Mar. 21, 2014.

⁶ "What characteristics do school shooters share?," *SCIENCE DAILY* website, Oct. 19, 2017.



A black sheep exists in a mob rule world. I think their dominant emotion is fear, and this eventually turns to hatred. Of everyone. Even parents.

I'm not making excuses for any murders. I'm only saying, this is what I think is happening.

From what my wife and I saw as teachers, the vast majority of black sheep just silently suffer through their 13-year prison sentences. The child says little about the pain because he or she thinks it's simply the way life is; I'm a loser, period, end of story. They know nothing different because they've never experienced a one-room school.

They're scarred for life.

But now peer pressure has become so great...

...that an increasing number of outcasts do not stay quiet. They either commit suicide, or try to kill everyone who may have laughed at them, or both.

Between early teen years and late teen years, the suicide rate among girls leaps 200%, and rises slowly thereafter. Among boys, it leaps 600%, and rises slowly thereafter.⁷

Obviously something awful is done to us during our school years. For many it never goes away, and for tens of thousands it is literally unbearable.

The CDC estimates "up to 1 out of 5 children experience a mental disorder."⁸

The rise in school shootings tracks...

... the rise of the mass production schools.

Between 1860 and 1960, school shooting deaths for the entire US averaged about 1 per year.⁹

Destruction of one-room schools and explosive growth of mass production schools was in the period 1920 to 1960.¹⁰

Then in the 40-year period 1960 to 2000, school shooting deaths rose to over 5 per year.¹¹

Since Jan. 1, 2017, these deaths have averaged over 4 per month.¹²

Notice this growth curve is exponential.

Teachers are taught...

...to see the one-room school model as primitive. It may have been. But today's Soviet-style peer pressure schools are satanic. To me, peer pressure is one of the most dangerous things in the world; I've seen it ruin a lot of good kids.

Some might claim today's schools do a better job of educating. They should Google "nineteenth century 8th

grade graduation tests" and ask themselves, how many college graduates today could handle those 8th grade tests?

I'm not blaming the teachers. Everyone in the mass production factory model schools, including the teachers, is a guinea pig in an experiment that was launched a century ago. I believe, rare is the person who escapes from school without lifetime damage, and this goes for students and teachers alike. For a teacher who cares about the kids, the job can be an emotional hell.

Spend a day observing in a typical mass production school. How many *adults* do you know who could be forcibly packed together this tightly, with people not of their choosing, day after day for 13 years, without going at least partly around the bend?

Even penitentiary inmates are not crowded as tightly as innocent children are.

I will not be surprised if someday someone proves that the Marxist school experiment has created more mental illness than all other causes combined.

The medical professions need a new adjective in their vocabulary: school-caused.

To think confiscating guns...

...will solve the violence problem is naïve. Without abolishing the *cause* of the violence, meaning the peer pressure cookers, it would only direct the killers' attention to other weapons.

Especially bombs. Ask any chemist. Our world is filled with simple, cheap things that can easily be made to burn furiously or explode. Molotov cocktails, pipe bombs, propane bombs, the list is endless. The 1995 Oklahoma City device killed or wounded almost a thousand.¹³ It was made of fertilizer, diesel fuel and automobile racing fuel anyone can buy.

Recent years have brought a dramatic increase in school bomb threats. Nationwide they're now running at about 100 per day (and this is typical around the world). So we know for a fact that thousands of kids are already thinking along IED lines.¹⁴

The mass production factory-model schools...

...should be sold off and converted to something useful, like factories. We need to go back to the original American neighborhood one-room model, with obvious modern technological improvements. But this won't happen anytime soon, so...

⁷ "Increase in Suicide in the United States..." Centers for Disease Control website, Brief 241, April 2016.

⁸ "Up to 1 in 5 children suffer from mental disorder," Reuters website, May 16, 2013, quoting US Center for Disease Control.

⁹ "List of School Shootings in the U.S.," WIKIPEDIA.

¹⁰ STATISTICAL ABSTRACT OF THE U.S., COLONIAL TIMES TO THE PRESENT, 1957 ed., p.208.

¹¹ Ibid., "List of School Shootings in the U.S.," WIKIPEDIA.

¹² Ibid., "List of School Shootings in the U.S.," WIKIPEDIA.

¹³ NEW YORK DAILY NEWS website, April 14, 2015.

¹⁴ IED: improvised explosive device. "Study Analyzes Bomb Threats in Schools," SECURITY MAGAZINE website, Oct. 31, 2016.

**...under the ancient principle of loco parentis...**

...a teacher's first responsibility, both ethically and legally, is to keep the children safe. All teachers in peer pressure cookers should be armed, rigorously trained and periodically tested.

Each violent incident is an inspiration for copy cats. In the 31 days after the Florida incident, there were ten more school shootings resulting in injury or death, and seven more attempts thwarted by police.¹⁵

I care about you and your loved ones, so if you have a child or grandchild in school, here is more information plus sources of help:

- A teen's brain is not mature. Among other things, the mind has not yet developed the rugged individualism necessary to stand up against mob rule. In this era of teen cellphone savagery — cyber bullying, cyber slander, cyber sex, cyber insults, cyber ridicule, cyber ostracism — peer pressure grows more intense by the day. And, unlike in the past, kids can never escape it. Peer pressure is a parasite that rides home with them on their phones.

The iPhone came out in 2007, and since then, suicide rates among teen boys have risen 30%, and girls 100%.¹⁶

Even children who are not ridiculed live in fear they will be. So they worship the god of popularity. Facebook "likes" are the measure of self-worth. Some teens will do anything to accumulate them, including posting nude photos of themselves for every pervert in the world to copy and track back to the source.

Google "how to limit a child's cell phone use," and check out control apps such as Kidslox and Mobile Guardian. Better, give the child a simple flip phone without smartphone capabilities.

- Teach them to never ridicule, and steer well clear of those who do. We have no way to know how close to going berserk a victim might be.

- Remember the rats reaching critical mass, and their sudden tidal wave of violence. I think the desperate, frantic addiction to likes points to approaching critical mass insanity.

Google "wikihow, how to survive a school or workplace shooting." The three most crucial tactics are: (1) don't get cornered, (2) run fast and far, and (3) if you can't run, hide *quietly* behind something solid like concrete. Drill the children on those 20 words until they can recite them in their sleep. Teach them that in a shooting, their best friends are speed and concrete.

- Visit their school and point out escape routes.

- Take them to a building site and show them which parts of a wall are solid, and which are hollow.
- In a mass-production peer pressure cooker, the desire to be popular easily becomes an addiction. At the same time as you periodically remind your children about the dangers of alcohol, tobacco, sex and drugs, warn about peer pressure; it's the pusher of the other four.
- Millions of children live in their parents' homes but are being raised by the people on their smartphones. Search WebMD.com for its articles about helping kids handle peer pressure. Most importantly, teach children how to choose friends wisely, and steer clear of bad apples.

You might consider putting them through our three-hour Ethics Solutions® course so they can more easily identify persons who are ethical. It's satisfaction guaranteed or your money back. Go to ethicssolutions.net and click on "For Parents and Children." Or call 1-877-226-1263.

- In a mass production school, if your child needs something and is not getting it, confront the teachers and administrators and demand it. You are the customer. Your taxes pay their salaries. The squeaky wheel gets the grease. If they do not supply your child with what the child needs, insert the word attorney into the conversation.

- If it is within your means, consider home schooling (see hslda.org, and Homeschool.com) or *small* private schools.

Don't get me wrong

I'm not trying to panic you, I'm just trying to prepare you.

Also, please keep the threats in perspective. At present, an American is 2,270% more likely to die in a car than in a mass shooting.¹⁷

Granted, there is no telling what the future will bring. But even if it turns out as bad as the exponential trend seems to indicate, I'm quite sure that if you and your children are prepared, you will come through fine. Also...

...good things will emerge from this crisis

One is that as the mass production Soviet style schools grow worse, more parents and teachers will go in search of alternatives that are healthy.

The truly great news is ...

...with the advances made by modern electronics and the home school community, (and, of course, my

¹⁵ "New School Shootings..." Wall St. Jrnl., 15 Mar 18, p. A7.

¹⁶ "Suicide Rates for Teen Boys and Girls are Climbing," Huffington Post website, 08/04/17.

¹⁷ "How likely is gun violence to kill the average American?" BUSINESS INSIDER website, Feb. 15, 2018.



Uncle Eric books! 800-509-5400; richardmay-bury.com) it's becoming ever easier for any child to have a first rate education without being tossed into a peer pressure cooker. Judging by the dozens of home-schooled kids I've met, home-schooling is where the leaders of tomorrow are coming from, and most are independent thinkers.

Summarizing, smartphones are...

...blazes under the peer pressure cookers, and lids are beginning to blow off. But if you take wise precautions, I'm sure you and your loved ones will be okay. ♦

➡ As explained in the Dec. 2017 EWR, America is a big country, and police cruisers are not supersonic. Each year brings roughly 800,000 cases in which police do not arrive in time to prevent a murder, rape or aggravated assault.

I have not used one, but if you'd like to add a new protection to your self-defense arsenal, you might consider the **Defense Alert Device by Tigerlight**. It looks like a clever idea to me. Just Google it. It's not a substitute for a gun, but if you don't want to go through the training necessary to use a gun responsibly and accurately, the Tigerlight seems better than nothing.

And, it might increase the odds a civilian with a gun will arrive to rescue you sooner than the police can. ♦

➡ I'm sure this EWR has been as uncomfortable to read as it has been to write. I'm sorry. But I know how I'd feel if I did not sound this warning, and a child of one of my subscribers got hurt.

As Edmund Burke said, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

This is the *Early Warning Report*. I do not think we are at smartphone critical mass yet. I believe it's coming, but you do have time to take the precautions I've described. Now that you understand the problem, there is a lot you can do to protect your loved ones.

But heaven help the children who are not prepared. I regard this report as my most important warning ever. You are welcome to the complete issue of the *May 2018 EWR*, and I hereby give permission for anyone to copy and distribute as widely as they think necessary. If you wish to do so electronically, a PDF version is at earlywarningreport.com/May2018EWR.pdf.



Our *Uncle Eric* series has tied for first place in the Government category of the 2017 *Practical Homeschooling Reader Awards* (an award it also tied for in 2011, 2014, 2015, and won *First Place* in 2012).

"A Practical Homeschooling Reader Award is the highest honor the homeschool community can bestow. The winners are the products that receive the highest rating from hundreds of seasoned users."

— Mary Pride, Publisher of
Practical Homeschooling
www.home-school.com

"For those who are unfamiliar with May-bury's work, it's important to know his *Uncle Eric* book series is one of the best educations on history, liberty, personal responsibility, and the idea of America that you can find anywhere, for any price."

—Porter Stansberry

Preview the *Uncle Eric* books
richardmaybury.com/books.html



"*Whatever Happened To Justice?*" is critical reading for all Americans."
—Congressman Ron Paul

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