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Global Trends: Mass shooting

Mass shooting is a new phenomenon involving injuries/death of multiple victims due to the use of a firearm. Compared to other countries, the United States reports 20 times more homicide. Mass shootings started in 1990 and are now a current trend said to be associated with mental illness. ¹ Only in 2019, 250 mass shootings occurred ² living families in emotional distress. This association has been attributed to the perpetrator's low self-esteem, substance abuse, anger, and societal discrimination leading them to act aggressively and abruptly. ¹ Not only that but it is also believed that being bullied, feeling rejected, seeking fame, and access to weapons may increase the rate of mass shootings in America.

I choose to talk about mass shootings because of their occurrence and how they affect people. This violent massacre can occur anywhere, anytime, to anyone, and create major anxiety in people's lives daily. The United States has put policies in place to protect its citizens. For example, background checks, removal of firearms from people who represent an imminent danger to others, and gun violence restraining orders. ³ But none of them are proven effective. To ameliorate or prevent this global trend, Congressmen need to have harsher prison terms for people in possession of illegal weapons, psychological evaluations including anger management and personality tests need to be given before getting a firearm license, and maybe have a zero-gun ownership policy. While these preventive measures can decrease the occurrence of mass shootings across the United State, the likelihood of their implementation to take place is unlikely. The U.S. is not ready to toughen its policies because gun ownership is written in the second amendment of the constitution and involves other economic factors.

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