



THE BLOOD OF INNOCENTS

The Foundation

"May the father of all mercies scatter light, and not darkness, upon our paths." --George Washington

Publisher's Note: The Blood of Innocents

A week ago, I received a text message and photograph of the Columbine Memorial, a solemn place dedicated to the memory of 12 students and a teacher who were murdered by two sociopaths at Columbine High School in 1999. The text was from my son, who visited the memorial with several other AFA Cadets as an expression of homage, and to gain some sense of this terrible incident, which they were too young to remember.



Newtown memorial

My son was a six-year-old kindergartner at the time of Columbine.

Seeing that photograph evoked distinct memories from that April day, both the grief I felt for the victim's families, and the anger I felt toward those assailants who so casually took the lives of these young people, and wounded 23 others.

That was my backdrop for the terrible news on Friday that another murderous sociopath had entered an elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut, and killed 20 precious children and six adults, after he had murdered his own mother earlier that day. Those same feelings of grief and anger emerged again -- but this time somehow made worse not only because the numbers were greater than Columbine, but in the

faces of those little children I saw my own children at that age.

Most parents I have spoken with this weekend felt the same degree of empathy for the parents and families of the Sandy Hook children -- particularly four members of our Patriot Team who have children the ages of those murdered in Newtown.

We have all prayed for those families, though none of us can really grasp the extent of their grief unless we have lost one of our own.

We have prayed also for the surviving children, who suffered great trauma -- and not only those children but also the emergency medical and law enforcement personnel who rushed to the scene of this massacre, only to find the damage had been done.

Having spent some years on call with a Critical Incident Stress Debriefing team working with first responders after mass casualty incidents, I can tell you the trauma those responders experience is often forgotten, but accounts for the high incidence of PTSD in their profession.

We continue to pray for all those who have experienced varying degrees of loss in this tragedy, and further, that they would be shielded in the coming days and weeks from the inevitable political machinations that attend such tragedies.

We also pray that these families will be shielded from the coming political crossfire between those on one extreme who believe all weapons should be banned, and those on the other who believe every teacher should be armed. We most assuredly want to live in a nation where neither of these extremes is necessary.

Disgraceful Political Theater

Obama has asserted erroneously, "The vast majority of Americans would like to see serious gun control, [but] it doesn't pass because there is this huge disconnect between what people think and what legislators think and are willing to act upon." His disdain for [grassroots gun owners](#) was summed up in his unguarded remarks to campaign donors in 2008, when he said that they "cling to guns or religion or antipathy to people who aren't like them or anti-immigrant sentiment or anti-trade sentiment as a way to explain their frustrations."

Endeavoring to close that gap, every time there is [tragic mass murder](#) where the assailant used a gun, Democrats offer the disingenuous rationale that violence is a "[gun problem](#)" rather than a cultural problem. Of course it's easier to blame guns than culture, and that serves the Left's political agenda.

The tragic attack on young students, teachers and staff at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown is a case in point.

Before the bodies of murdered children had been removed from Sandy Hook Elementary, Barack Obama was, shamefully, stacking up the coffins of innocent kids to use as a platform for his disarmament agenda, which he and his socialist cadres will conceal behind a thin façade of "concern for public safety."

Just one paragraph into his brief remarks about the murders in Newtown, Obama tearfully exclaimed, "We've endured too many of these tragedies in the past few years. ... We're going to have to come together and take meaningful action to prevent more tragedies like this, regardless of the politics."

New York Demo Rep. Jerrold Nadler was less discreet in his insistence that Obama use the deaths of these children to advance the Left's gun prohibition agenda: "I think we will be there if the president exploits it." Sen. Charles Schumer added, "I think we could be at a tipping point ... where we might get something done."

Within hours of the deaths, Sen. Dianne Feinstein promised, "I'm going to introduce in the Senate -- and

the same bill will be introduced in the House -- a bill to get ... weapons of war off the streets." Of course, Feinstein, et al., know that the use of so-called "weapons of war" as murder instruments is exceedingly rare -- less than 2/10ths of one percent of all homicides in America occur on school grounds, and less than three percent of all homicides are committed with "assault weapons." So what is their real agenda?

At a vigil in Newtown two days after the attack, Obama again politicized the attack, framing his remarks around his gun-prohibition agenda. He asked rhetorically, "Can we say that we're truly doing enough to give all the children of this country the chance they deserve to live out their lives in happiness and with purpose? If we're honest with ourselves, the answer is no. And we will have to change. What choice do we have? Are we really prepared to say that we're powerless in the face of such carnage, that the politics are too hard? Are we prepared to say that such violence visited on our children year after year after year is somehow the price of our freedom?"

The day after that speech, in my daily email from the White House came a link from Obama's "senior advisor," David Axelrod, with a video link to Obama's vigil remarks posted on his "Forward" campaign Web site (and we thought the election was over). Astoundingly, the video was framed inside a page seeking donations to Obama's campaign fund.

For the record, Connecticut already has a ban on "assault weapons," and the Newtown school was already a "[gun-free zone](#)," but that didn't prevent the murders of these precious children and six adults. In fact, the assailant violated more than 20 laws in the commission of this horrific crime. Also for the record, since the "assault rifle ban" of 1994 expired in 2004, gun ownership has increased and crime has decrease.

Any honest American should be deeply offended by politicians who are so calloused that they would use the deaths of innocents as political fodder for their agenda. Could Obama not exercise the most basic decency and allow time for genuine grief to pass

before exploiting the blood of innocents? Obviously not, according to the first chapter in his political playbook: "Never let a crisis go to waste."

It is no small irony that the political party that has made killing children prior to birth a pillar of their platform expresses such indignation when a sociopath places so little value on life that he murders children. Of course, it's easier to kill children who are faceless - and I am certain that in the eyes of the sociopathic killer in Newtown, his victims also had no faces.

Further, acknowledging that the majority of murders and other violent crimes in our country are the direct result of social and cultural degradation on [urban welfare plantations](#) would be, first and foremost, an indictment of the socialist welfare state [advocated by Democrats](#). Thus, they call for more gun control -- on top of the 20,000 gun control laws now on the books.

Fact is, on average almost 50 people are murdered every day, two-thirds of them with guns. It is statistically notable that about one-third of murders are not committed with guns, and moreover, blacks and Latinos commit a grossly disproportionate number of all murders and the victims are predominantly blacks and Latinos.

For example, the very weekend that Obama and his [race hustlers](#) attempted to politicize the shooting of Trayvon Martin by "white Hispanic" George Zimmerman earlier this year, the Chicago Sun-Times (Obama's hometown paper) reported that in just 48 hours, 10 people were murdered and at least 40 others were seriously wounded. Most of the assailants and victims were black or Latino, but not a word from Obama about those murders.

Moreover, as of this date in 2012, 62 young people between the age of 6 and 18 have been murdered in Chicago this year, a city with the toughest gun restrictions in America. Not a word from Obama about any of those deaths because they reflect the aforementioned cultural problems created by Leftist social policies, not a "gun problem."

Even Karen Lewis, head of the Chicago Teachers Union, commented on the commercialization of the Newtown tragedy: "There might have been a time where 'politicizing' tragic events, especially mass shootings, was thought to be in poor taste. That has changed with the 24/7 news cycle that continues to focus far too much time and energy on the perpetrator of the massacre than that of our precious victims."

Lewis said Obama's education policies "kill and disenfranchise children." "We in Chicago have been the victims of their experiments on our children since the current secretary of Education [Arne Duncan] 'ran' the Chicago Public School system."

Notwithstanding the fact that violence is not a "gun problem," given Obama's disgraceful exploitation of the Newtown deaths, expect to see aggressive second term proposals endeavoring to implement bold encroachments on the Second Amendment.

Additionally, watch Obama's effort to spin the Newtown attack in order to rally two-thirds of the Senate for passage of the [United Nations' Arms Trade Treaty](#) regulating small arms. The ATT is a Trojan Horse. While it ostensibly exempts domestic gun sales and ownership in the U.S., with the stroke of a pen, it could implement severe gun [restrictions and even confiscations](#) -- an end run on the Second Amendment that would provide political cover for gun-grabbing Leftists in the Senate and House.

It is worth noting that the sale of firearms has skyrocketed since Obama's election -- for obvious reasons. If Obama is really concerned about the proliferation of firearms, perhaps he should resign his office.)

Benjamin Franklin proclaimed, "They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety." In the case of those who would give up Essential Liberty for nothing more than the *perception* of a little temporary safety with more gun prohibitions, indeed they deserve neither Liberty nor safety and, ultimately, will lose both.

To that end, I share these words from a man whose name is synonymous with peace: "Among the many misdeeds of British rule in India, history will look upon the Act depriving a whole nation of arms as the blackest." --Mahatma Mohandas K. Gandhi

Observations on Violence and Media Misrepresentation

Just two weeks ago in an essay about [responsible gun ownership](#), I wrote:

"Obama has asserted erroneously, 'The vast majority of Americans would like to see serious gun control, [but] it doesn't pass because there is this huge disconnect between what people think and what legislators think and are willing to act upon.' Endeavoring to close that gap, every time there is [tragic mass murder](#) where the assailant used a gun, Democrats offer the disingenuous rationale that violence is a "[gun problem](#)" rather than a cultural problem. Of course it's easier to blame guns than culture, and that serves the Left's political agenda.

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hours, 10 people were murdered and at least 40 others were seriously wounded. Most of the assailants and victims were black or Latino, but not a word from Obama about those murders.

As for the media misrepresentation of the Newtown attack, though virtually every news outlet is reporting that this was the "worst school attack in history," the most lethal attack on a school occurred in 1927, when a disgruntled Bath, Michigan, school-board member murdered 45 people, including 38 elementary students -- with a bomb.

Additionally, virtually every media reference to the assailant in Newtown refers to him as "the shooter." Well, like some [sixty million Americans](#), I am a "shooter." The assailant who murdered 27 women and children in Newtown was a sociopathic murderer who used a gun. *He* murdered them, not the gun.

In the words of Lucius Annaeus Seneca, circa 45 AD, "Quemadmoeum gladuis neminem occidit, occidentis telum est." (A sword is never a killer, it is a tool in the killer's hands.)

Finally, while we remain faithful in our prayers for all victims of violence, we remain vigilant in our preparedness to defend the innate right to Liberty "endowed by our Creator." In the words of Supreme Court Justice, Joseph Story, "The right of the citizens to keep and bear arms has justly been considered as [the palladium of the liberties](#) of a republic; since it offers a strong moral check against the usurpation and arbitrary power of rulers; and will generally, even if these are successful in the first instance, enable the people to resist and triumph over them."

Opinion in Brief

"Arguments over the merits of gun control are made all the more difficult to navigate by the Left's stubborn denial that we are already having a debate on the issue. Gun control propositions are by no means new, and nor is there a lack of a 'national conversation on the subject.' Instead, the national conversation is ongoing, and the Left is losing it badly. Gun control advocates may talk of national soul searching and

dialogue, but in truth that already exists; what they mean is that they'd like to win for a change. ... There are at least two hundred million privately owned guns in America, and Connecticut regulates access to them more strictly than most. To believe that [Friday's] crime could have been prevented, you have to presume either that a man willing to go to such grievous lengths could have been deterred from doing so by stronger laws, or that those stronger laws could rid America of privately available guns completely -- thus making the killer's task an impossible one. I believe neither thing. To pass a law is not to achieve its aims, and one suspects that any attempt at gun control in America ... would be destined to be filed next to Prohibition and the War on Drugs in the annals of man's folly. American liberties, including the Second Amendment and the 40-plus state-level guarantees of the right to bear arms, pre-exist the federal government, and are defined and protected in the same document from which the state derives its authority and its structure. In a free republic, the people cannot be disarmed by the government, for they are its employers, and they did not give up their individual rights when they consented to its creation. There is no clause in our charters of liberty that allows for the people to be deprived of their freedom if and when a few individuals abuse theirs." --National Review's [Charles C. W. Cooke](#)

Essential Liberty

"In the wake of the Conn. shooting, the 2nd Amendment has become a focal point for anti-gun proponents once more. Their message is that it's time to re-evaluate the right to keep and bear arms, but the mistaken assumption is that the 2nd Amendment is easy to change. Like all amendments in the Bill of Rights, the 2nd Amendment does not create a right. Rather, it recognizes a right with which we were 'endowed by [our] Creator.' ... Normally stressed in this amendment are the two obvious assertions: 1. We possess 'the right to keep and bear arms' and, 2. That right 'shall not be infringed.' But of crucial importance is the fact that this amendment is the only one which protects a right our Founders considered 'necessary to the security of a free state.' Obvious implications: No armed citizenry = no free state. This is why the

Founders made this amendment so difficult to change or eliminate. ... The difficulty required to change this amendment ought to give us pause. For our Founders went out of their way to be sure the rights protected by the Bill of Rights could not be easily stripped of their amendments." --Breitbart's [AWR Hawkins](#)

Insight

"We make men without chests and expect from them virtue and enterprise. We laugh at honor and are shocked to find traitors in our midst." --British author C.S. Lewis (1898-1963)



Government

"Democrats in Washington declare that they will absolutely, positively allow no changes whatever in the nation's unsustainable entitlement programs -- Social Security and Medicare. But out in the states, politicians of both parties aren't averting their gaze from impending fiscal crises. They are working to change policies that put state governments on an unsustainable trajectory. The most obvious example was the passage of a right-to-work law last week in Michigan, the birthplace of the United Auto Workers union. ... Michigan's law is similar to Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker's law limiting public employee unions' bargaining powers and stopping the automatic flow of taxpayer money to union treasuries. Unions there protested, but Walker prevailed in a June 2012 recall election. The Michigan and Wisconsin laws were partisan Republican measures, opposed by all local Democrats. ... But in many states, reform is taking

hold, led by Republicans in some cases but by Democrats, as well. The fiscal squeeze is felt more urgently in the states: They can't print money and can't count on Ben Bernanke's Federal Reserve to buy 70 percent of their bonds. Some Democrats in Congress recognize that entitlement programs are on an unsustainable path. But they're not saying much in public. Meanwhile, Barack Obama seems to be heeding the advice of those who say entitlements must never, never be reformed." --columnist [Michael Barone](#)

Re: The Left

"So Democrat Rep. Jim Moran's son -- [the] same one James O'Keefe caught on camera strategizing about voter fraud -- plead guilty to assault against his girlfriend and only got probation for fracturing her skull. And Jim Moran's statement on the matter: 'They look forward to putting this embarrassing situation behind them.' Because when you smash a woman's head into a trashcan, it sure is embarrassing for both of you. We're not talking Ted Kennedy level embarrassing hijinks, but at least one of them definitely had a red face after that. And of course the left, so concerned about women are... completely avoiding talking about this whatsoever. Because they don't want to embarrass the parties any further by acting like it ever happened -- just like with Juanita Broaddrick. Liberals are real stand up people." -- humorist [Frank J. Fleming](#)

The Gipper

"We still find pleasure in exchanging greetings and gifts, and we still delight in the warm and colorful images of the holiday. But we perceive ever more clearly, as did Scrooge, that the true beauty and wonder of the season lie in the Christmas spirit of giving of ourselves for others -- the message of the Prince of Peace whose birth we celebrate." --[Ronald Reagan](#)

Political Futures

"Republicans remain nostalgic for Ronald Reagan, perhaps the most optimistic president in Republican history. Even in his final 'letter to the American people,' announcing he had Alzheimer's disease,

Reagan spoke of his great love for this country and his optimism for its future. That optimism was catchy. Reagan ignited faith in the American people that they, better than government, could improve their lives. ... Republican principles work, but they must be shown to work, not just talked about, if they are to be embraced by people who now reject them because Republicans don't 'show up' like Jack Kemp did. Too many Republicans are known for what they oppose, not for what they propose. For too many, the power of positive thinking has been turned into the weakness of negative thinking and opposition to the liberal agenda. Jack Kemp once told me, 'You don't beat a thesis with an antithesis; you beat it with a better thesis.' That must be the 'new' Republican theme if the party wants to secure future victories." --columnist [Cal Thomas](#)

Faith and Family

"[O]ne of the historic parties here in the United States [has] adopted the sins of Romans 1 as their platform. This is a new day in our country. Parties which used to differ on economics now differ dramatically on issues that invade the realm of God's law and morality. In an ideal situation, their platform would mean that the government passes out condoms so people can fornicate at will. For those who happen to get pregnant in the process, the platform advocates that you kill the baby at the will of the mother, up to and including the ninth month. At the same time it advocates homosexual marriage, which is an oxymoron, an utter impossibility, and a gross violation of the law of God. And then, to add to that, the murder of abortion and then a platform originally leaving God out. All of that's Romans 1. ... Leaving God out, advocating abortion, advocating homosexuality, advocating free sexual conduct and government-provided condoms so that everybody can do what they want -- that is literally creating a platform out of what God hates." --pastor [John F. MacArthur](#)

The Gift of Liberty

For last-minute shoppers, there is no better gift than the gift of Liberty. Help ensure that your loved ones will continue to enjoy the blessings of Liberty that our Creator has bestowed upon us. So that we may

effectively battle the enemies of what you hold dear, make a secure online donation today to *The Patriot Post's* [2012 Year-End Campaign](#). If you prefer to support us by mail, please send your donation with our [printable donor form](#).

We still must raise **\$105,415** by year's end!

The Last Word

"Ruining America has really paid off for Barry Soetoro so far. In addition to a second term, he's won a Nobel Peace Prize, a Grammy, an Emmy, Time's Person of the Year, Favorite President at the Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Award, the 2009 Super Bowl MVP, I think he won *American Idol* one year, and he's received numerous other awards. Well-deserved all. Of course, in his grace and magnanimity, he allows his inferiors to win some awards as well. People also like to name stuff after Obama, as is his due. A bunch of schools across the country now bear his name. Recently a newly discovered species of darter fish was immortalized with the name *Etheostoma Obama*. There's a kind of lichen called *Caloplaca obamae*. When you think about it,

everything is Obama and we're only just starting to catch up. The Boston Globe reports on the latest manifestation of mankind accepting our destiny: 'Yale scientists name Obamadon, a slender-jawed lizard, after the President. ... The ancient lizard species bearing President Obama's name was discovered when researchers from Yale and Harvard universities re-examined fossil collections all across the country, as part of an effort to understand what happened to lizards and snakes during the mass extinction that killed off the dinosaurs.' ... Do you find this odd, lowly mortal? It is not for you, serf, to question the ways of ... scientists. On the other hand ... this lizard was wiped out millions of years ago. So maybe these scientists are actually racists? Come to think of it, everything is racist unless we're specifically told otherwise. You know, I think I should await further instructions before I say anything more about this. Forget about the Obama lizard, everybody. Move along." --The Daily Caller's [Jim Treacher](#)

Semper Vigilo, Fortis, Paratus et Fidelis!
Nate Jackson for *The Patriot Post* Editorial Team