

MOOR VIEWPOINTS 3

For decades, mass shootings have plagued various nations, wreaking havoc and instilling fear in the hearts of the people. Defined as incidents involving multiple victims of gun violence, mass shootings have increased significantly with the growing power found within ISIS and individual terrorist groups. According to PBS, there have been nearly 400 mass shootings throughout the United States in just 2015 alone, marking America as one of the top countries with the greatest amount of mass shootings. Since 1960, most mass shootings in the United States have taken place in public areas against unknown bystanders and are increasing in frequency. According to the National Public Radio, the number of mass shootings in 2015 have nearly doubled compared to the number of mass shootings in 2014. Recent attacks such as the San Bernardino shooting, which was marked as the 355th shooting this past year, have left many, including students at Alhambra High School, fearful of which locations will be next to fall victim to these violent acts of terrorism.

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STAFF WRITER



"Each new mass shooting is now looked at as the continuation of a debate of gun control in our country. The focus has been led away from the real cause of these shootings, such as psychological issues and revengeful purposes. The increase in bloodshed has also fueled racial assumptions that do nothing to better society." -Senior Justin Imaa



"It's pretty scary, but I don't really see the point in being scared because anything can [...] happen. I don't feel like my safety situation has changed and I don't want to live my life paranoid of going out [...] I'm worried about my safety because every day no one is ever really safe." -Sophomore Serafina Smyth

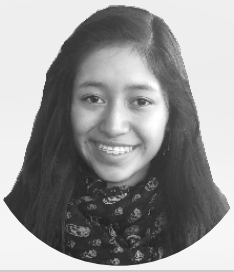


"Well I definitely feel as if there is always danger everywhere and now more than ever. However, I still feel relatively safe because I choose to think positively and because we live in a relatively quiet neighborhood." -Freshman Inigo Dela Vega



"I felt terrified. Even with President Obama's recent push for gun control, I still don't feel safe. It would be a lie to say that I worry about my safety every time I'm out, because I forget, but news about 'the next mass shooting' only reminds me of the fear I felt before." -Junior Stella Lin

"How have the recent mass shootings affected your views relating to your safety?"



"I feel like there seem[s] to be a lot more incidents happening now than [...] before and that we should take extra precautions because in the everyday world, we have to be more aware of our surroundings." -Freshman Brianna Godinez



"I have a strong feeling that my current discomfort with [the mass shootings] would naturally turn into some type of irrational paranoia. I'm concerned about the mental health of us as victims. We end up feeling the need to be wary of different cultures and ethnicities, as we categorize them as 'good guys,' 'bad guys,' 'innocent,' and 'guilty.' Sadly, this is really like a modern-day bloodletting." -Senior Zhayne Tanyag



"With such a large outbreak of mass shootings in the country, I now feel that the so-called 'safety' I once had is slowly fading away. In all honesty, I think these shootings are creating streaks of paranoia in once 'safe' neighborhoods and that the lives of me, my friends, and my family are at risk. The world is a dangerous place, but who knew that this danger would be so close to us?" -Junior Andrew Pham



"I've always believed that safety depends on the type of environment a person is in, but I don't think it's that easy anymore to know for sure if you are really safe somewhere, especially in a public place. [...] But I still think that being paranoid about mass shootings is the wrong way to react because it just makes people more dangerous and isolated from each other, and that's the exact opposite of what we need to [do to] keep people safe." -Senior Vanessa Gutierrez



"When I first heard about the mass shootings, especially the one in San Bernardino, I was very cautious about what I did and where I went [...] I tried to stay away from overcrowded places because it makes me feel like I'm the next target." -Sophomore Anne Chau



"There are two issues, and gun control is definitely one of the issues. It is better to not sell mass weapons to regular citizens, unless it is for law enforcement. In general, it's about making laws to change people's hearts. The second issue is moral vacuum. Our Constitution has really strong moral values, but people today are vulnerable to extremist ideas." -Janice Liu, Career Center CTE Advisor



"I think that what President Obama is doing right now is the right decision. We should have stricter laws on gun control. Also, it is interesting how an 18-year-old who goes to the market for alcohol is required to show the staff his ID but not at a gun convention. Those who have guns should have it registered and locked because there is an increasing amount of children dying because another was playing with one. Personally, I believe stricter laws are necessary to prevent people from hav[ing] easy access to obtain these kinds of weapons. Shootings are more common nowadays because anybody could have access to it." -Steven Mira, Math teacher



"These mass shooting have changed the way I go around: I check my surroundings, I know what's going on around me and I look at people differently. Although I want to look at people the same, safety is a big concern and I have to make certain assumptions[...]" -Sophomore Moa Mosissa



"The recent mass shootings have made me want to reevaluate the issues around gun control in our country considering ease of purchase regarding background checks and holding periods. The recent mass shootings have also made me want to reevaluate our country's stigma around mental illness[es] and how the media might be adding to the negativity around it." -Leah Christian, English teacher



"I don't feel too scared or too afraid to go about my normal routine [...] I just feel that the government does need to figure out what to do when it comes to terrorism, when it comes to gun control and when it comes to ensuring people in the US that it's safe and [that] we are secure and [...] can go about doing our normal business." -Rodolfo Bravo, Government/Economics teacher

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