

YOUR OPINION

On school safety

There has been an unconscionable deluge of words regarding availability and/or possession of weapons such as the AR-15 and background checks of potential purchasers. I have not heard one sentence addressing the real

issue that allowed the murder of 17 innocents at the Parkland, Florida high school.

My question: how was a 130-pound young man lugging a duffle bag loaded with an AR-15 and many cartridges of ammunition allowed free access into a school building?

I firmly believe a simple

locking of all doors would have precluded this horrific event. This young man lived approximately 1 1/2 miles from the school. Did he walk all the way carrying the duffle bag, unobserved, or did someone drive him? Is there

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more than one entrance that he might have entered unchallenged? How unsafe does that make the school premises?

All the talk about limiting ownership of the AR-15 by this deranged person. Would those who raise this point have been assuaged were he to have used an 'ordinary' rifle and murdered but 6 or 8 instead of 17? Millions of dollars and countless hours will be wasted in attempting to limit availability of certain weapons. But right now for a relatively modest few thousand dollars and electronic system to lock and monitor all entrances to the school could have been installed.

With a single armed guard to monitor the security cameras and attempts to overcome the electronic locks.

I am not a resident of Rabun County but own a home there. I hope and pray our local schools are better prepared than the one in Parkland, Florida.

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