

# Mass Shootings – The X Factor



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By Alexander Baron



**38**  
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In recent years there have been a number of mass shootings in the United States. Some of these can be explained in simple terms of human evil, for example the Washington Sniper case of 2002 – the handiwork of John Allen Muhammad and his teenage sidekick. Muhammad had a rational if bizarre motive for his crimes. Others are not so easily explained.



*Mugshot of Dylan Roof taken by the  
Charleston County Sheriff's Office*

The worst current case is that of the Charleston church massacre. Although he has not yet been tried it will not prejudice his trial to point out that the prime and only suspect, Dylann Roof, has been reported to have used Suboxone, a drug whose side-effects include both cognitive and neural inhibition. Whatever animosity Roof may have harboured toward blacks, this may well have been what tipped him over the edge. There are many people in the United States and elsewhere who hold grudges – both rational and irrational – against blacks, whites, men, women, the rich, the poor...everyone and then some. The big difference is that most people don't commit mass murder *and* throw away their own lives in addition to it simply because of a grievance or even a pathological hatred.

There is **clear evidence** that mind-altering drugs, especially those prescribed by psychiatrists, have played an important role in not only mass shootings but other crimes. One of the perpetrators of the 1999 Columbine High School Massacre was taking anti-depressants. Eric Harris had been prescribed Luvox, which the FDA warns can lead to "**suicidal thoughts or actions**". This is an *anti-depressant*? It is even likely that mass shootings that have a clear political motive, including Islamist terror, are due as much to psychiatric drugs as to ideology.

For many years, Peter Breggin was a lone voice warning against this, but he is alone no more. You might though like to check out **his website**, and also his **YouTube videos** on the subject. Although mass shootings are an American tradition, they do occur elsewhere too, but the combination of its insane gun culture and the almost wilful prescribing of drugs such as Luvox is clearly a fatal combination.

\*Journal reference: "Antidepressants and Suicide in Adolescents and Adults"

**38**  
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