

A Brief History of Columbine and Its Effect

Nicole Guzman
Senior Division
Historical Paper
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Two people took many days and weeks to plan out hate, but love responded in an instant.

- Patrick Downes, 2016¹

The Columbine High School massacre was the first and most significant school shooting in America to date. The Columbine massacre resulted in the death of 12 students and one teacher, including the shooters, along with 20 other injured victims.. The Columbine shooting occurred in Jefferson County, Colorado on April 20, 1999, when Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold walked in at 11:19 am and began to open fire before committing suicide.² This was marked as one of the most tragic events in U.S history, but triumph followed soon after with new regulations set in by Colorado and the rest of the nation regarding gun control and overall safety. Schools and students across the nation have been affected by the shootings and had to adapt to a new era, which consists of having to be ready for the worst. This results in many schools and students now having to be prepared in case of future shootings occurring in which many people across the country have taken matters into their own hands to ensure that schools become more safe and that students are protected.

Early Signs of Massacre

Months before the Columbine shooting, Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris demonstrated concerning signs and behavior that hinted at their future actions. Essays and conversations by both students were investigated and illustrated problematic conduct. Dylan Klebold submitted a

¹ Bologna, Jamie. "Patriots Day' Is A Difficult Reminder Of Boston Marathon Bombing." *WBUR*, WBUR, 15 Dec. 2016.

² History.com Staff. "Columbine Shooting." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 2009.

grim essay for his creative writing class two months before the shooting, in which the storyline and details resembled many ideas from their deadly plan. His essay describes a story where one killer, mostly similar to Harris, brutally murders his “preps” as Dylan is a bystander who recounts what he sees and experiences.³ This was a huge red flag, which was ultimately ignored by officials after Dylan’s teacher voiced her concerns⁴, and at the time should have been looked into. Certain topics such as the one that Dylan addressed in his story were questionable and concerning, however, at the time, there wasn’t a huge emphasis on certain issues unlike today regarding mental health. To this day, the medical field struggles to truly understand psychopaths motives and how to help them, so it must have been a more difficult topic and situation to deal with years ago.⁵

Eric Harris also exemplified ideas of “killing off the whole human race” when he communicated with a girl in a chatroom for a series of time. Eric Harris printed the three chatrooms and kept them for himself and later Jefferson County released them.⁶ In the three chat rooms, he had casual conversations with a girl that seemed relatively innocent at first, but as the conversation continued to develop, the topics that Harris introduced became more sinister and dark. However, Peter Langman Ph.D. explained how Eric’s ideologies arose from his interests and influences which include Adolf Hitler and Thomas Hobbes.⁷ These were not the only hints of their concerning behaviour. According to Park Dietz who is in the Threat Assessment Group, he

³ Klebold, Dylan. Littleton, 7 Feb. 1999.

⁴ Kohn, David. “Columbine: Were There Warning Signs?” *CBS News*, CBS Interactive, 17 Apr. 2001.

⁵ Byock, Lila. “Columbine, Now and Then.” *The New Yorker*, The New Yorker, 20 June 2017.

⁶ Harris, Eric. *Chatroom 1-3*.

⁷ Langman, Peter. “Influences on the Ideology of Eric Harris .” *School Shooters.info*, 3 Feb. 2016.

believed that both Dylan and Eric had so much sadness and anger stored inside them from bullying and other external factors. However, he said that their self inflicted immersion in violent imagery were due to their anger and depression reaching its highest point, which lead them to follow the most violent images that society's culture has to offer. He hypothesized that this hatred and rage lead them to follow the model of mass murder and subsequently lead them to think that mass murder was the only solution to their problems.⁸ A year before the Columbine shooting, Dylan wrote in Eric's yearbook, which presented elements of the plan that had already been developed. It was thorough and detailed with writings and drawings that depicted horrific scenes, such as murder, and proceeds to talk about "hell on Earth."⁹ Also, perhaps one of the most interesting pieces of evidence found from Eric Harris' website is a five page rant, which listed everything he hated and why. They were each very specific and elaborate, and it was a clear sign of anger and depression which could have been better addressed.¹⁰ These pieces of evidence helped investigators embark on Harris and Klebold's dangerous behaviour and the apparent signs that Harris and Klebold demonstrated that would eventually lead up to the horrific Columbine High School shooting.

Plotting the Massacre

Prior to the brutal attack, Harris and Klebold prepared a plan to perfect their horrific act of terror, in which the public slowly became aware of. According to Sally Blanchard, a school

⁸ "Zero Hour." Cineflex Productions, 2004.

⁹ "Dylan Klebold's Yearbook Writing/Drawing | Columbine Guide Sue." *The Columbine Guide | Eric Harris Dylan Klebold: Journals, Evidence,*

¹⁰ "Eric Harris Website: What I Hate!!! | The Columbine Guide." *The Columbine Guide | Eric Harris Dylan Klebold: Journals, Evidence,*

district official, she stated, "What people saw in the school were that these two were going to classes every day, they had friends, they were turning in assignments, they were working towards higher grades in their classes, they were planning the future."¹¹ This shows how at first the two teenagers seemed like normal kids who were focused in school and working hard for a bright future. However, this was not the case and many odd signs began to appear. One student from Columbine High School named Brooks Brown experienced a death threat from Eric Harris over a year before the Columbine shooting. Harris had his own web page where he had written his thoughts, philosophies, and ideas.¹² Brown stated how he used to be friends with Harris until Harris threw a block of ice at Brown's car and chipped it. Harris proceeded to post a death threat against Brown, which Brown later showed to his parents, and they filed a report to the police. The police said they had enough evidence to draft a search warrant on Harris' home, but it never went through.¹³

In the months before the shooting, the killers kept track of journal entries, to-do lists, and a hit list. They would mark off every item that they had gotten in their journal, which they would use for the massacre. Harris and Klebold would create illustrations of how they wanted to look, the guns they would use, and how they would conceal their weapons on the day of the shooting.¹⁴ For a school assignment, they were asked to make a promotional video for a business, which the boys named their assignment "Hitman for Hire." A former student recounted how Harris and

¹¹ Kohn, David. "Columbine: Were There Warning Signs?" *CBS News*, CBS Interactive, 17 Apr. 2001.

¹² Shepard. "Eric Harris' Website URLs." *Weapons Used during the Shootings at Columbine High School*.

¹³ Lederman, Jay. "Friend of Columbine Killers Still Seeking Answers." *Stone Mountain-Lithonia, GA Patch*, Patch, 28 Nov. 2012.

¹⁴ Weller, Robert. "Columbine Killers Had Detailed Plans." *DeseretNews.com*, Deseret News, 7 July 2006.

Klebold had a friend dress up as an average Columbine student who would talk about wanting a certain student dead and they filmed each other running around and killing people. Dylan and Eric were two of the hitmen in the movie, who were dressed in black trench coats.¹⁵ Dylan and Eric began to collect and stockpile weapons for the shooting. They collected a series of guns, knives, and different products and substances to make bombs.¹⁶ The boys also made profiles which mentioned their plan of April 20 as well as how everyone would be “sorry” that day.¹⁷ This marked the beginning of a long scheme which they would soon play out on April 20, 1999.

April 20, 1999: Tragedy Strikes

Former Columbine student Melissa Miller recounted her story that day of the massacre. She had a clear sight of had was happening and what Dylan and Eric were doing. She was ducking behind a truck that morning in the park lot and saw that the two boys were wearing black trench coats and had guns in their hands. At first she thought that it was a prank and that they must have been paintball guns, but as they started shooting students outside the school, she realized it was not a prank and that students were actually being attacked and injured. Students were hit by the ruthless bullets shot by Dylan and Eric and they helplessly fell to the ground. Anne Marie Hochhalter was on of the few students who was shot outside of the school in which she was shot two times, but survived after a four hour surgery and now lives as a paraplegic.¹⁸

¹⁵ TIMES, TAC. “Columbine Tapes - A Crime Documentary in Light of the Bible.” *YouTube*, YouTube, 15 Feb. 2019

¹⁶ CNN, Cable News Network, *How They Were Equipped That Day.*,

¹⁷ Shepard. *Screenshots of AOL User Profiles for Eric Harris.*

¹⁸ Calefati, Jessica. “A Survivor's Story: 10 Years After Columbine.” *U.S. News & World Report*, U.S. News & World Report, 17 Apr. 2009, 6:24 pm,

Melissa crouched down behind a wheel as Dylan and Eric began throwing pipe bombs that exploded in seconds releasing shrapnel. Within minutes, the shooters had moved their deadly invasion inside the school and Melissa went to get help.¹⁹ The two shooters planted a bomb at Wadsworth Boulevard field and successfully went off, but the bombs inside Columbine High School did not have the same fate. At 11:19 am, Dylan and Eric become anxious and tired of waiting and began to open fire. They celebrated their attack as Dylan went inside the cafeteria to check on the bombs and Eric proceeded to shoot a teacher and a student. Faculty of the school moved quickly and helped move students from the cafeteria to a safer place. Eric and the on site police officer fired at each other, and then Eric joined Dylan in the cafeteria where they soon went up the stairs to the second floor in which they opened fire on anyone they saw in the halls. They carelessly fired at the building when the halls were empty and they continued into the library.²⁰

Eric began shooting down on on the front counter and students and a few teachers crouched down under tables. One by one, Eric and Dylan taunted those inside the library and ruthlessly killed them as they approached the table they were under. One of the victims was Patrick Ireland who was shot twice as he was trying to help someone close to him who was also shot.²¹ After seven and a half minutes, Dylan and Eric left the library and they continued to the science room where a bomb went off and ignited a small fire. Then they went to the cafeteria, where the bombs planted still haven't went off. The rest of their movements were random, but

¹⁹ Miller, Melissa. "I Survived the Columbine High School Shooting | Scholastic." *Scholastic Publishes Literacy Resources and Children's Books for Kids of All Ages*.

²⁰ Shepard. "4 . 20 . 1999 - Columbine High School Shooting Summary." *a Columbine Site*.

²¹ "Findings of Library Events." *CNN*, Cable News Network.

then they returned to the library. Minutes after 12:08 pm, alarms in the school went off and Eric and Dylan shot themselves in the head, which resulted in their self-inflicted death.²²

The Aftermath of Columbine

Once the horrible actions of Dylan and Eric had ended, students, families, teachers, and communities were deeply impacted. Everyone had a different experience and effect from the terror caused by the two shooters, but all of them were significant and lasting. After time to process and heal, students began to open up about the nightmarish day that would be remembered forever. Former student Janna Buchl became traumatized to the core and has been unable to live peacefully. She recounted how she went to Elitch Gardens, which is a popular amusement park in Denver, Colorado, and she was waiting in line to go on a rollercoaster as she heard a loud pop. She fell to the floor in the fetal position thinking that a gun was fired and people began to laugh at her until she mentioned that she went to Columbine.²³ Former student Patrick Ireland suffered from two gunshots and became known as the boy in the window for a picture that captured his escape to safety. He recalled how it took him three hours to escape as he passed the dead bodies of classmates and continued to go in and out of consciousness. However, Ireland remained positive despite the tragic events and he explained how he knew the importance of regaining control and continuing on with life.²⁴

²² “Hallway Events Part 2.” *CNN*, Cable News Network.

²³ Kuntz, Tom. “Word for Word/Columbine High School; How Carnage in Our Hallways Scarred Us, and Made Us Better People.” *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 23 May 1999.

²⁴ Werner, Anna. “Columbine Survivor Recalls Return to School after Tragedy.” *CBS News*, CBS Interactive, 3 Jan. 2013.

Meanwhile, reporters and news stations struggled to figure out what to film live and what to show the public as new information began to come in. They knew they had to remain in the control room to supervise and decide what shots to put on the air. The story lasted ten days and was seemingly one of the most intense stories that Denver stations had ever covered. They had to make quick decisions and covering Columbine tested the all the resources that each station had.

²⁵ All students had different reactions to Columbine. Some students such as Kendra Curry decided to forgive Harris and Klebold and explained how it was not her rightful place to judge them and how it was only God's place to do so. Other students were left pondering why anyone would commit such a terrible act, and they struggled to find closure. Each student was affected in a different way which lead to personal changes and long-lasting scars both physical and emotional.²⁶ On August 12, 2003, impacted families proceeded to file a "wrongful death lawsuit" against the parents of Dylan and Eric claiming that they should have known what their kids were doing before the shooting.²⁷ This demonstrates the different levels of trauma, anger, and sadness that people struggled with and how they eagerly yearned for justice.

Also, former principal Frank Deangelis recounted how he questioned his faith, but a local church leader helped him and told him that he should focus on rebuilding the community. He remained principal of Columbine High School for over 18 years before he retired. In the years since, the number of school shootings has increased from Virginia Tech to Parkland. DeAngelis has created an unfortunate bond with those in similar situations. DeAngelis since then has voiced

²⁵ Shepard , Alicia C. "The Columbine Shooting: Live Television Coverage." *The Columbine Shooting Case Study*, Quartz.

²⁶ Kuntz, Tom. "Word for Word/Columbine High School; How Carnage in Our Hallways Scarred Us, and Made Us Better People." *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 23 May 1999,

²⁷ "Columbine High School Shootings Fast Facts." *CNN*, Cable News Network, 25 Mar. 2018.

his concerns of this rising problem and says he encourages the massive student led movements, but more must be done to fix the issue.²⁸

A New Era of Change

In the past two decades, there have been over 200 school shootings in America. Overtime, people have been realizing school shootings have become an impactful and dangerous part of today's society. Students of all ages, even those who were not born at the time of Columbine, have started to take action for their own safety. On April 20, 2018, students in New York City walked out of school, which was billed as the National School Walkout, to protest against gun violence and the effect it has had on our society. Students reported that the Parkland shooting in February was their "tipping point" and encouraged them to take a stand for what they believe in.²⁹ This was a big step towards change and demonstrated to the world that students, teachers, and parents have opened their eyes to see and how there needs to be more gun control and overall safety procedures as the number of school shootings and threats continue to rise. As Sue Klebold stated, she was unaware of the severity of her son's mental health and how people cannot prevent violence without taking into account the depression and brain dysfunction that also takes place in a decision to commit violence.³⁰ Since Columbine, the number of mental health programs and violence prevention programs/strategies increased considerably over the

²⁸ Shapiro, Emily. "Columbine Principal Reflects on 'Worst Nightmare' 19 Years after Shooting." *ABC News*, ABC News Network, 19 Apr. 2018.

²⁹ Nir, Sarah Maslin. "19 Years After Columbine, Students Again Say 'Enough' on Gun Violence." *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 20 Apr. 2018.

³⁰ Lozada, Carlos. "17 Years after Columbine, the Mother of One of the Killers Finally Tells Her Story." *The Washington Post*, WP Company, 13 Feb. 2016.

years.³¹ These changes may seem minor, but they will have one of the biggest impacts on students' safety and protection.. As more regulations are made and people become more aware, the world will become a better place. Dylan and Eric took so much time to plan out an act of hatred, but love responded instantly.

Bibliography

Secondary Sources

- History.com Staff. "Columbine Shooting." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 2009,

This article describes the basic happenings of the Columbine shooting before, during, and after the massacre as well as the overall impact. It allowed me to be more informed about the topic and why it was such an important event in U.S. history. The article allowed me to form a proper background about the topic and I was able to incorporate information for my thesis.

- "Columbine High School Shootings Fast Facts." *CNN*, Cable News Network, 25 Mar. 2018,

I learned about the most important details regarding the Columbine shooting, which provided the primary details regarding victims, facts, and a timeline of events regarding the events occurring after the shooting. This allowed me to expand my knowledge and have more specific information regarding the victims and effects of the shooting. The fast facts make it simple to pinpoint long term effects of the massacre.

- Nir, Sarah Maslin. "19 Years After Columbine, Students Again Say 'Enough' on Gun Violence." *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 20 Apr. 2018,

This article helped me to understand how after 19 years, the Columbine shooting has impacted students who have faced similar situations and now they are standing up for themselves. This explores how students are taking a stand for their safety and beliefs by using their voice to explain to the world how guns need to be regulated. This article will help me by providing information about a long term effect of students rising together to make a positive change regarding gun control and school safety.

³¹ Tull, Matthew. "How Columbine Changed Approaches to Preventing School Violence." *Verywell Mind*, Dotdash, 30 Mar. 2018,

- Langman, Peter. “Influences on the Ideology of Eric Harris .” *School Shooters.info*, 3 Feb. 2016,

This analysis explains how Dr. Langman explores the documents that Eric Harris had left behind, which described his admiration for people such as Hitler and Charles Manson. This describes how Eric’s admiration for them could be linked to his actions and as to why he participated in the Columbine shooting. This information will allow me to go into a deep analysis regarding how idols can have a big affect on how teenagers behave.

- Tull, Matthew. “How Columbine Changed Approaches to Preventing School Violence.” *Verywell Mind*, Dotdash, 30 Mar. 2018,

The changes and reforms that occurred and have been made in the last years after Columbine are stated and listed with specific statistics. They demonstrate how important it is to make schools safer and how important it is to provide students with helpful resources that they may need. These reforms will allow me to explain how Columbine has affected the educational system and how safety has become a priority.

Primary Sources

- Miller, Melissa. “I Survived the Columbine High School Shooting | Scholastic.” *Scholastic Publishes Literacy Resources and Children's Books for Kids of All Ages*,

This article provided information regarding a student named Melissa Miller who survived the Columbine shooting and her experience during the day throughout the entire massacre. Her story is authentic and full of emotion, which allows me to better understand what she went through and how it affected her. I will be able to use this as a primary source since the information came directly from someone who was at the occurrence, and it will allow me to explore a side of the massacre that many people may be curious about.

- Calefati, Jessica. “A Survivor's Story: 10 Years After Columbine.” *U.S. News & World Report*, U.S. News & World Report, 17 Apr. 2009, 6:24 pm,

This article covers the life of student Anne Marie Hochhalter, who was shot twice during the shooting, which left her paralyzed. Her story showed me how the situation was more complicated and elongated than just the few hours that the shooting lasted. The survivor’s story allows me to show how the Columbine massacre left an infinite scar on many people who were affected by it and how schools need to be better protected.

- Cullen , Dave. “Official Reports: Columbine & School Shooters | Harris & Dylan Klebold.” *The Columbine Guide | Eric Harris Dylan Klebold: Journals,Evidence*

This website provides all evidence regarding the shooters and the school shooting. It allows me to have access to all the information I may need and I can have a closer glimpse at what happened behind the scenes. This will allow me to deeply analyze Eric and Dylan's lives and the specific details of the shooting.

- "Zero Hour." Cineflex Productions, 2004.

This documentary of the Columbine shooting allows me to to deeply analyze and retain information from interviews that the producers had regarding behavior, thoughts, and plans for the shooting. The information in the documentary is very useful and it includes images and reenactments of real situations that happened during the Columbine shooting. This will allow me to backup and support my analysis in teenage behavior as well as how schools have been contributing to student protection.

- Werner, Anna. "Columbine Survivor Recalls Return to School after Tragedy." *CBS News*, CBS Interactive, 3 Jan. 2013,

Survivor Patrick Ireland recounts his experience during the Columbine shooting and how he felt after returning when the school reopened. He provides information about being shot in the head and leg, which resulted in traumatizing memories when he returned, but he returned with triumph on his mind since everyone was celebrating the school's recovery and strength. This information allows me to explore the topic of triumph in this situation and how many people achieved unity and love.

- Shapiro, Emily. "Columbine Principal Reflects on 'Worst Nightmare' 19 Years after Shooting." *ABC News*, ABC News Network, 19 Apr. 2018,

The principal of Columbine High School elaborated on his experience during the massacre and how he continued to stick with the school to help rebuild its spirit. This website provided images that showed students gathering together at Columbine High School days after the massacre to honor those who passed away. The article continues to analyze how the Columbine shooting was the first of many shootings to occur and how students across the nation are challenging gun laws in order to better protect their schools. This information will allow me to explain how students are standing up for themselves is a long term effect of the shooting and how they are raising awareness about an important issue.

- Lozada, Carlos. "17 Years after Columbine, the Mother of One of the Killers Finally Tells Her Story." *The Washington Post*, WP Company, 13 Feb. 2016,

This article describes how the mother of Dylan struggled with life after the Columbine shooting and how her life completely changed. She describes Dylan's

funeral, visiting the Columbine library, and facing backlash from the public. Her story will allow me to share to the judges how she was truly affected and that this tragic event will always be remembered.

- *CNN*, Cable News Network, *How They Were Equipped That Day.*,
edition.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2000/columbine.cd/Pages/EQUIPMENT_TEXT.htm.

This website presents a chart with images of the weapons that Eric and Dylan took with them for the Columbine shooting. These images surprised me and made me ponder about how they got the weapons. These can serve as evidence to show how there needs to be more gun control and how this can be a huge hazard to schools and overall public safety.

- Klebold, Dylan. Littleton, 7 Feb. 1999.

This essay written by Dylan Klebold allowed me to understand how he was as a person and how there were early signs hinting that he was going to go through with the shooting months later. The essay explains a story in which there is one killer and Dylan is writing in the perspective of a bystander who is watching the killer. This was an early sign that Dylan was not in a good mental state, and this information can help me to support how students need attention as well as the importance of pinpointing suspicious behavior.

- Harris, Eric. *Chatroom 1-3*.

The images on this website presents evidence from a chatroom that Eric Harris had with someone he met online. This allows me to better understand Eric's behavior before the shooting and his inner thoughts, which he deeply shared with the girl in the chatroom. I can use the images as evidence to show how his behavior and his words were early signs that he needed someone to talk to as well as his wishes.

- Kuntz, Tom. "Word for Word/Columbine High School; How Carnage in Our Hallways Scarred Us, and Made Us Better People." *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 23 May 1999,

The website provides primary sources in which survivors of the Columbine shooting retell their experience and stories of the unforgettable day. The people who were involved were going into detail about how the tragedy has affected them up to their daily lives and how traumatic it was to witness the actions committed by the shooters. This information will be useful to show how everyone was affected differently by the attack and how something so traumatic can have serious impacts such as PTSD.

- Shepard , Alicia C. “The Columbine Shooting: Live Television Coverage.” *The Columbine Shooting Case Study*, Quartz,

This article covers the other side of the story that no one has talked about much, which was the news station that covered the Columbine shooting, KUSA. Alicia talks about how the reporters felt and how much of a rush it was to go to the scene and pronounce the horrible news to the people regarding the massacre. This article allows me to talk about a different perspective and how the situation affected them as well.

- Byock, Lila. “Columbine, Now and Then.” *The New Yorker*, The New Yorker, 20 June 2017,

Survivor Dave Cullen gives his perspective on Columbine and Colorado and describes why it may have happened and what caused it to happen in his book and in response to questions that The New Yorker had sent to him. He gives a specific meaning to the Columbine shooting and how many external factors may have impacted the severity of the situation. This interview will allow me to explore how the external environment can influence violent behavior such as the town or places in the city.

- Kohn, David. “Columbine: Were There Warning Signs?” *CBS News*, CBS Interactive, 17 Apr. 2001,

This article explains the different signs that Harris and Klebold demonstrated about the shooting and how it was a big step for students who stepped up to point out the dangerous and questionable behaviour that the future shooters exhibited. This information will allow me to investigate how Klebold and Harris’ actions were interpreted and dealt with as well as the public reaction.

- Shepard. “Eric Harris' Website URLs.” *Weapons Used during the Shootings at Columbine High School*,

Eric Harris had websites in which he posted his thoughts and ideas regarding his personal beliefs and plans. It provides information about death threats, philosophies, and questionable plans, which will help me to provide more information about Eric’s plans and how they were an early sign of what he and Dylan planned to do at Columbine High School.

- Shepard. *Screenshots of AOL User Profiles for Eric Harris*.

Images of the profiles that Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris created before the Columbine shooting will allow me to demonstrate how these were clear signs of the intentions that the boys had and how it was ultimately ignored. These images will allow me to talk about the dangers presented on social media and how the

tragic shooting could have been prevented if someone was made aware of the concerning things that the boys were saying and expressing.

- Lederman, Jay. "Friend of Columbine Killers Still Seeking Answers." *Stone Mountain-Lithonia, GA Patch*, Patch, 28 Nov. 2012, Students such as Brooks

Brown were interviewed where they questioned the motives and actions of fellow classmates Dylan and Eric. They go into detail about the signs that the boys exhibited and how they affected them latter on. This will allow me to expand on how the shooters were in an unhealthy mental state and how they started to plot their plan.

- Weller, Robert. "Columbine Killers Had Detailed Plans." *DeseretNews.com*, Deseret News, 7 July 2006,

Evidence and and recounts of the killer's plans are revealed and explained in detail. It explains how the boys kept records such as drawings, lists, and journals of their plans and what ideas they had regarding their preparation. The evidence in this article will allow me to explain how the shooters planned out their attack and how they carefully executed their ideas in real life.

- TIMES, TAC. "Columbine Tapes - A Crime Documentary in Light of the Bible." *YouTube*, YouTube, 15 Feb. 2019.

The documentary on the Columbine High School shooting depicts the psychological background of Dylan and Eric's motives and why they may have committed the deadly acts. It demonstrates specific events of the actual shooting, how they were planned out, and the effect it had on the school and the students. The specific elaboration of the video offers evidence for their behaviour and motives that will enable me to explain possible reasons for why the shooters did what they did.

- "Eric Harris Website: What I Hate!!! | The Columbine Guide." *The Columbine Guide | Eric Harris Dylan Klebold: Journals,Evidence*,

The Columbine Guide provides information and important documents that were found and released to the public to see the acts and behaviour of Dylan and Eric through their writings and drawings. It has a specific document that lists all the things that Eric Harris hated in which he personally wrote. It demonstrates how Eric was not in a healthy mental state and how certain experiences and opinions shaped him into who he was. This document will let me explain how Eric faced serious struggles and how he had a difficult time dealing with them.

- "Dylan Klebold's Yearbook Writing/Drawing | Columbine Guide Sue." *The Columbine Guide | Eric Harris Dylan Klebold: Journals,Evidence*,

The website provides images and drawings from Dylan, which he wrote in Eric's yearbook. These images allude to the plans that the boys had regarding their attack and the sinister values and ideas that Dylan portrayed. The yearbook drawings and writings were on Eric's 1998 yearbook and were a huge clue about what they planned to do. This unique evidence will allow me to argue how the origins of their plans began a long time before the actual shooting and how there was time to inspect and potentially prevent the shooting.

- Bologna, Jamie. "Patriots Day' Is A Difficult Reminder Of Boston Marathon Bombing." *WBUR*, WBUR, 15 Dec. 2016,

The Boston Marathon bombing was one of the most tragic events in modern day America. Many of the victims from the bombing faced similar emotions and events as the people from the Columbine High School shooting. Patrick Downes explains his perspective of the bombing, which can also correlate to how people from the shooting thought and firsthandly experienced. This will allow me to give the reader a unique perspective of the outcome of the shooting.

- Shepard. "4 . 20 . 1999 - Columbine High School Shooting Summary." *a Columbine Site*,

The website provides important elements and information about the Columbine shooting. It has a section that provides a detailed summary of what happened that day at Columbine High School and the different acts of terror that Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris played out. The information listed will allow me to provide a detailed and accurate summary of what occurred on this tragic day step by step.

- "Findings of Library Events." *CNN*, Cable News Network,

The tragic events that occurred in the library during the Columbine shooting are summarized in specific detail. It provides information about those affected and those who lost their lives as they tried to hide from the killers. Gruesome details and personal stories are evidence of the nightmarish events that occurred in the library on April 20, 1999. This information will allow me to explain what occurred and the effects that it had on Columbine High School.

- "Hallway Events Part 2." *CNN*, Cable News Network,

The events that occurred after Dylan and Eric left the library are summarized in great detail and explain their next moves. After they finished their series of attacks, they wanted to set off a few more bombs, but most were unsuccessful. After they had finished their violent acts, they killed themselves after realizing there was no way out. This will allow me to summarize the last part of the shooting and the ending to the long and tragic event.

