

Response to School Shootings in America and the UK



Recently, in Florida, the students of The Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland experienced a school shooting killing 14 students and 3 teachers. In 1996, a Scottish town called Dunblane, 16 children aged 5 and 6 together with their teacher died in one of Britain's worst incidents of gun-related violence. So, what have the 2 countries done to prevent these tragedies from occurring once again?

In America, Donald Trump responded to the shooting by tweeting a video of his speech, offering comforting words but he did not talk about gun control. Instead, he promised to prioritise school safety. He even went so far to suggest teachers to be armed with guns.

On the other hand, The UK banned hand guns in 1997, but citizens are still able to own and fire a few shotguns or rifles with a license. The licence can be obtained by applying for a certificate through the local police force.

People, including teachers, disagree with Donald Trump's suggestion to arm teachers with guns as the Former ambassador to the US Kim Beazley said that you 'cannot have teachers wandering around as gunmen'.

Pupils from Comberton Village College say that 'it just makes the schools more dangerous!' and that 'Although they will have special training, it's not going to help much because the schools will not be gun free zones anymore.'

Overall, both countries have responded to these tragedies in different ways but America not as physically as the UK.

By Mishel, Issy and Izzy.