

Hire Satanists To 'Protect' Your School?

by Don Phau

Starting in 1997, one outbreak after another of fatal school shootings, have shocked and frightened the American population, from Pearl, Mississippi to Paducah, Kentucky and Colorado's Columbine High School. While many have, correctly, identified violent video games and related Hollywood fantasies as crucial, causal elements, the Hollywood and game "industries," joined by corrupt law and mental health professionals, have leaped to the defense of these deadly addictions.

Now, even while the debate rages, and the violence industries face multiple high-stakes lawsuits, many schools around the country have been suckered into contracting with a strange firm, promising them "risk assessment" studies, but in fact representing those very violent-video and game-addiction interests, and the death-worshipping cultural attitude, that have created the problem. The fox now paid to guard the henhouse, is Hollywood-based Gavin De Becker, Inc., whose founder, Gavin De Becker, has personally defended Satanic "heavy-metal" rock groups in court, praised Hitler's favorite "philosopher," Friedrich Nietzsche, and sophistically claimed that the mere "amount" of media consumed, is more important than its content and form—too much Classical music being therefore more dangerous than small amounts of blood-spurting dismemberment games.

De Becker's product is a computer model he calls MAST, or Mosaic for the Assessment of Student Threats. NBC News reported that \$100 million has been allocated for school security in California, and "every police department in the state will have some access to MAST." MAST, according to De Becker's website, is being used by the CIA as well as Yale University, Boston University, Pennsylvania State, and the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA).

And what premises are built into his system? In one court case, two children, who were obsessed with the music and lyrics of the heavy-metal rock band "Judas Priest," committed suicide. When their parents sued the record store that sold their kids the records, De Becker testified in court for the defense, using the arguments found in his best-selling book, *Gift of Fear*. There, De Becker cynically claimed that killers often say afterwards that "Satan or Allah" made them do it. "But," he writes, "families can't sue Satan or Allah, so record companies and musical groups are sometimes all they've got." He adds: "The content of media products matters, but the amount may matter more, whether it is watching television

too much, listening to rock music, or for that matter listening to too much Classical music."

In his antipathy to human reason, De Becker's guiding light is the philosopher of arbitrary, irrational will, Friedrich Nietzsche. In his book *Gift of Fear*, De Becker writes, "One evening a few years ago, legendary FBI behavioral scientist Robert Reesler, the man who coined the term 'serial killer,' visited my home for dinner. (Reesler wrote the book *Whoever Fights Monsters* the title of which comes from a Nietzsche quote I have often considered. . .)."

Dinner with Robert Reesler is significant in itself. Reesler was also involved with networks at the University of Virginia's Institute of Law, Psychiatry and Social Policy, whose director was an early advocate of drug legalization, and whose incompetent—and criminal—psychological theories, helped to create and justify the FBI's murderous assault on the Waco, Texas Branch Davidians. (The Institute's programs and personnel overlap the FBI's own Quantico, Virginia "psychology" center.) Both were also prominent in the years-long frameup and prosecution of Lyndon LaRouche and his associates, from the 1986 raid on LaRouche publishers' offices, to the failed attempt, in 1989, to find LaRouche associate Michael Billington insane, by use of cooperative, dissembling, psychiatrists from the Institute. Also connected to the Institute's networks, was John Markham, one of the chief prosecutors of LaRouche in 1988, and in private practice, attorney for the overtly Satanic Process Church. In short, De Becker's "risk assessment" is just a cover to conduct profiling studies, for coercive social control purposes.

De Becker, Inc. is also a key link between those who supposedly are seeking to stop school violence, and the Hollywood-promoted "New Violence" seen in the Columbine High School massacre. In *Gift of Fear*, De Becker has praise for Joseph Campbell, a longstanding affiliate of the Esalen Institute kook factory, whose writings inspired director George Lucas to create the *Star Wars* movie series. Campbell was a friend of the Nazi-approved Swiss psychiatrist and psychological theorist Carl Jung, whose mystical and racialist theories underlie Campbell's own lifework: attempting to replace reason with forms of mental activity pivoting on "mythic vision." *Star Wars* simply clothes Campbell's much-researched myths, not least of these the story of Lucifer, with futuristic garb. Jung was the director of the major psychological association under the Nazis and, not surprisingly, another disciple of Nietzsche.

In turn, the *Star Wars* stories have been used for the themes for dozens of video games. Lyndon LaRouche, in an article entitled "Star Wars and Littleton" (*EIR*, July 2, 1999), said of the movie, "How does one corrupt innocent children into becoming psychotic-like killers? The quick answer to that question is, *dehumanize* the image of man. . . ." In a memorandum of April 19, 1999, LaRouche said that "New Violence" meant the "introduction of new methods, those of Nintendo games and related means, to transform young

children and adolescents, as well as law enforcement personnel, into Samurai-style programmed killers.” The Columbine shooters, Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris, were avid players of point-and-shoot video games. They, and other school killers, also immersed themselves in watching Hollywood movies such as *Natural Born Killers* and *Basketball Diaries*, which graphically depict school shooting massacres and other acts of grisly violence.

Racial Profiling

One clear consequence of the use of such “profiling” systems as De Becker’s MAST, as the method for “preempting” Columbine-style school shootings, is that public schools are turned into quasi-prisons, with elaborate security systems, and growing rates of expulsion of students, under a program called “zero tolerance.”

“Zero tolerance” has led to thousands of arrests, expulsions, and suspensions of students for “offenses” as “severe” as bringing mouthwash into a school or possession of a nail clipper. Millions of dollars are being spent for metal detectors and security cameras, despite the fact that, according to a report by the Association of Chiefs of Police, such equipment can itself actually lead to violence.

In 1998, over 3 million students were expelled or suspended. Under “zero-tolerance” measures, African-Ameri-

can students have been singled out, with rates of expulsions as much as 22 times higher than whites. In an interview, Kim Brooks, Executive Director of the Children’s Law Center, noted that what schools are being led into, is not prevention of violence, but rather the profiling, including racial profiling, of student populations, “as a funnel for the criminal justice system.” The FBI promulgates a personality profile which includes many typical adolescent behaviors such as “low tolerance for frustration”; the Secret Service, Brooks points out, has studied school violence and rejects the idea that there is any “profile of the typical kid who kills.”

The Children’s Law Center report states, “A larger threat comes, not from school shootings, but from attempts to turn the schools into funnels for the juvenile justice system.” For example after Columbine, in Florida, the Miami-Dade Police Department’s Anti-Terrorism Squad called around to high schools asking for names of any students who might be dangerous, specifically asking for kids who were “Gothic.”

The report notes that the number of school suspensions and expulsions increased to nearly 6.8% of all students, an increase from 3.7% in 1974, and “most were for non-violent, non-criminal acts.” Afro-American students were suspended 2.3 times more frequently than whites. In Denver, San Francisco, and Austin, the rate was three to four times that of whites. In Phoenix, the rate was 22 times higher!

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Speech to Schiller Institute conference, Feb. 20, 2000.

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