

International News

VT Killer's Motivation Still a Mystery

In the wake of the mass killings at Virginia Tech University, many people are trying to make sense of what drove 23 year-old Cho Seung-Hui to go on his rampage. From all reports, Cho was a very troubled person. He was described by his former roommates and classmates at Virginia Tech as being withdrawn and antisocial. As it turned out, he was not only depressed but also very angry. In a videotaped message he sent to an American television station, he blamed those around him for causing the events that he was planning to carry out. For many of those who knew Cho, it was the first time they had ever heard him say anything. Like many mass killers who came before him, Cho's anger didn't just slowly emerged to the surface, but rather exploded out of him like the bullets from his handguns.

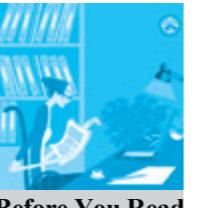
Surprisingly, Cho was described by an early childhood friend as being a normal, intelligent, well-liked student when in elementary school. As he grew older, however, his behavior changed for the worse. By the time he entered university, Cho had exhibited exceptionally antisocial behavior. This included taking pictures of people without their consent and even stalking some of his female classmates. In December of 2005, Cho was temporarily hospitalized to treat what a judge described as “mental illness” that took the form of depression and emotional unresponsiveness. It was determined by the judge that Cho was a threat not only to himself, but to others as well. As Cho’s violent outburst proved, the danger that he posed to others was very real indeed. The real reasons behind his outburst, however, may never be fully understood.

◆ Multiple Choices

- ____ 1. Who did Cho blame for his actions?
(A) His parents. (B) His teachers. (C) His classmates. (D) Everyone.

____ 2. How did Cho's childhood friend describe him as being?
(A) Depressed and unemotional. (B) Withdrawn and antisocial.
(C) Bright and popular. (D) Violent and unresponsive.

____ 3. Which of the following is NOT suitable to describe Cho?
(A) He was a furious person who showed little emotion and had few friends.
(B) People were shocked at what he did because he got along with others.
(C) He did not start to show his strange behavior until he grew older.
(D) The judge thought that he was a threat to everyone, including himself.



Before You Read

► **mental illness**：心理疾病（或稱做情緒障礙、認知功能障礙）是所有有關感情和情緒不穩定、行為失控和認知失調或缺損的總稱。一些被當做是心理疾病的包含有憂鬱症、一般性焦慮失調、躁鬱症和精神分裂症等例子。心理疾病可分為生理因素（如結構上的、化學的、遺傳的）和心理因素（如創傷、矛盾）。它會影響一個人工作或上學的能力，而且會使人際關係發生問題。www.wikipedia.com

◆ Vocabulary and Idioms

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|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. in the wake of <i>ph.</i> 隨著之後來到 | 11. surface [sɜːfɪs] <i>n.</i> 表面 |
| 2. make sense of <i>ph.</i> 理解；弄懂 | 12. intelligent [ɪn'telɪdʒənt] <i>adj.</i> 聰明的 |
| 3. go on one's rampage <i>ph.</i> 到處進行暴力或破壞行動 | 13. exceptionally [ɪk'sepʃənəlɪ] <i>adv.</i> 特別地；異常地 |
| 4. withdrawn [wɪð'drən] <i>adj.</i> 不交際的 | 14. consent [kən'sent] <i>n.</i> 同意；允許 |
| 5. antisocial [.æntɪ'soʃəl] <i>adj.</i> 反社交的；反社會的 | 15. stalk [stək] <i>v.</i> 偷偷接近 |
| 6. as it turns out <i>ph.</i> 果然如此 | 16. temporarily ['tempərərɪlɪ] <i>adv.</i> 暫時地 |
| 7. depressed [dr'prest] <i>adj.</i> 憂鬱的；沮喪的 | 17. hospitalize ['hospɪtlائز] <i>v.</i> 將送入醫院；使住院治療 |
| 8. videotape ['vɪdɪo'teɪp] <i>v.</i> 錄製（影帶） | 18. unresponsiveness [,ʌnri'spɒnsɪvnɪs] <i>n.</i> 無反應 |
| 9. blame [blem] <i>v.</i> 責怪 | 19. outburst ['aut,bəʊst] <i>n.</i> 爆發；發作 |
| 10. emerge [ɪ'mɜːdʒ] <i>v.</i> 顯現；露出 | 20. indeed [ɪn'did] <i>adv.</i> 的確；確實地 |

◆ Patterns

By the time he entered university, Cho had exhibited exceptionally antisocial behavior.

⇒ 指事情發生在過去，可用：

By the time S + V, S + had p.p. 到……的時候，……已經……

By the time he got the station, the train **had** already

如果事情發生在未來，可用：

By the time S + V, S + will have p.p.

By the time they come, we **will have finished** our work.

(在他們來的時候，我們就已經完成我們的工作了。)

◆ Translation

在 維吉尼亞理工大學的集體屠殺事件後，很多人試著去了解，到底是什麼驅使23歲的趙承熙進行他這項殘暴的行動。從所有的報導可看出，趙承熙是個憂慮苦惱的人。以前在維吉尼亞理工大學的室友及同學，形容他是個不與人交際且有反社會傾向的人。果然如此，他不僅憂鬱，而且憤怒。在一個他寄給美國電視台的錄影帶中，他怪罪他周遭的人是促使他這項屠殺計畫執行的元凶。對於很多知道趙承熙的人來說，這是他們第一次聽到他說話。就像他之前的許多集體屠殺兇手一樣，趙承熙的憤怒，並不只是慢慢地浮現，而是像他手槍中的子彈一樣，從他心裡爆發出來。

令人驚訝的是，一位趙承熙兒童時期的朋友，描述他以前在小學是個正常聰明且令人喜歡的學生。然而，當他漸漸長大時，他的行為也愈變愈糟。在他進入大學時，他就已經出現了反社會行為。這包括了他會不經同意地亂幫別人照相，而且甚至偷偷尾隨他的一些女性同學。2005年12月，趙承熙因為法官認為他有憂鬱及無情緒反應的心理疾病，因而有陣子入院接受治療。法官並認定趙承熙不僅對自己，也對別人造成威脅。就如趙承熙的猛烈的爆發所證明，他對於他人造成的危險是千真萬確的。然而，他的猛烈爆發背後的真正原因，也許人們永遠無法完全了解。

◆ Answer —

- 1) D 2) C 3) B