

Dr. Phil, or to whoever may read this,

I am a 27 year old Technologist who has spent the better part of his life playing video games and contributing, in what I see to be, a positive manner to society in general and my community as a whole. I have never committed a violent crime, nor have I ever been involved in a fight beyond a normal schoolyard tussle.

I find your attempt to use the heinous crimes in Virginia a horrible abuse of the cult of personality you wield. As a member of a much smaller media contingent myself, I am a Podcaster who hosts an online radio show called the CaffiNation Podcast, I feel that you have done nothing more than incite anger where it is not warranted in this instance.

Your comments about video games leading to violence were made before anything was know about the shooter, his past, his interests. Making blanket statements about video games being the conduits to an increase in violence is the type of trash I expect to see coming out of Demagogues such as Jack Thompson, not thinking people such as yourself.

Having watched a couple of your shows you tend to take a logical approach when dealing with and analyzing problems. Would it not behoove you to extend that type of concern and thought into your comments about a situation which you know nothing more than the rest of us do.

For Pete's sake the entire list of victims hasn't even been published yet and you spend your time finger pointing an unrelated industry.

your time would have been better spent focusing on the acts of heroics preformed by educators and students that day. Or you could have spent the time directing charitable contributions to the proper channels.

Instead you target the video game industry basically blaming it for the rash of violence of late. You don't mention anything of the historical incidents which predate computers or video games such as the sniper shootings in Texas in the 60's, or any of the numerous instances before that. Because discussing any of the myriad of predated violent examples would invalidate your banal claim.

When events such as this happen I see an unwritten mandate by the people in the media to follow the course of greater good. Think Howard Stern broadcasting on 911, I can't stand the man normally but I respect what he did that day, he kept the channels of communication open. You sir have redirected people's feelings and energies away from a tragedy and towards an industry which does not deserve it, and has nothing to do with this tragedy.

Sincerely,

Paul Rj Muller  
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