

Episode 132-- A Matter of No Notoriety

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SPEAKERS

Tom Teves, JJ Janflone, Kelly Sampson



JJ Janflone 00:08

This is the legal disclaimer where I tell you that the views thoughts and opinions shared on this podcast belongs solely to our guests and hosts and not necessarily Brady or Brady's affiliates. Please note, this podcast contains discussions of violence that some people may find disturbing. It's okay. We find it disturbing too. Hey, everybody, greetings for me, just JJ, who's flying solo for this week's podcast. I know you're going to miss Kelly. I miss her already. But this is what happens when your co host is a super awesome lawyer who is in high demand. But we here at Red Bull and Brady shell sold her on and just made easier by this week's great guest. The wonderful Tom Teves. Tom and his wife Karen are gun violence survivors who eldest son Alex was killed at the Aurora, Colorado movie theater shooting in July of 2012. Tom and Cara the turn to activism, creating the no notoriety campaign organization, which is devoted to shifting attention from shooters to victims and survivors. This is an incredibly important conversation, especially since just a few days ago, the early hours of may 30. Over 20 people were shot, two people fatally, outside of a lounge in Miami. And there have been more than 232 mass shootings in 2021. alone. If you're a fan of the podcast, you know that we've actually been following the rules of no notoriety since the beginning. So it's an incredible honor to have Tom on with us today. So Tom, can you go ahead and introduce yourself to our listeners



Tom Teves 01:48

Sure, my name is Tom Teves. And I am one of the founders of No Notoriety.



JJ Janflone 01:54

And for our listeners who may not be familiar with your organization, although we actually have in our in our podcast for longtime listeners, we have a banner that says "Brady participates in the no notoriety campaign." So I'm hoping they've clicked on it and they're aware of it. I'm wondering if you can tell them a little bit about what made you found No Notoriety. And you know what, what the organization does,



Tom Teves 02:18

Obviously my son was murdered during Aurora theater shooting on July 20th, 2012, Alex ended up having to throw his body over his girlfriend, because there was an individual with an AR 15 among other weapons and armor piercing bullets, thinking that it was a terrific idea to spray them all over the theater. You know, he unfortunately, was in the third to last row of the theater. and ended up not making it out. He was actually the furthest person back into theater. But, you know, he did save his girlfriend's life. And, you know, we were on vacation in Hawaii at the time. And I guess I had just gotten there. I want to say the day before that, actually, that the night he died, I got there, but with the time change, and Amanda ended up calling us until you know, the next sometimes the next day because she wasn't sure what had happened. You know, we got we got left with very little information. You know, Amanda was basically a basket case. I mean, I remember saying, you know, Tom, Tom, like, finally, connected on the phone. Yesterday, there was a shooting, they dragged me out of the theater, she's crying. You know, I asked her Amanda, did you see what happened to Alex? And she said, No, they dragged me out. You know, they, I didn't want to leave him. But they dragged me out. And I said, you know, Amanda, did you have any of his blood on you? Where was he bleeding? And she sobbed and said, "Yeah, a lot." And that's pretty much she broke down there. And there was not much more I could do. The reality is that we couldn't get any information all we could get was, you know, pictures of the murder and his booby trapped apartment and all that other stuff. So, you know, we realize after all that, going through them what was probably the start of the media circuses that happened after these mass shootings. They've actually come down a lot. I don't know if that has anything to do with No Notoriety or the fact that there's so many mass shootings that who can keep up but you know, there Aurora theater shooting got so much press. It certainly started this unfortunate string. But you know, the reality is, it was probably started more on how they covered Columbine all those years ago, which was the first, believe it or not news, live news feed of any story in this country. When they did Columbine they had never done a live news feed that way before. So, you know, we realized that there was something dramatically wrong. And you don't know what to do, but you know, you have to do something. You just can't let it go. And maybe that's maybe other people could let it go. But I just couldn't let it go. I couldn't say, Well, this is okay. My

son went to a theater. And you know, he died for absolutely no reason. So what do you do? Well, you try to make it not happen again. Right? not the easiest thing in the world, to be honest with you. But you try. So we started looking into it. And it became very clear that the reason this was happening, at least one of them was because they want these individuals, murderers, cowards, whatever you want to call them. They wanted to be heard, they wanted somebody to notice them. Most of them, were living in, you know, some type of low level job, or in the case of the person who murdered my son, he was actually going to get a higher, higher degree. I think he was going for his doctorate. But he was failing. And you know, he was irrelevant. So this was the way they could become relevant. And the reality is people say, "Well, how do you know, you're just the father." No argument there. But I'm just the father who was pretty motivated to do the research. And it really isn't that hard. I mean, if you think about the one thing that continues over and over and over again, is these murderers desire for attention. I mean, if you think about what happened with the most, a lot of the recent ones like the Sandy Hook murderer, had a shed a spreadsheet of previous murders, and was listing the amount of kills. The murderer, who killed that young woman on television in Virginia, he did it on the air knew what he was doing, in fact, a 23 page Manifesto, the ABC News. The murderer in the Orlando Pulse nightclub, literally, during the attack, checked Facebook to see if he'd gone viral. The Parkland murderer, posted a video saying and this is a quote, when you see me on the news, you'll know who I am, the Aurora theater murderer told psychiatrist, he felt he couldn't make his mark on the world with science but could become famous by blowing people up. But this is the scariest one, if you remember the Umpqua community college murder. He wrote this on his blog about another shooter. And you really have to listen to these words. "I've noticed that so many people like him are unknown. Yet when they spill a little blood the whole world knows who they are. A man that was known by no one is now known by everyone, his face splashed across every screen, his name across the lips of every person on the planet, all in the course of one day, seems like the more people you kill, the more you're in the limelight." I mean, you can go on and on. I mean, just recently, there were two murders where the murderer lit his house on fire. If you remember that was in the news, this last week, this this just happens constantly. They had an ASU NIU study that determined after a random mass shooting, and it gets the standard 24/7 news coverage, the likelihood of a copycat attack increases by 30% over the next 13 days. So you know the studies there the fact that the murderers themselves are telling you what they want. And one of the things I've learned in business is when somebody shows you who they are, believe them. So it became pretty obvious what had to happen. We had to challenge the media to just protect the communities and we're really not asking for anything not hard or that difficult. We don't tell them not to report the fact that is their job report all the facts report the mindset the demographics, what motivated this person, but there's no relevance in their likeness for their name, if you have to have journalistically the name mentioned once, okay mentioned it once, but limit the use of the name to once

per piece. Never put the, the murderers name in the headlines. And don't put any photos if you can. But if you need to put them in there, because you just don't know how to do journalistic creativity and get people to read your things on your own crap. And you have to use sensationalism, and I'm being very, very vicious there, then put it in a non prominent location. And most importantly, refuse to publish any of these manifestos, anything else that are self serving.



JJ Janflone 10:47

And what sort of response have you received from media organizations? Do you ever get sort of pushback that covering the shooters directly covering their profiles "Well, that's news," they have to cover it?



Tom Teves 10:57

Now I have had god it's going on, Alex's birthday was yesterday, so he would have been 33 today, and he died at 24. So it's going to be nine years in July. And I have had conversations over conversations over conversations with the media on this. And it goes one or two ways, most recently more the first way. The first way is they challenge you, you give them the facts, you give them the data, every piece of data is in the favor of what we're saying. And then they come around. In fact, I had one journalist before Alex's trial, have a really interesting 30 minutes where he was sure I was wrong. And I was trying to take away his first amendment right. And about 30 minutes in. It was funny, it was almost like he saw a sunrise. And he looked at me and he said, there's nothing in this for you is there? And I said, No. There's no reason for me to be talking to you and giving you free content, probably free, compelling content. So you can, you know, sell clicks. But the reason I'm in it is to get you to act responsibly, because we're not asking them to do things they don't already do. Because remember, with random mass shootings, it's a tiny little slice of the news. Unfortunately, it's becoming more and more of a bigger part because it happens too often because we continue to report on them with, you know, making these people into anti heroes. But the media doesn't report on the names and likenesses of victims of suicide or sexual assault. So they won't talk about suicide, because they know there's a copycat effect. They'll also not tell you when journalists have been kidnapped because they know if they talk about it, that will hurt other journalists and get them kidnapped. So these responsible journalists have been doing this for a long time to assist the public safety. It doesn't impact the public's right to know we're not telling you don't report the facts. One of the arguments we get is, well, we have to we have to discover his motivation. But I use the word his because it's rarely a female. And quite frankly, it's rarely anything but a young white male, but it could be other people, but most of the time, that's who it is. And there's just nothing, they can't report to get to the bottom

of why this individual did what they did, and still need to use their name repetitively, or their picture. In fact, the thing that they're finding out that is kind of like their own inconvenient truth, if you will, is one of the main reasons they do it is because you keep making them into heroes. So I'm not sure what more we have to show that there has been some improvement. But there's actually we we gotten involved with a study at CUNY University, you know, a couple professors there, and they did a study and the average news consumer would like less covered.



JJ Janflone 14:12

Well, too along those lines, do you ever get pushback, you know, the argument that not sharing information about the shooters in particular, you know, things like their manifestos, harms our understanding of what motivates shootings, or how to prevent them?



Tom Teves 14:27

Well go back to what I said, report all the facts about the mindset, demographic and motivational profile of the shooter. It's irrelevant what the shooter's name is, he's dead. It's irrelevant. What the shooter looks like. He's dead. One of our first protocols is if the shooter is still at large, put his picture everywhere and get his ass in jail. But as soon as you do stop showing his picture. But most of the time these people are suicidal. They think they want to go out in a blaze of glory. Because you know what this is probably I got to come up with the right word to define these people, but they're they're just little cowards. That wasn't the word I was going to use, but it's a probably a family podcast. But you know, they don't these people are dead. So no one's saying don't look at all the motivational information. But I would argue the this back to the newspapers person, how much if you had since, actually since the 1960s. But let's just say from Columbine, hell, let's just say from Aurora, how many have you stopped? You haven't stopped the damn war, you've created more than you stop. There's people dead because we have journalists who are irresponsible and care more about clicks, readers and viewers than they care about human lives. And one of the credos of the journalistic society is do no harm there, they're not only doing harm, they're becoming part of the story. And not all of them, because a lot of them have changed, too. But it really goes up to not the individual journalists, because a lot of them really get it to be honest, and we've gone to the with COVID, we haven't gone anywhere in a while. But we used to go to the Society for professional journalists and do a roundtable of sorts for you know, the attendees. And I can't tell you how many young people like yourself, would come up to me and say, you're 100%, right, and we're not doing it. Why does it still get on the news? Because their bosses, the editors want it on the

news. Because they think that's what sells. You know, what? If that's not what people want and if you won't do it, we have to get the people that supply the revenue for your organization to realize that you're killing people, and it's not okay.



JJ Janflone 17:06

And if we could, I'd love to dig into some of the studies that you've referenced earlier, too, for a minute. How do we know that something like no notoriety, how do we know that it works?



Tom Teves 17:17

So I think what you need to do in almost any situation is what are the experts saying? So I want to make the argument that the FBI, the International Police Association, and the major City Chiefs Association, are all experts in people getting guns and shooting people, why they do it, how they do it, how to stop them. Every one of those organizations, endorses what we're saying. In fact, the FBI had to create, unfortunately, an organization where their acronym is alert. And it's a law enforcement organization that's dedicated to training first responders to stop these active shooters. They also endorsed the principles of no notoriety. In 2014, the FBI after we started, no notoriety started the don't name them campaign, also to support the idea. So, you know, the reality is all the experts say that the American Psychiatric Association also supports reducing and minimizing identification of the shooters. If you think about it, when they had the Christchurch shooting in New Zealand, the Prime Minister of New Zealand adopted no notoriety and would not use the person's name. And it doesn't really cut on either, either, know we're a very polarized country right now. But give me another subject that Donald Trump and Elizabeth Warren, have both come out in favor of just one other thing. I don't think they are both in favor of Santa Claus. It's one after the other. Right? So it's, it's just in honestly, it's common sense. This isn't hard. When the killers tell you, the experts back it up, both from law enforcement and the psychiatric association, when there's academic studies that show this copycat effect. There's academic studies that say people don't want to see this as much, they'd be happier without it. It blows my mind that we're still talking about this. Nine years later, I thought this would be easy. I thought it would take me six months, and we're done. And I can go away and you never have to hear from me again. Because you know, when when we get requests, and I don't know if you know this or not, but people will say well, we want to talk to you about your organization. My organization is me and Karen using our laptops in our spare time. I mean, that's our organization. But yeah, The idea is so universally accepted that and I'm not kidding, look it up, Donald Trump and Elizabeth Warren both agree on it. And the idea got half all the way around halfway around the world, because you'd be coming back here, if you kept going past New Zealand, it got to the other side of

the world without us having any money out of our own funds to promote it. Because if you go on our website, NoNotoriety.com, find me the donate button? I don't want your money. What I want is you to be to, if you're a journalist to be responsible. And if you're a consumer of journalism, if you see them being irresponsible, quite honestly, I don't care at this point, if you call it the news station, let's say it's USA Today. Look at where the ad is, and call the CEO of the ad that's closest to that article and light up his email, you want to know something, if we start doing that, as a people, what will happen is, they won't do this anymore, and we'll have less shooting, he won't get rid of all the shootings. So I don't I'm not saying this is fixable, and 100% of these shootings will go away. If you got rid of 30% of them. Think about all the happy people that would have family around on Memorial Day that they didn't, because they didn't die in all these mass shootings.



JJ Janflone 21:26

And to lock back a little bit. I think it's so interesting for you to talk about sort of thinking that this would be solved so quickly. Because I know that's something that we've talked about on this podcast before. As you know, I certainly thought when I joined Brady, like this can't be a contentious issue trying to save lives. And surprise, it actually is. So I do know that one of the questions I have for you coming sort of personally directly as a podcaster is one of the things we've seen in this space is true crime sort of exploding in terms of popularity. And I've noticed that I've seen your podcast, but also, you know, television shows and things devoted to detailing mass shootings in the way that previously they've only really detailed things like serial killers, which is to say, focusing really fully on the backgrounds and stories of the perpetrators. And I'm just wondering if you're all sort of concerned about that about sort of new media and whether or not it knows about no notoriety?



Tom Teves 22:21

Well, you always have to work at the art of the possible, right? Because if you try to get something perfect, you'll never do anything. Right. You know what, that isn't what we're worried about. They don't want to be on the internet, they can put themselves on the internet. And quite honestly, unless you have a really popular podcast. That's I think that's something you can do later. But I don't think it's relevant. It's when you're on, you know, you're splashed across CNN or Fox or the, you know, ABC, CBS, NBC, you know, the, if you're in a major newspaper on the front page, that's really where the problem starts the rest of it. Yeah. Is it? Is it perfect? No, but are you going to go do you think getting on somebody's podcast is what they think a blaze of glory is? My gut says no, I would be willing to do the do the experiment of we'll leave the podcasters alone, let's just get the

major news networks and start doing it and see what happens. I'm willing to take that risk.



JJ Janflone 23:25

Well, and then I think that sort of then slides into, you know, how do we shift this attention? So we've talked about what we would what you would like to see media not report on? What would you like the media to report on? Is it more stories of survivors? Is it more stories of the lives that were lost? You know, what would an ideal world coverage look like?



Tom Teves 23:50

If the viewer, let's, let's say a shooter lives, and rarely they do, but then some of them do, which was the wonderful thing that happened to Karen and I and then we got to spend, Oh, God, probably from March till September, Karen attending every day and I attended when I could, and living in Colorado while this thing was tried. I think that when they're if they're getting fried, you can report on the trial. There's nothing wrong with that. But again, you don't have to use their names. You don't have to use their pictures. We don't have to televise the trials. And in fact, it's really not fair to televise the trial, because there were pictures. You know, Alex was he got hit in the temple with an armor piercing bullet from 100 round magazine of a semi automatic rifle. There wasn't much left of his face, or his the back of his head. To be quite frank. These pictures were so grotesque that even the wonderful and I'm being visicious again lawyers who defend these things, because they want to get away from the whole capital punishment issue. They actually though they objected to everything, including, you know, can the prosecutor take a drink of water? They objected to Alex's picture twice. I made a decision when we got there after I talked to the coroner to not let his mother or his brother see him that way, because I knew that that would take the vision of Alex in their mind to a whole nother place that they could never get back. There are some things you can't unsee. Alex is not a public figure. He happened to be in a movie theater. There's no way someone else should have the right to blast that picture across the country. So there has to be some responsibility. Have we just lost our minds? That there is no humanity? We don't care about anything. Because I would say, what are you going to do that day when you get the call? And it's your child whose dead or your brother, that's a little too late to start being responsible. And we are having the media get people killed. It's that simple.



JJ Janflone 26:22

Have you seen and I know we talked about this really briefly at the beginning. But have

you seen a change in the way that these mass shootings have been covered? In regards to how shooters are discussed? I know that I've noticed, I think an improvement, I would say post Sandy Hook in the way that the reporting has been done on shooters. But I mean, you would obviously be sort of the the expert in this area. Have you seen any sort of changes in that area?



Tom Teves 26:47

Yeah, I think they've changed it, just enough to be able to still do it. I think they have gotten better, I think they're, they're put it- because I think if they didn't change, the public would have rose up and shut them down. And then it would have been there would have been some type of law are something you know it really doesn't take an act of Congress, just if the public just turned off your station. And you don't want that to happen. Because once people move to another station, they're habitual, right, they're probably not going to move back. So they've, they've creatively changed it just enough that they can still get whatever they think's important out there. But it's not as pertuitive as it used to be. But, you know, I looked at a picture of the Las Vegas shooter. And on the back page, I think of the New York Post, and you know, I mean, I don't know if you'd argue that's a major newspaper or not, you know, there's different feelings on that. But it poses as a newspaper, at least in New York City, you know, it was the killers lair, and it had all these guns and all that, there was no journalistic value. All it does is give some other crazy bastard the idea to go shoot people. And excuse me for using the word bastard. But, you know, obviously, I don't have a lot of patience for it.



JJ Janflone 28:06

I don't think anyone out there blames you. For it. But you're right.



Tom Teves 28:13

My wife's gonna yell at me. She's gonna tell me I should've been much more calm. But sometimes it's just, especially since yesterday was Alex's birthday, it just doesn't go away. Right? Did you know you move on to your next story. I look at an empty chair for the rest of my life. I look at, you know, weddings that I didn't go to and quite frankly, grandchildren I won't hold. So I'm just one of 1000s that this has happened to. So you know what, just because you want to make a few more bucks. You know, I have a few words for you. And I don't think you'd like them. Not you particularly by the way.



JJ Janflone 28:56

Well, thank you. But no, I. And I do really want to like I want to pause for a second. And thank you, not just for the work that you and your wife have done, but also for continuing to share Alex's life and your story and how this is real. It's not ratings. It's not a story. It's a person and the life. So I do really want to thank you for being open with that. Because I know that that's a hard thing to do.



Tom Teves 29:28

Yeah, it's just, it's something you know, it's something you have to do because you want to protect other people. And what I don't understand is, how can I, how can I come out and do this? And the producers, editor, station managers and CEOs of these, these media outlets, how can they not care at all? Because it's really them. I can see most of the frontline journalists and not all of them. There's sleazeballs in every profession. That's just the way life is, right? I mean, it is what it is. Usually, you know, those people don't rise to the top. But it is the people who sit in the back, counting the money saying why we can't stop this, we have to make money doing this. So, you know, I would just ask them to be more realistic and to go in and look at their children or their wife, their best friend, how would you feel if they weren't there? Because it's, you know, you're not, you're there's no vaccine to take to get rid of this. It happens in theaters, it happens in movies, in churches, it happens in schools, it happens in malls, it that happens where you work, all so that they can get some type of infamy, and you're giving it to them, when are you going to stop? How many people have to die, how many lives have to be destroyed, because you don't just kill, they didn't just kill Alec. They ripped the heart out of me and Karen, and my two boys. I have a business associate. And when it first happened, she came up to me. And you know, when it first happens, I see these folks on television, the parents, and you know, I breaks my heart, because I can see they're just in shock like I was. But she said to me that she had been in New York City. And she was young with her brother, I think she was 17. And he was 18. And, you know, it's quite some time ago, because she you know, she's not, you know, she's a little older than 18 now. And her brother was mugged and murdered. And the comment she made to me, and I don't even think she meant to say it. I think it just came out was "my parents never got over it. And I don't think it did anything positive for their lives." And that's what happens, right? It's, it's, you can do positive things. But the pain never goes away. Somebody said to me, you know, how do you do this? And I can only- the best way I can do exercise you do? Have you ever trained for anything? Physically?



JJ Janflone 32:22

Oh, yeah, I'm a big runner.



Tom Teves 32:24

Okay, so I used to be quite into mountain biking, until I ripped my hamstring and half. So when I first started running, I was 242 pounds and walked nine minutes on a treadmill. For the last 25 years in my life until I fell on a mountain bike, unfortunately on Alex's birthday, but we're not going to blame Alex. You know, I built myself up to run in seven miles a day, five days a week, I started nine minutes today, the effort that I had to give to walk those nine minutes, after I had trained myself was the exact same effort. I just was trained to do it, I built myself up so that I could run seven miles, so nine minutes with nothing, but it's the same effort. So what you have to do is you have to feel yourself and get yourself to realize that going through this is important, so that you can save other people's lives. But it's still just every day for every one of those parents. You see, there's absolutely very little good that came out of this. And when I say that, I don't mean there isn't a lot of good that a lot of people do. But it doesn't overcome the bad of losing the child. So you can do Disney World. But it's still not going to take away the fact that that pain of every literally probably at least once an hour less you're really busy. You're thinking about you lost your son, it's just or your daughter, whoever it is. So I just wish that this is such a simple thing. You know, you made a comment about your thought gun efforts that Brady was making would be easy, but the gun issue is very emotional to a lot of people. The fact that these people do this proves without a shadow of a doubt because there's no normal human being that would walk into a school and shoot second graders I'm sorry, there is not one. No one can make me believe that because they wouldn't do it if they were at all normally. And that's really complicated. But the third leg of the stool is their desire for infamy. And that can be stopped. Not with an act of Congress. But just with an act of conscience. How can they not be doing it nine years later, all those lives ruined. And I guess that's what motivates me because sooner or later, they're going to stop.



JJ Janflone 35:01

With no notoriety too, you know, where where do you see it then going in the future? Are you looking, are you I mean, obviously hoping for that eventually the day becomes where this is the norm and you don't have to answer podcast queries about what it is because it's just, it just is what it is, is that people don't do this, or what are you thinking sort of, in 2022, you know, and beyond?



Tom Teves 35:25

If the media changed tomorrow, you'd never hear from me again. You know, all this idea that you want to be on CNN, or you want to be on Fox, or you want to be on a podcast. I don't want to be on any of those things. To be honest with you. What I would like is to

have my son back, I can't have that right now. So then I want more than anything, people I don't know, to have their children, and then never to know that no notoriety and let's hope the media, left them with their children alive, because they did the right thing. And that's what a true hero is. It's somebody who does the right thing. Not looking for credit. But just because it's the right thing. And that's what Alex did, wasn't looking for credit. He just knew he had to save his girlfriend's life. And he did it. And that's what I'd like to see, I'd like to never be heard from again, that's what I'd like to do.



JJ Janflone 36:24

Well, I do want to take a second though, to thank you, and Karen, and everyone else that assists with no notoriety, because I do think you're doing a really amazing thing here. And I'm sure our listeners feel the same. And so for those of them who have listened to this and are concerned, they want to help, how can they help no notoriety spread its mission?



Tom Teves 36:43

Well, again, don't send us we're, I don't want anybody's money. So don't send me any money, right? You want to send money, send it to Brady okay? But, you know, what I would like them to do with any time they see this happening, where they are pertuitively making these people into anti heroes, stop clicking, stop liking, stop sharing, stop watching, stop reading, and then write to the CEOs who are producing those shows, and more importantly, write to the CEOs who are funding them through their advertising and any other way they're funding them. Because it has to stop people. This is the worst way for people to die, because there's absolutely no reason for it. It's only because we're making these people into heroes. And that's what I would ask them to do. Because I don't know that many other nonprofits that would ask not to give them money. I'm not, you know, a rich guy. But to me the way, the way to prove that you're true, is fact that you do it, just to get it done, not for anything else. And that's why when it's over, I'm going to disappear, because the worst thing you can try to do is get notoriety out of no notoriety.



JJ Janflone 38:13

Tom, thank you, again, so much for coming on. As always, there will be links to everything here in the description of the episode. But, you know, I really hope that, you know, in a few years, we won't have to talk about this at all, because either A) no more mass shootings or at the very least, B) the media knows how to better report on this. So thank you. Well, this week's moment of levity is one that I know is going to upset a lot of you wonderful listeners, because it has everything awful, bad neighbors, guns being misused, puppies

and children being harmed. It's bad. So here's what happened. It's Saturday afternoon in Houston, Texas. There is a lovable six month old boxer puppy named Bruno. And he squeezes past his owner and runs out his front door and into the street in front of his owners home. His owner terrified I'm sure I know I would be if one of my cats got out, chased after him calling his name. Now at the exact same time there's a mother, father and their five year old son who were riding bikes down the street. Literally within seconds. The mother on her bike shot at the puppy three times. Why on earth to do such a thing is beyond me. I don't understand that thought process. Thankfully she only grazed Bruno's back leg. However, she did unintentionally hit her own son in the abdomen. Yeah, that happened and the whole horrifying thing was captured on video via a ring doorbell. Please do not watch the video though it is online. But truly you cannot make these stories up. The mom has since been charged with deadly conduct discharged with a firearm for the incident because she fired across a quote "public roadway and in the direction of two occupied houses." Bruno's owner was also fined for having a loose dog in the street. I guess that's fair. I'm not sure what I do think is really good is that the little boy, Bruno and everyone else was okay. But yet again, y'all use your firearms responsibly. In news this week, I want to draw attention to the Senate's failure to establish a commission to investigate the siege of the US Capitol on January 6 2021. The bill, HR 3233 would establish a 10 person bipartisan commission to collect and examine the facts and circumstances surrounding the January 6 attack on the US Capitol. The commissioner would be granted subpoena powers and will release its findings in a final report by December 31 of 2021. Although the bill received affirmative votes from a majority of senators, it didn't receive the 60 votes needed to pass once again, demonstrating that the procedural filibuster undermines the authority of the us senate and tends to block the will of the people, which also shows us once again that senate rules are in desperate need of reform. Hey! Want to share with the podcast? Listeners can now get in touch with us here at Red Blue and Brady via phone or text message. Simply call or text us at 480-744-3452 with your thoughts, questions, concerns, ideas, whatever! Kelly and I are standing by.

K

Kelly Sampson 41:10

Thanks for listening. As always, Brady's life saving work in Congress, the courts and communities across the country is made possible thanks to you. For more information on Brady or how to get involved in the fight against gun violence please like and subscribe to the podcast. Get in touch with us at [Bradyunited.org](https://bradyunited.org) or on social [@Bradybuzz](https://twitter.com/Bradybuzz). Be brave and remember, take action not sides.