

# Profiling Mentally Ill Mass Murderers

Profiling Mentally Ill Mass Murderers is an introductory seminar to the problem of spree killers. The spree killer, whether or not impacted by mentally illness, is a considerable scourge upon society. Factors like easy access to guns by dangerous mentally ill, inadequate commitment laws, the inability to predict dangerous behavior, and media frenzy, contribute to an increasing death toll. This seminar uses case studies to highlight the role played by diagnostic assessment (suicide by cop, psychopathic behavior, PTSD, major mental disorders), inadequate prevention civil and gun policy strategies, and stigmatization of the mentally ill as dangerous.

## Target Audience

Psychologists  
Therapists  
Social Workers  
Psychiatrists  
Counselors  
Nurses  
Course level: Intermediate

## Learning Objectives

- At the end of this seminar, participants will be able to:
1. Distinguish spree killers from serial killers, psychopaths, and antisocial personality disordered killers.
  2. Identify the strengths and weaknesses of the profiles for mass murderers.
  3. Identify screening criteria to use in your practice to assess risk for spree killing.
  4. Identify why we should prohibit access to weapons by mentally ill persons who have been previously civilly committed.
  5. Identify three strategies to deter spree-killing behavior.

## Seminar Schedule

Typically begins at 1PM and ends at 4:15 Eastern time. There is one 15 minute break. However, check the webinar schedule.

## Outline

Begin 1 PM ET

Classifying, diagnosing and categorizing the evildoers?  
Do spree killers have a personal history?  
Are spree killers suffering from a diagnosable mental disorder?  
Religious fundamentalist/political extremist spree killers  
The gun debate, and the role of psychologists: can forensic psychologists contribute to a solution to gun violence?

Break 2:30-2:45 PM ET

Prevention efforts  
Cultural factors & disposition of spree killers  
Does profiling spree-killers work?

End 4:15 PM ET

Our seminars are available in two formats. The first is a live, interactive webinar. You can ask questions of our presenters, either by typing them or speaking into a microphone. If the webinar time is not convenient for you, you can purchase the Home Study version. It is a recorded version of the webinar. You will have to pass a test to earn CE's for both the live webinar and the Home Study version.

### Continuing Education Credit

To earn CE's, you must attend the entire webinar. No partial credit is available. For both the webinar and the home study version, you will have to pass a post-test with 80% correct and complete a seminar evaluation to earn the certificate. You can take the test up to three times. Participants will earn 3 CE's for attending once they have completed these requirements.

PSYCHOLOGISTS: tzkseminars is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. tzkseminars maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

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## The Presenter

Lawrence J. Raifman, Ph.D., J.D. earned his Ph.D and J.D. in clinical psychology and J.D. in law from the University of Arizona in 1981. He spent the early years of his career working as a legal associate at Piper and Marbury before becoming Director, Department of Psychology at Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center, and the Maryland state hospital for the criminally insane. There, as Director and Co-Director of the Pre-trial forensic evaluation program, Dr. Raifman co-led a program that evaluated hundreds of defendants on issues of competence to stand trial, criminal responsibility, etc. He later became Director of Forensic Services at the Springfield State Hospital Center, a regional state hospital in Maryland. Dr. Raifman has maintained a private practice in clinical and forensic psychology throughout his career. For more than twenty years, Dr. Raifman has been an adjunct clinical assistant professor in the Department of Psychology at Johns Hopkins University. There, he has taught courses in forensic psychology. Over the years, Dr. Raifman has provided clinical supervision and training for many psychologists, and designed forensic evaluation programs. In his private practice, he has worked with families, children, teenagers, and adults, and forensic matters. He has testified in court many times as a forensic expert.

## General Information

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This seminar has been reviewed and approved by Keith Hannan, Ph.D., Phil Rich, LICSW, Daphne Fatter, Ph.D., and Loreen Yearick, MSN, RN. This approval expires on March 1, 2025.

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Tzkseminars  
103 East Bay View Drive