

August 4, 2019
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Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about stochastic terrorism. This weeks attacks in Gilroy, El Paso and Dayton are a reminder of FBI Director Wray's warnings of white nationalist terrorism. While in each case the proximate cause was one young white man with a military weapon it is the forces making such crimes both possible and increasingly frequent that are particularly depressing. The three specific shooters as with those in Blacksburg, Orlando, San Diego, Las Vegas and Pittsburgh are either dead or in custody and no longer threats. Unstable, impressionable young men have always existed even without video games but guns and encouragement are also required. The glut of guns is getting worse but is not new. Unfortunately, stochastic terrorists such as Fox, Breitbart, 8chan and you are on the rise. These entities rage about threats from a shadowy other and then connect this to a specific target such as gays, Muslims, Jews or immigrants. The effect is not specific deaths as when a gun is pointed and fired but rather a scatter-shot (stochastic) process of suggesting this violence to the aforementioned impressionable young men. The result is even more deadly.

Please assure me that you will call out racism and resign.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our egalitarian society.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson