

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2017/08/15/the-persistent-crime-that-connects-mass-shooters-and-terror-suspects-domestic-violence/?utm_term=.5e78951e06e8

The persistent crime that connects mass shooters and terror suspects: Domestic Violence

Time and time again, spasms of violence in public places have been followed by investigations into the attackers and suspects. Many of those probes have unearthed reports of violence or **threatening behavior against women in their lives**. While research has shown that domestic violence is not universally a factor preceding public attacks, it has cropped up often enough following high-profile incidents to constitute a disturbing, recognizable pattern.

- In June, James T. Hodgkinson began shooting at members of Congress at a baseball practice in Virginia; years earlier, police records show he was accused of grabbing his teenage daughter by the hair and punching a woman during the same episode.
- Earlier this year, authorities arrested Esteban Santiago and accused him of killing five people in a shooting rampage at the Fort Lauderdale, Fla., international airport. He had drawn police attention in his Alaska home town for reports of domestic violence.
- In February 2016, a 38-year-old man named Cedric Ford opened fire on a Kansas highway and then at a lawn mower factory where he worked. About 90 minutes before, authorities said, he was served with a restraining order meant to keep him from contact with someone he had abused.
- That shooting came about three months after police said Robert Lewis Dear began firing at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs, killing one police officer and two other people there. Before the November 2015 shooting in Colorado, at least two of Dear's three ex-wives had accused him of physical abuse, and in 1992 he was arrested and accused of sexual violence and rape.
- Other attacks have been carried out after threats against women. In 2014, Elliot Rodger, a 22-year-old college student, rampaged through a California college town after recording a video making explicit his desire to attack women. He ultimately killed six people, including three men stabbed to death in his apartment.
- Before Seung Hui Cho stalked through the Virginia Tech campus in 2007, killing 32 students and teachers, two female students had said he was harassing them.
- Violence at home has also preceded terrorist attacks. Before Omar Mateen rampaged through Pulse nightclub in Orlando last year, his ex-wife described him as abusive and said he beat her repeatedly. His second wife, to whom he was married at the time of the Pulse attack, has been arrested and charged with aiding and abetting his attack; in court filings, her attorneys said that Mateen "was both verbally and physically abusive to her" and had threatened to kill her.
- The elder Boston Marathon bomber, Tamerlan Tsarnaev, was accused of domestic violence in 2009.