

Part 1: Student Voices

David Hogg (17): "I don't want this to be another mass shooting. I want this to be the last mass shooting. Everybody is getting used to this, and that's not okay what happens when you do that is children are dying and they will continue to die unless we stop it, stand up, and take action. ... "We need action from our elected officials and we need action from the civil public because without that, this is going to happen again." <https://www.commondreams.org/news/2018/02/17/because-nothing-has-changed-columbine-students-teachers-call-nationwide-school>

Delaney Tarr (17): "I've had enough of thoughts and prayers, the hashtags, all of it. We need to make actual change. There's only so many words that can be said before things move on, before the press gets tired of seeing us on the news, before people just change the channel. This will not be forgotten. We will not be silenced. We are going to make a change." <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/anger-bubbles-funerals-florida-shooting-victims-53157231>

Carly Novell (17): "I think it's great that they're saying 'thoughts and prayers,' but it doesn't do anything. And after every single shooting that's what they say over and over again, but nothing ever changes. It has to be political because this happened because of guns, this happened because of the relaxed gun laws that we have." <http://time.com/5162780/students-florida-school-shooting-loudest-voices/>

Sam Zeif (18): "I lost a friend, he doesn't have a voice anymore. So I need to make sure that I use mine to make sure he didn't die for nothing. He died for change." <http://time.com/5162780/students-florida-school-shooting-loudest-voices/>

Sabrina Yuen (senior): "I'm not trying to put a positive spin on the fact that this town just took 17 bullets to the heart, but I've never seen this many people stop sending thoughts and prayers and start saying we're going to show people in the midterm elections, ... it's enough and people know it's enough." <http://www.palmbeachpost.com/business/broward-school-shooting-student-hid-under-teacher-desk-gunman-fired-into-room/ok9J8Z2pPybeMf6B9lW0ml/>

Emma Gonzalez (Senior): "We are going to be the kids you read about in textbooks. Not because we're going to be another statistic about mass shooting in America, but because ... we are going to be the last mass shooting. ... we are going to change the law." <https://www.cnn.com/2018/02/17/us/florida-student-emma-gonzalez-speech/index.html>

Amy Campbell-Oates (16): "We agreed that our politicians have to do more than say thoughts and prayers. We want voters to know that midterms are coming up. Some of us can't vote yet but we want to get to the people that can to vote in common sense laws, ban assault rifles and require mental health checks before gun purchases." <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/02/16/us/columbine-mass-shootings.html>

Part 2: Students Taking Action

Sophie Whitney (18) said on NPR "Of course we're all heartbroken, but we can't let the 17 people die for nothing. We have to make something good out of their death."

<https://www.npr.org/2018/02/18/586958556/student-activists-who-lived-through-florida-shooting-plan-march-on-washington>

Emma Gonzalez (Junior) "addressed a gun control rally in Ft. Lauderdale the Saturday after the shooting: "Every single person up here today, all these people should be home grieving. But instead we are up here standing together because if all our government and President can do is send thoughts and prayers, then it's time for victims to be the change that we need to see."

<https://www.cnn.com/2018/02/17/us/florida-student-emma-gonzalez-speech/index.html>

Ariana Ali has turned her anger into activism. "It could have been avoided. ... Me and my friends are organizing a gun-violence protest in the city of Parkland right now." The group of friends have also called Parkland's mayor, launched a hashtag — #NeverAgain — and gotten in touch with state legislators. "We are going to go to Tallahassee to talk about what we've seen," Ali said.

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-florida-students-20180216-story.html>

Cameron Kasky (17) "is angry. He's angry because when he goes back to school, 17 people won't be there, 17 people who were killed in a mass shooting in Florida on Wednesday. He told NPR:

"Unfortunately it took it hitting me right at home for me to want to do something about it, and I'm not going to stop. ... our lawmakers Rick Scott and Marco Rubio ... have the blood of 17 people on their hands, and we are not apologizing for telling them that they're gone. It's time to put lawmakers in positions who are not taking money from the NRA and are not fostering and promoting this gun culture that's allowing things like this to happen " <https://www.npr.org/2018/02/16/586616026/students-who-survived-florida-shooting-want-politicians-to-know-theyre-angry>

Emilie Smith (18) a senior at a school 10 minutes from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School: "I've seen these shootings happen my whole life. I've grown up with them. I remember Sandy Hook. I remember every single one," Smith said in a phone interview as she and a friend were on their way to donate blood. "Every time, about a week or more later, I don't see any more trending tweets, I don't see anyone talking about it. It's devastating." But now — with students' protests and criticism of public officials — "it's almost like the kids are trying to step in for the adults," Smith said. "I don't think children should have to bear that." Smith is 18 now, and she said her dad is going to take her to register to vote. Her friends are all turning 18 soon, too. "The next chance I get to vote in this state, I'm definitely going to do that," Smith said. "We're definitely all going to vote." <http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-florida-students-20180216-story.html>

Emma Gonzalez (Junior) later added: "A lot of people are saying that these kids are activists, these kids need to be politicians, But a lot of us are just ... students who figured there's strength in numbers. And we want to be sure that we end up having our message sent across. And then we can get back to our normal everyday lives, you know." https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/fbi-says-it-failed-to-investigate-tip-on-florida-suspect/2018/02/16/31546702-1378-11e8-a68c-e9374188170e_story.html?utm_term=.f1a8b2666fd2