



## Thread: A monster in real life

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**Haegang Yang**

3 months ago

**A monster in real life**

I have discussed about themes whether a character in a fiction or movie who makes an or causes a villain is a monster or not, or whether the villain is a monster or not. Then I answered that it depends on the purpose that makes a villain. It was a kind of judgement that a character is bad or not. I know a similar example which happened in real world. In 2007, there happened 'Virginia Tech massacre'. A Korean American student had killed thirty-five students by shooting. After he killed students, he killed himself too. He left a message before he committed it. He said he did that for his friends. The friends means Asians like him. He was suffered by racial discrimination. Since he was a middle school students, all students had bullied him. They threw stuffs whenever he came in to a class room and laughed at him when he read a book out loud and followed his Asian accent. Even teachers had not stopped them. He did not want the same things happen to the other Asians. Some students who was interviewed and was in same class room with him even admitted what they had done to him was brutal. Although he committed a horrible crime, it is hard for us to say that only he is a monster. But, if I have to choose who a monster is between the students and the Korean American, I would say the students. Even though the Korean American chose different ways, it was caused by the students. And it was on purpose. What I want to know about this is people's opinion. I want to compare opinion of Asians' and Americans'. I am going to write a text in a Korean community site and an American community site. Then I will read replies of them. If I think or people around me say to me it can make a controversy and form a problem, I am going to just find some journals that wrote about in 2007 and read people's replies. It will help me that I can write a difference between Asian's and American's think or people's standard of monsters. Also, I can compare their ideas with my idea.

[Reply](#)**Jenna Abbott**

3 months ago

**RE: A monster in real life**

Whenever a tragic event like the Virginia Tech shooting happens, the first thing people always want to know is: "why?" I think that exploring that concept would make for a fascinating paper.

Oftentimes, it seems that we are quick to blame the person's mental condition or their access to weapons or a thousand other little things, but we don't always focus on the right things when discussing what about their environment may have contributed to their actions. In this case, Cho was very clear about why he did what he did, even though there are still the on-going issues of mental illness that could be factored in.

I also really like your idea of opening a dialogue about the perception of who the monster truly was from two culturally different perspectives. American views on bullying, race relations, and gun violence can definitely get people riled up, so please be prepared for that in any discussion you have. Even so, those conversations are always important to keep going, so I hope that whatever replies you get are productive and enlightening. This is a very deep, multifaceted issue to write about, and I'm very interested to see what your results are. :)

**Tracy Manley**

3 months ago

**RE: A monster in real life**

I feel that tragic events such as the one you described are never really straight to the point. The first thing people are going to say when they read the headline "student kills 35 others in mass shooting" is wow what a terrible person. Some people will probably say he is crazy or use something like that as the reason he did it. Yes I do feel as if he is a monster, but the students who bullied him are to blame as well. They teased and tormented him for no reason at all. Mental health is very serious even though humans treat it as no comparison to physical health. After being treated the way he was I am sure he was emotionally wounded so the students are monsters who created a monster. The reason I consider the murderer to be a monster is because it was still wrong even considering how he was treated. Not only did he take their lives, he took his own leaving a hole in the hearts of his family members.

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