

“people who own guns are stiupid”

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## outline

## NECESSARY reads

- ◇ Thomas Friedman "The world is flat"

<http://www.nytimes.com/2005/04/03/magazine/03DOMINANCE.html?pagewanted=1&ei=5070&en=79e0265c7c85c86f&ex=1157169600> and

- ◇ Florida, Richard "The world is spiky;"

<http://www.creativeclass.org/rfcgdb/articles/TheWorldIsSpiky.pdf>, or find a copy of the article in The Atlantic, October 2005



## what is it?

- ◇ “people who own guns are stupid”
- ◇ so say some progressive liberals
- ◇ the statement appears to be partially or even mostly moral
  - ie there seems to be some righteousness/superiority implied
  - people are more emotional and belief-based in such statements
- ◇ i'll try to argue that there is a problem here
- ◇ [for record: i'm actually against guns, too]
- ◇ and why this in this class?
- ◇ well, one of the key problems also for development is that we are divided
- ◇ if we can compromise, understand, trust, development would be better!

## being right and superior

- ◇ feeling virtuous, righteous, pure, moral, and superior can be dangerous
- some of the greatest evils committed by such people both on left and right
- eg the attitude is used to motivate genocides

