



Teen Anti-Gun Activist, David Hogg, Coaches Classmate to Say, “We Need More Diversity”

Parkland, Florida: There was a fire drill at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas high school at around 9:30 am. Later in the afternoon, after 2:00 pm, the shooting took place. Crisis actor, David Hogg, can he be heard whisper-prompting a fellow student to say, “We need more diversity,” moments after the shooting. Why are these students, who appear to be hiding from an active shooter, not showing fear for their safety and, instead, are talking calmly about the need for gun-control legislation? [The best way to appraise this video is to watch it several times and then read the comments posted beneath the video.] -GEG



Broward County Hid Student Crimes To Make Crime Statistics Appear to Improve

One of the most puzzling aspects of the Parkland school shooting is why police ignored multiple warnings about the student shooter. This journalist suggests the reason is an Obama-era program designed to keep young criminals, particularly minorities, out of jail. This was done by ignoring reports of crimes or potential crimes to make the arrest and prison statistics appear to improve when, in fact, crime actually was on the increase. This report includes details relating to how that came about. The Broward county sheriff was involved at every step. -GEG

From RT:

Second, third... and 30th chances

The puzzling reluctance of authorities to do anything about the multiple reports concerning Cruz directly contributed to the carnage at Stoneman Douglas. According to Perry this may be due to a program called PROMISE (Preventing Recidivism through Opportunities, Mentoring, Interventions, Supports & Education).

After the December 2012 carnage at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, the Obama administration quickly moved to deploy more police in schools, [allocating \\$44 million](#) in grants for the effort. However, the measure was criticized by civil rights groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the Justice Policy Institute, which argued that putting school discipline in hands of police would disproportionately target minority students and set them up for a life of crime.

Obama's Secretary of Education Arne Duncan came up with a

solution: create a program that would replace discipline with counseling, and pay the police to stop arresting students for infractions. Broward County implemented the new program, called [PROMISE](#). Though the county had 1,062 school-related arrests in 2011-12, by the 2015-16 school year that number had been reduced by 63 percent, thanks to PROMISE.

"We have to measure the success of the Broward Sheriff's office by the kids we keep out of jail, not by the kids we put in jail," Sheriff Israel said at a 2015 event. *"We have to give our children second chances and third chances."*

In the February 25 CNN interview, Sheriff Israel continued to defend the program.

"It's helping many, many people," he told CNN's Jake Tapper. *"What this program does is not put a person at 14, 15, 16 years old into the criminal justice system."*

"What if he should be in the criminal justice system?" Tapper replied, pointing out the case of Cruz.

The intent of the program was certainly noble: to reduce the numbers of students falling afoul of the law, particularly the minorities, and change the culture from the old policy of "zero tolerance" that would have landed a student in jail for something like drawing a picture of a gun.

What seems to have happened in practice, however, was a situation in which the government was threatening to withhold funds from schools unless they were silent about theft, violence, threats, and even [assaults on teachers](#). In the end, despite the reduction in overall arrests, the percentage of black students arrested was still disproportionately high compared to whites, according to Broward Schools superintendent Robert Runcie.

Between Nikolas Cruz's yet-unexplained rage, the FBI's mistakes, Sheriff Israel's "amazing leadership" and an Obama-

era policy that may have had the best of intentions but worked out far differently in practice, 17 lives were cut short and many more were changed forever.

The shooting quickly sank into the swamp of US partisan politics, with Republicans rejecting any talk of gun control and pointing at system failures, and Democrats [seeking to campaign](#) on gun control in the upcoming November midterms – with the help of at least one Stoneman Douglas student.

[Read full article here...](#)



Italy Votes in Two Minority Anti-Establishment Parties. Can They Ignore Their Grudges To Form A Coalition?

Italy: Nearly one-third of voters elected the anti-corruption Euro-skeptic 5-Star Movement founded in 2009 by comic Beppe Grillo. It is challenged with forming a coalition government with the anti-immigration League from the north that previously campaigned to secede from the rest of the country, and is led by Matteo Salvini, who rejects the 5-Stars. [Neither group appear to have any clear political philosophy except to say whatever is likely to get votes. If they cannot

form a coalition, they will not have much ability to help or harm the nation.] -GEG

ROME (AP) – Italy’s voters have spoken, and the populists ruled the day. But whether these euroskeptics can put aside their distrust and rivalries to rule together was the big question Monday as the nation embarked on a new era following a quarter-century of largely predictable coalition-formula politics.

More than half the ballots cast Sunday went to two populist forces that knew how to read the angry mood in a country where the brightest youths must go abroad to find decent careers and where hundreds of thousands of migrants were essentially marooned when many European Union partners slammed the door on these asylum-seekers rescued at sea.

The math added up to big dilemma, though. Because no party or coalition captured enough seats to rule alone, and because the populists went into the election as sharp rivals despite their similar “Italy, first,” stances, it was unclear if a government with the potential to last could be forged to tackle Italy’s pressing economic and social problems.

No one seemed to have the answer Monday.

“The (next) government is an enigma,” read the front-page headline of the daily *Corriere della Sera*.

Emerging on top – and the pick of nearly a third of those who cast ballots – was the anti-establishment 5-Star Movement, founded in 2009 by comic Beppe Grillo and the largest opposition force in the just-ended legislature.

The other main player in maneuvers to try to form a government is the anti-immigrant League, led by Matteo Salvini, which expanded beyond its northern base to outpoll the conservative Forza Italia, the party created in the mid-1990s by Silvio Berlusconi.

“March 4’s vote represents a watershed, with the maximum affirmation of anti-establishment parties in the Western Europe panorama, from the post war to today,” said Rome’s

LUISS university's center for Italian electoral studies.

For roughly a quarter-century following the political upheaval in Europe set in motion by the demise of Eastern bloc communism, Italy's elections had largely alternated power between a center-right coalition headed by Berlusconi, who served three terms as premier, and a center-left bloc built around the Democratic Party, many of them former communists. That system had been dubbed the "second republic." It followed the so-called "first republic" of the post-war generation, in which Christian Democrats anchored government after short-lived coalitions, cobbled together with the aim of keeping what was then Western Europe's largest communist party out of power. That system crumbled in the early 1990s amid corruption scandals that swept away virtually an entire political class.

"Today for us is the start of the third republic. And the third will finally be the republic of the citizens," exulted Luigi Di Maio, the 5-Star Movement's 31-year-old candidate for premier.

But how that new era will take shape is very unclear.

Berlusconi, sidelined from holding office due to a tax fraud conviction and relishing the prospect of playing kingmaker after Sunday's vote, suffered what could be a definitive blow for the 81-year-old media mogul. Berlusconi's Forza Italia captured only 14 percent of the vote, compared to 18 percent for coalition partner Salvini's League, which achieved virtual dominance in Italy's prosperous northern regions, where Berlusconi made much of his immense wealth.

The League's votes, along with Forza Italia and those of a smaller partner, the far-right Brothers of Italy, totaled 37 percent of ballots cast – nowhere near the absolute majority needed to win the confidence votes in each chamber of Parliament required under Italy's system for governing.

The 5-Stars Movement's better-than-expected 32 percent showing

was boosted by its dominance of the south, where Forza Italia had long held sway.

This north-south divide is a new element that could complicate any power-sharing, political analyst Angelo Panebianco said.

“Government formation will take longer because of this division” as leaders adjust to new territorial equilibriums, he said on Sky TG24.

Further complicating the path toward a new government are campaign vows by the 5-Stars Movement never to govern in a coalition.

Savoring the center-right’s performance, Salvini vowed that the bloc had won “the right and the duty to govern.” Berlusconi and Salvini huddled on Monday at the mogul’s estate on Milan’s outskirts, but there were no indications what strategy the two leaders might chart.

“I am and I will remain a populist,” Salvini told reporters. He sought to assure financial markets that his leadership wouldn’t be anything to fear, even as he reaffirmed his belief that Italy’s membership in the euro common currency was a mistake.

Asked about the possibility of joining forces with the 5-Stars Movement to govern, Salvini replied: “No, no, no.”

[Read full article here..](#)

Who are the 5-Stars?



The ADL Announces New Internet Censorship Project To Identify and Prevent Hate Speech

The Anti-Defamation League, with UC Berkeley, have created an artificial-intelligence program, called the Online Hate Index, to detect “hate” speech and create definitions for it. [This sounds like a worthy endeavor but, for years, the ADL has promoted far-Left political agendas while accusing those who oppose those agendas of being anti-Semitic. Most people are not aware that this organization is using its Jewish identity as a cover to promote a Leftist political agenda. The time is drawing near when any expression of opposition to Leftist agendas will be defined as hate speech, and that will justify denying Internet access to those who hold such opinions.] -GEG