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## **IMAGINE A REBELLIOUS STUDENT WRITING A MURDER FANTASY**

By Steve Bakke  September 11, 2019



Imagine a rebellious 15-year-old high school student writing, and publicly releasing, a murder fantasy. It's neither appropriate nor possible to quote fully in this letter, but here are some excerpts: "accelerator pedal on the floor.....crashing of the two children on the hood.....the sharp cry of pain.....sweet visions filling my head.....my act of love.....simply ecstasy.....killed nearly 38 people by the time of my twenty-third birthday, and each one was more fulfilling than the last."

In this atmosphere of "see something/say something," and "red flags," should citizens turn in this youngster? What would/should be the implications for this 15-year-old? This is actually a true story about a foolish teenager who is now a prominent candidate for United States President. Additionally, about that same time, this same teenager was an accomplished internet computer hacker, and a member of a prominent group of hackers.

Have these indiscretions hindered this candidate's success? Should it? If this were true of another candidate from the same party, perhaps an older person, or if the candidate from the opposition party had done this, would disclosure have hurt their candidacies any differently? Should it?

Is this a tough call?