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Inside Track

Gender-confused Teen Kills Mother



Julia Egler and Kelley McCollom (Libs of TikTok/X)

On July 7, 16-year-old Julia Egler brutally murdered her mother and her mother's boyfriend in Palm Bay, Florida. Florida's NBC affiliate WESH reported on July 11 that, according to the Palm Bay Police Department, Egler confessed to committing the crime after staging a break-in to her home. She had first claimed a male assailant had broken a sliding glass door and shot 38-year-old Kelley McCollom, Egler's mother, and her 22-year-old boyfriend, Matthew Szejnrok.

According to police reports, Egler eventually admitted to breaking in to her mother's room and taking a .38 caliber revolver and ammunition. When the mother and her boyfriend returned home, the teen greeted them with a chilling "Welcome home" before unloading the revolver into the couple. She stabbed Szejnrok repeatedly prior to shooting him in the head.

Reportedly, Egler killed McCollom because she was unhappy that her mother was not more supportive of her gender "transition." She was also upset that her mother was dating a 22-year-old. The teen is being held in a juvenile detention facility, and faces two charges of first-degree premeditated murder.

This is just the latest example of violence associated with transgenderism. In March 2023, "transgender" Audrey Hale went on a rampage at the Covenant School in Nashville, Tennessee, killing three children and three adults. Jason Lee Willie, who goes by the pseudonym "Alexia," had planned a similar school shooting, although he was arrested before he could complete his mission. "Mia" Bailey is accused of killing his parents and shooting at his brother and his wife in Washington City, Utah, in June. Maya McKinney, aka "Alec," and 18-year-old Devon Erickson shot up a STEM school in Colorado, killing one and injuring eight. Snochia Moseley, another transgendered person, killed three at a Maryland warehouse in 2018.

It shouldn't be surprising that so many gender-confused individuals are connected with violence. Despite trans activists' fondest hopes, the entire transgender movement is closely associated with mental illnesses such as bipolar depression and schizophrenia. Shooting such people full of cross-gender hormones is just asking for trouble.



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— James Murphy

Former Senator James Inhofe Passes Away



James Inhofe (AP Images)

Former Oklahoma Senator James Inhofe passed away on July 9. The cause of death was reportedly a stroke. A strong figure in Oklahoma and national politics for six decades, Inhofe won his Senate seat in 1994 after three terms as mayor of Tulsa, and was reelected five times before retiring in 2023 due to poor health.

Inhofe was a defense hawk, a strong supporter of the military, and a leading voice against budgetary waste in Washington, D.C., and served as chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee. Even though he voted to certify Joe Biden's election in 2021, he had strongly backed Donald Trump.

According to the headlines in mainstream news coverage, however, Inhofe's skepticism of man-made climate change was his only personality trait. *The New York Times'* July 9 headline read, "James M. Inhofe, Senator Who Denied Climate Change, Dies at 89." *The Washington Post* reported, "James Inhofe, Oklahoma Senator and Climate Change Denier, Dies at 89."

And according to *Politico*, the senator died "after a long Senate career marked by fight against climate science." "Former Republican Sen. Jim Inhofe, the longest-serving U.S. senator in Oklahoma history and a proud critic of the overwhelming scientific consensus on human-caused climate change, died Tuesday," it continued.

Even though Inhofe's lifetime *TNA* Freedom Index score was only 69, he *did* strongly oppose the notion of man-made, out-of-control climate change. For instance, in 2015 he famously tossed a snowball on the floor of the Senate, making a point about the absurdity of the global-warming narrative.

H. Sterling Burnett, director of the Arthur B. Robinson Center on Climate and Environmental Policy at the Heartland Institute, said Inhofe "was a hero to climate realists globally, a staunch defender of sound science on climate change in the face of fierce opposition by those who promote climate alarm." He claimed that Inhofe "did what Senators were intended by the Constitution to do, be stalwart defenders and promoters of their home states, by consistently promoting the interests, the freedoms, and economic advancement of Oklahomans."



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— *James Murphy*

Baltimore Voters to Consider Paying \$1,000 to New Parents



(Justin Case/iStock/Getty Images Plus)

The Baltimore Baby Bonus Fund campaign “recently secured the necessary 10,000 signatures” to put a city-charter amendment establishing a \$1,000 “baby bonus” on this fall’s ballot, according to The Associated Press (AP) on July 8.

The amendment would require the Baltimore City Council to set aside at least 0.03 percent of the assessed value of all property in the city each year to give to parents of newborns. The minimum bonus is \$1,000. With about 7,000 children born in Baltimore every year, that comes to an annual outlay of at least \$7 million.

Baby-bonus boosters are quick to point out that the amendment merely sets a floor of \$1,000. It requires the city to determine the annual bonus amount by considering “all relevant data,” such as “historical birth rates [and] estimated future property values.” Under such calculations, they expect the bonus to more than double after the first year. Johns Hopkins University associate economics Professor Christina DePasquale told AP that “the initiative will raise awareness about childhood poverty and could lead to more comprehensive changes down the road.”

Baltimore Baby Bonus Fund campaign media chair Julia Ellis told Baltimore’s NBC affiliate WBAL that the “\$1,000 cash infusion” could “make or break ... a family who is living on the brink of poverty.” However, the fund employs no means test, which “means some of the money goes to affluent parents who don’t need assistance.” Nate Golden, president of the Maryland Child Alliance, told AP that “it’s worth including them to avoid leaving out the poorest families.”

Also defending eliminating a means test, campaign manager Emily Yu told WBAL that “we’ve come to find that having a ‘means test’ or testing for income eligibility is a huge administrative burden, it’s really cost inefficient, and there’s a high likelihood that we end up missing families.” DePasquale concurred, saying that “researching and developing a qualification system could add significant costs and delay implementing the program.”

Voters will decide on the Baby Bonus Fund in November.



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— *Michael Tennant*

Ammunition Vending Machines Hit Rural Grocery Stores



(InkkStudios/Getty Images Plus)

Texas-based company American Rounds has introduced vending machines to sell ammunition in stores across three states, enabling customers to purchase bullets whenever needed. The Automated Ammo Retail Machines (AARMs) are located in grocery stores in small, rural communities, where access to ammunition retailers can be limited.

The dispensers utilize advanced identification scanners, artificial intelligence, and facial-recognition software to verify the purchaser's age and identity. Company CEO Grant Magers told The Associated Press (AP) that sales through the machines are as secure as — “or even more secure” than — those conducted online or in traditional retail stores.

The introduction of the AARMs has sparked controversy among gun-control advocates, according to the July 9 AP report. For instance, Nick Suplina of Everytown for Gun Safety told AP, “In a country awash in guns and ammo, where guns are the leading cause of deaths for kids, we don't need to further normalize the sale and promotion of these products.”

While the American Rounds ammunition dispensers offer convenience, they also necessitate a comprehensive approach to privacy and data security. For example, the biometric data collected is significantly detailed, and concerns have been raised about how this sensitive information is stored and protected. Questions have also arisen about how long the data, such as facial scans and ID information, is retained.

The driver's-license scan for age verification means that personal information including name, address, and date of birth is collected. Certainly, this information needs robust protection against unauthorized access, as there is potential for misuse or sharing with third parties without the user's explicit consent.

The machines themselves are protected from theft due to their weight (up to 2,000 pounds).

Undoubtedly a higher priority should be placed on protecting the collected data through encryption, secure data storage, and regular audits, but the company does not address these concerns on its website.



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American Rounds has installed one AARM in Alabama, four in Oklahoma, and one in Texas, and plans to install additional machines in Texas and Colorado.

— *Veronika Kyrylenko*

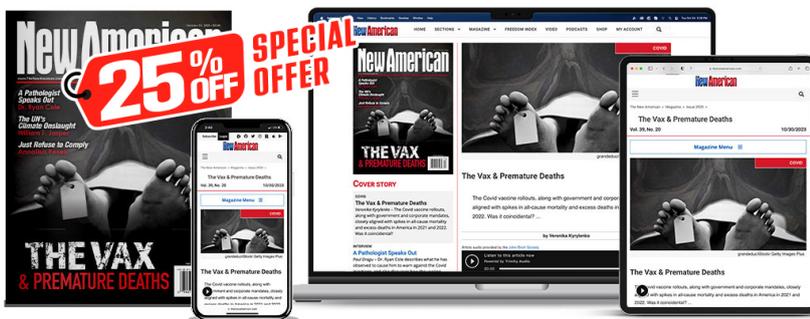


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