

**December 30, 2012**

## **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

JOE SCARBOROUGH has a "Nixon-to-China" moment on his "Morning Joe" program:

"From this day forward, NOTHING can ever be the same again."

We've all said this before: after Columbine; after Arizona; after Aurora; after SO many other numbing hours of murder and massacre. But let this be our true landmark: Let Newtown be the hour after which, in the words of the New Testament [Revelation 21:5], we did all we could do to "make all things new."

Politicians can no longer be ALLOWED to defend the status quo. They MUST instead be forced to defend our children.

Parents can no longer take 'no' for an answer from Washington when the topic turns to protecting our children.

Though entrenched special interests are going to try to muddy the cause in the coming days, the cause of this sickening mass shooting -- like the others -- is no longer a mystery to common-sense Americans. And blessedly, there are MORE common-sense Americans than there are special interests, even if it doesn't always seem that way.

I say 'Good luck!' to the gun lobbyist .

Good luck to the Hollywood lawyer who tries to blunt the righteous anger of millions of parents, by hiding behind twisted readings of OUR Bill of Rights.

I am a conservative Republican who received the NRA's highest ratings over four terms in Congress. I saw this debate over guns as a powerful symbolic struggle between individual rights and government control. ... In the years after Waco and Ruby Ridge, the symbolism of that debate seemed even more powerful to me.

But the symbols of that ideological struggle, they've been shattered by ... violent, mind-numbing video games and gruesome Hollywood movies that dangerously desensitize those who struggle with mental health challenges. And then add in military-styled weapons and high-capacity MAGAZINES to that equation, and tragedy can never be too far behind. ... I've always taken a libertarian's approach to Hollywood's First Amendment rights and gun collectors' Second Amendment rights. ...

But that Friday, a chilling thought crossed my mind as I saw the Times Square ticker over ABC spit out news of yet another tragic shooting ...

... How could I know that within seconds of reading that scrolling headline that the shooter would be an isolated, middle-class white male who spent his days on his computer playing violent video games?

... How did I know that it was far more likely that he had a mental condition than a rational motive?

... And how did I know the end of the story before the real reporting even began? I knew the ending of this story because we've all seen it too often. I knew that day that the ideologies of my past career were no longer relevant to the future that I want, that I demand for my children.

It's time for Washington to stop trying to win endless wars overseas while we're LOSING the war at home. We must give no more ground.

I choose life, and I choose change. ... And for the sake of our children, we must do what's right. And for the sake of this great nation that we love, let's pray to God that we do."