

MARCO CARABALLO ... AGE 15 ... Grade 10
2019/2020 CONTEST

As a country, we want what's best for our people. Our country is supposed to be about freedom, safety, and protection. So when tragedy hits, our government is fast and efficient at solving the problem and restoring peace. Unfortunately we do have major tragedies that happen. One of which is school shootings. In 10 years, there have been 180 school shootings in America. Unfortunately it's becoming a fear for students to go to school. It's so upsetting the innocent kids had to suffer this way. Imagine being a parent and receiving a call that your son or daughter has been shot at school and has been taken to the hospital. It must be one of the most painful things anyone could go through, but there's one thing I can imagine to be a little more painful than that. Killing your child before they are born. Not be able to hold your child, to see your child, to love your child, all because you were scared. Scared of what people might think, scared of not being able to support the child or just scared because you weren't ready.

Fear has a great power over us, but I know through God, we can overcome any obstacle that gets thrown our way. God didn't send that child down to earth just to die, he gave it purpose. God gave those kids who died in a school shooting a purpose. If we start spreading love and positivity we will see the message God is trying to give us. The message that we have meaning. We were given life to live and love to give, not to fear our lives and hate others. We can help spread love and positivity by talking to a teacher or parent about changes in the behavior of one of our peers. We can also help people deciding on an abortion by giving our support and just having them talk about their fears and what they can do to overcome it. An example would be, giving up the baby for adoption.

In conclusion both situations are bad but both are preventable. If we take more of our time into focusing on God, then we can see what it means to be children of God. We are loving, and caring but most importantly we were made not only to be loved by God, but to love each other and each gift God has given to us. 1 John 4:16: "And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them."