

RAGE OF THE RANDOM ACTOR

By Dan Korem

General FAQ for Media
Updated: October 13, 2005

Note: The short answers in this FAQ are offered to journalists and media producers to provide the following:

- 1) A quick tool to prepare questions for broadcast or print interviews with Dan Korem.
- 2) A guide to where to look in the book for more detailed explanations. NOTE: The brief answers here are **not provided** as complete / definitive answers—they are like Cliff Notes on the Random Actor issue and **should not be quoted directly**.
- 3) Information to **schedule an interview** with Dan Korem.
 - a) **Contact:** International Focus Press
 - b) **Phone:** 972-234-4003
 - c) **Email:** ifpr@sbcglobal.net

THE RANDOM ACTOR PROFILE

- 1) **What is the Random Actor (RA) behavioral profile? (Chapter 3)**
 - a) The profile is made up of two specific core behavioral traits.
 - i) **Extremely UNPREDICTABLE:** This doesn't mean that a person is hard to figure out, rather they prefer to operate extremely unconventionally, out-of-the-box—which by itself isn't a bad thing. Bill Gates has a high UNPREDICTABLE trait. In an organization, people with the high UNPREDICTABLE trait might be someone in research and development, while a person who is high PREDICTABLE might be in accounting. Neither are good or bad, they are just different.
 - ii) **Extremely FEARFUL when making decisions:** This is a person who is extremely fearful/despondent/without hope when making decisions on a daily basis *outside their area of expertise*.
- 2) **How many people are there with the RA profile? (Chapter 5, p. 85; Chapter 24, p. 464)**
 - a) Schools: approximately 500,000 of 54 million students
 - b) Adult population: no exact numbers, but 1/2 of 1% is reasonable
 - c) Worldwide: 30 million (1/4 of 1% of 6 billion people)
- 3) **Why is the number of RAs significant? (Chapter 5)**
 - a) Because the advance in technology makes it easier to act on catastrophic impulses.
- 4) **Why are there an unprecedented number of people with the RA profile? (Chapter 4)**
 - a) The behavioral profile of the Earth has shifted from the PREDICTABLE trait to the UNPREDICTABLE trait. (The first RA trait)
 - b) Internationally, trouble at home has spawned the massive increase in people with the high FEARFUL trait.
- 5) **Do all RAs kill? (Chapter 3)**
 - a) No. Most do not.
- 6) **What is the tipping point for a RA to commit a violent crime? (Chapter 3, p. 45)**
 - a) First, stressors that build over a period of time. Then there is a triggering incident.
 - b) Most attention is focused on the "triggering" incident, which is misguided, as anything that aggravates can act as a trigger.
 - c) More important to focus on how to immediately reduce irrational activation of the high FEARFUL trait and how to guide a person out of the profile.
- 7) **Is there a pattern for what RAs like and don't like and why? (Chapter 4)**
 - a) People, organizations, communities that represent the MANAGER profile.
 - i) It is the opposite of the RA profile: PREDICTABLE and CONFIDENT decision making.
 - ii) Example: RAs will attack McDonalds but not Jack-In-The-Box.

IDENTIFYING THE RANDOM ACTOR PROFILE & STEREOTYPING

- 8) **How difficult is it to identify someone with the RA traits?** (Chapter 3)
- Usually not difficult because the traits are extreme.
- 9) **Aren't you afraid of people being misidentified?** (Chapter 3)
- This rarely occurs because the traits are extreme. Also, if a person who *isn't* a RA received the three-point **intervention** that thwarts to catastrophic impulse, the intervention is positive and is not offensive to any person of any profile.
 - The profile has actually been used to free people who have been *falsely* accused of a crime. (Chapter 7)
- 10) **Do you have to be a professional to profile someone with the RA traits?** (Chapter 3)
- No. In fact, in most news accounts right after an attack, people describe the RA traits, but just don't know how to connect the dots.
 - That's one of the reasons I decided to release this research—because most people can recognize the traits without stereotyping.

PREDICTING AND STOPPING RANDOM ACTOR ATTACKS

- 11) **How long has the RA profile been used to stop attacks and guide people out of the RA profile?** (Chapters 1, 2, 7, 20)
- Approximately 10 years.
- 12) **What has been the key to accurately identifying who is and who isn't a likely target?**
- Any person, organization, or group that represents the MANAGER profile.
- 13) **How has the profile been used to predict RA incidents?**
- Schools** (Chapter 2)
 - Predicted suburbs and small towns as highest risk targets; all RA school attacks have occurred in these locales since 1997.
 - Predicted Denver suburbs as likely candidate for RA school attack 2 months before Littleton Massacre at Columbine High.
 - Work Places** (Chapter 18)
 - Why there are RA incidents at the Post Office and not UPS or FedEx. And, why incidents in an accounting department or assembly line but not an art department in an organization.
- 14) **Regarding school attacks, why did you predict student-led RA terrorist incidents in the early 1990s?** (Chapters 2 and 20)
- While doing research for one of my books, *Suburban Gangs—The Affluent Rebels*, in the early 1990s, I found a catastrophic number of youths in schools with the RA traits.
 - In the early 1990s, I started surveying kids, grades 6–12, and I found that about 6–12 were building explosive devices per 1000 in suburbs and small towns. (Today that number is double or triple).
 - About 40 million of 64 million youths had one or more of the at-risk markers for gang recruitment: divorce, separation, physical or sexual abuse, severely dysfunctional parent, student come homes to a latch-key home where no one is home, especially in homes where both parents *don't* have to work full-time jobs.
 - Put the two together, and that is where the threat assessment came from.
- 15) **Why do you say that crime statistics are a poor indicator of RA incidents?**
- Because RA school attacks, which only affect suburbs and small towns (which are statistically the safest communities), started as the juvenile crime rate was falling.
- 16) **Why did you predict in 1998 that after the first RA school attack with bombs there would be an unprecedented number of threats directed at North American schools?** (Chapter 10)
- I identified the Psych Ward Effect that uniquely affects RAs. If you place a destabilized patient on a psychiatric ward, this can set off all the other patients. In the same way, after a large-scale RA incident, it can set off other RAs. ***It is not copycat which is the current theory.***
 - After the Littleton Massacre at Columbine, 9-11, and the Muhammad-Malvo shootings in the DC area, tens of thousands of Americans threatened one another.

- 17) **You state that terrorists can now use the Psych Ward Effect to their advantage. Why?** (Chapter 10)
- They now know that if they commit an unprecedented and surprise attack a percentage of the U.S. population will irrationally turn on itself, such as the thousands of threats and the anthrax attacks and others following 9-11.
 - After Columbine, over 7,000 schools closed because of threats.
- 18) **How has the profile been used to stop RA incidents?**
- Schools (Chapters 20 and 21)
 - Numerous individual cases.
 - After 9-11, the only region in the U.S. that didn't have authentic bomb/shooting threats against schools was a region where the RA research and three-point intervention was applied.**
 - Law Enforcement (Chapter 7)
 - Cases solved using the profile before catastrophic incidents occurred.
 - Military (Chapter 24)
 - Arrests of suicidal-led insurgents in Iraq. (2004)
 - Captain Pedro Rosario made over 50 arrests of insurgents over several months without firing a shot applying the *Korem Profiling System* and Random Actor research and strategies. He was a recipient of the Bronze Star with Valor.
- 19) **How has the profile been used to predict where RA incidents are unlikely to occur?**
- Two specific types of schools won't have attacks. After Columbine, they were the only two groups of schools that didn't have threats (excluding a handful of prank threats).
 - Alternative Education:** Predicted in 1998 that alternative education schools (have highest population of at-risk students) *won't* have authentic, non-prank threats. To many this sounds crazy. Why don't they have their own students threatening to blow up their campuses? Because they intuitively apply the three-point intervention I identified that stops attacks and guides people out of the RA profile.
 - Specific Christian Schools that emphasize one-on-one mentoring:** I found that private, faith-based schools were just as likely to have threats as public schools except for a specific population of Christian schools that emphasize one-on-one mentoring (discipling) as a part of their philosophy.

PROVEN INTERVENTION THAT STOPS ATTACKS & GUIDES PEOPLE OUT OF THE RANDOM ACTOR PROFILE

- 20) **What are the themes of the 3-point intervention?** (Chapter 13)
- Provide Change / Variability / Flexibility (accommodates their UNPREDICTABLE trait).
 - Provide Protective factors (reduces activation of their FEARFUL trait).
 - Counsel how to make decisions out of confidence, which will guide them out the RA profile.
- 21) **How quickly does the intervention work?** (Chapters 13–16)
- To halt the catastrophic impulse: in teens and young adults, often within weeks; for adults takes longer.
- 22) **Where are the most important places where laypersons can apply this intervention?**
- Schools
 - Neighborhoods
 - Work Places
 - Law Enforcement
 - Military

RANDOM ACTOR CASES

- 23) **What was your first RA case?**
- In 1981, I spent 18 months on an undercover investigative documentary filming a suicidal, cult-like leader—three years after the Jonestown Massacre.
 - It resulted in the first “confession” of a suicidal, cult-like leader, in which he explained his motivations, how he built the group, and so on.

24) What is an example of a non-lethal/violent RA case that was still destructive? (Chapter 18)

- a) Highest profile case in the U.S. was Jayson Blair, *New York Times* reporter who faked dozens of stories.

25) Why have you spent so much time researching youth RA cases?

- a) The average age of a suicide attacker is 17–24. I expect that terrorist cells, adult crime cells (like the DC sniper) will continue to recruit young people.
- b) As the technology to kill becomes cheaper and easier to use and build (like explosives), more young people will commit incidents.
- c) Daily, dozens of youth across North America are found with explosives, guns, and plots to take out their schools (junior high, high school, and colleges and universities).
- d) Lastly, it's easier to guide a young person out of this profile than an older person.

26) What are some other RA cases from history? (Chapter 17)

- a) King Herod
- b) Three teens/young men in the Black Hand who ignited WWI
- c) Oswald, Ruby, and Garrison
- d) John Wilkes Booth—a RA Actor

IMPORTANT NEW RESEARCH

- 27) Most suicide terrorists, school shooters/bombers, workplace shooters, and serial killers have the RA profile.
- 28) There is a three-point intervention that stops their rage and guides people with the RA traits out of the profile, without stereotyping.
- 29) After 9-11, only one region in the U.S. *didn't* have threats against its schools—a region where educators applied the RA profile and intervention.
- 30) Suburbs and small towns are at the **highest** risk for a RA incident—the locale of every mass school shooting/bombing—even though they are statistically safe.
- 31) Korem predicted before Columbine which specific schools won't have RA student attacks.
- 32) Why tens of thousands of Americans threaten one another—unprecedented in US history—after Columbine, 9-11, and the Muhammad-Malvo DC area slayings. (Psych Ward Effect)

RELATED TO SUICIDE ATTACKS (Chapters 22–24)

- 33) The most common reason that a Kamikaze pilot abandoned his mission.
- 34) The most common reasons that suicide bombers choose not to commit an attack. (There are other identifiable reasons as well.)
- 35) What important factor did Mohammad Atta, the leader of the first Japanese Kamikaze squadron, and the first U.S. RA school shooter (who established a trend) have in common?
- 36) Prior to 2000, which unexpected country had the most number of suicide bombings?
- 37) How specific communities stopped their bomb threats while neighboring communities couldn't.
- 38) Why it is difficult to get females to commit a RA attack.
- 39) How terrorists get women to carry out RA attacks.
- 40) How it is possible to create a RA environment so that people who are not RAs will commit a suicidal attack.
- 41) Did you know that one of the world's foremost female test pilots (first to fly a helicopter) was working to develop a WWII German version of the Kamikaze?

OTHER IMPORTANT ITEMS

- 42) Dan Korem predicted in an address in the UK in 2003 that terrorists would recruit teenage UK students from the suburbs to commit an attack. (Chapter 24, last pages)
- 43) Every day, dozens of teens and young adults are discovered with bombs, guns, and plots to take out their schools. (Chapter 20)
- 44) 80% of RAs who kill, don't just kill. They spiritualize their rage. (Chapter 12)
- 45) The Random Actor Attractor—people who draw the undesired attention of a person who is a RA. (Chapter 16)
- 46) Why African American inner-city youth have yet to commit RA school attacks. (Chapter 11)
- 47) A RA army: the first faced by U.S. troops. (Chapter 19)
- 48) More pastors are surfacing who have the RA profile. (Chapter 19)
- 49) Bunker Syndrome: why when cornered RAs often commit suicide. (Chapter 11)
- 50) Sustained student-led RA terrorist incidents are unprecedented in North American and European history.