

## SCHOOL SHOOTING



*blame – society as a whole, not just one person or individual.*

A mother tries to place blame as police try to keep the peace ; more fall-out from Friday's deadly rampage in a high school on Chicago's South Side. This is Fox News Chicago. Good evening everybody, glad you're with us tonight. I'm Chris Law.

And I'm Robin Robinson. Security was very tight today when classes resumed at Tildon High School where one student was fatally shot and two others injured after school on Friday. A 15-year-old classmate has now been charged with the shootings. Tonight, though, his mother says he's a victim too.

*- He's not a monster. My son is a 15-year-old boy who got caught up in a situation that's out of control.*

Karen White's son Joseph is charged with the shooting spree that left high school freshman Delondon Lawson dead and two others injured. White allegedly began firing a 22 semi-automatic in the hallway at Tildon last Friday after an argument over a dice game. Mrs White says she and her husband both work and have tried to raise their son right. But she says the situation in the neighborhood around Tildon often makes good kids like her son do bad things.

#### **Mrs WHITE**

*- He is very remorseful for the loss of a life. Joseph has – he has morals ; he has values ; he's not a hardened criminal.*

The judge refused to set bond for the 15-year-old, so White will remain in jail until his preliminary hearing December 15. Meanwhile, at Tildon High today safeguards were in place to make sure Friday's violence was not repeated.

Unlike last Friday, the school's metal detectors were on today and there was a heavy police presence both in and outside the school. Mrs White says she wishes that same type of security was in place last week.

*- If my son had a weapon, or any other student had a weapon, I wish they had been activated and confiscated before any tragedy could occur like this.*

The school board president, Florence Cox, says the problem is with parents whose children bring guns to school. Until Friday, Mrs White would have agreed.

#### **Mrs WHITE**

*- Of course I did not know that my son had a gun, contrary to the quotes made by the deceased's parents. I would never, ever, give my son anything that would destroy him. I love him !*

#### **Ann Kavanagh, FOX NEWS CHICAGO.**

And the two other teens who were shot are doing well. One is already back home, the other is in good condition at Cook County Hospital.

And the number of weapons brought into our schools is very alarming. Checking the Fox Facts File, during the 1991-91-92 school year 200 guns were seized according to police, that's one gun found nearly everyday of classes last year. But it's nothing compared to this school year, at least so far : 75 guns have already been confiscated along with 88 other weapons like knives and dangerous chemicals. And that's just as classed started in September.