



**Ann  
Landers**

## If Oswald had been screened

**Dear Ann Landers:** Since 1993 was the 30th anniversary of the death of President John F. Kennedy, a great deal has been written about the assassination in the last few months.

I was especially interested in the profiles of Lee Harvey Oswald. Please permit me to share an observation. By paying closer attention to the type of child Oswald was, we might have predicted that he would turn into a potentially dangerous criminal.

I hope that teachers and health professionals keep an eye on children who seem to be strange, belligerent, sadistic loner-types who don't seem to fit in anyplace. Individuals who are angry at the world and can't get along with neighbors or co-workers can be dangerous. Lee Harvey Oswald was such a person.

What I am saying is that we would do well to take a closer look at the people around us. Just imagine how differently history would have been written had Oswald, the paranoid megalomaniac, been in a security-type mental institution where he belonged, instead of walking around in Dallas.

— *History Buff (Short Hills, N.J.)*

**Dear History Buff:** In this country, a person must commit an illegal act before he can be put away, unless he is committed for observation by a doctor or family member. While no one should be denied his or her civil rights, I agree that we must do a better job of identifying lunatics who could be potential murderers. Just read the histories of serial killers, and you will find that there were signs all over the place.