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## The Faces of Shame (PHOTOS)

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On Wednesday, April 17, just 48 hours after the terrible events in Boston, the Senate failed to pass the [Manchin-Toomey amendment](#) to the Senate's gun control bill, which mandated background checks on firearm purchases via the Internet and gun shows. Though it received a clear majority of votes (54-46), it didn't reach the 60-vote threshold that it needed to stave off a threatened filibuster. Also defeated on Wednesday, by a much larger margin (40-60), was Senator [Dianne Feinstein](#)'s amendment, which would have instituted a ban on assault weapons and large capacity magazines.

The Manchin-Toomey amendment was supported by 90 percent of the public; the failure to pass it, or any meaningful federal gun control legislation, is a failure of colossal magnitude.

Once again, the public welfare has been sacrificed by political leaders in service to the gun lobby. Do Americans really value the right to bear firearms -- and not just any firearms, but ones that are designed to kill as many people in as short a time as possible -- more than they do the safety of their children?

"A majority of senators voted 'yes' to protecting more of our citizens with smarter background checks," as President Obama [put it](#). "A minority was able to block it from moving forward."

"The gun lobby and its allies willfully lied about the bill," he continued, "It came down to politics -- the worry that that vocal minority of gun owners would come after them in future elections."

"All in all," he concluded, "This was a pretty shameful day for Washington."

The morning after the vote, the [Morning Joe](#) crew called out the 45 senators (four of them Democrats), who voted "No."



Take a good look at their faces. You'll have to make decisions about some of them in 2014.

### The Forty-five Senators Who Voted "No"

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