Marc Lépine : Biographie

**Marc Lépine**, né **Gamil Gharbi** le [26](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/26_octobre) [octobre](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Octobre_1964) [1964](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/1964_au_Qu%C3%A9bec) à [Montréal](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montr%C3%A9al) au [Québec](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Qu%C3%A9bec), et mort dans cette même ville le [6](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/6_d%C3%A9cembre) [décembre](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/D%C3%A9cembre_1989) [1989](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/1989_au_Qu%C3%A9bec) (à 25 ans), est l'auteur de la [tuerie de l'École polytechnique de Montréal](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tuerie_de_l%27%C3%89cole_polytechnique_de_Montr%C3%A9al) survenue le [6](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/6_d%C3%A9cembre) [décembre](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/D%C3%A9cembre_1989) [1989](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/1989_au_Qu%C3%A9bec). Ce jour-là, il abat quatorze femmes, dont treize étudiantes et une secrétaire et se suicide ensuite, laissant une lettredans laquelle il explique son acte par des motifs [antiféministes](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antif%C3%A9minisme).

Marc Lépine est né d'une mère québécoise et d'un père [algérien](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alg%C3%A9rie), Rachid Liass Gharbi. Celui-ci ne considérait pas les hommes et les femmes égaux et a abusé physiquement et mentalement de sa femme et de son fils Marc[2](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marc_L%C3%A9pine#cite_note-mother-2). Lorsqu'il a sept ans, ses parents se séparent et il vit ensuite avec sa mère.

Durant l'hiver [1980](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/1980_au_Qu%C3%A9bec)-[1981](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/1981_au_Qu%C3%A9bec), il tente d'entrer dans les [Forces armées canadiennes](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forces_canadiennes), mais, selon sa lettre de suicide, il n'est pas admis en raison de son attitude « antisociale ». En [1982](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/1982_au_Qu%C3%A9bec), il remplace son nom pour celui de Marc Lépine

Il débute ses [études collégiales](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coll%C3%A8ge_d%27enseignement_g%C3%A9n%C3%A9ral_et_professionnel) en sciences pures en [1982](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/1982_au_Qu%C3%A9bec), mais change après la première année pour un programme de technologie de l'électronique qu'il abandonne au dernier semestre sans donner d'explication. Lépine est admis à l'[École polytechnique de Montréal](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C3%89cole_polytechnique_de_Montr%C3%A9al) en [1986](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/1986_au_Qu%C3%A9bec), à la condition qu'il complète deux cours supplémentaires au [collège](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enseignement_coll%C3%A9gial). Il en complète un des deux durant l'hiver [1989](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/1989_au_Qu%C3%A9bec)

La brève biographie que la police a publiée de lui après les événements le décrit comme un être intelligent, mais troublé.

# Lettre de Marc Lépine

**[texte intégral]**

***par Marc Lépine***

*Excusez les fautes. J'avais 15 minutes pour l'écrire*

*Veillez noter que si je me suicide aujourd'hui 89/12/06 ce n'est pas pour des raisons économiques (car j'ai attendu d'avoir épuisé tout mes moyens financiers refusant même de l'emploi) mais bien pour des raisons politiques. Car j'ai décidé d'envoyer Ad Patres les féministes qui m'ont toujours gaché la vie. Depuis 7 ans que la vie ne m'apporte plus de joie et étant totalement blasé, j'ai décidé de mettre des bâtons dans les roues à ces viragos.*

*J'avais déjà essayés dans ma jeunesse de m'engager dans les Forces comme élève-officier, ce qui m'aurais permit de possiblement pénétrer dans l'arsenal et de procédé Lortie dans une rassia. Ils m'ont refusé because associàl. J'ai donc attendu jusqu'a ce jour pour mettre à exécution mes projets. Entre temps, j'ai continué mes études au grès du vent car elles ne m'ont jamais intéressée sachant mon destin à l'avance. Ce qui ne m'a pas empécher d'avoir de très bonnes notes malgré ma théorie de travaux non remis ainsi que la carence d'étude avant les examens.*

*Même si l'épitète Tireur Fou va m'être attribué dans les médias, je me considère comme un érudit rationnel que seul la venu de la Faucheuse on amméné à posé des gestes extrèmistes. Car pourquoi persévéré à exister si ce n'est que faire plaisir au gouvernement. Etant plûtot passéiste (Exception la science) de nature, les féministes ont toujours eux le dont de me faire rager. Elles veulent conserver les avantages des femmes (ex. assurances moins cher, congé de maternité prolongé précédé d'un retrait préventif, etc.) tout en s'accaparant de ceux des hommes.*

*Ainsi c'est une vérité de la palice que si les Jeux olympiques enlevaient la distinction Homme/Femme, il n'y aurait de Femmes que dans les compétitions gracieuses. Donc les féministes ne se battent pas pour enlever cette barrière. Elles sont tellement opportunistes qu'elles ne négligent pas de profiter des connaissances accumuler par les hommes au cours de l'histoire. Elles essai toutefois de travestir celles-ci toute les fois qu'elles le peuvent. Ainsi l'autre jour j'ai entendu qu'on honoraient les canadiens et canadiennes qui ont combattus au front pendant les guerres mondiales. Comment expliquer cela alors que les femmes n'étaient pas autorisés à aller au front??? Va-t-on entendre parler des légionnaires et galériennes de César qui naturellement occuperont 50% des effectifs de l'histoire malgré qu'elles n'a jamais exister. Un vrai Casus Belli.*

*Désoler pour cette trop compendieuse lettre.*

***Marc Lépine***

**[Suit une liste de 19 noms]**

*Ont toutes Failli disparaitre aujourd'hui. Le manque de temps (car je m'y suis mis trop tard) à permis que ces féministes radicals survives. Alea Jacta Est*

# 'Bad parent? No... an imperfect one'

## Her son killed 14 women. Her daughter committed suicide. Now Monique Lepine is spreading a message of healing and forgiveness

**By: [Lindor Reynolds](mailto:lindor.reynolds@freepress.mb.ca)**

Posted: **10/20/2012 1:00 AM** | [**Comments: 41**](http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/bad-parent-no-an-imperfect-one-175050751.html#comments)

[](http://media.winnipegfreepress.com/images/4463783.jpg)

[**Enlarge Image**](http://media.winnipegfreepress.com/images/4463783.jpg)

*Monique Lepine, mass murderer Marc Lepine's mother, is likable and smiles easily. (WAYNE GLOWACKI / WINNIPEG FREE PRESS)* [Photo Store](http://store.winnipegfreepress.com/photostore/photo-search/?keyword=Monique+Lepine+mass+murderer+Marc+Lepine%27s+mother+is+likable+and+smiles+easily&refferer=wfp)

[Photos by WAYNE GLOWACKI/WINNIPEG FREE PRESS 
Monique Lepine, mother of mass murderer Marc Lepine, has written a memoir of her experiences called Aftermath. It is filled with contradictions. She is likable, smiles easily but sometimes seems callous.](http://media.winnipegfreepress.com/images/4463494.jpg)

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*Photos by WAYNE GLOWACKI/WINNIPEG FREE PRESS Monique Lepine, mother of mass murderer Marc Lepine, has written a memoir of her experiences called Aftermath. It is filled with contradictions. She is likable, smiles easily but sometimes seems callous.*

[WAYNE GLOWACKI / WINNIPEG FREE PRESS
Monique Lepine  mother of Polytechnique mass murderer Marc Lepine, is in Winnipeg for speaking engagements.](http://media.winnipegfreepress.com/images/4463501.jpg)

[**Enlarge Image**](http://media.winnipegfreepress.com/images/4463501.jpg)

*WAYNE GLOWACKI / WINNIPEG FREE PRESS Monique Lepine mother of Polytechnique mass murderer Marc Lepine, is in Winnipeg for speaking engagements.*

Both of Monique Lepine's children died by their own hand.

Marc Lepine was the first. On December 6, 1989, he walked into Montreal's École Polytechnique, separated the male engineering students from the female, and opened fire. Lepine killed 14 women and himself.

After Marc died, his mother found his suicide note. Her first instinct, which she followed, was to use a red pen to correct the errors.

"They had a good education. Putting the accents in the right places in the French, that was important," she says casually over a Friday-morning latte at Stella's.

"That's my bad habit," she shrugs. Lepine likes things to be done right. She's unconcerned how the story makes her sound.

Nadia Gharbi, Marc's sister, died of a deliberate drug overdose seven years later, completing a downward spiral that began early -- perhaps when she was placed in a nursery for the first three months after her birth, cared for full-time by strangers while her mother recovered from the complicated delivery. Or maybe it was later, in one of the three homes where the siblings lived while their single mother worked. She'd see them on weekends. Or later still, when Nadia was 14 and her mother, despairing of her bad friends, drug use and wild behaviour, put her into foster care for four years.

Monique Lepine does not believe she was a bad parent. The diminutive 74-year-old, stylishly dressed and smiling easily, tells her side of the Marc Lepine story. In it, she is a victim too, first of her ex-husband's brutality, then of a society that did not support the needs of single mothers in the 1970s. Finally, she says, she was one of Marc's victims, too.

"A bad parent? No, perhaps a little over-protective," she says. "I was not always there. Because I had to work. Because my husband did not pay support. I don't feel I am a bad parent. I feel I am an imperfect one."

She is sweet and likable, this senior from Quebec, relaying the story she first told in her 2008 memoir, Aftermath. The book is the story of her life and that of her children before and after the Montreal massacre.

Lepine is in Manitoba this weekend to address two church groups, one in Steinbach Friday night and the second at Eastview Community Church tonight at 7 p.m. Proceeds from her talks, called Victim or Victorious, will go to Steinbach's Eden Foundation for mental-health recovery.

She says she receives a little money for her speaking engagements, but often appears for just her travel expenses. Her memoir, a complete sellout in French and nearly one in English, earned her very little, she claims.

None of the proceeds went to the families of the victims.

Both Lepine and her memoir are riddled with contradictions. Some of what she says seems so callous I find myself hoping it's a function of her slightly imperfect English. How else do you explain her nonchalant account of taking her dead daughter's belongings, putting them in garbage bags and throwing them in the trash?

Lepine was raised Catholic and spent a year as a nun. When she left the church, she went wild. She had three abortions before she married and became pregnant with Marc. During the years after her divorce, she admits she had frequent affairs. Today, she shrugs and says her behaviour reflected the times. In Aftermath, she wonders what impact the parade of men through her bedroom had on young Marc.

She says she loved her children when they were little, but burned nearly all their childhood photos after Nadia's suicide. It was necessary, she says. She wants to remember Marc at nine or 10. He was such a sweet little boy, she says.

Lepine says there were no signs her son was mentally ill. That's belied by recollections in her book. When he was 12, Marc dug a grave "by the light of the moon" and put his sister's photo and name on it. A few months later, Monique Lepine's beloved cat vanished.

"He did away with my cat in order to hurt me," she writes.

For 17 years, Lepine refused to grant interviews or admit she was the infamous killer's mother. She stepped forward after the 2006 mass shooting at Dawson College in Montreal.

"I was the first mother of this sort," she says. "I was praying for 17 years. It took another murder for me to find the courage.

"This is my mission, to help these collateral victims, the parents of the killers, their families. We didn't get any help. The parents of the victims, the young girls, they got help."

Lepine says she was born again at age 42, before her son's rampage. Her faith in God helped her endure the death of her children and the terrible legacy of her son. She talks to strangers about the need to heal their hearts, to forgive and be forgiven. Lepine wrote her book and went public because she hoped to stop other men from killing.

She met the parents of one of Lepine's victims. They don't blame her, she says. And she doesn't blame herself. This cheery pensioner with the chic scarf and the easy smile says she did nothing wrong.

The evil belonged to Marc Lepine the man, not the cheery nine-year-old son she chooses to remember. She wasn't a bad parent, just an imperfect one.

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**Excerpts from Aftermath**

"Over the years I have struggled to understand what could have led Marc to commit such a monstrous act toward those young women. Perhaps he compared them to me because they had chosen to make their way in a decidedly male world just as I had done. Although he never said so, I am certain Marc was angry with me for the way I lived my life."

"In my mind, Marc Lepine, the Polytechnique killer, was still alive, pursuing me along the tortured pathways of my mind. The creature that inhabited my hallucinations no longer bore the slightest resemblance to the person I had brought into this world. I became convinced that the only way to start living again was to get him out of my head by erasing his name and removing all trace of his existence."

"No matter how much I strove for it, I was unable to attain inner peace, or shake off my guilt. I had let my daughter die of an overdose. My son had committed a monstrous criminal act. He had violated one of my most fundamental beliefs -- that all human life is sacred -- and I had done nothing."