

*CBS Evening News with Tony Dokoupil*

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6:43:42 p.m. [TEASE]

12 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Still Ahead; Student Killed]

TONY DOKOUPIL: Still ahead on the broadcast, the parents of a Loyola University student gunned down near campus by an undocumented immigrant. What they told us.

JESSICA GORMAN: No one should have to deal with the police coming to your door at 6:00 a.m.

(...)

6:46:23 p.m.

2 minutes and 29 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Student Killed]

DOKOUPIL: We are hearing for the first time tonight from the parents of Sheridan Gorman, the Loyola University student who police say was gunned down last month by an undocumented immigrants, in the United States and out on the street despite a previous arrest. Her parents told our chief correspondent Matt Gutman what justice looks like for them.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Parents of Killed Loyola Student Seeking ‘Accountability’]

JESSICA GORMAN: I grieve not only for all of the people that she touched in this life, but the people she won’t touch.

MATT GUTMAN: Sheridan Gorman was an 18-year-old freshman at Loyola University in Chicago. She was Jessica and Tom’s joy.

JESSICA GORMAN: No one should have to deal with the police coming to your door at 6:00 a.m., falling to your knees, when you hear the news that no parent should ever hear.

GUTMAN: On March 19, Gorman and her friends went to see the Northern Lights on Lake Michigan, but instead, as Gorman reached the end of this. She saw masked man with a gun.

JESSICA GORMAN: She turned around and she warned her friends that there was a man with a gun and you need to run and they ran. She ran, she made it, like —

THOMAS GORMAN: 40 feet.

JESSICA GORMAN: — she made it like 40 feet and he shot her in the back, came out her neck.

THOMAS GORMAN: And —

GUTMAN: But she saved her friends.

THOMAS GORMAN: — what?

JESSICA GORMAN: I don't know.

THOMAS GORMAN: That's we heard.

JESSICA GORMAN: Presumably.

GUTMAN: Police arrested 26-year-old Jose Medina, a Venezuelan who authorities entered the country illegally. His lawyer says her client lost a portion of his brain and skull after he was robbed and shot in the head in Colombia in 2018. The Department of Homeland Security says Medina was first apprehended by U.S. Border Patrol in May of 2023 and released into the country under the Biden administration. And just over a month later, they say he was caught shoplifting in Chicago, arrested, and released again. An arrest warrant was issued after he didn't show up for court. [TO GORMANS] Tell me about the policies that you think made this happen.

JESSICA GORMAN: Honestly, what we are really still trying to explore that.

THOMAS GORMAN: Clearly, there needs to be some cooperation between state and local government and federal officials. When someone commits a crime, and they have been here illegally, there needs to be cooperation.

GUTMAN: Gorman parents say they aren't interested in politics, but accountability.

JESSICA GORMAN: I don't care what side of the aisle politically people are on or you're right in the middle like us. This can't happen. You've got to make changes.

THOMAS GORMAN: We should all be able to agree about the safety of our kids.

GUTMAN: Their heartbreak is immeasurable. Now, Jose Medina has a hearing next week. He has not yet entered a plea but could face the rest of his life in prison if convicted, but there is a long road ahead for him and the Gorman family. Murder cases in Cook County can take four to six years to reach trial, Tony.

DOKOUPIL: Matt, a difficult but important story tonight.

GUTMAN: Thank you.

DOKOUPIL: Thank you.