

# PBSTV: California Capitolweek Sacramento, California #527 3/17/01



## School Violence

### SCHOOL SAFETY PACKAGE

**((Melissa))**

This type of prevention and intervention program is one way to try and stop violence, but are there other ways to get to the root of the problem?

Joining us now Dr. Judith Reisman, author of "Kinsey: Crimes & Consequences" [and a] report for the U.S. Department of Justice and Paul Seave, former U.S. attorney and current manager of the crime and prevention center in the California Department of Justice.

Thank you both for being with us.

Dr. Reisman, the frightening part is that school violence, actually violence can incur anywhere in today's society.

**((Dr. Judith Reisman, Institute For Media Education))**

People have been telling themselves for years that this is a lower echelon, lower level problem. Something that occurred only with underserved children, but as they look around their lovely suburban schools of course they are recognizing that the profile can fit any school. It can fit the upper suburban school as well as any other school, but recognizing my position, in the Institute for Media Education, I would argue that we would not solve these problems in any way, shape or form until we address the way in which our general society is treating violence, is treating sexuality issues. We had 4,200 children reported as rape victims, as battery rape, sexual battery victims just in school in 1996 reported in one of the D-O-J reports so this violence perpetuates itself in a whole broad spectrum of ways.



**((Melissa))**

Paul, what are we learning in terms of what Judith is saying and you have been a prosecutor and have seen these crimes escalate in the court rooms.

**((Paul Seave, California Department of Justice))**

What we are learning; what we've been learning for the past ten years is to start thinking in terms of what is causing this violence is risk factors. In other words, there is not a single cause. There is not a simple explanation. It's like someone who has heart disease or may have heart disease. The more risk factors he has—overweight, high blood pressure, doesn't exercise and so forth—the more