THE INFLUENCE OF MEDIA VIOLENCE ON YOUTH

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Craig A. Anderson is Professor of Psychology and Chair of the Department of Psychology at Iowa State University. He received his Ph.D. from Stanford University in 1980 and has served on the faculties of Rice University, Ohio State University, and the University of Missouri-Columbia. He has been awarded Fellow status by the American Psychological Society and the American Psychological Association. Anderson’s 100+ publications span a wide range of areas, including judgment and decision making; depression, loneliness, and shyness; personality theory and measurement; and attribution theory. In recent years, his work has focused on the development of a General Aggression Model designed to integrate insights from cognitive, developmental, personality, and social psychology. His pioneering work on video-game violence has led to consultations with educators, government officials, child advocates, and news organizations worldwide.

Leonard Berkowitz is the Vilas Research Professor Emeritus at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1951. He has held visiting appointments at Stanford University; the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences; Oxford, Cornell, and Cambridge Universities; the University of Western Australia; and the University of Mannheim. Berkowitz is best known for his research into situational influences on aggressive behavior, including the effects of movie and television depictions of violence. The author of about 170 articles and books, mostly concerned with aggression, he was also the editor of the well-known social psychology series Advances in Experimental Social Psychology from its inception in 1964 until 1989. He has been President of the American Psychological Association’s Division of Personality and Social Psychology and the International Society for Research on Aggression, was given distinguished scientist awards by the American Psychological Association and the Society for Experimental Social Psychology, and was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Edward Donnerstein is Dean of the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences and Professor of Communication at the University of Arizona. His major research interests are in mass-media violence, as well as mass-media policy. He has published more than 200 scientific articles in these general areas and serves on the editorial boards of a number of academic journals in both psychology and communication. He is past President of the International Society for Research on Aggression.
L. Rowell Huesmann is Professor of Psychology and Communication Studies at the University of Michigan and a Senior Research Professor at the Institute for Social Research. He received his Ph.D. at Carnegie-Mellon University in 1969. Huesmann’s research has focused on the psychological foundations of aggressive and antisocial behavior, and he has written more than 100 scientific articles and books on this topic. He was the lead author of the 1997 Human Capital Initiative report on the causes of violence, and is a past President of the International Society for Research on Aggression. He is a Fellow of Clare Hall College, Cambridge, England, and a member of the LIFE faculty at the Max Planck Institute in Berlin. Prior to being on the faculty at Michigan, he was on the faculties of Yale University and the University of Illinois at Chicago.

James D. Johnson is Professor of Psychology at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington. He received a Ph.D. in social psychology from Indiana University in 1984. His research interests have involved the role of media in race-related stereotype formation and maintenance. His work on the influence of exposure to rap music on violent attitudes was featured in The Washington Post, among other news outlets. He has recently developed the Johnson-Lecci scale to measure individual variation in Black anti-White bias. His current research interests involve the relation between Black anti-White bias and health-care-related behaviors. His research has been funded by the National Cancer Institute and the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Addiction. He is presently a consulting editor for the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, and he has served as a reviewer for a number of other journals, including Journal of Experimental Social Psychology and Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin.

Daniel Linz received his Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. At the University of California, Santa Barbara, he shares a joint appointment as Professor in the Department of Communication and the Law and Society Program, where he served as Chair from 1995 through 2000. His research involves empirically testing assumptions related to the First Amendment and spans the topics of media violence, pornography, sexual depictions and sexual entertainment, pretrial publicity, news, and race.

Neil M. Malamuth is Professor of Psychology and Communication and Chair of the Department of Communication/Speech at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). He received his Ph.D. in social psychology from UCLA in 1975 and has previously served on the faculties of the University of Manitoba, Canada, and the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. His primary research focuses on the causes of violence, with particular emphasis on sexual coercion and on media effects. He has more than 100 scholarly publications in these research areas. He is a Fellow of the American Psychological Society and of the American Psychological Association. His recent publications include articles on a hierarchical model of the characteristics of both criminal and noncriminal sexual aggressors, the role of pornography consumption as a potential contributing factor to sexual coercion, and the relevance of evolutionary psychology to research on sexual coercion and to understanding the appeal and impact of the mass media.

Ellen Wartella is Dean of the College of Communication, Walter Cronkite Regents Chair in Communication, and Mrs. Mary Gibbs Jones Centennial Chair in Communication at the University of Texas at Austin. She is coauthor or editor of nine books and dozens of book chapters and articles on children and media. She is Co-Principal Investigator on a 5-year multisite research project, funded by the National Science Foundation, titled Children’s Research Initiative: Children’s Digital Media Center.