



MEDIA ADVISORY: School Terrorism Topic Of UNH Event Thursday, April 19

Contact: [Lori Wright](#)
603-862-0574
UNH Media Relations

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WHAT: University of New Hampshire Holden Lecture, "Schoolyard Terror: Easy solutions that won't work and difficult ones that will."

WHO: Noted criminologist James Alan Fox, Lipman Family Professor of Criminal Justice and former dean of the College of Criminal Justice at Northeastern University. A question and answer session will follow Fox's presentation.

WHEN: 7 p.m., Thursday, April 19, 2007

WHERE: Richards Auditorium, Murkland Hall, UNH's Durham campus.

BACKGROUND: Fox will discuss quick fixes proposed in response to acts of school terrorism such as the shootings at Virginia Tech and Columbine High School. These quick fixes, which he says are destined to fail, include tightened security, student profiling and zero tolerance. He also will discuss strategies that promise to enhance the quality of life and learning for all students.

"Over the past decade, safety has eclipsed scholarship as the primary concern of countless students and their parents in schools across America. Regrettably, hype and hysteria precipitated by deadly shootings at Columbine High and elsewhere have prompted many ill-advised responses that in all likelihood will not address the fundamental problems of adolescent anger and alienation. Even worse, some violence prevention approaches may actually make matters worse and intensify the contagion of schoolyard bloodshed," Fox says.

Fox has written 16 books, including his two newest, "The Will to Kill: Making Sense of Senseless Murder" and "Extreme Killing: Understanding Serial and Mass Murder." He has published dozens of journal and magazine articles and newspaper columns, primarily in the areas of multiple murder, juvenile crime, school violence, workplace violence, and capital punishment.

The Holden Lecture is sponsored by the Holden Fund, Justice Studies Program and the Department of Sociology. It is free and open to the public.

RSVP: Seating is limited. Due to the high interest in this event because of the recent shootings at Virginia Tech, please RSVP to Lori Wright at lori.wright@unh.edu or 603-862-0574.