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PANEL II: A SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE ON TELEVISION AND VIOLENCE

Panel II will analyze the problem of television and violence from a sociological perspective. The panelists are:

Dr. John Murray, professor and director of the School of Family Studies and Human Services at Kansas State University. He is a fellow of the American Psychological Association and recent president of its Division of Child Youth and Family Services. Dr. Murray's interest in television and society is reflected in thirty years of research, teaching and public policy concerning children, youth and families. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, Dr. Murray served as research coordinator for the Surgeon General Scientific Advisory Committee on television and social behavior at the National Institute of General Health. It was that Committee that resulted in the landmark Surgeon General report on television violence in 1972. He has since then taught at the School of Behavioral Sciences at Macquarie University in Sidney, Australia, where he conducted research on the effects of the introduction of television to the Australian Outback. He has written over ten books and over eighty articles on children's television. His most recent book, with Dr. Edward Donnerstein, is called *Big World, Small Screen: The Role of Television in American Society*, available from the University of Nebraska Press.

Dr. Edward Donnerstein is a professor of Communication and Psychology, and the past chairperson of the Department of Communication at the University of California at Santa Barbara. He is a social psychologist who received his Ph.D in psychology in 1972. His major research interests are in mass media violence, aggression and particularly sexual violence. He has published over 125 scientific articles in these general areas. His most recent books include—in addition to *Big World, Small Screen: The Role of Television in American Society—The Question of Pornography: Research, Findings and Policy Implications*.¹ He has testified at a number of governmental hearings in the United States and abroad regarding the effects and policy im-

1. ALETHA C. HUSTON ET AL., *BIG WORLD, SMALL SCREEN: THE ROLE OF TELEVISION IN AMERICAN SOCIETY* (1992); EDWARD DONNERSTEIN ET AL., *THE QUESTION OF PORNOGRAPHY: RESEARCH, FINDINGS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS* (1987).

plications surrounding mass media violence and pornography, and most recently he has been testifying before the United States Senate on television violence. He has served as a member of the United States Surgeon General's panel on pornography and the National Academy of Science Subpanel on Child Pornography and Child Abuse.

Dr. Jonathan Freedman is a professor of the Department of Psychology at the University of Toronto. He has an A.B. from Harvard and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Yale University. In 1975 he was awarded the American Psychological Association Media Award grand prize for his book *Crowding and Behavior*,² and became interested in analyzing various studies concerning the effects of violence in television over a decade ago.

2. JONATHAN FREEDMAN, *CROWDING AND BEHAVIOR* (1975).