

CHANNEL ONE NEWS SHOW SCRIPT 11/19/07

TOPICS COVERED:

- News of the Day
- Death Penalty
- Pop Quiz
- One More Thing

TONY: HEY GUYS ITS NOVEMBER 19 2007, I'M TONY ANDERSON WITH MY FRIENDS FROM NORTH XX HIGH SCHOOL IN PITTSBURG. CHECK OUT THE HEADLINES OF THE DAY STARTING RIGHT NOW.

CHRIS: TROPICAL STORM SIDR, THE DEVASTATING CYCLONE THAT HIT BANGLADESH ON THURSDAY HAS LEFT MORE THAN TWO THOUSAND PEOPLE DEAD.

CHRIS: HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS MORE REMAIN STRANDED IN THEIR WRECKED HOMES AWAITING HELP FROM RESCUERS.

CHRIS: A CYCLONE IS A LARGE ROTATING TROPICAL STORM, JUST LIKE A HURRICANE, WHICH DEVELOPS OVER WARM WATER IN A TROPICAL REGION. AT THE STORM'S WORST, WINDS REACHED 150 MILES AN HOUR.

CHRIS: BANGLADESH'S MINISTRY OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT ESTIMATES MORE THAN 773 THOUSAND HOMES WERE DAMAGED.

CHRIS: BANGLADESH'S GOVERNMENT HAS LAUNCHED A RECOVERY EFFORT AND THE U.S. AND OTHER COUNTRIES ARE PITCHING IN WITH AID AND PERSONNEL.

CHRIS: WHEN YOUR TEACHER TAKES ATTENDANCE. CHANCES ARE, THERE'S GOING TO BE A SMITH, GARCIA OR RODRIGUEZ ON THE ROSTER.

CHRIS: HISTORICALLY, SMITH HAS BEEN THE MOST COMMON LAST NAME IN THE U.S. BUT, ACCORDING TO THE CENSUS BUREAU, RODRIGUEZ AND GARCIA HAVE NOW BROKEN INTO THE TOP TEN LIST OF MOST COMMON NAMES.

CHRIS: IT'S THE FIRST TIME TWO HISPANIC LAST NAMES HAVE CRACKED THE TOP TEN. HISPANICS NOW MAKE UP 13 PERCENT OF THE U.S. POPULATION.

CHRIS: HUMPBACK WHALES ARE A PROTECTED SPECIES BUT OVER THE WEEKEND JAPAN, WHICH SAYS THE HUMPBACK IS NO LONGER ENDANGERED. LAUNCHED AN EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA TO HUNT THE WHALES.

CHRIS: THE TRIP HAS ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISTS UP IN ARMS. GREENPEACE STATIONED A BOAT OFF JAPAN'S COAST TO PROTEST THE WHALERS AS THEY LEFT.

CHRIS: THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT SAYS THAT THEY'RE LOOKING FOR 50 WHALES TO BE USED FOR RESEARCH.

CHRIS: BUT WHALE MEAT IS A DELICACY IN JAPAN AND THE MEAT HARVESTED FROM WHALES CAUGHT FOR SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES IS SOLD COMMERCIALY.

CHRIS: HUMPBACK WHALES HAVE BEEN PROTECTED SINCE THE 1950S, WHEN THEY ALMOST BECAME EXTINCT FROM HUNTING.

CHRIS: THE U.S. MILITARY SAYS VIOLENCE IN IRAQ IS DOWN 55 PERCENT SINCE 30 THOUSAND ADDITIONAL TROOPS ARRIVED IN JUNE.

CHRIS: THE MILITARY IS POINTING TO THE DECLINE IN VIOLENCE AS A SIGN THE TROOP SURGE IS WORKING.

CHRIS: ANOTHER POTENTIAL REASON FOR THE DECREASE, IRAN HAS REPORTEDLY STOPPED SENDING WEAPONS ACROSS THE BORDER TO IRAQ. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT SAYS IT'S STILL UNCLEAR HOW THIS HAS AFFECTED THE LEVEL OF VIOLENCE.

CHRIS: WITH THANKSGIVING ONLY THREE DAYS AWAY, YOU'RE PROBABLY GEARING UP FOR A TRIP TO GRANDMA'S FOR SOME TURKEY AND SWEET POTATOES.

CHRIS: THANKSGIVING IS ALWAYS A BUSY TIME FOR TRAVEL, BUT THIS YEAR IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE BUSIER THAN EVER.

CHRIS: AAA ESTIMATES MORE THAN 38 MILLION AMERICANS WILL TRAVEL 50 MILES OR MORE TO CELEBRATE THANKSGIVING WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

CHRIS: A WHOPPING 27 MILLION PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO FLY OVER THE HOLIDAY. AND DESPITE HIGH GAS PRICES, 31 MILLION MORE WILL TRAVEL TO THEIR HOLIDAY CELEBRATION BY CAR.

CHRIS: PAKISTAN REMAINS IN A STATE OF EMERGENCY, DESPITE MOUNTING PRESSURE FROM THE U.S. TO RESTORE THE CONSTITUTION. THE COUNTRY HAS NOW BEEN UNDER EMERGENCY RULE FOR TWO WEEKS.

CHRIS: DEPUTY U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN NEGROPONTE TRAVELED TO ISLAMABAD AND MET WITH PAKISTANI PRESIDENT PERVEZ MUSHARRAF AND OTHER OFFICIALS OVER THE WEEKEND.

CHRIS: NEGROPONTE URGED THE OFFICIALS TO LIFT EMERGENCY RULE AND CALLED ON MUSHARRAF TO WORK WITH FORMER PRIME MINISTER AND OPPOSITION LEADER BENAZIR BHUTTO, WHO WAS RELEASED FROM HOUSE ARREST FRIDAY.

(SOT: John Negroponte) "I urged the government of Pakistan to stop such actions, to lift the state of emergency and release all political detainees. Emergency rule is not compatible with free, fair and credible elections."

CHRIS: BUT MUSHARRAF HAS SAID HE WILL ONLY LIFT EMERGENCY RULE IF HE FEELS THE SECURITY SITUATION HAS IMPROVED.

ANNOUNCER: SEE HOW MUCH YOU'VE LEARNED ABOUT PAKISTAN. HEAD TO CHANNEL ON DOT COM AND TAKE THE QUIZ AT PASSPORT PAKISTON.

TONY: DO YOU THINK A GOOD WAY TO STOP THE CRIME OF MURDER IS BY EXECUTING CONVICTED MURDERERS?

TONY: WELL, THERE'S A NEW SERIES OF STUDIES CONDUCTED BY ECONOMISTS THAT SAYS THAT "YES", EXECUTIONS DO SAVE LIVES.

TONY: WELL, THAT STUDY HAS BEEN CONSIDERED FAULTY. BUT IT HAS FUELED THE DEBATE OVER HOW WE CARRY OUT EXECUTIONS IN THEIS COUNTRY. THE

SUPREME COURT IS TAKING A LOOK AT HOW WE DO THESE THINGS. JESSICA KUMARI HAS MORE ON THIS LIFE AND DEATH DEBATE.

JESSICA: LAST WEEK THE U.S. SUPREME COURT HALTED THE EXECUTION OF A FLORIDA DEATH ROW INMATE. AT LEAST 16 SIMILAR EXECUTIONS HAVE BEEN DELAYED IN STATES ALL OVER OUR COUNTRY.

JESSICA: THE REASON? RIGHT NOW THE SUPREME COURT IS EXAMINING WHETHER DEATH BY LETHAL INJECTION IS A CRUEL AND UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT WHICH THE EIGHTH AMENDMENT SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITS.

JESSICA: SO WHILE DEATH BY LETHAL INJECTION REMAINS POSSIBLE IN THEORY, IT HAS IN REALITY BEEN STOPPED.

JESSICA: LAST WEEK I VISITED SAINT BARNABAS HIGH SCHOOL IN THE BRONX, NEW YORK AND WITNESSED SENIORS FROM GOVERNMENT CLASS DEBATING THIS HOT TOPIC.

JESSICA: THE SENIORS AT SAINT BARNABAS HIGH SCHOOL ROLE PLAYING REAL LIFE CHARACTERS WITH REAL LIFE DRAMA.

(SOT:) "My son spent 26 Years of his life in jail for crime wrongfully accused of.

(SOT:) "He was so close to being executed for a crime that he actually did not commit, I think our country needs to get rid of death penalty."

JESSICA: ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE, THE FAMILY OF A 12 YEAR OLD GIRL KILLED BY A MAN WHO HAD BEEN JAILED FOR MURDER, BUT WAS RELEASED

(SOT:) "He should've been given death penalty in 1977 when he committed a double murder of two other innocent girls."

(SOT:) "Punishment upon him should be the equivalent to the punishment brought upon my child."

(SOT:) "The death penalty violates the 8th amendment from cruel and unusual punishment."

(SOT:) "Doesn't a cruel and punishment crime deserve a cruel and unusual punishment"?

(SOT:) "How many other people have been executed that have been innocent? An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind."

(SOT:) "Do you think it's morally correct to show our country and our community, by saying ok, you killed someone so we're going to kill you instead?"

(SOT:) "With the death sentence the suffering is over in an instant, while in prison the pain goes on for decades."

JESSICA: AFTERWARDS I HAD SOME QUESTIONS OF MY OWN TO POSE TO THESE STUDENTS

JESSICA: DID ANY OF YOU DEFEND VIEWS YOU DIDN'T BELIEVE IN?

(SOT:) "I'm actually for the death penalty but had to say I'm against it."

JESSICA: SO WHO'S FOR THE DEATH PENALTY?

JESSICA: THAT LOOKS LIKE A LOT OF YOU ARE AGAINST IT?

JESSICA: WHO THINKS THAT LETHAL INJECTION IS CRUEL AND UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT?

(SOT:) "I think that any type of death penalty is cruel and unusual."

JESSICA: WHO DO YOU THINK SHAPED THAT OPINION?

(SOT:)"I think a lot of it is the media trials that we see on television. It's all about a person who rapes and murdered a 10 year old or a fourteen year old. They appeal to our family side.

(SOT:) "Also religion, some religions believe in the death penalty and some of them don't."

JESSICA: DID YOU GUYS IN YOUR RESEARCH NOTICE ANY RACIAL DISPARITIES WITH DEATH PENALTY?

(SOT:) "Most people in America that get the death penalty are white males. And then the other side to that is a person who is white and is the victim, all their murderers get the death penalty more often than any other race."

(SOT:) "57 percent of them were white and 34 percent were African American, 7 percent were and 2 percent were other."

(SOT:) "Males are actually put to death, capital punishment more than women."

JESSICA: JUST TELL ME IN GENERAL WHAT THIS EXPERIENCE WAS LIKE?

(SOT:) "When it pops in people mind they already have a side for the death penalty, you know I'm against it, but as we did research a lot of people changed mind."

(SOT:) "It made us look into government system and see the failures that usually we don't see as citizens. We actually got to see an overview over it and I learned a lot about it. I learned that even though I'm for the death penalty I learned the other side. It was a great experience."

TONY: NOW IT'S YOUR TURN. WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT THIS CONTROVERSIAL TOPIC. ARE YOU FOR THE DEATH PENALTY OR AGAINST IT? GO TO CHANNEL ONE DOT COM AND CLICK ON YOUR TURN TO VOTE AND DON'T JUST TELL US YES OR NO BUT REALLY TELL US WHY YOU FEEL THE WAY YOU DO. WE MIGHT SHARE SOME OF YOUR RESPONSES LATER IN THE WEEK.

ANNOUNCER: THE U.S. MARINE CORPS PRESENTS TODAY'S POP QUIZ.

TONY: NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH. DEDICATED TO CELEBRATING THE TRADITIONS OF NATIVE AMERICANS. THERE ARE OVER MORE THAN ONE AND A HALF MILLION AMERICAN INDIANS LIVING IN THE U.S. AND MOST LIVE IN THE SOUTHWEST.

TONY: SO HERE'S YOUR POP QUIZ QUESTION.

WHICH FAMOUS AMERICAN INDIAN APPEARS ON A CURRENTLY ISSUED U.S. COIN?

- A. POCAHONTAS
- B. SITTING BULL
- C. SACAGAWEA
- D. TECUMSEH

TONY: TAKE TEN SECONDS.

TONY: THE ANSWER IS C - SACAGAWEA.

TONY: SACAGAWEA APPEARS ON THE GOLDEN DOLLAR COIN. SHE'S FAMOUS FOR HELPING TO GUIDE EXPLORERS MERIWETHER LEWIS AND WILLIAM CLARK ON THEIR EXPEDITION THROUGH THE U-S WHEN SHE WAS STILL A TEENAGER. IN 2000, THE U.S. MINT HONORED HER WITH HER VERY OWN COIN. TODAY, THERE ARE ABOUT A BILLION SACAJAWEA COINS IN CIRCULATION.

ANNOUNCER: HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT NATIVE AMERICANS? CHECK OUT THE AMERICAN INDIAN HISTORY QUIZ AT CHANNEL ONE DOT COM.

TONY: ALRIGHT GUYS, THAT DOES IT FOR CHANNEL ONE NEWS, I'M TONY ANDERSON AND WE LEAVE YOU WITH ONE MORE THING BEFORE WE GO. TAKE CARE.

TONY: EARLIER WE TOLD YOU ABOUT A CONTROVERSIAL JAPANESE WHALING EXPEDITION.

TONY: ANIMAL RIGHTS GROUPS ALL OVER THE WORLD ARE ANGRY ABOUT THE TRIP. BUT THIS GROUP OF AUSTRALIANS PROTESTED IN A VERY BIG AND UNCONVENTIONAL WAY.

TONY: TWO THOUSAND PEOPLE SAT SHOULDER TO SHOULDER ON A SYDNEY BEACH IN THE SHAPE OF A GIANT HUMPBACK WHALE.

TONY: A FITTING DEMONSTRATION FOR AN ANIMAL THAT CAN GROW TO BE 48 FEET LONG AND WEIGH UP TO 40 TONS.

TONY: THE EVENT WAS SPONSORED BY THE SAVE THE WHALES CAMPAIGN, WHICH WAS FOUNDED IN 1977 TO PREVENT WHALING AND PROMOTE MARINE EDUCATION.