

**ISSUE/PROGRAM REPORTS  
FOR SECOND QUARTER 2000**

**F.C.C. 73.3256 (A) (9)**

**SUBMITTED BY: KTRK-TELEVISION, INC  
HOUSTON, TX**

**JULY 10, 2000**

## INTRODUCTION

From April 1 through June 30, 2000, KTRK-TV broadcast three half-hour weekly local public affairs programs:

**ABC/13 COMMUNITY CLOSE UP (SATURDAYS 12 NOON-1:00 PM)**  
The umbrella title of a series of programs geared toward the needs, interests and concerns of our community at large. The **ISSUE FORUMS; VISIONS; COUNTY LINE, VIVA HOUSTON and CROSSROADS** programs rotate throughout the year.

**ISSUE FORUMS (Rotates throughout the year)**  
**(12:00 NOON)**

Program geared toward issues and political concerns of the community.

**COUNTY LINE (Rotates throughout the year)**  
**(12:00 NOON)**

Program geared toward the needs, interests and concerns of the various counties in our community.

**VISIONS (Rotates throughout the year)**  
**(12:00 PM)**

Program geared toward the needs, interests and concerns of the Asian-American community.

**VIVA HOUSTON (Rotates throughout the year)**  
**(12:30 PM)**

Program geared toward the needs, interests and concerns of the Hispanic community.

**CROSSROADS (Rotates throughout the year)**  
**12:30 PM)**

Program geared toward the needs, interests and concerns of the African-American community.

And broadcast a one-hour long local morning program:

**DEBRA DUNCAN**  
**(MONDAY-FRIDAY, 9:00 AM)**  
**(REPEATED: WEEKNIGHTS @ 11:30 PM & SUNDAYS @ 11 AM**

Program geared toward the general public dealing with issues & entertainment.

(more)

## FCC REPORT

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The station also broadcast several local programs dealing with community issues, and more than 2,000 public service announcements. In addition to the programs, news reports and public service announcements described in this report, the station broadcast all programs provided by the ABC Television Network. The network's report entitled, "ABC-TV, Network Second Quarter 2000 Program Information" is filed separately.

KTRK-TV's programs, news reports and public service announcements provided significant treatment of the following issues that were important to the community in the second quarter of 2000.

- 1) Campaign for Healthy Babies
- 2) Prayer In Schools
- 3) Natl Men's Health Week
- 4) Census 2000
- 5) Volunteerism
- 6) Child Abuse Prevention
- 7) Summer School Lunch Program
- 8) Drugs-G.H.B. & Ritalin
- 9) HIV/AIDS Testing

**KTRK-TV NEWS PROGRAMS – Second Quarter, 2000**

**EYEWITNESS NEWS AT 5:00 AM and 6 AM**

Tom Koch, Cheryl Keck, Doug Brown and Don Nelson anchor this hour-half morning newscast from 5:00-7:00 a.m., Monday through Friday. This program includes the latest overnight news, weather, sports, and traffic reports. Also, includes a number of weekly series including “Common Sense”, a series on financial reports about economic trends and investment opportunities; as well as “The People’s Lawyer”, a series of reports on legal issues.

**EYEWITNESS NEWS AT 11:30 AM**

Tom Koch and Melanie Lawson anchor this half-hour morning newscast from 11:30-12:00 noon, Monday-Friday. This program includes the latest news, weather, and sports.

**EYEWITNESS NEWS AT 5 PM**

Art Rascon and Melanie Lawson anchor this half-hour evening newscast from 5:00-5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. This program includes the latest news, weather, and sports. Three days a week medical reporter Christi Meyers anchors a “Healthcheck” segment of approximately 2 minutes on the latest medical news and advances.

**EYEWITNESS NEWS AT 6 PM**

Dave Ward, Shara Fryer, Ed Brandon and Bob Allen anchor this hour evening newscast from 6:00-7:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. This program includes the latest news, weather, and sports. Anchor Marvin Zindler brings daily reports on consumer issues that affect the community.

**EYEWITNESS NEWS AT 10 PM**

Dave Ward, Shara Fryer, Ed Brandon and Bob Allen anchor this half-hour evening newscast from 10:00-10:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. This program includes the latest news, weather, and sports.

**WEEKEND EVENING NEWSCASTS**

Bob Boudreaux, Minvera Perez, Gene Norman and Tim Melton anchor 30-minute newscasts at 5:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Saturdays and 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Sundays. This program includes the latest news, weather, and sports.

**WEEKEND MORNING NEWSCASTS**

Mark Garay, Theresa Rodriguez, Gene Norman and Tim Melton anchor 90-minute newscasts at 6-9 a.m. on Sundays. This program includes the latest news, weather, and sports.

(more)

**13 EYEWITNESS NEWS - SPECIAL PROGRAMS – Second Quarter, 2000**

**EYEWITNESS NEWS SPECIAL REPORT: “HOUSTON’S LOST GENERATION: STREET KIDS”**

**(4/14/00, 6:00-7:00 PM, LOCAL, 20 minutes)**

**(Repeated: 4/15/00, 6:30-7:00 PM, LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

Live at Five anchor Art Rascon’s five-part series “Houston’s Lost Generation: Street Kids”, takes a look at life on the streets of Houston for teenagers who are virtually homeless, alone, and living a dangerous life involving drugs and prostitution. He also profiles Covenant House a local residential program designed to assist teenagers who are living on the streets.

**EYEWITNESS NEWS SPECIAL REPORT: “RETURN TO KOSOVO”**

**(6/5/00-6/9/00; 6:00-7:00 PM, LOCAL, 20 minutes)**

**(Repeated: 6/17/00; 6:30-7:00 PM, LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

March 24<sup>th</sup> marked the year anniversary of NATO’S bombing campaign against Serbian forces in Kosovo. More than a million ethnic Albanians were forced from their homeland. Live at Five anchor Art Rason’s five-part series “Return To Kosovo” takes a look at how refugees are surviving in this country that has been shattered by death and destruction.

**EYEWITNESS NEWS EXTRA**

**(6/19/00, 6:00-7:00 PM, LOCAL, 2:30 minutes)**

As we celebrate Juneteenth, (June 19<sup>th</sup>) an annual holiday in Texas, commemorating the announcement that African Americans were free from slavery, Live At Five anchor Art Rascon, takes a look at race relations in Houston and examines how far we have come since 1865.

**EYEWITNESS NEWS**

**(6/19/00-6/22/00, All newscasts, LOCAL, 6 hours)**

As the execution date of Gray Graham comes near, the debate over the death penalty continues. Gray Graham was convicted of capital murder for killing Bobby Grant Lambert during a May 1981 robbery in the parking lot of a Houston Safeway store. Graham has gained local, national and international support for a new trail. His victims have come out to express their wish that his execution be carried out. Gray Graham will be the 23<sup>rd</sup> person to die by lethal injection in Texas this year. Eyewitness news reporters filed a series of reports regarding this debate.

**13 EYEWITNESS NEWS & ABC NEWS - SPECIAL REPORTS – Second Quarter, 2000**

April 13	11:03:41-11:25:10 am	21:29	ABC Special Report- Press conference with Attorney General Janet Reno regarding Elian Gonzalez case
April 14	2:59:35-3:01:45 pm	1:35	ABC special report –Stock market drop
April 19	10:00:35-10:01:35 am 1:41:10-1:46:10 pm	1:00 5:00	Aired special news report – bank robbery ABC special news report—update on Elian Gonzalez
April 22	4:59:44-5:01:06 am 5:30:00-5:36:12 am 5:54:50-8:29:25 am 9:00:00-9:43:56 am 12:26:00-12:31:10 pm	1:15 6:12 2 hrs 43:56 5:10	ABC news special report – Elian Gonzalez case
April 28	1:23:45-1:25:11 pm 2:31:30-2:32:00 pm 4:19:51-4:22:50 pm 4:42:47-4:47:55 pm	1:26 :30 3:00 5:08	Aired special report – propane fire Aired special report – gas leak Aired special report – gas leak Aired special report- gas leak & traffic jam
April 30	11:43:51-11:45:41 pm 12:15:00-12:16:54 am	2:10 1:54	Aired special report – Time Warner Cable & ABC dispute “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “
May 19	11:03:51-11:08:50 pm 11:38:00-11:42:20 pm 12:17:50-12:23:50 am 2:14:00-2:15:25 am 2:30:30-2:32:34 am	5:00 4:20 6:00 1:25 2:04	Aired special report – weather report Aired special report – weather report Aired special report – weather report Aired special report – weather report Aired special report – weather report
June 1	10:02:20-10:09:50 am	7:30	ABC news special report – Elian Gonzalez case
June 9	10:24:50-10:25:50 am	1:00	Aired special report – truck accident
June 22	10:59:26-11:15:56 am 1:29:00-1:51:30 pm 5:57:29-9:48:30 pm	16:30 22:30 4 hrs	Aired special report – TX Dept of Correction Press Conference regarding execution of Gray Graham “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ Aired special report – Execution of Gray Graham
June 28	12:50:35-12:51:49 pm 3:06:00-3:41:40 pm 7:16:00-7:17 57 pm	1:14 35:40 1:47	Aired special report – Elian Gonzalez departure to Cuba Aired special report - Elian Gonzalez landing in Cuba Aired special report – Bishop held hostage in Disney Land

<b>SPECIAL PROGRAMS – Second Quarter, 2000</b>
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**THE RESURGENCE OF TSU (5/13/00, 1:00-1:30 PM, LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

Live At Five anchor Melanie Lawson takes a look back at the rich history of Texas Southern University. Created in 1947 and called Texas State University for Negroes, it was the only institution of higher learning that was available to African Americans. Since that time, the school has seen its share of controversy as well as great achievements.

**THE REAL STORM OF THE CENTURY (6/3/00, 12:00-12:30 PM, LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

As the hurricane season approaches in Texas, the Eyewitness News weather team gives reports on hurricane preparedness tips.

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### **ISSUE: CAMPAIGN FOR HEALTHY BABIES**

According to the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation, during any given month nearly 350,000 babies are born in this country, 20,000 are born with birth defects, and another 20,000 are born to women who receive no prenatal care during pregnancy. In an effort to improve the health of low birth weight and premature babies, KTRK-TV, the March of Dimes, Kroger Food Stores, Foley's and Cigna HealthCare sponsored the 9<sup>th</sup> annual "CARING CRADLES", a citywide baby shower. The shower is designed to encourage women to receive pre-natal care by giving them a donation of baby items. During this year's drive the March of Dimes collected over \$150,000 worth of baby goods and donations from generous viewers in our community.

#### **ABC/13 COMMUNITY CLOSE UP: CARING CRADLES** **(6/10/00; 12:00-12:30 PM, LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

Special program encouraging women to receive pre-natal care. And also encouraged viewers to donate baby food, clothes, toys and other baby items during the "Caring Cradles" baby shower. These donated items are given to women when they go to their local health care facilities. Guests included; Ernestine Pina-Sandoval, Director of Communications, March of Dimes; Linda Dantin, Director of Pregnancy Testing and Woman's Outreach, Columbia Bellaire Medical Center; Diane Schimmel Busch, Cigna Healthcare General Manager, Dr. Charles Smith, Medical Director, Sherrie Flores, with Bayou City Medical Center; and Nidia Gonzalez, a client with the Center.

#### **LIVE AT FIVE** (6/12/00; 5:00-5:30 PM, LOCAL, 2 minutes)

Eyewitness News reporter Christi Myers report about pre-mature babies and the importance of women receiving pre-natal care. The report provided information and education toward the prevention and treatment of birth defects and other health-related problems. Also promoted the 9<sup>th</sup> annual "Caring Cradles" citywide baby shower.

#### **9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CARING CRADLES**

**(6/15/00; 5 AM; 5:30 AM; 6:00 AM; 9:00-10:00 AM; hourly cut-ins, 11:30 AM; 5:00 PM; 6:00 PM, LOCAL, 2 hours)**

LIVE coverage of ABC/13's 9<sup>th</sup> Annual "Caring Cradles" citywide baby shower, where viewers are asked to make donations of baby items to be used for babies and mothers in need. The items and then give to women who receive pre-natal examines.



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**ISSUE: PRAYER IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Santa Fe Independent High School's board policy to have students deliver an "invocation" before high school football games has always been a tradition, however, the Supreme Court says this speech violates the constitutional separation of church and state. This ruling is the result of a public prayer before a football game by Marion Ward, a high school senior. Some students felt this prayer infringed upon their rights. The Constitution's First Amendment protects each citizen's free exercise of religion by prohibiting the government from endorsing particular students to speak on religious themes. The ruling has sparked heated debates in Texas and around the country. KTRK-TV ran stories regarding this issue.

**DEBRA DUNCAN (6/27/00; 9:00-10:00 AM, LOCAL, 60 minutes)**

The Santa Fe High School student at the center of the school prayer case, along with several other guests discussed the issue of prayer in schools and whether or not the U.S. Supreme Courts ruling regarding the separation of church and state is fair.

**EYEWITNESS NEWS (4/29/00-6/19/00; All Newscasts, LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

Ran several stories regarding the issue of prayer in public schools and the reactions from the residents in the city of Santa Fe where a high school senior asked for a public prayer before the beginning of a football game.

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3-3-3

**ISSUE: NATIONAL MEN'S HEALTH WEEK**

The week of June 11 is National Men's Health Week. It's a time when men are encouraged to get health care screenings for various physical conditions from heart disease to prostate cancer. Prostate cancer is the most common cancer among males over the age of 50 and jazz musician Herbie Mann, a survivor of prostate cancer, decided to sponsor a concert to promote prostate cancer education. KTRK-TV broadcast programs with information regarding this issue.

**DEBRA DUNCAN (6/14/00, 9:00-10:00 PM, LOCAL, 60 minutes)**

Jazz musician Herbie Mann is a survivor of prostate cancer. This is a disease that is known as the silent killer because most men who have it show no symptoms. More than 180-thousand men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer this year alone and it kills a man every 15 minutes. Herbie Mann talks about his battle to survive this illness and gives a wake up call to other men, to take charge of their lives. His mission is to encourage men to go to the doctors and get tested for this disease.

**HERBIE MANN JAZZ CARAVAN FOR PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS**  
**(6/18/00, 10:35-12:35 AM, LOCAL, 2 hours)**

Jazz flautist Herbie Mann performs with fellow musicians for a "free" concert in support of National Men's Health Week and to promote the benefits of prostate cancer education and early detection.

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4-4-4

**ISSUE: CENSUS 2000**

The year 2000 marks the time for another census to be taken in the United States. During the last Census in 1990, Texas was greatly undercounted. As a result of the undercount, millions of dollars in state and federal funds were lost. The 1990 undercount in Texas left us short in transportation funds for Metro buses, substance abuse/prevention programs, childcare grants, renovation of schools and more. During this year's count significant changes have taken place nationally to obtain a more accurate count of the U-S population.

**CROSSROADS (4/12/00; 12:00-12:30 PM, LOCAL, 5 minutes)**

The response rate of Texans, who returned their 2000 Census forms, was among some of the issues discussed with Dionne Roberts, Census Bureau Partnership Specialist. She also stressed the significance of the information obtained from completed census forms and the impact the 1990 Census had in regards to a shortfall in funding for health and human services in the Houston area.

**VIVA HOUSTON (4/29/00; 12:30-1:00 PM, LOCAL, 5 minutes)**

The Census Bureau reported the 1990 Census missed 3.9% of Houston's population, making it the most severely undercounted major city in the nation. Lisa Concina with the U.S. Census Bureau discussed the efforts being put forth in Houston to improve the accuracy of the count, especially in hard to reach minority communities and provided information to encouraged residents to take part in the count.

**ABC/13 COMMUNITY CLOSE-UP: CENSUS 2000  
(5/13/00; 12:30-1:00 PM, LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

The following guests discussed the issues, ongoing efforts and deadlines of the Census 2000, urging the public to take part in the count: Jew Don Boney, Houston City Council (representing the Mayor's Census 2000 unit; Gwen Goodwin, Cardi Chung, and Sylvia Rodriguez, U.S. Census Bureau. Guests State Senator Mario Gallegos and Harris County Republic Party Chair discussed political issues concerning the Census. Census 2000 public information campaign events were announced and informational numbers were given.

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5-5-5

### **ISSUE: VOLUNTEERISM**

The volunteer spirit is alive and well in the Houston community. Houston is known for its can-do attitude from its citizens to local corporations and organizations. With the City of Houston's new initiative 'Houston Challenge 2000, the city will recognize 2000 civic projects being done in Houston by the end of the year. Some of these projects will include neighborhood beautification projects, educational improvement or public works. Also, children are doing their part to make the world a better place by participating in Millenium Dreamers 2000. Two thousand youngsters from around the world were selected to be a part of Millenium Dreamers 2000; a campaign sponsored by The Walt Disney Company and Mc'Donald's Corporation, designed to recognize the volunteer efforts of children for their outstanding contributions to their communities. Each student was treated to a three-day stay at Walt Disney World in Florida. Ten of the students selected were from Houston.

#### **ABC/13 COMMUNITY CLOSE UP: HOUSTON CHALLENGE 2000** **(5/03/00; 12:00-12:30 PM, LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

Discussion regarding the parameters of the Houston Challenge 2000 campaign for participation by corporations, individuals and non-profit groups. In addition to businesses, churches, schools, and civic clubs have also submitted impressive community projects to Houston Challenge 2000. Guests included Linda Koenig, Executive Director of Houston Challenge 2000, and Wayne Koltz, one of the underwriters for a Houston Challenge, Chuck Watson, and CEO of Dynegy, Rick Burleson, and a partner with Jackson-Walker Law Firm.

#### **DEBRA DUNCAN** (6/26/00; 9:00-10:00 AM, LOCAL, 60 minutes)

Today's program profiled several youngsters from various backgrounds who are changing their communities and changing lives. These kids were selected as participants in Millenium Dreamers 2000. A campaign sponsored by The Walt Disney Company and Mc'Donald Corporation to recognize kids who are making a difference in their communities.

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6-6-6

**ISSUE: CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION**

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and during this month efforts are made to heighten the awareness about the growing numbers of abused and neglected children in our communities. According to a federal study, "the abuse and neglect of American children has nearly doubled between 1986 and 1993, an increase so dramatic that it reflects a true rise in the severity of the problem". According to Children's Protective Services, 80-100 cases of child abuse are reported daily in Harris County. KTRK-TV information about various programs available to help families in need.

**SAVING OUR CHILDREN: CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION**  
**(4/29/00; 12:00-12:30 PM, LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

The following guests discussed issues surrounding child abuse and child abuse prevention: Randy Joiner, Children's Protective Services; Julia Wolf, Harris County Children's Assessment Center; and Erica Slater, a survivor of abuse. In addition, the names of agencies assisting the public with issues of child abuse were given to the viewing public.

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7-7-7

**ISSUE: SUMMER SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM**

Houston has the second-highest percentage of children going hungry in the nation. One out of every three local children under the age of six is not getting enough to eat, and most depend on the school-based lunch program. But, during the summer months, that number increases because school cafeterias are closed, and pantry donations are low and high temperatures and higher utility costs put additional strain on the working poor.

**CROSSROADS (5/27/00, 12:30-1:00 PM, LOCAL, 15 minutes)**

Profile of programs that are available to help feed children during the summer months. Guest included, Jackie Pontello, Director of Development for the End Hunger Network who discussed their "Red Barrel" program that provides assistance to over 115 agencies and Audene Chung, Director of Marketing with HISD and Aramark Food Services who provide a Summer School lunch program to help children in need.

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8-8-8

**ISSUE: DRUGS -- G-H-B & RITALIN**

According to the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, during the 1980's drug and alcohol use among teenagers and preteens was on the decline, however, since 1991, the organization has reported an increase once again in drugs, particularly, designer and prescription drugs. A new drug called "G-H-B"; being called the "date rape drug" is being manufactured in Houston and around the country. It's clear and odorless and can easily be slipped into someone glass without his or her knowledge. The first teenager to die from this drug was Hillory Farias, in 1999, and since that time, it has been responsible for the overdose or death of other teenagers. There has been an aggressive effort to teach teenagers about the dangerous of this drug. Also provided segments on the prescription drug "Ritalin" used by children who are suffering from attention deficit disorder and now being used by teenagers.

**DEBRA DUNCAN (4/5/00; 9:00-10:00 AM, LOCAL, 60 minutes)**

Teenagers talk about the designer drug G-H-B, also called the "date rape drug", on how it has effected their lives, they warned other teenagers about the dangers of doing this drug, particularly, women, because they have a greater chance of being sexually assaulted when under the influence of G-H-B.

**EYEWITNESS NEWS (4/7/00; 5:30-7:00 AM, LOCAL, 2 minutes)**

Ritalin is on the rise among teens and young adults who are abusing it in college and on dates. It is considered a party drug because it keeps you up all night and you can focus on papers or other activities. Information about the side effects of this drugs and advice to parents to treat any drugs your child takes as if it could be abused.

**DEBRA DUNCAN (6/21/00; 9:00-10:00 AM, LOCAL, 60 minutes)**

Ritalin is generally used to treat hyperactive kids with attention deficit disorder, however, recently, many doctors have claimed that we are over medicating our children with this drug and it can have severe adverse affects. On today's program a discussion about alternatives to treating hyperactivity. Program also focused on the fact that this is a fast growing drug on the streets among teenagers who are looking to get high.

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9-9-9

**ISSUE: HIV/AIDS TESTING**

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately 200,000 Americans are living with HIV/AIDS and don't know it. CDC also reports that AIDS is the leading cause of death for Black men and women aged 25 to 44. Furthermore, although African Americans account for only 13% of the U-S population, in 1998, they accounted for 45% of new AIDS cases and 49% of AIDS deaths.

**CROSSROADS (6/24/00; 12:30-1:00 PM, LOCAL, 10 minutes)**

A new battle in the war to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS in the black community has been launched by Balm in Gilead, Inc., and co-sponsored by Glaxo-Wellcome Pharmaceuticals. Their "Black Church HIV Testing Campaign, is a national effort using the power and prestige of churches to motivate Black Americans to take the HIV test. Guests included Pernessa Seele with the Balm in Gilead; Marlon Smith, with Glaxo-Wellcome, and a representative from the City of Houston Health Department who talked about city clinics that provide free HIV and AIDS testing.