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This Week

October 18, 2002

This week on **NOW**:

BUYING ACCESS: There is a booming market for private enterprise inside public schools. In South Carolina, some people are up in arms over what this teaches kids. NPR's NOW reporter Emily Harris and NOW producer Greg Henry went to South Carolina to ask the question: should our schools be helping companies sell products to our kids?

Bill Moyers interviews [Robert Jay Lifton](#), a visiting professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, who has spent his life trying to understand the horror and violence that is an undeniable part of the human experience. One of the world's foremost thinkers on why humans do awful things to each other, he has studied, among many other things, the aftermath of the Hiroshima bomb, Nazi doctors, and the cult that released poison gas in the Tokyo subway. Lifton talks to Moyers about the current mood of Americans in the shadow of the immediate danger of war.

With control of public policy and the public purse at stake, November 5th will be one of the most important mid-term elections ever. But why is politics so expensive these days? Charles Lewis, founder of the non-partisan [Center for Public Integrity](#), a nonprofit research organization in Washington that concentrates on public service and ethics-related issues, talks to Bill Moyers to help answer that question.

NOW introduces Monica Patton. While many people with agendas in Washington are willing to spend fortunes on campaigns, Monica Patton is every bit as committed to the simple idea of getting people to vote.

In Depth



▶ [Both sides of the school commercialization debate](#)

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▶ [The shocking statistics on American voters](#)

▶ [Local election map](#)

▶ [Get information on campaign finance](#)

▶ [Bill Moyers interviews Dr. Robert Jay Lifton](#)

Discussion



▶ [Going to War? Talk about it on the message boards](#)

Commentary

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▶ [Debating soda sales in schools.](#)

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Resources

▶ [Learn more about the issues discussed on NOW](#)

▶ Read the [complete transcript](#).

Credits

▶ **Buying Access**

Producer: Gregory Henry
Correspondent: Emily Harris
Editor: Vincent Liota

▶ **Getting Out the Vote**

Producers: William Brangham and Carol Atencio
Edited by: Kendrick Simmons

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