

**MEDIA COVERAGE EMBRACES BUDDHIST PACIFISM
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One good that is beginning to come out of the recent great evil is that more people are hearing about Buddhism's wise, powerful and peaceful message through various media. Seeking a different viewpoint, more than a dozen TV, radio and print outlets have interviewed SGI-USA representatives about Buddhist pacifism.

"At a time when many are groping for meaning, asking where we go now, we have been part of the national dialogue," says Bill Aiken of the SGI-USA's Office of Public Affairs, who's been interviewed by three newspapers so far, including the *Washington Post*.

Several interviews have also aired to date on both national and regional radio. Greg Martin, a spokesperson for SGI President Ikeda's latest book, *For the Sake of Peace*, has shared President Ikeda's message of dialogue, self-restraint and inner reformation as the keys to lasting peace on radio stations from Florida to California.

Even the death of David Aoyama, an SGI-USA staff member, has resulted in powerful messages of peace and the power of Buddhist faith. Several local media outlets in Los Angeles covered his memorial, which some 1,600 people attended. The sorrowful but hopeful and determined faces and words of his two children, Emily and George, were covered by the local CBS affiliate, causing the anchor woman to remark after the segment, "Those children are so positive."

Matilda Buck, SGI-USA's women's leader, spoke about Mr. Aoyama's life on National Public Radio's *Weekend Edition*. She said how day and night he worked for peace, and because of his dedication to kosen-rufu for so much of his life, there is a profound significance in the manner of his death.

More broadcast and print coverage is scheduled in the coming weeks.