

## **Effects of Incarceration on Families Explored on NET Television**

LINCOLN, Neb. (June 2, 2010) -- The effects of incarceration on Native families is examined in “Video Letters from Prison,” airing Tuesday, June 15, at 8 p.m. CT and Monday, June 21, at 10 p.m. CT on NET1 and NET-HD.

The documentary follows three teenage Lakota girls from the Pine Ridge Reservation as they form a tentative relationship with their incarcerated father through the exchange of video letters.

“Video Letters from Prison” producer Milt Lee became involved in a project to reconnect kids on the Pine Ridge Reservation with their incarcerated parents. “Especially on the reservation, prisons can be very far away, so incarceration is a big deal,” he says. “There was a huge need to keep fathers connected with their children.”

Over time, the video correspondence Lee recorded between the three sisters and their father grew into an hour-long program about the challenges of establishing trust after a history of broken promises. As the girls journey into adulthood and think about their future, they struggle with what place their long-absent father should have in their lives.

The issues raised in “Video Letters from Prison” reach beyond Indian Country and prisons, exploring what happens when children anywhere miss their families.

“Video Letters from Prison” is a production of Native American Public Telecommunications (NAPT) in association with NET. NET1 and NET-HD are part of NET Television, a service of NET. For a complete program schedule, visit NET’s website ([netNebraska.org/television](http://netNebraska.org/television)).

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### **NET Television:**

**NET1** is Nebraska's first public television broadcast service and includes PBS and award-winning, locally produced public television programming. NET1 programming is also obtainable on Dish and DirectTV satellite networks in available areas; **NET2** offers live coverage of the Nebraska Unicameral, and other news and public affairs programming; **NET3** is a 24-hour channel featuring the most popular how-to, travel and lifestyle series; and **NET-HD** presents high-definition digital broadcast programming displayed in a wide-screen format.