

EDWARDS: Our society is having a hard time trying to convince some high school kid not to deal drugs when he can make a \$1,000 a week and instead study hard and learn his lessons and make good grades so he can work as a bricklayer or a plumber's helper and make a \$1,000 a month.

PREJEAN: Or, a black kid in St. Thomas who can only get an entry-level job at McDonald's, and sees the drug dealers driving nice cars and wearing gold chains around their necks.

Getting back to something you said earlier, that when you were governor you did not want the power in your hands to make decisions about executions. Would you talk a little more about that?

EDWARDS: I did not want to have to take the affirmative step of executing the warrant (prior to this, it was the governor's responsibility to sign death warrants) and we changed the law in the legislature to eliminate that. Now the trial judge fixes the date and signs the final death warrant. This is where it ought to be - in the judicial system, and, while I would prefer for the governor to have no involvement, I recognize that some person, and I assume that it has to be the governor, has to have the final authority to stop an execution in those rare instances where circumstances present themselves.

PREJEAN: Executions did go on while you were governor. I was with two of those people who were executed. I kept looking at the red telephone in the corner of the execution chamber. I knew that you were on the other end of that phone and that if you