

5/5/90

Dear Shane,

You ask if I'll "review" your manuscript.

This is a bit ambiguous.

What, precisely, do you mean by "review"?

I'll be glad to read it and tell you what I think of it, if that is what you mean.

What do you intend, publication?

If so, where?

Or was it a school project?

We appreciate your good wishes and thank you for them.

To the degree possible, the heart operation does represent a "return to good health.

It has resulted in many restrictions on my activities. I'm not happy about that. But it is a small price to pay for what amounts to new arteries around the heart.

It may interest you to know what the surgeons used. Normally they use veins from the legs, but mine were shot. So, being a man, I had no need for mammary arteries and that is what they used.

But they can't give me new legs, alas.

And the ones I have also limit my physical activity considerably.

No "return to good health" possible there.

Nonetheless, every day is a good day!

Thanks and best wishes,

*Harold Weisberg*  
Harold Weisberg

May 2, 1990

Mr. Assassination  
Harold Weisberg  
7627 Old Receiver Road  
Frederick, Md. 21701

Mr Weisberg:

Thank you for sending me Frame-Up I enjoyed the book. Enclosed is \$12.00 for Post Mortem JFK Assassination cover-smashed!

I would also like you to review a very short, 23 page, manuscript of the assassination that I have written. I know you have done this for many others, and I know you are the best and the foremost authority at what you do. I wish you and your wife all the happiness in the world, and a sincere desire for you to return to good health.

Thank you again.

I will look forward to the book and your response.

Grateful/Respectfully,

Shane Salerno  
3403 Calle Del Sur  
La Costa, Ca. 92009  
any questions...  
(619) 436 = 3562

"THE MAN THE FBI CERTIFIED IN COURT AS THE FOREMOST AUTHORITY  
ON THE ASSASSINATION" Harold Weisberg!!!

# Anti-drug film seeks realism

## Student wants young people to relate their own stories

CARLSBAD — The dark-haired bundle of teen-age energy fights as a visitor looks over his neatly bound project proposal.

"The Idea," the cover sheet boasts: "to create the most innovative, most successful, most talked-about anti-drug film ever."

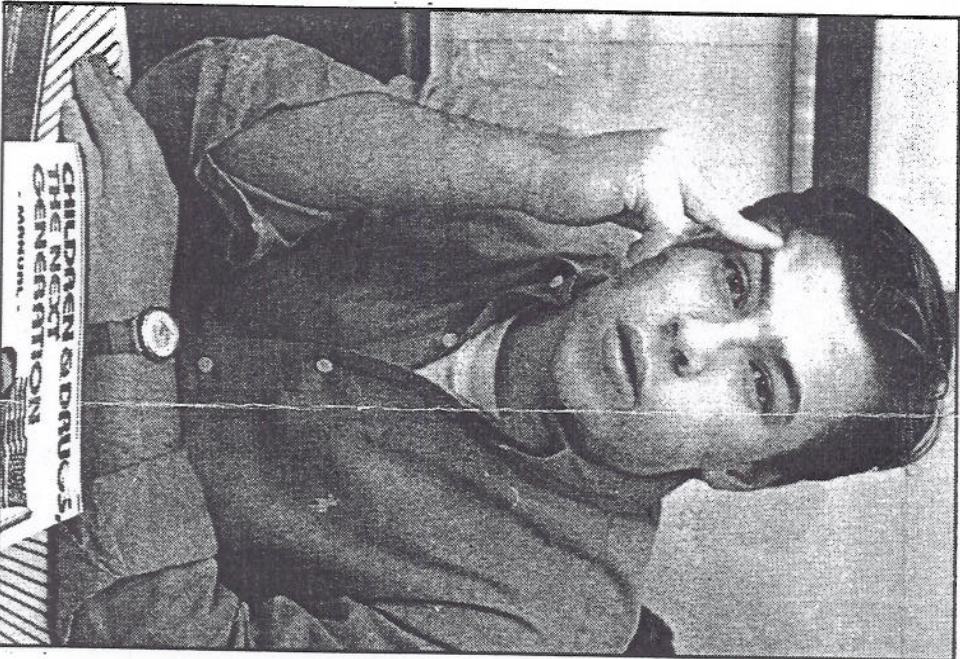
Shane Salerno launches into a passionate description of his video venture.

"My film will be one of the few to feature real children instead of dramatizations. I don't think any Hollywood writer could give justice to the problem," said Salerno.

"I see drugs as our largest future problem. I don't think we'll be in space cars in 15 years, but rather, whole cities will be taken over by drugs."

Over the past few months, the 17-year-old San Dieguito High School senior has been interviewing young people, collecting research material and drumming up financial backing for his project, which he estimates could cost \$10,000 to \$20,000.

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The San Diego Union

Shane Salerno: "It's going to pop, it'll star-tle. You'll leave the film and think about it."

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SPM DIZGO WASH



# Drugs: Young people to tell own stories

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An Encinitas man who lost a son to drugs has promised a \$9,000 donation and a local business owner has agreed to hold a fundraiser, Salerno said. He will use Daniels Cablevision's community access channel studios for taping and editing.

Salerno plans a three-part video series: the first focusing on alcohol, marijuana and cocaine; the second on hallucinogens and methamphetamine; a third on harder drugs, including the new, highly potent meth form commonly called "ice."

He envisions distribution of the tapes to school districts nationwide, as well as community cable television channels.

Salerno said he has rounded up more than 20 young people who have agreed to be in his tapes, telling their stories of drug abuse, but he is looking for more.

One of the saddest cases he ran across, he said, was a 7-year-old boy

who told him he has used marijuana weekly and tried cocaine twice. "I want him to be first in my film," Salerno said, "because I can't think of anything more effective. When I was 7, I was into GI Joes — the last thing on my mind was cocaine."

Getting permission from parents to tape their children talking about drug use has been one of Salerno's toughest tasks.

"The upper-class people don't want their church friends to see it, the Rancho Bernardo parents insist their kids be behind screens on the tape," he said. "Parents in lower-income areas are not as afraid."

Salerno began to seriously plan creating his own anti-drug video tapes last fall, shortly after moving to La Costa with his mother, from Washington, D.C.

He had witnessed drug abuse by students in the inner-city school he attended, as well as in a previous private academy, and came away

with the awareness that "It's not just a ghetto problem — in the best schools, people can afford so much more drugs."

A friend's death from drugs at age 14 "had a humongous effect on me," Salerno added. "I was left with the question, 'Why?'"

Allegations of cocaine use by Washington Mayor Marion Barry have reinforced Salerno's grim view that drugs are everywhere and ruin-

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# Drugs: Student wants realism in his video project

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ing the country. "It worries me that people look up to sports figures and public figures — and they're using drugs. Kids get such a mixed message. I want real stories to wake kids up. I'll allow the audience to decide what they think of them."

Though Salerno emphasizes the use of real children rather than actors to grab the attention of young audiences, some education professionals express qualms over that format.

"We hesitate, to a degree, showing ex-users in anti-drug activities for students," said Jim Bradshaw, spokesman for the U.S. Department

of Education in Washington, D.C.

"We're concerned of sending a mixed message to students who might view the ex-addicts as successful. The power of confession impresses adults, but the message to a child may be that he survived and became wealthy or famous."

Bradshaw said his agency has recently distributed 150,000 copies of eight anti-drug videos, produced on a \$5.5 million budget, for school districts nationwide. Of the eight videos, one is a cartoon for young children, six are dramas featuring actors and one documentary on steroids includes interviews with major-league athletes and teen-agers.

Locally, Alan Bright, at the county Office of Education, said more than 80 anti-drug and alcohol films and videos are available for use in area school districts. Most are documentaries and dramas, some are animated, but few show young people who have used drugs.

"Until recently," said Bright, "drug use wasn't out in the open and parents wouldn't let a son or daughter be a part of a film. Awareness of the disease of substance abuse makes it easier for people to talk about it."

Salerno said he has never taken drugs — they don't fit his picture of a prospective U.S. senator, he explains

— but he feels that his interviews and research will help him produce a valuable tape series.

He said he was shocked to run across new national statistics that one in every six high school seniors has used crack. Salerno plans to hammer that point home.

"I'm going to run the film, stop it, and have everyone in the audience stand if they have a red tag on their chair," said Salerno. "When every sixth person is standing, I'll say, 'Everyone standing is a drug addict.'"

"It's going to pop, it'll startle. You'll leave the film and think about it. If I can't have that affect, I won't make the film."



**SHANE SALERNO**

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