



## PRESS RELEASE

**3<sup>rd</sup> Degree: Playground Battles**  
**TX: Tuesday 26 February at 8pm**

This week 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree investigates the unrelated yet equally savage attacks on four pupils at very diverse Gauteng schools. School violence is not a new topic but when increasingly violent and aggressive attacks are reported on a daily basis, we're forced to look at the safety of learners in a new and urgent light.

Avery Maregana had his eye gorged out by a girl at his Ferndale High school, simply because he asked her to be quiet. Across town, Tevin Jacobs' jaw was broken by a mob of fellow learners when a classroom argument spilled into the street that afternoon. Tevin has subsequently been forced to change schools while the bullies continue to run Die Fakkkel Hoerskool.

Seemingly harmless taunting and teasing resulted in the death of King Edwards school boy, Mfundo "Chunky" Ntshangase, at the hands of pupils from a rival school. Many believe that this fatal act was nothing more than school boy jealousy.

Are the above-mentioned cases isolated incidents or is there a real need to address the situation in our schools? The Education Department and Police Service have stepped in to introduce nationwide anti-violence and awareness campaigns. Will this be another case of too little ,too late?

Don't miss Debora Patta getting the answers from Education Minister Naledi Pandor on 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, this Tuesday at 8:30pm.