

"The Anatomy of Prejudice" to be USI program

For immediate release March 13, 1998

Ms. Jane Elliott, adapter of the "Blue Eyes, Brown Eyes" discrimination exercise -- a widely-recognized sensitizing exercise in which participants are labeled inferior or superior based upon eye color -- will present a program on "The Anatomy of Prejudice" at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 19, in Carter Hall at the University of Southern Indiana, sponsored by Student Development.

Dr. Robert Coles, a Pulizer Prize-winning psychiatrist and author, has labeled Elliott's exercise "the greatest thing to come out of American education in a hundred years." Elliott began the exercise in her third-grade classroom in all-white, all-Christian Riceville, Iowa, immediately after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It has been repeated with dramatic results with children and adults across the nation, resulting in emotionally significant, life-changing experiences.

During her presentation, Elliott introduces her film, *The Eye of the Storm*, and explores with the audience the problems of racism, sexism, ageism, homophobia, ethnocentrism, and the responsibility shared by all of us for illuminating and eliminating them from ourselves and our world.

Elliott is the recipient of the National Mental Health Association's Award for Excellence. Her exercise has been the subject of several Emmy Award-winning television documentaries. This past spring she was featured on an ABC special on prejudice and was the ABC "Person of the Week."

The USI program is open to the public. For information, call Student Development, 465-7167.