

*DECLINING BY DEGREES: Higher Education at Risk*  
*Production Biography & Credits*

**JOHN MERROW**

*Executive Producer & Correspondent*

A former English teacher in high school, college and federal prison, John Merrow began his broadcasting career with National Public Radio in 1974, when he created *Options in Education*. The series earned more than two dozen broadcasting awards, including the George Polk Award in 1982.

From 1985 to 1990, Merrow was education correspondent for the MacNeil/Lehrer *NewsHour* and a frequent contributor to NPR's *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered* and *Marketplace*. Before joining the *NewsHour*, he executive produced and hosted the Emmy-nominated documentary series *Your Children: Our Children* and later served as field correspondent for the 5-part series *Learning in America*.

In 1993 he created, hosted and executive produced *The Merrow Report* for PBS, followed by the NPR series of the same name in 1997. The well-known PBS series garnered awards from the Education Writers Association, the International Reading Association, the National Association of Black Journalists and CINE.

In 2000, Merrow returned to the *NewsHour* to provide occasional reports on education. Learning Matters, Inc., Merrow's production company, produced two documentaries for the PBS series *Frontline* in addition to numerous free standing documentaries on issues ranging from pre-school in France and America, attention deficit disorder (ADD) and the decline of public education in California. Merrow received the George Foster Peabody Award in 2001 for the PBS special *School Sleuth: The Case of an Excellent School*.

Merrow is a popular public speaker on education and family issues. He is a trustee of Teachers College, Columbia University and former chair of the Alumni Council of the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He is also author of *Choosing Excellence: "Good Enough" Schools Are Not Good Enough* (Scarecrow Press, 2001).

Merrow earned a bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College in 1964, a master's degree in American studies from Indiana University in 1968, and a doctorate in education and social policy from the Harvard Graduate School of Education in 1973.

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*Declining by Degrees: Higher Education at Risk* is a production of Learning Matters, Inc.

PROGRAM: *Declining by Degrees: Higher Education at Risk*

DATE & TIME: Thursday, June 23, 2005, 9–11 p.m.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: John Merrow

SENIOR PRODUCER: John D. Tulenko

PRODUCERS: Carrie Glasser, John Heus, Shae Isaacs, David Wald

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