RachelsChallenge

For Reporters

# Covering Rachel's Story

A few notes to help you get the facts right and keep the focus where Rachel would want it.

## Getting the Details Right

- Rachel's full name is **Rachel Joy Scott**. She was 17 and a junior at Columbine High School.
- She was the first person killed at Columbine on **April 20, 1999**.
- The organization is **Rachel's Challenge** (with the apostrophe). It was founded in **2001** by **Darrell and Sandy Scott**.
- Darrell Scott testified before a **U.S. House Judiciary subcommittee** on school violence in **May 1999**.
- Rachel's best-known quote comes from her school essay, "My Ethics, My Codes of Life." Please use the exact wording on our Quote Sheet.
- The nine school shootings averted have been corroborated by law enforcement. Suicides averted come from voluntary reports to Rachel's Challenge. Please describe them that way.

## Our Requests

1. **Keep the focus on Rachel and the students she helped.** We ask that stories about Rachel's Challenge not name or show photos of the people responsible for the Columbine shooting.
2. **Talk to the school before interviewing or photographing students.** Many are minors, and schools have their own policies.
3. **When suicide comes up, please follow safe reporting guidelines** at reportingonsuicide.org.

**Please include this line when your story mentions suicide:** If you or someone you know is struggling, call or text the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988.

## What We Can Offer

- Interviews with Rachel's Challenge leadership, and with Darrell Scott on request as his schedule allows
- Introductions to principals, teachers and students at partner schools
- Access to an upcoming school event near you
- Photos, video and logo files


**Media Contact**

**Kristi Krings**, CEO
kkrings@rachelschallenge.org
303-470-3000 | 877-895-7060

**Rachel's Challenge**

2221 E. Arapahoe Road
P.O. Box 2008
Centennial, CO 80161
rachelschallenge.org