

St. Paul Riot Killing May Be Linked to *Grand Theft Auto* Game

The St. Paul, Minnesota, Police Department is investigating whether a fatal melee that erupted between numerous black and Hispanic teens may have been prompted in part by the recently released *Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas*. One boy was stabbed to death after a minor dispute arose over a 4-wheel vehicle. None of the many participants was in a formal gang.

See <http://www.startribune.com/stories/462/5084689.html>

A St. Paul Police Department homicide detective was puzzled by repeated statements among those involved that this was a confrontation done “California style.” The detective then found that is a precise description of the gang-banging that occurs in *GTA: San Andreas*. The homicide detectives found *Grand Theft Auto: Vice City* in the home of one of the riot participants, prompting soon-to-be conducted searches in the homes of other suspects for *GTA: San Andreas*. The following articles link <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/6409148/> and <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/6399463/>

An article that appears today on the front page of the *Indianapolis Star* explains further the brain science emanating from Indiana University and Harvard that explains why this copycatting of violent video games by teens is occurring: <http://www.indystar.com/articles/2/194633-8642-009.html>

Miami attorneys Ray Reiser and Jack Thompson, the latter a video game industry critic and nationally-recognized expert on the phenomenon of teens copycatting violent video games, filed a lawsuit this week against Minneapolis/St. Paul-based Best Buy for the violation of its own corporate “policy” not to sell *Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas* to minors. The complaint is based upon a sworn statement by Thompson that such sales are occurring. Stings were done on Best Buy stores to prove the “policy” violation. Other stings by others this week have proven Best Buy’s recklessness. Thompson had appeared on NBC’s *Today* show days earlier to identify Best Buy as a retail scofflaw in this regard.

The underlying reason for the lawsuit against Best Buy is stop the murders by teens across the country that are being caused by these killing simulation games. As soon as the suit was filed, Jack Thompson contacted Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty to warn that incidents would occur such as the one that did occur right in St. Paul, the state’s capital. Gov. Pawlenty was provided with a copy of the sworn complaint.

Not a single person in Governor Pawlenty’s staff would talk with Jack Thompson. He was told by the Governor’s receptionist, however, not to call back. Maybe the busy Governor will now find the time to call the stabbing victim’s parents.

CONTACT Jack Thompson at 305-666-4366 for more information. Call Best Buy at 612-291-1000 for more disinformation.