

## **GOP want to Eliminate Kindergarten!**

Written by Eryn Roberts  
Thursday, 26 July 2012 00:00

---



**Issue:** According to data collected by a Republican New Hampshire state legislator, Kindergarten is a major driver of crime. Bob Kingsbury, 86, recently claimed that analyses he's been carrying out since 1996 show that communities in his state that have kindergarten programs have up to 400% more crime than localities whose classrooms are free of finger-painting 5-year-olds. Pointing to his hometown of Laconia, the largest of 10 communities in Belknap County, the legislator noted that it has the only kindergarten program in the county and the most crime, including most or all of the county's rapes, robberies, assaults and murders.

So, what could account for the association he found between early childhood education and crime? "We're taking children away from their mothers too soon," Kingsbury said. He explained his research this way to the "Huffington Post": "The sources I have is, I went to the Department of Education and got a list of kindergartens and I went to the safety department and got the crime report. ... In general, the towns with a kindergarten have 400 percent more crime than other towns in the same county. In every county, the towns and cities with kindergarten had more crime." Kingsbury argues that age five is too early for children to spend time away from their parents, but previous data reveals that even younger children, preschoolers aged three to four, enjoy wide-reaching benefits by receiving high-quality education outside the home. Preschool and very early childhood education increase children's educational achievement, raise their rates of future employment, cut welfare dependence and yes, reduce delinquency and crime. In other words, if kindergarten is linked to crime, it's because kids start school too late, not too early.

**Question: Kingsbury's conclusions contradict virtually all scientific research on the effects of early childhood education; so what do you think**

## **GOP want to Eliminate Kindergarten!**

Written by Eryn Roberts  
Thursday, 26 July 2012 00:00

---

**of his suggestion that kindergarten leads to criminal activity:**



**Danya Biggs**

His logic is flawed in so many places, but here's just one: even if they didn't go to kindergarten, they would



**Jade Godwin**

## **GOP want to Eliminate Kindergarten!**

Written by Eryn Roberts  
Thursday, 26 July 2012 00:00

---

Just when I thought the extremism was at its limit, bam, here comes more ignorance that just seems lau



**Patricia Wayne**

This kind of research makes me laugh. It's the same thing we go through every time someone says vide



**Aarin Deans**

## **GOP want to Eliminate Kindergarten!**

Written by Eryn Roberts

Thursday, 26 July 2012 00:00

---

At some point we need to look past the absurdity of these individual politicians and seriously look at the

□ **{jcomments on}**