

Talking Points – Keeping kids safe

- As a mother and tough-on-crime former Attorney General, Gov. Chris Gregoire knows what it takes to keep our children safe and will continue her partnership with law enforcement officers to protect our communities.
- Gov. Gregoire is providing the resources for local law enforcement to hunt down dangerous criminals and build 4,000 new prison beds to keep them where they belong. Today, Washington's crime rate is at a 14-year low.
- Protecting our children is one of Gov. Gregoire's top priorities. She helped impose harsher sentences for sex offenders. The worst are electronically monitored with GPS devices for at least 30 days when released. She gave \$5 million to law enforcement officers to verify the locations of sex offenders in person. If a sex offender fails to register, they can go to jail for up to 10 years.
- Gov. Gregoire's record of being tough on crime is why she's been endorsed by every major statewide law enforcement organization, which represent approximately 80 percent of our state's law enforcement officers.
- It's Republican Dino Rossi who doesn't understand the need to protect our children. His actions helped let 14,000 criminals off of state supervision early. Thousands of these criminals have committed crimes again, including murder, rape and sexual assault.
- The budget Republican Dino Rossi wrote as chair of the senate Ways and Means Committee slashed tens of millions in funding for the supervision of felons. And he helped pass a law that cut prison sentences in half for some felons.