**FRONTLINE Returns with Season Premiere: “Lies, Politics and Democracy”**

*An epic examination of Trump’s influence on the Republican Party, the choices made by key players and party leaders, and the mounting threats to American democracy*

[***Lies, Politics and Democracy***](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/documentary/lies-politics-and-democracy/)

Tuesday, September 6 at 9/8c on PBS and on YouTube

Streaming at 7/6c on pbs.org/frontline and in the PBS Video App

f[acebook.com/frontline](https://www.facebook.com/frontline) | Twitter: [@frontlinepbs](https://twitter.com/frontlinepbs) | Instagram: [@frontlinepbs](https://www.instagram.com/frontlinepbs/) | [youtube.com/frontline](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3ScyryU9Oy9Wse3a8OAmYQ)

This September, ahead of the 2022 midterm elections and amid continuing false claims that the 2020 election was stolen from former President Donald Trump, FRONTLINE will begin its new season with the stunning, two-hour special premiere of ***Lies, Politics and Democracy.***

From veteran FRONTLINE filmmaker [Michael Kirk](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/person/michael-kirk/) and his award-winning team, the documentary is supported by Preserving Democracy, a public media initiative from The WNET Group. 

An examination of the profound and mounting threats to American democracy, *Lies, Politics and Democracy* tracks major political decisions made over the past seven years and lays bare the deep fissures that resulted. 

"The film documents how Republican leaders made decisions over years that culminated in the Jan. 6 attack on Congress,” says Kirk. “But we also discovered that the decisions made by those same leaders after the attack were even more consequential in the ongoing threat to our democracy.”

The documentary presents startling new details from GOP insiders on how the indulgence of Trump’s authoritarian impulses and embrace of his rhetoric enabled his power over the American political system, leading the nation to this precarious moment. Told in part through the perspectives of key Republican players and party leaders, the two-hour specialprovides first-person accounts from those who sounded the alarm about Trump, and those whose warnings were minimized or silenced all along the way. 

*Lies, Politics and Democracy* draws on more than 30 new and revealing interviews with former government officials, political journalists and experts. Among those, conservative “Never Trumpers” Bill Kristol and Mona Charen describe witnessing the GOP’s early capitulation to Trump; former members of Congress Mark Sanford (R-S.C.) and Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.) weigh in on their early fears about Trump’s political strategy; and U.S. Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-Ill.), former federal Judge J. Michael Luttig and former White House Director of Strategic Communications Alyssa Farah Griffin expose what really unfolded among Trump’s inner circle during and after the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol.  
  
The film also draws on the insights of two renowned journalists, Tim Alberta and Jelani Cobb, who collaborated with the film’s producers and spent years documenting an unprecedented moment in American history.

From the acclaimed team behind more than 15 documentaries chronicling Trump’s impact on American politics — including [*Trump’s American Carnage*](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/documentary/trumps-american-carnage/), [*The Choice 2020: Trump vs. Biden*](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/documentary/the-choice-2020-trump-vs-biden/) and [*Trump’s Takeover*](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/documentary/trumps-takeover/) — *Lies, Politics and Democracy*offers a meticulous and unflinching examination of choices made over years and continuing threats to American democracy.

[***Lies, Politics and Democracy***](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/documentary/lies-politics-and-democracy/)will be available to watch in full at [pbs.org/frontline](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/) and in the [PBS Video App](https://www.pbs.org/pbs-video-app/) starting Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2022, at 7/6c. It will premiere on PBS stations ([check local listings](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/schedule/)) and on FRONTLINE’s [YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3ScyryU9Oy9Wse3a8OAmYQ) at 9/8c. Dozens of interviews with sources from the making of *Lies, Politics and Democracy* will be published on FRONTLINE’s website as part of FRONTLINE’s ongoing [Transparency Project](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/about-frontlines-transparency-project/). *Lies, Politics and Democracy* is distributed internationally by [PBS International](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__pbsinternational.org_&d=DwMGaQ&c=QX2OfGk7aRC3kh1nmtbeQQ&r=s91bx4LZAGaX9J4elQuHU0ONRGORfW085QJyKg3__AM&m=a0WzUJ-Oufk4-_rewDbdVDNRAXr5V7_metrAjAdoJaUp6SdfOW_yoO09M_Z1OgMH&s=Lgy6iI_5d9vmNC-ccyilBxwyotuAuMAAsUtmcA1OhzY&e=). [Subscribe](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/newsletter-subscriptions/) to FRONTLINE’s newsletter to get updates on events, podcast episodes and more related to *Lies, Politics and Democracy*. 

###

**Credits**

***Lies, Politics and Democracy*** is a FRONTLINE production with the Kirk Documentary Group. The director is Michael Kirk. The producers are Michael Kirk, Mike Wiser and Vanessa Fica. The writers are Michael Kirk and Mike Wiser. The reporters are Vanessa Fica, Tim Alberta and Jelani Cobb.The editor-in-chief and executive producer of FRONTLINE is Raney Aronson-Rath. 

**About FRONTLINE**

FRONTLINE, U.S. television’s longest running investigative documentary series, explores the issues of our times through powerful storytelling. FRONTLINE has won every major journalism and broadcasting award, including 100 Emmy Awards and 28 Peabody Awards. Visit [pbs.org/frontline](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/) and follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/frontlinepbs), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/frontline), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/frontlinepbs/) and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3ScyryU9Oy9Wse3a8OAmYQ) to learn more. FRONTLINE is produced at GBH in Boston and is broadcast nationwide on PBS. Funding for FRONTLINE is provided through the support of PBS viewers and by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Additional support for FRONTLINE is provided by the Abrams Foundation, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Park Foundation, and the FRONTLINE Journalism Fund, with major support from Jon and Jo Ann Hagler on behalf of the Jon L. Hagler Foundation, and additional support from Koo and Patricia Yuen. Funding for *Lies, Politics and Democracy* is provided by the Jonathan Logan Family Foundation and The WNET Group’s Preserving Democracy, a public media initiative. 

**About The WNET Group**

[The WNET Group](http://wnet.org/) creates inspiring media content and meaningful experiences for diverse audiences nationwide. It is the community-supported home of New York’s [THIRTEEN](http://thirteen.org/) – America’s flagship PBS station – [WLIW21](http://wliw.org/), THIRTEEN PBSKids, WLIW World and Create; [NJ PBS](https://www.mynjpbs.org/), New Jersey’s statewide public television network; Long Island’s only NPR station WLIW-FM; [ALL ARTS](http://allarts.org/), the arts and culture media provider; and newsroom [NJ Spotlight News](https://www.njspotlightnews.org/). Through these channels and streaming platforms, The WNET Group brings arts, culture, education, news, documentary, entertainment and DIY programming to more than five million viewers each month. The WNET Group’s award-winning productions include signature PBS series Nature, Great Performances, American Masters, PBS NewsHour Weekend and Amanpour and Company and trusted local news programs MetroFocus and NJ Spotlight News with Briana Vannozzi. Inspiring curiosity and nurturing dreams, The WNET Group’s award-winning Kids’ Media and Education team produces the PBS KIDS series Cyberchase, interactive Mission US history games, and resources for families, teachers and caregivers. A leading nonprofit public media producer for nearly 60 years, The WNET Group presents and distributes content that fosters lifelong learning, including multiplatform initiatives addressing poverty, jobs, economic opportunity, social justice, understanding and the environment. Through Passport, station members can stream new and archival programming anytime, anywhere. The WNET Group represents the best in public media. Join us.

**FRONTLINE Press Contact:**

Anne Husted, PR & Communications Manager | frontlinemedia@wgbh.org |  617.300.5312