

## David Gergen

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Commentator, editor, teacher, public servant, best-selling author and advisor to presidents for 30 years, David Gergen has been an active participant in American national life. He served as director of communications for President Reagan and held positions in the administrations of Presidents Nixon and Ford. In 1993, he put his country before politics when he agreed to first serve as counselor to President Clinton on both foreign policy and domestic affairs, then as special international advisor to the president and to Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Gergen currently serves as editor-at-large at *U.S. News & World Report* and as a regular television commentator on CNN. He served as moderator of *World @ Large*, a 13-part PBS discussion series for two seasons. He is also a professor of public service at the John F. Kennedy School of Government and is director of its Center for Public Leadership. In the fall of 2000, he published the best-selling book *Eyewitness to Power: The Essence of Leadership, Nixon to Clinton*.

In the past, he has served in the White House as an advisor to Presidents Nixon, Ford, Reagan and Clinton. Most recently, he served for 18 months in the Clinton administration, first as counselor to the President and then as special advisor to the President and the Secretary of State. He returned to private life in January 1995.

During 1984 - 1993, Gergen worked mostly as a journalist. For two-and-a-half years, he was editor of *U.S. News*. Working with the owner and editor-in-chief Mortimer Zuckerman and a revived staff, he helped to guide the magazine to record gains in circulation and advertising. During that period, he also teamed up with Mark Shields for political commentary every Friday night for five years on the *MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour*. The two were a popular political team and won numerous accolades for their political coverage.

A native of Durham, North Carolina, he is an honors graduate of Yale University (AB, 1963) and the Harvard Law School (LLB, 1967). He is a member of the District of Columbia bar. In addition, he served for three-and-a-half years in the United States Navy, where he was posted for about two years to a ship home-ported in Japan.

Gergen is active on many non-profit boards and he is chairman of the National Selection Committee for the Innovations in American Government. He frequently lectures in the United States and overseas and holds 14 honorary degrees.

He has been married since 1967, to Anne Gergen of England. She is a family therapist. They have two children, Christopher and Katherine. They live in Cambridge, Massachusetts.