

David Gergen



David Gergen is co-director of the Center for Public Leadership at the Harvard Kennedy School, a senior political analyst for CNN, and has served as an adviser to four U.S. presidents of both political parties. In 2000, he published the best-selling book, *Eyewitness to Power: The Essence of Leadership, Nixon to Clinton*.

Graduating with honors from both Yale College (1963) and Harvard Law School (1967), Gergen served as an officer in the U.S. Navy for three years before joining the Nixon White House in 1971, as a staff assistant on the President's speech writing team. He went on to work in the administration of Gerald Ford and as an adviser to the 1980 George H.W. Bush presidential campaign. He served as director of Communications for Ronald Reagan and as an adviser on domestic and foreign affairs to Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

In the 1980s, he began a career in journalism. Starting with *The McNeil-Lehrer NewsHour* in 1984, he has been a regular commentator on public affairs for some 28 years. Twice he was a member of election coverage teams that won Peabody awards. In the late 1980s, he was chief editor of *U.S. News & World Report*. Today, he appears frequently on CNN as senior political analyst.

Gergen joined the Harvard faculty in 1999. His work as co-director of the Center for Public Leadership and professor of public service has enabled him to work closely with a rising generation of younger leaders, especially social entrepreneurs, military veterans and the Young Global Leaders chosen by the World Economic Forum. He is active as a speaker on leadership and sits on many boards, including Teach for America, the Aspen Institute and The Mission Continues. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and holds 27 honorary degrees.