The Lincoln Project is a political action committee (PAC) that was founded in December 2019 by a group of former Republican political strategists with the goal of defending democracy from the populist nationalistic ideals and agenda of Donald Trump, his allies in Congress, and the far-right media.

The Lincoln Project’s mission is to hold accountable those who would violate their oaths to the Constitution and would place their loyalty to others before their loyalty to the American people and democracy.

During the 2020 election cycle, The Lincoln Project launched more than 300 ads attacking Donald Trump and his allies and played an instrumental role in removing the former president from office.

The Lincoln Project continues to fight radical extremism, the far-right media, populist nationalism, and every elected leader who ascribes to the MAGA agenda.

Contact Us:
media@lincolnproject.us
As a counselor to world leaders, CEOs, celebrities, and political movements, Steve Schmidt -- over the past two decades -- has played an influential role in American politics and helped navigate some of the most high-stakes corporate crises and business strategy challenges of our time. In the aftermath of the 2016 American presidential election, Steve has emerged as one of the strongest and most incisive voices commenting on U.S. politics and global issues. Well known for his part in the 2008 U.S. election cycle, Steve was credited for transforming Senator John McCain’s campaign “from corpse to contender.” He previously architected a similar turnaround for California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Steve was a top strategist in the 2004 campaign to re-elect President George W. Bush and served in the Bush administration, during which time he led the successful confirmations of two U.S. Supreme Court Justices.
Rick Wilson is a renowned political strategist, infamous ad-maker, writer, speaker, and political commentator. In December 2019 Rick co-founded the Lincoln Project, a political action committee whose goal is to hold accountable those who would violate their oaths to the Constitution and would place their loyalty to others before their loyalty to the American people and democracy.


Rick regularly brings his unique insights to national cable audiences on CNN and MSNBC, NPR, and American and international news national outlets. He’s a frequent guest on *Real Time With Bill Maher*.

A 30-year veteran of national politics, Rick got his start in the 1988 Presidential campaign of George Herbert Walker Bush. He produced groundbreaking political advertising and provided winning, strategic counsel to winning political candidates, SuperPACs, state parties, the national campaign committees, and corporate, association, and government clients across the nation and around the world.
Reed Galen is an independent political strategist and co-founder of The Lincoln Project. A veteran public affairs and political professional with more than 20 years’ experience, Galen has spent more than a decade advising Fortune 50, 100 and 1000 companies in need of high-level counsel in the fields of strategic communications, procurement, and legislation. Reed has also managed several high-profile ballot measure campaigns in California, Texas, and Colorado. Before moving to the private sector, he served as Deputy Campaign Manager for John McCain’s presidential campaign and Deputy Campaign Manager for Arnold Schwarzenegger’s successful 2006 re-election campaign. Galen also worked on both the 2000 and 2004 campaigns of President George W. Bush. Between campaigns, Galen spent a year at the White House and served the Bush Administration at both the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Department of Homeland Security.
Stuart Stevens grew up in Mississippi, a seventh generation Mississippian. For a very long time he's been driven by a fascination and love of politics, film, and writing and has pursued those interests throughout his life.

He attended Colorado College; Pembroke College, Oxford; Middlebury College's Bread Loaf School of English; UCLA Graduate Film School, and the American Film Institute, where he received a diploma signed by Charlton Heston.

*It Was All A Lie: How The Republican Party Became Donald Trump* is his eighth book. His earlier books are: *The Innocent Have Nothing To Fear, last Season: A Father, a Son and a Lifetime of College Football, Night Train to Turkistan, Malaria Dreams, Feeding Frenzy: Around the World In Search of The Perfect Meal* and the novel, *Scorched Earth: A Political Love Story*. He's written extensively for dramatic television series, starting with *Northern Exposure* and including *I'll Fly Away, K. Street, Commander in Chief* and others. His articles and essays have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Esquire*, *Outside*, *The Washington Post*, *Food & Wine* and many others.

He has a long time interest in endurance sports which he pursues badly. He skied the last 100 kilometers to the North Pole and ridden the 1200 km Paris-Brest-Paris cycling event and was the first person to complete all of the World Loppet (Nordic Ski Marathons) in a single season. He wishes he were good at these endeavors, but concedes he is not, yet enjoys them nonetheless.

Stuart Stevens was a founding partner in Strategic Partners & Media and stepped down from the company in April 2019. He is currently an advisor to the Lincoln Project and is working on his next novel.
Fred Wellman is The Lincoln Project’s Executive Director. He joined the organization in August of 2020 as the Senior Advisor for Veterans Affairs and coordinated our veteran and national security efforts during the general election campaign and the Georgia Runoffs. Wellman served in the U.S. Army for 22-years as an aviator and public affairs officer including four combat tours over Operation's Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom. He flew Scout and Blackhawk helicopters and was spokesman for General's David Petraeus and Martin Dempsey in Iraq. He retired out of the Pentagon in 2010 and embarked on a civilian career as an entrepreneur and veterans advocate. Early in the pandemic crisis he served as Administrative Chief of Staff of a COVID Field Hospital in New York City staffed by military special operations veterans. He is Ranger-qualified and a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point and the Harvard Kennedy School.
Tara Setmayer is a former CNN political commentator, contributor to ABC News and former GOP Communications Director on Capitol Hill. She has appeared on ABC's *The View*, ABC's *Good Morning America*, and on HBO's *Real Time with Bill Maher*. On January 9, 2020, Setmayer was named as a Harvard Institute of Politics Spring 2020 Resident Fellow. Also in January 2020, she joined The Lincoln Project as a senior advisor and hosts the live show "*The Breakdown*" alongside co-founder Rick Wilson, on the organization's streaming channel, LPTV.

Setmayer was also named a University of Virginia, Center for Politics, Resident Scholar for the 2020-21 academic year. In collaboration with the Center for Politics, she narrated the 3-part documentary, *Dismantling Democracy*, which aired nationally on PBS stations in September 2020 and is currently streaming on Amazon Prime.

In 2017, Setmayer was named as a board director for Stand Up Republic, a non-profit organization formed in the wake of the 2016 election of Donald Trump to unite Americans behind the defense of democratic norms, ideals and institutions.

From 2006 to 2013, Setmayer worked in the U.S. House of Representatives as the Communications Director for a Republican Representative during which she handled immigration and federal law enforcement policy issues, and led the national effort to free Border Patrol Agents Ignacio Ramos and Jose Compean through a presidential commutation. For over two years, Setmayer served as a community liaison advocating on a variety of issues including affordable housing and services for the chronically homeless and children in South Florida where she co-founded a faith based homeless program.