

# DIVIDE IN CONCORD to air on AMERICA REFRAMED A film by Kris Kaczor and Dave Regos

Tuesday, March 15, 2016 on WORLD at 8 p.m.

# AMERICA REFRAMED

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"The bottled water ban ... put this quaint little town of 17,000 at the center of a conflict heard around the globe." – James Sullivan, *The Boston Globe* 

February 12, 2016 – (New York, NY) – Kris Kaczor and Dave Regos' documentary **DIVIDE IN CONCORD** will air **Tuesday, March 15, 2016**, at **8 p.m.** on WORLD Channel (check local listings), as part of the fourth season of **AMERICA REFRAMED**, public media's newest documentary series hosted by Natasha Del Toro.

In Concord, Massachusetts residents hold fast to their town's legendary status. It holds a special place in U.S. history as the site of the initial conflict which led to the American Revolution. Concord was also home to abolitionists and philosophers, as well as celebrated writers such as Louisa May Alcott and Henry David Thoreau, a proponent of the environmental preservation movement.

**DIVIDE IN CONCORD** is an engaging tale about a contemporary debate: individual freedom versus collective responsibility, and how this relates to American democracy. The Declaration of Independence states that man has certain unalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. But in today's society where is the line drawn between consumer freedom and responsibility?

Driving the film's narrative and the town's democratic debate is a fiery 84-year-old widow and mother of four, Jean Hill. Inspired by her environmentally conscious grandson, she presents a bylaw to ban the sale of single-serve plastic water bottles.

In Concord, one way of exercising democracy is through a town meeting. The forum, a centuries old tradition, gives the right to an individual citizen to bring a measure up to vote. Many local townspeople don't agree with Hill's ideas, and she has been defeated in past town hall meetings. One opponent, Ms. Adriana Cohen, observes, "...When a person no longer has the liberty to decide for themselves and their

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children what products they're going to put in their body and what products they're going to buy, we no longer live in a free society."

The grandmother-turned-activist enlists the support of Jill Appel, a Harvard University Law School graduate. Together they forge a new coalition, but can one grandmother take on the bottled water industry?

AMERICA REFRAMED'S presentation of **DIVIDE IN CONCORD** on the WORLD Channel includes a moderated conversation with researcher and oceanographer, Kara Lavender Law. She will help us understand how empty plastic water bottles and the pollution they generate impact the world's ecosystem. Additionally, Professor Lavender Law will update us on the latest insights around recycling, conservation and the solutions-oriented research underway to help ensure clean air and water for future generations.

#### **Film Credits**

Director: Kris Kaczor

Producers: Jaedra Luke, Dave Regos

#### **About AMERICA REFRAMED**

**AMERICA REFRAMED** is a co-production of the WORLD Channel and American Documentary, Inc. and is hosted by journalist Natasha Del Toro.

Season 4 of AMERICA REFRAMED curates a diverse selection of films highlighting innovative and artistic approaches to storytelling from emerging to veteran filmmakers alike. Viewers will be immersed in personal stories from the streets of towns big and small to the exurbs and country roads that span the spectrum of American life. The documentaries invite audiences to reflect on topics as varied as culture, healthcare, politics, gun violence, religion and more. Several episodes feature a roundtable discussion moderated by host Natasha Del Toro with special guest commentators and filmmakers.

In 2015, AMERICA REFRAMED won a GRACIE Outstanding Series award, and was nominated for an EMMY award as well as an Independent Documentary Association award for best curated series. In its first season, AMERICA REFRAMED received five 2013 CINE Golden Eagle Awards, and one Imagen Awards nomination.



#### **AMERICA REFRAMED Series Credits**

Executive Producers: Justine Nagan, Chris Hastings, Chris White

Series Producer: Carmen L. Vicencio Host: Natasha Del Toro

#### Web and Social Media

AMERICA REFRAMED can be accessed online via <a href="http://worldchannel.org/programs/america-reframed/">http://worldchannel.org/programs/america-reframed/</a> and,

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## **AMERICA REFRAMED Co-Producers**

American Documentary, Inc. (AmDoc) is a multimedia arts organization dedicated to creating, identifying and presenting contemporary stories that express opinions and perspectives rarely featured in mainstream media outlets. AmDoc is a catalyst for public culture, developing collaborative strategic engagement activities around socially relevant content on television, online and in community settings. These activities are designed to trigger action, from dialogue and feedback to educational opportunities and community participation. AmDoc is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. For more information, visit: www.amdoc.org

The WORLD Channel delivers the best of public television's nonfiction, news and documentary programming, including original content by and about diverse communities, to U.S. audiences through local public television stations and streaming online at worldchannel.org. WORLD reached 35.8 million unique viewers 18+ last year (55% adults 18-49) and over-indexes in key diversity demographics. Online, the WORLD Channel expands on broadcast topics and fuels dialogue across social media, providing opportunities for broad and diverse audience interaction.

WORLD is programmed by WGBH/Boston, in partnership with American Public Television and WNET/New York, and in association with PBS and National Educational



Telecommunications Association. Funding for the WORLD Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the Ford Foundation, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and the Kendeda Fund. For more information about The WORLD Channel, visit www.worldchannel.org

## **Media Contact**

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