

EDWARD M. KENNEDY INSTITUTE

FOR THE UNITED STATES SENATE

American Politics in Crisis? Charting a New Path
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Speakers

Mike Barnicle is an award-winning veteran columnist and political analyst with a 50-year career in print and broadcast journalism. A regular on MSNBC's highly rated *Morning Joe*, Barnicle has earned public and professional praise over the decades for his street-smart, straightforward commentary and a relatable writing style that gives voice to the everyman. With keen insight, broad perspective, and a sharp wit, Barnicle seeks to find the good in the stories he covers and the people they're about for his viewers and readers. A Boston University alumnus, Barnicle began his career as a speechwriter and as an aid to prominent political figures, including former California Senator John Tunney, one-time Vice Presidential candidate Edmund Muskie and the late Robert F. Kennedy. Barnicle also did a brief stint in movies and is often recognized for his role in Robert Redford's *The Candidate*. Barnicle went on to write more than 4,000 columns for media outlets such as the *Boston Herald*, *New York Daily News*, and *The Boston Globe*. During his 25-year career with *The Boston Globe*, Barnicle rose to prominence with his hard-hitting, and often heart-wrenching, must-read columns about the triumphs and tribulations of Boston's working and middle-class citizens. A Boston native, Barnicle is an avid Red Sox fan and one of the best-known voices of the Red Sox Nation. As a result of his extensive knowledge of the sport and his favorite team, he was an integral part in Ken Burns' PBS documentary, *The Tenth Inning*, which tells the tumultuous story of this favorite American pastime. Mark Feeney from *The Boston Globe* wrote: "Mike Barnicle, who toiled for many years at this newspaper, serves as representative of Red Sox Nation. One of his great strengths on both page and screen has always been what a potent and vivid presence he has." Barnicle has won numerous local and national awards and recognition for his work across various media, including honors from AP, UPI, DuPont Columbia and the National Headliners Awards.

Senator **Tom Daschle** has participated in the development and debate of almost every major public policy issue of the last four decades. In 1978, he was elected to the US House of Representatives, where he served for eight years. In 1986, he was elected to the US Senate and was chosen as Senate Democratic Leader in 1994. Senator Daschle is one of the longest serving Senate Democratic leaders in history and one of only two to serve twice as both Majority and Minority Leader. During his tenure, Senator Daschle navigated the Senate through some of its most historic economic and national security challenges. In 2003, he chronicled some of these experiences in his book, *Like No Other Time: The 107th Congress and the Two Years That*

Changed America Forever. Since leaving the Senate, Senator Daschle has remained an active and learned voice among policymakers. In 2007, Senator Daschle joined with former Majority Leaders George Mitchell, Bob Dole, and Howard Baker to create the Bipartisan Policy Center, an organization dedicated to finding common ground on some of the pressing public policy challenges of our time. Senator Daschle continues to be a sought after thought leader on multiple issues ranging from improving American health care to protecting democracy, including multiple leadership positions in prominent organizations:

- Chair of the Board of Directors at the National Democratic Institute
- Chair of the Board of Directors at the Center for American Progress
- Co-Chair of the National Institute for Civil Discourse
- Democratic Co-Chair of the Coalition for Cannabis Policy, Education, and Regulation (CPEAR)
- Board of Directors of the Edward M. Kennedy Institute
- Board of Directors of the LBJ Foundation
- Board of Directors of the UN World Food Program USA
- Board of Directors of the National Institute for Election Integrity
- Board of Advisors of Cognosante
- Commissioner on the Bipartisan Commission on Biodefense
- Member of the Council of Foreign Relations
- Member of the Health Policy and Management Executive Council at the Harvard School of Public Health

Senator Daschle has been recognized by The Hill as one of DC's Top Lobbyists for the last several years. He is married to Linda Hall Daschle and has three children and six grandchildren.

Former State Senator **Linda Dorcena Forry** is a widely respected leader in government, business and philanthropy. The Boston-born daughter of Haitian immigrants, Forry served from 2005 until 2018 with several terms in the House of Representatives and five years in the Massachusetts State Senate. Forry assumed leadership posts in the Senate and was appointed Assistant Majority Whip and Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Housing. She also served as Vice-Chair of the Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs & Export Development, and as member of the Joint Committees on Transportation, Marijuana Policy, and Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities. In the House of Representatives, Forry led and served on numerous legislative committees including: Telecommunications, Utilities & Energy; Vice Chair of Public Service, and Chair of the Joint Committee on Small Business and Community Development. As Chair, Forry led a statewide listening tour that generated new legislation and laws to support and elevate entrepreneurs and small businesses across the Commonwealth. Forry won acclaim for her bipartisan approach to lawmaking and problem solving. As the Senator representing the 1st Suffolk District, Forry organized and hosted South Boston's traditional St.

Patrick's Breakfast. She co-produced the television broadcast of the special event which reached millions of viewers across New England. After leaving public office, Forry ascended into senior business roles including becoming a trustee of Eversource Energy and serving on committees for Finance and GESRC (Governance, Environmental and Social Responsibility Committee). As a former executive at Suffolk Construction, Forry led and created the company's first Diversity and Inclusion department and developed company strategy and programming for employees, managed finances and the implementation. Forry is the Principal of LDF Holdings LLC, a Massachusetts company, community development consultancy firm that offers multi-tier services from real estate consulting, DEI strategy and community relations. Forry is co-publisher of the *Dorchester Reporter*, an award-winning, family-owned community news organization. She is a trustee of the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the U.S. Senate and a founding member of the New Commonwealth Racial Equity and Social Justice Fund (NCF). Linda lives in Dorchester, MA with her husband and four children.

Adam Hinds is CEO of the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the U.S. Senate. Adam has twenty-five years of experience working in US politics, government, and foreign affairs. Before joining the Institute, he spent six years as a Massachusetts State Senator where he Chaired the Committee on Revenue and led the Senate's effort to rebuild the Commonwealth post-COVID. In 2021-2022 he was a candidate for Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts. From 2005 to 2014 Adam worked for the United Nations in the Middle East. He was based in Baghdad, Iraq where he was a team leader of a UN-led negotiation between the Kurdistan Region and the Government of Iraq over disputed territory. He was a regional advisor to the UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process in Jerusalem. He worked for former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan to establish a ceasefire in Syria in 2012 and then was part of a team to eliminate Syria's chemical weapons program. Early in his career, Adam worked for former Congressman John Olver and was part of John Kerry's campaign for President where he worked for Susan Rice, the head of his foreign policy team who later became the US National Security Advisor. Adam attended Wesleyan University and received a Master's degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. Adam is married to Dr. Alicia Mireles Christoff, Associate Professor of English at Amherst College, and they have two young children.

Jocelyn Kiley is associate director of U.S. Politics research at Pew Research Center, where she primarily studies American public opinion about politics and policy. For more than a decade she has been a leader of the Center's ongoing work on political polarization in the American public. Her authored or co-authored reports on this topic cover Americans' political values and positions on issues, the growth of partisan animosity within the public, and the dynamics of partisan identification and voting patterns. She is an expert on internal cleavages within the public's Republican and Democratic coalitions, and she spearheads Pew Research Center's periodic political typologies (in 2011, 2014, 2017 and 2021). Kiley has also co-authored several reports on Americans' views of – and frustrations with – government, politics and elections since joining

Pew Research Center in 2008, including the Center's most recent major report on the topic, "Americans' Dismal Views of the Nation's Politics." In and around election years, much of Kiley's work focuses on the issue priorities of voters and the dynamics of elections, as well as Americans' confidence in elections. In addition, Kiley's group regularly surveys the public on political and policy issues of the day – gauging public attitudes about the economy, abortion, gun policy, immigration and other national issues. Prior to joining the Center, she worked in research and evaluation for several media and governmental organizations. She has a master's degree in political science from the University of California, Berkeley, where her graduate work primarily concerned issues of racial and ethnic political identity in the United States, as well as the role of the media in shaping public opinion. She received her bachelor's degree in sociology and anthropology from Harvard University. Kiley regularly discusses the Center's findings with the news media, including PBS NewsHour, The Washington Post, NPR and NBC, among others. She has also been an exit polling analyst for The Washington Post.

Christine Todd Whitman is the President of The Whitman Strategy Group (WSG), a consulting firm that specializes in energy and environmental issues. WSG offers a comprehensive set of solutions to problems facing businesses, organizations, and governments; they have been at the forefront of helping leading companies find innovative solutions to environmental challenges. Governor Whitman served in the cabinet of President George W. Bush as Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from January of 2001 until June of 2003. She was the 50th Governor of the State of New Jersey, serving as its first woman governor from 1994 until 2001. As Governor, Christie Whitman earned praise from both Republicans and Democrats for her commitment to preserve a record amount of New Jersey land as permanent green space. She was also recognized by the Natural Resources Defense Council as having instituted the most comprehensive beach monitoring system in the nation. As EPA Administrator, she promoted common-sense environmental improvements such as watershed-based water protection policies. She championed regulations requiring non-road diesel engines to reduce sulfur emissions by more than 95 percent. During her tenure, the Agency was successful in passing and implementing landmark brownfields legislation to promote the redevelopment and reuse of "brownfields", previously contaminated industrial sites. She is the author of a New York Times best seller called "It's My Party Too", which was published in January of 2005 and released in paperback in March 2006. Governor Whitman formerly served on the Boards of United Technologies Corporation, Texas Instruments Inc. and S.C. Johnson and Son, Inc. She is on the Advisory Board of The Northeast Maglev (TNEM). Governor Whitman also serves a number of non-profit organizations including as Chairman of the American Security Project, Vice-Chairman of the Trustees of the Eisenhower Fellowships, Executive Committee of the National World War II Museum, and member of the Board of Directors of the World Food Program USA. She is co-chair of the States United Democracy Center, the Forward Party, the Joint Ocean Commission Initiative Leadership Council, the Aspen Institute K12 Climate Action Task Force, and the National Institute for Civil Discourse. She is a member of the National Advisory Committee for

the Presidential Climate Action Project, she is a founding member of the Climate Leadership Council, and she serves on the Meridian Institute Board. She is a member of the advisory boards of the Renew America Movement, the Rick Herema Foundation, and the ERA Coalition. She was co-chair of the Commission on the Rule of Law and Democracy at the Brennan Center at New York University. During the 2020 election cycle, she served as Chair of Republicans and Independents for Biden, and as one of the Advisory Board members for the Voter Protection Project. In 2018, Governor Whitman was the recipient of the Panetta Institute's Jefferson-Lincoln Award for her dedication to the key principles of American democracy and the ideals of the nation. Governor Whitman was awarded The Eisenhower Medal for Leadership and Service in 2017. Prior to becoming Governor, she was the President of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and served on the Somerset County board of Chosen Freeholders. Governor Whitman holds a BA from Wheaton College in Norton, MA, and was married for 41 years to the late John R. Whitman. She has two children and seven grandchildren.