



Jim Lehrer hosts September 9, 2008 at 9pm EST

Debating Our Destiny



A look at the pivotal moments from the last 48 years of presidential debates through the eyes of those who were there.



MAIN

DEBATES and CAMPAIGNS

1976

1980

1984

1988

1992

1996

2000

2004

BEHIND THE DEBATES

FOR TEACHERS

ABOUT THE PROJECT



Debates and Campaigns

2000

"I'm beginning to think not only did he invent the Internet, but he invented the calculator as well. It's fuzzy math." - President George W. Bush

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Transcript: After eight years of President Clinton's leadership, the 2000 campaign centered on whether to give his vice president, Al Gore of Tennessee, the reins of power or instead turn to a familiar name, George Bush, the son of the 41st president.

With a heavy focus on domestic policy, including what to do with a growing budget surplus, the campaign and the debates seemed as much about style as substance, with Al Gore's sighing and rolling his eyes appearing to hurt him in the first debate.

Candidate Interviews



PRESIDENTIAL
Al Gore (D),
Vice President

NO INTERVIEW

George W. Bush (R),
President

INTERVIEW NOT AVAILABLE

VICE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE
Joseph Lieberman (D),
United States Senator (CN)

INTERVIEW NOT AVAILABLE

Dick Cheney (R),
Vice President

INTERVIEW NOT AVAILABLE

Debate Transcripts

First Presidential Debate - October 3, 2000

Second Presidential Debate - October 11, 2000

Third Presidential Debate - October 17, 2000

Vice Presidential Debate - October 5, 2000

Transcripts: Commission on Presidential Debates

Produced by MacNeill/Lehrer Productions in association with the Commission on Presidential Debates and WETA

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