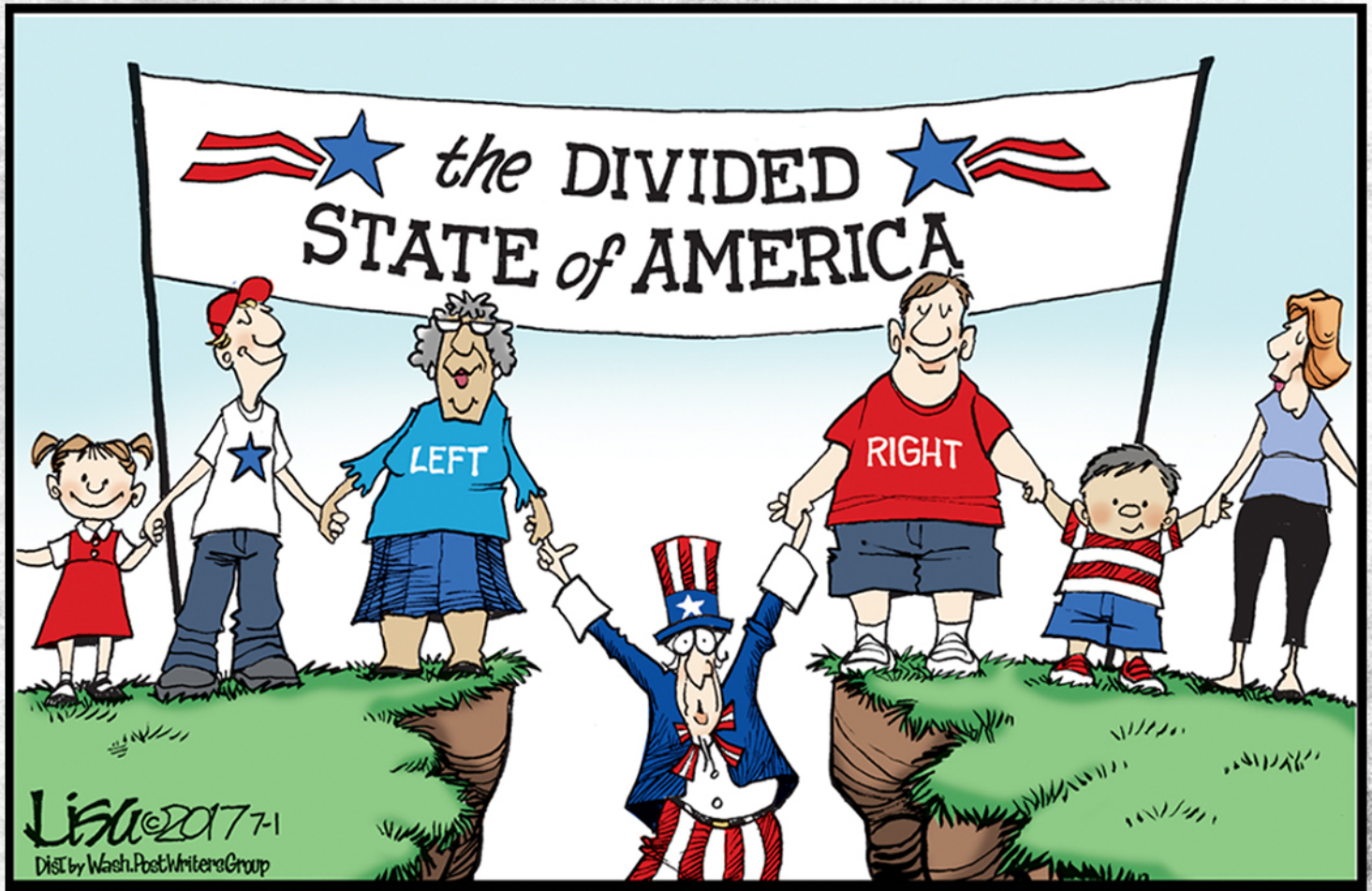


# American Times



A Journey From Madness to Forgiveness



A documentary film working to help bridge our deep cultural divide and bring us to a place of better understanding.

PINE DRIVE PICTURES IN ASSOCIATION WITH INFAMOUS NETWORK PRESENT AMERICAN TIMES

FEATURING INTERVIEWS WITH DARYL DAVIS CHRISTIAN PICCIOLINI ROBERT GONZALES

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ISAIAH MURRAY PETER SIMON PRODUCED BY JON VANDER POL JEFF DAVERMAN

MUSIC BY MARK LAVENGOOD SAM VAIL EDITED BY WILL KINGSTON DIRECTED BY JON VANDER POL

★ AmericanTimesFilm.com ★

# American Times



## A Journey From Madness to Forgiveness

### AMERICA'S DESCENT INTO MADNESS

America is at a breaking point. The current administration's actions have torn the country apart. We're essentially two tribes locked in a cold civil war.



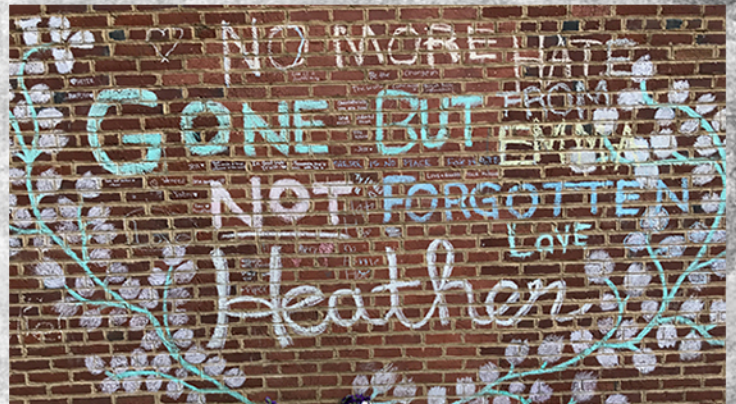
Many people have lost connection with family members and close friends over this divide. We need to start listening to each other across political and cultural lines again. The consequences of not working to resolve these differences will likely have consequences that we'll all regret. Millions of Americans are

deeply concerned by this situation but not sure how to find common ground again. American Times is about working to resolve these conflicts among citizens. It is in no way about excusing the behavior or normalizing the actions of the President.

### THE JOURNEY TO FORGIVENESS

This first-person journey seeks to discover ways of working through the madness to arrive at a genuine place of forgiveness and understanding. Director .

Jon Vander Pol will first learn communication techniques from several masters of empathy and communication. He will then meet with family and friends with whom he has had fierce disagreements. No one has to capitulate or forsake their personal values, but if we don't start working towards empathy and understanding,



there is no hope for reconciliation. This journey aims to be one piece of the puzzle in putting the United States back together again

# Production Stills



Capital Building at night



Robert Gonzales interview



Jon Vander Pol with Robert Gonzales



Jon Vander Pol with Daryl Davis



Daryl Davis



Jon Vander Pol & Christian Picciolini



Cinematographer Isaiah Murray



Nick Diamante Interview

# Production Stills



Antietam Candlelight Memorial



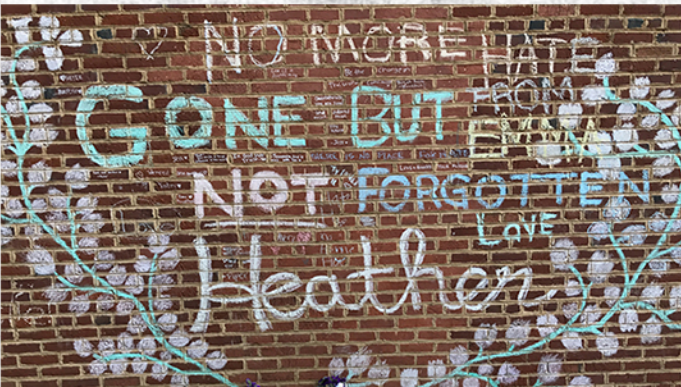
Antietam Candlelight Memorial



Neo-Nazi Rally at White House



Jon Vander Pol filming the rally



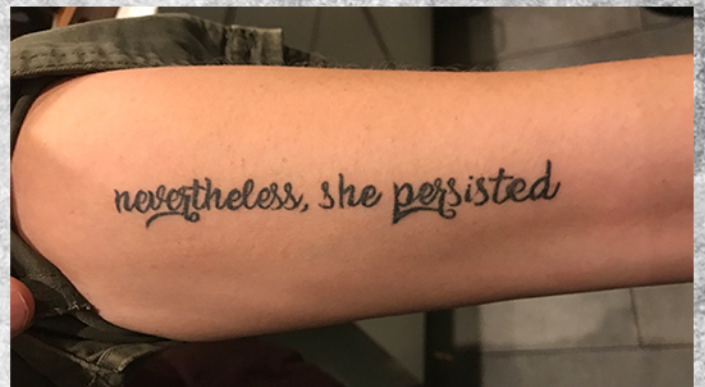
Heather Heyer Memorial Charlottesville



Richard Spencer at Neo-Nazi Rally



Martin Luther King Memorial in D.C.



Tattoo from the Resistance

# Interviews



**Daryl Davis** is an R&B & blues musician, author and band leader. As an African-American he has engaged and befriended many members of the Ku Klux Klan over the last three decades and has helped dozens of KKK members leave the organization. Davis has summed up his advice as: “Establish dialogue. When two enemies are talking, they’re not fighting.”

**Christian Picciolini** is an award-winning television producer, public speaker, author and reformed violent extremist. His life’s work bears witness to an ongoing and profound need to atone for his past and to make something positive out of his time on earth. In 2009, Christian co-founded Life After Hate, a nonprofit dedicated to helping others counter racism and violent extremism.



**Dr. Robert Gonzales** is a psychologist, leader and trainer in nonviolent communication. NVC assumes that we are all compassionate beings and that violence, whether verbal or physical, is a learned behavior. NVC leads to greater authenticity in communication, increased understanding, deepening connection and conflict resolution.

**Family and Friends** After learning from those who teach empathetic connection, director Jon Vander Pol will meet with family and friends with whom he has fiercely clashed over politics and culture. These relationships have been deeply strained by vehement disagreements over the last few years. This is where the real journey of madness to forgiveness and understanding takes place.

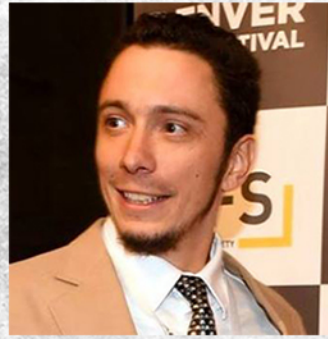


# Production Crew



Jon Vander Pol (Writer, Director, Producer) Jon's debut feature length documentary, *Exported From Michigan*, won best documentary honors at three of the seven film festivals it was screened in. Before getting into documentary filmmaking,

Jon co-founded Infamous Network with Jeff Daverman, working as an artist, graphic designer and screen printer.



Will Kingston (Editor, Producer) Will has edited shows all across the television spectrum, from the Food Network to the Outdoor Channel. He's also directed multiple award winning short films and knows how to craft a story from start to

finish. He helps guide an audience through the journey without holding their hand, allowing them to draw their own conclusions.



Isaiah Murray (Cinematographer) Isaiah has spent over 18 years working in film and television. His lifelong passions include sailing, music and creating compelling visual images for documentary films. He was one of the key cinematogra-

phers on Pine Drive Picture's last documentary, *Exported From Michigan*.



Peter Simon (Cinematographer, Producer) Peter has been working in film for over 15 years. He's been a member of the International Cinematographers Guild in New York City (IATSE Local 600). Peter is primarily a camera assistant but

has also made two short films, *Kerouac's Denver* and *Headlong*. He is currently writing his first feature-length screenplay.



Alexandra Vander Pol (Producer) Alexandra has dedicated her career to raising funds and awareness for local and national nonprofit organizations such as American Humane, National Jewish Health and the Special Olympics. Her campaigns

and events with diverse organizations and communities have produced sustaining programs for the greater good.



Jeff Daverman (Producer) Jeff is an independent artist, designer and business owner. He co-founded Infamous Network with Jon Vander Pol in 1996 and has been producing the Root Concepts line of original art on stickers, apparel and canvas

prints ever since. His many artistic disciplines including painting, drawing, photography and graphic design.



Sam Vail (Music Soundtrack) Sam is a music lover who grew up on his parents' Beatles records. As Sam grew older, his obsession with the guitar grew stronger. After spending years touring and playing in bands, he branched out into

producing and recording music. Sam has produced and played with acts including Vailcode and Another Grand Design.



Mark Lavengood (Music Soundtrack) Mark has toured the music circuits for over 10 years. Wearing a multitude of hats as a multi-instrumentalist, singer & songwriter, band leader, teacher, active member of Michigan's Earthwork Music

Collective. Affectionately known as "Huggy Bear" he engages with communities through song and voice and collaboration