



**Title: The 2016 Election: How the Media Shapes
the National Debate**

Date: September 8, 2016

Time: 12:45 PM to 2:00 PM

Moderator:

Ana Navarro
Fellow
Institute of Politics
Harvard University

Panelists:

Tony Diaz
Political Analyst, "What's Your Point"
Fox 26 Houston
Houston, TX

Luciana Lopez
Reporter
Reuters
New York, NY

Ed O'Keefe
Reporter

The Washington Post
Washington, D.C.

Julio Ricardo Varela
Digital Media Director and Political Editor
Futuro Media/Latino USA
New York, NY

Biographies



Ana Navarro was born in Nicaragua. In 1980, as a result of the Sandinista revolution, she and her family immigrated to the United States.

Navarro is a graduate of the University of Miami. In 1993, she obtained her Bachelor in Arts with Majors in Latin American Studies and Political Science. She obtained a Juris Doctorate in 1997. She has expertise on Latin American and Hispanic issues.

She served as the National Co-Chair of John McCain's Hispanic Advisory Council and was a national surrogate for the McCain 2008 campaign. She has played a role in several Federal and State races in Florida. Most recently, she served as National Hispanic Co-Chair for Gov. Jon Huntsman's 2012 Campaign. She is a political contributor at CNN and CNN en Español.

In 1997, she was a special advisor to the Government of Nicaragua and in that role, she was one of the primary advocates for NACARA (Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act)

Navarro served on Gov. Jeb Bush's transition team and served as his first Director of Immigration Policy in the Executive Office of the Governor. In 1999, she returned to the private sector and has represented private and public clients on federal issues, particularly related to immigration, trade and policy affecting Central America. In 2001, she served as Ambassador to the United Nation's Human Rights Commission and was a strong advocate for the condemnation of the Government of Cuba for human rights abuses.



Tony Diaz Diaz, El Librotraficante, is a political analyst on "What's Your Point" which airs on Fox 26 Houston. He also hosts the weekly bilingual radio program Nuestra Palabra: Latino Writers Having Their Say which covers Latino Literature, Art, and Politics on KPFT 90.1 FM Houston. His essays have appeared in the Houston Chronicle, Texas Observer, CNN.com, the Los Angeles Times, and Huffington Post Latino Voices, among other publications.

Diaz made national and international news when he led the Librotraficantes in defying Arizona's ban of Mexican American Studies by organizing the 2012 Librotraficante Caravan to smuggle books banned books in Tucson back into Arizona.

Diaz currently resides in Houston where he continues to fight for Intellectual Freedom and Freedom of Speech.



Luciana Lopez covers the 2016 presidential election for Reuters. Previously she covered investment strategy and, from Sao Paulo, Brazilian financial markets. She has an undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia and a master's degree from the University of Maryland, College Park.



Ed O'Keefe is covering the 2016 presidential campaign, a journey that's included a focus on Jeb Bush and Marco Rubio's campaigns, the Republican delegate fight and the growing influence of Hispanic voters. He's covered presidential and congressional politics since 2008. Off the trail, he's covered Capitol Hill, federal agencies, the federal workforce, and spent a brief time covering the war in Iraq.



As Digital Media Director and Political Editor for Futuro Media, Julio (Julito) Ricardo Varela works with the Latino USA team to promote the show's episodes and expand its social reach. He is also a frequent contributor to the show and the editor of the show's official site, LatinoUSA.org. In 2011, Julio founded LatinoRebels.com, one of the top U.S. Latino media sites in the world. Previously, he was digital producer for Al Jazeera America's "The Stream" and his work has been featured in many global outlets, including the Guardian, the New York Times, Quartz, Le Monde, WGBH, WNYC, Face the Nation, MSNBC, Fusion, Univision and Telemundo. He has made numerous national TV appearances for Latino USA and Futuro Media. He can also be heard as a regular guest and guest host for Maria Hinojosa on In The Thick.

In 2015, the National Association of Hispanic Journalists honored Julio with its inaugural DALE (pronounced like Pitbull would say it) Award, given to "given to an individual or company that steps up and goes above and beyond to ensure Latinos are fairly and accurately represented." A native of Puerto Rico, Julio spent his childhood between San Juan and the Bronx. He was also a contributing reporter at The Boston Globe. Julio graduated cum laude from Harvard College.

