

## **What is in the series?**

It's unclear exactly what will be presented. We have not seen the series yet and will be watching alongside the rest of the country! But we do know this much:

1. PBS has published a thumbnail description of each of the 10 episodes and we've prepared some talking points based on those
2. As these things go, it's unlikely that American Exceptionalism, American Empire or America's Addiction to War will be highlighted, thus the importance of VFP members taking a leading role in the local discussions.

## **Why is it important to do this?**

VFP has moved beyond the important but non-controversial "healing and reconciliation" suggested by Burns' and Novick's series to understand that we must face uncomfortable truths that will challenge the myth that America is exceptional and always on the good side. If those truths are ignored, any discussion on Vietnam will be hollow and the war will never be fully understood.

## **What if I'm not an "expert" on Viet Nam or we don't have Vietnam Veterans in our chapter?**

That's ok! That is why VFP members created this helpful [Discussion Guide](#) and the [Full Disclosure website](#) has a wealth of resources. It's ok not to know all the answers and this can provide an opportunity for learning. It also can create an opportunity to discuss how some of the same issues are happening today!

## **I don't have a local chapter and I'm just an "At Large" member. What can I do?**

That's ok! You can still contact your local PBS station and go to any public viewings that may be scheduled. Who knows, you might meet other veterans who want to start a chapter!

You can [also submit your story online or your perspective](#). PBS is asking for many folks to submit stories and perspectives.

## **I've never called a reporter before do you have any tips?**

A lot of folks get nervous to reach out to local media. But they are people just like us! Check out this helpful [Tip Sheet](#) on talking to reporters! The important thing is to just remember not to assume the worst when speaking to them. Reporters and producers may not agree with us 100% but that is ok, it's an opportunity to educate and speak to a larger audience!

## **My PBS station isn't calling me back. How do I participate if I can't get a call back?**

Sometimes reporters and producers can be overwhelmed with work! It's ok to keep trying and to follow up with emails. Just remember to keep being polite!

If you are still struggling, contact Nate and Gene for assistance!

Nate: [nateg@pobox.com](mailto:nateg@pobox.com) and Gene: [ejmarx2@gmail.com](mailto:ejmarx2@gmail.com)

## **My local media is refusing to air a VFP perspective or allow us to attend the public viewing.**

We know that VFP is no stranger to our perspective being silenced. However, make sure you've exhausted all options before a protest! PBS has been overwhelmingly helpful in including us in their resource list. We do know that sometimes individual towns and stations can take different views. **Please contact Nate and Gene** if you are running into refusal or hostility about your presence!

