

STANDING UP TO THE MADNESS

By **Amy Goodman**, host of *Democracy Now!*,
and
her brother, investigative journalist **David Goodman**

PRAISE FOR *STANDING UP TO THE MADNESS*

“Amy and David Goodman have written a wondrous and vital book. The title itself—*Standing Up to the Madness*—tips us off that we are far better off as humans if we get the facts and know our history, and stand up for a world of Peace, Grace, Beauty, and Sanity.”

—Studs Terkel, author

“Trust Amy Goodman and her brother David Goodman to find the fierce and fearless voices that must awaken us from sleep.”

—Alice Walker, Pulitzer Prize-winning author

“Amy Goodman doesn’t practice trickle-down journalism. She goes where the silence is, she breaks the sound barrier. She believes the media should be a sanctuary for dissent, the Underground Railroad tunneling beneath the plantation.”

—Bill Moyers, host, *Bill Moyers Journal*

“[Amy Goodman] is one of the nation’s biggest rabble-rousers, a woman unafraid to ask hard question after hard question of people in authority.”

—*Sarasota Herald-Tribune*

“I heard you were a firebrand. Well bring it, baby!”

—Stephen Colbert, *The Colbert Report*

“*Standing Up to the Madness* is a hopeful story about how to fix what’s wrong in our world. Read this book. Get outraged. Get inspired. Then do like the heroes Amy and David Goodman write about: Stand up and fight to make the world a better, more peaceful and just place.”

—Tim Robbins, actor and activist

Democracy in America is in grave danger. Principles of liberty that the leaders of this country once held sacred—such as the right to a fair trial, the checks and balances system of our government, and prohibitions against torture—have been blatantly disregarded by the Bush administration. But Amy Goodman, *Democracy Now!*’s acclaimed host, and her brother, investigative journalist David Goodman, see hope. And that hope lies with grassroots heroes.

In their new book **STANDING UP TO THE MADNESS: Ordinary Heroes in Extraordinary Times** (Hyperion; April 8, 2008; \$23.95; Hardcover), the Goodmans, *New York Times* bestselling authors, explore the stories of everyday Americans who have fought to keep democracy as one of this country’s defining values. They tell the stories of everyday citizens who have challenged the

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government and prevailed. And, in the process of defending the core values of America, they are changing the way that politics is done, both now and in the future. Some of the people highlighted in the book are:

- African-American residents of deluged New Orleans who are fighting racism and City Hall to regain their homes;
- four Connecticut librarians who refused to spy on their patrons, challenged the USA PATRIOT Act, and won;
- a group of high school students who were barred from performing a play they wrote on the Iraq War based on letters from soldiers;
- the first U.S. Army officer to publicly refuse orders to deploy to Iraq, charging that his duty as an officer is to refuse to fight in an illegal and immoral war.

As the Bush administration has waged war abroad and at home, it has catalyzed a vast groundswell of political action. “As the nation’s leaders have abdicated leadership, it has fallen to unlikely heroes to step forward and pick up the fallen torch of democracy,” say the authors in their new book.

Included in the book are suggestions for how the average person can stand against the enemies of freedom, such as racial profiling, torture, and censorship, and champion change. The Goodmans say that ordinary citizens can join together in the fight by supporting independent media, separating themselves from organizations that disregard basic human liberties, and saying “No” to the demands of the government when those demands oppose the rights of American citizens.

STANDING UP TO THE MADNESS is a timely and even revolutionary look at who wields the greatest power in America—ordinary citizens who take a chance and stand up for what they believe in. The Goodmans hope that the examples they chronicle in their book will inspire readers to become active in preserving their country’s values. As they explain in the introduction, “great change begins with small steps taken at home.”

ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

Amy Goodman is an internationally acclaimed journalist and host of the daily grassroots global news hour *Democracy Now!*, which airs on more than 700 radio and TV stations around the world and on www.democracynow.org. *Democracy Now!* is the largest media collaboration in North American public broadcasting. Amy has won many of the most prestigious awards in journalism, including the George Polk Award, the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award, and the Robert F. Kennedy Prize for International Reporting.

David Goodman is an award-winning independent journalist, the author of seven books, and a contributing writer to *Mother Jones*. His articles have appeared in *The Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Outside*, *The Nation*, and numerous other publications. He is the author of the critically acclaimed book *Fault Lines: Journeys into the New South Africa*. He lives with his wife and two children in Vermont.

For more information on **STANDING UP TO THE MADNESS**, please log on to www.democracynow.org

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