

Kelly O'Donnell

NBC News White House Correspondent

Politics Today. A veteran of political journalism, Kelly O'Donnell addresses the state of politics today, forging a bond between current events and her audience. With a presentation as up-to-date as the news, she offers a compelling, hard-hitting analysis of congressional culture, electoral politics, beltway dysfunction, and the Washington political scene as a whole. She looks at both the White House and the Capitol, explaining what we can expect from politics during the current presidential administration.

The American Presidency. If the most difficult position in the world is being the American President, then not far behind is the role of covering the president's every move. Kelly O'Donnell began following the trail of the president in 1996, when she covered the Dole campaign. Since then, she has reported on candidates on both sides of the political coin racing to the White House. Her experiences on the road with candidates and elected presidents, including posing questions that cut to the heart of policies and the interests of the American people, have earned her the respect of her peers, as well as the commander in chief. In her presentation, O'Donnell talks with openness and grace about what lies ahead for the current administration well as about her own experiences as a journalist writing about the leader of the free world.

Meeting the Press: Connecting Both Sides of the TV Screen. The role of a reporter is no longer to simply tell the stories of the day, but to ensure viewers can fully understand and relate to them. Kelly O'Donnell speaks about forging a bond between events and viewers. Her occupation has taken her into the depths of war-torn countries and into our living rooms. She discusses how her job has enabled her to cut away the degrees of separation between ever living person in the world. Her task is not simply covering events both historic and tragic, but making them relatable to the television audience. She explains how this is the news media's ultimate responsibility and gift.

A Woman Roving through a Male-Dominated Field. The glass ceiling has officially shattered in popular news media, and Kelly O'Donnell has contributed to the push. She skyrocketed to great success, having served as a top reporter for NBC News and winning shelves of awards for her accomplishments. But the life of a journalist has been decidedly paved by men until very recently. O'Donnell illustrates her own journey, and the significance of climbing the ranks—from decorated local reporter to *NBC Nightly News* and *Today* correspondent—to become a key member of the press corps who interviews the president and covers the most influential events before a world audience.