

About David Swanson

David Swanson is the author of the upcoming book "Daybreak: Undoing the Imperial Presidency and Forming a More Perfect Union" by Seven Stories Press and of the introduction to "The 35 Articles of Impeachment and the Case for Prosecuting George W. Bush," by Dennis Kucinich.

Swanson holds a master's degree in philosophy from the University of Virginia. He has worked as a newspaper reporter and as a communications director, with jobs including press secretary for Dennis Kucinich's 2004 presidential campaign, media coordinator for the International Labor Communications Association, and three years as communications coordinator for ACORN, the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now.

Swanson is Co-Founder of AfterDowningStreet.org, creator of ProsecuteBushCheney.org and Washington Director of Democrats.com, a board member of Progressive Democrats of America, the Backbone Campaign, and Voters for Peace, a convenor of the legislative working group of United for Peace and Justice, chair of the UFPJ working group on Accountability and Prosecution, and a member of the Robert Jackson Steering Committee.

Swanson's website AfterDowningStreet was named a Most Valuable Progressive by the Nation Magazine's John Nichols in 2005, 2006, and 2007.

Swanson contributed a chapter to "Project Rewire: New Media from the Inside Out," by Judy Daubenmier.

Swanson contributed a chapter called "Flame-Broiled Shark: How Predatory Lending Victims Fought Back and Won," to "The Wealth Inequality Reader" by Dollars and Sense and United for a Fair Economy.

In 2009, Swanson created a website for CODE PINK and Global Exchange to market a company investing in wind energy in Iran: <http://windsofchangeiran.com>

Swanson has created Drupal websites for lots of peace and justice groups, including <http://charlottesvillepeace.org> and <http://acpjva.org> and <http://www.vawn.org> and many others, including sites for short-lived campaigns like this one <http://johnsonmustgo.org>

In 2008, Swanson hosted a weekly radio show at <http://thepeoplespeakradio.net>

In April and May 2007, Swanson consulted part-time for Kucinich for President 2008.

Swanson was the organizer in 2006 of Camp Democracy.

He has served on the steering committee of the Charlottesville Center for Peace and Justice (2006-2008).

He has served on the Executive Council of the Washington Baltimore Newspaper Guild (2005).

Swanson has been ...

Published in Baltimore Sun, Washington Examiner, Humanist.

Quoted in and reported on in the Nation, In These Times, Progressive, Mother Jones.

Published often on: DavidSwanson.org, Democrats.com, PDAmerica.org, AfterDowningStreet.org, Truthout.org, Alternet.org, TomPaine.com, HuffingtonPost.org, OpEdNews.com, American Chronicle, Democratic Underground, DailyKos.com, MichaelMoore.com, BuzzFlash.com, ConsortiumNews.com.

Heard often on Pacifica, Air America, other progressive radio.

Hosted programs on Pacifica, and a long-running show on The People Speak Radio.

Seen on Fox, CNN, PBS, C-Span, Democracy Now!, Free Speech TV, Link TV, RealNews.com.

Quoted in many newspapers and magazines.

Swanson works for Democrats.com as its Washington Director and spends a lot of time in our nation's capital. He does paid work for other peace and justice groups, including creating websites and organizing campaigns. He consults for Dennis Kucinich each time he runs for president. He also earns money speaking at events, selling ads and raising donations on AfterDowningStreet.org, and writing articles and books. The AfterDowningStreet website is funded by VelvetRevolution.us.

Swanson lives in Charlottesville VA with his wife Anna Swanson and son Wesley Swanson, and can see Thomas Jefferson's house Monticello from his window. James Madison's house is also close enough for Swanson to feel it when he rolls in his grave. Here are photos, family links, family photos, and more family photos.

The Charlottesville Daily Progress published a profile of Swanson on March 18, 2008, which said:

"For Swanson, advocating for a withdrawal from Iraq is not just passion - it's a living. Swanson is paid to help run Democrats.com, an "aggressive" progressive Web site, as well as working for myriad other antiwar groups. Additionally, he created a Web site for renowned activist Cindy Sheehan when she first gained notoriety. Swanson immersed himself in activism while a graduate student at the University of Virginia in the mid-1990s, when he worked on the living wage campaign. After a brief career in journalism, he became a communication specialist for labor organizations. Now, though, he coordinates antiwar activities across the country from his house."

What People Say About Swanson's website, After Downing Street:

"I was just on a 10-day speaking tour in England, Wales and Scotland. While there, during the Q & A's after my talks, people would ask me what is going on in the U.S. They would say they hear nothing about the peace movement in their country. I told them to check your web site. I told them it was the best place to find out what is going on at the grassroots level in the U.S. I told them I check it 3 times a day. It was good to have your site as a resource to refer to. Best wishes.

Bruce K. Gagnon, Coordinator, Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space

"AfterDowningStreet is courageously teaching us Constitutional process. Clinton's tawdry impeachment, a transparent punishment for sex, the right-wing's constant preoccupation, has made our nation wary of further disruptive inquiry, especially while we're at war. But war is precisely the matter; Congressional inquiry into the Downing Street memo is mandated by checks and balances constructed by our Founders to preserve government by the people in the face of a president who would, for example, engage us, by covert means, in a war of choice, like a divine-right king."

Mimi Kennedy, Progressive Democrats of America National Board Chair

"David Swanson, Tim Carpenter, and friends took the evidence of deliberate pre-war intelligence manipulation and made it their mission for truth and accountability. While the mainstream first helped lead us into war and then ignored stories of the blatant lies of this administration, ADS kept the pressure on and in doing so grew into a movement of conscience. I am proud to lend my name and my time in support of this wonderful group of people who through their hard work took the facts and fixed them into open debate - something of a rare commodity these days."

Larisa Alexandrovna, journalist, writer

"AfterDowningStreet.org has been the movement hub for Executive Branch accountability. David Swanson and all the folks associated with the ADS coalition have modeled a spirit of collaboration, intelligent analysis, and strategic action. In our collective effort to pull this country out of a Constitutional crisis, brought on by an administration infected with a blatant disregard for the balance of powers, not to mention the truth, we could ask for no better partner than AfterDowningStreet.org."

Bill Moyer, Executive Director, Backbone Campaign

"The folks at AfterDowningStreet.org are doing vital, important work, and need all of our support!"

Thom Hartmann, bestselling author and nationally syndicated host on Air America Radio

"The founders of AfterDowningStreet.org have remained true to their ideals and that's why I can trust what I read there. We not only need a source for the news not being reported by the MSM, we also need a soapbox for the thoughts and ideas of ordinary citizens who have found their voice and their spine. That's why a visit to AfterDowningStreet.org is an important part of my daily routine."

Jeeni Criscenzo, Candidate for U.S. Congress, CA Dist 49

"After Downing Street is a vital player in the UFPJ Legislative Working Group. In addition, AfterDowningStreet.org is one of the best sources on the web for up-to-the-minute news on Congressional action on the war."

Sue Udry, Legislative Coordinator, United for Peace and Justice.

"AfterDowningStreet.org is one of the most dynamic 'movers and shakers' around. This coalition brings constant attention to the fact that a country like ours does not just slip into wars of aggression -- we have to be carefully led into this behavior by a steady stream of lies and manipulations. With the steady drumbeat for new wars always in our ears, AfterDowningStreet.org will remain relevant long after the Iraq War comes to an end."

Bill Scheurer, Editor of the Peace Majority Report, Independent candidate for Congress

Newsday, June 23, 2005:

"An online movement of bloggers and political activist groups is trying to keep the Downing Street memos in the public eye and stoking support for a congressional investigation. The memos, sent among top British foreign intelligence officials, state that President George W. Bush was predisposed to going to war with Iraq and 'intelligence and facts were being fixed around the policy.' The After Downing Street movement wants Congress to examine whether Bush's path to war is grounds for impeachment."

John Nichols in the Nation Magazine in 2005:

* MVP -- Watchdog Branch:

The media did a slightly better job of monitoring political wrongdoing in 2005 than it did during the first four years of the Bush-Cheney presidency -- when it actually would have mattered. But the real work of exposing the misdeeds of the administration is still being done by activist groups. And the most inspired of these in 2005 was After Downing Street, the coalition of groups that describes itself as "working to expose the lies that launched the war and to hold accountable its architects, including through censure and impeachment." In conjunction with Progressive Democrats of America, the able activist group that

seeks to create an actual opposition party in America, After Downing Street is pushing the political envelope in exactly the direction it needs to go. Check out their website at www.afterdowningstreet.org website and keep ahead of the action in 2006.

John Nichols in the Nation Magazine in 2006:

* MVP – ACCOUNTABILITY BRANCH

When Russ Feingold moved to censure Bush, the activists of the AfterDowningStreet.org coalition – who had been pushing for the better part of a year for a congressional inquiry into the administration's warping of intelligence to fit its Iraq War goals – adjusted their focus to promote an even broader and more aggressive critique of the Bush presidency. Nancy Pelosi may have tried to take impeachment off the table, but the AfterDowningStreet.org crew, led by the indomitable David Swanson, kept forcing it back on. Their coalition's website remains the "go-to" place for the latest on investigations, inquiries, subpoenas, legal actions and every other move to hold this president and vice president to account. And their passion for empowering citizens to promote "impeachment from below" and other accountability initiatives has forged a loose-knit but very real national movement. Watch for this movement to get a lot more attention in March, when a drive organized by Newfane, Vermont, town selectman and impeachment impresario Dan DeWalt and others will see dozens of town meetings endorse articles of impeachment.

John Nichols in the Nation Magazine in 2007:

* Most Valuable Internet Site: When people ask about how and where to follow what is happening with the movements to end the war in Iraq, to prevent a war with Iran and to hold to account those who launched one mad war and now seek to initiate another, the answer is always www.AFTERDOWNINGSTREET.org site. Constantly updated by the indefatigable DAVID SWANSON, the site is fresh -- there were even six posts on Christmas Day -- and it features local actions (via YouTube) as well as national interventions. Because it is so thorough and so engaged with local and regional protests and events, the AfterDowningStreet site provides the best illustration of the extent to which mainstream media has neglected the most vital movements of the moment.