#FoundingFathers: Full Transcript
In these difficult political times, people are looking back to the fundamental principles of our democracy. One intrepid blogger decided to go straight to the source.

Don’t choke, James.

Shouldn’t that woman be here by now?

I thought so. But you know... the way that she speaks it’s so peculiar.

Gentlemen, while I respect your right to free speech, I do wish you’d shut up.

Hey guys! Oh..Oh my god. Um, are you...Um?

Thomas Jefferson. And may I introduce Mr. Ben Franklin and James Madison.

Wow! You guys don’t look anything like your pictures.

After two and a quarter centuries, America has changed, and so have we.

Please, let's have a seat.

Thank you

You’re welcome.

Thanks so much for doing this. People really want answers to this whole constitution thing.

We’re in!

Hello, Founding Fathers!

I just wanted to know: why are you called the “Founding Fathers?”
[01:01:40:05] - FRANKLIN - What?

[01:01:41:09] - MADISON - Well, did you know, that once upon a time, there was no America?


[01:01:45:19] - MADISON - And that it fell to—


[01:01:49:05] - MADISON - --us, to establish a new system of government-

[01:01:51:21] - JEFFERSON - And new laws-

[01:01:53:16] - MADISON - And so...America.

[01:01:56:03] - JEFFERSON - Pretty much our idea.


[01:02:03:11] - ROGER - Hey guys. Since you left, the government has been harvesting data off our phones and computers. Is that, like, legal?

[01:02:13:01] - JEFFERSON - Of course it’s not legal!

[01:02:14:10] - FRANKLIN - Now Thomas, that’s not quite so clear--

[01:02:15:13] - MADISON - Actually I did write a few -

[01:02:17:23] - JEFFERSON - The fourth amendment! “The right of the people to be secure against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated!”

[01:02:25:01] - ROGER - The fourth amendment protects individual property, not the phone company.

[01:02:32:00] - JEFFERSON - The phone company. See, this is what I was saying in 1787. The constitution should be rewritten every 19 years.

[01:02:39:02] - ANNA - So, my generation -
[01:02:40:16] - FRANKLIN - Should be hard at work on the 12th draft, yes. And how’s that coming along for you?

[01:02:45:17] - ANNA - Umm… next question.


[01:02:51:23] - CHRIS - The Constitution says I get to have guns.

[01:02:55:01] - JEFFERSON - The Constitution says “A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state…

[01:03:01:07] - CHRIS - “The right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.”

[01:03:04:10] - FRANKLIN - Are you part of the militia?

[01:03:06:09] - CHRIS - No, but I do believe in my second amendment right to own a gun.

[01:03:11:23] - MADISON - Look, we had to put a lot of stuff in there. There were competing voices, there were different agendas from separate states… It’s not easy

[01:03:22:15] - ANNA - That is not an answer, Mr. - Ms. Madison!

[01:03:25:09] - FRANKLIN - But it’s still true, isn’t it?


[01:03:30:22] - ANNA - It’s not easy to get answers from you.

[01:03:33:18] - JEFFERSON - Young lady, you seem to be missing the point here.

[01:03:37:04] - MADISON - The reason that the Constitution is so durable is because so much was left out.

[01:03:44:09] - ANNA - Okay, but if the Constitution is so flexible, don’t we run the risk of some demagogue coming in and changing it like way too much?

[01:03:52:06] - FRANKLIN - Some idiot could muck it up.
[01:03:54:08] - JEFFERSON - A lot of thought went into that document.

[01:03:55:08] - MADISON - The citizens must decide! The document protects the few from the many, and establishes a framework of self-governance.

But as I always say...

[01:04:05:13] - FRANKLIN AND JEFFERSON - Here we go...

[01:04:08:03] - MADISON - The Constitution is just a piece of paper...until it is stamped with the approval of those to whom it is addressed: THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES!


[01:04:27:00] - JEFFERSON - You really have a way with words. It's impressive.

[01:04:31:00] - FRANKLIN - I enjoyed it, I did.