

Episode 1,485: Dave Smith on the New Dave Chappelle Special

**Guest: Dave Smith** 

**WOODS:** This is a by-popular-demand episode. There's a thread in my elite group, which you belong to -

**SMITH:** I sure do.

**WOODS:** Yeah, Dave's in that group — saying we should do an episode like this. So here we are doing it. And I'm behind on *Part of the Problem*. Did you already do this on *Part of the Problem*?

SMITH: I mentioned it briefly. I didn't devote a full episode to it or anything like that.

**WOODS:** Oh, okay. All right, so we're doing this, okay.

SMITH: Yeah.

WOODS: Okay, yeah, let's do it. All right, so it's *Sticks and Stones* is the name of the special. I just watched it last night. And let me start off — Dave, before you and I say anything, let me say this to the folks, because I think people expect certain things from me, and they expect me to like certain things and dislike other things. And for one thing, I think the audience doesn't know me as well as it thinks. But secondly, I want to warn people, if you're thinking, well, if Woods enjoyed this special, it must be fun for the whole family. Don't you blame me for this. This is Dave Chappelle we're talking about, all right? You know what you're getting yourself into, and I absolutely do not want to hear, "Woods, I'm so disappointed in you. I can't believe he joked about such and such and you support" — okay, right away, I am banning you and I am deleting your email and never talking to you again if you send me an email like that. I'm not listening to that. I don't care, all right? Just stop it. If you think you might be that kind of person, don't watch this special. I warned you.

All right, now with that out of the way, let's talk about it. There's been unbelievable controversy about this special. So I thought, wow, I mean, there's going to be some nasty mean stuff in here, let's say, about LGBT. So I watched it. And my thought, at one point, I hit a button on the remote just to see how many more minutes were left. There were only 20 minutes left, and I thought, Wait a minute. This thing's almost over. This is what they're upset about? This is unbelievably mild. This is what they're upset about? I could not believe this was the same special. And like he didn't even say one unkind word about the LGBT community, not one. Not one. Not one. He joked about them, but in no way was it unkind, and everybody knows there's internal divisions within that movement. I mean, this would be

like him saying, you know, the *Reason* libertarians and the Mises libertarians don't always get along, and us saying, "Oh, my gosh, I'm outraged." No, that's a fact. So I mean, was that your overall impression?

**SMITH:** Well, I mean, first of all, I just want to say that I thought the special was excellent. I just thought it was hilarious.

WOODS: Yeah, well done.

**SMITH:** Dave Chappelle to me is up there with the greatest comedians who have ever lived. And for anybody who's not familiar, as you said, I mean, if you're easily offended or you don't like edgy comedy, then he's probably not your guy. But if you do, if you like that type of stuff, I mean, go watch. For What It's Worth, Killing Them Softly, two of the best comedy specials ever made, in my opinion, and The Chappelle Show is, to me, the best sketch comedy show that I've ever seen. So the guy is a comedic legend. And I thought this was really him at his best. It was just funny.

He's always very opinionated and very controversial, but really, for somebody — you know, it's funny because I almost feel like — let me say it like this. With the left-wing outrage today, it just seems like — maybe it's my age, but it still seems like it just doesn't make sense to come from the left. Like, there's this part of me that expects this to be the perspective of like, an older conservative, religious Christian, who's like, Wait a minute, this stuff is too edgy. I don't want to see this. This isn't for polite society. The idea that this comes from young left-wing people, it's so strange. It reminds me of when, you know like right after Donald Trump got elected, and all of a sudden you have these Republicans who are promoting getting along, working with Russia, and then you have MSNBC becoming the new Cold Warriors, saying, Well, no, anything that our CIA says has to be taken as fact, and Russia is the big threat. And I'm just sitting here going, shouldn't you guys switch sides?

WOODS: Yeah.

**SMITH:** Do you remember, did you ever seen *Naked Gun 33 1/3*?

**WOODS:** Oh, sure. And I watched the all the *Police Squad!* episodes before that.

**SMITH:** Okay, so in the end of *Naked Gun 33 1/3* when Frank Drebin is on stage at — what is it? — I think at the Oscars, and he's got the bomb, and the terrorist has the gun, and he goes, *Okay, let's think this through. I'm the cop. You're the terrorist. I should have the gun. You should have the bomb.* And they just trade?

WOODS: [laughing] Yeah, right.

**SMITH:** It feels to me like the left and the right in America should just trade. They're like, you shouldn't be here. I mean, what? It's not as if this is something brand new, the idea that Dave Chappelle would have an edgy comedy special. I grew up in like - I was a '90s kid, and this wasn't a new thing in the '90s. We were coming like a generation after Prior and Carlin, who were the great comics of the generation before I was around, right, and they were as edgy - I mean, as edgy as anything that's ever existed. And then, of course, it was like Chris Rock and Chappelle and guys like this. I mean, this has been going on forever. So what you have is a

dynamic where Chappelle hasn't changed at all, but all of the cultural sensitivities around him have completely changed, and he's feeling the pushback from that. And to your point, Tom, it's not that he did anything that was particularly wrong, or like, *Oh*, *my God*, *he said this one thing that's so harsh*. It's just that he's not with the program, and that's not allowed.

**WOODS:** And yet, as I say, it seems so mild to me compared to what I was led to expect from the controversy. As I said, the LGBT — I don't want to ruin it for anybody, but the LGBT section, there is no insult to anybody, other than he makes a very vague reference to the fact that he just can't stop himself making transgender jokes. Sorry, I just can't stop making them. Sorry. But he doesn't actually tell any, really. So there's that. But then also, there's the part where he does an obviously exaggerated impression of a Chinese person, and apparently —

**SMITH:** Right.

**WOODS:** Which lasts about five seconds, is obviously not meant in a nasty way, has been done by everybody at some point. Virtually no Chinese person on earth would have any problem with at all. And the impression you get from Vox or whatever is like, that's the show, is racist attacks on Chinese people. Are you kidding me? Are you kidding me? I mean, I honestly I could not — I was expecting to have to do an episode saying: all right, look, there's a lot of really edgy stuff in here, and it's going to be hard for everybody to accept, but you're going to have to — No, no, no. I got to the end, and I thought, I can't believe — if this special is setting them off, we're not going to be allowed to say anything in five years. If that is setting them off? I mean, these people are pathetic. I mean, much, much more pathetic than I thought.

**SMITH:** Well, I agree — well, I kind of agree with you, right, like the idea that if it continued in this direction, we wouldn't be able to say anything in five years. But I actually think there's something else that's going on here, which is like, the fact that it's gotten to this insane of a feverish pitch, it kind of indicates that they're really losing control.

WOODS: Ah.

**SMITH:** And so I actually think there's like a really positive sign here.

WOODS: Yeah.

**SMITH:** I mean, the idea that — it kind of reminds me — because I think there are these similarities between left-wing totalitarian thought, and you've covered this on your podcast, and you've written about this before, but when the pope went to the Soviet Union, and all these people came out for him, and all of a sudden, it was like people started looking around, and they were like, *Oh*, *wow*, *there's a lot of us*.

WOODS: Oh, yeah, Poland. Yeah, John Paul's trip to Poland, yeah.

**SMITH:** Yeah, I mean, that's like a really powerful thing. And one of the reasons why you're not allowed to say, *Hey, there's something absurd about the way we talk about transgender people*, or, *I actually think it's kind of hilarious. I mean, just the idea of being transgender is kind of funny.* The reason why you're not allowed to say that, why they're so scared of that is because they know — I mean, Dave Chappelle was doing this in a huge theater, and what was the reaction from the crowd? Laughter.

WOODS: Yeah.

**SMITH:** From everybody, because everyone knows: yeah, of course, we feel that way. Of course we feel that way. You know, honest transgender people - I've met honest transgender people. They'll acknowledge that obviously people feel this way. So I think there's this fear that the left-wing authoritarians have, that if we allow you to express yourself - it's like, if we allow the pope to visit, then, oh, man, people might start realizing that the art -

**WOODS:** Yeah, just because in the media it seems like there's a single, monolithic view, doesn't mean that in all of society that is the case.

**SMITH:** This is not the behavior of people who are powerful because they're competent and they're secure in the fact that they're going to remain powerful. This is the behavior of people who are desperate, because they know they're losing. Because they know the truth is that the woke, PC, social justice, cancel-culture authoritarians, they represent — like, I mean, they're like 1% of the population. And they've had this outrageous, disproportionate control over the narrative. And it's getting really, really hard for them to keep it. It's getting really, really hard. I think that dynamic is going on a lot, not just with this stuff, but just with the mainstream media in general, or the corporate press, as Michael Malice corrects me. But just in general, it's like what you're watching is a dying order that's getting more and more desperate and, actually, I mean, more insane than ever before.

**WOODS:** Well, I think maybe you have something there. I think maybe you have something there. It's just sometimes it seems like we're under such a barrage of nonstop hectoring of people who don't toe the line that it demoralizes me. But then you read the comments sections on an article, and then you remember, oh, okay, wait, no, most people have some semblance of common sense.

**SMITH:** Yeah, and there's so many people out there, right? Like, you'll see — there's people like you and me and our whole kind of circle of like the ancap internet commentators or whatever you want to call us, and then there's like all these different people. I mean, I'll find guys on YouTube sometimes who are like anti-PC voices, and I'm like, I've never heard of this guy, and he's got like, half a million subscribers. Like these huge people I never even knew existed. There are so many people out there who are aware of this stuff. And even within the circles of people who conform to the woke PC authoritarians, I'd say maybe in the ballpark of like 50% of them don't believe any of this stuff. They're just bullied into submission. Like, they're kind of just going with the flow, and if the flow goes the other way, they'd be like, *Yeah*, this is all kind of crazy.

WOODS: Right.

**SMITH:** I mean, these claims are just so absurd. It's like whatever — I mean you know all of them, but you know, there's no such thing as gender, the idea that — whatever, like all drunk sex is equivalent to rape. I mean, there are these ideas that practically, basically no human being holds these views, but it seems like it takes a lot of courage in a mainstream platform to speak out against them. But come on. I mean, at a certain point, I feel like this is breaking down. And while there was a lot of pushback to *The Chappelle Show*, and like fairly big publications like *Vice* wrote a thing about how you can just skip the Chappelle special —

WOODS: Yeah.

**SMITH:** — but then there's also been a big pushback to the pushback. I don't know if you've seen that online. But there's a lot of people who are like, *You guys are crazy. This was hilarious*.

**WOODS:** Yeah, good. Yeah, I mean, I've seen it in my circles, but I haven't really ventured beyond those.

**SMITH:** Well, my circles include just more of the comedy scene in general.

**WOODS:** And that matters more than the libertarian circles.

**SMITH:** Well, in this instance, particularly. But comedians are really defending Dave Chappelle. And I'll tell you, there's a little part of that that almost rubs me the wrong way, because it's like, oh, of course, they'll defend Chappelle, you know? The guy who doesn't need the defending, but if some comedian who's got maybe more right-wing-leaning politics — if Nick Di Paolo or Owen Benjamin or someone like that is being banned from clubs all throughout the country, I don't see any of these people defending their right to be offensive. So they kind of are conveniently defending Chapelle.

WOODS: Yeah.

**SMITH:** But at least I'll take a win where you can get it. It's like, look, the guy made a hilarious special. He's one of the greats of all time. Can't we just enjoy anything?

**WOODS:** And when I think back on it, obviously, the first portion of it, let's say, is pretty controversial, the type of humor. I mean, I just don't care. I don't — who cares? But other than that, I genuinely can't think of what's so unspeakably awful. But I mean, there was just —

**SMITH:** Well, that's the interesting thing. That's the interesting thing. It's simply that he's not with the program. So if you're going to talk about transgender people, what you have to be doing is going along with the program. There are these few issues — you know, I remember when Louie C.K. came back to do standup last year, and one of his sets leaked — I don't know if you remember this, but someone recorded —

**WOODS:** I didn't know that it happened, okay.

**SMITH:** Yeah, so it was just a show at like a little comedy club, and someone recorded it and put it out. And he was doing Louie C.K., like really edgy comment, what he's always done. But so it was pretty funny, that he made one joke about kids who have survived school shootings speaking up and getting involved in politics. And the joke was something along the line of just being like, *Hey*, *you're a kid. What do you know?* and kind of making fun of them.

WOODS: Right.

SMITH: And they were outraged about this. Outraged about this.

WOODS: Of course.

**SMITH:** But the joke before that, he made an Auschwitz joke. It was directly leading into that joke, and no one seemed to care about that.

WOODS: [laughing] Yeah.

**SMITH:** Like it just didn't hit the issue of the day.

**WOODS:** So it really is — yeah, yeah, yeah. So it's not even so much that it's edgy. It's not even really primarily that, is it? It's that he's not on board for the whole thing. And yet, somebody like Louis C.K. I would suspect, is probably 75 to 80% on board.

**SMITH:** Oh, I mean, the Louis C.K. was a Hillary supporter who thought Trump was like a Nazi, basically.

WOODS: Yeah, and that's not enough.

**SMITH:** Doesn't matter. Doesn't matter. He's not with the program 100%, and he was, of course, involved in this kind of Me Too thing, so he's a bad guy now. He's one of the bad guys. It doesn't matter. And it's very interesting what — because, look, comedy is truly subjective. It is truly subjective, and it's a great example of the subjective theory of value. You could just say, you could be like, "Here's the greatest comedian I've ever seen. This is the best comedy special ever." And someone else could say, "I don't think it's funny." And you're both equally right. Nobody's really right or wrong. It's completely in the eye of the beholder. But so is being offended. And so it's just interesting to note what they choose —

So Chappelle opens his special — and I won't give anything away with this. But he opens his special with like a joke about suicide and a prominent celebrity who committed suicide. Now, nobody seems to have a problem with that joke, because that wasn't one of the key issues that you're not allowed to stray on. So that's fine. It's the transgender joke. That's the one people have a problem with. But it's like, actually, that first one was a lot more offensive if you want to play this game, if you want to get offended by things.

Because I'm at comedy clubs quite a bit. I mean, I know there's a lot of comedians who they'll tell a joke — it's not like they're against offensive comedy. They'll tell a joke about abortion or something like that, and they don't care about that. They're not worried that this may offend some pro-lifer. But a big part of that also is because pro-lifers aren't writing articles about how offended they are that someone did this joke. Like the right doesn't get outraged the same way left-wing people do, because right-wing people tend to have things like families and jobs, just things that they have to do during the day, so they're not getting caught up in all this stuff.

But it's not about being offensive. It's about sticking to the script. And that's what Chappelle did wrong.

**WOODS:** Dave, as long as I have you on here, I want to tell folks — I have not yet mentioned it on the podcast, so this is the first time I'm telling people about it. On Facebook, if you're in my private group, you knew about it for a week. But that's why you've got to be in the private group; SupportingListeners.com, you've got to get in that private group. This is an amazing thing.

Now, I would guess 80% to 90% of my listeners know who Bill Kristol is, but for those who don't, Bill Kristol was the editor of *The Weekly Standard*, a neoconservative magazine that existed for a long time, the son of Irving Kristol, who wrote the book, literally, the book on neoconservatism. He is the king of the neocons. He's the king of being wrong. Every prediction he makes is so wrong ,that there's a whole meme industry about how wrong the guy is. It's an embarrassment. But yet of course, that doesn't stop him from being all over TV, because we live in the bizarro world and the wronger you are, the more prominent you are on TV. It's crazy. But he is just a through-and-through neocon. When he found out that Obama was going to double or triple down in Afghanistan, his response was, "All hail Obama." I mean, it just doesn't matter who the person is. He's just a disaster on every front, neocon of the worst possible sort.

And here's what Gene Epstein, through the good offices of Nick Gillespie, managed to make happen. We all know about Gene's Soho forum debating group in New York City. He has arranged a debate between Bill Kristol and Scott Horton. Yes, the Scott Horton who appears regularly on *The Tom Woods Show*, the Scott Horton of *The Scott Horton Show*, the Scott Horton of the book *Fool's Errand*, the Scott Horton of the encyclopedic command of American foreign policy, particularly during the war on terror. That debate is happening, and it sold out immediately. It sold out right away. It's not happening till May 11th, 2020, and it sold out immediately. So Gene is now moving it to a larger venue, so that there are once again tickets available. The Soho Forum.org, you won't be able to do the traditional thing of going up to Gene and saying the name Tom Woods, because there probably won't be a bar at the new venue. But that doesn't matter. That's really secondary here.

So people are saying, why on earth with Bill Kristol would agree to a debate like this? And as you and I were saying before we went on, I'm sure Bill Kristol has no idea who Scott Horton is. He thinks, okay, this was arranged by *Reason* magazine, so maybe I'm debating, you know, Gary Johnson's assistant or something, and I'll make mincemeat of him. He is about to run into a buzz saw the likes of which he has never experienced. And the reason I wanted to bring this up was not just to discuss it with you, Dave, but also, I want to make the same appeal that you were implicitly making when we talked just now to our listeners about how not to lead up to this debate. So can you jump in on that?

SMITH: Yeah, well, okay, so the situation is exactly as you just described it. And what's going to happen is that, as we get closer to this, I would imagine that that Kristol is going to start to look into Scott Horton and realize he's not dealing with what he thought he was. He's not dealing with Gary Johnson or even John Stossel. He's dealing with an animal of a whole different species. And we'll see what happens there. I'm very, very hopeful that this thing does end up happening. I would say the worst thing you could do, as I've seen some people do already, is start tweeting at Bill Kristol about how he's going to get destroyed. Stop doing that. Don't antagonize him. Don't go at him. If anything, tweet at him that you think it's really awesome that he's coming in to do this debate, because it is. It is pretty great that he's doing this. So anyway, this this could be a huge, huge moment, not just personally for Scott, who really deserves a moment like this, but for all of us, for everybody in the antiwar movement. This could be a really, really big thing. So do not mess this up for us, people. Keep quiet.

**WOODS:** Yeah, exactly. I mean, my gosh, why would you antagonize him? And not to mention, there is a Scott Horton whom Scott has had on his show. He's an American attorney. He's known for his for his work in human rights law and the law of armed conflict. So if Bill Kristol thinks it's that Scott Horton he's debating, let him think that. I don't care. This needs to

happen. So yes, people, please do not — for the love of God, do not antagonize Bill Kristol. Because as it is, Andrew Yang withdrew from a debate at the Soho Forum with Antony Sammeroff on precisely the subject of automation and the basic income guarantee, the universal basic income. He backed out of that.

**SMITH:** And I'll tell you, it was a similar thing, where Andrew Yang was going up against what would have just been a nightmare matchup for him, and my suspicion is that he looked into who his opponent was, and was like, *Oh*, *man*, *I'm going to get eaten alive by this guy on my key issue*, because there's nobody — and I know you know — there's nobody more equipped to just dominate that topic and that debate. And so it's a similar thing here, only the only difference is that, truly, Bill Kristol is — as you described before, I mean, this guy, his father was debatably the most key, influential person in the neocon movement. Like him or Leo Strauss, probably. I mean, those were like the guys. And Bill Kristol has been an incredible — I mean, he might be the number-one neocon in the world.

WOODS: Yeah.

**SMITH:** So to get that guy on the debate stage, that's a really important moment for us to have. So yeah, let's just hope this ends up coming to fruition.

**WOODS:** Yeah, absolutely. So play it cool, people. Play it cool. This is an important moment for us as libertarians, and it's a really, really important moment and potentially a real breakout moment for Scott Horton. And we owe it to him. After all the uncompensated work he's done for us, we owe it to him not to screw this up.

All right, you have expanded Part of the Problem. You're doing it three times a week now.

**SMITH:** Yes, sir.

WOODS: Just give us an update on Dave Smith's career.

**SMITH:** Oh, man, everything's going very good. The podcast had grown a lot. The audience had had grown a lot, and there was a lot of demand for more content, so I went to three days a week. And I'm working on my standup. I'm hoping to have another hour out by the end of the year. That's my goal right now. It's coming together, so I'm excited about that. And life is good, man. No complaints. My baby's turning nine months this week, and everybody's healthy and happy, and I'm just enjoying life.

**WOODS:** That is so great to hear. It couldn't happen to a better guy. I'm so glad you're having this success. I am curious about, are you saying that you hope to have the material ready, or you actually hope to have a special recorded by the end of the year?

**SMITH:** I'm hoping to record it by the end of the year and then put it out early 2020. That's the goal.

**WOODS:** Ah. Oh, geez, I wish I could have some say in what the date of the recording would be so I could be there [laughing]. I so want to be there for this thing.

SMITH: Well, I will let you know as soon as I get it figured out.

**WOODS:** Okay, yeah, please let me know. I'd love to fly out there for that, absolutely. I mean, I go up to New York for like a cup of coffee. Like I don't really need a reason.

**SMITH:** You're looking for any excuse.

WOODS: Yeah, right, so this would be like I'd want to move there permanently or something. I would really, really want to be there for that. All right, so *Part of the Problem* is the podcast. Obviously I'll link to that at TomWoods.com/1485. Dave is just outstanding, fearless. You're going to be debating at the Soho Forum. If people hear this as soon as it comes out, it will not yet have happened. It is sold out, but just for people to know, you're debating Nick Sarwark —

**SMITH:** That's right.

**WOODS:** — on a resolution along the lines of: the Libertarian Party should never again nominate people like Gary Johnson and Bill Weld. Something like that, right?

**SMITH:** Yeah, I think that's almost like — for national office. But yeah, that's pretty much the resolution. And I've really just started over the last two days really, really putting together like exactly what I'm going to say and kind of working it out in my mind, because it's a topic that obviously I kind of know where I'm going with this already. And we booked the debate like months in advance, and I didn't want to kind of overthink it and become dry on this. So that's how I work; I like to kind of go in fresh.

And it's been an interesting — just thinking about it, because right away, with the topic, and it's such an important topic that I care about so much, so you're like, it's right to the core of what the Ron Paul movement was all about, what people like you do — what it's all about is it's kind of like how you want these ideas to be introduced to people and who the messengers ought to be for this set of ideas, that is just so beautiful, that it's changed my life and your life and so many of the people who listen to the show, so many of their lives. And there's been something about it where I've really been thinking, it's really kind of taken me back to my roots, and it's been a really cool experience just over the last like two, three days, like really getting in touch with and remembering why I am a libertarian and why I care about these ideas so much. And it's like there's so much nonsense out there in the political world these days, and yet, what we're talking about is really right at the root of the most important issues.

And it's cool to kind of come on this show while I've been thinking about these things for the last few days, because this is the show that really had such a big influence on me. Still to this day my favorite podcast on the planet. And I'm really excited for this. I think it's going to be a good display of our strand of the liberty movement and what we believe in, and it's going to be a really good opportunity for me to distinguish between what I see as true libertarianism as opposed to the fakers.

**WOODS:** And just for people who don't necessarily know all the inside baseball, Nicholas Sarwark is the chairman of the Libertarian National Committee. That's who's debating here, so this is a big deal. And I know it's going to go well. I can't wait to hear it afterward. And you're still planning to have him on the *Part of the Problem* podcast the next day?

**SMITH:** Yeah, I put out that offer, and if he wants to do that, I'm happy to have him on the podcast.

**WOODS:** Wow, that is great. All right, well, what's a website I can give people about Dave Smith? Is there one?

**SMITH:** Well, if you go to GaSDigitalNetwork.com, that's where my podcast, you can you can find my last hour-special, *Libertas*, there, and all my podcasts and all my stuff's there. So you go there, or it's @ComicDaveSmith on Twitter.

**WOODS:** Okay, both of those will be linked at TomWoods.com/1485. I love your special, by the way. You know that.

**SMITH:** Thank you very much.

**WOODS:** And I loved the material you did at the Mises Institute this year. I wasn't able to be there, but I did get that. And I don't think they've released that as a video or anything, but it was good stuff.

**SMITH:** Oh, well, thank you very much. Some of that is going to go into the next hour, so I'm glad that you liked that.

**WOODS:** Okay, good, good. The only complaint I have about Mises events is that, because there's no mike over the audience, you can't tell that the audience is in stitches.

**SMITH:** Yeah, well, comedy is made for you to hear the audience. The audience has to be miked. But that was a lot of fun, man, and I've gone to Mises University the last two years in a row, and it's just such a great experience, man. I know you've done a million of them, and you always say the same thing. It's just a great experience. It really gives you like hope for the future. You meet these brilliant kids who are like 20 and like really understand Austrian economics, and you're like, God, this really gives me a little bit of hope.

So it's really just so much fun, and all the people — it's so funny; I was saying to Jeff Deist, the president of the Mises Institute, at one point when I was there, that there's something so funny, where like everybody in polite society speaks of the Mises Institute as, *These are these bad people*, and even though they'll never tell you it or you'll never hear any of them say it, you know they're secret racist Nazis, of course. I know the organization's dedicated to a liberal Jew, but that's just what a secret Nazi would do. And then you get there, and everybody on the staff, they're like the nicest human beings you've ever met in your life. You get there, and it's like Lew Rockwell is like the kindest person I've ever met in my entire life. And you're like, wow, there really is a disconnect between how these people are portrayed and the real thing.

WOODS: Well, I'm thrilled right now that you're doing so well and Bill Kristol's debating Scott Horton [laughing]. Like, what world is this, right? This can't be. This cannot be. So these are all very, very good developments. So I've got a bunch of Dave Smith links up at TomWoods.com/1485. If you're not following Dave already, I don't understand what the hell's wrong with you. You darn well should be. And boy, would I sacrifice pretty much anything to

be present for your special, so I'll look forward to hearing about that. Thanks again, Dave. I appreciate it.

SMITH: Tom, thank you so much. It's always an honor to be on, always great to talk to you.