

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC AND KATIE COURIC CHRONICLE THE *GENDER REVOLUTION* WITH MOVING TWO-HOUR DOCUMENTARY PREMIERE, FEBRUARY 6 AT 9 P.M. ET/PT

Legendary Journalist Katie Couric Travels Across the U.S. to Talk With Activists, Psychologists, Authors, and Families About the Rapidly Evolving Complexities of Gender Identity

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For Immediate Release

TORONTO – It used to appear so simple for many people: individuals were either a boy or a girl. However, traditional notions of gender are changing rapidly around the world, and labels are no longer so clear cut. National Geographic sets out to explore this evolving concept of gender through the lens of science, society, and culture in the ground-breaking new two-hour documentary [Gender Revolution: A Journey with Katie Couric](#), premiering **Monday, February 6 at 9 p.m. ET/PT**. Produced by Katie Couric Media with National Geographic Studios and World of Wonder Productions, the special airs on National Geographic around the globe in 171 countries and in 45 languages. Immediately following the broadcast, Couric will host a [global Facebook Live town hall](#) to keep the conversation going.

Gender Revolution explores the complexities of gender in everyday life, from birth through the twilight years. To better understand this complex social and scientific issue, Couric travelled across the U.S. to talk with scientists, psychologists, activists, authors, and families to learn more about the role of genetics, brain chemistry, and modern culture on gender fluidity. With conversations that range from the scientifically enlightening to the deeply personal, Couric's unflinching search for truth sheds light on countless untold stories of struggle, understanding, ignorance, hurt, and love.

"It's hard to avoid hearing about some aspect of gender these days. Every time you check your phone, turn on the TV or scan Twitter, there's another story that's challenging our preconceived notions of what gender is, how it's determined and the impact these new definitions are having on society," said Couric. "I set out on a journey to try to educate myself about a topic that young people are living with so effortlessly – and get to know the real people behind the headlines. Because the first step to inclusiveness and tolerance is understanding."

Among those Couric meets on her journey are the following:

- Georgiann Davis, an activist who explores how intersex traits are defined, experienced and contested in contemporary U.S. society
- Dr. Joshua Safer, an endocrinologist engaged in clinical research who addresses a lack of knowledge on medical topics regarding transgender-identified individuals
- Prof. Kristina Olson, who is conducting a 20-year study of hundreds of young transgender and gender-nonconforming kids

- Transgender individuals of almost every generation — from a 4-year-old in Washington, D.C., to a retiree in California — who with their families face unique challenges as the result of their evolving gender identities
- Michaela Mendelsohn, a trans woman who owns six franchise businesses around Los Angeles and who, in response to tragically high jobless rates among transgender people, has dedicated her efforts to hire and promote trans workers at her restaurants
- Celebrity activists and pioneers such as tennis star Renee Richards and model and actress Hari Nef
- Gavin Grimm, a trans teen whose lawsuit seeking equal bathroom access is headed to the Supreme Court
- Countless other doctors and scientists who are on the frontlines of gender issues helping shape medical, social and psychological well-being

Further enhancing Couric's intimate conversations are innovative graphics and animations that will help viewers understand the physiological nature of sex and gender like never before.

The broadcast premiere of *Gender Revolution* comes on the heels of the January 2017 issue of National Geographic magazine. The entire single-topic issue will be devoted to examining gender from different perspectives, providing a 360-degree look at what gender means in science and in social systems, and civilizations throughout the world. With powerful storytelling through text, photographs, maps, and graphics, paired with video and other content online, the issue addresses gender identity and sexuality, coming of age for children in various cultures, and the threats that those with certain gender identities face worldwide, among other topics.

Gender Revolution is produced by Katie Couric Media, World of Wonder Productions and National Geographic Studios for National Geographic. For Katie Couric Media, executive producers are Katie Couric and Mitch Semel. For World of Wonder, Fenton Bailey, Randy Barbato and Jeremy Simmons serve as executive producers. For National Geographic Studios, executive producers are Jeff Hasler and Brian Lovett. For National Geographic, Tim Pastore is president, original programming and production, and Michael J. Miller is executive producer.

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About National Geographic Channels

The National Geographic Channels (The Channels) form the television and production arm of National Geographic Partners, a joint venture between 21st Century Fox and the National Geographic Society. As a global leader in premium science, adventure and exploration programming, the Channels include: National Geographic Channel (NGC), Nat Geo WILD, Nat Geo People and Nat Geo MUNDO. Additionally, the Channels also run the in-house television production unit, National Geographic Studios. The Channels contribute to the National Geographic Society's commitment to exploration, conservation and education with entertaining, innovative programming from A-level talent around the world, and with profits that help support the society's mission. Globally, NGC is available in more than 440 million homes in 171 countries and 45 languages, and Nat Geo WILD is available in 131 countries and 38 languages.

National Geographic Partners is also a leader in social media, with a fan base of 250 million people across all of its social pages. NGC contributes over 55 million social media fans globally on Facebook alone.

About Katie Couric Media

Katie Couric Media develops and produces content, programming and documentaries for TV networks and digital distribution platforms, focusing on compelling issues the award-winning journalist and best-selling author has covered throughout her career. Katie Couric Media projects include the “Katie Couric” podcast from Earwolf, which features the host in candid, unscripted conversations about American life and politics; the National Geographic documentary GENDER REVOLUTION; and the upcoming movie “Flint” with Craig Zadan and Neil Meron, about the drinking water contamination in Flint, Michigan. Katie Couric is the executive producer of “Fed Up” (2014) and “Under the Gun” (2016), both documentaries that premiered at the Sundance Film Festival.

About World of Wonder Productions

Innovative and Emmy® award-winning production company World of Wonder is behind such hit series as “RuPaul’s Drag Race” (Logo), “Million Dollar Listing” (Bravo), “Big Freedia” (Fuse) and “Island Hunters” (HGTV). World of Wonder has also created award-winning films and documentaries such as “Mapplethorpe: Look at the Pictures,” “Inside Deep Throat,” “The Eyes of Tammy Faye,” “Wishful Drinking,” “Monica in Black and White” and “The Last Beekeeper,” which won an Emmy® award for Outstanding Nature Programming. Seven of the company’s films have premiered at the Sundance Film festival, including “Becoming Chaz” and “Party Monster,” the documentary and feature film starring Macaulay Culkin. World of Wonder has created a substantial digital footprint with its YouTube channel, WOWPresents, along with an award-winning blog, “The WOW Report. Co-founders Randy Barbato and Fenton Bailey authored “The World According to Wonder,” celebrating 22 years of production, which can be found online at <http://worldofwonder.net/>.

For more information please contact:

Laura Berkenblit
Senior Publicist
Corus Entertainment
416.860.4225
laura.berkenblit@corusent.com

Michelle McTeague
Publicity Manager
Corus Entertainment
416.860.4226
michelle.mcteague@corusent.com

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