

Press Release

8th May 2018



BBC Knowledge presents Divided States

A series of programs on racism, gun violence
and hate crimes in America



View Trailer [here](#)

Divided States is a series of programs airing on BBC Knowledge that will examine racism, gun violence and hate crimes in America starting at the end of May. These include *Love & Hate Crime*, *One Deadly Weekend in America*, *KKK – Fight for White Supremacy* and *Black Power: America's Armed Resistance*.

***Love & Hate Crime* (Thursdays from 31 May at 9.30pm)** exposes how dangerous it is to be different in America with three devastating hate crimes explored. A beautiful teenage transsexual, Mercedes Williamson, is killed by her gang-member boyfriend Josh. With Josh sentenced to life, a series of interviews reveal the truth behind his relationship with Mercedes. When a black man is murdered in Jackson, Mississippi, an FBI investigation uncovers a campaign of attacks by local white kids, but what is the true role of one 18-year-old girl? And when coastguard officer Adrian Loya breaks into the apartment of married couple Lisa and Anna Trubnikova and opens fire, the video footage he shot during the planning and execution of his crime gives an inside look into the mind of a murderer.

***One Deadly Weekend in America* (Thursdays from 21 June at 9.30pm)** is a dramatic and honest portrait of how the USA's gun policy affects its citizens – a tale of violence, tragic bloodshed, and



lives changed forever. An award-winning team picks apart a series of shootings that happened over a single weekend, revealing how, when and why these crimes happened.

KKK - Fight For White Supremacy (Thursday 5 July at 9.30pm) with access to the leaders of the Loyal White Knights chapter of the Klu Klux Klan in North Carolina, this film follows their secretive rituals. The Klan travels to the South Carolina Statehouse in Charleston to protest against the removal of the confederate flag but when Black Power groups turn out to demonstrate, the two opposing visions of America violently come face to face.

Black Power: America's Armed Resistance (Thursday 12 July at 9.30pm) filmmaker Dan Murdoch is back in the USA to revisit some of the people he met from the Ku Klux Klan and also meet members of the Black Liberation Movement. Having previously documented clashes between these two opposing visions of America – a resurgent KKK and a growing Black Power movement – his aim now is to find out what black power means, what its motivations are and why this movement seems to be gaining traction.

Available to preview here: <http://www.bbcworldwidepreviews.com/auth/login>

Downloadable images available here: <https://www.dropbox.com>

Embeddable trailer available here: `<iframe width="560" height="315" src="https://www.youtube.com/embed/_gFz8XEmy5s" frameborder="0" allow="autoplay; encrypted-media" allowfullscreen></iframe>`

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About BBC Studios

BBC Studios, a global content company with British creativity at its heart, is a commercial subsidiary of the BBC Group. Formed in April 2018 by the merger of BBC Worldwide and BBC Studios, it spans content financing, development, production, sales, branded services and ancillaries. BBC Studios' award-winning British programmes are internationally recognised across a broad range of genres and specialisms. It has offices in 22 markets globally, including six production bases in the UK and production bases and partnerships in a further nine countries around the world. The company, which makes 2500 hours of content a year, is a champion for British creativity around the world and a committed partner for the UK's independent sector. BBC Studios has revenue of £1.4bn, and returns around £200m to the BBC Group annually, complementing the BBC's licence fee and enhancing programmes for UK audiences.

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