



ELIZABETH VARGAS

As an award-winning anchor and correspondent, Vargas has traveled the world covering breaking news stories, reporting in-depth investigations and conducting newsmaker interviews. She is the anchor of ABC's television newsmagazine *20/20* and ABC News specials and she can also be seen on *Good Morning America*. She previously was an anchor for *World News Tonight*.

During the historic Iraqi elections in December 2005, she anchored *World News Tonight* from Baghdad. She anchored for both *World News Tonight* and *20/20* from the U.S. Gulf Coast, covering Hurricane Katrina's devastation.

Vargas has also anchored ABC News coverage of live, breaking news stories including the deaths of President Ronald Reagan and John F. Kennedy, Jr. She won an Emmy in 2000 for Outstanding Instant Coverage of a News Story for anchoring live coverage of the Elian Gonzalez case.

Vargas was credited by *The New York Times* in November 2004 as reinvigorating the newsmagazine format with her "intellectually brave" reporting of an examination of the 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard, a young man whose murder gained national attention as an anti-gay crime. In July 2003, she hosted "In the Shadow of Laci Peterson", an *ABC News* special that examined the disappearances of several young women in northern California and why their stories failed to attract significant media attention. In November 2003, she anchored "Jesus, Mary and Da Vinci", an hour investigating many theories raised in the best-selling novel *The Da Vinci Code*.

In 2002, Vargas was the narrator of the four-part, award-winning ABC News documentary series "ICU", which provided a unique look at life inside one of the nation's elite pediatric cardiology intensive care units. Vargas has anchored and reported several one-hour ABC News "Vanished" specials. Other hour-long specials include "Same-Sex Marriages," "Surrogacy" and "It Takes a Miracle." She has also been involved in ABC's Children First Program, participating in a Children First Safety Special and in ABC's March Against Drugs.

Vargas was previously the anchor of *World News Tonight Sunday* and was also a frequent substitute anchor on *Good Morning America*. Previously a correspondent for *20/20* and *Primetime Thursday* and a co-anchor of *Primetime Monday*, Vargas joined ABC News from NBC News, where she was a correspondent and anchor, primarily for *Dateline NBC* and *The Today Show*.

During her tenure at NBC, Vargas served as substitute co-anchor and news anchor for NBC News' Today show and as a substitute anchor for the weekend editions of *NBC Nightly News*. Vargas joined NBC News in 1993 as a correspondent for the NBC newsmagazine *Now With Tom Brokaw and Katie Couric*.

Prior to joining NBC News, Vargas spent four years as a reporter and anchor for WBBM-TV, the CBS

affiliate in Chicago. From 1986 to 1989, she was the lead reporter for KTVK-TV, the ABC affiliate in Phoenix. Earlier, she worked as a reporter/anchor for KTVN-TV, the CBS affiliate in Reno, Nev.

In late 2013, Vargas left *Good Morning America* and was admitted to a residential treatment center for her struggle with alcohol addiction. She returned to her post in early 2014 saying, "This isn't what I want to be known for, but I'm really proud of what I did." She is currently chronicling her first year of sobriety; the memoir is scheduled to be published in 2016.

Vargas graduated with a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri. Vargas currently resides in New York City.