



## **John Quiñones**

*Broadcast Journalist & Host of What Would You Do?*

Every day is full of *what would you do* moments. They can be as simple as considering whether or not to hold the door open for a stranger, or they can be as complicated as deciding your next move when faced with the discrimination or mistreatment of another. We've all been there. In Emmy award winning anchor – John Quiñones' new book, *What Would You Do? Words of Wisdom about Doing the Right Thing*, John forces all of us to take a good look in the mirror, holding it up not only to ourselves, but to the nation as well. What do we do when we witness injustice, racism, bullying – as an individual...as a nation? Do we step in or, do we step aside?

John Quiñones is the Emmy award-winning co-anchor of ABC newsmagazine *Primetime* and has been with the network nearly 30 years. He is the sole anchor of the *Primetime* series *What Would You Do?*, one of the highest rated newsmagazine franchises in recent years. During his tenure, he has reported extensively for ABC News, predominantly serving as a correspondent for *Primetime* and *20/20*. In 2010, Quiñones was the first reporter out of the 2,000 journalists who covered the Chilean Mining Disaster to get an exclusive interview with one of the survivors. His work for *What Would You Do?* captures the way people react when confronted with dilemmas that compel them to either take action or walk away. To that end, he has also followed would-be Mexican immigrants attempting to cross into the US via the deadly-infamous route known as "The Devil's Highway," as well as other investigative endeavors – indicative of the understanding his heritage allows. Previously, Quiñones anchored the critically acclaimed ABC News special *Latin Beat*, which focused on the wave of Latin talent sweeping the US, the impact of the recent population explosion, and how it will affect the nation as a whole.

As an Emmy award-winning and celebrated anchor, Quiñones is about as polished as a speaker could be. With a foundation in real poverty and a real understanding of the challenges of immigration and integration, John is received as an inspiration and an example of what we can all be – regardless of our roots or station. John offers answers, anecdotes, and personal examples of how to even approach the question of what to do, how to formulate a plan of action once you decide what to do, and how to see it through to fruition.

Having grown up in a poor family of migrant workers to eventually become ABC's first Latino correspondent and a seven-time Emmy Award winner, Quiñones shares his powerful story with audiences around the country, encouraging them to pursue their dreams regardless of



socioeconomic barriers, emphasizing the role education played in his own success, captivating and inspiring audiences to strive for their goals, and challenging his audience with the all-important question of what would you do to achieve them?

**RESUME:**

- Anchor of *What Would You Do?* one of the highest-rated newsmagazine franchises of recent years. During his 25 year tenure at ABC News, he has reported extensively for all programs and platforms and served as anchor of *Primetime*.
- Anchored a critically acclaimed ABC News special entitled *Latin Beat*.
- He also contributed reports to ABC News' unprecedented 24-hour, live, global Millennium broadcast, *20/20* and *World News Tonight*.
- Awarded: George Foster Peabody Award, Quiñones has won seven national Emmy Awards for his *Primetime Live*, *Burning Questions* and *20/20* work. He was awarded an Emmy for his coverage of the Congo's virgin rainforest, which also won the Ark Trust Wildlife Award, and in 1990 he received an Emmy for "Window in the Past," a look at the Yanomamo Indians. He received a National Emmy Award for his work on the ABC documentary *Burning Questions—The Poisoning of America*, which aired in September 1988 and was also honored with a World Hunger Media Award and a Citation from the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Awards for "To Save the Children," his 1990 report on the homeless children of Bogota. Among his other prestigious awards are the First Prize in International Reporting and Robert F. Kennedy Prize for his piece on *Modern Slavery -- Children Sugar Cane Cutters in the Dominican Republic*.
- Joined ABC News in June 1982 as a general assignment correspondent based in Miami, providing reports for *World News Tonight with Peter Jennings* and other ABC News broadcasts. He was one of the few American journalists reporting from Panama City during the U.S. invasion in December 1989.
- Prior to joining ABC News he was a reporter with WBBM-TV in Chicago. He won two Emmy Awards for his 1980 reporting on the plight of undocumented workers from Mexico. From 1975 to 1978, he was news editor at KTRH radio in Houston, Texas. During that period, he also was an anchor-reporter for KPRC-TV.
- Education: BA speech communications from St. Mary's University, San Antonio, Texas - Master's from the Columbia School of Journalism.

**Topics:**

- What Would You Do? Words of Wisdom about Doing the Right Thing
- From the Barrio to Network Television: The Power of Never Taking "No" for an Answer
- What Would You Do? Changing Ethics in America
- A 20/20 Vision of Hispanic America
- The Power of Education