## ASU's Defending Democracy Project

The Narrative Storytelling Initiative at Arizona State University recently launched the <u>Defending Democracy project</u>.

The website states: It has become increasingly clear that Americans are uncertain and worried about the future of American democracy. In this time of question and doubt, Defending Democracy is an effort to spotlight the kinds of attacks Americans have experienced and witnessed and the variety of ways Americans have pushed back against anti-democratic forces in their everyday lives.

In partnership with the Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict and the Melikian Center at ASU, they are **asking for 150–400-word stories or 1–2-minute videos describing an encounter with anti-democratic forces.** These submissions will be used to guide academics who are researching and writing about the current reality and future of democracy. Individuals are invited to submit their work. There is no deadline presently, but they request initial contact by mid-February.

The mission of the project is to capture and understand the scale and variety of these encounters and to create hope for democracy's future by amplifying the voices of those individuals seeking to sustain democracy within their communities.

Many of us have experienced attacks and pushback against our efforts to retain our democracy. Please share them with the Defending Democracy project; real-life examples should be shared.

Here is a link to their website and some of the media they have shared:

https://defendingdemocracy.asu.edu/

https://twitter.com/narratives\_asu/status/1586125880014753792

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=145664848204716&set=a.118400087597859

https://www.instagram.com/p/CkRl64ovOt9/

Contact defending.democracy@asu.edu if you have any questions.

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