

Dave

He's not a President. He's an ordinary person.

Directed by Ivan Reitman

Actor		Character
Kevin Kline	.....	Dave Kovic/Bill Mitchell
Sigourney Weaver	.....	Ellen Mitchell
Frank Langella	.....	Bob Alexander
Kevin Dunn	.....	Alan Reed
Ving Rhames	.....	Duane Stevenson
Ben Kingsley	.....	Vice President Nance
Charles Grodin	.....	Murray Blum
Faith Prince	.....	Alice
Laura Linney	.....	Randi

- What image do Canadian political leaders have in the media?
 - Is this a strong image? Why or why not?
 - Which Canadian leader has the strongest image in your opinion? Why?
- What makes a US political leadership image different from a Canadian one?
- Why do we in Canada know so much about the US political leaders? Give 3 reasons.
- This film was directed by Ivan Reitman who is Canadian. Would this make a difference in how the story is presented? Explain.
- Why does the government need to keep the character Dave in the role of the president?
- How does Dave change the image that the real president played?
- Gary Ross, the writer for this film, wrote for *Lassie*, *Mr. Baseball*, *Big* and *The Flintstones*. Does this surprise you? Why?
- Is this film believable as a complete story? Why?
 - Is the character, Dave, believable in his role?
- What type of leadership role does Dave return to at the end of the movie? Why?
- Roger Ebert wrote in his review of the movie: "The subtext of "Dave" resembles the messages of many of the Capra movies: If people in power only behaved sensibly and with good will, a lot of our problems would solve themselves. Of course, it's not that simple."
Why isn't it that simple?