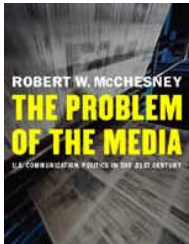


Media and Democracy

summer reading list 2004



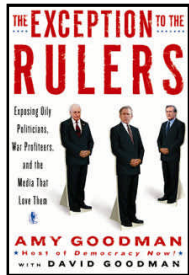
The Problem of the Media by Robert McChesney



The symptoms of the crisis of the U.S. media are well-known: a decline in hard news, the growth of infotainment and advertorials, staff cuts and concentration of ownership, increasing conformity of viewpoint and suppression of genuine debate. McChesney's new book, *The Problem of the Media*, gets to the roots of this crisis, explains it, and points a way forward for the growing media reform movement.

www.mediaproblem.org

The Exception to the Rulers by Amy Goodman with

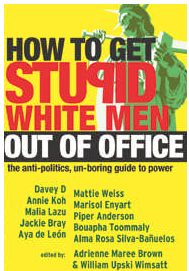


David Goodman

In her first book, *Democracy Now!* host Amy Goodman offers her no-holds-barred perspective on world events and the hidden motives behind those in power. On subjects ranging from the deceptions of the George W. Bush administration, war profiteering in Iraq, to the corruption of media monopolies and corporate influence over the government, Amy Goodman attacks and exposes the lies and hypocrisy that put democracy at risk.

www.democracynow.org/book

How to Get Stupid White Men Out of Office

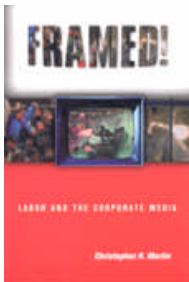


ed. by Adrienne Brown and William Wimsatt

As an emergency response to the current political stupidity, 12 of the most brilliant young political artists and organizers in a generation have come together to create what may be the most important political book of 2004. "Stupid White Men" aims to revolutionize the way young people who don't do electoral politics do electoral politics-and how they win. Contributors include Davey D, Jackie Bray, Annie Koh and Malia Lazu.

www.softskull.com

Framed: Labor and the Corporate Media



by Christopher Martin

The news media's consumer "take" on the labor movement has the effect of submerging issues of citizenship and class relations, and elevating issues of consumption and the myth of a class-free America. Instead of facilitating a public sphere in which the public can engage in discovery and debate, news organizations have fostered a consumer sphere, in which public discourse and action is defined in terms of consumer interests.

www.cornellpress.cornell.edu

What Liberal Media? The Truth About Bias and the News by Eric Alterman



What Liberal Media? confronts the question of liberal bias and, in so doing, provides a sharp and utterly convincing assessment of the realities of political bias in the news... The fact that conservatives howl so much louder and more effectively than liberals is one significant reason that big media is always on its guard for "liberal" bias but gives conservative bias a free pass.

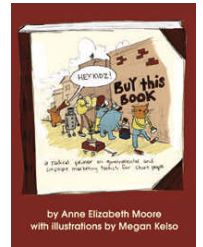
www.whatliberalmedia.org

Hey Kidz! Buy This Book: A Radical Primer on Corporate and Governmental Propaganda and Artistic Activism for Short People

by Anne Elizabeth Moore (forthcoming 7/04)

This book will give any teen a solid grounding in current media systems and provide them with hands-on, easy-to-follow instructions to become radical card-carrying activists, with an emphasis on community-building, teamwork, historical research, and self-expression.

www.softskull.com



Free Culture by Lawrence Lessig

The shrinking of the public domain, and the devastation it threatens to the culture, are the subject of this powerfully argued and important analysis. The author is a leading member of a group of theorists and grass-roots activists who have been crusading against the increasing expansion of copyright protections. "Free Culture" is partly a final appeal to the court of public opinion and partly a call to arms.

downloadable at www.freeculture.cc



SPIN Works!: A Media Guidebook for the Rest of Us

by Robert Bray, Independent Media Institute

SPIN Works! is an activist-friendly and extremely useful media guidebook produced by the SPIN Project.

Comprising some 115 pages, the guidebook is full of tips, tactics and strategies designed to give grassroots organizers and people interested in positive social change basic and advanced skills for shaping public opinion on their issues through the press.

www.spinproject.org



Talking the Walk: A Communications Guide for Racial Justice

edited by Hunter Cutting and Makani Themba-Nixon

A part-theory, part-hands on guide to media management. The authors' unapologetic approach reaffirms the importance of racial justice advocacy in framing the debates on media while also confronting the denial and distortions that dominate that landscape.

downloadable at www.interrupt.org/talkingthewalk.html

MAKE TIME EVERY WEEK to check out multiple sources of local, national and international news. Be a critical media consumer - and create your own media!

VISIT reclaimthemedialog.org for more information, including:

- daily updated headlines on media issues
- our email list, featuring a weekly news digest
- links to northwest and national media activist orgs
- media-related events in the northwest

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