



Independent Media

Essential to a democracy is an informed citizenry. With the increasing monopolization of media outlets by just a few corporations, many viewpoints on a wide range of issues often receive little or no attention. Alternative media, independent from commercialization and corporate agendas, can offer a wider range of perspectives.

Here is a list of resources that offer a broader range of perspectives on current issues than can be found in the mainstream media:

Online

- Democracy Now – www.democracynow.org
A national, daily, independent, award-winning radio and TV news program
- IMC - Independent Media Center – www.indymedia.org
Collective of independent media organizations and journalists offering grassroots, non-corporate coverage
- Common Dreams – www.commondreams.org
A national non-profit citizens' organization providing commentary from noted authors as well as news
- AlterNet.org – www.alternet.org
An online magazine providing a mix of news, opinion and investigative journalism
- Tom Paine – www.tompaine.com
A public interest journal featuring ideas, opinions, and analyses often overlooked by the mainstream media
- Salon.com – www.salon.com
An Internet media company that produces 10 original content sites as well as two online communities
- Guerrilla News Network (GNN) - www.guerrillanews.com
An underground news organization that seeks to expose people to important global issues through guerrilla programming on the web and on television
- Pacific News Service – www.pacificnews.org
A nonprofit media organization that was founded in 1969 as an alternative source of news and analysis of the U.S. role in Vietnam

Radio

- Democracy Now – Democracy Now – www.democracynow.org
A national, daily, independent, award-winning radio and TV news program
- Free Speech Radio News - www.fsrn.org
A daily half-hour progressive radio newscast owned and managed by news reporters
- This Way Out - www.rfpi.org
An award-winning internationally distributed gay and lesbian radio program

TV

- FSTV - www.freespeech.org
The Nation's First Progressive Television Channel (DISH Channel 9415 & on community access channels)
- The Global Village Community Access Television - www.openchannel.se/cat/linksus.htm
Links to 600 public or community access television sites worldwide

Magazines

- **Mother Jones** - www.motherjones.com
An independent nonprofit magazine with award winning investigative reporting
- **Utne Reader** – www.utne.com
A collection of reprinted, in depth articles which feature cultural analysis and insight into current issues
- **Z Magazine** - www.zmag.org
Features articles on gender, class, and political dimensions of personal life as fundamental to understanding and improving contemporary circumstances
- **Adbusters** - www.adbusters.org
A global network of artists, activists, writers, pranksters, students, educators and entrepreneurs which, through satire, expose the social ramifications of advertising in modern life

These resources offer a more in depth analysis of the mass media and highlight the social and political implications of a corporate controlled media monopoly:

Books

- *The Media Monopoly* by Ben H. Bagdikian
Exposes in detail the continued centralization of media ownership
- *No Logo* by Naomi Klein
Outlines the history and scope of cultural influence that corporate branding strategies have had over the last two decades
- *Manufacturing Consent* by Edward S. Herman & Noam Chomsky
Through detailed analysis, this book shows how mainstream news media serves to defend and promote the agendas of the more privileged groups of society

Organizations

- **FAIR (Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting)** – www.fair.org
A national media watch group that offers well-documented criticism of media bias and censorship
- **Center for Digital Democracy (CCD)** - www.democraticmedia.org
An organization seeking to preserve the openness and diversity of the Internet through the development and encouragement of noncommercial, public interest programming
- **Media Education Foundation** - www.mediaed.org
Produces and distributes video documentaries to encourage critical thinking and debate about the relationship between media ownership, commercial media content, and the democratic demand for free flows of information

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