

## Information Society STP309 Policies and Politics Fall 2005 Syllabus

The John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

Fall 2005 Term –

### ***The Information Society: Policies and Politics - STP 309***

Class meets **Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:40 AM-1:00 PM**      **Room T-301**  
(**Taubman Building**)

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Office hours – Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 10:00 AM- 5:00 PM

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**The purpose of this course is:** to introduce and familiarize students of public policy and leaders – present and future – with options and alternative approaches toward structuring and molding what is increasingly called *Information Society*. The emerging era is also termed the *knowledge society*, *knowledge economy*, the *digital age*, *post modern society* and even *post-post industrial society*.

Whatever name you like, this course will attempt to identify and analyze policies and politics that define, support and/or hinder movement towards various types of information societies – for there are many probable outcomes and many kinds of information societies – utopian to dystopian, democratic to authoritarian, inclusive to exclusive, whole and interdependent to multi-tiered and segmented according to wealth, educational attainment, geography, age, gender, ethnicity and/or race.

It should be noted that while ICT has great potential as technologies of freedom; they also have great potential for control and abuse of unpopular individuals, groups and organizations. Information and communication technology (ICT) now make it possible to achieve ubiquitous access to high-speed interactive broadband in any city, state, nation, or the whole world for that matter. In other words, it is technically possible to connect everyone to everyone else either by wire or wireless means. But would this necessarily be a *good society* or a pleasant place to live in? The same technology that can provide surveillance for security and accountability can also be used for social control and the targeting of unpopular groups and individuals. The same technology that can bring instant and cheap communication

and can provide answers to difficult questions or to unlimited entertainment content or access to lifelong learning opportunities and government services can also be used to unduly influence and persuade non-critical, naive users by spying on individuals' preferences and practices, and/or to divert and distract citizens away from self-governing, participatory democratic activity.

Whatever the future uses of ICT, policies are currently being constructed that will limit future choices. The key questions that this course will constantly ask are: What kind of society do we want to become? Who should participate in deciding this future society? How will these questions be decided – democratically by all stakeholders or by a limited number of experts, politicians, lobbyists or corporate executives, or some combination of all the above, or still yet, by doing nothing but relying on the market and consumer choice decide these important issues by default. There are choices to be made. Important public policy events currently taking place include a high possibility that the Communications Act will again be rewritten, if not whole, then in major part as members of Congress become increasingly dissatisfied with the result of the faulty 1996 Telecommunications Act. In addition, in November 2005, the Second World Summit on Information Society will meet and decide on many of the questions asked in this

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syllabus. Meanwhile, digital ICT tools and gizmos continue to become better, more powerful, smaller, smarter and cheaper. Increasingly, the future belongs to those who are hyper-adaptive and have ready access to the right kinds of information, skills and knowledge. Increasingly, wireless technologies are moving towards ubiquity, especially if new technologies like high-speed broadband WiMax and multi-channel broadcasting fulfill their promises of cheap and efficient means of connecting consumers and citizens to government, firms and markets, lifelong education opportunity, friends, entertainment, etc. Increasingly, the number of information content channels are expanding – increasing the range of choice, but undermining traditional mass advertising and mass audiences, thus, increasing the gathering of personal information of consumers in order to engage in one-to-one selling of commodities, services, candidates and ideas. Increasingly, propaganda, censorship, loss of privacy, fear of terrorist, and the impact of globalization are part of our public agenda. These issues will also be discussed in this exploratory course.

This course will provide a broad survey for public policy students interested in pursuing a career in the policy and regulatory arena concerning information technology, media content, First Amendment and privacy issues, issues regarding equity and access to information and its technologies. Is the attainment of an *information society* a national goal of the United States and/or of other nation states of the world? Should information society policy and its components – those involving information, knowledge, skills, literacy, media, public education, research and development, communication technology and

telecommunications infrastructure—be among the primary public policy goals of any society that wishes to become or remain competitive in a rapidly developing, interdependent world where, increasingly, information is available in digital forms on interactive networks and electronic gadgets, and, moreover, where having the right (or relevant) information, skill or knowledge at the right time (e.g., timely or when needed) gives an individual, group, organization, community, region or nation state strategic advantages over their competition? If not, then why not?

What exactly is *Information Society* anyway and what does the term imply? Is it the same thing as *globalization* or the *Americanization* of the world?

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***"Information Society" is the term that is used to capture the increasing contemporary influence of information and communication technologies (ICTs).***

If a government does not have a focused national information policy *per se*, can it simply get by with a mixture of *ad hoc* rules, regulations, laws and public policies that may well be obsolete and/or inappropriate for the country and its citizens and workers in a digital communication age where advantage goes to those who are *hyper-adaptive*?

What is the role of information and communication policy regarding national defense, civil liberty, civic society, freedom of expression, democracy, skills acquisition, competitiveness, public health, equity, justice, self-realization, art, public health, and the distribution of government services, etc.?

Why and how is information regulated in the United States and other countries, and, in whose interests?

What is information? Who owns information? Who owns media? Who owns intellectual property? What difference does ownership of information content, communication conduits, and mass media make anyway?

***Information: there is no universal definition of this concept. Sometimes it is used as a synonym to data or knowledge. If we consider the verb "to inform", i.e. to convey something new, the specificity becomes clearer. To get information means to get an answer to a question. A message can become information without a question if this message changes the user's picture of the world...***

***--Russian Information Society***

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If freedom of expression, universal access to public information content and efficient government

services are key long-term policy goals of a society, what kinds of information public policies ought to be pursued and what kinds ought to be avoided?

How much personal privacy should an individual reasonably expect in a time of national crisis or permanent war on terror?

**You have zero privacy anyway. Get over it.**

**--Scott McNealy, CEO, Sun Microsystems**

Should the U.S. participate in global information policies and join in multilateral policymaking with less developed nations or with nation states where conflict with our national priorities and values may occur? If, indeed, knowledge is power, what kinds of incentives or motivations would justify any equitable distribution of knowledge and/or information content or infrastructure and related resources? After all, other forms of power are not given away but are negotiated or fought for.

Can poor nations or regions somehow *leapfrog* the communications/digital/skills/knowledge gap and become truly competitive and influential in the 21st century? How and under what circumstances? In other words, what kinds of ways can Information Society policies aid in a nation's overall development process?

What is the appropriate role of public service media in an era of channel abundance coupled with media ownership concentration and where self-censorship is legal and the most effective form of censorship that deprives the public of its ability to be informed and self-governed? How can minority voices and viewpoints be effectively heard in Information Society?

Who decides these issues anyway? What are the processes and politics that realize desired *public interest*, democratic, public policy outcomes? What are the alternative ways of making information policy?

If you've read this far, you have noticed that there are lots of questions and no answers provided. Raising and discussing these issues and searching for appropriate answers, or, at least, answers that could better serve the public interest is the grist of this course. Conversations and even arguments tend to be topical, relevant, informative and very interesting. This course will attempt make you *think different* and reexamine your prior assumptions about information, knowledge, communications and power.

**"Content in news, educational, cultural and entertainment programmes, songs, games ... play a pivotal role in the building of the Information Society.  
"Therefore the creation, production and formulation of content must be**

*encouraged*

*at all levels, not only at the national level of all developing countries but, within the same nation, at the local and community levels, to ensure that developing nations do not remain information consumers of a content conceived by others."*  
- Thabo Mbeki

**Course Requirements:**

Students must stay abreast of the reading assignments and participate fully in class discussions at each class meeting. Regular attendance and active participation by each student is expected. In lieu of a schedule of dry, boring lectures, informed discussions and dialogue between and among the students and instructor is desired and encouraged. Classes will proceed on the assumption that everyone has done the readings and has opinions and perspectives worth sharing. The instructor will, from time to time, introduce new material via e-mailings or distributions of articles that will supplement, compliment, and make current the topics

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under review. An occasional guest lecturer will be invited to discuss his or her experiences and expertise on relevant issues. Instructor will also make occasional use of multimedia materials.

Students are required to write 3-4 short papers on assigned topics, and one final researched public policy related paper (with appropriate citations of authorities contained in footnotes and/or endnotes) of 15-20 pages in length.

The first writing assignment, due at the beginning of the second meeting of the class is to draft and submit a short paper *defining, comparing and contrasting* the terms: *education, propaganda, advertising and knowledge*. The purpose of this exercise early in the course is to get students use to questioning all their prior assumptions about information and technology. After all, even analog books and pencils and paper are information-knowledge-communication technology.

Students should plan to meet with the instructor early during the semester to discuss research issues. A research outline will be due in mid- to late October. The final paper is due in December (or a reasonable time thereafter if the crunch of exams and requirement of other courses unduly conflict).

**NOTE:** If you are sure you will take this course, please notify instructor via email at Nolan\_Bowie@harvard.edu **as soon as possible following Shopping Day. Please include your email address and full name in the text of the message.** This will facilitate information sharing, course planning, and communication with instructor and among all students of the class throughout the semester.

**Required Readings:**

**Information and Knowledge Society**, Shuliman Al-Hawamdeh and Thomas L. Hart, McGraw-Hill Education, 2002, ISBN: 0-07-120238-2.

**The Information Society Reader**, Frank Webster, Editor, Routledge, 2004, ISBN: 0-415-31928-5.

**The Deepening Divide: Inequality in the Information Society**, Jan A.G.M. van Dijk, Sage, 2005, ISBN: 1-4129-0403-X.

**The Future of Media: Resistance and Reform in the 21st Century**, Robert McChesney, Russell Newman, and Ben Scott, Editors, Seven Stories Press, ISBN-10: 1-58322-679-6.

#### **Recommended Readings:**

This listing of reference materials—books, reports, and websites—is purposefully long. It is intended to serve as a bibliographic reference of critical information sources that I believe are essential texts, opinions, arguments, perspectives, trends and tendencies necessary to fully understand and appreciate various aspects of the current and emerging information society, not otherwise found in mainstream media. It is not expected that anyone will read or even want to read all or the majority of the referenced materials listed below. After all, it is only a listing of *recommended readings*. However, even if you decide not to take this course, if you are interested in a particular issue or question regarding information society policy or politics, education policy, national security policy, media policy, social engineering, policy analysis, leadership, governance, social justice, advertising and marketing, propaganda, media ownership concentration, intellectual property, privacy, media pluralism and diversity, minority access, literacy, public broadcasting, ubiquitous broadband, re-regulation and rewriting of the Communications Act, spectrum and network policy, democracy in the digital age, free speech and press, social and economic justice, equity and equality (re digital divide and other opportunity divides), then, in addition to whatever else you're reading, you may benefit from exposure to some of the materials below [Typed in 8 pts rather than standard 12 pts in order to limit number of pages. If the print is too small to be easily read from the printed page, please go online to my STP-309 the Information Society course website, where web pages are hot-linked and type can be enlarged by zooming on text.]:

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**Communication Research and Policy-Making**, Sandra Braman, Editor, MIT Press, 2003, ISBN: 0-262-52340-X.

**Techologies of Freedom**, Ithiel de Sola Pool, Belknap/Harvard Press, 1983, ISBN: 0-674-872339.

**The World Is Flat**, Thomas L. Friedman, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005, ISBN-13: 978-0-374-292881.

**Reforming Telecommunications Regulation**, Robert M. Entman, Rapporteur, Aspen Institute, 2005, ISBN: 0-89843-428-9.

**Information Technology and the New Global Economy: Tensions, Opportunities, and the Role of Public Policy**, David Bollier, Rapporteur, Aspen Institute, 2005, ISBN: 0-89843-428-9.

**Residential Access to Bandwidth: Exploring New Paradigms**, Robert M. Entman, Rapporteur, Aspen Institute, 1999, ISBN: 0-89843-256-1.

**Creating a Learning Society: Initiatives for Education and Technology**, Amy Korzick Garmer and Charles M. Firestone, Aspen Institute, 1996, ISBN: 0-89843-197-2.

**Networks of Influence: The Political Power of the Communications Industry**, The Center for Public Integrity, 2005, ISBN: 1-882583-20-5.

**The New Global Economy In the Information Age: Reflections On Our Changing World**, Martin Carnoy, Manuel Castells, Steven S. Cohen and Fernando Henrique Cardoso,

**Knowledge Capitalism: Business, Work, and Learning in the New Economy**, Alan Burton-Jones, Oxford, 1999, ISBN: 0-19-829622-3.

**Building Global Information Society**, Kenneth G. Robinson, Rapporteur, Aspen Institute Communications and Society Program, 1995, ISBN: 0-89843189-1.

**The Information Society: A Sceptical View**, Christopher May, Polity Press, 2002, ISBN: 0-7456-2685-8.

**The Information Society: An Introduction**, Armand Mattelart, Sage Publications, 2003, ISBN: 0-76194947X. **The Information Society: An Introduction**, Armand Mattelart, Sage Publications, 2003, ISBN: 0-76194947X.

**Foundations of Communications Policy: Principles and Process in the Regulation of Electronic Media**, Philip M. Napoli, Hampton Press, Inc., 2001, ISBN: 1-57273-343-8.

**Toward an Information Bill of Rights & Responsibilities**, Charles M. Firestone and Jorge Reina Schement, The Aspen Institute, Communications and Society Program, 1995, ISBN: 0-89843-172-7.

**Democracy and New Media**, Henry Jenkins and David Thorburn, editors, MIT Press, 2003, ISBN0-262-10101-7.

**Digital Broadcasting and the Public Interest**, Report of the Aspen Institute Communications and Society Program, Charles M. Firestone and Amy Korzick Garmer, Editors, Aspen Institute, 1998, ISBN: 0-89848-252-9.

**Information War: America Propaganda, Free Speech and Opinion Control Since 9-11**, Nancy Snow, Seven Stories Press, 2003, ISBN: 1-58322-557-9.

**Censorship Inc.: The Corporate Threat to Free Speech in the United States**, Lawrence Soley, Monthly Review Press,

2002, ISBN: 1-58367-066-1.

***Propaganda Inc.: Selling America's Culture to the World***, Nancy Snow, Seven Stories Press, 2nd edition, 2002, ISBN: 1-5832-2539-0.

***Easily Led: A History of Propaganda***, Oliver Thomson, Sutton Publishing, 1999, ISBN: 0-7509-1965-5.

***Democracy in the Digital Age: Challenges to Political Life in Cyberspace***, Anthony G. Wilhelm, Routledge, 2000, ISBN: 0-415-92436-7.

***The Digital Dilemma: Intellectual Property in the Information Age***, Computer Science and Telecommunications Board, National Research Council, National Academy Press, 2000, ISBN: 0-309-06499-6.

**"The Information Commons: A Public Policy Report,"** Nancy Kranich, The Free Expression Policy Project of the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law, 2004 (A copy will be provided to students by Instructor at 3rd week of classes).

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***The New Media Monopoly***, Ben H. Bagdikian, Beacon Press, 2004, ISBN: 0-8070-6187-5.

***The Age of Access: The New Culture of Hyper-Capitalism Where All of Life is a Paid-For Experience***, Jeremy Rifkin, Tarcher/Putnam, 2000, ISBN: 1-58542-018-2.

***Global Media Governance: A Beginner's Guide***, Sean O'Siochru and Bruce Girard, with Amy Mahan, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2002, ISBN: 0-7425-1566-4.

***The Creation of the Media: Political Origins of Modern Communications***, Paul Starr, Basic Books, 2004, ISBN: 0-465-08193-2.

***The Problem of the Media: U.S. Communication Politics in the 21st Century***, Robert W. McChesney, Monthly Review Press, 2004, ISBN: 1-58367-105-6.

***Selling Out: How Big Corporate Money Buys Elections, Rams Through Legislation and Betrays Our Democracy***, Mark Green, Regan Books, 2002, ISBN: 0-06-052392-1.

***News Incorporated: Corporate Media Ownership and Its Threat to Democracy***, Elliot D. Cohen, Prometheus Books, 2005, ISBN: 1-59102-232-0.

***Speak Softly and Carry a Big Stick: How Local TV Broadcasters Exert Political Power***, J.H. Snider, iUniversity Inc, 2005, ISBN: 0-595-34704-5.

"The Catoon Guide to Federal Spectrum Policy," J.H. Snider, New American Foundation, 2003.

"An E- Public Sphere for the Digital Age: What Needs to be Done to Enhance Democratic Values & Engage Greater Civic Participation in the United States," Nolan A. Bowie, The Benton Foundation, 2000.

"Enhancing the Spectrum: Media Power, Democracy, and the Marketplace of Ideas," Ronald J. Krotoszynsky, Jr. and Richard M. Blaiklock, University of Illinois Law Review, Volume 2000, Number 3, 2000.

***The Digital Economy: Promise and Peril in the Age of Networked Intelligence***, Don Tapscott, McGraw Hill, 1995, ISBN: 0-07-062200-0.

***Democracy and the Information Society in Europe***, European Commission, St. Martin's Press, 2000, ISBN: 0-312-23849-5.

***Information Rules: A strategic Guide to the Network Economy***, Carl Shapiro and Hal R. Varian, Harvard Business School Press, 1999, ISBN: 0-87584-863-X.

***Our Modern Times: The New Nature of Capitalism in the Information Age***, Daniel Cohen, MIT Press, 2003, ISBN: 0-262-03302-X.

***The Control Revolution: Technological and Economic Origins of the Information Society***, James R. Beniger, Harvard University Press, 1986, ISBN: 0-674-16986-7.

***Prying Eyes: Protect Your Privacy From People Who Sell to You, Snoop on You, and Steal from You***, Eric J. Gertler, Random House, 2004, ISBN: 0-375-72093-6.

***The Revolution Will Not be Televised: Democracy, The Internet, and the Overthrow of Everything***, Joe Trippi, 10 Regan Books, ISBN: 0-06-076155-5.

***Freedom of Expression: Overzealous Copyright Bozos and Other Enemies of Creativity***, Kembrew McLeod, Doubleday, 2005, ISBN: 0-385-51325-9.

"The Citizen's Guide to Federal Spectrum Policy," J.H.Snder, New American Foundation, 2003.

"Media Reform Tool Kit: Information and Resources for Media Activists," Free Press, 2005.

***Spectrum and Network Policy for Next Generation Telecommunications***, Robert M. Entman, The Aspen Institute Communications and Society Program, 2004, ISBN: 0-89843-394-0.

***The No-Nonsense Guide to Global Media***, Peter Steven, New Internationalist Publications, Ltd., 2003, ISBN: 1-85984-9.

***Global Information and World Communication***, Hamid Mowlana, Sage Publications, 2nd edition, 1997, ISBN: 0-7619-5257-8.

***Virtual Inequality: Beyond the Digital Divide***, Karen Mossberger, Caroline Tolbert, and Mary Stansbury, Georgetown University Press, 2003, ISBN: 0-87840-999-8.

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***E-Rulemaking: Information Technology and Regulatory Policy: New Directions in Digital Government Research***, Cary Coglianese, Center for Business and Government, KSG, Harvard. 2004.

***People Networks Power: Communications Technology and the New***

**International Politics**, David Bollier, The Aspen Institute Communications and Society Program, 2004, ISBN: 0-89843-396-7.

**Swimming Lessons: Keeping Afloat in the Age of Technology**, David Ehrenfeld, Oxford University Press, 2002, ISBN: 0-19-514852-5.

**Liberal Education in a Knowledge Society**, Barry Smith, Editor, Open Court Publishers, 2002, ISBN: 0-8126-9509-7.

**Promoting Equity Through ICT in Education: Projects, Problems, Prospects**, Andrea Karpati, Editor, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), 2003.

**Learning to Bridge the Digital Divide: Schooling for Tomorrow**, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Centre for Educational Research and Innovation and National Center on Adult Literacy (NACL), 2000.

**Adult Literacy in America: National Adult Literacy Survey**, Educational Testing Service, Office of Educational Research and Improvement, U.S. Department of Education, 1993.

**The Entertainment Economy: How Mega-Media Forces Are Transforming Our Lives**, Michael J. Wolf, Times Books-Random House, 1999, ISBN: 0-8129-3042-8.

**Civic Literacy: How Informed Citizens Make Democracy Work**, Henry Milner, Tufts University/New England, 2002, ISBN: 1-58465-173-3.

**Public Broadcasting and the Public Interest**, Michael P. McCauley, Eric E. Peterson, B. Lee Artz, and DeeDee Haleck, editors, M.E. Sharp, 2003, ISBN: 0-7656-0991-6.

**The Decline and Fall of Public Broadcasting**, David Barsamian, south End Press, 2001, ISBN: 0-89608-654-2.

**Down the Tube: An Inside Account of the Failure of American Television**, William F. Baker and George Dessart, Basic Books, 1998, ISBN: 0-465-00723-6.

**Our Unfree Press: 100 Years of Radical Media Criticism**, Robert W. McChesney and Ben Scott, Editors, The New Press, 2004, ISBN: 1-5584-855-1.

**Open Source Democracy: How Online Communication Is Changing Offline Politics**, Douglas Rushkoff, Demos, Creative Commons, 2003, ISBN: 1-84180-113-5.

**Free Culture: How Big Media Uses Technology and the Law to Lock Down Culture and Control Creativity**, Lawrence Lessig, The Penguin Press, 2004, ISBN: 1-59420-06-8.

**The Ontology of Cyberspace: Philosophy, Law, and the Future of Intellectual Property**, David R. Koepsell, Open Court Publishers, 2000, ISBN: 0-8126-9537-2.

**Owning the Future: Inside the Battles to Control the New Assets—Genes, Software, Databases, and Technological Know-how—That Make Up the Lifeblood of the New Economy**, Seth Shulman, Houghton Mifflin Company, 1999, ISBN: 0-395-84175-5.

"Copyright as Cultural Policy," Michael S. Shapiro, Center for Arts and Culture, 2001.

***The Anarchist in the Library: How the Clash Between Freedom and Control is Hacking the Real World and Crashing the System***, Siva Vaidhyanathan, Basic Books, 2004, ISBN: 0-465-08984-4.

***Investing in Diversity: Advancing Opportunities for Minorities and the Media***, Amy Korzick Garmer, Editor, Report of the Aspen Institute Forum on Diversity and the Media, The Aspen Institute, 1998.

***Sustaining Media Pluralism in Democratizing Societies***, Craig L. LaMay, The Aspen Institute Communications and Society Program, 2001, ISBN: 0-89843-324-X.

***Digital Broadcasting and the Public Interest***, Charles M. Firestone and Amy Korzick Garmer, Editors, The Aspen Institute, Communications and Society Program, 1998.

***Inventing Reality: The Politics of the Mass Media***, Michael Parenti, St. Martin's Press, 1986, ISBN: 0-312-43474.

***Amusing Ourselves to Death: Public Discourse in the Age of Show Business***, Neil Postman, Penguin Books, 1986, ISBN: 0-1400-9438-5.

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***Global Information and World Communication: New Frontiers in International Relations***, Hamid Mowlana, Longman Inc., 1986, ISBN: 0-582-28519-4.

***The Future of Ideas: The Fate of the Commons in a Connected World***, Lawrence Lessig, Vintage Books, 2002, ISBN: 0-375-72644-6.

***Telecommunications Law and Policy***, Stuart Minor Benjamin, Douglas Gary Lichtman and Howard A. Shelanski, Carolina Academic Press, with cumulative supplements.

***Communications Policy and the Public Interest: The Telecommunications Act of 1996***, Patricia Aufderheide, the Guilford Press, 1999, ISBN: 1-57230-425-1.

***The Success and Failure of the 1996 Telecommunications Act***, Mark Lloyd, Editor, Center for Reflective Community Practice (MIT) and Leadership Conference Education Fund, 2002.

***The New Information Infrastructure: Strategies for U.S. Policy***, William J. Drake, Editor, The Twentieth Century Fund Press, 1995, ISBN: 0-87078-366-1.

***Who Will Tell the People: The Betrayal of American Democracy***, William Grieder, Touchstone/Simon & Schuster, 1992, ISBN: 0-671-86740-7.

***The End of Privacy: How Total Surveillance is Becoming a Reality***, Reg Whitaker, The New Press, 1999, ISBN: 1-5658-378-9.

***Database Nation: The Death of Privacy in the 21st Century***, Simson Garfinkel, O'Reilly & Associates, 2000, ISBN: 0-596-00105-3.

***The More You Watch, The Less You Know***, Danny Schechter, Seven Stories Press, 1997, ISBN: 1-888363-40-1.

***Necessary Illusions: Thought Control in Democratic Societies***, Noam Chomsky, South end Press, 1989, ISBN: 0-89608-366-7.

***Terrorism, War, and the Press***, Nancy Palmer, Editor, The Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy, KSG, Harvard , 2003.

***In Service of the Truth and the Common Good: The Impact of Media on Global Peace and Conflict***, Frank Walton, The Aspen Institute Communications and Society Program, 2004, ISBN: 0-89843-412-2.

***A Matter of Degree: The Role of Journalists as Activists in Journalism Business and Policy***, Neil Shister, The Aspen Institute Communications and Society Program, 2004, ISBN: 0-89843-403-3.

***Media, Markets, and Democracy***, C. Edwin Baker, Cambridge University Press, 2002, ISBN: 0-521-00977-4.

**Recommended Websites for Understanding Information Society Policy and Politics:**

[http://www.aspeninstitute.org/site/c.huLWJeMRkPH/b.612049/k.612F/Communications\\_and\\_Society\\_Program.htm](http://www.aspeninstitute.org/site/c.huLWJeMRkPH/b.612049/k.612F/Communications_and_Society_Program.htm) Website of Aspen Institute's Communication and Society Program. Website contains excellent, brief, instructive, current reports and analysis of important reports of communication, telecommunications, knowledge and information policies. **Many reports can be downloaded free.** Reports especially recommended to download and read include: ***Reforming Telecommunications Regulation*** by Robert M. Entman, ***Spectrum and Network Policy for Next Generation Telecommunications***, Robert Entman, ***Rapporteur, Information Technology and the New Global Economy***, by David Bollier, ***Challenging the Theology of Spectrum: Policy Reformation Ahead***, by Robert Entman, ***People/Networks/Power: Communications Technologies and the New International Politics***, by David Bollier, ***Media Convergence, Diversity, and Democracy***, by Neil Shister, ***Balancing Policy Options in a Turbulent Telecommunications Market***, by Robert M. Entman, ***Rethinking Boundaries in Cyberspace***, by Erez Kair and Elliot E. Maxwell, ***Telecommunications Competition in a Consolidating Marketplace***, by Robert M Etman, ***Training for Racial Equality and Inclusion***, by Iana Shapiro, ***Uncharted Territory: New Frontiers of Digital Innovation, Campaigning in Cyberspace: Toward A New Regulatory Approach***, by Anthony Corrado, ***Six Degrees of Competition: Correlating Regulation With the Telecommunications Marketplace***, by Robert Entman, ***Task of Transformation: The American High School in the New Century, Information Literacy: Advancing Opportunities for Learning in the Digital Age***, by Richard Adler, ***Toward Sustainable Competition in Global Telecommunications: From Principle to Practice***, by William J. Drake, ***Residential Access to Bandwidth: Exploring New Paradigms***, by Robert M. Entman, ***Work and Future Society: Where are the Economy and Technology Taking Us?***, by David Bollier, ***Artistic Freedom and Social Responsibility, American Media and the Quality of Voter Information***, by Robert Entman.

[www.literacy.org](http://www.literacy.org) Website of the National Center for Adult Literacy

(NCAL) and International Literacy Institute(ILI) at the University of Pennsylvania.

**www.freepress.net** Website of a national, non-profit media reform organization concerned with

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**www.cpsr.org** Website of Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility. Especially review "Issues" and "More Issues" pages.

**www.newamerica.net** Website of the New American Foundation. Especially see issues under "Wireless Futures" Policy Program and

**www.consumerfed.org** Website of Consumer Federation of America. Especially see and review communications issues.

**http://www.mediaaccess.org** Website of The Media Access Project, a non-profit, public interest law firm which promotes the public's First Amendment right to hear and be heard on the electronic media of today and tomorrow.

**http://www.democraticmedia.org/index.html** Website of the Center for Digital Democracy, a nonprofit organization committed to preserving the openness and diversity of the Internet in the broadband era, and to realizing the full potential of digital communications through the development and encouragement of noncommercial, public interest programming.

**http://www.commondreams.org/** Breaking news and views for the Progressive Community.

**http://www.alternet.org/** Website of AlterNet, a highly acclaimed Internet information source that provides readers with crucial facts and passionate opinions they can't find anywhere else.

**http://www.media-alliance.org/** Media Alliance is a 27-year-old media resource and advocacy center for media workers, non-profit organizations, and social justice activists whose mission is excellence, ethics, diversity, and accountability in all aspects of the media in the interests of peace, justice, and social responsibility.

**http://www.fair.org** Website of Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR), the national media watch group, which has been offering well-documented criticism of media bias and censorship since 1986. See especially, "Media Activists Kit".

**http://www.wsis.nl/static/FAQ's%20about%20WSIS%20and%20Information%20Society.html** Website about the 2003 World Summit on the Information Society

**http://www.mediachannel.org** Website of Media Channel, a media issues super-site, featuring criticism, breaking news, and investigative reporting from hundreds of organizations worldwide. See especially, "Media Access Tool Kit," and "Media Concentration and Cyberdemocracy" web pages.

**http://www.bear-left.com/links.html** Excellent Link-library of the three-year old independent left-leaning web sites about ideas and politics. Especially see and brose Bear-Left Links! webpage.

**http://islandia.law.yale.edu/isp** Yale Law School's Information

Society Project for Democracy and Civil Liberties for a New Age website.

[http://europa.eu.int/information\\_society/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/information_society/index_en.htm) European Information Society website

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