

Sources for news other than mainstream media

1) <http://www.fair.org/index.php>

FAIR, the national media watch group, has been offering well-documented criticism of media bias and censorship since 1986. We work to invigorate the First Amendment by advocating for greater diversity in the press and by scrutinizing media practices that marginalize public interest, minority and dissenting viewpoints. As an anti-censorship organization, we expose neglected news stories and defend working journalists when they are muzzled. As a progressive group, FAIR believes that structural reform is ultimately needed to break up the dominant media conglomerates, establish independent public broadcasting and promote strong non-profit sources of information.

Uniquely, FAIR works with both activists and journalists. We maintain a regular dialogue with reporters at news outlets across the country, providing constructive critiques when called for and applauding exceptional, hard-hitting journalism. We also encourage the public to contact media with their concerns, to become media activists rather than passive consumers of news.

FAIR publishes [Extra!](#), the hard-hitting magazine of media criticism, and produces the weekly radio program [CounterSpin](#), the show that brings you the news *behind* the headlines. In addition, FAIR's thriving listserv distributes regular Action Alerts to our international network of over 50,000 activists. [Sign up today.](#)

For an in-depth explanation of FAIR's critique of the mainstream media, you should start with our overview, [What's Wrong with the News?](#) You might also check out the article [What's FAIR?](#), by FAIR founder [Jeff Cohen](#). And see what [journalists, activists and scholars](#) have to say about FAIR.

Fairness & Accuracy In Reporting, Inc. (FAIR) is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. FAIR's federal tax-exempt I.D. number is 13-3392362. [Donations](#) to FAIR are fully tax-deductible.

2) <http://www.commondreams.org/>

This site also provides dozens of links to other alternative (and some mainstream) media resources and organizations.

3) <http://www.truth-out.org/>

Truthout provides an independent platform for in-depth investigative reporting and critical analysis, to reveal systemic injustice and offer transformative ideas to strengthen democracy.

Our Organization

Truthout is a [501\(c\)3 nonprofit organization](#) dedicated to providing independent news and commentary on a daily basis. In order to remain free of bias and adhere to high editorial standards, we accept no advertising or corporate backing. Instead, we depend on our readers to support our work. All donations to Truthout are tax-deductible.

4) <http://www.alternet.org/>

AlterNet is an award-winning news magazine and online community that creates original journalism and amplifies the best of hundreds of other independent media sources. AlterNet's aim is to inspire action and advocacy on the environment, human rights and civil liberties, social justice, media, health care issues, and more. Since its inception in 1998, AlterNet.org has grown dramatically to keep pace with the public demand for independent news. We provide free online content to millions of readers, serving as a reliable filter, keeping our vast audience well-informed and engaged, helping them to navigate a culture of information overload and providing an alternative to the commercial media onslaught. Our aim is to stimulate, inform, and instigate.

5) <http://mediamatters.org/>

Media Matters for America is a Web-based, not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) progressive research and information center dedicated to comprehensively monitoring, analyzing, and correcting conservative misinformation in the U.S. media.

Launched in May 2004, *Media Matters for America* put in place, for the first time, the means to systematically monitor a cross section of print, broadcast, cable, radio, and Internet media outlets for conservative misinformation — news or commentary that is not accurate, reliable, or credible and that forwards the conservative agenda — every day, in real time.

Using the website mediamatters.org as the principal vehicle for disseminating research and information, *Media Matters* posts rapid-response items as well as longer research and analytic reports documenting conservative misinformation throughout the media. Additionally, *Media Matters* works daily to notify activists, journalists, pundits, and the general public about instances of misinformation, providing them with the resources to rebut false claims and to take direct action against offending media institutions.

6) <http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/>

This web site is

- *An independent media source.
- *One person's effort to correct the distorted perceptions provided by commercial media.
- *This web site is non-commercial (no advertising no pop-up windows) and funded by [readers contributions](#).
- *This web site grew out of my personal frustration and anger at the failure of traditional commercial media to inform the American public, especially as it relates to US foreign policy.
- *A source of unreported (or under reported) news from around the globe.
- *An effort to provide more depth and understanding to current issues.
- *This web site is the work of one person.
- *I am a private individual.
- *I am not affiliated with any particular political party.
- *I am not funded by any group.
- *I pay for all services associated with this site from my personal funds and readers' donations.
- *I work and live in Southern California.

7) <http://consortiumnews.com/>

Robert Parry broke many of the Iran-Contra stories in the 1980s for the Associated Press and Newsweek. He founded Consortiumnews.com in 1995 as the Internet's first investigative magazine. He saw it as a way to combine modern technology and old-fashioned journalism to counter the increasing triviality of the mainstream U.S. news media.

We founded Consortiumnews.com in 1995 as the first investigative news magazine on the Internet. The site was meant to be a home for important, well-reported stories and a challenge to the inept but dominant mainstream news media of the day.

As one of the reporters who helped expose the Iran-Contra scandal for the Associated Press in the mid-1980s, I was distressed by the silliness and propaganda that had come to pervade American journalism. I feared, too, that the decline of the U.S. press corps foreshadowed disasters that would come when journalists failed to alert the public about impending dangers.

Also by 1995, documents were emerging that put the history of the 1980s in a new – and more troubling – light. Yet, there were fewer and fewer media outlets interested in that history.

The memories of Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush were enveloped in warm-and-fuzzy myths that represented another kind of danger: false history that could lead to mistaken political judgments in the future.

Some of our early articles reexamined important chapters of the 1980s (such as the “October Surprise” controversy from Election 1980 and evidence of Nicaraguan contra-cocaine trafficking). Other stories explored more topical crises (such as NATO’s war over Kosovo and the impeachment assault on President Bill Clinton).

Author Norman Solomon and I produced a groundbreaking series on the real story behind Colin Powell’s legend. Another of my investigations examined the remarkable story of how Rev. Sun Myung Moon became an influential player in Washington.

Working with talented freelance reporters around the world, we also undertook important historical investigations, such as how the Nazis after World War II — crossing “rat lines” from Europe to South America — contributed to the region’s bloody repression.

Interruption

By 1999 and early 2000, we were looking at the reemergence of the Bush family dynasty. However, as Campaign 2000 was heating up, we ran out of money.

I was forced to make Consortiumnews.com a part-time enterprise and took an editing job at Bloomberg News. One of our last stories before that break described how the news media was exaggerating Vice President Al Gore’s alleged exaggerations.

Though operating on a part-time basis, we managed to churn out a number of stories in the months before Election 2000 and kept tabs on the recount battle with stories including how Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor telegraphed her political agenda at an Election Night party and how George W. Bush dispatched thugs to Miami to intimidate vote counters.

In November 2001, we were the first to note that the big news outlets – which had conducted an unofficial recount of Florida’s ballots – had buried their own lead, the fact that Gore would have won Florida if all legal votes were counted.

In 2002, during the buildup to war in Iraq, we also picked up the pace, questioning the Bush administration’s case about weapons of mass destruction and criticizing the flag-waving coverage from the mainstream news media.

As Bush’s Iraq invasion was underway in March 2003, I consulted with some of my old military sources who warned of the disaster ahead. The article was entitled “Bay of Pigs Meets Black Hawk Down.”

Also in 2003, author Kevin Phillips cited the investigative work of Consortiumnews.com in his seminal book on the Bush family, *American Dynasty*. Phillips took note of our investigative series that examined the elder George Bush’s role in Republican dirty tricks during the 1980 campaign.

Resumption

To flesh out more about the Bush family’s rise to power, I left Bloomberg News in April 2004 and began work on my fourth book, *Secrecy & Privilege: Rise of the Bush Dynasty from Watergate to Iraq*. It was published in late September 2004.

In fall 2004, we also resumed more frequent publication of stories at Consortiumnews.com. One of those articles described John Kerry’s pioneering investigation of contra-drug trafficking in the late 1980s.

In recent years, we have added the insightful writings of former CIA analysts, such as Ray McGovern, Peter Dickson and Melvin Goodman, who saw a corruption of information inside the CIA’s analytical division that paralleled the perversion of journalism that was underway in the American press corps.

We have written extensively about the U.S. media imbalance, tilted by a well-funded right-wing media machine. Indeed, a founding idea of our Web site was that a major investment was needed in journalistic endeavors committed to honestly informing the American people about important events, reporting that truly operated without fear or favor.

Regrettably, the distortion of information remains a grave problem with millions of Americans brainwashed by

the waves of disinformation coming from Fox News, Rush Limbaugh and the hordes of other right-wing media outlets – distortions often reinforced by the careerist mainstream press.

Because of this media dynamic, many average Americans have bought into a propaganda frame that seeks fewer regulations on powerful corporations, lower taxes on the wealthy, tighter restrictions on unions, and fewer programs to help working Americans with problems ranging from educating their children to caring for the elderly.

Meanwhile, Official Washington is basing international decisions on a false narrative that excludes the real history of the past several decades. Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush are hailed as honorable leaders, rather than viewed as politicians who countenanced gross abuses of power.

Even in the Age of Obama, government decisions are being made with only limited knowledge of what was really done by Republican presidents who have dominated the modern era. This ignorance represents not only a threat to a meaningful democratic republic but a danger to the world, as the “last remaining superpower” lurches about, half-blinded by its own propaganda.

While we are proud of the journalistic contribution that this Web site has made over the past 15-plus years – and while we are deeply grateful to our readers whose contributions have kept us afloat – we also must admit that we have not made the case well enough that our mission is a vital one.

Despite all that’s happened, including the disasters in Iraq and Afghanistan, many people still don’t understand that the fight for honest information about the past and the present is a battle for the future.

We could do much more with additional resources. If you can and wish to help, we would appreciate your donations, big or small. You can contribute either by [credit card at the Web site](#) or by check to:

Consortium for Independent Journalism (CIJ)
Suite 102-231
2200 Wilson Blvd.
Arlington VA 22201

8) <http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/>

The National Security Archives — one of the most important of all independent information websites on the internet, in my opinion.

It is an independent non-governmental research institute and library located at The George Washington University, the Archive collects and publishes declassified documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act. The Archive also serves as a repository of government records on a wide range of topics pertaining to the national security, foreign, intelligence, and economic policies of the United States. The Archive won the 1999 George Polk Award, one of U.S. journalism's most prestigious prizes, for--in the words of the citation--"piercing the self-serving veils of government secrecy, guiding journalists in the search for the truth and informing us all."

The Archive obtains its materials through a variety of methods, including the Freedom of Information act, Mandatory Declassification Review, presidential paper collections, congressional records, and court testimony. Archive staff members systematically track U.S. government agencies and federal records repositories for documents that either have never been released before, or that help to shed light on the decision-making process of the U.S. government and provide the historical context underlying those decisions.

The Archive regularly publishes portions of its collections on microfiche, the World Wide Web, CD-ROM, and in books. *The Washington Journalism Review* called these publications, collectively totaling more than 500,000 pages, "a state-of-the-art index to history." The Archive's World Wide Web site, www.nsarchive.org, has won numerous awards, including USA Today's "Hot Site" designation.

As a part of its mission to broaden access to the historical record, the Archive is also a leading advocate and user of the Freedom of Information Act. Precedent-setting Archive lawsuits have brought into the public domain new materials on the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Iran-Contra Affair, and other issues that have changed the way scholars interpret those events. The Archive spearheaded the groundbreaking legal effort to preserve millions of pages of White House e-mail records that were created during the Reagan, Bush, and Clinton administrations.

The Archive's mission of guaranteeing the public's right to know extends to other countries outside the United States. The organization is currently involved in efforts to sponsor freedom of information legislation in the nations of Central Europe, Central and South America and elsewhere, and is committed to finding ways to provide technical and other services that will allow archives and libraries overseas to introduce appropriate records management systems into their respective institutions.

The Archive's \$2.5 million yearly budget comes from publication revenues, contributions from individuals and grants from foundations such as the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Ford Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and the Open Society Institute. As a matter of policy, the Archive seeks no U.S. government funding.

For further information contact Thomas S. Blanton, Executive Director of the National Security Archive.

To use the Archive's collections, [search www.nsarchive.org](http://www.nsarchive.org), visit its Smith Bagley Reading Room at George Washington University's Gelman Library, or ask your university or public library to subscribe to the Digital National Security Archive, published by [ProQuest LLC](#).

9) <http://www.projectcensored.org/>

The mission of Project Censored is to teach students and the public about the role of a free press in a free society – and to tell the News That Didn't Make the News and Why

WHAT IS MODERN CENSORSHIP?

At Project Censored, we examine the coverage of news and information important to the maintenance of a healthy and functioning democracy. We define Modern Censorship as the subtle yet constant and sophisticated manipulation of reality in our mass media outlets. On a daily basis, censorship refers to the intentional non-inclusion of a news story – or piece of a news story – based on anything other than a desire to tell the truth. Such manipulation can take the form of political pressure (from government officials and powerful individuals), economic pressure (from advertisers and funders), and legal pressure (the threat of lawsuits from deep-pocket individuals, corporations, and institutions).

WHAT IS MEDIA ACCOUNTABILITY?

In our view, the only valid justification for declining a news story is that in a medium limited by time and space, another news story was simply more important to the people of the community, whether local, national or international. While admittedly a subjective process, it is nonetheless, a process to be undertaken by the news people themselves (the investigative journalists and editors), NOT by the managers and CEOs of their “parent company.” No professional journalist or researcher should ever have to face the destruction of his or her career (or life) simply because they wanted to tell the truth. While no two people will always agree on what story is more important than another, a system where the working reporters and editors run the newsroom would at least provide a fertile environment for debate, dissent and critical thinking.

The growth of independent media and journalism in recent years shows that people throughout the world yearn to hold not only their leaders accountable, but their media sources as well. For that reason, the Project Censored research program continues, in its small way, to support and highlight those who tell the truth about the powerful (no matter the consequences) and are relentless in their quest to hold Big Media accountable for their decisions.

PROJECT CENSORED OVERVIEW

Project Censored was founded by Carl Jensen in 1976, and is a media research program working in cooperation with numerous independent media groups in the US. Project Censored's principle objective is training of SSU students in media research and First Amendment issues and the advocacy for, and protection of, free press rights in the United States. Project Censored has trained over 1,500 students in investigative research in the past three decades. Through a partnership of faculty, students, and the community, Project Censored conducts research on important national news stories that are underreported, ignored, misrepresented, or censored by the US corporate media. Each year, Project Censored publishes a ranking of the top 25 most censored nationally important news stories in the yearbook, *Censored: Media Democracy in Action*, which is released in September. Recent Censored books have been published in Spanish, Italian and Arabic.

Between 700 and 1000 stories are submitted to Project Censored each year from journalists, scholars, librarians, and concerned citizens around the world. With the help of more than 200 Sonoma State University faculty, students, and community members, Project Censored reviews the story submissions for coverage, content, reliability of sources and national significance. The university community selects 25 stories to submit to the Project Censored panel of judges who then rank them in order of importance. Current or previous national judges include: Noam Chomsky, Susan Faludi, George Gerbner, Sut Jhally, Frances Moore Lappe, Michael Parenti, Herbert I. Schiller, Barbara Seaman, Erna Smith, Mike Wallace and Howard Zinn. All 25 stories are featured in the yearbook, *Censored: The News That Didn't Make the News*.

10) <http://groups.google.com/group/newsfromunderground/topics>

Description: News From Underground is a daily e-news service run by Mark Crispin Miller, a Professor of Culture and Communication at NYU. It is based on his belief that academics, like reporters, have a civic obligation to help keep the people well-informed, so that American democracy might finally work.

11) <http://ist-socrates.berkeley.edu/~pdscott/>

This is the web address for Peter Dale Scott, the author of the book *"Cocaine Politics — Drugs, Armies and the CIA in Central America."* The book and the web site reveal how the U.S. intelligence community's involvement in shipping drugs into the U.S., as was revealed to Congress during the Iran-Contra Hearings. The site documents the roll the international drug trade plays in the formulation and execution of American Foreign Policy.

The book and, to some extent, the web site both document the contradictory, competitive and, often, counterproductive relationship between the DEA and the CIA. Examples of DEA cases being blocked because of "national security" are cited and Congressional testimony is cataloged and referenced. Scott, a former Canadian diplomat, is the exact opposite of a lightweight kook, but is an amazing intellect who backs up his observations with extensive bibliographies of sworn Congressional testimony that is public record.

12) <http://www.blackopradio.com/archives.html>

This is the weekly radio interview program out of Vancouver, BC, and it covers mainly JFK and MLK assassinations, but also many other conspiracy issues. Programs are archived and the program notes will allow you to peruse the subject matter of each program to find the programs you are most interested in.

13. The Federation of American Scientists' Project on Government Secrecy

<https://mailchi.mp/fas/secrecy-news-021518?e=702afaa5a3>

14. The INTERCEPT

<https://theintercept.com/>

<https://theintercept.com/snowden-sidtoday>

Snowden Archive: *SIDtoday* is the internal newsletter for the NSA's most important division, the Signals Intelligence Directorate. After editorial review, *The Intercept* is releasing nine years' worth of newsletters in batches, starting with 2003. The agency's spies explain a surprising amount about what they were doing, how they were doing it, and why.