

“A Journalist's Perspective: US Media Conglomeration & The News Business”

Jennifer Karchmer

Independent Journalist

&

Senior Instructor | Western Washington University, USA

Presentation at University of Iceland, Reykjavik

Feb. 7, 2012



Bellingham,
WA

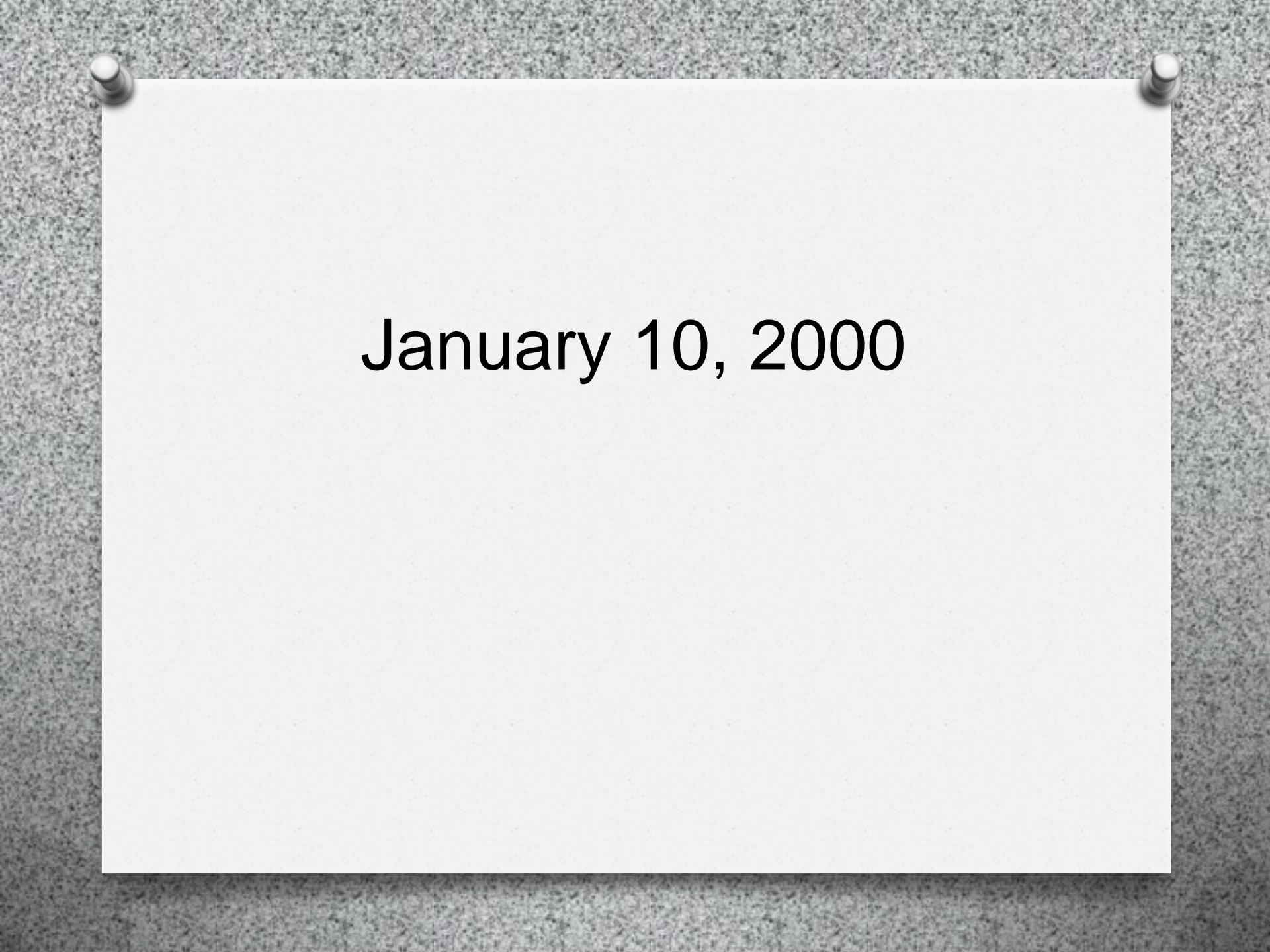
Poughkeepsie,
NY



Today's points

- US News Media Consolidation
- A Journalist's Journey
- Reporters Without Borders
- Press Freedom & Iceland
- Resources & Inspiration





January 10, 2000

January 10, 2000



January 10, 2000



AOL-Time Warner merger
\$350 billion
largest in American biz history

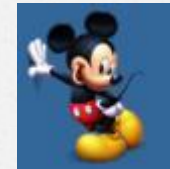
US Media Consolidation

- Today's media dominated by "The Big Six"

① General Electric



② Walt Disney



③ News Corp.



④ Time Warner



⑤ Viacom



⑥ CBS



Sources: "CJR: Who Owns What?" and "Freepress.net: The Big Six"

A Journalist's Journey

- MSM (Mainstream Media)
 - Bellingham Herald (McClatchy)
 - Poughkeepsie Journal (Gannett)
 - New York Post (News Corp.)
 - CNN (Time Warner)
 - Associated Press (member owned co-op)*
- ~ 15 years ~
- Independent
 - 2010 Winter Olympics
 - Iceland: IMMI & Press Freedom

Reporters Sans Frontières

- *“Don’t wait to be deprived of news to stand up and fight for it”*
- Press Freedom Index since 2002
- “Freedom of Information”
 - Defends the freedom to be informed and to inform others

Press Freedom & Iceland

- What is “freedom of the press”?
- How does Iceland interpret this concept?
- Icelandic Modern Media Initiative (IMMI)

Indy, Progressive or Alternative Media

- Amy Goodman & Democracy Now!
- Mother Jones magazine
- brinkmag.org
- [Columbia Journalism Review](http://ColumbiaJournalismReview.org)
- Utne magazine
- [Atlantic monthly](http://AtlanticMonthly.org)
- [Daily Kos](http://DailyKos.com)
- Altnet.org

The logo for THE Nation magazine, featuring the word "THE" in a small, red, serif font above the word "Nation." in a large, red, serif font.The logo for ADBUSTERS, featuring the word "ADBUSTERS" in a bold, black, sans-serif font with a white outline.The logo for truthdig, featuring the word "truthdig" in a bold, brown, sans-serif font with a white outline, and the tagline "drilling beneath the headlines" in a smaller, brown, sans-serif font below it.

"America's Best Political Newsletter." *Out of Bounds Magazine*

counterpunch

Edited by Alexander Cockburn and Jeffrey St. Clair

The logo for yes!, featuring the word "yes!" in a bold, black, sans-serif font with a white outline, and the tagline "Powerful Ideas, Practical Actions" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font below it.The logo for The SUN, featuring the word "The" in a small, black, serif font above the word "SUN" in a large, black, serif font, with "ISSUE 434" in a small, black, serif font to the right of "SUN".The logo for FAIR, featuring the word "FAIR" in a bold, white, sans-serif font on a blue background, with the tagline "Challenging Media Bias & Censorship Since 1986" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it.

Journalism in film

- Citizen Kane (1941): Classic
- All the President's Men (1976): Watergate
- Shattered Glass (2003): true account, reporter fabrication
- A Mighty Heart (2007): Daniel Pearl story, WSJ reporter
- Page One (2011): doc on NY Times newsroom
- Special Forces (*Sérsveitin*) : French journalist kidnapped

Inspiration!

- Stay the course!
The world needs committed journalists.
- Follow your passion → follow the truth
- Be the excellent writer.
- Be critical yourself/profession.
- Travel, study language & culture.

Contact me

I enjoy corresponding with fellow journalists!

You can find me on:

LinkedIn

about.me/jenniferkarchmer

Email: jenniferkarchmer@live.com

Website: www.jenniferkarchmer.com

Sorry, I'm not accessible via Facebook