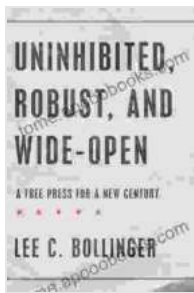


# Free Press for a New Century: Inalienable Rights

The free press is the cornerstone of a free and democratic society. It is essential for holding those in power accountable, and it is a vital source of information for the public. In the 21st century, the free press is more important than ever.



## Uninhibited, Robust, and Wide-Open : A Free Press for a New Century (Inalienable Rights) by Lee C. Bollinger

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 664 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 225 pages  
Lending : Enabled



However, the free press is under attack from a variety of forces. These forces include:

\* The rise of fake news and disinformation \* The increasing concentration of media ownership \* The erosion of trust in the media

These forces are making it difficult for the free press to fulfill its vital role in society.

## **The Importance of the Free Press**

The free press plays a vital role in a free and democratic society. It is essential for:

\* Holding those in power accountable \* Providing the public with information \* Facilitating public debate

The free press is a check on the power of the government. It can investigate corruption, expose wrongdoing, and hold those in power accountable. The free press also provides the public with information about important issues. This information is essential for making informed decisions about our government and our lives. Finally, the free press facilitates public debate. It provides a forum for different viewpoints to be heard, and it helps to ensure that all voices are represented.

## **Threats to the Free Press**

The free press is under attack from a variety of forces. These forces include:

\* The rise of fake news and disinformation \* The increasing concentration of media ownership \* The erosion of trust in the media

The rise of fake news and disinformation is a major threat to the free press. Fake news is intentionally false or misleading information that is presented as news. Disinformation is false or misleading information that is spread unintentionally. Both fake news and disinformation can have a negative impact on the public's trust in the media.

The increasing concentration of media ownership is another threat to the free press. A small number of corporations now own most of the media outlets in the United States. This concentration of ownership can lead to a lack of diversity in the news media, and it can make it difficult for independent voices to be heard.

The erosion of trust in the media is a serious problem. A recent Gallup poll found that only 32% of Americans have a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in newspapers, and only 18% have a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in television news. This lack of trust is due in part to the rise of fake news and disinformation, as well as the increasing concentration of media ownership.

## **Defending the Free Press**

The free press is essential for a free and democratic society. We must defend it from the threats that it faces. We can do this by:

\* Supporting independent journalism \* Promoting media literacy \* Holding those in power accountable

Supporting independent journalism is one of the most important things we can do to defend the free press. Independent journalism is not beholden to corporate interests, and it is more likely to provide objective and accurate reporting. We can support independent journalism by subscribing to independent news outlets, donating to independent journalism organizations, and sharing independent journalism on social media.

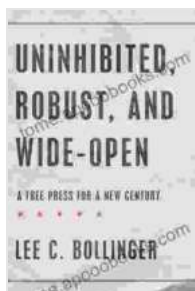
Promoting media literacy is another important way to defend the free press. Media literacy is the ability to understand and evaluate media messages.

We can promote media literacy by teaching our children about media literacy, by using media literacy resources ourselves, and by supporting organizations that promote media literacy.

Holding those in power accountable is essential for defending the free press. We must hold those in power accountable for their actions, and we must demand that they respect the free press. We can hold those in power accountable by voting, by contacting our elected officials, and by supporting organizations that hold those in power accountable.

The free press is essential for a free and democratic society. It is under attack from a variety of forces, but we must defend it. We can do this by supporting independent journalism, promoting media literacy, and holding those in power accountable.

The free press is a precious gift. It is a gift that we must cherish and protect.



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