

Terms to Remember:

means of public access
citizen journalism

print media
mass media
public relations
FCC

agenda setting
framing
racial framing
priming
pack journalism
bias
spin
yellow journalism
muckraking
soft news

trial balloon
sound bite

First Amendment Issues

slander
libel

prior restraint
sunshine law
FOIA
reporter's privilege
indecent regulations
obscenity
beats

fairness doctrine
equal time rule

Near v. Minnesota
NY Times v. Sullivan
NY Times v. US
Miller v. California
Branzburg v. Hayes

Questions:

1. What is agenda setting?
2. What is the difference between spin and bias?
3. What is the difference between slander and libel?
4. What is the key point/constitutional question in the court decision in *Near v. Minnesota*?
5. What are James Madison's thoughts on a free press?
6. What is the purpose of the Equal Time Rule?
7. What is the importance of the Freedom of Information Act?
8. What is the difference between muckraking and yellow journalism?
9. What is soft news?
10. What is the purpose of the FCC

1. choosing which issues or topics deserve public discussion; deciding what information the public will access via media
2. spin is framing news or issues in a positive or negative light; bias is allowing personal opinion or ideology to impact reporting
3. slander is spoken defamation of character and libel is written false statements with intent to harm
4. prior restraint; advance government censorship of the press
5. government of the people requires information that is not directly provided by the government but by independent sources outside of government
6. the FCC or Federal Communications Commission is a regulatory agency; they monitor whether candidates running for office receive equal time upon request to radio stations and other media outlets; if a station provides 30 minutes to one viewpoint and a request for equal time is made by an opposing viewpoint, it must be granted
7. FOIA allows for more transparency in government; citizens and members of the press alike are allowed to make FOIA requests for information and documents from the national government; requests must be honored unless such documents have been declared state secrets or the president invokes executive privilege
8. muckraking exposes corruption in business or government; yellow journalism is sensationalized coverage of scandals and human interest stories
9. to present news in an entertaining and approachable manner
10. the Federal Communications Commission regulates television and radio broadcaster; licensing and monitoring

Answers: