

NEWSPEAK in the 21st Century

A Talk on the Media

By David Cromwell
Co-Editor, Media Lens

Nuffield Lecture Theatre A, Building 6, Room 1077
University of Southampton, Highfield Campus

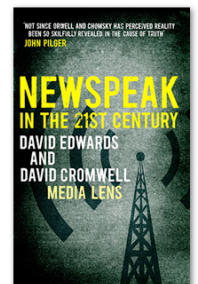
Monday 21 March, 5.30 pm

Abstract

To what extent can a corporate media system be expected to tell the truth about a world dominated by state-corporate power? Why do the major news media, even the supposed best outlets like the *Guardian* and Channel 4 News, act so often as a propaganda service for elite interests? The pattern of media bias, distortion and omission is widespread, longstanding and systemic: the 'war on terror', the Middle East conflict, the serious risk of climate instability and – crucially - what should be done about it. And just how 'impartial' is the BBC? Finally, what opportunities does the internet provide to give the public a greater role in shaping news agendas and debate?

About the speaker

David Cromwell is co- editor of Media Lens (www.medialens.org), a media analysis website which encourages the public to challenge major news media. He founded Media Lens, together with the writer David Edwards, in 2001. They have published two books together, *Guardians of Power* (2006) and *Newspeak in the 21st Century* (2009). In 2007, Media Lens received the Gandhi Foundation International Peace Award. Until recently, he was based at the National Oceanography Centre, Southampton, doing research in ocean circulation and climate. He has a PhD in solar physics from the University of Glasgow.



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