

ABC Radio National

Media Report

Journos in film and TV

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Thursday 16 January 2014 5:30PM



[Image: His Girl](#)

[Friday \(1940\). Directed by Howard Hawks](#)

The loud and gruff editor who nonetheless loves the news business, the pack of nameless reporters who hound the innocent in pursuit of their 'story', the hardworking investigative reporter who goes after the most powerful interests in her city. Do the many books and movies that feature journalists and journalism get at the heart of the profession or do they wheel out tired stereotypes? And why does it matter? According to Joe Salzman, who has gathered arguably the world's largest database of popular culture representations of journalism, the public's views of journalists is strongly shaped by how the entertainment media represent the profession.

Guests

Joe Salzman

Professor of Journalism

Director

Image of the Journalist in Popular Culture

Annenberg School for Communication & Journalism

University of Southern California
United States
Tom Rachman
Novelist
Former journalist
London
United Kingdom

Further Information

[The Image of the Journalist in Popular Culture \(Norman Lear Center USC Annenberg\)](#)

Includes the IJPC database

[Image of the journalist in popular culture: IJPC database](#)

[Tom Rachman's website about The Imperfectionists](#)

Credits

Presenter
Richard Aedy
Producer
Kyla Slaven

Comments (5)

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- **Mark wILLIAMS :**

16 Jan 2014 6:29:53pm

Enjoyed listening.

I wanted to chase up the movies and books listed but you haven't put them up. Bugger.

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- **Veronica :**

17 Jan 2014 9:27:23pm

Books:

Scoop by Evelyn Waugh

The Quiet American by Graham Greene

All the President's Men by Woodward and Bernstein (also discussed as a film)

Movies:

Five Star Final with Edward G. Robinson

The Front Page and its remake His Girl Friday

Front Page Woman with Bette Davis

Broadcast News with Holly Hunter

TV Miniseries:

House of Cards (both UK and US versions)

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- **crank :**

16 Jan 2014 6:39:00pm

In my opinion, to properly portray the Rightwing MSM propaganda system throughout the Western capitalist world as it exists today, and the apparatchiki that work therein, one would need a Shakespeare or Dostoevsky, or any other great genius that properly understood the true nature of evil. Creatures who knowingly peddled the lies that facilitated the ongoing genocide in Iraq, or did so with reckless indifference to the well-known truth that Iraq had totally disarmed by the mid-1990s, are certainly behaving wickedly, even if we cannot say with absolute conviction that they are inherently evil.

Similar are those who peddle the lie of 'civil war' in Syria, when the country is under attack from outside by jihadist butchers paid for by the Gulf tyrannies, with the USA and Israel the chief patrons of the carnage. Another talent of these presstitutes is, of course, monstrous hypocrisy, as one can see in the vicious character assassination of Tim Anderson et al for the crime of ventilating the truth amongst the tsunami of lies, delivered with absolute uniformity and zero deviance, in true 'Free Press' tradition.

However, it might prove hard, even for the most courageous student of human infamy, to properly describe the malevolence when it comes to the Rightwing MSM's anthropogenic climate destabilisation denial jihad. The sheer viciousness and consciencelessness of the repeated lies, misrepresentations, distortions and deliberate confusions of denialism, most hideously practised, in my opinion, by the Murdoch evil, all in pursuit of an ideological victory that will cause human extinction this century, is, I believe, a crime not just beyond comparison, but almost beyond comprehension.

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- **Felice :**

17 Jan 2014 7:45:10pm

Yeah, and once ISI dealt with Saddam in Iraq it moved into Syria to do it's patron's bidding there, just as Ronnie's Boys moved from Afghanistan in the aftermath of the Soviet withdrawal into firstly the Balkans, and then Chechnya and Dagestan.

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- **crank :**

20 Jan 2014 1:53:37pm

'The Fundament' (alias The Australian) was, I would assert, in full dissembler mode this week. The practise of anthropogenic climate destabilisation denial by the Rightwing MSM brainwashing apparatus follows some pretty plain parameters. At times of no great climate or weather interest, the denial is heated and febrile. The usual tiny coterie of denialist 'scientists' are wheeled out by the propagandists, and the slanderous, paranoid and plainly cretinous accusations of conspiracy and absolute incompetence amongst the 97% plus consensus of global scientists flow like pus from a lanced carbuncle. The pet correspondents, I believe it must be said, freely display their Dunning-Krugerite credentials, peddling their long discredited imbecilities with trade-mark and nauseating arrogance. Renewable energy is viciously attacked, and the Greens, being the new Commos, are traduced with feverish enthusiasm and unconcealed and sinister detestation.

However, when little disturbances like this week's record heat-wave occur, in my opinion 'The Fundament' clearly feigns 'even-handedness'. In the dissembling stakes this mirrors their hatemongers' old trick of acting semi house-trained and reasonable, when on TV or radio, in contrast to the unbridled invective of fear and hatred that is manifest back in the Murdochosphere. Naturally, the bias is still there, the heatwave is declared less than that of 1858, and the 44 degrees temperature is said to have fallen 'far' short of the record 46.1 of 1939, while the 45.1 degrees of a few days earlier and the record of three consecutive days over 43.5, never before experienced, is simply ignored, consigned to the 'It Never Happened Hole', next-door to the 'Memory Hole'. 'The Fundament' specialises, I believe, in 'Lies, damned lies and statistics'. The end remains the same-the denial of the unfolding climate destabilisation catastrophe, for crude ideological and psychopathological reasons and because the only action that could save humanity from near term extinction, the total decarbonisation of the global economy, threatens trillions in wealth and the absolute global dominance of the parasitic and omnicidal elite who own and control the Rightwing MSM. You probably need a moral philosopher specialising in ponerology to dramatise these utterly unprecedented evils, which are, in my opinion, without any even near equivalent in all of humanity's bloody history.

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Thursday 5.30pm *Repeated: Friday 5:30am*

Presented by [Richard Aedy](#)

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