

## Chapter 1 : Media regulation - Wikipedia

*Media regulation is the control or guidance of mass media by governments and other bodies. This regulation, via law, rules or procedures, can have various goals, for example intervention to protect a stated "public interest", or encouraging competition and an effective media market, or establishing common technical standards.*

The food industry has the Food and Drug Administration. American professional football players have the National Football League officials. The United States of America has the Constitution. The same goes for the media, both print and digital. The Federal Communications Commission FCC was created to govern the systematic functions of each section of the media. Television and radio media professionals are subject to a host of rules and regulations that yield hefty fines if violated. The print media, such as newspapers and magazines, remain largely unregulated; however, issues involving such offenses like slander can result in large payouts to people that sue the publications. The internet is also essentially unregulated, but many of the same rules apply to certain distributors of information. A policy is a course of action adopted by an organization for the sake of expediency. Aside from the few concepts that are unprintable or illegal to air, broadcast and print journalists are free to write and say as they please. There was a time, however, when some journalists did not enjoy this freedom. The United States was prepared to go to war with France, and President John Adams used dirty politics to ensure that the United States would come out on top. The Sedition Act was aimed at journalists and editors of Democratic-Republican newspapers because their criticism of Federalist policies was considered disloyal. Congress during that time was Federalist-controlled, so the four laws were passed with ease. Criticism against the group, however, was largely increased after the laws were passed. After their defeat, the acts were either retracted or allowed to expire. Generally, governing bodies create, draft and pass laws based on the standard for the time period, region, public, etc. In , the public was accepting of the fact that a certain behavior producing content that criticized the governing body was punishable by law. Therefore, the passing of the Alien and Sedition Acts were tolerable. Today, however, the same process would be much more difficult, if not impossible. The citizens of the United States pride themselves on being free to say and do as they please as long as it is in the confines of the reasonable laws set in place by the government. Many countries do not enjoy the same rights. The fact that the United States views freedom of speech in an entirely different light today is an example of a standard. Standards are principles considered by an authority or by general consent as a basis of comparison. American standards for print media in disregarded any negative articles about the government and prosecuted the authors and editors. Criticism of the American government, as long as there are no elements of slander, which will be discussed later in the chapter, is completely acceptable today. In fact, it is praised if done in an appropriate manner with adequate, factual supporting arguments. What is Ethical Journalism? It has become much easier to contact sources. It is possible that this ease of access has made some journalists lazy. Completely neglecting to produce true information is a far stretch from expressing how one feels about a certain topic or person. In the print media world, the form of writing that includes biased comments and subjective remarks is called an opinion editorial. Bias is a particular tendency or inclination, especially one that prevents unprejudiced consideration of a question. In short, it is a judgment based on personal opinion. The opposite of biased writing, unbiased, is expected in journalistic work. Reporters are expected to remain objective and report only facts, not opinions. Biased writing leaves no opportunity for readers to make their own inferences or judgments. They do not make the distinction between truth and opinion. Their extremely biased statements and assumptions about the government, other members of the media and a host of other topics and people are acceptable because of a combination of the standards set in place by modern-day American culture and the government. Ethical judgment is a close call in the media world because a multitude of ideas and concepts fall in various rankings for different people and organizations on the ethics scale. Ethics are the rules of conduct recognized in respect to a particular class of human actions or a particular group or culture. When individuals make the decision to become a part of the media world, they must be sure to operate with a certain degree of uprightness and morality. There should be a clear distinction between news reporting and promotion or advocacy. In many

cases, writers publish information with their support clearly in favor of a company, person, group or organization, which leads readers to believe that the subject is much more than what it really is. As a member of the media who complies with the rules of conduct recognized in the media world, individuals should have no problem completing their jobs with good faith. Good faith means to be in compliance with standards of decency and honesty. Regardless of the outcome of an action, a writer, producer, photographer, etc. In the media, certain factors play a big role in making ethical decisions. Two very important factors are impartiality and objectivity. Impartiality and Objectivity in the Media World [ edit ] As consumers of the media, the public has every right to assume that everything produced by a media source, unless otherwise noted, is true and delivered from an impartial and objective point of view. In fact, impartial is a synonym of unbiased. Many times, media professionals publish work after completing only one fact check or having conducting just one interview. This is not impartial work. If a story involves two parties, it is only fair for the reporter to report both sides of the story. In the case that one party does not respond, the reporter must publish that he or she contacted the source multiple times and received no word back. This serves as proof that the reporter possesses journalistic integrity and that he or she did his or her best to write from an impartial point of view. Much like impartiality, objectivity is an element of writing that is means it is not influenced by personal feelings, interpretations, or prejudice. The writing is strictly based on facts if it is objective. Without objectivity, an author risks causing readers to believe that untrue information, such as simple a simple opinion, is in fact true. An objective writer will support the open exchange of views, even those that he or she may find distasteful or repugnant. Additionally, he or she avoids stereotyping. It is also wise to maintain a degree of objectivity by avoiding any hybrids of news and advertising. Advertising that resembles news may confuse readers and viewers and cause ethics issues with the news source. There are a host of ethics issues that can arise in the world of professional media, but some of the most important issues are those concerning defamation, libel and slander. These three terms are often confused with each other. Libel and slander fall under defamation. Defamation is the false or unjustified injury of the good reputation of another, as by slander or libel. In the media world, reputation is extremely important. For some, it is all they have going for them. Defamation is an issue that appears in courts very often. Whatever an ordinary reader or view makes of a situation is what will hold in court. Anything that hints at a person, group, organization or culture being unfaithful, lazy, corrupt, financially troubled, criminal, dishonest, or incompetent is grounds for a defamation suit. Libel and slander both fall under defamation. Libel is the use of false, defamatory claims about someone in written or printed form. Slander is the use of false, defamatory claims about someone committed orally or in any other transient form. When individuals say or write untrue statements about others, they have usually either flat-out lied about the person or invaded his or her privacy to obtain information and gotten it wrong. Because of the great strides the world has made in regards to technological advancement, information, whether true or untrue, virtually travels at the speed of light. Libelous, defamatory remarks used to be followed by a simple retraction in newspapers. Today, information is published in magazines, newspapers, books, on websites, blogs, vlogs, and much more. This plethora of ways to access information has resulted in the need for an individual to have someone who represents him or her. There are a few surprising facts about how far a media professional can go to obtain information. For example, society has little to no right of privacy from the media in a public place. In some cases, they may have been told. However, it is not illegal for them to be unaware of the cameras. If everyone in a public area can see you, the media has the right to write about individuals, what the individuals did, and take photos of the individuals as well. The fact that media professionals can photograph and write about people in public is simply a factor of media politics. Politics are the practices or professions of conducting affairs in organizations. When an individual believes that his or her privacy has been invaded or that defamatory statements about him or her have been published or aired, he or she often calls upon the aid of a public relations officer to defend him or her. Media Regulation and Censorship [ edit ] The first amendment is an amendment to the Constitution of the United States guaranteeing the right of free expression; includes freedom of assembly and freedom of the press and freedom of religion and freedom of speech. Media professionals must acknowledge that their position requires them to operate with fairness. For this reason, the fairness doctrine was created. The fairness doctrine imposes affirmative

responsibilities on a broadcaster to provide coverage of issues of public importance that is adequate and fairly reflects differing viewpoints. In that case, parties involved in a dispute may often contact a media outlet in order to speak their truth. In one case, for example, a political candidate may join a radio station one morning to make a speech. The fairness doctrine requires that any candidate with an opposing viewpoint be granted the opportunity to speak on the show as well. In addition to the fairness doctrine, broadcasters are subject to the rules and regulations of the doctrine of prior restraint. The doctrine of prior restraint holds that the first amendment forbids the federal government to impose any system of prior restraint, with certain limited exceptions, in any area of expression that is within the boundaries of that amendment. Morality in journalism, both broadcast and print, includes publishing accurate and inclusive information. It also includes honesty, which was discussed earlier in the chapter and referred to as good faith.

## Chapter 2 : What Is Mass Media Law? (with pictures)

*Mass Media Law and Regulation [William Francois] on blog.quintoapp.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. mass media.*

Table of Contents Government Regulation of the Media Even though the Constitution guarantees freedom of the press, the government does regulate some media. The Internet has also gone largely unregulated, despite congressional efforts to restrict some controversial content. Broadcast media, however, are subject to the most government regulation. Radio and television broadcasters must obtain a license from the government because, according to American law, the public owns the airwaves. FCC Police The FCC also acts as a police agency of the airwaves, and it can fine broadcasters for violating public decency standards on the air. The equal time rule, which states that broadcasters must provide equal broadcast time to all candidates for a particular office. The right of rebuttal, which requires broadcasters to provide an opportunity for candidates to respond to criticisms made against them. A station cannot air an attack on a candidate and fail to give the target of the attack a chance to respond. The fairness doctrine, which states that a broadcaster who airs a controversial program must provide time to air opposing views. The FCC has not enforced the fairness doctrine since , and some allege that the FCC has taken a lax approach to enforcing the other rules as well. Media Consolidation The government has also regulated ownership of media outlets to ensure that no one broadcaster monopolizes the market. Since the s, however, the government has loosened restrictions on media ownership, and Congress passed the Telecommunications Act in to allow companies to own even more media outlets. Due to the loosening of ownership restrictions, more and more media outlets are falling under the control of a few giant corporations, a tendency called media consolidation. Large companies also own the major networks and other television stations. They argue that consolidation is not competitive and that corporate owners might restrict or manipulate news coverage. Some critics also lament the homogenization of American culture due to media consolidation. Because radio and television formats have become increasingly uniform, people throughout the country receive the same broadcasts. The FCC is entitled to regulate those who broadcast over the airwaves because the people not the broadcasters own the airwaves. Cable television, however, is not sent over the airwaves: Presumably this means that cable television cannot be regulated, but some members of Congress have still sought to do so.

## Chapter 3 : Government Regulation of Media

*For the most part, the mass media in the United States are privately owned. Public radio and public television, which receive part of their revenues from the federal government through the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), represent a comparatively small share of the market.*

Public radio and public television, which receive part of their revenues from the federal government through the Corporation for Public Broadcasting CPB , represent a comparatively small share of the market. Private ownership ensures considerable, but not absolute, freedom from government oversight. It does raise questions, however, about how the mass media operate. Concentration in the mass media As a result of competition, increasing costs, and mergers, the number of newspapers in the United States has dropped sharply. Many major cities are served by only one daily paper. In addition, the number of independent newspapers has declined as chains such as Gannett purchase additional properties. At issue is whether concentration discourages diversity of opinion and ultimately leads to the management of the news by media corporations. The three major TV networks ABC, CBS, and NBC do not own their own affiliate stations, and they face real competition from new networks, such as Fox, as well as from a growing number of all-news and entertainment cable stations. The Telecommunications Act of 1996 was supposed to promote competition in the broadcast media. It eased the restrictions on the number of television stations a single company could own and lifted all limits on radio station ownership except to prevent control of a market or geographic area. The legislation led to more concentration in the industry. Hard news versus entertainment Television is audience driven. The larger the audience, the higher the rates charged for commercial time and the greater the profits. Critics have charged that this situation reduces hard news coverage and requires flashier packaging of the news. For example, local TV stations give considerably less airtime to political news than to the weather report, sport scores, and human interest stories. Indeed, the line between news and entertainment programming is becoming increasingly blurred. Growing numbers of young viewers say they receive their political information from comedy programming like The Daily Show with Jon Stewart and The Colbert Report. Newspapers and magazines are largely protected from government interference by the First Amendment. The Supreme Court refused to block their publication, noting that prior restraint was a violation of freedom of the press. Content is also controlled by obscenity statutes. Regulation of radio and television Practically from its inception, the broadcast media has been subject to regulation. The Federal Radio Act set up licensing procedures to allocate frequencies under the premise that the airwaves belong to the public. The FCC regulates the industry in several ways. It limits the number of radio and television stations a company can own, has rules governing public service and local programming, and reviews station operations as part of licensing process. Under the equal time rule, stations are required to give all candidates for political office access to airtime on the same terms. The fairness doctrine obligated broadcasters to present conflicting points of view on important public issues, but the FCC abolished the doctrine in with the support of President Ronald Reagan for two reasons: In recent years, the FCC levied significant fines on broadcasters for profanity and indecency. Attempts by the Congress to regulate the content of the Internet have not passed Supreme Court review.

**Chapter 4 : SparkNotes: The Media: Government Regulation of the Media**

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Call Ph no or Email: In societies, which followed communism and totalitarianism, like the former USSR and China, there were limitations of what the media could say about the government. Almost everything that was said against the State was censored for fear of revolutions. On the other hand, in countries like USA, which have a Bourgeois Democracy, almost everything is allowed. Shifting our view to the Indian perspective and its system of Parliamentary Democracy, it is true that, the Press is free but subject to certain reasonable restrictions imposed by the Constitution of India, , as amended "Constitution". Before the impact of globalization was felt, the mass media was wholly controlled by the government, which let the media project only what the government wanted the public to see and in a way in which it wanted the public to see it. However, with the onset of globalization and privatization, the situation has undergone a humongous change. Before the invention of communication satellites, communication was mainly in the form of national media, both public and private, in India and abroad. In such an era of media upsurge, it becomes an absolute necessity to impose certain legal checks and bounds on transmission and communication In the due course of this article, we would discuss the various aspects of media and the relevant legal checks and bounds governing them. The earliest regulatory measures can be traced back to when Lord Wellesley promulgated the Press Regulations, which had the effect of imposing pre-censorship on an infant newspaper publishing industry. The onset of saw the promulgation of the Press Act, which undid most of, the repressive features of earlier legislations on the subject. However, the most significant day in the history of Media Regulations was the 26th of January "the day on which the Constitution was brought into force. Although, the Indian Constitution does not expressly mention the liberty of the press, it is evident that the liberty of the press is included in the freedom of speech and expression under Article 19 1 a. It is necessary to mention here that, this freedom under Article 19 1 a is not only cribbed, cabined and confined to newspapers and periodicals but also includes pamphlets, leaflets, handbills, circulars and every sort of publication which affords a vehicle of information and opinion[2]: Thus, although the freedom of the press is guaranteed as a fundamental right, it is necessary for us to deal with the various laws governing the different areas of media so as to appreciate the vast expanse of media laws. Schmidt[3] The Freedom of Press and the Freedom of Expression can be regarded as the very basis of a democratic form of government. Every business enterprise is involved in the laws of the nation, the state and the community in which it operates. The various Acts, which have to be taken into consideration when dealing with the regulations imposed upon the Print Media, are: In this case, the Daily Newspapers Price and Control Order, , which fixed a minimum price and number of pages, which a newspaper is entitled to publish, was challenged as unconstitutional. The State justified the law as a reasonable restriction on a business activity of a citizen. Freedom of speech can be restricted only on the grounds mentioned in clause 2 of Article This Act aimed at restricting the Freedom Of The Press to a large extent keeping in mind the unrest prevailing in India in lieu of the war against China. Although on one hand, the Constitution confers the fundamental right of freedom of the press, Article 2 provides certain restrictions on the publications of the proceedings in Parliament. In the famous Searchlight Case[5], the Supreme Court held that, the publication by a newspaper of certain parts of the speech of members in the House, which were ordered to be expunged by the Speaker constituted a breach of privilege. Due to the restrictive scope of this Article, it is not possible for us to delve into all the other statutes; however, a few of the legislations, which are worth mentioning are the Contempt of Courts Act, and The Official Secrets Act, Broadcast The broadcast media was under complete monopoly of the Government of India. Private organizations were involved only in commercial advertising and sponsorships of programmes. This judgment, thus, brought about a great change in the position prevailing in the broadcast media, and such sector became open to the citizens. Although, the Broadcast Code was chiefly set up to govern the All India Radio, the following cardinal principles have ideally been practiced by all Broadcasting and Television Organization; viz: In pursuance of the Cable Television Network Regulation

Amendment Bill, , the Central Government may make it obligatory for every cable operator to transmit or retransmit programme of any pay channel through an addressable system as and when the Central Government so notifies. Such notification may also specify the number of free to air channels to be included in the package of channels forming the basic service tier. Encompassing three major spheres of activity – production, distribution and exhibition, the industry has an all-India spread, employing thousands of people and entertaining millions each year. The various laws in force regulating the making and screening of films are: Under this Act, a Board of Film Censors now renamed Central Board of Film Certification with advisory panels at regional centres is empowered to examine every film and sanction it whether for unrestricted exhibition or for exhibition restricted to adults. The Board is also empowered to refuse to sanction a film for public exhibition. Union of India [8], the petitioner for the first time challenged the validity of censorship as violative of his fundamental right of speech and expression. Furthermore, in *Bobby Art International v. Union of India*, although this Act, is applicable to all the branches of media, in some areas it is specific to this particular genre. In the case of a Cinematographed film, to do or to authorise the doing of any of the following acts would lead to the infringement of copyright. Those acts are namely: Cine Workers Welfare Cess Act, and the Cine Workers Welfare Fund Act They seek to create means of financial support to cine employees, the seasonal and unpredictable nature of whose employment often leaves them impoverished and helpless. Besides these, there are also a few local legislations, which affect the film medium; viz. The Bombay Police Act, It contains provisions empowering the police to regulate the exhibition of films in the state of Maharashtra formerly Bombay. Bombay Cinemas Regulation Act, It provides a scheme for state licensing of cinema theatres and other places where motion pictures are exhibited The Bombay Entertainments Duty Act, It imposes a tax on the public exhibition of motion pictures and other forms of entertainment. Advertising Advertising communication is a mix of arts and facts subservient to ethical principles. In order to be consumer-oriented, advertisement will have to be truthful and ethical. It should not mislead the consumer. If it so happens, the credibility is lost. In order to enforce an ethical regulating code, the Advertising Standards Council of India was set up. This claim was found to be untrue since ZPTO is a micro biocide, when in reality, dandruff is known to be caused by several other factors, besides, microbes. The advertisement has been withdrawn. Novartis India claimed that their disposable contact lenses ensure there is no protein build-up. This claim was found to be totally false. The truth is that build up is a natural biological phenomenon with all contact lenses. The ad was discontinued. The other legislations affecting the area of advertising are: In *Hamdard Dawakhana v. Union of India* [12] the Supreme Court was faced with the question as to whether the Drug and Magic Remedies Act, which put restrictions on the advertisements of drugs in certain cases and prohibited advertisements of drugs having magic qualities for curing diseases, was valid as it curbed the freedom of speech and expression of a person by imposing restrictions on advertisements. The Supreme Court held that, an advertisement is no doubt a form of speech and expression but every advertisement is not a matter dealing with the expression of ideas and hence advertisement of a commercial nature cannot fall within the concept of Article 19 1 a. However, in *Tata Press Ltd. v. Union of India* The Court, however, made it clear that the government could regulate commercial advertisements, which are deceptive, unfair, misleading and untruthful. The advertisement implied that the soft drink was prepared from fresh mango while actually preservatives were added to it. The company had to suspend production pending enquiry. Conclusion In this age of media explosion, one cannot simply remain confined to the boundaries of the traditional media. The media world has expanded its dimensions by encompassing within its orbit, the widening vistas of cyber media etc. As a consequence, the laws governing them are also numerous. Shah, 3 SCC

*The future of media law and ethics seems shaky as more loopholes are created; however, the virtually unregulated industry is still held accountable to the unwritten code of ethics, even as the digitization of many media outlets results in fewer members of the professional media.*

Legislative framework[ edit ] The Russian constitution provides for freedom of speech and press; however, government application of law , bureaucratic regulation , and politically motivated criminal investigations have forced the press to exercise self-censorship constraining its coverage of certain controversial issues, resulting in infringements of these rights. The ombudsman cannot be dismissed before the end of his term, and is not subordinate to any body of power, including the president or the government. Less than half have done so. Apparently for these very reasons journalists and publishers seldom appeal to the commissioner protesting restrictions of their right of seeking, receiving, transferring, publishing or distributing information. Yet disguised restrictions exist to a considerable degree, they are often put through the economic pressure on mass media by the authorities and loyal business. The so-called "self-censorship" which induces journalists to refrain from disseminating information which, in their opinion, may not please the authorities, is also widespread. So in many places the right to praise the authorities is ensured, while the opposite right is just formally declared. And Lukin was critical about the Law on combating extremist activities, noting that extremism and dissent must be strictly legally divided. While international monitors spoke of several dozen deaths, some sources within Russia talked of over two hundred fatalities. Assaults on journalists[ edit ] Since the early s, a number of Russian reporters who have covered the situation in Chechnya , contentious stories on organized crime, state and administrative officials, and large businesses have been killed. According to the Committee to Protect Journalists , since , 50 journalists have been murdered for their professional activity in Russia which made it the third deadliest country for journalists in the " period: The police appeared to be reluctant to investigate such threats and a climate of impunity for attacks on civil society activists prevailed. According to the Committee to Protect Journalists , Russia is a more dangerous place now than it was during the Cold War. Only Iraq and Algeria outrank it on the list of most life-threatening countries for the press. Their equipment was destroyed and the videographer was injured. He became the first foreign journalist to be expelled from Russia since the end of the Cold War. On 9 February Russia reversed the decision. He was charged with missing proper accreditation, and was convicted, deported and banned for five years. They had their equipment destroyed. Censorship shall be prohibited. Journalists are bought with enormous salaries. In discussions they tell us then how horrible it is to work in the state television service. Such measures also led to self-censorship. According to the report, a confluence of laws aimed at contrasting terrorism and religious hatred and protecting children have led to an environment in which is increasingly hard to distribute fiction, broadcast independent television and promote independent theatre and music productions. In the Russian legal system the definition of extremism is broad and this make possible for officials to invoke it to silence critical voices. Enforcement of such legal provisions has encouraged self-censorship in the country. The Russian internet blacklist law faced criticism by major websites and NGOs on it launch. It was expanded to include actions such as "calling for illegal meetings", "inciting hatred" and any other actions "violating the established order". Sites which do not comply with this requirement may be added to the blacklist. This data as well as "all other information necessary" is available to authorities on request and without a court order. In September Vkontakte was taken over by mail. The moderator in question requested bloggers to publish only unique posts about protest actions. The block occurred after the chief prosecutor of St. Petersburg recommended the company to block access to extremist resources. At the time, the only Internet resource listed as extremist by the Ministry of Justice of Russia was the site of Caucasian separatists Kavkaz Center. Since the evening of 6 December , Yota opened access to all previously blocked resources, save for Kavkaz Center. The Regional Court conducted a new trial, which concluded that the decision of the Central District Court was unjustified, since there was no legal reason to ban the site. She described the case as "a test for the institution of press freedom" in Dagestan. The jail term was upheld in appeal in April A new defamation case was open against

him in July. She rejected all charges, claiming to be targeted in retribution for critical coverage of local officials. The official reason included failure to serve a three-month sentence for "insulting a public official". Shipilov claims the detention is politically motivated. In December he was sentenced to three and a half years with suspended sentence together with his brother Oleg Navalny upon fraud charges. Roskomnadzor warned four media that reported on the sentence and relied a video of Navalny calling for demonstration, accusing them of inciting extremism. There were reports of self-censorship in the television and print media, particularly on issues critical of the government. The same happens on the federal level—major corporations and state institutions exercise influence on the media. Many of them disappeared, others changed owners repeatedly. The last channel — NTV — is owned by Gazprom, in which the state has a controlling stake. The situation in the radio market is similar. Major information channels are somehow controlled by the state. Many of the key provisions of the Competition Law are unclear and open to interpretation. For this reason, they require further interpretation by Russian courts. Instead, state-controlled energy giant Gazprom owns NTV. Channel One Pervyj Kanal covers. Moreover, TV6, a media outlet owned by Berezovsky, was closed in using a legal loophole. The survey asked if Leningrad should have been surrendered to the invading Nazi army in order to save hundreds of thousands of lives. For example, massive truck drivers protests across the country were never even mentioned in the First Channel in spite of wide coverage in local and independent media and requests of the viewers. Major information channels are in one way or another controlled by the state. Mayak, Radio Rossiya, and Ekho Moskvy. Such list includes the ownership of TV channels and on-demand services. However, they are owned by oligarchs who openly support the government. Russian media executives bought the stakes in both transactions. The Moscow Times subsequently switched from daily to weekly publication, and its chief editor resigned due to conflicts with the new owner. The new publisher of Forbes said that the magazine would carry fewer stories on politics and focus on business and economics. They are blacklisted and not allowed to appear in television shows. Referring to an anonymous source, Kommersant stated that as the result these channels would cease to broadcast independent news; instead, since they would receive the news from the state channel RT known as Russia Today until. On 19 October, employees of the TV channel published an open letter to the top Russian politicians, concerned over a possibility of mass dismissals. How does that relate to Channel 5? There should be no weakness or liberalism, there is no time left for this. For every claim directed against the Leadership of the country or its policy, the Presidential Press Center of the Administration must immediately answer. Operational information about the intentions of opposition forces to conduct political events comes to the Directorate. As for print media, there are more than 40, publications and we could not control them all even if we wanted to. This logic pushes it into dangerous conclusions and acts. The bureaucracy from time to time casts fear over the business world, pressuring it to keep in line and not to take what they consider wrong action, takes control of this or that media outlet, trying to stop it from saying what they consider the wrong thing, meddles in the electoral process, preventing the election of what they consider the wrong person, and puts pressure on the courts, stopping them from handing down what they consider the wrong verdict. Tenth, freedom of speech should be backed up by technological innovation. Experience shows that it is practically of no use to persuade the bureaucrats to "leave the media in peace". Instead of persuading, we should work more actively to expand the free internet and digital television space. No bureaucrat can obstruct discussion on the internet or censor thousands of channels at once.

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Principal foundations[ edit ] Balance between positive and negative defined liberties. The negative defined liberties, legislating the role of media institutions in society and securing their freedom of expression, publication, private ownership, commerce, and enterprise, must be balanced by legislation ensuring the positive freedom of citizens of their access to information. Balance between state and market. Media is at a position between the commerce and democracy. These require the balance between rights and obligations. To maintain the contractual balance, society expects the media to take their privilege responsibly. Besides, market forces failed to guarantee the wide range of public opinions and free expression. Intend to the expectation and ensurance, regulation over the media formalized. More than websites have already been blocked in Egypt prior to the new law in The neutrality of this section is disputed. Relevant discussion may be found on the talk page. Please do not remove this message until conditions to do so are met. October Learn how and when to remove this template message At the early period of the modern history of China, the relationship between government and society was extremely unbalanced. Government held power over the Chinese people and controlled the media, making the media highly political. The economic reform decreased the governing function of media and created a tendency for mass media to stand for the society but not only authority. The previous unbalanced structure between powered government and weak society was loosed by the policy in some level, but not truly changed until the emergence of Internet. At first the regulator did not regard Internet as a category of mass media but a technique of business. Underestimating the power of the internet as a communications tool resulted in a lack of internet regulation. Since then, the internet has changed communication methods, media structure and overthrown the pattern of public voice expression in China. Regulators have not and would not let the Internet out of control. In recent years, the strategy when approaching the Internet has been to regulate while developing. Legislation China is the one who owns the greatest amount of legislation in the world. According to statistics, up to October , 14 different departments such as the NPC of China, the Publicity Department of the Communist Party of China , and the State Council Information Office , had been published more than 60 laws related to internet regulation. Ministry of Industry and Information Technology is responsible for the development and regulation of the industry, Ministry of Public Security regulates security and fights crimes, and the Propaganda Department leads the system where departments of culture, broadcasting, journalism, education, etc. Agenda control It requires communicators to set up the relationship between expected information targets and the real targets, guide the direction of information to reach the expectation. Structure adjustment Traditional media affiliated into government strives to develop Internet with relatively flexible administrating system to increase the communicating power of mainstream media of authority to compete with social communication. The European Union[ edit ] Most EU member states have replaced media ownership regulations with competition laws. These laws are created by governing bodies to protect consumers from predatory business practices by ensuring that fair competition exists in an open-market economy. However, these laws cannot solve the problem of convergence and concentration of media. Hallin and Mancini introduced the Norwegian media system as Democratic Corporatist. The rise of the advertising industry helped the most powerful newspapers grow increasingly, while the little publications were struggling at the bottom of the market. Because of the lack of diversity in the newspaper industry, the Norwegian Government took action, affecting the true freedom of speech. In , Norwegian government started to provide press subsidies to small local newspapers. In , compelled by the concern of the media ownership concentration, Norwegian legislators passed the Media Ownership Act entrusting the Norwegian Media Authority the power to interfere the media cases when the press freedom and media plurality was threatened. The Act was amended in and and revised in The basic foundation of Norwegian regulation of the media sector is to ensure freedom of speech, structural pluralism, national language and culture and the protection of children from harmful media content. The condition for news media to achieve this role is the peaceful environment of diversity of editorial ownership and free speech. To ensure

this diversity, Norwegian government regulates the framework conditions of the media and primarily focuses the regulation on pluralistic ownership. United Kingdom[ edit ] Following the Leveson Inquiry the Press Recognition Panel PRP was set up under the Royal Charter on self-regulation of the press to judge whether press regulators meet the criteria recommended by the Leveson Inquiry for recognition under the Charter. However, there are certain exceptions to free speech. For example, there are regulations on public broadcasters: This is to shield younger individuals from expressions and ideas that are deemed offensive. The Supreme Court of the United States has yet to touch the internet, but that could change if net neutrality comes into play. The global regulation of new media technologies is to ensure the cultural diversity in media content, and provide a free space of public access and various opinions and ideas without censorship. Also, the regulation protects the independence of media ownership from dominance of powerful financial corporations, and preserves the media from commercial and political hegemony. The Chinese screenwriter Wang Xingdong stated that regulation over literature and art should be based on laws and not the preference of some individuals. In the field of media, relative legislation must be introduced as soon as possible and applied strictly to avoid the case that some leaders overwhelm the law with their power to control the media content.

*Mass media law encompasses free speech law as well. In many countries, freedom of speech is a governmentally-acknowledged right of people. On the other hand, many governments have laws that allow for censoring of objectionable, sensitive, or harmful communications.*

Describe deregulation and its effect on the media landscape. Media in all their forms have been under governmental jurisdiction since the early s. Since that time, regulatory efforts have transformed as new forms of media have emerged and expanded their markets to larger audiences. Major Regulatory Agencies Throughout the 20th century, three important U. In time, authorities determined that an agency with more sweeping powers was necessary. Founded on September 26, , the FTC The government agency charged with overseeing interstate business and trade practices in the United States. From the beginning, the FTC absorbed the work and staff of the Bureau of Corporations, operating in a similar manner, but with additional regulatory authorization. The early Commission reported on export trade, resale price maintenance, and other general issues, as well as meat packing and other specific industries. Although its primary focus was on the prevention of anticompetitive business practices, in its early years, the FTC also provided oversight on wartime economic practices. During World War I, for example, President Wilson frequently turned to the FTC for advice on exports and trading with foreign nations, resulting in the Trading with the Enemy Act, which restricted trade with countries in conflict with the United States. The FRC comprised five employees who were authorized to grant and deny broadcasting licenses and assign frequency ranges and power levels to each radio station. In its early years, the FRC struggled to find its role and responsibility in regulating the radio airwaves. With no clear breakdown of what could or could not be aired, nearly everything was allowed to play. Federal Communications Commission Figure Since its creation by the Communications Act in , the FCC The government agency charged with overseeing interstate communications in the United States. The responsibilities of the FCC are broad, and throughout its long history the agency has enforced several laws that regulate media. All of these acts and more have undergone changes in the modern media marketplace. Although each commission holds different roles and duties, the overall purpose of governmental control remains to establish and bring order to the media industry while ensuring the promulgation of the public good. This section examines the modern duties of both commissions. Within these branches, subdivisions allow the agency to more efficiently carry out its tasks. Presently, the FCC houses seven operating bureaus and 10 staff offices. The Media Bureau oversees licensing and regulation of broadcasting services. Because it aids the FCC in its decisions to grant or withhold licenses from broadcast stations, the Media Bureau plays a particularly important role within the organization. The WCB recently ruled against Comcast regarding blocked online content to the public, causing many to question the amount of authority that the government has over the public and big businesses. The WTB balances the expansion and limitation of wireless networks, registers antenna and broadband use, and manages the radio frequencies for airplane, ship, and land communication. Finally, the International Bureau is responsible for representing the FCC in all satellite and international matters. In an effort to avoid international interference, the International Bureau coordinates with partners around the globe regarding frequency allocation and orbital assignments. It also concerns itself with foreign investment in the United States, ruling that outside governments, individuals, or corporations cannot own more than 20 percent of stock in a U. As previously discussed, the FTC primarily dedicates itself to eliminating unfair business practices; however, in the course of those duties it has limited contact with media outlets. In , the agency created this registry to prevent most telemarketing phone calls, exempting such groups as nonprofit charities and businesses with which a consumer has an existing relationship. Although originally intended for landline phones, the Do Not Call Registry allows individuals to register wireless telephones along with traditional wire-based numbers. Over the years, several antitrust acts law discouraging the formation of monopolies have been passed into law. With corporate trustees receiving profits from the component companies, Standard Oil functioned as a monopoly a business that economically controls a product or a service. The Sherman Antitrust Act was put into place in to dissolve trusts such as these. The Sherman

Antitrust Act served as a precedent for future antitrust regulation. The problem with the Clayton Act was that, while it prohibited mergers, it offered a loophole in that companies were allowed to buy individual assets of competitors such as stocks or patents, which could still lead to monopolies. Established in and often referred to as the Antimerger Act, the Cellar-Kefauver Act closed that loophole by giving the government the power to stop vertical mergers. Vertical mergers happen when two companies in the same business but on different levels—such as a tire company and a car company—combine. The act also banned asset acquisitions that reduced competition. These laws reflected growing concerns in the early and mid-century that the trend toward monopolization could lead to the extinction of competition, thus leading to less choice and potentially higher prices. Government regulation of businesses increased until the 1970s, when the United States experienced a shift in mind-set and citizens called for less governmental power. Move Toward Deregulation Media deregulation actually began during the 1970s as the FCC shifted its approach to radio and television regulation. Begun as a way of clearing laws to make the FCC run more efficiently and cost effectively, deregulation truly took off with the arrival of the Reagan administration and its new FCC chairman, Mark Fowler. In 1981, between 1981 and 1984, lawmakers dramatically altered laws and regulation to give more power to media licensees and to reduce that of the FCC. Television licenses were expanded from three years to five, and corporations were now allowed to own up to 12 separate television stations. The shift in regulatory control had a powerful effect on the media landscape. Whereas initially laws had prohibited companies from owning media entities in more than one medium, consolidation created large mass-media companies that increasingly dominated the U.S. Before the increase in deregulation, eight major companies controlled phone services to different regions of the United States. Today, however, there are four. Companies such as Viacom and Disney own television stations, record companies, and magazines. Bertelsmann alone owns more than 30 radio stations, publishing outlets, and 15 record companies. Today, deregulation remains a hotly debated topic. Some favor deregulation, believing that the public benefits from less governmental control. Others, however, argue that excessive consolidation of media ownership threatens the system of checks and balances. Proponents on both sides of the argument are equally vocal, and it is likely that regulation of media will ebb and flow over the years, as it has since regulation first came into practice. However, Internet censorship is much more widespread, affecting people from Germany to Thailand to the United States. And now, thanks to a new online service, you can see for yourself. In September 2007, Google launched its new web tool, Google Transparency. This program allows users to see a map of online censorship around the world. With this tool, people can view the number of times a country requests data to be removed, what kind of data they request be removed, and the percentage of requests that Google complies with. In some cases, the content is minor—YouTube videos that violate copyright, for example, are frequent offenders. In other cases, the requests are more formidable; Iran blocked all of YouTube after the disputed elections, and Pakistan blocked the site for more than a week in response to an online protest. Perhaps most surprising is the amount of requests from countries not normally associated with strict censorship. Germany, for example, has banned content it deems to be affiliated with neo-Nazism, and Thailand refuses to allow videos of its king that it finds offensive. Between January and June 2008, the United States asked Google 4,700 times for information regarding its users, and sent requests to the search engine to remove data. Eighty percent of the time, Google complied with the requests for data removal. What is the general trend in Internet censorship? However, the search engine hopes that its new tool will combat this trend. As censorship increases, many predict that citizen outrage will increase as well. The future of Internet censorship may be unsure, but for now, at least, the numbers are visible to all. During the 1980s, the U.S. Think about television or radio programs that you watch or listen to. Then write a one-page paper addressing the following: Describe the role of the FTC. Explain the major duties of the FCC.

## Chapter 8 : Media Laws - An Overview

*JRN , "Mass Media Law and Regulation," is a course which studies the manner in which the American legal system interrelates with, regulates and controls, many aspects of modern American journalism.*

Top 10 amazing movie makeup transformations Mass media law is a legal field that encompasses a variety of communications industries, such as print media, film, broadcasting, and the Internet. With modern communications technologies, the mass media has the ability to affect many people in a variety of ways. The laws that govern these communications can be complicated and have far-reaching results. Many of the suits brought by media lawyers involve copyright infringement , defamation, censorship, and privacy. Copyright law is one of the main ways that mass media law is involved in communications industries. Copyrights apply to print, visual, audio, and digital media. Individuals and corporations own copyrights on creative communications or works, and media law often attempts to protect those rights. Copyright holders may require legal aid if their rights are contested, or if the creative work is copied without authorization, or pirated. Also, copyright law allows reproduction rights to be purchased. For example, a filmmaker may wish to purchase rights in order to make a movie based on a previously published book. Another legal field within media law is defamation law. There are two main types of defamation – slander and libel. Both categories require the offending statements or visual representations to have a negative impact on the reputation on the person being defamed. Ad Libel usually involves statements that are printed or broadcast. Libel is therefore typically recorded and somehow published for public consumption. Slander, on the other hand, usually involves a defamation made verbally or by gesture, and may or may not be recorded in some way. Mass media law encompasses free speech law as well. In many countries, freedom of speech is a governmentally-acknowledged right of people. On the other hand, many governments have laws that allow for censoring of objectionable, sensitive, or harmful communications. Media lawyers may deal with the legal balance between free speech and censorship. Privacy law is often considered to be part of mass media law. Individuals and organizations are sometimes granted the right to keep certain information private. Attorneys on these types of cases may protect the privacy of individuals or, as in the case of the Freedom of Information Act in the United States, work in favor of releasing information to the public. Mass media law has had to adapt to accommodate Internet communications. Blogs, social networking sites, and easy access to visual and print material can all affect legal issues such as copyright law, defamation, and free speech. The legal framework for international communications may be changing as a result of the Internet as well.

## Chapter 9 : The Structure of the Mass Media and Government Regulation

*Laws, Regulations and Policies Environmental laws and regulations administered by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Offered By.*