**“Glen’s Parallax Perspectives”** is a series of TV programs offering fresh ways for people to see issues such as foreign policy, social and economic justice, governmental functioning, the environment, and so forth. We provide voices and viewpoints that are rarely heard in mainstream media.

**Mainstream media, politicians, and culture see the world in conventional ways. Therefore, in order to solve problems, we need to see things in fresh ways.** Glen Anderson created this TV series to help people see things differently so we can solve problems at all levels from the local to the global.

This series title refers to “***parallax***,” which is the view you get by looking from a different perspective. For example, put one finger in front of your nose and another finger farther away. Close one eye. Then open that eye and close the other. Your fingers will seem to move. This is called a “parallax” view. **This TV series invites you to look at issues from fresh perspectives.**

Each program airs three times a week (currently every Monday at 1:30 pm, every Wednesday at 5:00 pm, and every Thursday at 9:00 pm) for the entire month on Thurston Community Television (TCTV), channel 22 for cable TV subscribers in Thurston County, Washington. TCTV is part of Thurston County Media. You can see their schedule at [**www.tcmedia.org**](http://www.tcmedia.org)

**You can also watch the program summarized below through your computer** at [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org). All episodes of “Glen’s Parallax Perspectives” are posted on this blog’s “TV Programs” part and also in one or more of the categories listed in the right side of the blog home page. Also, see information about various issues at the category headings at [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org).

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**🡪 I saved this document in Word format with live links.** If this document does not load or print properly for you, please e-mail me at [**glenanderson@integra.net**](mailto:glenanderson@integra.net) and I’ll promptly send you the links you request.

**🡪 Please invite other people to watch this video and/or read this thorough summary through these parts of my blog,** [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org)**: “TV Programs” and “Media” and “Parallax Examples.”**

“Recognize and Counter Mainstream Media Bias”

Glen’s Parallax Perspectives TV Series

July 2022

Glen Anderson (360) 491-9093 [**glenanderson@integra.net**](mailto:glenanderson@integra.net)

**Glen introduced our topic and our guest, Janine Jackson:**

This month’s interview on “Glen’s Parallax Perspectives” provides fresh information and insights about a systemic problem that perpetuates war and all kinds of injustice. This systemic problem also interferes with our efforts to solve **all** of the problems we care about.

This month’s TV interview is about **bias in mainstream news media**. Media bias is very pervasive – and because it is so very pervasive, it is often not even noticed. It distorts what people know about vital issues such as war and peace, the economy, race, the criminal justice system, the climate, and **all** of the other important issues. Because mainstream news media distort public knowledge about issues, media interfere with solving the problems.

Glen said he is happy to interview **Janine Jackson**, a great expert from an organization whose materials he has been reading for many decades.

Since 1986 Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR, [**www.fair.org**](http://www.fair.org)) has been exposing various kinds of bias in mainstream, corporate-owned news media. FAIR has been helping people to recognize the bias and learn more accurate information.

**Janine Jackson** is FAIR’s program director and the producer/host of FAIR’s syndicated weekly radio show CounterSpin. She contributes frequently to FAIR’s newsletter ***Extra!*** Her articles have appeared in many publications.

Besides Janine’s extensive work in journalism, she has a long interest in language and social justice – and a master’s degree in sociology.

Glen welcomed Janine and began the interview.

**Three kinds of bias in mainstream media:**

Glen said that every society – including our own – has a variety of biases embedded within it. Often the people living in the society are not aware of these biases.

We started the interview by discussing **three kinds of bias** that are common in mainstream news media.

**#1:** Glen said **the FIRST kind of bias** is about **which issues are covered** – and even hyped – and which issues are ignored. Mainstream media like to vigorously publicize sports and movies and the private lives of celebrities. Are those really so important? He asked Janine what substantive issues have been largely ignored and deserve much more coverage.

Janine said FAIR takes this kind of bias head-on. People think news media tell us “the news.” FAIR points out that “journalism is in fact a public service and a public good, but news media are a business, and that’s where the conflict comes in.” She said this affects news media’s decisions about which issues they report on and which issues they minimize. Those decisions are based on the objectives of the business corporations that own the news media. She said producing news is not the same as producing a toaster. This orientation is very much different from real journalism.

She discussed what we hear about – and what we don’t hear about.

So, for example, she said that if a corporate news outlet is owned by Disney, then something that Disney does will be reported as news. It seems intuitive and natural for a big corporation to publicize the things that the corporation’s subsidiaries are doing. Likewise, the corporate-owned news media will not report on people’s activities that criticize that corporation. She said we need to start with this understanding of what corporate news media are strongly inclined to prioritize – especially if the news item is easy to write and has easy-to-use visuals.

Suppose you are a news organization and you receive a notice that something would require you to go out and interview people whom you do not know – and whose language might need translation into English – and produce a news item that will be difficult to write. Those factors make it less likely that you would cover that story.

She said all of these factors lead to the “business decisions” about which issues to cover and which ones to ignore. She said those “business decisions” are very different from “journalistic decisions.” She said FAIR keeps pointing out these distinctions. She urges people to always bear in mind that corporate news media are always making economic decisions for the benefit of their businesses. They tend to ignore issues that are more expensive to cover, or that won’t earn easy praise for their business. She said we need to keep in mind the priorities that commonly dominate which issues are covered or ignored. She asked us to question these whenever we read or watch the news.

She said some journalists – even some working for corporate media – do a good job.

Glen said that local newspapers – to the extent that they still exist – receive a lot of advertising money from real estate agencies and developers, so the local newspapers overwhelmingly report very favorably on real estate businesses.

**#2:** Next, Glen asked Janine about “framing.” He said **the SECOND kind of bias** he wanted to discuss is about **how issues are “framed.”** Mainstream news media are biased in **how an issue is framed** – what the media say the issue is about – and which aspects of the issue are sidestepped or ignored. He said people who study linguistics and communications recognize that **“frames” are clusters of consistent archetypes and narratives that help people process information.** Each “frame” is a deeply held preconception that guides how we understand reality.

He said he believes that **mainstream news media reinforces the public’s existing “frames” instead of inviting us to “re-frame” the issues** so we would be able to think more accurately. He asked Janine how she sees mainstream news media feeding into the dominant “frames” and avoiding the kinds of reporting that would challenge them.

Janine gave an example from some years ago when a waste production facility was being inserted into a community that did not want it. National Public Radio (NPR) reported on this issue by interviewing a “pro” source and a “con” source. NPR referred to the person who supported locating the waste facility in that community as “a government scientist.” NPR referred to the waste facility’s opponent as “an activist.” Those were the labels that NPR attached to their two sources.

She said the label “government scientist” made this person seem “like a person who is smart and has studied and knows what’s going on,” while the label “activist” made this other person seem like “just a person with a bug up their butt.” Actually, she said, the “activist” also was a scientist who had relevant degrees, while the person whom NPR had described as a “government scientist” actually had a background of having been paid by corporate interests who had a financial interest in placing this waste facility in that community. She said that even though we got to hear each person’s voice on the radio, NPR had framed each source to convey to the listener how much credence we should give to each source.

She said that when consumers of news media hear one person described as a “scientist” and another person described as an “activist,” that distinction messes with our brain’s ability to think objectively about the news reporting. She said this kind of framing “is a choice on the part of journalists.” She said that while this example was about framing the sources, other kinds of framing exist too.

**#3:** Glen raised a **THIRD kind of pervasive bias** that occurs when print and broadcast media **decide whom to interview**. Some kinds of people are overrepresented, while other kinds of people are not interviewed, so they are silenced. For example, when mainstream media report about poverty, they interview people who are NOT poor, but they almost never conduct substantive interviews with people who ARE poor.

Janine said we need to understand this in the context of mainstream media as corporate businesses. She said that this conflicts with the role of journalism as a service to the broad public interest. She said “journalism as a public service is proactively interested in representing the voices of those people who do not have other avenues to speak.” She said our society’s powerful people are easily able to get their views out to the public all the time – not only in speaking and writing, but also in legislation and public policy and all of the institutions that support them.

In contrast, she said that people who are poor, marginalized, or outside of power “are precisely the voices that need journalism to lift them up.” So when she critiques journalism, she is comparing what news media actually do with what they should be doing. This comparison contrasts the people who do have voices (and hence have power) with the people who do not. She urged journalists to lift up the voices of the powerless. She said our Constitution even has an amendment dedicated to protecting the free press for this purpose. She said FAIR’s work focuses on journalism’s relationship to power. She said mainstream corporate news media are utterly failing in this context. She emphasized that at this specific moment of history we need the news media to their job in more valid and necessary ways – “to lift up the voices of the people who are marginalized in these dominant conversations.”

Glen added a recent example of mainstream media’s bias in whom to interview. He said he recently heard Janine discuss this on a radio program about how Western news media commonly promote wars, not limited to the current war in Ukraine. He said when mainstream news media interview about the U.S.’s wars and possibilities of wars, they typically interview government officials who support military action, but they almost never interview anyone who points out that military violence usually makes problems worse. Instead of interviewing any of the many experts in the peace movement, they think they achieve “balance” by interviewing a pro-war Republican and a pro-war Democrat. They even interview people high up in the big business corporations that manufacture military weapons. They almost never interview anyone who makes a solid case for peace.

Glen said he remembers that during the Vietnam War, some news media did report accurately what was going on, so the public could understand and turn against the war. He said, “the government was embarrassed to have the truth come out, so in subsequent wars the government would not allow independent journalists in the war zones.” Instead, the government would choose certain reporters to be “embedded” in military units, so the military chain of command could keep them on a tight leash on those reporters. This has been the practice for the past several decades.

He also said he remembers some cases from the 1980s when President Reagan was waging his wars against politically progressive people in El Salvador and Nicaragua. A reporter for the New York *Times* and a reporter for a newspaper in Seattle were censored by their editors and managers. One reporter spent a lot of time in the countryside and talked with real people and wrote articles that reflected the realities on the ground. But the editors back home refused to publish them because those articles differed from the official statements handed out by the U.S. embassy in that country’s capital city.

Janine said the real stories are “too big to tell.” She said these kinds of examples are what caused a few experienced journalists to found FAIR in the 1980s. She said there were huge disconnections between the realities that the solidarity groups in those countries knew about versus what people were reading in mainstream news media. She said mainstream media were presenting the U.S. government’s role as “morally appropriate” and disparaging dissenters. She said that at that time more and more Americans were saying they did not agree with what the U.S. government was doing. People wanted news media to provide truthful, accurate information so the people would be able to decide whether to support or oppose the government’s role in those wars.

But instead, she said, the media distorted the information in ways that would support the government’s activities – and silenced other points of view. The media were implying that there’s something wrong with questioning what the government was doing in our name.

She said this is why some savvy journalists founded FAIR in order to challenge mainstream media because mainstream media were an obstruction to the public’s understanding of what was really happening – and therefore also as an obstruction to legitimate democratic functioning. She said back in 1986 most people had not been thinking critically about news media. People would read or watch as passive consumers. People simply accepted what mainstream media told us what was happening and how to feel about what was happening.

Glen said that since 1980 he has known a very close friend who had been studying at Georgetown University and was recruited by the Defense Intelligence Agency to work inside the Pentagon building to help design the wars in Southeast Asia. This technical expert did not really understand what the U.S.’s wars there were doing until he took a vacation, went to Norway, and read Norwegian newspapers that reported what the U.S. was doing in Southeast Asia. After returning to the U.S., he joined the peace movement.

**Glen said these three kinds of bias** – choosing which issues to report on or ignore, choosing how to frame and label, and choosing whom to interview – **could be either unwitting, unconscious, naïve** (just falling into the conventional trap) – **or they could be a deliberate way to manipulate news consumers** into supporting the existing power system, by – for example – ignoring certain kinds of issues and viewpoints and settling for the “conventional wisdom.”

**We did not have time for these further examples:**

Glen could have mentioned two more examples of “framing.” (1) When the government wants to start a new war, it tells us that this is good for our “national security.” (2) When politicians push for more prisons and longer prison sentences – or when they promote cruelty to immigrants, they tell us that this will make us “safe.”

Corporate media omit important information in order to make a simplistic case for war. Western journalists keep failing to mention the massive expansion of NATO since the end of the Cold War, which has pushed right up to Russia’s border, threatening Russia’s fears of attack from the West.

Here is an excellent video on how the media consults “experts” who have ties to major weapons manufacturers BAE, Raytheon, Lockheed Martin: [**https://taibbi.substack.com/p/the-gentlemens-agreement-when-tv?s=r**](https://taibbi.substack.com/p/the-gentlemens-agreement-when-tv?s=r)

On June 9, 2022, FAIR published an article that contrasted the amount of page 1 coverage the New York ***Times*** gave to Russia’s 2022 invasion of Ukraine with the amount it gave to the U.S.’s 2003 invasion of Iraq. FAIR gave their article this headline: “Invasion News Fits on Front Page More When an Enemy Does the Invading.” [**https://fair.org/home/invasion-news-fits-on-front-page-more-when-an-enemy-does-the-invading/**](https://fair.org/home/invasion-news-fits-on-front-page-more-when-an-enemy-does-the-invading/)

This article accuses corporate media of “cheerleading” the US’s escalation in Ukraine: [**https://www.alternet.org/2022/03/jen-psaki-2656995124/?utm\_source=123456&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=10102&recip\_id=22838&list\_id=2**](https://www.alternet.org/2022/03/jen-psaki-2656995124/?utm_source=123456&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=10102&recip_id=22838&list_id=2)

On February 23, 2022, FAIR published an article titled, “Western Media Fall in Lockstep for Neo-Nazi Publicity Stunt in Ukraine.” See the link at FAIR’s website: [**https://fair.org/home/western-media-fall-in-lockstep-for-neo-nazi-publicity-stunt-in-ukraine/**](https://fair.org/home/western-media-fall-in-lockstep-for-neo-nazi-publicity-stunt-in-ukraine/)

Also, mainstream media have failed to report on the integration of neo-Nazis into the Ukrainian armed forces ([**www.FAIR.org**](http://www.FAIR.org) on March 7, 2014 and January 28, 2022). Neo-Nazi-infested Ukrainian security forces function as a front-line proxy of US foreign policy. Mainstream media’s negligence is a kind of bias that has promoted Western public support for war and bigger military budgets.

June 6, 2022: Democracy Now! ([**www.democracynow.org**](http://www.democracynow.org)) interviewed Katrina vanden Heuvel, editorial director and publisher of *The Nation* magazine and columnist for The Washington *Post*. She said, “The longer this war goes on, the much more difficult it is to end it.” She said U.S. corporate media are responsible for what she calls a “one-sided debate” on Ukraine. Corporate media’s bias keeps provoking unprecedented spending on weapons instead of urging negotiations. [**https://www.democracynow.org/2022/6/6/katrina\_vanden\_heuvel\_kyiv\_severodonetsk\_ukraine**](https://www.democracynow.org/2022/6/6/katrina_vanden_heuvel_kyiv_severodonetsk_ukraine)

Notice how vigorously mainstream media are promoting the concept that Putin is a “madman.” “Depicting Putin as ‘Madman’ Eliminates Need for Diplomacy”: FAIR posted insights about this media bias on March 30, 2022, five weeks after Russia attacked Ukraine. [**https://fair.org/home/depicting-putin-as-madman-eliminates-need-for-diplomacy/**](https://fair.org/home/depicting-putin-as-madman-eliminates-need-for-diplomacy/) FAIR’s article begins with these three paragraphs:

Even before Russia invaded Ukraine, Western media have depicted Russian President Vladimir Putin as an irrational—perhaps mentally ill—leader who cannot be reasoned or bargained with. Such portrayals have only intensified as the Ukraine crisis came to dominate the news agenda.

The implications underlying these media debates and speculations about Putin’s psyche are immense. If one believes that Putin is a "madman," the implication is that meaningful diplomatic negotiations with Russia are impossible, pushing military options to the forefront as the means of resolving the Ukraine situation.

If Putin is not a rational actor, the implication is that no kind of diplomacy could have prevented the Russian invasion, and therefore no other country besides Russia shares blame for ongoing violence. (See FAIR.org, 3/4/22.) Yet another implication is that if Putin's defects made Russia’s invasion unavoidable, then regime change may be necessary to resolve the conflict.

This article came out on August 26, 2021, while the U.S. was ending its direct military violence in Afghanistan: “Corporate Media Were Complicit in Afghanistan War, and They're Still Obfuscating” --[**https://truthout.org/articles/corporate-media-were-complicit-in-afghanistan-war-and-theyre-still-obfuscating/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=72c7c6a5-51d6-4bd6-bb56-abdcf42269de**](https://truthout.org/articles/corporate-media-were-complicit-in-afghanistan-war-and-theyre-still-obfuscating/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=72c7c6a5-51d6-4bd6-bb56-abdcf42269de)

Worldwide, people strongly support the historically significant Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). As of June 20, 2022, 65 nations have ratified the TPNW, but U.S. mainstream media refuse to report on it. [**https://beyondnuclearinternational.org/2022/01/24/a-too-well-kept-secret/**](https://beyondnuclearinternational.org/2022/01/24/a-too-well-kept-secret/)

On December 14, 2021, Robert Reich wrote in his regular column about why he does not trust mainstream media. He said that while he avoids right-wing media, he recognizes that even mainstream media is biased in three ways:

“First, they often favor the status quo. Mainstream journalists wanting to appear serious about public policy rip into progressives for the costs of their proposals, but never ask self-styled ‘moderates’ how they plan to cope with the costs of doing nothing or doing too little about the same problems. A Green New Deal might be expensive but doing nothing about the climate crisis will almost certainly cost far more. Medicare for All will cost a lot, but the price of doing nothing about America’s cruel and dysfunctional healthcare system will soon be in the stratosphere.

“Second, the mainstream media often fail to report critical public choices. Any day now, the Senate will approve giving $768 billion to the military for this fiscal year. That’s billions more than the Pentagon sought. It’s about four times the size of Biden’s Build Back Better bill, which would come to around $175 billion a year. But where’s the reporting on the effects of this spending on the national debt, or on inflation, or whether it’s even necessary?

“Third, the mainstream media indulge in false equivalences — claiming that certain Republican and Democratic lawmakers are emerging as “troublemakers” within their parties or that extremists ‘on both sides’ are ‘radicalizing each other.’ These reports equate Republican lawmakers who are actively promoting Donald Trump’s big lie that the 2020 election was stolen with Democratic lawmakers who are fighting to protect voting rights. Well, I’m sorry. These are not equivalent. Trump’s big lie is a direct challenge to American democracy. …

“Top editors and reporters, usually based in New York and Washington, want to be accepted into the circles of the powerful – not only for sources of news but also because such acceptance is psychologically seductive. It confers a degree of success. But once accepted, they can’t help but begin to see the world through the eyes of the powerful.”

He said that while he still reads mainstream media, he reads alternative and progressive media too.

He said he keep asking himself: “How are choices being framed? What’s being left out? What big underlying issues are being assumed away or obscured?”

**Race, racial injustices, etc.: How are these covered? Who is interviewed? Who is ignored?**

Glen said one of the U.S.’s most gigantic and long-standing problems is racial injustice. This problem has been badly distorted by right-wing media, but even mainstream media seem to be horribly negligent. He asked Janine to share some insights into the media biases that have made racism even worse in this country.

Janine said the media’s shortcomings come partly from underrepresentation. She said the federal government’s Kerner Commission did a very good job of studying the U.S.’s 1968’s urban uprisings and produced a good report. She and Glen own copies of the Kerner Commission Report and have read it. She said it was very clear that the U.S. was suffering from “a white supremacy problem.” She said that the problem was not solved, but has remained active throughout all of our institutions.

She said the Kerner Commission Report was inadequately understood. Mainstream news media thought if they increased the numbers of Black staffers, this would solve their problems of covering issues related to race. They did hire more African-American journalists, but that was not enough to solve the problems. The Kerner Commission did not say to simply hire more people of color to our existing media institutions. Rather, the Commission said our media institutions were created and grown up in a time and culture of white supremacy, so the media need to be examined all the way down to their roots. Media need to reconsider what the Commission called the news media’s “white gaze.” Media tend to see the world and report the news through the eyes of white people, so the media present people of color as “others” and see them “through a pathological lens.” She said, “They don’t present African American people as people – as people who go to the PTA and hold picnics and put their kids in school.”

The Commission provided a more wholistic remedy that went far beyond sprinkling some diversity upon the media workforce. “Media institutions really needed to radically reexamine what their mission was” – and this included being accountable to the entire community of all races – “and to include their perspectives in their approach to what kinds of stories matter, what kinds of sources matter, and what range of perspectives do we need to include.”

She added, “Kerner is a much more radical document than is generally understood.” She urged us to “bring it up to 2022.” She said she sees some media institutions now are “trying to make some good-faith efforts to look at their role in promulgating white supremacy and in harming people of color.”

She said all of us need more than diverse people’s names on by-lines. We need to look at the media’s priorities. She returned to the point she had made a few minutes ago that corporate media are businesses with business priorities making business decisions. “Those things are not the same as what we as a society look for journalism to do.”

**We did not have time for Glen to mention these:**

On Janine’s CounterSpin program for May 20, 2022, she interviewed two persons about the racist “replacement theory” and the racist mass murders in Buffalo, New York: [**https://fair.org/home/the-great-replacement-builds-on-those-long-hatreds/**](https://fair.org/home/the-great-replacement-builds-on-those-long-hatreds/)

We did not have time for Glen to explain what “Critical Race Theory” really means. In some of the U.S.’s law schools, students learn how the law is supposed to work, but when they look at what actually happens, the law schools’ professors and students discover that systemic racial biases prevent laws from functioning in racially neutral ways, so law schools developed “Critical Race Theory” to observe, analyze and explain this. Some white politicians – instead of understanding the actual concept of CRT – have hijacked the theory’s name and used it to attack any kind of teaching about racial injustices, even attacking elementary schools’ teaching that racial injustice has existed in U.S. history.

Mainstream news media have not reported anywhere near adequately about what “Critical Race Theory” really means, and they have allowed racist white politicians to get away with hijacking the term and perverting what CRT is about. On July 10, 2021, FAIR published this short article about how NOT to cover “Critical Race Theory.” [**https://fair.org/home/how-not-to-cover-critical-race-theory/**](https://fair.org/home/how-not-to-cover-critical-race-theory/)

**We briefly discussed media biases in covering economics.  
What aspects are covered/ignored? How are issues framed?  
Why don’t newspapers print a “Labor page” to counter the “Business page”?  
Why obsess about the stock market instead of ordinary people’s concerns?  
Notice bias in reporting about inflation and putting consumers against workers.**

We did not have time to explore many of the implications of Janine’s insights early in this interview about recognizing the context that corporate media are big businesses that persistently favor big business over workers and ordinary people when they deal with economic issues.

But Glen did mention a few things, such as the fact that big newspapers have a “Business” page, but no “Labor” page. He said radio news reports on the economy sometimes simply report numbers about the stock market – as if that’s the only aspect of the economy that matters. He said these are just two examples of the narrow pro-business bias that he sees in mainstream news media’s coverage of economic issues. Media fail to report on how big business has manipulated the economy for its own benefit. He said that now that people are concerned about inflation, media fail to report on business’s price gouging and excess profits. Instead, they want to reduce prices by blaming workers for wanting better wages, so the media are pitting consumers against workers – when actually workers are consumers, and both constituencies are being hurt by big business – and the media are letting big business off the hook by failing to report how their price gouging and excessive profits are increasing inflation.

Janine said she is angered by the reporting that pits consumers against workers, as if we were different people. She said the media’s reporting denies the realities that Americans who work are also American consumers. She also gave the example that if people express concern for underpaid workers on South American coffee plantation workers, media would blame us for increasing the price of coffee. She said coffee is already expensive, even while those workers are underpaid.

She also said she is concerned that when powerful people discuss the issues in mainstream media, they often “are allowed to absent themselves from these stories.” She said, for example, that a news article might say that if we enact a policy that would make international trade more fair for workers, this might raise prices (again, setting up the workers vs. consumers frame that we mentioned a moment ago), the big business officials who are making decisions refuse to comment. Notice how often corporate officials refuse to take responsibility for the decisions they are making. Media allow them to avoid that accountability. Glen agreed and said journalists simply take that denial at face value instead of pursuing the matter. Janine said the big business official is the single most powerful person in this scenario, but they are allowed to avoid responsibility by refusing to comment.

Janine said this is one more example of why we need to recognize the limits of corporate news media. She said that even while the media do report many significant – and even ground-breaking – stories, we need to “recognize the structural barriers that they face when they are actually trying to tell the stories and offer the kinds of solutions that might actually get us past this.” She said the people who sign the journalists’ paychecks do not want the journalists to dig deeply enough. Honest journalists say they really do feel that influence. She mentioned an example of a journalist who toed the line while he wrote about economics and labor issues for the New York *Times* but has been writing more radically since he left that job. She said she really wishes he would write now about why his employment at the New York *Times* constrained him from writing things he probably knew he should have been writing about then. People who read that newspaper now need to know about the pressures he felt then, so we can understand the constraints that are limiting what current reporters are able to write about.

Glen said Janine’s example pertains to other kinds of professions too. He said her example of pressures on journalists that go away when the employees move on have been constraining people in the criminal justice system (prosecutors, judges, etc.) too. He said he read a book by a very prominent psychiatrist who interviewed retired prosecutors, judges, etc., who had been allowing horrible injustices to occur while they were working, but who – after retiring – were reporting that they had knowingly convicted innocent people of crimes, supported unjust sentences, and so forth. Now they have come out against the death penalty and the other abuses in the criminal justice system. While they were working in the criminal justice system, they felt pressure to do things that they knew were wrong, but they never spoke up until after they retired.

He said the lesson from that book – and the lesson from what Janine has been saying – is that our institutional systems do a very bad job of critiquing themselves.

**Crime and the criminal justice system:**

Glen said mainstream media are full of biases about the criminal justice system. He said some kinds of crimes are vigorously covered while other kinds of crimes are ignored. Some kinds of people are interviewed while other kinds of people are ignored. He asked Janine to share some insights into how mainstream media cover crime.

She encouraged people to visit [**www.fair.org**](http://www.fair.org) for a lot of information about this. The direct link to FAIR’s coverage of crime and punishment is [**https://fair.org/topic/crime-punishment/**](https://fair.org/topic/crime-punishment/)

She said there are several issues within the overall issue of criminal justice. She said corporate media’s persistent top-down bias is present here too. She said that while a left-right bias exists too, the top-down bias dominates corporate media’s coverage of crime and the criminal justice system. Glen agreed and said it is about “power versus powerlessness.” She agreed. She said we hear a lot from powerful people but less from people who are outside of power. Those relatively powerless people are presented in a bracketed, marginalized way that implies that the public should take what they say with a grain of salt.

She said FAIR studied this recently and found, for example, that media had reported a shoplifting spree in San Francisco. Some people had taken basic daily necessities (diapers, aspirin, etc.) from a Walgreen’s store. The media presented this as the kind of crime we need to worry about. This story generated 309 publicized pieces in a 28-day period.

She contrasted this media coverage with the fact that – **at the same time** – Walgreen’s was settling for $4.5 million a case about **Walgreen’s breaking federal labor laws by stealing huge amounts of wages from its workers**. This gigantic “white-collar” crime received very little media coverage. News media “framed” a crime crisis in terms of poor people’s small thefts instead of a giant business corporation’s giant thefts by high-level corporate officials and managers systematically shaving money from their employees’ paychecks. Mainstream media did not report this as a serious crime – and did not have big headlines about Walgreen’s crime – and did not try to alarm the public about this danger to our society.

She said this is an example of “how news media tell you whom to care about, whom not to care about, who is the problem, who is not the problem, what’s the issue, and what’s not the issue.”

She added that these biases affect public opinion and how people define problems, so they result in public policy harm, and they affect how people vote. She expressed her frustration with news media. Glen agreed and said that for a long time he has shared that frustration and appreciated FAIR’s savvy efforts to bring these concerns to the public.

**We did not have time for Glen to mention these:**

For a very long time, much news reporting has focused on crime. Newspapers and TV stations know that violent crime attracts readers and viewers. The classic advice from the media says, “If it bleeds, it leads.”

A non-profit organization working to reform criminal justice sentencing in humane directions sent this out on June 14, 2021:

“News coverage of crime and criminal justice policies has played an integral role in the buildup of mass incarceration and its racial disparities. Many newsrooms and journalists are now striving to more accurately and critically cover these issues. The Sentencing Project’s new media guide, “10 Crime Coverage Dos and Don’ts,” [**https://www.sentencingproject.org/publications/10-crime-coverage-dos-and-donts/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=bfa99fdf-1050-4674-91ea-cdd1564ab27d**](https://www.sentencingproject.org/publications/10-crime-coverage-dos-and-donts/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=bfa99fdf-1050-4674-91ea-cdd1564ab27d) can help media outlets develop coverage that will better inform the public and policymakers on how to pursue the most effective and humane public safety policies.

“U.S. crime rates increased dramatically beginning in the 1960s, but between 1991 and 2019 crime rates fell by about half. But during this crime drop, polls showed that most Americans continued to believe that there was more crime in the country than there was a year ago. As certain crimes began climbing in 2020, it has become especially important for the media to ensure that its crime coverage is accurate and complete.”

The kinds of concerns Janine mentioned pertain also to how the media have been covering **gun violence**. On June 1, 2022, FAIR posted Janine’s May 27 radio program CounterSpin, in which she interviewed two people about gun violence. See [**https://fair.org/home/more-guns-more-gun-deaths-thats-really-it/**](https://fair.org/home/more-guns-more-gun-deaths-thats-really-it/)

**Several kinds of bias in media coverage of Israel-Palestine:**

Glen briefly mentioned several kinds of bias in mainstream news media’s reporting about the Middle East. Here are a few points beyond what he had time to say during the interview:

#1. In 1948 when the nation of Israel was created, many, many Palestinian people were forced off from their traditional lands that they had owned for a very long time. Problems have persisted and escalated from 1948 to the present day, but news media reporting keep failing to note this historical root of the problems.

#2. The vast, vast majority of violence has been committed against innocent Palestinian people by Israeli people and the Israeli military. Glen said he has read that about 95% of the violence is done by Israelis and only 5% is done by Palestinians, but U.S. news media pretend that both sides are committing equal amounts of violence. This “false equivalency” is a kind of bias that exists when reporting on other conflicts in which a power imbalance is part of the problem.

#3. Israel’s military keeps committing war crimes that are illegal under international law, but the U.S.’s mainstream media never report this.

#4. Recently when a prominent Palestinian journalist was brutally killed there, some news reports said she **“died,”** **not** that she was **murdered by an Israeli military sharp-shooter**.

An organization supporting the rights of Palestinian people contrasted mainstream news media’s coverage of Israel’s violence against Palestine with Russia’s violence against Ukraine. Media strongly blame Russia but fail to hold Israel’s government accountable: [**https://www.ampalestine.org/media/blog/ten-lessons-palestine-russias-invasion-ukraine**](https://www.ampalestine.org/media/blog/ten-lessons-palestine-russias-invasion-ukraine)

Overwhelmingly, the American people are grossly misinformed because our mainstream media are horribly biased

**Janine added the next two paragraphs about Israel and Palestine.**

She said many Americans – including Jewish Americans – want Israel to be treated as a country, as a state. Then we can consider critically what Israel is doing as a nation about oppression of the Palestinian people. She said many people are ready for a conversation that corporate news media won’t let them have. She said it is a profound disservice to conflate a critical evaluation of that nation’s behavior with anti-Semitism. She said conflation interferes with understanding anti-Semitism. She said that conflation is a conversation stopper, when we need to have honest conversations about foreign policy and U.S. support for policies that are being done in our name.

She agreed with Glen’s statement that the violence is asymmetrical. An occupied population is being oppressed by a nation with nuclear weapons [Israel]. It is inaccurate to call what’s happening as “clashes” when the violence is so disproportional. Likewise, it is inaccurate to frame Israel’s massive military violence as “retaliating against” what Palestinians have done (*e.g*., throwing rocks). Much news media reporting uses language that obfuscates the truth instead of reporting honestly.

**Several kinds of bias in media coverage of climate:**

Glen mentioned very briefly news media’s shortcomings in reporting about the climate crisis. Here are a few points beyond what he had time to say during the interview:

#1. All around Planet Earth, climates are being disrupted in extremely serious ways. The world’s scientists have been conducting solid research about the rapidly escalating climate crisis. Scientists are increasingly expressing frantic alarm, while governments and businesses keep refusing to take the actions that the scientists say are absolutely necessary if we are to maintain human civilization and avoid gigantic numbers of deaths.

#2. For a while news media reported somewhat, but never with the seriousness necessary. And now media coverage seems to be declining, even while the climate crisis is getting extremely worse. Has the climate crisis become “old news”? Are corporate media simply too deferential to big business (which has been profiting by abusing the climate) and too deferential to government (which has been corrupted by corporate donations to election campaigns and has become very timid)?

#3. On November 2, 2021, an alternative, progressive news source reported that mainstream media gave climate denialist Republicans a free pass at the global climate conference. In late October and early November 2021, the United Nations’ worldwide climate conference (COP26) brought world leaders together. President Biden said good things, but this article reported that corporate news media let Republican climate deniers off the hook for preventing the U.S. from taking necessary actions to save Planet Earth’s climate: [**https://www.juancole.com/2021/11/president-denialist-republicans.html**](https://www.juancole.com/2021/11/president-denialist-republicans.html)

#4. On August 26, 2021, another alternative, progressive source of reporting (Common Dreams, [**www.commondreams.org**](http://www.commondreams.org)) exposed a corporate media person’s comment that corporate media do not want to report on the climate crisis because such reporting is “ratings killer.” See this: “In 2018, one of the top hosts on cable news openly admitted why the corporate media spend so little time covering the climate emergency. Climate change, he said, is a ‘palpable ratings killer.’ Since then, the corporate media's coverage of the climate emergency – even as global temperatures have gone up – has actually gone down. Common Dreams ([**www.commondreams.org**](http://www.commondreams.org)) reported this: “The planet is on fire, and the corporate media ignores it because it’s in their financial interests to do so. Their business model is based on ratings and clicks, and then they sell advertising to the very fossil fuel companies that have brought our climate near the brink of collapse

#5. Another alternative, progressive news outlet published this article on September 27, 2021: Media's attention to the IPCC's report neglected the real cause of emissions: [**https://truthout.org/articles/mainstream-media-attention-to-ipcc-report-neglected-real-cause-of-emissions/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=92827180-dfbb-497d-9281-ac55ff900a4a**](https://truthout.org/articles/mainstream-media-attention-to-ipcc-report-neglected-real-cause-of-emissions/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=92827180-dfbb-497d-9281-ac55ff900a4a) Mainstream news media failed to expose fossil fuel companies’ decades of propaganda denying the crisis – let alone their responsibility for the crisis. Also, this was just a very brief news issue that mainstream media promptly ignored again.

#6. The June 2022 issue of FAIR’s ***Extra!*** publication featured a page 3 article titled, “When an Unlivable Planet Is a One-Day Story.” It reported on mainstream media’s failure to report adequately on the climate. When I typed this thorough summary of our TV interview, the ***Extra!*** article had not yet been posted at [**www.fair.org**](http://www.fair.org)

**Janine added several points about the climate:**

“There’s no way that news media can say they’ve been doing what’s appropriate,” she said. The crisis is about ending human life on the planet. News media must identify the actual sources of climate disruption. These include oil companies and other fossil fuel companies. Those companies’ top officials are on the boards of corporate news companies.

She said that while some reporting about climate disruption has been intelligent, thoughtful, poignant, and heart-rending, that is not enough. She said the conversation about climate disruption must come into **EVERY** conversation about which fossil fuel operators are exerting influence. This includes trade policy, government policy, and **EVERYWHERE**.

Those top decision-makers need to be asked hard questions – and serious answers must be demanded. She said it’s not enough to do a story about feeling sorry for Pacific Islanders whose livelihood is being harmed. She said climate disruption has actors – and we must name them – and we must talk with them – and never settle for “ExxonMobil declined to speak with us.” She said, “to the extent that corporate news media allow these powerful people to be silent – to not have to answer for what they are doing – to the extent that the news media do not bring the fight to **EVERY** conversation in which climate disruption is meaningful – which is pretty much every conversation – they are failing us. It’s not enough to do a friendly story every now and then on Earth Day. That’s not enough! It has everything to do with corporate ownership and sponsorship.”

Glen added that the climate crisis is not “an act of God” like an undersea earthquake. Climate disruptions are the deliberate consequences of specific decisions made by oil companies, knowing that they will seriously disrupt our atmosphere and hurt people.

**Democracy and the Constitution are in crisis. How have media covered these?**

Glen said that from several sources he has read that one of our nation’s founders said that he would rather have newspapers but no government than to have government but no newspapers.

He said we Americans strongly value the sense of democracy and the strength of the Constitution, but nowadays both democracy and our Constitution are suffering severe crises. Mainstream news media are failing to report on the extreme danger that our democracy and our Constitution are suffering now – and especially since the violent attempt to overthrow them on January 6, 2021.

He said we seem very close to being taken over by a fascist dictatorship, but the news media seem to treat this as just another partisan squabble with “both-sides” false equivalency.

We did not have time for Glen to mention that on February 17, 2022, a social justice organization posted an article with this headline: “Lack of media urgency over GOP efforts to steal 2024 elections.” One sentence in the article said, “One of the “most consistent criticisms of the political press from the left these days is that it treats politics and policy as ‘normal’ when the United States is facing an unprecedented crisis of democracy.” Here is the article**:** [**https://www.nationofchange.org/2022/02/17/lack-of-media-urgency-over-gop-efforts-to-steal-2024-elections/**](https://www.nationofchange.org/2022/02/17/lack-of-media-urgency-over-gop-efforts-to-steal-2024-elections/)

He asked Janine for insights about how well – or how badly – mainstream news media have been covering the several dangers to free elections and our Constitution. She said she is just as disheartened as Glen is. She said journalism is failing to perform its primary job. “Something terrible is happening!” “We’re up against something huge here!” She said journalists do not seem to know how to respond to this current crisis. She said this is true for the climate crisis and also for this crisis in democracy. She said we need new ways to deal with these, so we can move forward. “What we certainly **can’t** do is keep having the same old conversations where the same powerful people who made the decisions that got us here are the only ones in the conversation.

She said some good changes have occurred by people talking **around** corporate news media, **not within** corporate news media.

**We did not have time to say more about a few things:**

#1. On several issues, media have equated “both sides” with “false equivalencies.” News media feel the need to avoid the appearance of favoritism, so – in their attempt to appear even-handed – they report on controversies as if both sides were equal. Even if 90% of the violence in a conflict was committed by one side, the news reports pretend that each side did 50%. We mentioned these “false equivalencies” in relation to Israel and Palestine, and mainstream media conduct “both-sides-ism” on other issues too, but we did not have time to discuss those.

#2. Editors and managers sometimes overrule reporters. Glen mentioned this in relation to reporting on U.S. abuses of Central America, but we did not dig into the other issues where this occurs. We strongly support professional quality journalism. But sometimes honest journalists are overruled by editors and managers.

#3. Very consistently over a long number of years, mainstream media have parroted the U.S.’s government’s hostility toward the politically progressive governments of Venezuela. On June 13, FAIR posted an article titled, “Calibrated’ Dishonesty: Western Media Coverage of Venezuela Sanctions.” See it here: [**https://fair.org/home/calibrated-dishonesty-western-media-coverage-of-venezuela-sanctions/**](https://fair.org/home/calibrated-dishonesty-western-media-coverage-of-venezuela-sanctions/)

#4. The prosecution of Wikileaks’ Julian Assange seriously threatens freedom of the press: The Biden administration should abandon a course that could lead to the criminalization of whistleblowers and investigative journalism. Mainstream media violate the interests of real journalism and toe the government’s line of bias against Assange: [**https://www.thenation.com/article/society/assange-freedom-press/?utm\_source=Sailthru&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=Daily%2012.20.2021&utm\_term=daily**](https://www.thenation.com/article/society/assange-freedom-press/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Daily%2012.20.2021&utm_term=daily)

**Changes in ownership, concentration, reduced local reporting, “private equity” exploitation, etc.:**

Glen said the problems have gotten worse because all over the country, many reporters are being laid off, many newspapers are being sharply reduced in size and quality, and many newspapers are being shut down altogether.

Local newspapers are dying – but not simply dying from natural causes. They also are being bought up by bigger and bigger business corporations – including “private equity” businesses that do not give a damn about journalism. Those giant “private equity” firms are buying up businesses, seizing their assets, and killing the carcasses. “Private equity” firms are bleeding newspapers (and hurting news coverage) in order to maximize profits. See this article: [**https://inequality.org/great-divide/from-the-kingpins-of-private-equity-a-new-dagger-to-democracy/**](https://inequality.org/great-divide/from-the-kingpins-of-private-equity-a-new-dagger-to-democracy/)

Janine agreed that corporate consolidation has been hurting news media for the past thirty years. She said this problem reinforces what she has been saying about corporate control hurting honest journalism – the public service that we need. People want newspapers to be their eyes on the world who can inform us about what matters, but these big business conglomerates see newspapers as just more businesses to buy and exploit for quick profits. Journalism “doesn’t mean to them what it means to us.”

Therefore, she said, we need different ways to fund the journalism that we need. If journalism is seen just like any other business – manufacturing toasters or cars – then we need to rescue it and treat it differently.

She said we are starting to do some good things. New Jersey now has a news consortium that uses public funds to support truly local journalism. This is starting to solve the shortage of local news because New Jersey’s people were getting news from New York or Philadelphia instead of their own local news. Now they are getting some truly local serious news coverage in New Jersey.

She urged us to explore such alternative models in order to provide good quality news coverage.

Glen said he lives in the county where Washington State’s capital city, Olympia, is. He said we have a monthly newsprint periodical that is run by volunteers and supported by volunteer donors (including him). He said this monthly periodical often scoops news stories that the corporate-owned daily newspaper fails to cover.

**SOLUTIONS:**

**How to recognize media bias: intentional / unconscious / “sins of omission” --  
How to track down better sources of news:**

Glen said we have spent most of an hour talking about PROBLEMS. Now let’s talk about SOLUTIONS.

He asked Janine how people could be more alert and more savvy in recognizing media bias.

She thanked Glen for producing this TV program which is helping people deal with media bias. She encouraged people to seek out additional sources of news besides what they are already reading and watching. She said she has been thinking about this for thirty years and wishes she had an easier answer. She said, “the truth is that there is no substitute for informing yourself independently as a citizen.”

She said we should continue to read the paper and listen to the radio, but also talk with your friends and community groups. Get involved. Read foreign newspapers. These might not make us happy about what’s going on in the world, but these can help us recognize that we can reach out beyond the usual sources – and to recognize that our values and our voices matter, so we can become part of the public conversation. “Don’t just let the news wash over you.” She said it’s depressing to let mainstream media simply tell us “what mattered and how you should feel about it.” She encouraged us to talk with real people in real situations, because this will give you the perspective to bring your own questions to the news media. When you read a story, ask yourself whose perspective am I hearing, and whose perspective am I not hearing? Is there another perspective on this story that I should seek out?

She said people often ask her what they should read. There is not a single source. She suggested picking one or a few stories (international, national or local) and then follow the story or stories. Look for other sources, such as organizations that have been mentioned, so you can visit their websites to find out what they have to say. Follow your way through a story using your own independent judgment, rather than assume that any particular news source will tell you everything you need to know.

**Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR): What this organization does:**

Glen agreed and said Janine’s advice is about empowering ourselves instead of being passive consumers. We can be empowered, curious and inquisitive.

He also recommended connecting with the excellent, insightful, independent non-profit organization for which Janine works. Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR) has a website [**www.fair.org**](http://www.fair.org), that contains a lot of information about the kinds of things we have been discussing and a wide variety of issues about which they critique mainstream news media coverage. He encouraged people to read their informative, insightful materials – and also to donate financial support to this 501c3 organization. He said he has been doing both of these for decades.

He said he likes the few sentences on their website that summarize what FAIR does:

“FAIR, the national media watch group, has been offering well-documented criticism of media bias and censorship since 1986. We work to invigorate the First Amendment by advocating for greater diversity in the press and by scrutinizing media practices that marginalize public interest, minority and dissenting viewpoints. As an anti-censorship organization, we expose neglected news stories and defend working journalists when they are muzzled. As a progressive group, FAIR believes that structural reform is ultimately needed to break up the dominant media conglomerates, establish independent public broadcasting and promote strong non-profit sources of information.” [**https://fair.org/about-fair/**](https://fair.org/about-fair/)

He asked Janine what she herself does for FAIR. She said she is their program director. Much of what she does is produce and host their weekly radio show, CounterSpin. (See [**https://fair.org/counterspin-radio/**](https://fair.org/counterspin-radio/)) She said she tries to find people who have things critical to say about how news media are covering issues and/or about alternative ways things could be done. She said, “Every problem we talk about, somebody out there is solving.” She said FAIR wants to lift up those examples of people solving the problems.

Glen said he has been a vigorous volunteer for half a century, even while he was working at a regular job. His volunteer work has been empowering people to do good things. So many people are squashed down and made to feel powerless. Then they get cynical and don’t do anything. We need to empower people so they will do good things.

Janine added that people also are made to feel stupid. She said this is one of the things that she resents the most about mainstream news media. They want people to think that the realities are over their heads, and their instincts are probably wrong, so people should just let the experts handle the problems. She said people’s instincts very often are right, especially when they’re about love and help and concern for other people. We need to affirm our good instincts and switch from news media that disempower us and choose better sources of news and information.

She said FAIR started in 1986. It was founded by a few persons who were especially concerned about nuclear war and the U.S.’s military violence in Central America. They were concerned that U.S. news media were not covering these problems appropriately. They wanted to lift up a better voice and talk around the dominant news media.

She said an important aspect of FAIR’s work emerged to help people understand who owns and who sponsors the news media outlets that people are consuming. Until FAIR made this an issue, people did not pay attention to who owns and sponsors them. FAIR has helped people pay attention to the interests of the people who are bringing them the news – and consider whether those interests are excluding certain kinds of issues, certain kinds of information, and certain kinds of perspectives.

**We did not have time for Glen to mention these:**

FAIR’s website says: ***Extra!*** is FAIR's hard-hitting newsletter of well-documented media criticism. The 4-page, ad-free, newsletter publishes ten times a year bringing you the media analysis and activism that you expect from FAIR. ***Extra!*** receives no money from advertisers or corporate underwriters, and depends on subscribers for its existence. Please subscribe and help make it possible for us to keep investigating and publishing.

FAIR’s website says: CounterSpin is FAIR’s weekly radio show, produced and hosted by Janine Jackson. It’s heard on more than 160 noncommercial stations across the United States and Canada. CounterSpin provides a critical examination of the major stories every week, and exposes what corporate media might have missed in their own coverage. CounterSpin highlights censored stories and exposes biased and inaccurate coverage, while examining the power of corporate influence and sexism, racism and homophobia in the news.

Glen belongs to many organizations and enjoys donating financial support to them. He especially appreciates organizations that interact well with members of the public, so we can inform and activate people and strengthen our bottom-up organizing.

He encourages people to sign up to receive FAIR’s e-mails at this link: [**https://fair.org/sign-up-for-fair-email-network/**](https://fair.org/sign-up-for-fair-email-network/)

He encourages people to donate financial support.

The May 11, 2022, CounterSpin program featured Janine Jackson interviewing Mike Rispoli, the senior director of journalism policy for Free Press ([**www.freepress.net**](http://www.freepress.net)). Their topic was: ‘What if We Use Public Money to Transform What Local Media Looks Like?’ See [**https://fair.org/?s=rispoli**](https://fair.org/?s=rispoli)

**This TV interview video – and a thorough typed summary with more information – will be posted to Glen’s blog, in addition to airing on local cable TV in July. Please encourage your friends to watch and/or read:**

We did not have time for Glen to say we are covering a lot of information during this interview. Besides posting this TV video to his blog his blog – [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org) – he also typed up a very thorough summary of what we said. This thorough summary includes many more insights and links to additional information resources. **You are reading that thorough summary document now.**

Please encourage your friends to visit his blog – [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org) – and click the category for “TV Programs” or the category for “Media.: Look for the title of this TV episode, “Recognize and Counter Mainstream Media’s Biases. Your friends can click the link for the TV video and/or the link for this thorough summary.

**The TV program will air three times a week (Mondays 1:30 pm, Wednesdays 5:00 pm, and Thursdays 9:00) throughout July 2022 on cable channel 22 in Thurston County WA**.

**Here are sources of alternative and progressive media covering many issues.  
Visit their websites and/or sign up to receive their e-mails with multi-issue news:**

**Alternet:** [**www.alternet.org**](http://www.alternet.org)

**Common Dreams:** [**www.commondreams.org**](http://www.commondreams.org)

**CounterPunch:** [**www.counterpunch.org**](http://www.counterpunch.org)

**Democracy Now!** [**www.democracynow.org**](http://www.democracynow.org)

**Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR):** [**www.fair.org**](http://www.fair.org)

**Mother Jones:** [**www.motherjones.com**](http://www.motherjones.com)

**Nation of Change:** [**www.nationofchange.org**](http://www.nationofchange.org)

**Op Ed News:** [**www.opednews.com**](http://www.opednews.com)

**Parallax Perspectives (Glen Anderson’s multi-issue blog):** [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org)

**Popular Resistance:** [**www.popularresistance.org**](http://www.popularresistance.org)

**Progressive Populist:** [**www.populist.com**](http://www.populist.com)

**Public Citizen:** [**www.citizen.org**](http://www.citizen.org)

**The Intercept:** [**www.theintercept.com**](http://www.theintercept.com)

**The Nation:** [**www.thenation.com**](http://www.thenation.com)

**The Progressive Magazine:** [**www.progressive.org**](http://www.progressive.org)

**The Young Turks:** [**www.tytnetwork.com**](http://www.tytnetwork.com) **and** [**www.tyt.com**](http://www.tyt.com)

**TomDispatch:** [**www.tomdispatch.com**](http://www.tomdispatch.com)

**Truthout:** [**www.truthout.org**](http://www.truthout.org)

**Waging Nonviolence:** [**www.wagingnonviolence.org**](http://www.wagingnonviolence.org)

I also encourage people to sign up to receive information from good organizations that focus on specific issues (peace, nuclear weapons, environment, climate, human rights, criminal justice, economics, etc.

**Glen’s closing encouragement:**

Glen thanked Janine Jackson for sharing her information and insights during this interview.

He also thanked the people who have been watching. He asked people to encourage their friends in Thurston County WA to watch this on Thurston Community Media cable channel 22 during July 2022 (every Monday at 1:30 pm, every Wednesday at 5:00 pm, and every Thursday at 9:00 pm).

And he asked people to invite their friends everywhere to visit his blog – [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org) – where they can watch this TV video and/or read the thorough summary AT ANY TIME from ANYWHERE long into the future.

He said a democracy can be only as strong as the information its citizens have. Biased news media hurt people’s knowledge and hurt our democracy. We can strengthen our democracy by recognizing and countering the biases in news media – and also by seeking out smarter sources of information.

You can get information about a wide variety of issues related to peace, social justice and nonviolence through my blog, [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org)or by phoning me at   
(360) 491-9093 or e-mailing me at [**glenanderson@integra.net**](mailto:glenanderson@integra.net)

Glen ends each TV program with this invitation to help make progress:

**We're all one human family, and we all share one planet.**

**We can create a better world, but we all have to work at it.**

**The world needs whatever you can do to help!**