# Alternative Publishing & Alternative Media

February 14, 2013

LIB 1201

### Examples of Alternative Media

Name	About	Online or Print?
AlterNet	Syndication service, news magazine & online community for alternative media	Online only
Alternative Press Center (Alternative Press Index)	Collective dedicated to providing access to and increasing awareness of the alternative press	Founded as print index and alternative press guide; now available in print and electronic formats
Ethnic NewsWatch	Database of articles from newspapers, magazines & journals from ethnic, minority, native press	Content is online; adapted from print & online sources
Independent Media Center (Indymedia)	Collective of media organizations & journalists; "grassroots, non-corporate coverage"	Network of media outlets; established in 1999 to cover WTO protests in Seattle; online only

## T. Eland, "Critical Thinking, Deviant Knowledge and the Alternative Press"

"To be truly informed citizens capable of making complex choices concerning the world, we need to be well informed. We need to learn about the structure of the major corporate media and how it limits what we know about the world. We need to inform ourselves about the role of a free and open press in supporting a pluralist democratic society... We need access to ideas that come from sources that have something other than the profit motive as the reason for their existence."

#### Alternative Media Issues

- What are issues with production and distribution of alternative media – print or digital?
- What is intellectual freedom?
- What is freedom of speech?
- Is there censorship of the Internet in the US?
- Is there censorship of print materials?

### zines (rhymes with beans)

- Zines are self-published, sometimes homemade, noncommercial print publications with a small circulation
- Zine timeline from the University of Oregon Department of Arts & Administration
- Local zine libraries & resources:
  - Brooklyn College Library
  - ABC No Rio
  - Barnard College Library
  - Fales Library, New York University
  - Pratt Institute Libraries
  - DeWitt Wallace Periodical Room, New York Public Library
  - Printed Matter



#### Zine activity

#### Each table:

- 1. Choose a recorder and a reporter
- 2. Select a zine, pass around the table, skim the contents
- 3. What is the theme or main idea?
- 4. Describe where/when (internet, magazines, other media) you have encountered a similar point of view; be specific
- 5. Record your thoughts on the author's motives: why a zine?
- 6. Report to the rest of the class

## Brooklyn College Library <u>zine collection</u> field trip!

Sunday, March 3, 3 p.m.

Meet in front of Brooklyn College library; directions to follow

RSVP by email to me by Thursday, February 28!

#### For Tuesday 2/19

Web 2.0, Web 3.0, participatory media, and big data

Reading: Web 2.0 from Wikipedia

Baker, The Charms of Wikipedia

Fischetti, The Web turns 20: Linked data gives people power

Lohr, The Age of Big Data

Tufte, Visual and Statistical Thinking, pp. 5-15 only

Viewing: Common Craft social media video

Discussion Facilitators: Alae, Erica, Rob

Assignment: Write one reading response blog post