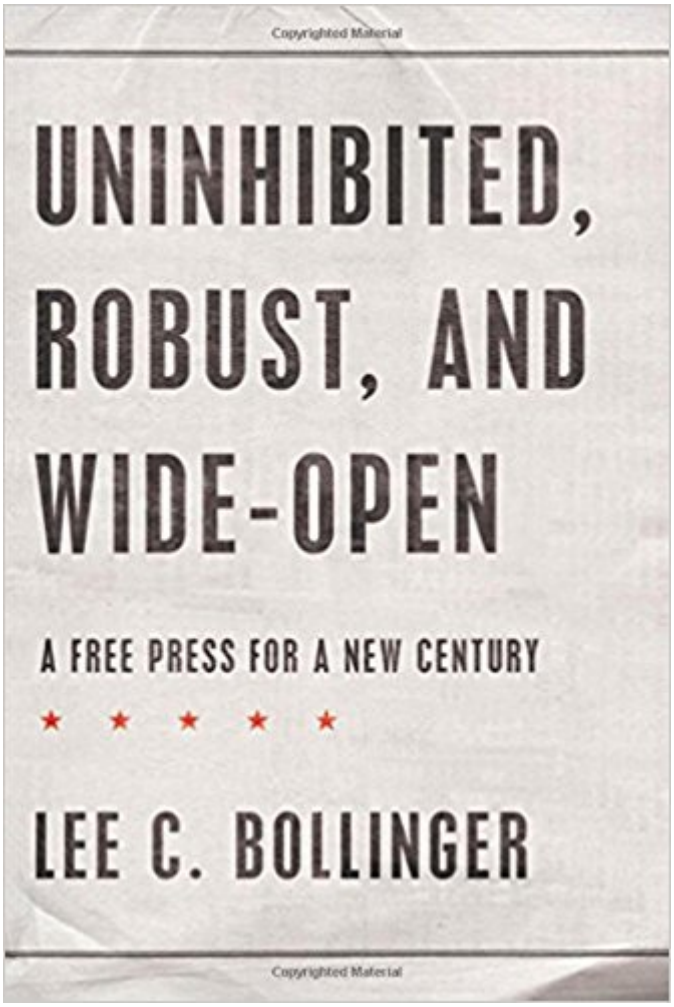
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# Uninhibited, Robust, And Wide-Open: A Free Press For A New Century (INALIENABLE RIGHTS)




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## Synopsis

Lee Bollinger is one of our foremost experts on the First Amendment--both an erudite scholar and elegant advocate. In this sweeping account, he explores the troubled history of a free press in America and looks toward the challenges ahead. The first amendment guaranteed freedom of the press in seemingly clear terms. However, over the course of American history, Bollinger notes, the idea of press freedom has evolved, in response to social, political, technological, and legal changes. It was not until the twentieth century that freedom of the press came to be understood as guaranteeing an "uninhibited, robust and wide-open" public discourse. But even during the twentieth century, government continually tried to erect barriers: the sedition laws of World War One, the use of libel law, the Pentagon Papers case, and efforts to limit press access to information. Bollinger utilizes this history to explore the meaning of freedom of the press in our globalized, internet-dominated era. As he shows, we have now entered uncharted territory. What does press freedom mean when our news outlets can instantaneously disseminate information throughout the world? When foreign media have immediate access to the American market? Bollinger stresses that even though the law will surely evolve in the coming years, we must maintain our commitment to a press that is "uninhibited, robust, and wide-open," not only in America but everywhere. Given the new ability of foreign media to reach the United States via the Internet and vice versa, it is in America’s national interest for press freedoms to expand overseas. While protecting the freedom of the press at home remains a crucial task, the next challenge is to help create a global public forum suitable for an increasingly interconnected world. Part of Oxford’s landmark Inalienable Rights series, this book will set the agenda for how we think about the press in the twenty-first century.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

It should come as no surprise that the Internet has radically altered the way journalism is practiced. It has also raised some fundamental questions about the future of traditional news media and about the First Amendment itself. The amendment provides, as we all know, for a free and unencumbered press, but does the Internet fall under its protective umbrella? Recent court decisions have suggested it may not, but the problem is that the First Amendment, despite sounding like a categorical statement, is actually vague and open to interpretation. In this fascinating, well-reasoned book, Bollinger, president of Columbia University, traces the evolution of the First Amendment and discusses what the future might hold in store for the notion of a free press. He asks, for example, whether the American press can maintain integrity and uniqueness in the face of the new Ã¢â ¬Å“global media.Ã¢â ¬Â• While the prose is perhaps a bit dry, the ideas under discussion are rich and should spark debate among those who are concerned about the future of journalism and the free press. --David Pitt

"Lee Bollinger makes a powerful case for the press as 'our scout and our explorer' in a global society. His book celebrates the freedom protected by the First Amendment in this country but goes beyond that to consider how the press can survive to do its job, here and in the world. It is a work of vision and provocation."--Anthony Lewis, author of Freedom for the Thought that we Hate"At a moment of existential threat to the role and even existence of the American press, Lee Bollinger has written a lucid and masterful account of the press and the First Amendment in the 21st century. Sweeping well beyond legal analysis, Bollinger's focus on the need to overcome barriers to newsgathering within the United States and abroad makes this book an indispensable contribution to how to save the press and how to make the press worth saving."--Floyd Abrams, author of Speaking Freely"In this probing analysis of the evolution of the meaning and practice of 'freedom of the press' in US history, Lee Bollinger proves once again he is a leading thinker of the First Amendment. I have known Lee for over 30 years: I admire him, read him and quote him (usually with attribution); and I certainly recommend this book."--John Sexton, President, New York University"...Uninhibited, Robust and Wide-Open offers its readers a wonderful opportunity to test their own thinking in such matters and decide for themselves." -- Concurring Opinions "The volume, Uninhibited, Robust, and Wide-Open: A Free Press for a New Century, is concise in format yet

expansive in ideas...Uninhibited, Robust, and Wide-Open is part of Oxford University Press's Inalienable Rights series...Lee Bollinger provides a worthy addition to this group, and his contribution packs quite a punch in just a slim volume. The book is gracefully written and filled with impeccable legal analysis, thus making for quite an enjoyable and stimulating read. Readers will take away from it renewed understandings of First Amendment freedoms and the responsibilities of the media. The book is highly recommended for public and academic law libraries, as well as general academic libraries." --Law Library Journal

Very informative and interesting book.

"Uninhibited, Robust, and Wide-Open" is not meant to be used as a study aid of First Amendment law, but as a road map for a broader discussion about free press in the U.S. It's a timely discussion that forces readers to look at where freedom of the press stands on a more global stage in the age of internet-ready technology. Bollinger divides his discussion into four readable chapters. The first two chapters are focused on exploring the past of how the U.S. Supreme Court has handled issues concerning freedom of the press. Chapter 1 is leads readers through a series of important United States Supreme Court cases. Chapter 2 builds upon this foundation by going deeper into the court decisions that assisted in shaping the present status relating to freedom of the press. Reviewing the court cases shows where the Justices have disagreed and provide detail discussion behind their opinions. In chapter 3, Bollinger looks at where free press currently stands. This chapter helps the reader to gain a clearer picture of what should happen to deal with new challenges that may be presented as the times continue to change. Then in chapter 4, Bollinger takes readers into what he sees as the future of freedom of the press. Bollinger hopes that the world will take note of the happenings and doings of the U.S. free press from the 20th century. Bollinger argues that, as society continues the critical charge of protecting freedom of the press within the U.S., it should take steps toward formulating a global free press platform. Overall, a well-researched, well-organized, and expertly presented easy read!

Scholarly but easy to read, this book is a must read for everyone who cares about First Amendment rights. Bollinger's impeccably researched, work reviews the history of America's free press movement. Goes beyond print media to TV and the Internet. Got it from my local library and decided I must own this amazing little book.

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