



Student Handout 1: News Media Survey

Directions: Individually, answer the main questions on the survey below. Then, with members of your small group, discuss the follow-up questions and be prepared to share your group's thoughts with the class.

1. From which of the following media sources do you get most of your news on local, national and international events?
a) newspapers b) television c) radio d) news magazines e) Internet news sites f) friends

Follow-up Question: Why is this source the one you use most?

2. What types of news do you usually read? (students can pick more than one category)
a) national/international news b) sports c) arts/entertainment d) business/financial
e) op/ed

Follow-up Question: How do you use this information?

3. Do you trust that the news you are receiving from any or all of these sources is accurate and truthful?

Follow-up Question: Why, or why not?

4. Do you feel the government should have the right to censor stories in the media that it feels are "too sensitive" for the public?

Follow-up Question: Why, or why not? If yes, include an example of a story that you think is "too sensitive" for the public and why it is so.

5. Do you feel anyone should be able to publish the news on any of the media outlets mentioned above or should only certified journalists and news organizations publish the news?

Follow-up Question: What are the advantages and/or disadvantages of either?