

Welcome

TO THE REBELLIOUS MEDIA CONFERENCE

For radical social change movements to succeed, they will need radical media organisations to provide channels for information, insight and internal debate. In turn, for radical media organisations to develop and thrive, they need to be part of movements for radical social change.

The Rebellious Media Conference was initiated by **Peace News** as part of its 75th anniversary celebrations and has been organised by a coalition of radical media groups. The organisers are: **Peace News**, **Ceasefire**, the National Union of Journalists, **Red Pepper**, **Undercurrents**, and **visionOntv**.

The conference aims to strengthen radical media (both digital and paper-based), improve activists' access to both radical and mainstream media, and to further critical debates around the media (including around the internet).

We are not only debating what has gone wrong in the past; we're also providing glimpses of what could be possible in the future. We hope that the Rebellious Media Conference will inspire you to become more involved in building better media and better movements for radical change.

To enable collaboration to happen, the conference has its own interactive website

<http://live.rebelliousmediaconference.org>. This is a unique resource for all participants to create their own networks and further their projects. If you haven't already signed up, please feel welcome to join in by clicking 'sign in'.

Refreshments

Food is not provided by the conference, however there are several places that have agreed to open to provide food for delegates. On Saturday, the **Student Union Cafe** will be available from 11.30am till 2.30pm on Saturday at the Institute of Education; on Sunday, the **Cafe at Friends Meeting House** will be serving food from 12noon till 2pm.

Less than ten minutes' walk from the conference, **Alara Health Food Shop** is open on Saturday at 58–60 Marchmont Street WC1N 1AB. There are other cafes and restaurants open on Saturday in the Marchmont Street area. **Veggies Vegan Catering** will also be available somewhere nearby the conference. On Sunday, apart from Veggies, there will be very little available in the area, and you are advised to bring your own food.

Split venue

Saturday's events take place at the **Institute of Education**, and Sunday's events take place at **Friends Meeting House**, opposite Euston Station.

Both venues are wheelchair accessible – apart from all four rooms in the basement at Friends House, on Sunday. At both sites, the step-free entry point will be clearly signposted (see map on back cover).

On Saturday, the main Chomsky lecture takes place in Logan Hall in the basement (Level 1). Other rooms with names are also on Level 1. Rooms that start with a 6 are on the 6th Level, and room with numbers starting with 7 are on the 7th Level.

If you are unsure of the layout, please ask a steward or consult a map on the wall.

Name badges

YOUR NAME BADGE IS ALSO YOUR TICKET.

Please keep a hold of it, as the badge allows entry into the conference. Unfortunately, we are not able to issue replacement badges.

Cover images © **Guy Smallman** www.guysmallman.com
Aschiana refugee camp Kabul, March 2009
Hackney riots, August 2011 and
Dale Farm protest, September 2011

Tea and coffee are available during break times.

The RMC is being run on a very tight budget, and we would be very grateful if you could make a donation towards the £1.50 that we are paying for each tea and coffee (donation pots will be available at each tea/coffee station).

Saturday night

After the conference finishes for the day at 5.30pm on Saturday, the Student Union bar has agreed to open for us, it is located on Level 3 (wheelchair access from Level 4). If you wish to continue discussions arising from the conference, or just to have a drink with friends, it may be a good place to start your night.

Ground rules

Have your say...

On Sunday afternoon, if you choose to take part in a **Have Your Say** small, participatory group discussion, you will need to go to the location identified on your name badge at 1.55pm in order to join your small group. For details, please see p12.

Stewards

Stewards are easily identified as they are wearing Rebellious Media Conference T-Shirts. Stewards' roles include directing people into rooms on time, and evacuating the building swiftly if there is a fire or other emergency. Please be respectful towards our volunteer stewards, and follow their directions in case of emergency.

Stewards will not necessarily know the answers to all questions, but will know who to ask. If you identify any issues or problems, please ask your nearest steward for help.

Inclusion

The conference aims to be accessible for everyone. If you have any access issues that you've not already discussed with the disability co-ordinator, please ask a steward to direct you to the co-ordinator.

Please be aware that not everyone attending the conference has English as their first language, and that some delegates may have issues around hearing. Please speak slowly, clearly and loudly to enable more people to engage with the conference.

A large print version of this programme information is available on Registration.

Photography policy

The Rebellious Media Conference has developed the following photography policy which is born of a desire to foster mutual respect between different groups of participants.

The RMC is a place for political activists, many of whom vigorously want to protect their privacy, and have no wish to be photographed or videoed. The RMC is also a place for photographers and video journalists, whose focus is on documenting events, and who we are encouraging to document the conference itself.

In order to balance these competing interests, the organisers have made a policy for the public spaces, and another policy for the meeting spaces.

Public spaces

The organisers have designated a small number of photography zones, where everyone in the zone will be presumed to have given their consent to be filmed or photographed, and outside these zones, no photographs or video can be taken without the express permission of all those present.

The photography zone on the Saturday at Logan Hall will be the area around the Costa Cafe (on the level overlooking the registration area). On Sunday, the photography zone will be the Friends House cafe (teas and coffees will also be available in other locations).

Large meeting spaces

Journalists are interested in footage and photographs of people acting naturally, so the organisers have decided not to have a particular set time at the beginning or end of the large meetings for establishing shots of the crowd. Camerapeople will be asked only to film or photograph the right hand side of the audience, as you face the stage. If you do not wish to be photographed or videoed, please sit on the left hand side of the auditorium (as you face the stage).

Small meeting spaces

In smaller workshops, photographers and video journalists are asked to announce at the beginning of the session that they want to take photographs/film, and to negotiate with the people in the session.

Use of photos

Unless you have identified yourself as unwilling to be videoed, it will be assumed that you are happy for any resulting images to be placed on the internet or used by a media project. When placing photographs online, please do not tag people (other than speakers) in your photographs, unless you have obtained their permission to do so. The organisers recommend that participants share photos and videos under a creative commons licence: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/>

ACCOMMODATION

People wanting to stay overnight at a conference-provided space should have already booked in with our accommodation co-ordinator Alice. If you haven't already made an arrangement, there may be room available in the crashpad sleeping space.

This will be announced during the conference, or please ask at Reception for Alice.

Citizen journalism

During the conference, there will be citizen journalism teams reporting on the event using blogs, audio, video and photography. We aim to create a permanent record of the event, and to enable people who are not here to follow what's happened online.

Get involved!

Please do get involved in the documentation yourself.

For guidelines on how to upload your media so that other participants can see it, go to <http://live.rebelliousmediaconference/publish>

If you use social media, please use the tag **rebelliousmc** and your comments will appear on our website.

IMPORTANT: While we encourage you to document the RMC, please do follow our **photography and video guidelines (see page 1)**, as there are many participants in the conference who do not want their photos taken without their consent.

Let us know who you are

If you are going to be doing online reporting from the RMC, we'd love to hear from you. Tweet us with a link to your blog or website at @RebelliousMC or email rebelliousmediaconference@riseup.net

Twitter and blog comments

If you use Twitter, please tweet using the hashtag #RebelliousMC and follow @RebelliousMC.

Your leaflets & sign-up sheets

At the RMC, we aim to strike a balance between allowing campaign groups who don't have a stall the space to distribute their materials, and ensuring that people don't feel hassled.

Even with a friendly approach from everyone involved, having lots of people handing out leaflets in a small space can get a bit much for participants. We hope the following rules will strike the right balance.

Space for your leaflets

If you've got leaflets or free publications which are relevant to the issues discussed at the RMC, there is a general leaflet stall where you can leave them near the entrance to the main hall at the Institute of Education, and in the lobby as you enter Friends House from Euston Road. You can also take leaflets and mailing list sign-up sheets into particular sessions and leave them on the table provided.

You may also be able to leaflet as people enter or leave a session so long as you are not blocking the entrance or a gangway, but this is at the discretion of the RMC stewards. Please don't hassle them if they decide there isn't space.

Please don't hand out leaflets in the general areas of any of the buildings, or leave leaflets on the chairs in any of the sessions. And 'chugging' is absolutely not permitted.

10.45am–1pm Level 1 Logan Hall

■ Radical Media, Radical Priorities

In 2002, the late Harold Pinter wrote: 'Noam Chomsky is the leading critical voice against the criminal regime now running the United States, a regime which is in fact a dangerous monster out of control.' Since 1965, Noam Chomsky has not only been a forceful critic of US foreign policy, but a key figure in exposing the propaganda role of the mainstream media.

The Propaganda Model of the mainstream media developed by Noam Chomsky and Edward Herman in such books as *Manufacturing Consent* (1988) is a crucial component of our campaigning for radical social change. Noam Chomsky will be introduced by his former student and long-time colleague and friend, Michael Albert.

Michael Albert is the co-founder of South End Books, Z Magazine and ZCommunications, one of the world's largest radical websites.

Noam Chomsky is the author or co-author of over 60 books of political commentary, including *Radical Priorities* (1981).

Facilitator: Milan Rai is the co-editor of *Peace News* and author of *Chomsky's Politics*.

2.15– 3.45pm Level 1 Rooms

■ Whose Internet is it? Are We Losing the War?

A provocative presentation on the internet – angel or devil? Hear both sides, then find out what you can do about it from a panel of experts.

Hamish Campbell is a founder of visionOntv, and has worked for the Undercurrents media NGO for 10 years.

Becky Hogge, former executive director of the Open Rights Group, is the author of *Barefoot into Cyberspace: Adventures in search of techno-Utopia*.

Doug Rushkoff (appearing remotely) teaches media studies at New York University and is the author of, among other books, *Program or Be Programmed: Ten Commands for a Digital Age*.

Bill Thompson is a journalist, commentator and technology critic who has been working in, on and around the Internet since 1984.

■ Inside the Belly of the Beast: Radicals in the Mainstream Media

What is it like to be a radical working in the mainstream media? What are the pitfalls and the opportunities, and how can an aspiring radical journalist avoid becoming, in the words of George Monbiot, 'a specialist in the moronic recycling of what the rich and powerful deem to be news'?

Duncan Campbell's groundbreaking work includes the BBC series 'Secret Society' (1987) and his exposure of the ECHELON global surveillance system.

Amira Hass is the Israeli national newspaper *Haaretz's* correspondent for – and the only Jewish Israeli journalist to have spent years living in – the Occupied Territories.

David Crouch, deputy Europe news editor, *Financial Times*.

Facilitator: **Mel Evans**, Platform.

■ Radical to the core: bringing radical values into our organisations

If we apply Left values to our media organisations what would they look like and how might they function? In this session, Michael Albert and Jessica Azulay will be drawing on real life experiences exploring possible answers to this question.

Michael Albert is the co-founder of South End Books, Z Magazine and ZCommunications, one of the world's largest radical websites.

Jessica Azulay was the co-founder of the award-winning radical hard-news website, *The New Standard*, which operated from 2003 to 2007, and now works for MyWebRoot, designing websites for activists.

2.15–3.45pm Level 3 Rooms

■ Radical Media Through History

For hundreds of years oppositional activists have suffered at the hands of the mainstream press and have made their own media to set the record straight. But such alternative media has often been as suppressed as the movements themselves. In this participatory session, radical librarian Alain Kahan and author/activist Tim Gee explore the role of radical media in the past and what movements for justice today can learn.

Tim Gee is the author of *Counterpower: Making Change Happen*.

Alain Kahan (tbc) was a librarian at the Working Class Movement Library in Salford.

2.15– 3.45pm Level 6 Rooms

■ Getting the Most from the Mainstream Media

The mainstream media can allow activists to reach out to wider audiences and shape the thinking of other people. This workshop will give participants practical guidance on how to get stories into the mainstream media: how to write a press release, how to communicate your message to journalists, and how to conduct an interview on TV or radio.

Paul Collins is Media Officer at War on Want.

Matthew Taylor is a news reporter at the *Guardian*.

■ Know Your Enemy: Who Controls the Media?

From internet service providers to local radio stations, from the BBC to daily red tops, corporate influence is everywhere. This session will test your knowledge of the UK media before explaining exactly who owns what. Join this session to discuss corporate influence in UK media and how we can resist it.

Natalie Fenton is Co-Director of the Goldsmiths Leverhulme Media Research Centre and Co-Director of the new Centre for the Study of Global Media and Democracy, at Goldsmiths University.

David Miller is Professor of Sociology at the University of Strathclyde, a founder member of Spinwatch, and is the author of, among other books, *A Century of Spin: How Public Relations Became the cutting Edge of Corporate Power*.

Greg Philo is the research director of Glasgow University Media Unit and the author of, among other books, *More Bad News from Israel*.

Facilitator: **Chris Kitchen** works at Corporate Watch.

■ Video Citizen Journalism Training

Come on *visionOntv's* acclaimed course, and start making reports straight away with the equipment you already have, smart phone, digital camera or video.

visionOntv aims for the widest possible distribution of video for social change, and creates social media toolkits for activists.

2.15– 3.45pm Level 7 Rooms

■ Meet the Radical Media Makers

For those interested in getting involved a rare chance to meet and network with the current very active crop of radical media makers. An informative go-round followed by a lively debate.

Speaker from **Merseyside Street Reporters**.

Other speakers to be confirmed.

■ PR, Propaganda and Censorship

This session will explore and debate recent critical media research on a variety of topics including PR and the UK news, direct action, liberation propaganda and coverage of terrorism.

Joe Cable and **Max Pettigrew** are researchers at the Cardiff School of Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies.

Zahera Harb is a lecturer at the Department of Culture, Film and Media, Nottingham University.

Andy Williams is a lecturer at Cardiff School of Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies.

■ Out of the Ivory Tower: Making Academic Research Relevant to Journalists and Activists

Radical academics want their research to be widely used by, and as useful as possible to, activists and journalists. Student activists can help in this process, by forming a link between academics, students, journalists and activists outside the academy. This session will look at both radical academic research in general and radical media critiques from within the university in particular.

Cynthia Cockburn is Visiting Professor in the Department of Sociology at City University, London, and is active in the international feminist antimilitarist networks **Women in Black against War**.

Phil Hammond is head of the Centre for Media & Culture Research, London South Bank University.

Right: demonstration in May outside the London office of 'Radical Media', the international PR Company, after 'Radical Media' used legal threats to stop this conference being called the Radical Media Conference.

Courtesy of **Peace News**

Salina Christmas is co-founder of art collective www.sojournposse.com and a graduate student in digital anthropology at University College London.

Facilitator: **Marc Wadsworth** is the editor of www.the-latest.com, Britain's first dedicated citizen journalism website.

■ Mind the Gap: What's Missing from the UK Radical Media Scene

What do you think of the state of the UK's radical media scene? Are there any gaps? This participatory session will take a broader look at the UK radical media scene, asking 'What's missing?', 'Are there gaps that need filling?', and if so, 'How could they be filled?'

Paul Light is part of **SchMovies**, the direct action video arm of **SchNews**.

Michael Pooler works at **Manchester Mule**, the website and quarterly newspaper.

Shaun Dey is part of the **Reel News** collective.

Kate Belgrave is involved in the **New Left Project** website.

■ TV Studio

See page 11.

■ Skype Room

See page 11.



4.15–5.45pm Level 1 Rooms

■ War and the Media

How are the crimes of war reported and justified by the mainstream media when they're our crimes? How are audiences views' shaped by this coverage, and what can we do about it? And what does the declassified record tell us about elite attitudes towards truth and the general public?

Mark Curtis is the author of, among other books, **Secret Affairs: Britain's Collusion with Radical Islam** (2010).

Greg Philo is director of the **Glasgow Media Group** and co-author (with Mike Berry) of, among other books, **More Bad News from Israel**.

John Pilger is a renowned journalist, whose latest film is **The War You Don't See** (2010).

■ The F-Word: Feminist Media for the 21st Century

Digital technology has opened new corridors for the oppression of women, and for the fightback. This session will bring together a group of amazing feminists to talk about their experiences in a patriarchal world. It will equip YOU with the ideas and skills to use the media to shout back against oppression, and make the feminist message heard loud and clear.

Nimco Ali, who is of Somali heritage, set up **Daughters of Eve** to help girls at risk of female genital mutilation, and to campaign against it.

Cath Elliot is a feminist and a trade union activist.

Laurie Penny writes regularly for the **New Statesman** and the **Independent**, and is the author of **Penny Red**.

Speaker from **Black Feminists UK** tbc.

■ Open Space Session: Activism and Radical Media

Under this broad theme, please bring along any thoughts you may have about activism and radical media. This will be a participant-led discussion (using what is known as Open Space Technology): there will be no pre-set agenda, and participants will decide together what is talked about. During the meeting, smaller groups will be formed to discuss particular ideas.

Facilitator: **Matthew Herbert** is a co-founder of **Rhizome** training collective.

4.15–5.45pm Level 3 Rooms**■ Beyond Churnalism: Three Critiques of the Mainstream Media**

Come and learn about different kinds of media criticism (labour, political economy, and peace journalism) and explore the strengths and weaknesses of these critiques.

Hilary Wainwright, co-editor of *Red Pepper*, is the author of, among other books, *Public Service reform: but not as we know it!*

James Curran is Director of Goldsmiths Leverhulme Media Research Centre.

Lioba Suchenwirth is a PhD student at the University of Lincoln.

Florian Zollmann is a PhD student at the University of Lincoln.

Facilitator: **Richard Keeble** is Acting Head of Lincoln School of Journalism at Lincoln University.

4.15–5.45pm Level 6 Rooms**■ Words and Money: Radical Publishers' and Booksellers' Roundtable**

This is a closed meeting for radical publishers and booksellers, to consider how the two sectors can co-operate and support one another better, and to make plans for future joint ventures. (Radical booksellers in Britain are about to launch a new collective working group: *The Alliance of Radical Booksellers*.)

Anne Beech is Managing Director of Pluto Press.

Nik Gorecki is Promotions Worker at Housmans Bookshop.

■ The ABCs of the Propaganda Model

Many people are aware of Chomsky's critique of the media, but it can be hard to get an overview of this 'Propaganda Model'. This session boils the Propaganda Model down to its essentials, identifies what makes it distinctive, and aims to give participants confidence in explaining the model to others, and in applying its critique.

Brian Dominick has taught media analysis and journalism at Z Media Institute.

Alison Edgley is the author of *The Social and Political Thought of Noam Chomsky*.

Milan Rai is co-editor of *Peace News*, and author of *Chomsky's Politics*.

■ Saving the (Radical) Press

For radical magazines, the digital revolution intensifies the financial restrictions they have always had. Some radical publications explore how and why they arrived at their current publishing strategies, and then we will all - readers and publishers - contribute to a discussion about how to secure the healthy survival of a range of radical print media.

Hazel Healey is a co-editor at *New Internationalist*.

Emma Sangster works at *Peace News*.

Facilitator: **Gail Chester** Housmans Bookshop.

4.15–5.45pm Level 7 Rooms**■ Resisting Big Brother: Surveillance, Privacy and the State in the Digital Age**

What are the threats to our privacy in the digital age? Privacy International, ORG and Police State UK detail some of the immediate threats and responses to them: including how Western companies are exporting oppressive technologies around the globe, and 'automatic number plate recognition', potentially tracking everyone's car movements around the UK.

Denny de la Haye is involved in the website *Police State UK*.

Eric King is Human Rights and Technology Advisor for *Privacy International*.

Jim Killock is Executive Director of the *Open Rights Group*.

■ Hollywood: Left, Right and Wrong

An exploration of the politics of screen entertainment, focusing on the surprising role of government and corporate entities in Hollywood. How can we best understand the films we consume? How important are the security services in shaping and censoring what we are able to see? Are there things we can do as a community to encourage better cinema?

Matthew Alford is author of the critically acclaimed *Reel Power: Hollywood Cinema and American Cinema*.

■ Dole TV: Television from Ireland's Unemployed

Between 2007 and 2010 Ireland's unemployment rate went from 4.5% to 14.5% as nearly 350,000 people became unemployed. DCTV, a community-based TV channel, handed over its cameras, edit suites and production studio to a group of unemployed people, and broadcast whatever they produced every week for 13 weeks in late 2010. Season 2 runs from late September 2011.

Barry Hamilton is a part time DCTV staff member and volunteer co-ordinator on Dole TV.

Ciaran Moore is station manager at DCTV.

James Redmond is a graphic designer, and part-time DCTV staff member.

■ Tripping the Powerful: How Spinwatch Investigates Corruption and Abuses of Power

This session focuses on the investigative research techniques *Spinwatch* uses to hamper the ability of the rich and powerful to do whatever they want. These include the Freedom of Information Act, databases and the use of advanced internet research. After questions, we conclude by discussing how individuals and groups can get involved and collaborate with *Spinwatch*.

David Miller is a founder member of *Spinwatch*, and Professor of Sociology at the University of Strathclyde.

Andy Rowell is co-director of *Spinwatch* and a campaigning journalist.

■ TV Studio

See page 11.

■ Skype Room

See page 11.

SATURDAY 8 OCTOBER: INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

9.30–10.45am Registration
 10.45–1pm Keynote speaker: **Noam Chomsky** and **Q&A**
 1–2.15pm **Lunchbreak** – Short films to be screened in Logan Hall by visionOntv

2.15–3.45pm **First afternoon sessions**

Room & Capacity	LEVEL 1
Logan Hall 993	Whose internet is it? Are we losing the war?
Jeffery Hall 350	Inside the Belly of the Beast: Radical Journalists and the Mainstream Media
Drama studio 150	Radical to the Core: Bringing Radical Values Into Our Organisations
LEVEL 3	
Clarke Hall 80	Radical Media Through History
LEVEL 6	
Room 639 30	Getting the Most from the Mainstream Media
Room 642 90	Know Your Enemy: Who Controls the Media?
Room 646 30	Video Citizen Journalism Training
LEVEL 7	
Room 728 80	Meet the Radical Media Makers
Room 731 60	PR, Propaganda and Censorship
Room 736 30	Out of the Ivory Tower: Making Academic Research Relevant to Journalists and Activists
Room 739 60	Mind the Gap: What's Missing from the UK Radical Media Scene?
Room 777 30	TV studio
Room 790 30	Skype room

4.15–5.45pm **Second afternoon sessions**

Room & Capacity	LEVEL 1
Logan Hall 993	War and the Media
Jeffery Hall 350	The F-Word: Feminist Media for the 21st Century
Drama studio 150	Open Space Session: Activism and Radical Media
LEVEL 3	
Clarke Hall 80	Beyond Churnalism: Three Critiques of the Mainstream Media
LEVEL 6	
Room 639 30	Words and Money: Roundtable Discussion for Radical Publishers and Booksellers
Room 642 90	The ABCs of the Propaganda Model
Room 646 30	Saving the (Radical) Press
LEVEL 7	
Room 728 80	Resisting Big Brother: Surveillance, Privacy & the State in the Digital Age
Room 731 60	Hollywood: Left, Right and Wrong
Room 736 30	Dole TV: Television from Ireland's Unemployed
Room 739 60	Tripping the Powerful: How Spinwatch Investigates Corruption and Abuses of Power
Room 777 30	TV studio
Room 790 30	Skype room

SUNDAY 9 OCTOBER: FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

9.30–11am **First morning sessions**

Room & Capacity	BASEMENT NB: NO STEP-FREE ACCESS TO BASEMENT ROOMS
Restaurant 80	Trade Unions and the Media
Drayton 1 10	How To Master Social Media
Drayton 2 10	Self-organised Space
Drayton 3 14	Writing the Perfect Press Release: An Introduction
GROUND FLOOR	
Large Hall 1075	[10.30–11.30am] Changing the System: Radical Visions for Transforming the UK's Media
Rooms 7, 8, 9 80	Getting Your Own Back: Is a Media Problem Shared, a Media Problem Solved?
Rooms 10, 11 55	Applying the Chomsky-Herman Propaganda Model
FIRST FLOOR	
Room 2 40	ABCs of Journalism
Room 4 30	Escaping the Hamster Cage – Practical Alternatives to the Corporate Net
Room 5 18	Radical Media and the Law: What You Need to Know
Room 6 16	Crossing the Language Barrier: Activist Translation
SECOND FLOOR	
William Penn 80	Think Radical! Act Local!
Eliz. Fry 50	SchNews Presents: A Rough Guide to Radical news sheets
M. Fell 18	Inside Film: Making Working Class Experience Visible
George Fox 100	The Revolution is Digital, Sign Up!

11.30am–1pm **Second morning sessions**

Room & Capacity	BASEMENT NB: NO STEP-FREE ACCESS TO BASEMENT ROOMS
Restaurant 80	Putting Copyright Right: Why it Matters and How to Do It
Drayton 1 10	Easy Websites with Wordpress
Drayton 2 10	Self-organised space
Drayton 3 14	Successful Media Interviews
GROUND FLOOR	
Large Hall 1075	We Are Everywhere: Voices from the Global South
Rooms 7, 8, 9 80	Unheard Voices: Youth, “The Riots” and the Media
Rooms 10, 11 55	UK Media Reform in the Digital Age
FIRST FLOOR	
Room 2 40	Camcorders for Change
Room 4 30	Open Data: Information for Activists
Room 5 18	Advanced Media Training (or How to Punch Above Your Weight in the Mainstream Media)
Room 6 16	Using the Freedom of Information Act – Tips for Campaigners and Activists
SECOND FLOOR	
William Penn 80	ZNet, ZSocial and Beyond
Eliz. Fry 50	Just Doing It: Women Documentary Makers and Social Change
M. Fell 18	Keeping Safe When It Kicks Off: Films, Photos and Dissent
George Fox 100	Lessons from the New Standard

1–2pm **Lunchbreak** – Short films to be screened in Small Meeting Hall by visionOntv

1.55–3pm **Have Your Say: small-group discussions** – see page 12

2–3.15pm **Changing the System**, 3 discussion groups in rooms 10+11; William Penn & Restaurant
Speakers: Ruth Potts, Dan Hind, and Michael Albert respectively

2–3.15am **Self-organised sessions in George Fox (100) and Small Meeting Hall (200)**

3.30–5pm **Plenary** with Noam Chomsky and others

9.30–11am Basement Rooms

■ Trade Unions and the Media: Past, Present and Future

One hundred years ago, trade unions produced their own media, and not just for their members. For example, the Daily Herald, started as a strike sheet, was a hugely popular radical working class newspaper until the 1950s. This session will draw lessons from this history, and discuss new ideas for trade unions to improve their communications and rebuild their membership.

Sheila Cohen is a writer and trade union activist.

Donnacha DeLong is president of the National Union of Journalists.

Tim Lezard is from union-news.co.uk
Speaker from **Reel News**.

■ How to Master Social Media

See the campaigns that helped change the world (including for the Robin Hood Tax, UKUncut and Greenpeace videos), how virals can take off, and best practice for using Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. Get step by step guidance on how to build and manage your social media audience. See the unparalleled opportunities to create campaigns, organise people and even bring about revolutions.

Chris Smith is the founder of Ecotube – The Green YouTube.

■ Self-organised space

See page 11.

■ Writing the Perfect Press Release: An Introduction

A hands-on workshop to explore the role of the press release in getting your story out there. We'll think about using our time strategically, about using the media rather than being used by them, and we'll practice writing the perfect press release. No experience of media work is needed.

Matthew Herbert co-founded **Rhizome**, a co-operative of facilitators, trainers and mediators that support activists, community groups, co-ops and campaigning organisations to work more effectively.

9.30–11am Ground Floor Rooms

■ Getting Your Own Back: Is a media problem shared a media problem solved?

Are minority groups missing a trick by sticking to single issues? Should they be forming coalitions to support each others' demands for accuracy and equity in media coverage? Can they find common cause with mainstream journalists, or should they focus on building their own media?

Corine Dhondee Tottenham Defence Campaign.

Susana Giner Youth Media Network.

Eleanor Lisney Disabled People Against Cuts.

Peter Tatchell Outrage.

Marion Vargaftig Manifesta.

Speaker from **Migrant Voice**.

Facilitator: Mike Jempson
The MediaWise Trust.

Changing the System: Radical Visions for Transforming the UK's Media

PLEASE NOTE:

This session will start at 10.30am and run for 90 mins.

Our media system is in crisis, with journalism, the internet, and public media all under attack by corporate power. We know what we're against, but what are we for? In this session three speakers will each sketch a big-picture vision for transforming the UK's media system, together with a concrete first-step project for activists to work on now.

Each of the talks will be followed up with its own 75-minute session on the Sunday afternoon (2–3.15pm), providing an opportunity to explore the ideas presented in more depth and discuss how to move them forward.

Michael Albert is the co-founder of **ZCommunications**, dubbed 'the leading samizdat of our age' (John Pilger).

Dan Hind is currently developing a program of media reform centered around 'public commissioning'.

Ruth Potts co-ordinated media coverage for the **New Economics Foundation (NEF)** from 2004–09.

■ Applying the Chomsky-Herman Propaganda Model

This highly-participatory workshop applies the Propaganda Model from Edward Herman and Noam Chomsky's *Manufacturing Consent* to the real world of today's news media. Using case studies from recent media coverage, you'll learn how the Chomsky-Herman framework can inform your approach, as an activist practicing intellectual self-defence or a journalist filling in the gaps left by the mainstream.

Brian Dominick has taught media analysis and journalism at **Z Media Institute**.

Alison Edgley is the author of *The Social and Political Thought of Noam Chomsky*.

9.30–11am First Floor Rooms

ABCs of Journalism

Hands-on training session focussing on the fundamentals of journalistic practice, covering both text and visual media.

Jessica Azulay co-founder of **The New Standard News**.

Kayte Fairfax visionOntv.

Richard Hering visionOntv.

■ Escaping the Hamster Cage: Practical Alternatives to the Corporate Net

We are all living in the 'hamster cage' of corporate social media. This session will look at some of the existing open source alternatives, discuss their failures and successes, and flag projects that people are working on now. Please note: this is a geek-friendly session, aimed at geeks and the geek-interested rather than a general audience.

■ Radical Media & the Law: What You Need to Know

Media law isn't just about the Murdochs. Radical media outlets need to be as aware of libel, sub-judice and injunctions as everyone else – and their workplaces need to respect the legal rights of people working with them. So bring your media-related legal questions and find out about the campaign for 'interns' to be paid for their work.

Fiona O'Cleirigh NUJ activist and interns campaigner.

■ **Crossing the Language Barrier: Activist Translation**

Politically engaged translators and interpreters provide an indispensable service to social movements and activists around the world, facilitating their resistance against neoliberalism. This practical session will explore what tools and resources exist for radical media projects to translate from and into English, encouraging participants to plan and organise a specific project of their own.

Susanne Schuster member of Tlaxcala, the international network of translators for linguistic diversity.

9.30–11am Second Floor Rooms

■ **Think Radical! Act Local!**

Are you involved – or interested in getting involved – in a local radical media project? Looking for ideas and inspiration or wanting to know some of the pitfalls and challenges? Come and hear about local radical media projects in the UK.

Chickpea Catalyst Radio and London Indymedia.

Ian Bone co-founder of *Class War* and local muck-raking publications *Alarm & The Bristolian*.

Ben Edwards iContact Video Network.

Richard Goulding Manchester Mule.

Steven Speed co-founder Salford Star.

■ **SchNews Presents: A Rough Guide to Radical News Sheets**

How-to training session on running a radical news sheet, including methods of distribution and sources of revenue. Facilitated by members of *SchNews*, the legendary free weekly direct action news sheet, produced in Brighton since 1994.

Lorna Stephenson *SchNews*.

Lia Vlahavas *SchNews*.

■ **Inside Film: Making Working Class Experience Visible**

The Inside Film project works in collaboration with serving and former prisoners, teaching the theory and practice of film-making, and using these tools as a vehicle for understanding the political and social implications of living in a class society. This workshop will

screen some of the participants' films and discuss some of the issues raised by the project.

Donovan McGrath Inside Film.

Deirdre O'Neill Inside Film.

Mike Wayne Inside Film.

■ **The Revolution is Digital: Sign Up!**

From the use of Twitter in the Egyptian uprising to Sukey in the student protests, radical action is happening online and fast. This session will examine collective blogs, open-minded crowdsourcing sites, successful social media tactics, how to keep safe & anonymous. Tell your stories and share your tips on how to make digital media a radical space.

Becky Luff Change is Coming.

Other speakers to be confirmed.

11.30am–1pm Basement Rooms

■ **Putting Copyright Right: Why it Matters and How to Do It**

Current technologies could revolutionise peoples' access to – and reuse of – culture, knowledge and ideas, but their potential is often blocked by intellectual property laws. This session will explain these laws and their tangible effects (both here and in the Global South); the opportunities to change them for the better; and alternatives such as Creative Commons.

Speaker from **Creative Commons UK**.

Glyn Moody writer and journalist.

Alan Story founder member of CopySouth.

Facilitator: Peter Bradwell Open Rights Group

■ **Easy Websites with Wordpress**

This training session will show you how to use Wordpress to quickly set up a smart-looking campaign website without much technical knowledge. Using themes, managing hosting and your own domain name, and embedding audio and video, it's all here. Technical knowledge of website technologies like HTML and CSS is useful but not necessary.

Kirk Jackson is Online Communications Co-ordinator for Campaign Against Arms Trade.

■ **Self-Organised Space**

See page 11.

■ **Successful Media Interviews**

Explore what makes an effective interview, share your experiences and practice your interview technique amongst friends. An experiential workshop designed to give you the confidence to give successful media interviews.

Matthew Herbert is a co-founder of *Rhizome*, a co-operative of facilitators, trainers and mediators.

11.30am–1pm Ground Floor Rooms

■ **We Are Everywhere: Voices from the Global South**

A Lebanese woman journalist and a South Korean woman newspaper editor describe their experiences. Zahera Harb has more than 10 years' experience as a journalist in Lebanon working for Lebanese and international media organisations. Taesun Kwon is Executive Editor of South Korea's first and only non-corporate daily national newspaper, the *Hankyoreh* (circulation 500,000), founded in 1988.

Taesun Kwon was a founding member of *Hankyoreh* in 1988. She is now executive editor.

Zahera Harb, formerly a journalist in Lebanon and now a lecturer at Nottingham University.

Facilitator: **Lidy Nacpil** Jubilee South.

■ **Unheard Voices: Youth, 'The Riots' and the Media**

A panel of diverse, politically-engaged young people (16-25-years-old) discuss their views on how the media operated in and after the recent 'riots'. Key questions will include how young people have made sense of the rebellion, young people's relationship with media coverage and, in particular, how young people want to combat media prejudice and its ideological motivations.

Shake! Young voices in arts, media, race and power was initiated by the arts and social justice charity **Platform**; together with **Afrogroov**; **Liquorice Fish**; **Conversations: Verse in Dialog**; and **Chocolate Films**. With **Simon Murray, Ed Lewis, Samia Aziz, Rotimi Skyers, Kadish Morris, Kavi Hewavitarne** and **Selina Nwulu**.

11.30am–1pm Ground Floor Rooms

■ UK Media Reform in the Digital Age

Technology is changing the media, but regulation is lagging far behind, with the PCC no longer fit for purpose. Net Neutrality is on the agenda, but what does it mean for the UK? Indymedia can have their computers seized, but Redwatch is apparently free to put people in danger. What needs to change and how can we make sure that it does?

Tim Gopsill former editor of The Journalist.

Gary Herman NUJ New Media.

Thais Portilho-Shrimpton Hacked Off.
Facilitator: **Donnacha DeLong**, president of the NUJ.

11.30am–1pm First Floor Rooms

■ Camcorders for Change

From roads protests and animal testing laboratories to Burma and the pieing Jeremy Clarkson, award-winning undercover journalist Zoe Broughton uses clips from her own work to explore the ways that video can be used to empower citizen journalists, inspire protest, educate MEPs, and highlight the wrongs of multinational corporations.

Zoe Broughton is the co-founder of Undercurrents (founded in 1993), the UK's first alternative news video magazine, which delivered 'the news you don't see on the news' in the years before YouTube.

■ Open Data: Information for Activists

A quiet revolution has been taking place in access to public data, which is increasingly finding its way online. Whilst 'open data' has had a big impact on the mainstream, independent media has been losing ground. This workshop will introduce the basic concepts, present several key projects and tools and discuss how activists can make use of them.

Martin Keegan is a Director of the Open Knowledge Foundation and leads OpenSpending.org

Chris Taggart is the founder of OpenlyLocal.com and co-founder of OpenCorporates.com

Judith Towend is from Hacks and Hackers.

Facilitator: **Javier Ruiz** Open Rights Group.

■ Using the Freedom of Information Act – tips for campaigners and activists

Since the Freedom of Information Act came into force in 2005, it has been extensively used by the media and by campaigners to hold public authorities to account. Among the thousands of disclosures under the Act have been revelations about the Iraq conflict and nuclear safety breaches. This session will provide practical tips for avoiding the main pitfalls.

Katherine Gundersen is from the Campaign for Freedom of Information.
Chris Cole, coordinator of Christian peace group Fig Tree, writes the Drone Wars UK blog.

■ Advanced Media Work Training (or How to Punch Above Your Weight in the Mainstream Media)

Are you an activist with limited experience of dealing with the media who wants to improve your skills so that your campaign can punch above its weight in the press? This session is aimed at providing a better understanding of how to get your issue, your stories, and your spokespeople, into the headlines and onto the airwaves.

Joss Garman has done media work for Plane Stupid and Greenpeace.

11.30am–1pm Second Floor Rooms

■ ZNet, ZSocial and Beyond

Dubbed 'the leading samizdat of our age' (John Pilger) today ZNet is one of the world's largest radical media web-sites. In this session, ZNet's founder Michael Albert will talk about the site's history, and about several of Z's upcoming projects, including ZSocial, a progressive alternative to Facebook.

Michael Albert is the co-founder of ZCommunications.

■ Just Doing It: Women Documentary Makers and Social Change

One striking development in contemporary film-making, whatever the genre, has been the steady rise of exceptional women film-makers. Here, three leading international practitioners present their work in the context of documentary film's exponential rise, spread and relevance.

Emily James is the director of *Just Do It*, a crowd-sourced account of the UK's climate change direct action movement.

Manu Luksch is the director of the CCTV-sourced feature *Faceless*.

Andrea Luka Zimmermann is the director of the upcoming *Prisoner of War* about the soldier who inspired the Rambo films.

Facilitator: **Gareth Evans**.

■ Keeping Safe When It Kicks Off: Films, Photos and Dissent

Visual journalists are on the front line, usually with cameras in front of their faces. More visible to police and/or rioters, they're injured more often in situations of dissent than their colleagues. This is an open forum with two experienced visual journalists to discuss best practice for keeping safe and what you need to know about your rights.

Guy Smallman has travelled the world as a photo-journalist.

Kate Kramer is with Spectacle.

■ Lessons from The New Standard

For more than three years, a small collective of determined journalists produced a daily publication of all-original, professionally produced hard news. The project was nonprofit, collectively structured, funded entirely by its readers and employed an original, rigorous approach to content gathering and editing. In this session, The NewStandard's co-founders will share the lessons learned in four years of organizing and publishing; and invite participants to actively critique the project, especially its models for content production, organizational structure, and fundraising. Participants will learn how this unique model thrived and struggled, and contribute ideas for how similar future projects could be approached.

Jessica Azulay co-founded The New Standard.

Brian Dominick co-founded The New Standard.

2-3.15pm 2nd Floor, William Penn

■ Making Public Commissioning a Reality

An opportunity to explore the ideas presented by Dan Hind in Sunday morning's 'Changing the System' session in more depth and to discuss how to move them forward.

Dan Hind is the author of *The Return of the Public*.

2-3.15pm Ground Floor 10&11

■ De-throning Economics and Business Reporting

An opportunity to explore the ideas presented by Ruth Potts in Sunday morning's *Changing the System* session in more depth and to discuss how to move them forward.

Ruth Potts co-ordinated media coverage for the *New Economics Foundation* (NEF) from 2004–09.

2-3.15pm Basement, Restaurant

■ Building Radical Media with Radical Values

An opportunity to explore the ideas presented by Michael Albert in Sunday morning's 'Changing the System' session in more depth and to discuss how to move them forward.

Michael Albert is the co-founder of *South End Books*, *Z Magazine* and *ZCommunications*, one of the world's largest radical websites.

2-3.15pm First & Second Floors

■ Self-organised spaces

Taking place in George Fox and the Small Meeting Hall.

See right hand column on this page.

1.55-3.00pm See name badge

■ Have Your Say: Small Group Discussions

See page 12 for more details.

Your name badge identifies where you should go at 1.55pm on Sunday if you want to take part in a facilitated small group discussion with a dozen other people.

3.30-5pm Large Meeting Hall

■ Final Plenary

In February, Egyptians using social media showed the world how grassroots movements for social change can topple dictators and shake established power.

In July, mass revulsion over the phone-hacking scandal forced advertisers to withdraw from *News International*, causing a 19% fall in the value of Rupert Murdoch's media conglomerate. Our final plenary speakers, representing radical media perspectives from around the world, will share their visions for the future.

Michael Albert is the co-founder of *South End Books*, *Z Magazine* and *ZCommunications*, one of the world's largest radical websites.

Noam Chomsky is the author or co-author of over 60 books of political commentary, including *Hopes and Prospects* (2010).

Zahera Harb is a Lebanese journalist and academic. She is the author of *Channels of Resistance: Liberation propaganda, Hezbollah and the Media*.

Becky Hogge was the first full-time director of the Open Rights Group. She is the author of *Barefoot into Cyberspace: Adventures in Search of Techno-Utopia*.

Taesun Kwon was a founder member of *Hankyoreh*, South Korea's only non-corporate daily national newspaper (circulation over 500,000). She is now Executive Editor.

Robert McChesney, Research Professor in the Institute of Communications Research at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and co-founder of *Free Press*.

Facilitator: **Nadje al-Ali** is Professor of Gender Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London. Among other books, she is the author (with Nicola Pratt) of *What kind of Liberation? Women and the Occupation in Iraq*.

Self-organised spaces

Check out the poster wall to find the self-organised meet-ups, or check: <http://live.rebelliousmediaconference.org/meetups>

Or write on the poster wall to book a space yourself! The poster wall will be in the registration area on both days.

The self-organised spaces process is coordinated by [visionOntv](#).

The TV Studio

Saturday 1.15pm–5.45pm. Catch the speakers you missed as they record a live show with [visionOntv](#)'s revolutionary technology.

The Skype Room

A chance for people who can't be at the RMC to talk with those who are. 10-minute presentations on anything to do with radical media. Talks will be broadcast live in the Skype Room, with your chance to participate. They are also being recorded for people to catch all presentations later. Coordinated by [visionOntv](#).

Lunch Time Film Screenings

See exciting grassroots radical shorts + films about the media, during lunchtime. On Saturday, this will be in Logan Hall. On Sunday, film screenings will be in the Small Meeting Hall.

<http://live.rebelliousmediaconference.org/screenings>

RMC Interactive Site

More than just a weekend!

Part of the *Rebellious Media Conference* is an interactive website:

<http://live.rebelliousmediaconference.org>

This site gives everyone who has signed up for the conference the chance to share ideas on radical media, to organise a meet-up of like-minded people, to advertise for the help you need to realise your dreams, to network during and long after the too-brief weekend of the conference. The interactive site has been built by a team pulled together by [visionOntv](#).

Have your say

Have you ever left a conference feeling that you hadn't had an in-depth conversation with someone new, or that you hadn't had a chance to reflect on what you'd experienced during the event? Have Your Say is a chance to spend an hour with a dozen people you haven't met before, talking about what you've learned, and what you might do as the result of coming.

Everyone attending the conference has been assigned randomly to a different area of Friends House. If you would like to take part in a facilitated participatory small discussion group, please go to the area specified on your name badge by 1.55pm on Sunday. You will be assigned to a nearby room or space so that the meetings can start on time at 2pm.

The areas identified on your name badge are:

Second Floor: the second floor

Room 1: the first floor, outside Room 1

Room 4: the first floor, outside Room 4

Room 7: the ground floor, outside Room 7

Balcony: the first floor of the North-East stairwell to the balcony for the Large Meeting Hall (this will be signposted; it's the stairwell to the left of the Registration Desk as you come in from Euston Road)

Large Hall: the ground floor of the Large Meeting Hall

Drayton: the basement, outside the Drayton rooms

Stallholders

Active Distribution distributes radical books, films and other stuff.

Autonomea publishes books on radical media, politics and the arts that seek to transcend party lines, bottom lines and straight lines.

Ceasefire is an independent political and cultural quarterly publication founded in 2002.

Corporate Watch is a research group supporting the campaigns that are increasingly successful in forcing corporations to back down.

Footprint Workers Co-op is a small worker-run printers based in Leeds, printing booklets, zines, leaflets, stickers, newsletters, fliers, books and CD wallets.

Housmans is London's oldest radical bookshop.

The Feminist Library houses a large archive collection of Women's Liberation Movement literature and supports research, activist and community projects in this field.

New Internationalist is a monthly magazine renowned for its radical, campaigning stance on a range of world issues.

News from Nowhere is a collectively run bookshop whose stock aims to empower and inspire people to make positive changes to the world.

Open Rights Group is a campaigning organisation aiming to raise awareness of digital rights and civil liberties issues.

Peace News is a monthly radical newspaper dedicated to nonviolent revolution, celebrating its 75th birthday.

Pluto Press is one of the world's leading radical publishers.

Project for a Participatory Society UK (PPS-UK) is working to win a new society based on participation, solidarity, equity, diversity and self-management.

Race and Class is a journal on racism and imperialism with an established reputation for its global outlook and multidisciplinary approach.

Red Pepper is a radical yet non-dogmatic bi-monthly magazine and website of left politics and culture.

SchNews is a free weekly direct action newsheet published in Brighton since 1994.

Simpol is an international movement working to drive governments to co-operate with each other to solve global problems.

UK Feminista supports people to campaign for a world where women and men are equal.

visionOntv aims for the widest possible distribution of video for social change, and creates social media toolkits for activists.

World Development Movement is a UK-based anti-poverty campaigning organisation.

Zed Books is a publisher committed to promoting diversity, alternative voices and progressive social change.

About the organisers

Peace News is a monthly radical newspaper dedicated to nonviolent revolution, celebrating its 75th birthday.
<http://peacenews.info>

Ceasefire is an independent, reader-sustained, political and cultural quarterly publication founded in 2002.
<http://ceasefiremagazine.co.uk>

The National Union of Journalists is an active, campaigning union for all journalists in the UK and Ireland.
<http://www.nuj.org.uk>

Red Pepper is a radical yet non-dogmatic bi-monthly magazine and website of left politics and culture.
<http://redpepper.org.uk>

Undercurrents is an award-winning alternative news service producing and distributing videos of people taking inspiring actions.
<http://www.undercurrents.org>

visionOntv aims for the widest possible distribution of video for social change, and creates social media toolkits for activists.
<http://visionon.tv>

Thanks to the **Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust** and **Quaker Peace & Social Witness** for their generous support.

Thanks also to our Advisory Board:

CorporateWatch, GreenNet, Housmans Bookshop, the Manchester Mule, New Internationalist, News from Nowhere Bookshop, Open Rights Group, Pluto Press, PPS-UK, Race & Class, Zed Books, Kat Barton, Cynthia Cockburn, Anna Jones, Richard Keeble and Jonathan Stevenson.

Many thanks to our wonderful volunteers for all their hard work.

Next steps...

The conference doesn't end at 5pm on Sunday. The RMC can be the beginning of further collaboration and more effective radical media for social change. Here are some positive steps which you can take to strengthen radical media:

- 1 Subscribe to a radical paper or magazine.
- 2 File reports of activism in your area on Indymedia: <http://www.indymedia.org.uk/>
- 3 Start your own paper/newsletter or blog/website.
- 4 If you have a website, link prominently to five other radical media projects and embed some radical video or news on your site (guidance on how to do this is on the RMC website).
- 5 If you are a media worker, join a media union.
- 6 Sign the Open Rights Group petition to Save Our Social Media: <http://www.openrightsgroup.org/>

The RMC conference organisers will individually (and perhaps collectively) be launching further initiatives to strengthen radical media. There will be one or two more mass emails after the conference indicating some of these projects, and letting you know about the further documentation of the event, so that you can catch up on sessions that you weren't able to attend in person.

DVD...

We are planning to launch a DVD of some of the highlights of the conference, including the keynote address and the plenary sessions involving Noam Chomsky. There will be a discount for participants.

Please note: the DVD will only go ahead if we get orders for 200 copies by 10 October.

Please place your order (if possible, before 10 October) by filling out a form and paying at the conference, or by visiting the webshop at <http://rebelliousmediaconference.org>