

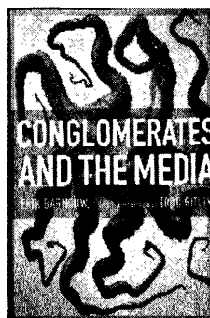
## New in the library

The following books have been selected from the range of new additions. These notes are indicative of a book's subject matter, but are not intended as critical comment or review. The ABA invites the public to use the Library for research purposes, by appointment. The Library's email address is [library@aba.gov.au](mailto:library@aba.gov.au)

### Conglomerates and the media

**Erik Barnouw and others.** New York: The New Press, 1997. ISBN 156584386X

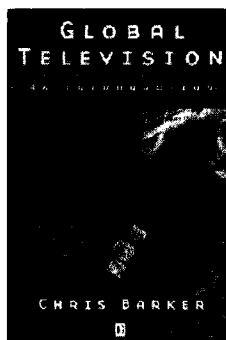
This collection of nine essays takes a critical look at the effects of increasing conglomerate ownership on the creation and dissemination of news and culture. The book opens with an overview of radio and television history by Erik Barnouw. Also featured are Richard M Cohen and Gene Roberts, writing on the decline of journalistic integrity and the effects of increasing profit expectations in the newsroom. Prominent media analysts such as Mark Crispin Miller, Thomas Schatz, David Lieberman and Patricia Aufderheide discuss the dumbing-down of the publishing industry, the transformation of Hollywood, the increasing importance of merchandising and foreign rights in all media and the false promise of the digital age. Finally, Thomas Frank examines advertising and the possibility of resistance to conglomerate control of the media.



### Global television: an introduction

**Chris Barker.** Oxford: Blackwell, 1997. ISBN 0631201505

This book describes the major contemporary economic, technological and cultural developments in global television and places them within the wider context of global modernity. It engages with debates in the fields of media, sociology and cultural studies centred on globalisation, postmodernism, cultural imperialism, consumer culture and national identity. The author addresses a number of important questions: whether



global television necessarily means bad television, whether it contributes to new fluid identities, and whether it is a western project leading to new forms of cultural imperialism. The book is organised into three sections partly to reflect a conceptual division of the subject matter into questions of institutions/political economy, program genres, audiences, culture and politics. The sections also represent a modern/postmodern distinction by which the author takes television to be institutionally bound up with modernity but views culture, identities and knowledge claims through more postmodern lenses.

### The governance of cyberspace

**Edited by Brian D. Loader.** London: Routledge, 1997. ISBN 0415147247

A primary aim of this collection is to attempt to clarify the nature of change brought about by the new information and communication technologies and to foster debate about liberty, identity, privacy democracy and surveillance. This study commences by critically examining the nature of cyberspace. It then considers how this techno-domain may be affecting the territories, organisation and policy processes of traditional nation-states, and concludes with an exploration of cyberspatial policing strategies. The first section of the book, 'Theorising cyberspace' is devoted to the objective of conceptually clarifying the nature of cyberspace and thereby provides a critical framework for the more specific considerations of governance which come later. Part II, 'Nation-states, boundaries and regeneration', provides a consideration of how information and communication technologies (ICTs) are challenging nation-state boundaries and re-emphasising the local interest through such devices as economic re-generation. The final part, 'Policing cyberspace: privacy and surveillance', looks more closely at these specific issues.

