

What They're Saying

"Each month I look forward to receiving *CultureWatch* which brings to our attention articles and news that we might have otherwise missed. It is satisfying to know that someone is keeping track of a wide range of important journalism."

*Skipp Porteous, National Director,
Institute For First Amendment Studies,
Great Barrington, MA.*

"The information that you provide on the anti-gay component of the right wing agenda has been invaluable in our work."

*Leslie K. Addison,
Community United Against Violence,
San Francisco, CA.*

about *CultureWatch*

"*CultureWatch* is a primary source of information on the Right which we utilize regularly in our education and advocacy programs."

*Steven B. Johnson, Seattle Office Director,
National Campaign for Freedom of Expression,
Seattle, WA.*

"Simply reading the listings in the *CultureWatch* newsletter helps my personal understanding of the nature of the public conversation. It is easy to become demoralized in this climate of hate when all the power seems to be on the other side, and I find it empowering to observe how the small staff of *CultureWatch* is able to reach so far and have so much impact."

*Maggie Heineman,
Fight the Right Network,
Philadelphia, PA.*

"*CultureWatch* has been quite useful to several grass roots organizations with whom we work in our campaign against bigotry and intolerance."

*Lance Hill, Executive Director,
Southern Institute For Education And Research,
Tulane University, New Orleans, LA.*

"*CultureWatch's* selections from a remarkable range of materials helps people to identify what is important. If we didn't have *CultureWatch*, we would have to invent it."

*Frederick Clarkson, Editor,
Front Lines Research, Planned Parenthood
Federation of America, Inc.,
New York, NY.*

"Your publication is an indispensable resource at the Confederation, where each week we field dozens of phone calls from individuals and organizations throughout California about the issues at the intersection of art, culture, and politics."

*Ken Larsen, Associate Director,
California Confederation Of The Arts,
Sacramento, CA.*

Research on Right-wing Movements

A number of important research projects, resulting in books, pamphlets, newspaper columns, and radio and television spots, relied on materials from CultureWatch's database in 1995. These included:

-➤ Leon Howell, researcher and former editor of *Christianity and Crisis* magazine, used an extensive amount of *CultureWatch* materials for his book *Funding The War Of Ideas: A Report to the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries*. Howell's study looks closely at how several significant right-wing foundations—the Bradley, Olin, Smith Richardson, Scaife, and Ahmanson Foundations—have fueled the war over ideas by supporting right-wing think tanks and other organizations engaged in the “culture wars.”
-➤ Elizabeth Farnsworth, correspondent and co-anchor of PBS' MacNeil/Lehrer Newshour, used *CultureWatch* articles as briefing backgrounders for two features during the past year: 1) a report on Jane Alexander and the National Endowment for the Arts; and 2) an in-depth look at the expectations of the religious right after the first 100 days of Congress.
-➤ Norman Solomon, syndicated columnist and co-author, along with Jeff Cohen, of *Through the Looking Glass: Decoding Bias and Blather in the News*, has used *CultureWatch* materials for generating column ideas.
-➤ Eric Alterman, coordinator and author of the new and regular feature column “Right Thinking” in *The Nation*, ordered all of 1995's articles in order to get up to speed on the right's recent activities.
-➤ David Wilson, Associate Editor of the Canadian-based *The United Church Observer*, a leading Canadian religious magazine, came to *CultureWatch* for background materials on the Christian Coalition, Karen Jo Gounoud, a Virginia anti-gay censorship activist, and the “culture wars” in general in preparation for an article on the Christian right from a Canadian's perspective.
-➤ Antonia Stolper and Bob Fertik, publishers of the *Political Woman Hotline*, use *CultureWatch* as a resource in providing their readers with “accurate and timely information.”
-➤ Nancy Novosad, an independent journalist/scholar from Colorado, ordered the complete three year collection of *CultureWatch* articles for preparation of a book about the Christian men's movement and male identity.
-➤ Responded to a request from Jim Ratz, of the nonprofit environmental organization Leave No Trace (LNT) Inc., who was exploring the concept of putting the LNT message in Coors Brewing Company's national marketing materials. *CultureWatch* forwarded him several articles covering Coors' right-wing funding pattern. After receiving our materials Ratz commented that this service “seems ideal for small, grassroots organizations who lack the resources to do the research themselves or the funds to contract with large, for profit data services.”

Online and Computerized Information Systems

Available Through the DataCenter

The DataCenter currently contracts with four online electronic information systems, and has access to Internet and several additional computerized databases. These online services provide the DataCenter search service with access to hundreds of indexes, thousands of publications, financial and demographic data, and millions of citations to books, patents, reports, newspaper and magazine articles, and government documents. Citations may be accompanied by an abstract or, in many cases, by the full text of the original document.

This information is a valuable complement to the DataCenter's own in-house hard copy databank and can be accessed by contracting with our search service department.

A description of each online and computerized information system appears below.

DataTimes

DataTimes is a full-text database system covering over 80 newspapers nationwide and 50 newspapers worldwide. The strength of this system is in regional and statewide newspapers, Canadian national and provincial papers, plus European, Australian and Asian coverage. DataTimes also provides access to newswire services, trade and industry journals, and a gateway to the Dow Jones News/Retrieval service. Dow Jones News/Retrieval contains company and industry news, stock quotations and earnings estimations, detailed financial information and the Wall Street Journal.

DIALOG

DIALOG Information Service provides access to more than 350 databases which contain in excess of 80 million citations in all fields of knowledge, with bibliographic, full-text and numerical records. This service contains many useful government databases, including, for example, National Technical Information Service, Department of Energy, Federal Register and Congressional Record. The DataCenter makes the most use out of DIALOG's business databases which include: Dun & Bradstreet financial records, Business Dateline (a full-text newspaper database with regional coverage), PTS PROMPT (with full-text product announcements, press releases, reports, and newspaper articles); Standard & Poor's Corporate Descriptions, and Trade & Industry Index.

Institute for Global Communications

PeaceNet, EcoNet, LaborNet and ConflictNet The Institute for Global Communications (IGC) provides computer networking tools for international communications and information exchange. The IGC Networks—PeaceNet, EcoNet, LaborNet and ConflictNet—comprise the world's only computer communications system dedicated solely to environmental preservation, peace, and human rights. Through these systems the DataCenter receives information requests and sends electronic files to clients.

The IGC Networks provide an electronic bulletin board which carries about 300 conferences on such topics as: Antarctic, Latin America, Ecology & Environment, Economic Conversion, Socially Responsible Investment, Europe, Food and Agriculture, Green Politics, Health, Human Rights, Indigenous Peoples, Southern Africa, Urban Issues, Waters, Seas, and Rivers, Weapons, Labor, Pollution and Toxics, Recycling, Peace Legislation, and News and Media Coverage. Many of the conference coordinators are those groups who are in the forefront of their particular topic, for instance: Amnesty International, Earth First!, Friends of the Earth, National Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation, and Physicians for Social Responsibility.

IGC is our access to Internet and e-mail communications worldwide.

Namebase (hard disk copy)

Namebase, produced by Public Information Research, contains references to over 30,000 individuals identified in 130,000 citations from books and articles about the international intelligence community, big business, the foreign policy establishment, and right-wing organizations.

Nexis

Mead Data Central's Nexis service is a full-text system with access to over 300 newspapers and wire services, journals, specialized reports and newsletters, and government documents. It also contains foreign sources, legal information, and the information products from private organizations such as the Bureau of National Affairs.

Plant Shutdowns Directory

This DataCenter-produced database documents plant closures and layoffs over the past 10 years. It is the only publicly available source for this information that is organized by company name. Based on press reports nationwide, it can be sorted by geographic region and SIC code, as well as company name. The PSD is updated monthly and is sold as a subscription item as the *Plant Shutdowns Monitor*.

RACHEL (Remote Access Chemical Hazards Electronic Library)

RACHEL contains information about environmental problems such as hazardous materials, acid rain, and drinking water quality. The database includes sources ranging from the nation's press to federal documents, and is in bibliographic form.

Toxnet

Part of the National Library of Medicine information database, Toxnet contains EPA and other agency records of hazardous and cancer-causing substances and the Toxics Release Inventory covering individual plant locations.

University of California Library System

The DataCenter has direct access to bibliographic listings of all the holdings within the University of California library system.