

INVISIBLE CRISES

What Conglomerate Control of Media Means for America and the World

edited by **George Gerbner,**
Hamid Mowlana, and Herbert I. Schiller

Hidden from public sight and mind today are invisible crises that threaten our democracy and existence more than the crises we know about—or think we know about. These invisible crises include the promotion of practices that drug, hurt, poison, and kill thousands every day; cults of violence that desensitize, terrorize, and brutalize; the growing siege mentality of our cities; widening resource gaps and the most glaring inequalities in the industrial world; the costly neglect of vital institutions such as public education and the arts; and media-assisted make-believe image of politics corrupting the electoral process.

Deprived of sustained attention but bombarded by eruptions of surface consequences (often presented as unique events stripped of historical context), people are bewildered, fearful, angry, and cynical.

The contributors to this volume—exploring such unattended crises, analyzing why they are hidden, and focusing on the increasing concentration of culture power that keeps them from view—maintain that a profound general crisis of social vision, public communication, and representative government underlies all of the invisible crises.

George Gerbner is professor emeritus at the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania. **Hamid Mowlana** is professor of communication at American University and president of the International Association of Media Research. **Herbert I. Schiller** is professor emeritus of communication at the University of California at San Diego.

▲ Table of Contents

Introduction, **George Gerbner, Hamid Mowlana, and Herbert I. Schiller.**

TOTAL CONTROL.

Brave New World Minus 400, **Ben H. Bagdikian.** Information Deprivation in an Information-Rich Society, **H. I. Schiller.** The Hidden Side of Television Violence, **G. Gerbner.** Speaking Volumes: The Book Publishing Oligopoly and Its Cultural Consequences, **Leah F. Binder.**

TECHNOCRATIC FANTASIES.

Computer-Assisted Crimes, **Rick Crawford.** Freedom, Fun, and Fundamentals: Defining Digital Progress in a Democratic Society, **Nicholas Johnson.**

GAPS THAT DIVIDE US.

Writing About Poverty in the Age of Plenty, **Stanley Meisler.** Race Relations in the Suburbs, **Rosalyn Baxandall and Elizabeth Ewen.** National Amnesia, Cultural Darwinism, and the Pursuit of Power, or What Americans Don't Know About Indians, **Jerry Mander.**

GLOBAL FAULT LINES.

Beaches Without Bases: The Gender Order, **Sue Curry Jansen.** The New World Intellectual Order, **Johan Galtung.** Whose Whispers Are in the Gallery?, **Erskine B. Childers.** The Crisis of Political Legitimacy and the Muslim World, **H. Mowlana.** The Crisis in Mobility, **Nancy Snow.**

THE NEW TYRANNIES.

Let Them Eat Pollution, **John Bellamy Foster.** The Silent War: Debt and Africa, **Jill Hills.** Global Drug Scourge: The Hidden Story, **Stephen E. Flynn.**

▲ June 1996
304 pages
tables, notes, biblio,
index

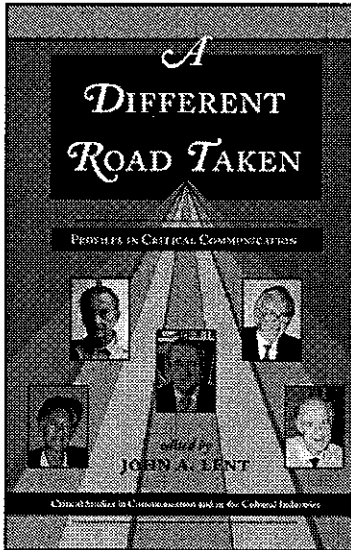
0-8133-2071-2,
\$75.00, hc;

0-8133-2072-0,
\$22.00, pb

Rights: world

*Critical Studies in
Communication & in the
Cultural Industries*

5500 Central Avenue / Boulder, Colorado 80301-2877
Tel: (303) 444-3541 / Fax: (303) 449-3356
e-mail: westview@harpercollins.com
1-800-386-5656, *Orders only, please; or*
Order via e-mail: westview.orders@harpercollins.com



▲ Nov. 1995; 336 pages
5 photos, notes, biblio,
index
0-8133-1635-9, \$59.95, hc
0-8133-1636-7, \$21.95, pb
Rights: world

*Critical Studies in
Communication & in the
Cultural Industries*

A Different Road Taken

Profiles in Critical Communication

edited by John A. Lent

Dallas Smythe, George Gerbner, Herbert Schiller, James Halloran, Kaarle Nordenstreng—these five seminal figures form the backbone of current scholarship in critical communication. From policy research to television demographics and from economic globalization to cultural imperialism, their insights and discoveries have given both scholars and the general public new means of understanding ourselves as we all try to live in the Information Age.

Through interviews with each scholar and essays evaluating their work, John Lent has compiled a sparkling introduction not only to the different roads taken by these scholars en route to their discoveries but also to the critical byways that they have opened for others. Whereas the personal memories of each figure give insight to the lives and works that led to their groundbreaking theories, the commissioned essays by leading lights in critical communication demonstrate how those ideas profoundly affect current scholarship. Extensive bibliographies of each of the five scholars provide a springboard for further exploration of their influence on the field. *A Different Road Taken* is an important primer to the works of these five founders and a must-read for all students of critical communication.

Contents:

Introduction, John A. Lent.

DALLAS W. SMYTHE. Profile. Interview with Dallas W. Smythe, J. A. Lent. Against the Flow: The Peculiar Opportunity of Social Scientists, Robin Mansell. "Critical" Communication Research: New Directions, Manjunath Pendakur.

GEORGE GERBNER. Profile. Interview with George Gerbner, J. A. Lent. The Critical Contribution of George Gerbner, Michael Morgan. Trying to Mix Oil with Water: Fund Raising, Vocationalism, and Critical Communication, Janet Wasko.

HERBERT I. SCHILLER. Profile. Interview with Herbert I. Schiller, J. A. Lent. Herbert Schiller: Clarion Voice Against Cultural Hegemony, Lai-si Tsui. Continuity and Change in Critical Communication: A Generational Analysis, Vincent Mosco.

JAMES D. HALLORAN. Profile. Interview with James D. Halloran, J. A. Lent. James D. Halloran: A Multi-Perspective Presentation, Tamás Szecskö. Who Is (Not) "Critical" Now? On Engendering "Critical Scholarship" in International Communication, Annabelle Sreberny-Mohammadi.

KAARLE NORDENSTRENG. Profile. Interview with Kaarle Nordenstreng, J. A. Lent. Justice, Equality, and Professional Ethics in Journalism: Kaarle Nordenstreng's Actions and Reflections, Wolfgang Kleinwächter. Political Versus Cultural in Critical Broadcasting Research and Policy: A Reevaluation of the Finnish Radical Experiment in Broadcasting in the Late 1960s, Taisto Hujanen.

About the Author . . .

John A. Lent has been writing about mass communications, often with a critical perspective, since the early 1960s.