

WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY - MAY 3



"The United States is essential among the industrial democracies in the rigidity of the system of ideological control, 'selective' invasion, we might say - exercised through the mass media." - Susan Cloniker

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"The scandal for this film was written 12 years ago by Edward R. Murrow, who taught us many valuable lessons about responsibility and ethics, always tempered authority, because without it authority often goes unchecked." - George Doering

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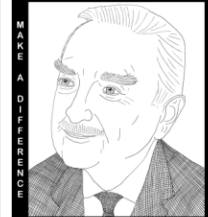
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"Here's how it works: the president makes decisions. He is the dominant. The press secretary announces those decisions, and you snipe at the press like those decisions from. Make, announce, type, just put 'em through a legal check and go home." - Stephen Colbert

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"It is absolutely essential in a democracy to have competition in the media, a lot of competition, and we seem to be moving away from that." - Walter Cronkite

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"The media is essential to the functioning of the free society and the rule of law. It is the only way we can hold our leaders accountable and ensure that they are on the right side of our history." - Jessica Garabito

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"I certainly think we have an emergency in media, and we gotta fix it." - Phil Donahue

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May 3

...make a difference...

Every act of compassion makes a difference!
Start a BetterWorld Club.
Join the BetterWorld Movement.

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"The media is essential to the functioning of the free society and the rule of law. It is the only way we can hold our leaders accountable and ensure that they are on the right side of our history." - Janana Garabito

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"The media is absolutely essential to the functioning of a democracy. It is not our job to keep the press. We're supposed to be the check and balance on government." - Amy Chomsky

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"Mainstream media tend to put mouth the conventional wisdom, to see everything through the filter of right and left." - Arlene Phillips

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"By the end of the millennium five men controlled the world's media. And the people respond because they've told them." - Michael Moore

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"The quality of democracy and the quality of journalism are always entwined." - Bill Moyers

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"The speed of communication is so rapid that it is also true that speed can multiply the distribution of information that we have to be careful." - Edward R. Murrow

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"I can't tell you how many times we've been into a journalist and go, 'You that's... I wish we could be saying that. That's exactly the way we see it and that's exactly the way we'd like to be saying that.' And I always think, 'Well, why don't you?'" - Jim Stewart

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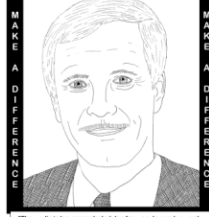
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"The idea of a liberal media bias is simply a myth. If only it were true, we might have more honest and more effective public debate on the issues facing the country." - Better World Project

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"The media is too concentrated, too few people own too much. There is really the concentration that control by percent of what we read, see and hear. It's not healthy." - Ted Turner

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"I think people are too often misinformed and, in some cases, deceived. We don't have a full range of ideas in this country that in any way reflects the broad, real range of ideas." - Ted Turner

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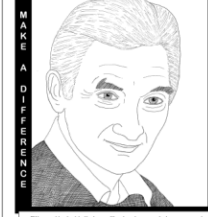
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"We are to have the public conversations essential to being on serious differences from climate change to criminal justice reform, we need forums for those conversations. The media can facilitate the conversations or shut them down." - Edward R. Murrow

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"We need to decide that we will not go to war, whether reason is on our side or not. We need to decide that we will not go to war. Always. Indiscriminate war against civilians, war against children." - Edward R. Murrow

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"The free press is the
mother of all our liberties
and of our progress under liberty."
-- Adlai Stevenson

The media has become a major influence in shaping the world. Many are concerned that fewer and fewer corporations are controlling the vast majority of our media -- in the United States just 5 or 6 corporations control most of the newspapers, magazines, TV and radio stations, books, music, movies, videos, wire services and photo agencies. This is alarming because it limits the perspectives and points of view that help us to shape our individual perceptions of events in the world.

Media Democracy Day, on October 18, has become an important opportunity to speak out against the commercialization of our media. It is a time to call for media reforms that promote diversity, and better representation and accountability to local communities.

In 1996, a coalition of groups in Toronto and Vancouver organized a Media Democracy Day to challenge the monopolization of media outlets by a few corporations. Previously, organizations had organized a Media Democracy Day in Britain on October 18, commemorating the 1922 establishment of the BBC (British Broadcasting Company). By 2002, Media Democracy Day was being celebrated in cities throughout the world.

Since 1993, the United Nations has promoted May 3 as **World Press Freedom Day** -- an important opportunity to remind governments and civil society about the "crucial role a free press plays in strengthening democracies and fostering development around the world."

Help promote a free world press, media reform and support alternative media sources.

Be A Hero For A Better World!

1. Find out more about media reform
2. Hold an event to promote a free world press, media reform and alternative media.
3. Support groups working for media reform.

Media Reform Links

Center for Public Integrity
(openairwaves.org)
FAIR (fair.org)
Free Press (freepress.net)
Media Alliance (media-alliance.org)
MediaChannel.org (mediachannel.org)
Reporters Without Borders (rsf.org)
World Press Freedom Committee
(wpfc.org)

For more information: www.betterworldcalendar.com/freepressday.htm

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"The United States is unusual among the industrial democracies in the rigidity of the system of ideological control - "indoctrination," we might say - exercised through the mass media."

-- Noam Chomsky

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“The script for this film was written 52 years ago by Edward R. Murrow, who taught us many valuable lessons about responsibility and always, always questioned authority, because without it authority often goes unchecked.”

-- George Clooney

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"Here's how it works: the president makes decisions. He's the decider. The press secretary announces those decisions, and you people of the press type those decisions down. Make, announce, type. Just put 'em through a spell check and go home."

-- Stephen Colbert

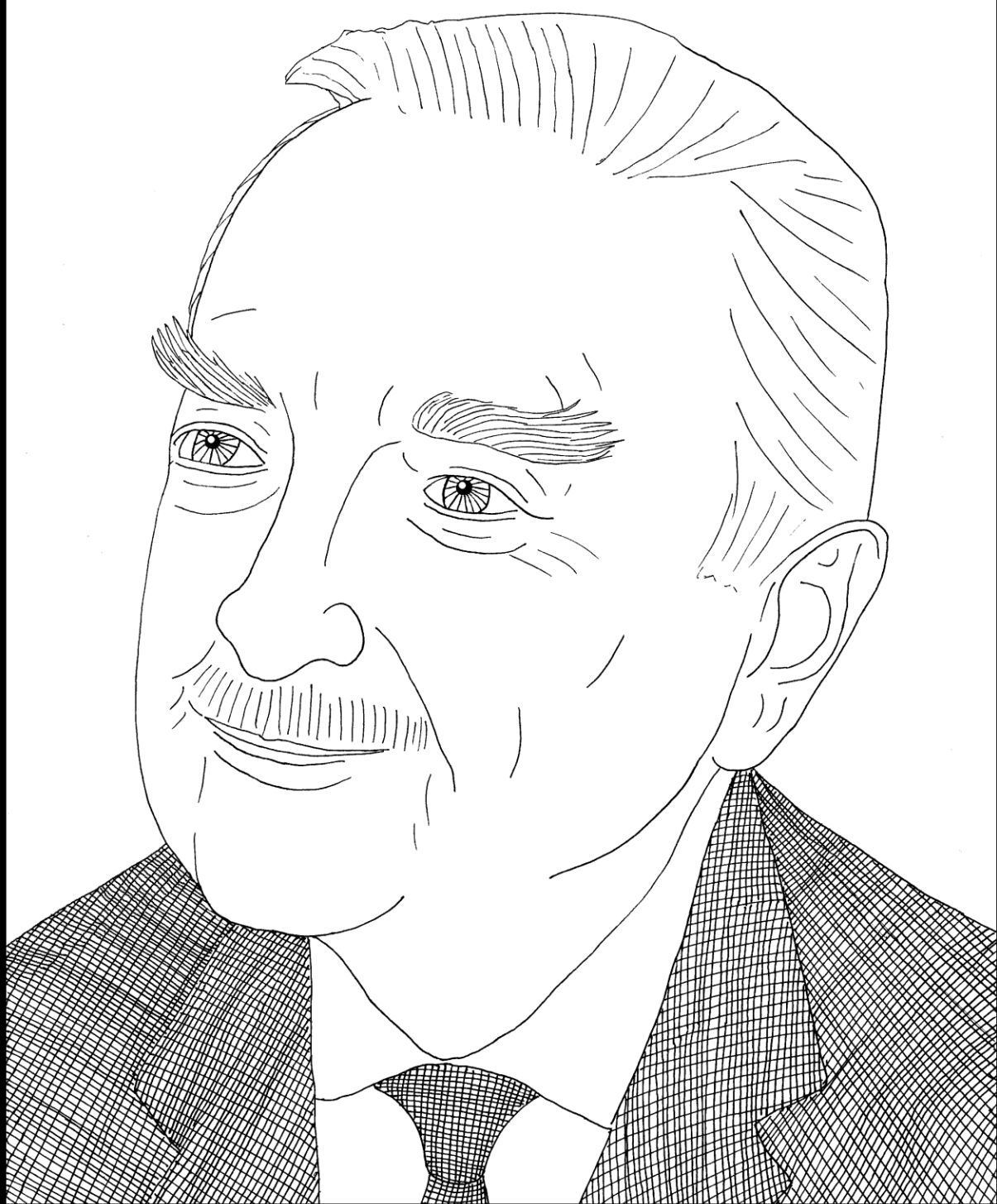
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**"I think it is absolutely essential in a democracy
to have competition in the media, a lot of competition,
and we seem to be moving away from that."**

-- Walter Cronkite

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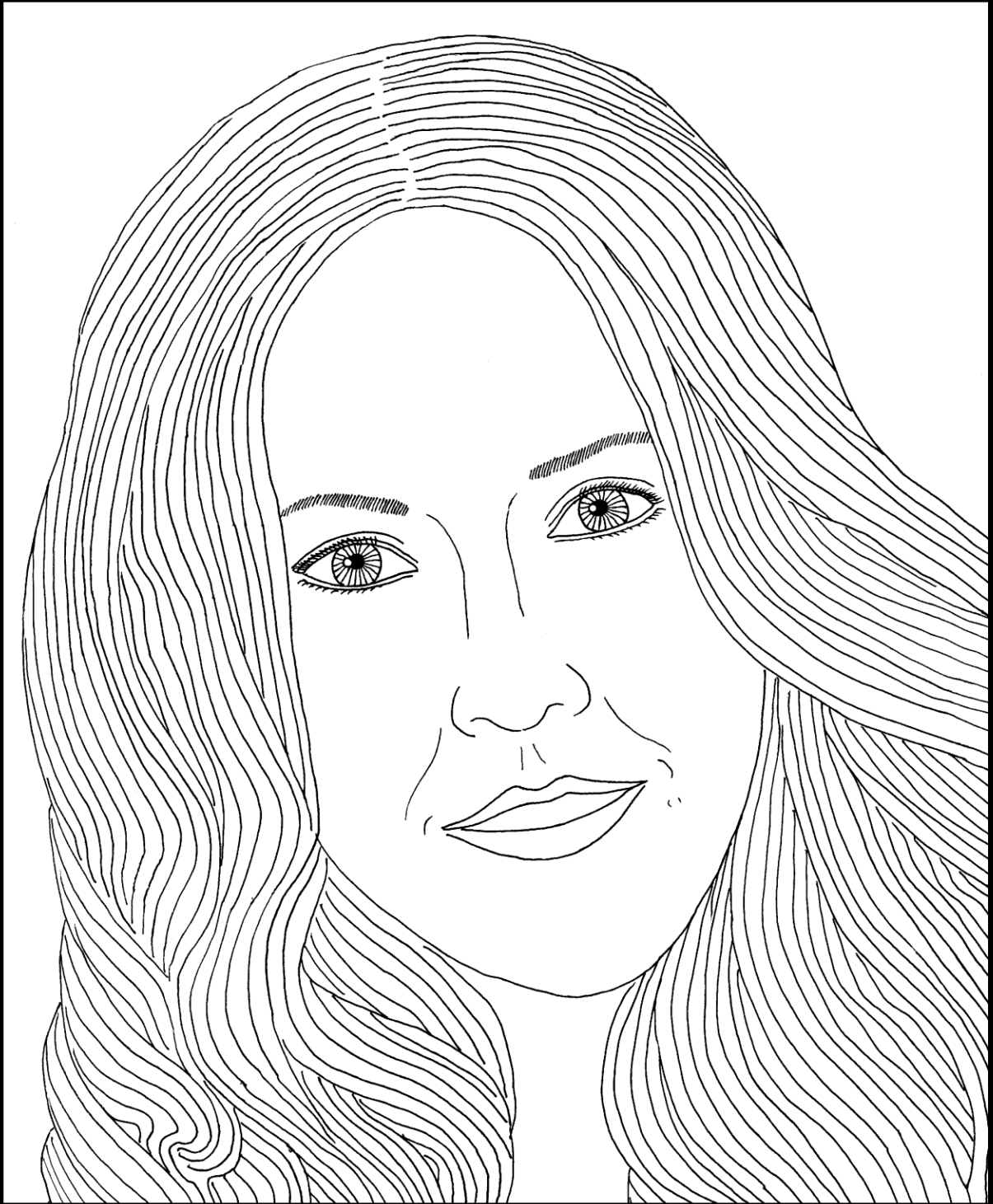
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"When 'news stories' are broken, do we not expect a certain amount of fact-checking or source-checking? One has to ask if this falls under the guise of sloppy reporting or deception as a source of spin. We seem to accept a certain amount of deception and we seem to be helpless to doing anything about it, as illustrated so clearly by where we are right now in this moment in our history."

-- Sheryl Crow

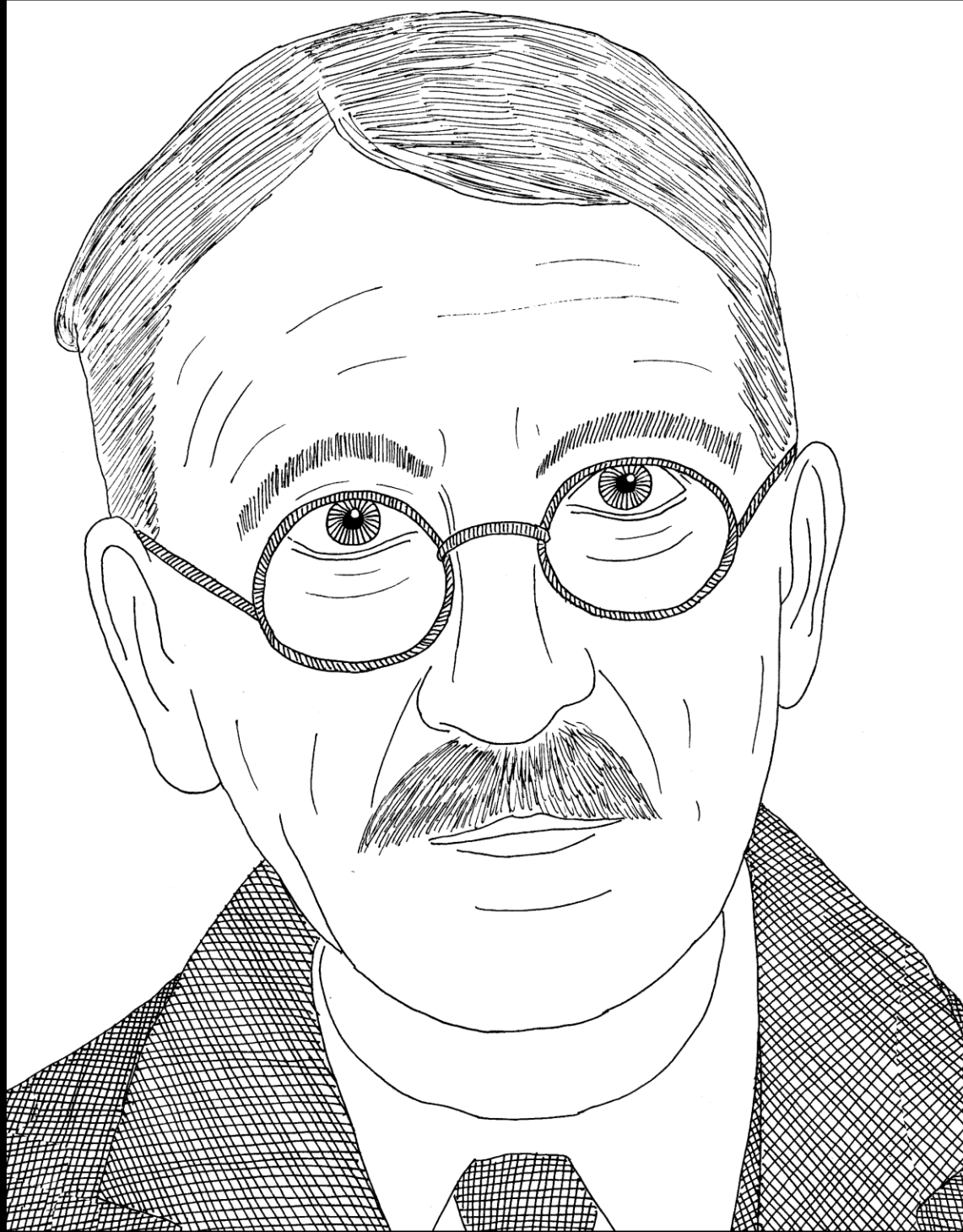
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**"The reactionaries are in possession of force,
in not only the army and police, but in the press and the schools"
-- John Dewey**

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"I certainly think we have an emergency in media,
and we gotta fix it."

-- Phil Donahue

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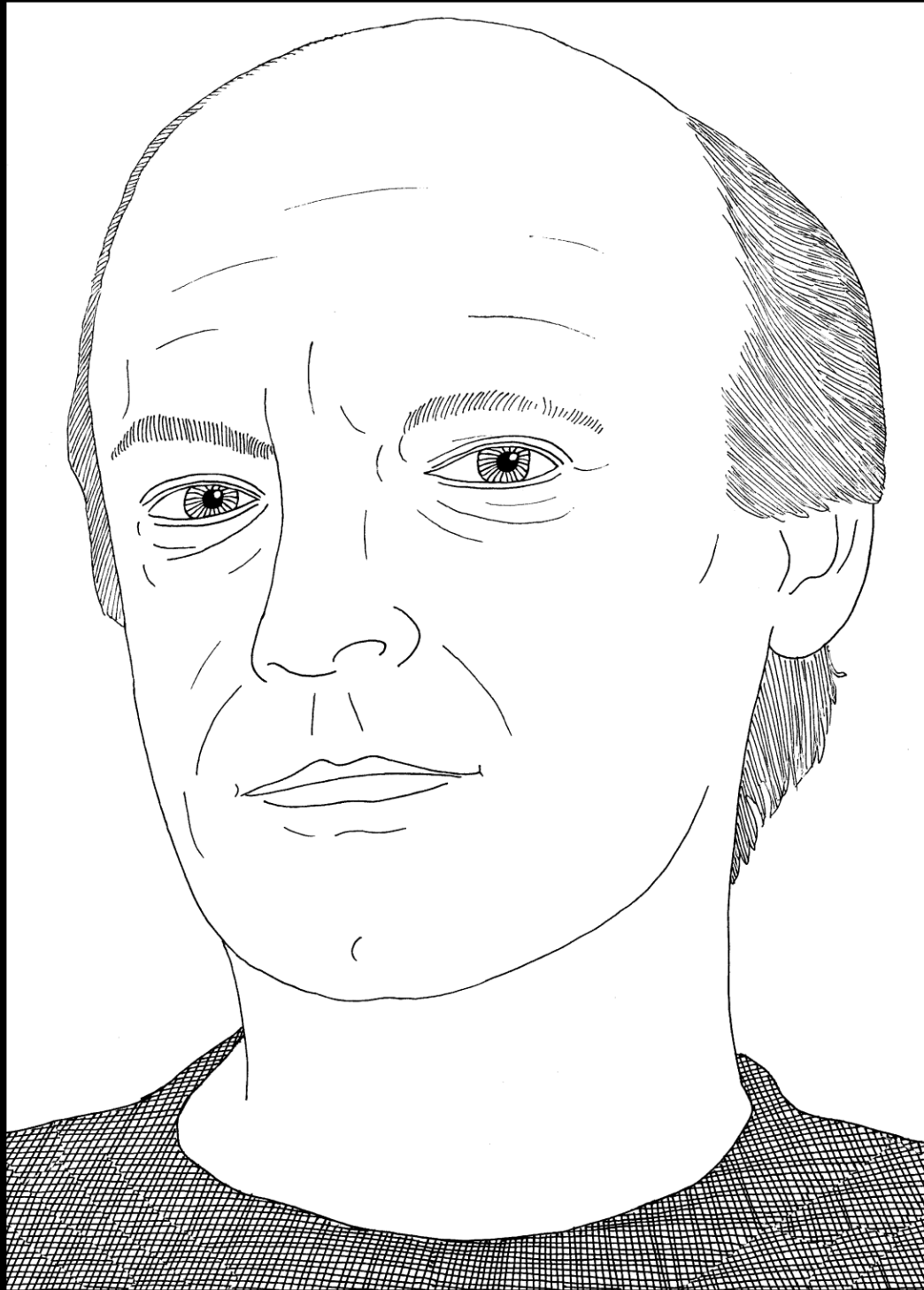
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"...because of forced globalization, there's a clear trend these days towards uniformity. This trend comes largely from the ever-greater concentration of power in the hands of large media groups."
-- Eduardo Galeano

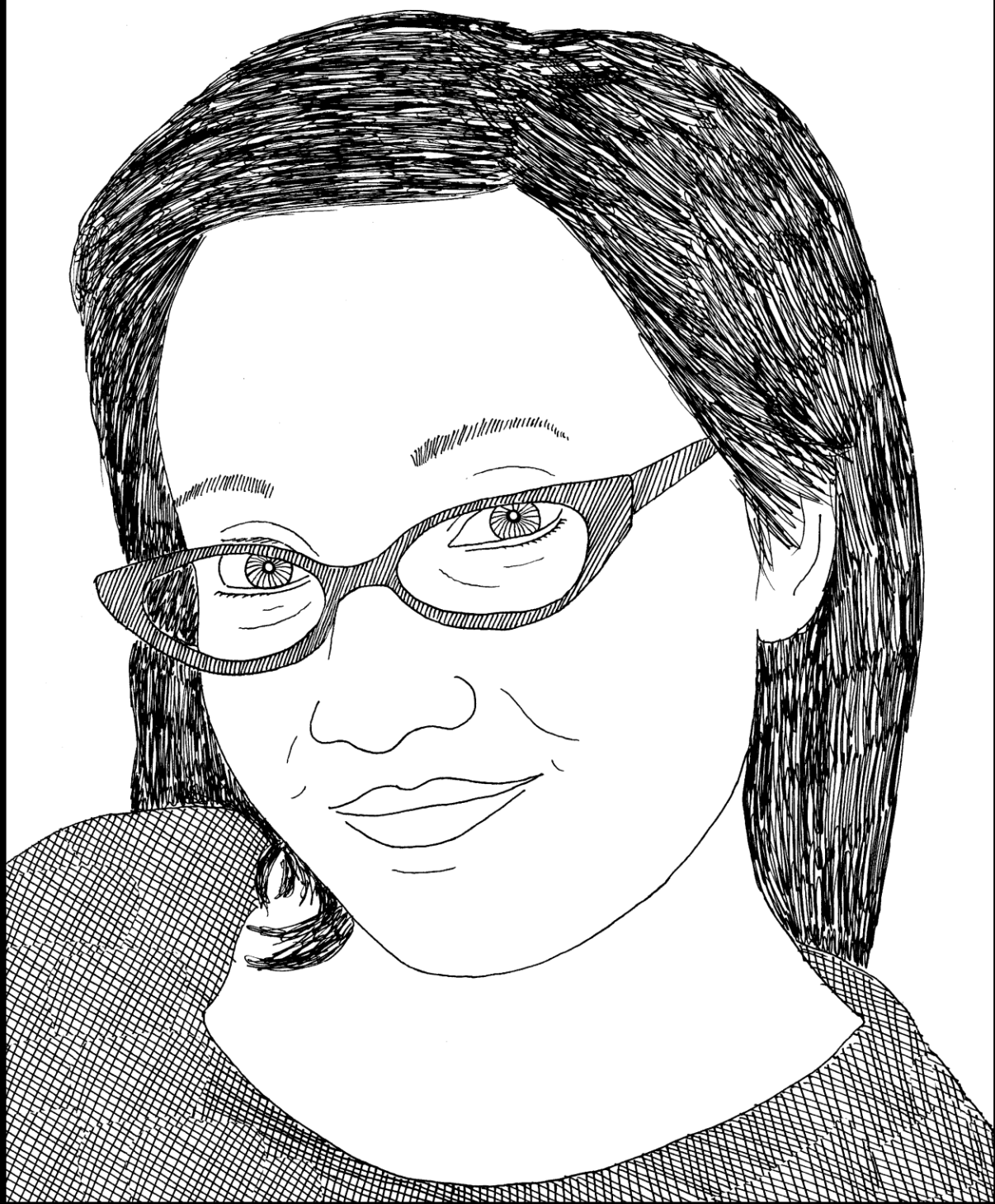
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"The media is supposed to be custodians of the facts
and watchdogs of government. They have,
for the most part, neglected to be either of those things.
-- Janeane Garofalo

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"Today, the media dictatorship is becoming a substitute to military dictatorship. The big economic groups are using the media and decide who can speak, who the good guy is and who the bad guy is..."
-- Danny Glover

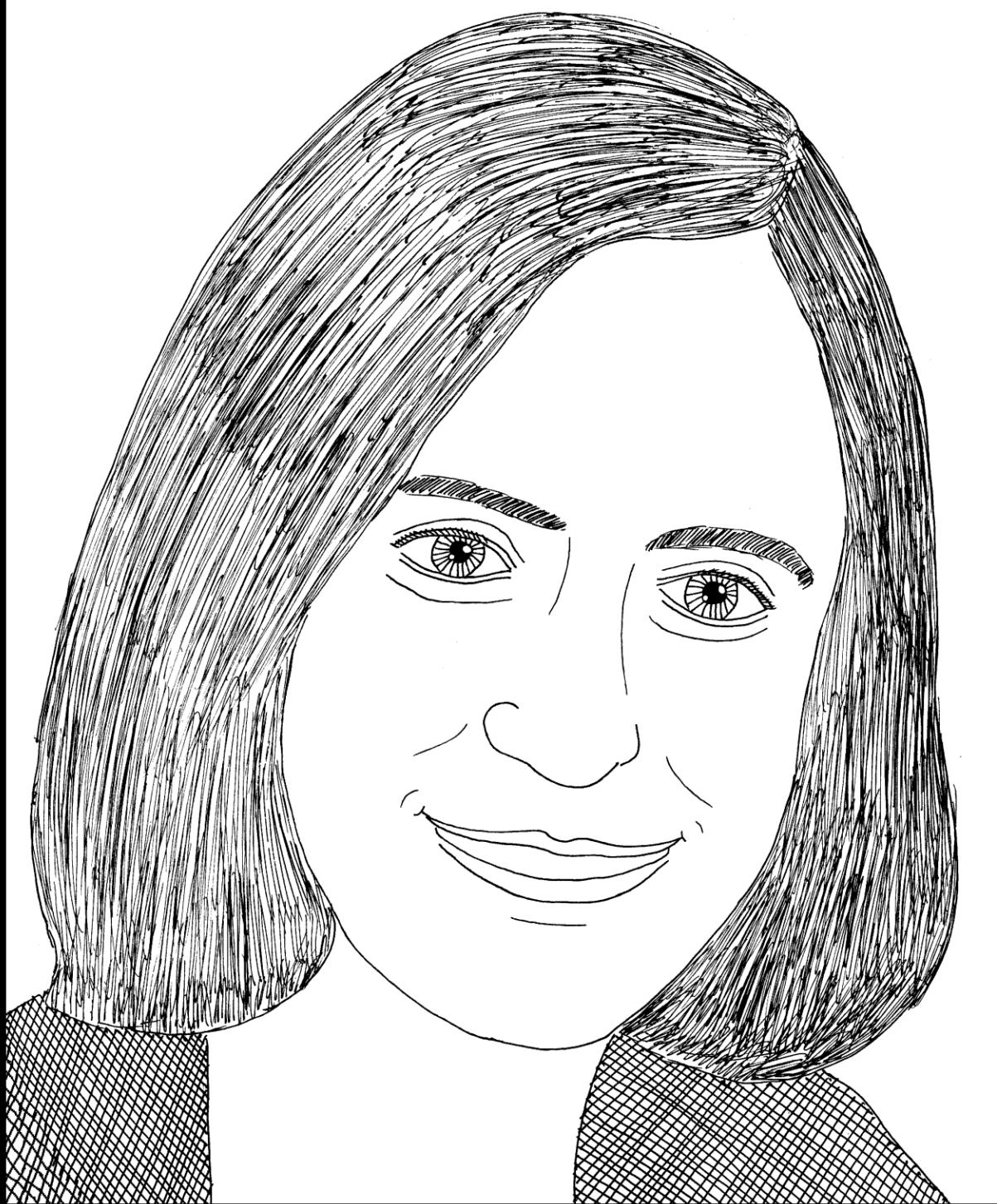
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MAKE A DIFFERENCE



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

"The media is absolutely essential to the functioning of a democracy. It's not our job to cozy up to power. We're supposed to be the check and balance on government."

-- Amy Goodman

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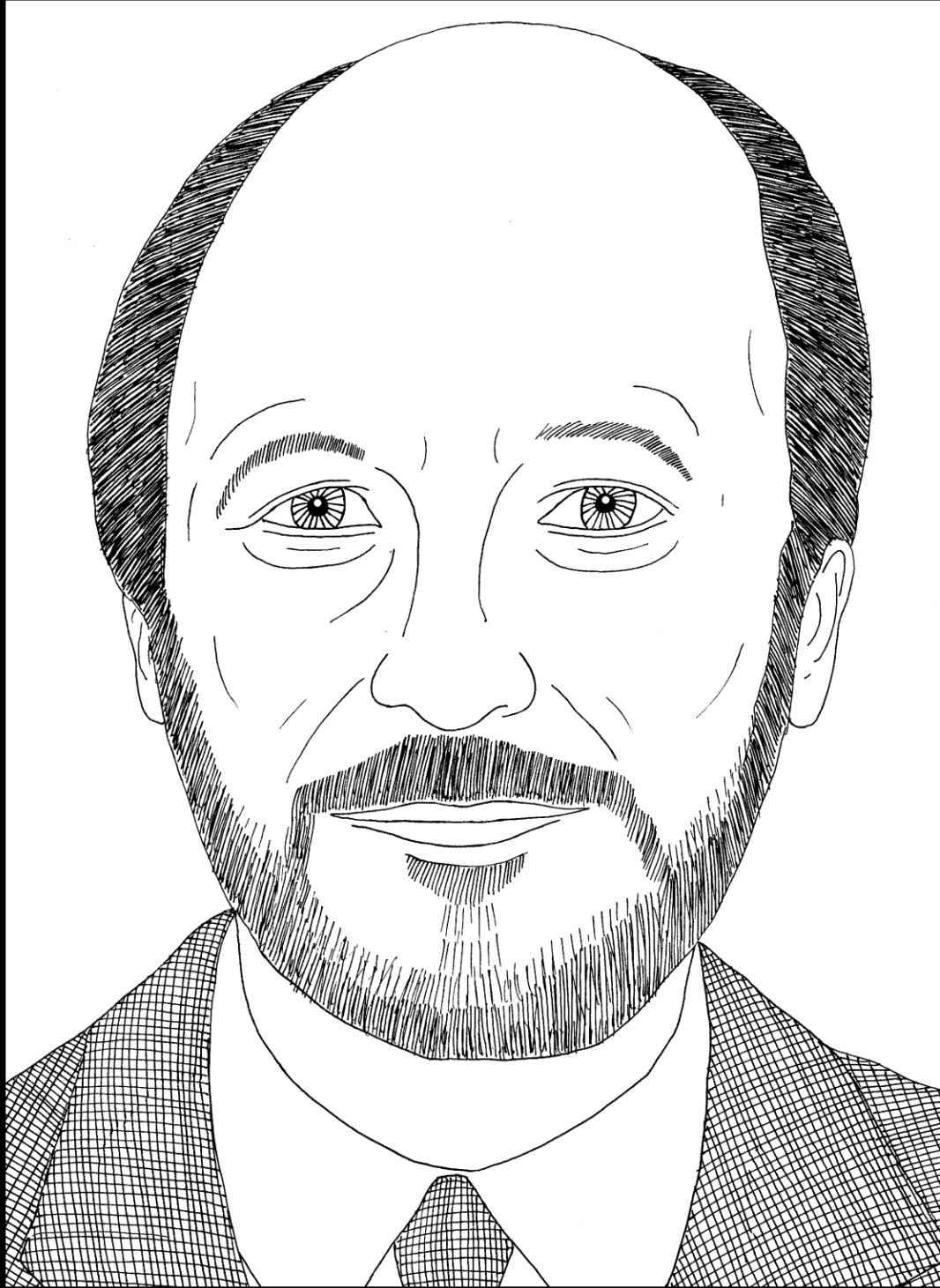
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"Much of the big media outlets in North America are owned by arms manufacturers, like Westinghouse, or GE. That's unacceptable. So we're not getting editorial policy, we're not getting a vision of truth. People just don't know what is going on anymore, and that's really dangerous stuff."

-- Denis Halliday

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**"Mainstream media tend to just mouth the conventional wisdom,
to see everything through the filter of right and left."**

-- Arianna Huffington

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"What is being said in media in other parts of the world is very different from what we've been told in this country..."

-- Bianca Jagger

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"Since an informed citizenry is the basis for a healthy democracy, independent, non-corporate media are more crucial today than ever before."

-- Dahr Jamail

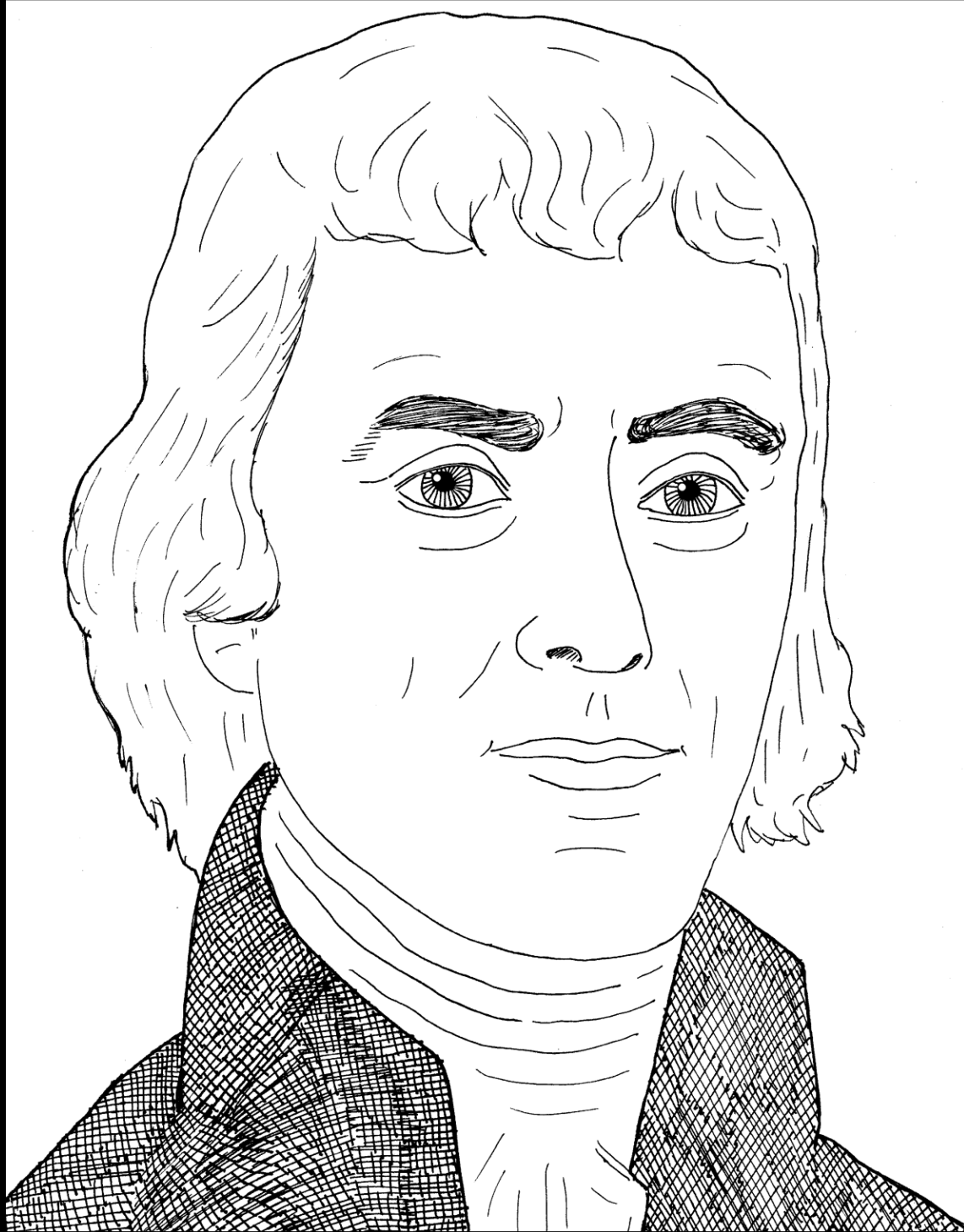
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**"Our liberty depends on the freedom of the press,
and that cannot be limited without being lost."**

-- Thomas Jefferson

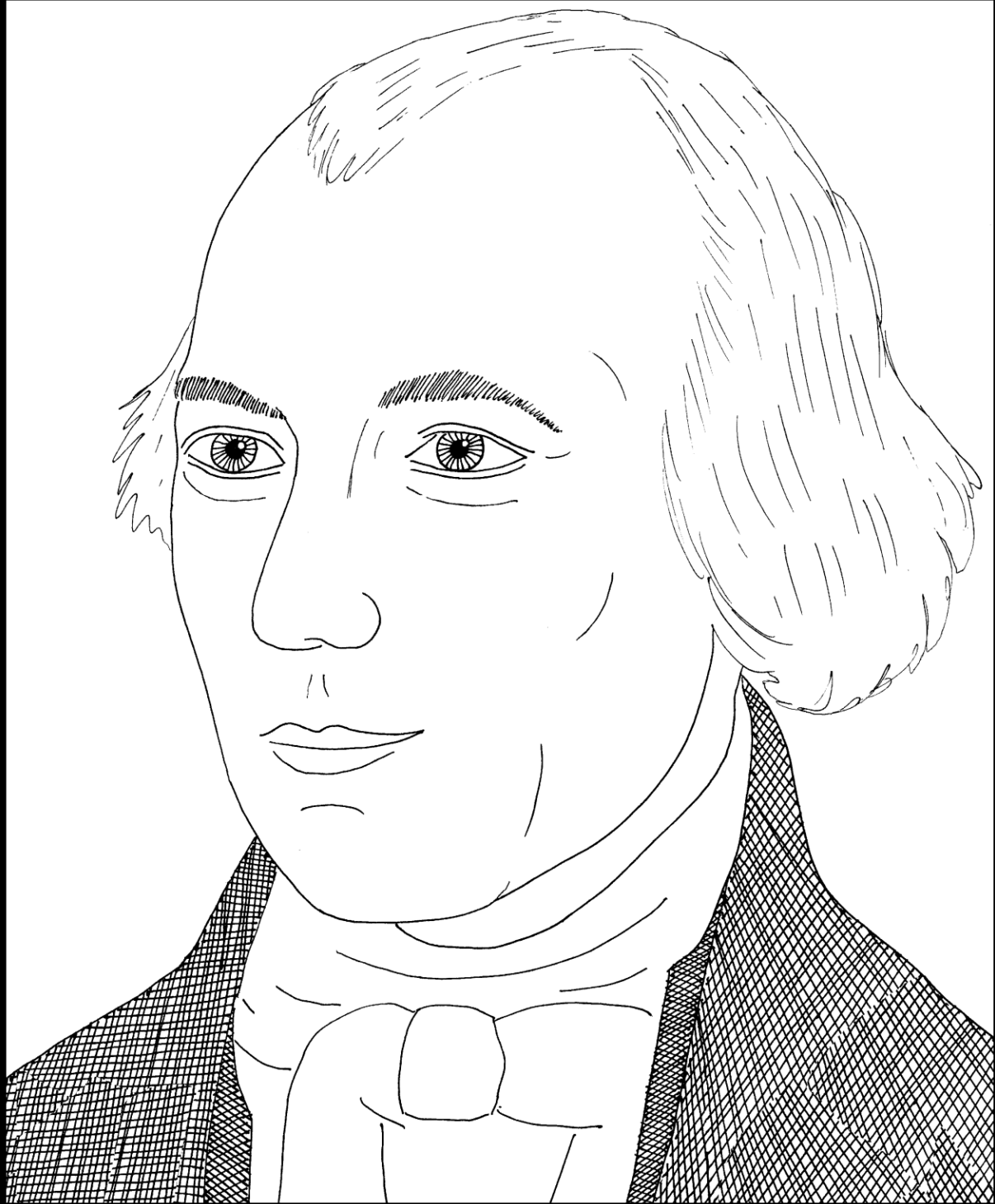
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**"To the press alone, chequered as it is with abuses,
the world is indebted for all the triumphs which have been
gained by reason and humanity over error and oppression."**

-- James Madison

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**"Media is the nervous system of our culture."
-- Gary Malkin**

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"By the end of the millenium five men controlled the world's media.
And the people rejoiced, because their TVs told them to."

-- Michael Moore

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE



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**"The quality of democracy
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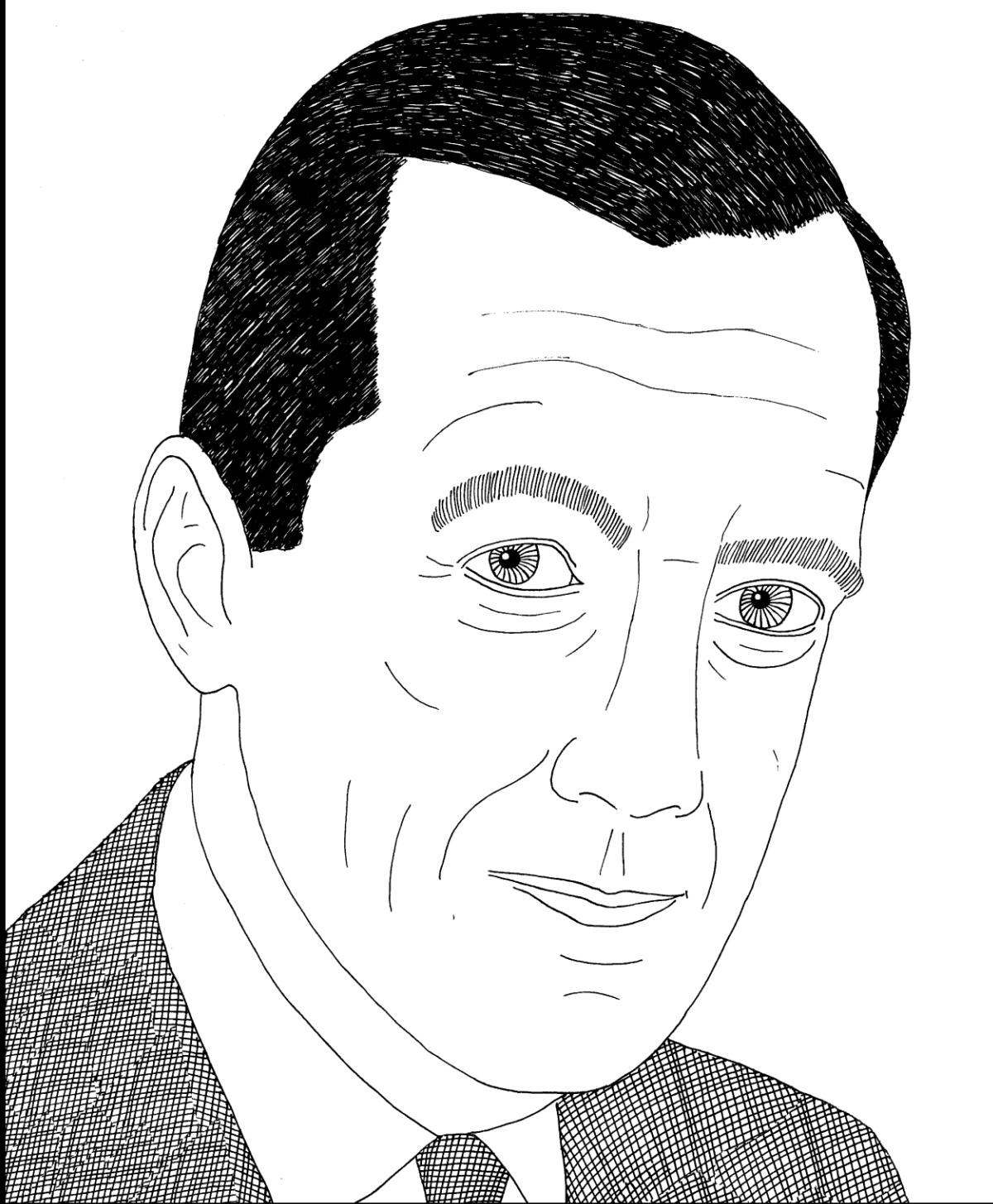
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"The speed of communications is wondrous to behold.
It is also true that speed can multiply the distribution
of information that we know to be untrue."

-- Edward R. Murrow

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"There is a cultural factor promoting violence which nowadays undoubtedly is highly effective is the mass media. And particularly everything that enters our minds through pictorial media."

-- Alva Myrdal

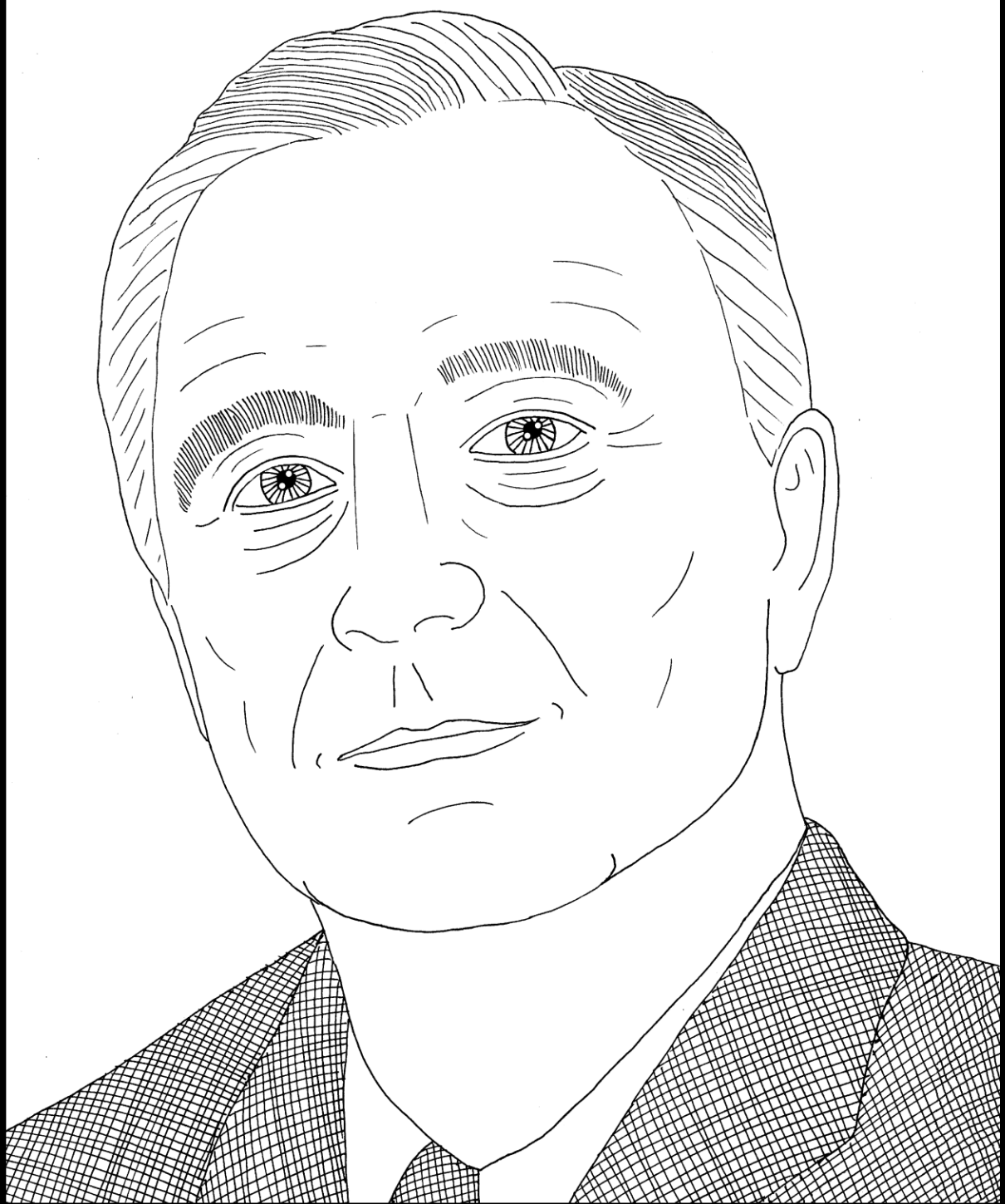
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"If in other lands the press and books and literature of all kinds are censored, we must redouble our efforts here to keep them free"
-- Franklin D. Roosevelt

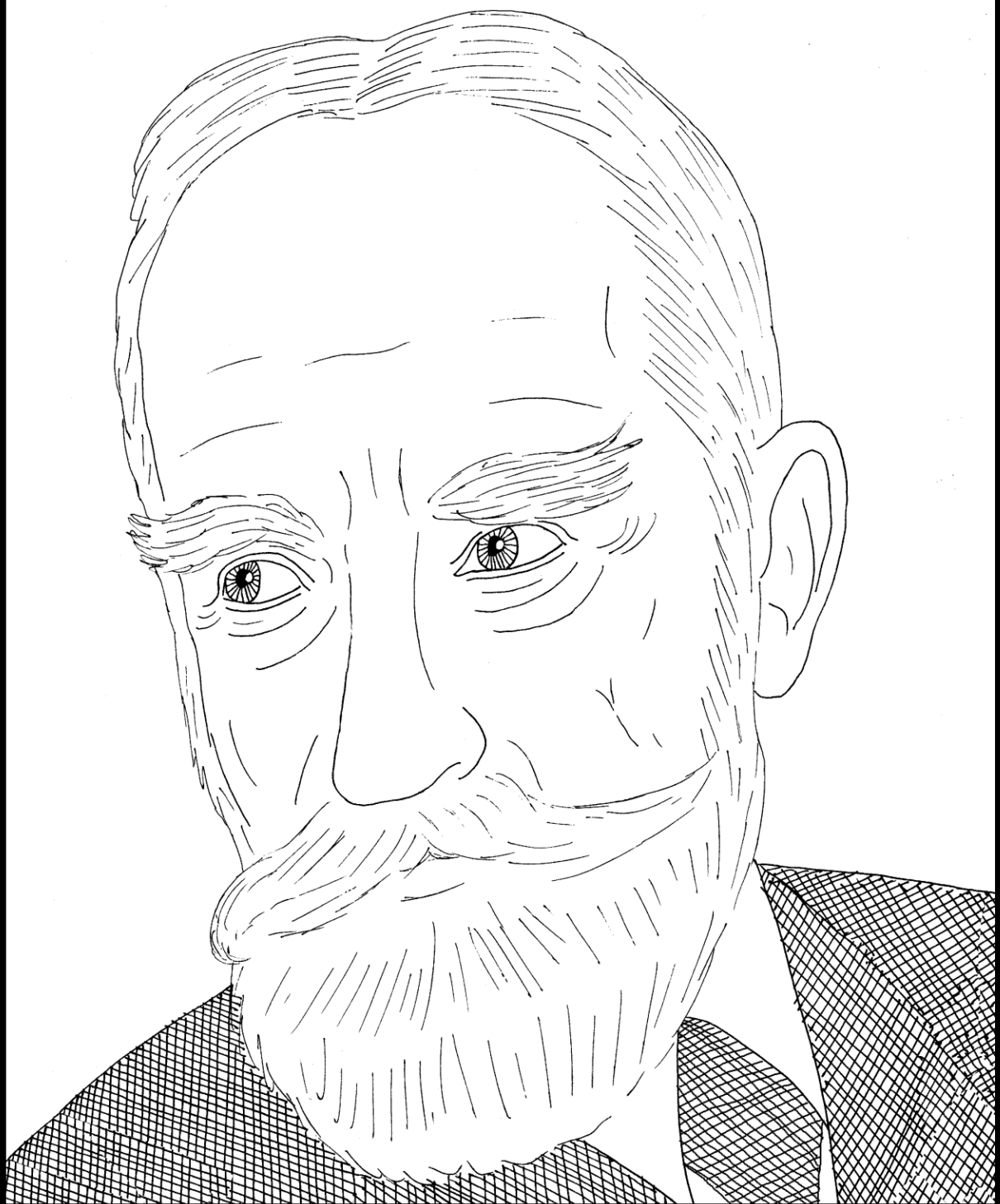
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**"Newspapers are unable, seemingly, to discriminate
between a bicycle accident and the collapse of civilisation."**

-- George Bernard Shaw

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-- Adlai Stevenson

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"I can't tell you how many times we'll run into a journalist and go, 'Boy that's...I wish we could be saying that. That's exactly the way we see it and that's exactly the way we'd like to be saying that.'

And I always think, 'Well, why don't you?'

-- Jon Stewart

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"The idea of a liberal media bias is simply a myth. If only it were true, we might have a more humane, open-minded, and ultimately effective public debate on the issues facing the country."

-- Barbra Streisand

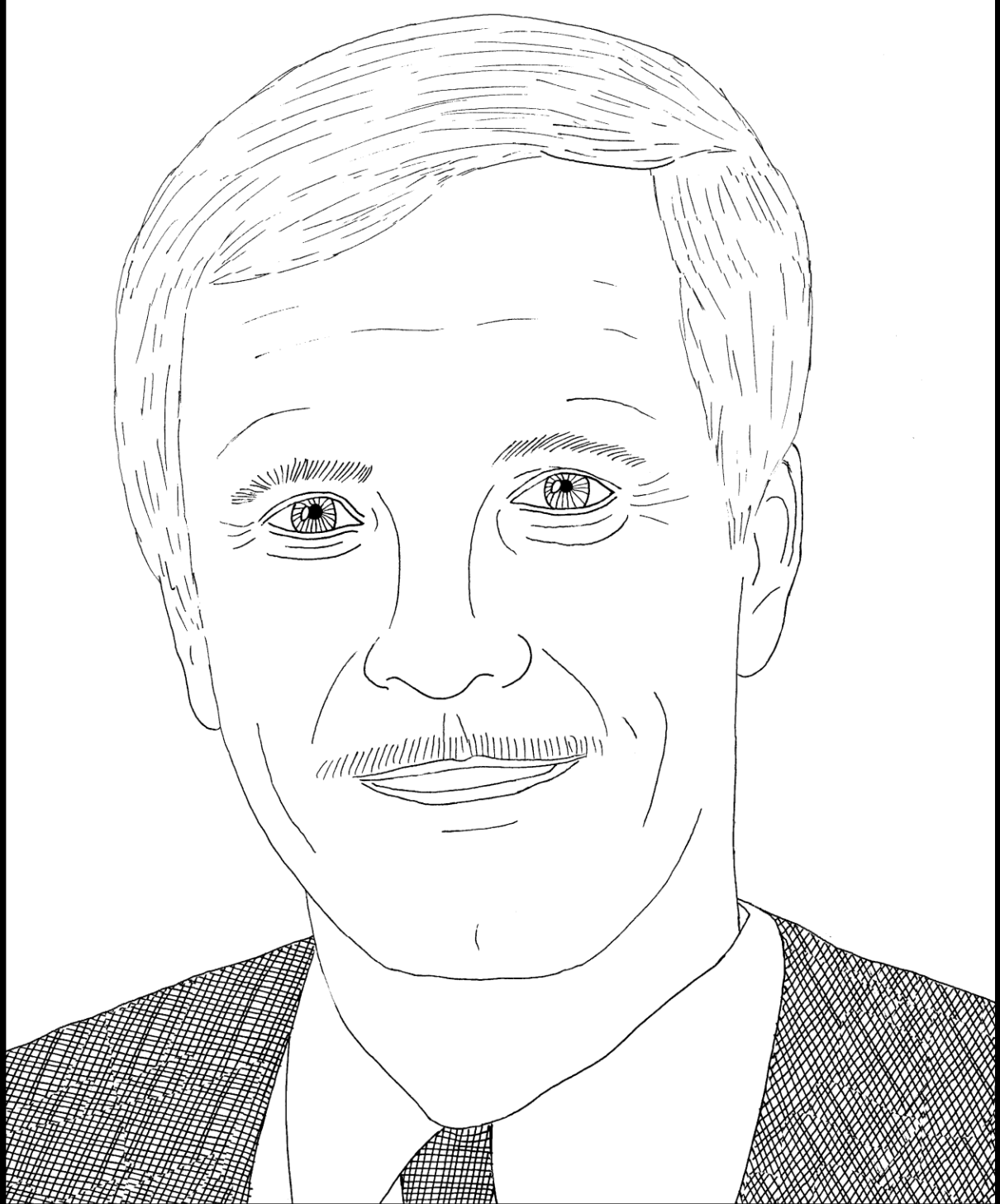
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"The media is too concentrated, too few people own too much. There's really five companies that control 90 percent of what we read, see and hear. It's not healthy."

-- Ted Turner

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"I think people are too often misinformed and, in some cases, deceived. We don't have a full marketplace of ideas in this country that in any way reflects the broad, real range of ideas."

-- Katrina vanden Heuvel

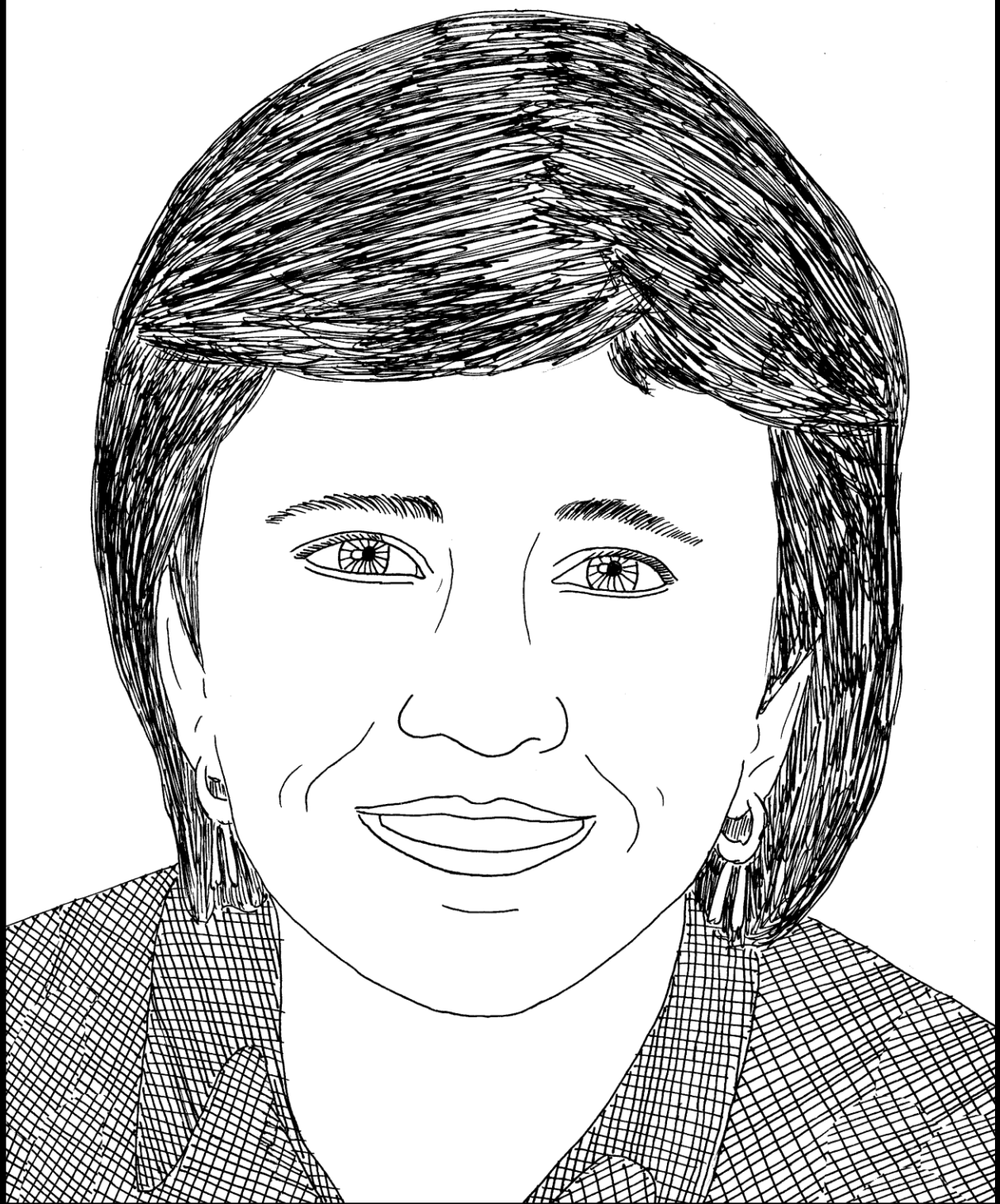
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WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY - MAY 3

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"If we are to have the public conversations essential to taking on serious dilemmas from climate change to criminal justice reform, we need forums for those conversations. The media can facilitate the conversations or shut them down."

-- Sarah van Gelder

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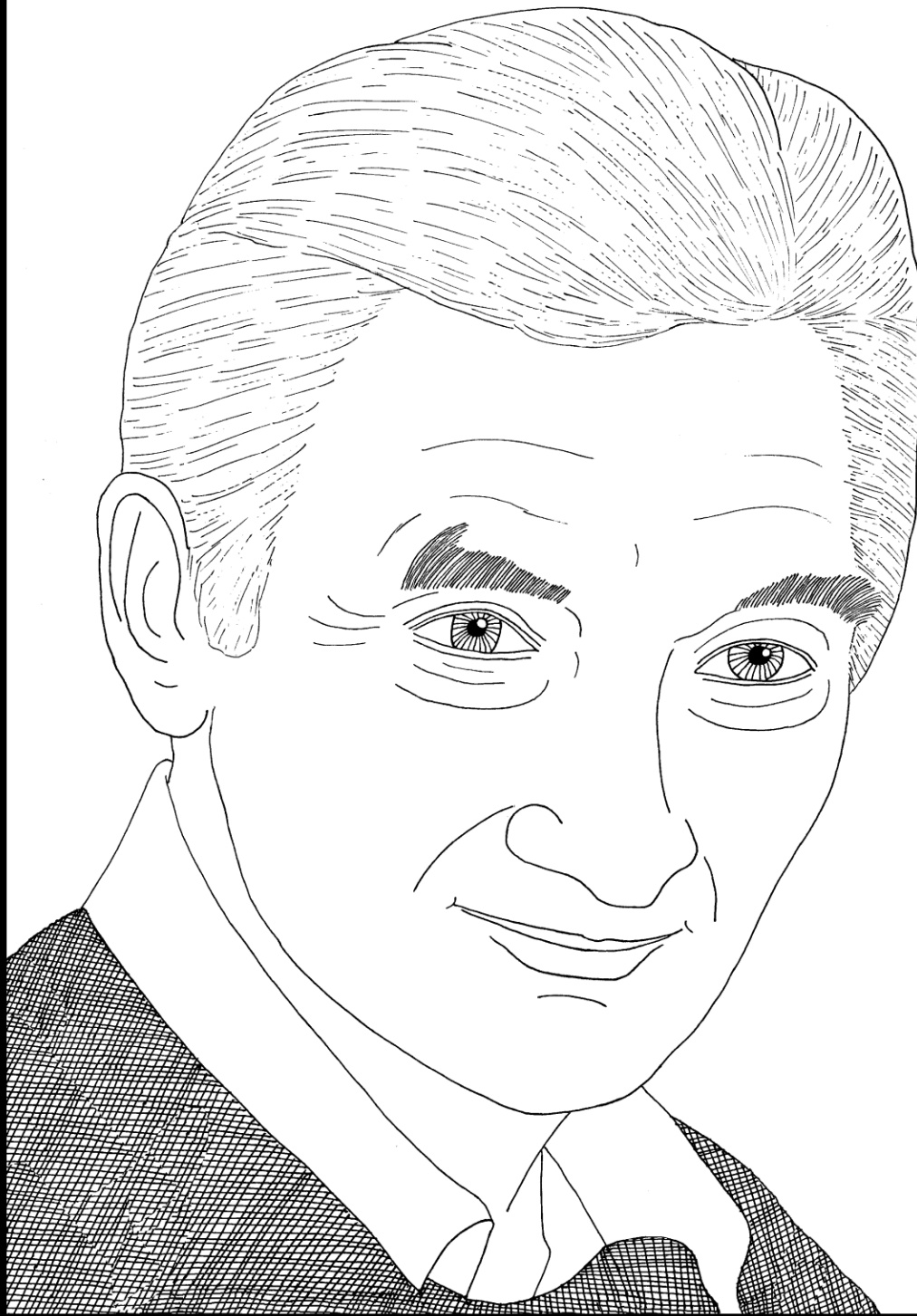
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"We need to decide that we will not go to war, whatever reason is conjured up by the politicians or the media, because war in our time is always indiscriminate, a war against innocents, a war against children."

-- Howard Zinn

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WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY - MAY 3	WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY - MAY 3	WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY - MAY 3	WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY - MAY 3	WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY - MAY 3
 <p>"The United States is essential among the industrial democracies in the rigidity of the system of ideological control, 'subordination,' we might say - exercised through the mass media." - Neven Choksy</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"The script for this film was written 52 years ago by Edward R. Murrow, who taught us many valuable lessons about responsibility and ethics, always questioning authority, because without it, always, also, goes unheeded." - Elizabeth Gilbert</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"Here's how it works: the president makes decisions. He's the dominant. The press secretary announces those decisions, and the weight of the press type those decisions down. Make, announce, type, and get 'em through a giant stack and get home." - Elizabeth Gilbert</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"It takes it absolutely essential to a democracy to have competition in the media, a lot of competition, and we seem to be coming away from that." - Walter Cronkite</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"Susan Sarandon delivers an iconic, close-up portrait of a woman's face, showing an intense emotion. She has a serious expression, looking directly at the camera. Her hair is styled in a classic, shoulder-length cut. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the contours of her face." - Susan Sarandon</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>
 <p>"The responsibilities are in proportion of blame. It not only the army and police, but in the press and the schools." - John Deery</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"I certainly think we have an emergency in media, and we gotta fix it." - Phil Donahue</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"...because of formal education, there's a clear trend from mass towards authority. This trend comes together from the ever-greater concentration of power in the hands of large media groups." - Eduardo Galeano</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"The media is supposed to be a reflection of the facts and subculture of government. They have for the most part, neglected to do those things." - Janeane Garofalo</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"Today, the media distribution is becoming a method to military dictatorship. The big economic groups are using the media and think who can speak, who the good guy is and who the bad guy is." - Danny Glover</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>
 <p>"The media is absolutely essential to the functioning of a democracy. It is not our job to fix the system. We're supposed to be the check and balance on government." - Amy Gutmann</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"Mainstream media tend to just mouth the conventional wisdom, to see everything through the filter of right and left." - Arianna Huffington</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"What is being said in words in other parts of the world is very different from what we've been told in this country." - Blaise Pascal</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"Since an informed citizenry is the basis for a healthy democracy, it is essential that our media are more critical today than ever before." - Dan</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"Our liberty depends on the freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost." - Garry Whelan</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>
 <p>"To the press alone, equipped as it is with thought, the world is indebted for all the thoughts which have been gained by reason and humanity over error and repression." - James Madole</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"Media is the nervous system of our culture." - Gary Markis</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"By the end of the millenium five men controlled the world's media. And the people rejoice and the collapse of civilization." - Michel Mouge</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"The quality of democracy and the quality of our progress are simply related." - Bill Moyers</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"The speed of communications is essential to hold it. It's also that speed can multiply the distribution of information that we have to be serious." - Edward R. Murrow</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>
 <p>"There is a cultural factor governing content which renders sensibility highly effective in the mass media. And particularly everything that enters our minds through electronic media." - Aya Mural</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"If in other lands the press and books and literature of all kinds are censored, we must indicate our efforts here to keep them free." - Franklin D. Roosevelt</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"Newspapers are essential, sensibly, to discriminate between a rough socialist and the collapse of civilization." - George Bernard Shaw</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"The free press is the mother of all our liberties and of our progress under liberty." - George Bernard Shaw</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"I can't tell you how many times we've been into a journalist and go, 'You that.' I wish we could be saying that. That's exactly the way we need it and that's exactly the way we'll be the 'opening that'." "And always, 'Why don't you?'" "John Deery, why don't you?"</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>
 <p>"The idea of a liberal media class is simply a myth. If only it were true, we might have a class that would be able to keep the country's political public debates on the issues facing the country." - Dan</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"The media is too concentrated, too few people own too much. There's really five companies that control 90 percent of what we read, see and hear. It's not healthy." - Dan</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"I think people are too often misled and, in some cases, deceived by don't have a full realization of ideas in this country that in any way reflects the broad, all range of ideas." - Dan</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"We are to have the public conversations essential to build our culture. We need forums for these conversations. The media can facilitate the conversations of that nature." - Dan</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>	 <p>"We need to decide that we will not go to war, whatever reason is presented us by the president or any other leader in our time. We need to make a clear, unambiguous statement that we will not go to war, whatever reason is presented us by the president or any other leader in our time." - Dan</p> <p>BetterWorldCalendar.com</p>