

rotten information

"There is an underlying assumption within both readings that technology, and specifically the web, poses significant threats to the integrity of student research and coursework."

—Sarai

(i) pornography

(ii) forgery

(iii) fraud

--gatekeeping --

(iv) hoax

(v) obfuscation

(vi) plagiarism

Be not deceived: evil
communications corrupt good manners

pure communication

[since the Greeks]
"communication is defined in contrast to
its perversion (by manipulation,
rhetoric, and writing) ...
miscommunication is the scandal that
motivates the very concept of
communication in the first place"

—J. Durham Peters

"If you're going to deal only with
sort of officially approved, certified
good guys, you're not going to find out
what the bad guys are doing."

Dick Cheney



democracy & mass communication

"There seems to be a view that sees quality problems as arising in part from the

Mead, Dewey, Lipman, Merton
Heidegger, Adorno, Habermas

public discourse, public opinion
ideology, false consciousness, alienation

propaganda

"bread and circuses"

"If the mass will be free of its chains of iron, it must accept its chains of silver"

—Lasswell





(i) pornography

Who defines?

"I shall not today attempt further to define the kinds of material I understand to be embraced within that shorthand description; and perhaps I could never succeed in intelligibly doing so. But I know it when I see it."

—Justice Potter Stewart, 1964



obscenity, religion & politics

Of Reformation, &c. Lib. 1.

barricado, to keep off the profane touch of the Laicks, whilst the obscene, and surteted Priest scruples not to paw, and mammoock the sacramentall bread, as familiarly as his Tavern Bisket. And thus the people vilif'd and rejected by them, give over the earnest study of vertue, and godlinesse as a thing of greater purity then they need, and the search of divine knowledge as a mystery too high for their capacity's, and only for Churchmen to meddle with, which is that the Prelates desire, that when they have brought us back to Popish blindnesse we might commit to their disposal the whole managing of our salvation for

CHAP. X.

The Devil's usurped dominion of this world, and how Christ came to dispossess him. 2. The Largeness of the Devil's dominion before the coming of Christ. 3. The Nations of the Jews, the light of the world, and what influence they might have on other Nations in the midst of the reign of Paganisme. 4. That if our Hemisphere was anything more tolerable then the American, is it to be imputed to the Doctrine of the Patriarchs, Moses and the Prophets. 5. That the Influence was so little, that all the Nations besides were Idolaters, most of them exercising of obscene and cruel Superstitions.

Who defines?

Seventeenth-century England
& religious battles:

papism, establishment religion, & dissent

Samuel Wesley vs dissenting academies
[Charles Morton & Harvard]

Milton & More

pornography & politics

Who defines?

depression and rebellion

**the society for the
protection of vice**

Duke of Wellington

politics and poetry

Southey

Byron

Shelley

pornography & politics

radical underworld

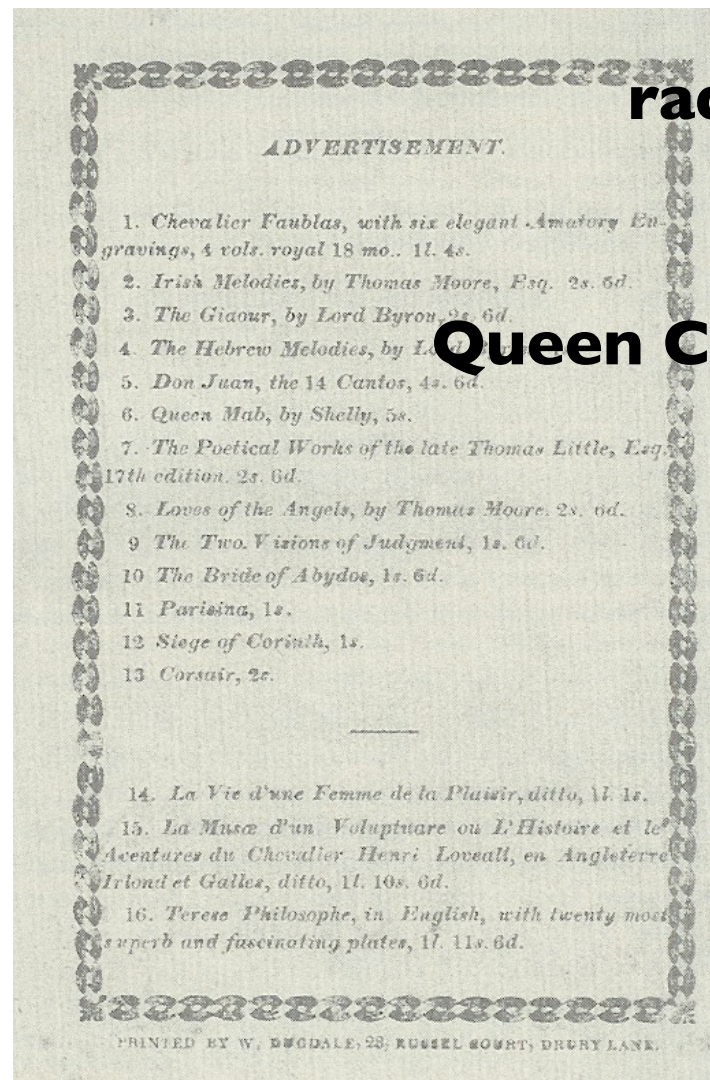
Dugdale

Queen Caroline's divorce

Rowlandson

Gillray

Cruikshank





POLITICAL AFFECTION. 2nd April 1846 by G. Kneller Esq.

Guard we but our own hearts: with constant view
 To ancient morals, ancient manners true,
 True to their manlier virtues, such as nerved
 Our father's breasts, and this proud Isle preserved
 For many a rugged age:--and scorn the while,--
 Each philosophic atheist's specious guile--
 The soft seductions, the refinements nice,
 Of gay morality, and easy vice.

George Canning

'new morality'



Published August 1st 1798 by J. Wright, No. 15, Piccadilly, for the Anti-Jacobin Magazine & Review.

NEW MORALITY; or The promised Installment of the High Priest of the T. EOPHILANTHROPES, with the Homage of Leviathan and his Suite.

Behold!
 The Divorcial LAMA, Sovereign Priest
 LE PAUX -- whom Atheists worship -- at whose aid
 Bow their mad heads -- the Men without a God!
 -- Ere long perhaps to this accursed Isle
 Bring from the Shores of subjugated Nile
 Shall BUONAPARTE'S vict'ri'ous host
 The grand Theophilanthropic Sect.

The Sect of MARAT, MIRABEAU, VOLTAIRE,
 Led by their Pontiff, good LA-REVELLERIE.
 Rejoice our CLUBS shall greet him, and install
 The holy Hunch back in thy Dome, S' PAUL,
 While countless votaries thronging in his train
 Wave their Red Caps, and hymn this sacred strain:
 "Comers and Stars, Seditious Evening Host,
 'Twas Morning Chronicle, and Morning Post.

Whether ye make the Rights of Man your theme,
 Your Country libel, and your God blasphemy,
 Or dirt on private worth, and you the owner:
 Still blasphemous and blackguard praise LE PAUX!
 -- And ye five other wandering B or that move
 In sweet accord of harmony and love
 C... .. and S... ..
 Tune all your mystic harps to praise LE PAUX!

PR... .. and W... .. humble holy men,
 Give praises to his name, with tongue and pen! --
 TH... .. and ye that Lecture as ye go --
 And for your pains get Paid, praise LE PAUX!
 Praise him, each Jacobin, or Fool, or Knave,
 And your crooked heads in sign of worship wave!
 -- All creeping creatures, worms and low,
 PAINE, W. CL. MS. G. DIV. 1. B. LC. 17, praise LE PAUX!

And thou LEVIATHAN! on Ocean's brim
 'Hugest of living things that sleep & swim;
 'Thou in whose nose by BURKE'S gigantic hand
 The hook was fixed to drag thee to the land
 With... .. and... .. in thy train,
 'And W... .. wallowing in the Vasty main,
 Still as ye sport, and puff, and spout, and blow,
 In puffing, and in spouting, praise LE PAUX!

(ii) forgery & detection

documents and the crisis of quality

Donations of Constantine

from ms to print

Daniel Pappbroch & the Jesuits

Jean Mabillon & the Benedictines

De re diplomatica

diplomatics for the web?



1110: Fighter Interceptor Squadron
P. O. Box 34567
Houston, Texas 77034

01 August 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Bush, George W. in Lt. 3244754FG
Suspension of Flight status

1. On this date I ordered that Lt. L. Bush be suspended from flight status due to failure to perform to USAF/TEXANG standards and failure to meet annual physical examination (flight) as ordered.
2. I conveyed my verbal orders to commander, 147th Fighter Op with request for orders for suspension and convening of a flight review board IAW AFM 35-13.
3. I recommended transfer of this officer to the 3991st Air Reserve Squadron in May and forwarded his AF Form 1288 to 147th Fighter Op headquarters. The transfer was not allowed. Officer has made no attempt to meet his training certification or flight physical. Officer expresses desire to transfer out of state including assignment to non-flying billets.
4. On recommendation of Harris, I also suggested that we fill this critical billet with a more seasoned pilot from the list of qualified Vietnam pilots that have rotated. Recommendations were received but not confirmed.

[Signature]
 JERRY B. KILLIAN
 Lt. Colonel

new media

Politics: Harley & the press
Em's Dispatch

Finance: East India
South Sea

bills of exchange

"The natural Punishment ... is not Death, but some sort of Ignominy such as the Pillory. ... Forgery is ... punished capitally, and nobody complains that it is too severe"

—Adam Smith

(iii) fraud

eBay & Diebenkorn: new media?





fraud & old media

Jeff Ganon

Jason Blair

Stephen Glass

Janet Cooke

gatekeeping

formal institutions:

archivists, librarians, scientific associations,
banks, exchanges

informal institutions:

blogs

"people in pyjamas"
—Dan Rather



gatekeeping: quis custodiet?

boundary protection

stationers' company
financial exchanges
the "press"

corruption

T.J. Wise & modern diplomatics
Arthur Andersen

[the ICM regisry] "is even working with a Canadian non-profit organisation to ensure that only "responsible" pornographers get .xxx domains."

beyond the pale

Wolf

Martin Marprelate, Martin Luther

foreign presses

Scottish, French, American

Vizetelly & Zola

Dickens: American Notes for General Circulation

"In a reply to a question from the Bench, the Solicitor observed, that this kind of notes circulated more extensively in those parts of the world where they were stolen or forged". Old Bailey Report



(iv) hoax

Sokal hoax

Pittdown man

crop circles

(v) obfuscation

"the book trade had generated a culture of plagiarism and "counterfeits" ... The wits ... / had powerful strategies at their disposal for challenging the worth of any printed book ... and the truth of any printed statement"

—Adrian Johns



obfuscation

Discovery Institute: CSC

<http://www.discovery.org/csc/>

Philip E. Johnson

Jefferson E. Peyser Professor, Emeritus, Boalt
Hall



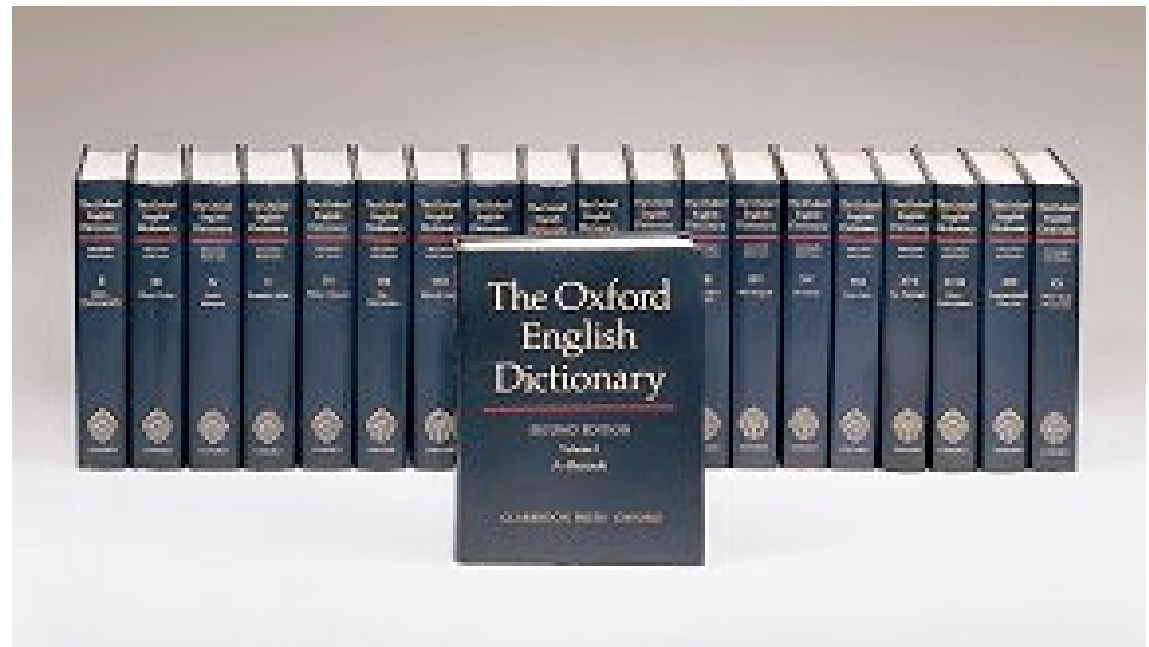
obfuscation

Discovery is also the leading proponent of ... "intelligent design."... Most orthodox scientists dismiss intelligent design as upmarket creationism. But books and papers spew out of Discovery's Center for Science and Culture.... The intelligent design movement is an example of the Right's growing willingness to do battle with what it regards as the liberal "science establishment" on its own turf, *using scientific research of its own*. Right-wing think tanks have attacked scientific orthodoxy on stem cells... poured over the data on global warming.... the Right is clearly extending the battle of ideas into new territories, just as Milton Friedman and others did in economics forty years ago.

obfuscation

the sumptuary of print

Latour & Woolgar:
the weight of an argument



(vi) plagiarism

a modern trait?

Joseph Biden
Doris Kerns Goodwin
Stephen Ambrose
Alan Dershowitz
Micahel Bellesiles

authors and authority
and graduate students



plagiarism

novel concern

Tobias Wolf

Tom Wolfe

Peter Ackroyd

Peter Carey

Thomas Mallon

plagiarism

'Shall we forever make new books, as apothecaries make new mixtures, by pouring only out of one vessel into another? Are we forever to be twisting and untwisting the same rope?'

—Laurence Sterne

plagiarism

architectural concerns





plagiarism

beyond academia

IP and engrossing

SCO

EOLAS

DMCA

software patents ...



next week's reading

**authors, authority, and
reputation in the world of print**