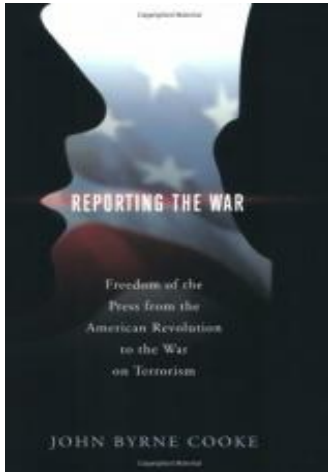


# Reporting the War: Freedom of the Press from the American Revolution to the War on Terrorism

by John Byrne Cooke

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## About the Book

**Reporting the War** examines how the American press has exercised its constitutionally protected freedom in wartime?when that freedom, and other civil liberties, are most likely to be threatened?from the Revolution to the ongoing conflicts of the present day. By providing a historical frame of reference for evaluating the performance of the press, and our responsibilities as citizens, in our own times, **Reporting the War** will remain thought-provoking and relevant through changes of administration in Washington and long after American troops have left Afghanistan and Iraq.

## Discussion Guide

1. What important stories in our own times have the press under-reported or neglected?
2. What lessons about the role of the press in wartime have we had to learn again and again, from one war to the next?
3. What can we learn from the failures of the press, in certain wars, to fulfil its responsibility to inform the people about government threats to liberty?
4. As citizens of a democratic society, how does our own responsibility supplement the responsibility of the press to keep us informed?

## Author Bio

John Byrne Cooke is an award-winning writer, a photographer and musician with more than 40 years of experience in each of these arts, an actor who has appeared in eleven stage productions over the past six years, and a narrator with

experience ranging from voice-over film narration to audiobooks to live performances with the Grand Teton Music Festival.

## Critical Praise

"Cooke . . . gives an excellent, incisive commentary on how freedom of the press in the U.S., from the time of the 13 colonies on, has played out in times of war. . . . A timely study, Cooke's history presents the fifth estate in all its conflicted glory."

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