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Edited by Jukka Kortti, Heidi Kurvinen

MEDIATED IDEOLOGIES

Nordic Views on the History
of the Press and Media Cultures

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Mediated Ideologies

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This book shows that research on ideologies is back in media studies. Internationally informed, it directs its attention to the role of media in shaping and spreading ideological thinking in Nordic countries. It is my hope that it can inspire scholars to do more high-quality research—in regions all over the world.

Prof. Dr. Henrik G. Bastiansen

Art and Media Studies
Volda University College, Norway

About the editors

Dr. Jukka Kortti is a social science historian, who has made several comprehensive studies on media history and intellectual history. As a media historian, he has published textbooks and theoretical articles and studied the history of television, advertising, journalism and documentary film. As a social historian, he has been interested in intellectual history, historical culture, university history, culture and student activism, the history of everyday life, the history of consumption and modernization processes. Currently, he directs two research projects at the University of Helsinki. He is the chair of Nordic Media History Network (NOMEH).

Heidi Kurvinen is a media historian who has specialized in the gendered history of professional journalism in the Nordic region as well as the encounters between social movements and mainstream media. Currently, she works as a Collegium Researcher at the Turku Institute for Advanced Studies (TIAS) in University of Turku, Finland. She is the secretary of Nordic Media History Network (NOMEH).

Summary

Ideologies have not been a focus of interest in the field of humanities and social sciences in recent decades, but rethinking the power of ideologies in the media sphere has recently returned to the scholarly discussion. The compilation book “Mediated Ideologies: Nordic Views on the History of the Press and Media Cultures” participates in this by providing selected yet justified approaches to media history from the point of view of ideological uses of media in the Nordic region.

In this book, the role of media – comprising both popular media and news journalism – as a forum for ideologies and their circulation will be analyzed by focusing on the Nordic region. The perceived similarities in the media systems of the Nordic countries constitute a perfect extent for a regional media history against not only a European but also a global backdrop. This does not mean that there have not been many national differences.

The book does not provide a chronological narrative of Nordic media history. Still, the ideology of media is approached not only from the standpoints of different media forms – film, television, newspapers, magazines, and periodicals – but also from several historical periods from the mid-19th century to the late 20th century. The chapters show the multidimensional role that the media has in transmitting ideologies to their audiences and the public sphere. They also demonstrate that analyzing the role of different ideologies, such as modernization, nationalism, solidarity, feminism, and peace movement in media history provides wider perspectives in understanding past and present media landscapes and people’s mediated experiences that are fostered by them.

“Mediated Ideologies: Nordic Views on the History of the Press and Media Cultures” can be used both as a reference book and as a classroom adaptation in the field of media, communication, and history studies.

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