

#### SS.7.C.2.10

*Examine the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on monitoring and influencing government.*

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**SS.7.C.2.10 Benchmark Clarification 2:** Students will identify the methods used by the media to monitor and/or influence the government.

The **media** uses their right to **freedom of the press**, protected in the **First Amendment**, to monitor and influence the government. The media includes print (newspapers, magazines), broadcast (television, radio), the Internet, and social media (Facebook, Twitter). The media report stories about public officials, give information online about the government, or broadcast news reports on the radio or TV. The media plays an important role in both monitoring and influencing the government through their reporting.

**First Amendment** - an amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibiting Congress from establishing a religion, and from interfering with freedom of religious exercise, press, speech, assembly, or petition

**freedom of the press** - the right of the press to write and print news and information free from government involvement; guaranteed in the First Amendment

**media** - plural form of the word "medium," refers to various means of communication. For example, television, radio, newspapers and the Internet (web) are different types of media. The term can also be used to describe news organizations as a whole group.