

	<b>Julian Assange</b> (b. Queensland, Australia, 1971)	<b>Chelsea Manning</b> (b. Crescent, Oklahoma 1987)	<b>Edward Snowden</b> (b. Elizabeth City, North Carolina 1983)
Twitter Bio	<i>Publisher @WikiLeaks; I open governments. Arbitrarily detained in violation of UN ruling WGAD/54/2015. Unless otherwise stated positions are my own.</i>	<i>Network Security Expert. Fmr. Intel Analyst. Former Prisoner. Trans Woman. Make powerful people angry. Tweets are own opinions. Pronouns: she/her #WeGotThis</i>	<i>I used to work for the government. Now I work for the public. President at @FreedomofPress.</i>
Background	Hacker, activist, computer programmer, writer, producer. Self-taught/some college-level coursework, criminally charged for hacking, scholar-activist of cryptography and citizen's rights, founder of WikiLeaks.	Former soldier in the US Army where she was employed as an Intelligence Analyst. Convicted of over twenty charges and sentenced to thirty-five years. Obama commuted her sentence, and she was released in 2017.	Computer security expert; former CIA employee and US government contractor.
Platform for Dissemination	Wikileaks.org in coordination with journalists and news organizations.	Wikileaks.org	<i>The Guardian</i> and the <i>Washington Post</i>
Timeline	<p>2006: Launched WikiLeaks.org</p> <p>2010: Published Manning's classified military documents</p> <p>2010-2017: active ongoing investigation by the U.S. Government;</p> <p>2010: Investigation by Swedish authorities regarding multiple charges of rape and sexual assault</p> <p>2012: Granted Asylum by the Ecuadorian Embassy</p> <p>2013: Founded WikiLeaks Party</p> <p>2016: WikiLeaks publishes DNC records and emails.</p>	<p>2007: Joins US Army</p> <p>2009 Oct: Deployed to Iraq as an Intelligence Analyst</p> <p>2010 Jan: Uploads classified Iraq and Afghanistan war logs to WikiLeaks</p> <p>2010 April: WikiLeaks posts 2007 video showing Iraqi civilians and journalists being killed by a US gunship</p> <p>2010 May: Arrested in Baghdad, transferred to Kuwait</p> <p>2010 June: Charged with leaking classified information</p> <p>2010: Moved to Quantico in the US</p> <p>2010-2011: Various news outlets publish information stemming from her leak</p> <p>2011: Pre-trial begins</p> <p>2013 Feb: Pleads guilty to leaking military information</p> <p>2013 July: Found guilty of 20 charges</p> <p>2013 Aug: Sentenced to 35 years</p> <p>2017 Jan: Obama commutes Manning's sentence</p> <p>2017 May: Freed from Fort Leavenworth in Kansas.</p>	<p>2013 June: Glenn Greenwald reveals NSA is collecting phone records of Verizon customers</p> <p>» The Guardian and the Washington Post report the existence of PRISM</p> <p>» It is revealed that Snowden is the leaker. He gives an address from Hong Kong</p> <p>» John Boehner accuses Snowden of being a traitor.</p> <p>» FBI Director Robert Mueller releases a statement saying that Snowden has caused the US "significant harm" and pledges prosecution</p> <p>» US prosecutors charge Snowden with espionage and theft. The White House requests his extradition from Hong Kong</p> <p>» Snowden flies from Hong Kong to Moscow</p> <p>» Vladimir Putin confirms Snowden is in the area of Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport and remains free</p> <p>2013 July: Snowden applies to Russia for political asylum</p> <p>2013 Aug: Snowden granted temporary asylum in Russia</p>
Significant Leaks	Iraq War and Afghan War documents; United States diplomatic cables; Guantanamo Bay files; Global Intelligence files; Syria files; Stratfor emails; Democratic National Committee emails; Podesta emails	While on leave, Manning uploaded 700,000 confidential military and diplomatic documents to WikiLeaks.	Government court orders allowing NSA to access civilian phone records; PRISM program documents; British Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) fiber optic documents
Current Status	Living at the Embassy of Ecuador, London, by right of asylum since 2012.	Lives in North Bethesda, Maryland and is currently running for US Senate in Maryland	Granted temporary asylum in Moscow, Russia

## Julian Assange

Director, WikiLeaks

To what extent do Assange's personal biases and questionable personal life choices (including relationships and family) affect how we talk about his supposedly anti-corruption ethics and actions?

Assange seemed more open to Trump and opposed to Clinton, and may have coordinated with Russian hackers; he is libertarian and not as opposed to capitalism as he is to the actions of the state. How do these political biases impact the work that he does and the ethics of information and rights that he espouses?

Assange has dismissed claims of rape, sexual assault, misogyny, and anti-semitism as attempts by political adversaries to discredit him. How do we take these allegations seriously while remaining open to the possibility that he's right in that he is an enemy of multiple influential states which seek to discredit and suppress him?

Zizek writes, "Assange, Manning, Snowden, these are our new heroes, exemplary cases of the new ethics that befits our era of digitalised control." Should we avoid grouping all three together? Do they represent something unified, or are the differences between them important/meaningful?

## Chelsea Manning

Ex-Army Analysis; Current Senate Candidate

Coming out as a transgender woman in an all-male prison facility, Manning was placed in solitary confinement for twenty-three hours a day, "for her safety"—an act that the UN has denounced as torture. In what ways, if any, does her treatment reflect social views of trans women?

Manning has a very active Twitter presence. What role do you think social media has played in the construction of her public identity?

It has recently come to light (via social media) that Manning has been associating with Mike Cernovich, a member of the alt-right who, among other things, propagated the so-called "Pizzagate" conspiracy theory. Does this new information alter your perception of her? If so, in what ways? If not, why? How should we account for and address her multiplicity of identities?

Speaking more broadly, the individuals discussed today have little or no higher education experience. Regardless, all have occupied or continue to occupy positions of great power over the dissemination and control of information. In what ways does this influence the privileged position of the university as source of

## Edward Snowden

Ex-CIA & Government Contractor

How does Snowden's identity as a white, American, cisgender, economically-privileged man impact his reputation, image, and trustworthiness?

How might the fact that only 400 documents have been published—a tiny fraction of the larger "Snowden archive"—impact the way that the leaked information is perceived and received?

On a related note, how might this leak's trustworthiness or authenticity be related to the fact that the documents were leaked to journalists, and not directly to the public? What is the significance for this leak of the journalist-mediators?

What is the significance of this being a governmental leak that focuses on the US and UK governments? In particular, how is this leak different from the Cambridge Analytica Facebook scandal? In what ways is it the same?