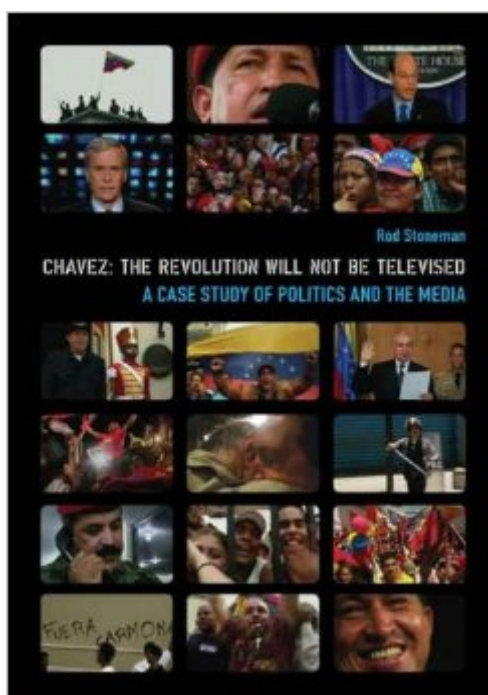


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Chavez: The Revolution Will Not Be Televised: A Case Study Of Politics And The Media (Nonfictions)



Synopsis

The Revolution Will Not Be Televised is a powerful film about the charismatic and controversial Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez. It charts the attempt to overthrow him in April 2002 and provides an eyewitness account of his extraordinary return to power some forty-eight hours later. This book, which includes a DVD of this electrifying documentary, not only sheds light on contemporary politics in Latin America but also focuses on important issues in documentary filmmaking.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Red bullets have been shot at this documentary film by Kim Bartley and Donnacha O'Briain, which clearly proves the immense importance of this movie for all the parties involved and exposed in the coup against Hugo Chávez in Venezuela (army, police, intelligence services, media, Church). The reason for these ferociously critical attacks is very simple: the Chávez regime is a direct challenge for the existing world hegemon and his policies (economic, social, cultural, media). The essential questions to be asked about this movie are the following: Did a military coup take place against Hugo Chávez and his regime? Were foreign intelligence services involved? Was there partisan reporting on the coup and manipulation of 'live' shootings by the local and international news channels? Did the movie give a fair and balanced picture of the events and its background? The answer to all these crucial questions is a firm YES without a shadow of a doubt. This book gives

valuable information on the (independent) production, the shooting and the release of the movie. It also discusses the concepts of 'cinéma vérité' and the political documentary genre. The makers explain perfectly why they used archive footage and shot some complementary scenes after the coup. This astonishing movie is a must see for all those who want to understand the world we live in.

The Irish students' documentary that just might have tossed a wrench into the well-oiled wheels of a coup, and given Hugo Chavez the leverage and visibility he needed to foil the attempted overthrow mounted by the US in 2006, in concert with its allies in the oligarchy. This history is more needed than ever now, as Venezuela under Maduro, Chavez's successor, has been relentlessly isolated by the press and continues to be battered by a vicious and well-funded opposition. Most recently (March 2015), the US attempted to classify Venezuela as a "serious threat" behind this, and was roundly rebuffed by the OAS (Organization of American States). Though it's not mentioned in the film, from my recollection, the OAS was the first group that stepped in (before Hugo's release) to formally UNdo the US's recognition of an interim president (2006) chosen by the Chamber of Commerce. After that, Chavez walked out of prison a free man, and the US couldn't touch him.

This documentary is an example of both the ignorance and education in our society. Though it is a case study of an attempted coup in Venezuela, it is relevant to any part of the world. As a documentary, it does a fantastic job of remaining impartial. It focuses on the Chavez administration but does not support or oppose it. Instead, it offers examples of citizens that support his government as well as the opposition. This documentary exemplifies what can take place when an educated citizenry is stripped of its rights. Whether you hate, love, or are unfamiliar with Hugo Chavez and his policies - this is an unbiased work that displays the importance of education, the role of the media, and organization.

When I saw this film at the Film Forum in NYC several years ago I was literally brought to tears at one point ... tears of joy, for what people can do if they stand up to power. It is probably my favorite film and I feel one of the most important movies ever made. I've been looking for it for years with no luck, and am extremely lucky to have found it tucked into the back of this little book. The book is a bonus, but buy this for the DVD, and hold a viewing party for your politically minded friends.

I wish that I could give this film 10, 100, 1000 stars. It is marvelous. I first saw it ten years or so ago

at the Venezuelan Embassy in Washington, DC. The energies in the room, from a couple hundred Chavez supporters, created a spirit of comraderie that you could just feel. I most recently saw it, after ordering this copy, with my husband in my office. In the intervening years, of course, we have lost Comandante Chavez, and the world is indeed a gloomier place. Now, as then, this film brought tears to my eyes. Foremost, this film is about being in the right place at the right time. Two Irish filmmakers thought that a documentary on the then new leader of Venezuela would be interesting. They had no idea. They caught the coup as it was happening, in the palace. They showed both the smirking criminals who led the coup as well as the well-loved Chavez and his loyal ministers who cared both for him and their country. And the film shows the triumphant return of Chavez and how thrilled his people were to have him back in office. What I didn't realize when I ordered this is that there is a book, as well. The book is fascinating because it discusses the process by which this film, and really, any documentary sponsored by Ireland comes together. It is fascinating to read about the considerations that go in to not only creating such a film but also the considerations in how to market it. Come for the movie; stay for the book!

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