

# SMOKING GUN

## power

In his farewell speech to the House of Commons, in 2001, UK politician Tony Benn said:

*In the course of my life I have developed five little democratic questions. If one meets a powerful person -Adolf Hitler, Joe Stalin or Bill Gates- ask them five questions: "What power have you got? Where did you get it from? In whose interests do you exercise it? To whom are you accountable? And how can we get rid of you?" If you cannot get rid of the people who govern you, you do not live in a democratic system.*

## investigative journalism

@TBIJ

[The Bureau of Investigative Journalism](#)'s aim is to inform the public about the realities of power in today's world. They are particularly concerned with reporting the undermining of democratic processes and failures to accord with fair, legal and transparent practices.

@carolecadwalla

Carole Cadwalladr broke the story about the [Facebook-Cambridge Analytica scandal](#), which later became the Netflix documentary, *The Great Hack*. She continues to do extensive investigative reporting for the Guardian.

@nhannahjones

Nikole Hannah-Jones is a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter covering racial injustice for The New York Times Magazine. She's also co-founder of the [Ida B. Wells Society for Investigative Reporting](#), a training and mentorship organisation dedicated to increasing the ranks of investigative reporters of colour.

@paullewis

Paul Lewis is Head of Investigations at the Guardian. [Here](#) he talks about mobile phones and citizen journalism.

## civil liberties (in a digital age)

@BigBrotherWatch

[Big Brother Watch](#) is a UK civil liberties campaign group fighting for a free future. They are determined to reclaim our privacy and defend freedoms at this time of enormous technological change.

@EFF

[The Electric Frontier Foundation](#) (US) fights in the courts and Congress to maintain your privacy rights in the digital world, and works with partners around the globe to support the development of privacy-protecting technologies.

@libertyhq

[Liberty](#) challenges injustice, defends freedom and campaigns to make sure everyone in the UK is treated fairly. They are campaigners, lawyers and policy experts who work together to protect rights and hold the powerful to account.

## books

@shoshanazuboff

In *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism*, Shoshana Zuboff offers a disturbing picture of how Silicon Valley and other corporations are mining users' information to predict and shape their behaviour.

@bengoldacre

In *Bad Pharma: How Drug Companies Mislead Doctors and Harm Patients*, Ben Goldacre provides a grim and fascinating account of how the \$600bn drug industry, doctors, academics, regulators and medical journals have let patients down.