

Government Spying is “Chilling” Writers’ Freedom of Expression (Project Censored #7)

By Shelby Meyers & Mickey Huff | * [Project Censored](#)

✘ Mass surveillance has “badly shaken writers’ faith that democratic governments will respect their rights to privacy and freedom of expression,” according to a January 2015 [PEN America report](#) based on the responses of 772 writers from fifty countries. Reporting for Common Dreams, Lauren McCauley covered not only the PEN America report, but also a [July 2014 report](#) by the American Civil Liberties Union and Human Rights Watch indicating that US journalists and lawyers increasingly avoid work on potentially controversial topics due to fear of government spying.

McCauley’s January 2015 Common Dreams story quoted one of the conclusions from the PEN America report: “If writers avoid exploring topics for fear of possible retribution, the material available to readers—particularly those seeking to understand the most controversial and challenging issues facing the world today—may be greatly impoverished.”

[[Read more here](#)]

*Originally entitled: #7 Fear of Government Spying is “Chilling” Writers’ Freedom of Expression

Sources:

Lauren McCauley, “Fear of Government Spying ‘Chilling’ Writers’ Speech Worldwide,” Common Dreams, January 5, 2015, <https://commondreams.org/news/2015/01/05/fear-government>

[-spying-chilling-writers-speech-worldwide.](#)

Lauren McCauley, "Government Surveillance Threatens Journalism, Law and Thus Democracy: Report," Common Dreams, July 28, 2014, <https://commondreams.org/news/2014/07/28/government-surveillance-threatens-journalism-law-and-thus-democracy-report>.



Robert O'Leary, JD BARA, has had an abiding interest in alternative health products & modalities since the early 1970's & he has seen how they have made people go from lacking health to vibrant health. He became an attorney, singer-songwriter, martial artist & father along the way and brings that experience to his practice as a BioAcoustic Soundhealth Practitioner, under the tutelage of the award-winning founder of BioAcoustic Biology, Sharry Edwards, whose Institute of BioAcoustic Biology has now been serving clients for 30 years with a non-invasive & safe integrative modality that supports the body's ability to self-heal using the power of the human voice. Robert brings this modality to serve clients in Greater Springfield (MA), New England & "virtually" the world, with his website, www.romayasoundhealthandbeauty.com. He can also be reached at romayasoundhealthandbeauty.