



Date aired: 10/6 Time Aired:

Weekly Public Affairs Program

Show # 2019-40

Total running time: 29:30 (with optional exit at 24:00)

1. **Penelope (Penny) Muse Abernathy**, Knight Chair in Journalism and Digital Media Economics at the University of North Carolina, former executive at The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times

Prof. Abernathy discussed the accelerating collapse of local newspapers, and the effect of consolidation and distant owners on papers that do survive. She talked about the numerous ways that the loss of a local newspaper is often devastating to a small community. She also explained why new digital news organizations are unable to fulfill the community role that a traditional newspaper once did.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:56

Media

Local Civics

2. **Arthur "Tim" Garson, MD**, physician, health policy expert, Director of the Health Policy Institute at the Texas Medical Center, co-author of *"Exposing the 20 Medical Myths: Why Everything you Know about Health Care is Wrong and How to Make it Right."*

Dr. Garson talked about some of the most common misconceptions about the nation's healthcare system. He believes it is possible to actually reduce the cost of healthcare, rather than simply slowing down the rate of increase. He talked about the proposals of Medicare-for-All and explained steps that can be taken to reduce wasted medical care dollars.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:24

Workplace Matters

Productivity

3. **Louis Brown, PhD**, Associate Professor of Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Texas UTHealth School of Public Health

Prof. Brown led a study that examined the effectiveness of an innovative strategy called "Teens Against Tobacco." He found that the program was an effective strategy to deter tobacco use in middle and high school students, at least in the short-term. He plans future research to determine its long-term results.

Issues covered:

Length: 5:09

Substance Abuse

Vaping

Youth at Risk