

In Defense of Julian Assange: A Case for Freedom of the Press and the Public's Right to Know

Julian Assange is a controversial figure. He is the founder of WikiLeaks, a website that publishes classified information. Assange has been accused of treason, espionage, and hacking. He is currently in prison in the United Kingdom, awaiting extradition to the United States.



In Defense of Julian Assange by Tariq Ali

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 39799 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 457 pages
Lending	: Enabled
X-Ray for textbooks	: Enabled



Despite the charges against him, Assange is a defender of freedom of the press. He believes that the public has a right to know what their government is doing. WikiLeaks has published a wealth of information that has helped to expose government corruption and wrongdoing.

In this book, we will make the case for Assange's defense. We will argue that his work is protected by the First Amendment and is essential for a

healthy democracy. We will also discuss the charges against Assange and show that they are politically motivated.

The First Amendment and WikiLeaks

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution protects freedom of speech and the press. This means that the government cannot censor or punish someone for publishing information, even if that information is classified.

WikiLeaks is a publisher. It publishes information that it receives from anonymous sources. This information is often classified, but WikiLeaks believes that the public has a right to know what their government is ng.

The government has argued that WikiLeaks' publication of classified information is a crime. However, the Supreme Court has ruled that the First Amendment protects the publication of classified information. In the case of *New York Times Co. v. United States*, the Court ruled that the government cannot prevent the publication of information that it has classified, even if that information could harm national security.

The government's case against Assange is based on the Espionage Act of 1917. This law makes it a crime to obtain or transmit national defense information with the intent to harm the United States. However, the Espionage Act does not apply to publishers. The government has never successfully prosecuted a publisher under the Espionage Act.

The government's case against Assange is also based on the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act of 1986. This law makes it a crime to access a computer without authorization. However, the Computer Fraud and Abuse

Act does not apply to journalists. The government has never successfully prosecuted a journalist under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act.

The government's case against Assange is politically motivated. The government is trying to punish Assange for publishing information that is embarrassing to the government. The government is trying to make an example of Assange to deter other journalists from publishing classified information.

Assange's Work Is Essential for a Healthy Democracy

In a democracy, the people have the right to know what their government is doing. This is why freedom of the press is so important. The press plays a vital role in informing the public about government activities.

WikiLeaks has published a wealth of information that has helped to expose government corruption and wrongdoing. WikiLeaks has published information about the US military's use of torture, the CIA's drone program, and the NSA's mass surveillance program. This information has helped to make the public aware of the government's activities and to hold the government accountable.

Assange's work is essential for a healthy democracy. He is a defender of freedom of the press and the public's right to know.

Julian Assange is a hero. He is a defender of freedom of the press and the public's right to know. The government's case against Assange is politically motivated. The government is trying to punish Assange for publishing information that is embarrassing to the government.

We must stand up for Assange and defend freedom of the press. We must not allow the government to silence whistleblowers and journalists.

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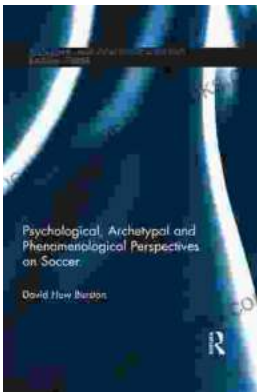
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