

of the prevalent price before these transactions (three or more in two or three days) occurred. I was never made privy to the results ~~prompted~~ of the investigation. However, that particular institution was eventually acquired by an out-of-state firm with, presumably, more capital. Subsequently, the acquiring institution, Empire of New York, also seems to have been incapable of resisting these manipulations & is now in trouble. My interest was sparked by the fact that middle-income individuals were having difficulty getting financing for homes, while speculative enterprise were getting more than their share. I did not follow up because I was satisfied that my complaint had registered with our local financial community and support for rehabilitation & home-owner programs increased significantly. However, I was disappointed that there was no interest in the local media to follow up on the material I shared with them.

It has been my experience that journalists are not interested in information if the "other side" does not respond to their inquiry. If they inquire at all, they generally use a formula such as "so and so claims Do you have any response?" If the answer is "no", then the subject is dropped. Anyone who is disinclined to do the digging for them & provide an outline of both sides of an issue will have little chance of getting the issue addressed. Journalists, it seems, are no longer trained to investigate. What they prefer is to report conflicting opinions and pretend that the value of all opinions is the same. Which, of course, they are, because they are not verified by fact. I, myself, have been