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United States Government & Politics

Weekly Current Events: Posted: 1.9.22

[Smerconish, “Santos Reveals Local News Crisis,” CNN, 1.7.23 (6:16 min).](https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/politics/smerconish-george-santos-reveals-local-news-crisis/vi-AA164SSb?category=foryou)

1. Who is George Santos, and why has he been in the news?
2. Name one or more things he lied about.
3. What does Michael Smerconish suggest is the reason such candidate lies can be missed by the electorate?
4. In what **media role** did the media fail to fulfill in this case?
5. Provide one trend or fact about local newspapers and journalism in the past several years.
6. To what degree has local journalism disappeared?
7. Do you have similar concerns for local news? Why or why not?

[Mascaro, “Speaker McCarthy: A Weakened Leader or Emboldened Leader, Associated Press, 1.7.23](https://apnews.com/article/politics-united-states-house-of-representatives-kevin-mccarthy-government-e986c620149b72030bb418bd5fadb4a2?utm_source=homepage&utm_medium=TopNews&utm_campaign=position_01).

1. Who were the past two Republican Speakers, and how did the author characterize their experience?
2. How does the author characterize the split in the party?
3. Give one statistic that measures how long this process took.
4. What did McCarthy finally concede in order to win the Speaker position?
5. What’s one governmental/policy concern for the new speaker?
6. What is **divided government** and why does it exist now?
7. Describe the Tea Party Movement and McCarthy’s relationship to it.
8. Overall, what is your take on the battle for speaker? Why?

[Politico: Burning Questions](https://www.politico.com/news/2023/01/04/house-mccarthy-speakership-republican-00076306)

[Willcott, “Kohberger, Jurisdiction and Extradition,” Court TV, 1.6.23.](https://www.courttv.com/news/from-the-bench-idaho-v-bryan-kohberger-what-is-jurisdiction-and-why-extradition-opinion/)

1. What is the difference between subject matter jurisdiction and personal jurisdiction?
2. What is an **extradition** warrant and who issued one in this case? Why?
3. From the Constitution, how do Article IV and the Tenth Amendment govern this case?

[AP News: How they Caught Kohberger (U. Idaho Murders)](https://apnews.com/article/washington-pennsylvania-idaho-5f5173a3af306701d5659f2fb61a9d44)

1. What evidence led investigators and police from the murder scene to Kohberger?
2. What additional evidence and procedures helped police find him?
3. What records or evidence did authorities find/use without a warrant?
4. How did cell phone data play into the story?
5. From the Constitution, what amendment governs the warrant process?
6. What was the clinching piece of evidence that encouraged the arrest and formal charge?