

**“The Fireside Chats”:
FDR Breaking Barriers
in Presidential Communication**

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In 1933, Franklin Delano Roosevelt was just inaugurated thirty-second President of the United States. Roosevelt needed something to show the people how he was ready to take on the presidency as America was suffering from the “Great Depression”. To do this, he decided on using an innovative and popular medium: radio. He called these radio talks ‘Fireside Chats’ and made 30 of these talks to the people before his death in 1945. These talks show how barriers in presidential speech with the people were broken and paved the way for communication today. When I learned that the theme for this year would be “Breaking Barriers in History”, I thought of some topics that interested me. I wanted to do something with technology or communication. I first thought of the ‘First Presidential Debate’ as a possible topic. However, I thought about what innovations in communication came before it. I decided upon the ‘Fireside Chats’ as my topic. I did not know much about the chats and after doing quick research, I decided that this would be a very interesting topic and pursued it.

I first started my research on the topic by looking online for websites, scholarly articles, and books. After searching for databases, I found University of Virginia's Miller Center very helpful as it contained audio or transcripts of all of Roosevelt’s speeches. The Franklin Roosevelt Presidential Library was very useful as it contained interesting biographies and photos to help gather historical context on the topic. I was able to interview Jeffery Urbin, the education specialist of the library, to gather scholarly information and context on the topic.

Using the information I had gathered, I started to develop my documentary. I wrote a script using Roosevelt’s speeches, biographies, and interviews. I used photos, newspaper files, and video clips from databases like Chronicling America to create my documentary and recorded over the images using the script. I used iMovie by Apple to edit all of the video and audio to a

length of 9 minutes and 59 seconds.

The Fireside Chats are considered some of the greatest speeches in American history and paved the way for presidential communication today. Even though some may not have agreed with Roosevelt's politics, no one can deny that the chats have changed the way presidents interact with their citizens. Roosevelt changed how we see our presidents by breaking barriers in how presidents communicate and interact with their people. From radio to television to social media, the Fireside Chats truly changed the way presidents interact with the people.

Annotated Bibliography

Primary Sources

American Radio Works. "Letters to Franklin Delano Roosevelt." November 14, 2019.
<http://www.americanradioworks.org/segments/letters-to-franklin-delano-roosevelt/>
(Accessed September 29, 2019).

A collection of letters written by United States citizens to President Roosevelt shows the positive reception of the people of the United States to the president after the Fireside Chats and FDR's strategy of direct, no barrier communication. An impact used in the documentary was that a Fireside Chat could "generate some 450,000 letters, cards and telegrams." Herbert Hoover had received an average of 800 letters a day; FDR got more than 8,000. Roosevelt would read the letters to understand the people's stances as shown in two photos used when describing Roosevelt's influx of letters.

AP Archive. "US Presidential Debate: Kennedy & Nixon - 1960 | Today in History | 26 Sept 16."
Youtube. September 25, 2016. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Mg8cL2-iS4>
(Accessed February 22, 2020)

One of the great impacts of the 'fireside chats' was the embracing of newer technologies. This video shows the first debate in 1960 that was mentioned in the impact part of the documentary.

Archives.org. "President Official Portrait." The Obama White House. Photograph.
https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/whitehouse.gov/files/images/Administration/People/president_official_portrait_hires.jpg (Accessed February 25, 2020)

A portrait photo of 44th President of the United States Barack Obama. This is used when mentioning the impact on presidents today and how they communicate that Roosevelt's 'Fireside Chats' have had.

Battlefield Sources. "1952 Eisenhower Political Ad - I Like Ike - Presidential Campaign Ad."
Youtube. February 14, 2012. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YmCDaXeDRI4>
(Accessed February 10, 2020)

With the new age of television, presidential candidates would create commercials for their own campaigns like Eisenhower. This video is used when describing the impact the chats had.

British Pathe. "President Johnson's 'State Of The Union' Speech (1965)." Youtube. April 13, 2014. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_v9VaZ79yc8 (Accessed February 5, 2020)

The '1965 State of the Union' speech in video form. This was the first televised 'State of the Union' and shows how television impacted how we see our presidents after Roosevelt

was able to communicate with the people using radio.

The Butler County Press. "Foxy Communists." The Butler County Press, September 2, 1927. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Library of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045012/1927-09-02/ed-1/seq-17/> (Accessed February 12, 2020)

This newspaper article from 1927 shows the partisan divide with newspapers at the time and why Roosevelt wanted to stay away from newspapers.

Campbell, Joseph. "William Randolph Hearst: Mythical media bogeyman." BBC. August 14, 2011. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-14512411> (Accessed February 12, 2020)

A photo of media magnate William Randolph Hearst. This is used when describing opposition to the 'Fireside chats.'

The Center for American History - UT Austin. "The Iron Man of Radio" University of Texas at Austin. <https://www.cah.utexas.edu/exhibits/Trout/trout.html> (Accessed January 30, 2020)

Two photos of CBS reporter Robert Trout. One of him holding a microphone and the other of him talking into it. These are used when describing Roosevelt's first 'Fireside chats.'

Chernow, Ron. "George Washington: The Reluctant President." *Smithsonian Magazine*. <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/george-washington-the-reluctant-president-49492/> (Accessed February 10, 2020)

On April 30, 1789, George Washington was sworn into office. This information was only accessible to the public via print media such as newspapers. The event is signified in a painting that is used in the documentary to show how people were only really able to get info by text.

clintonlibrary42. "Pres. Clinton's Address to the Nation on Iraq (1993)." Youtube. August 12, 2014. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y36Z9dt5AWI> (Accessed February 22, 2020)

A video of President Clinton addressing the nation on Iraq. This is used in the impact of the documentary as it shows how communication was impacted by the 'Fireside Chats'.

Coolidge, Calvin "December 6, 1923: First Annual Message". University of Virginia Miller Center. <https://millercenter.org/the-presidency/presidential-speeches/december-6-1923-first-annual-message> (Accessed February 16, 2020).

A transcript of the first presidential radio address by Calvin Coolidge on December 06,

1923, provided background in the script when describing the use of radio. This shows how political radio addresses would eventually break barriers in communication when used in a time of crisis on a regular basis with Roosevelt's 'Fireside Chats'.

The Coolidge Examiner. "Pres. Roosevelt Inaugurated March 4th." The Coolidge Examiner, March 10, 1933. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn94050542/1933-03-10/ed-1/seq-1/> (Accessed February 12, 2020)

This headline article from Coolidge, Arizona shows how President Roosevelt was inaugurated and how the spread of the information was maintained.

CSPAN. "President Carter's Fireside Chat on Energy." CSPAN. <https://www.c-span.org/video/?153913-1/president-carters-fireside-chat-energy>. (Accessed January 30, 2020)

A video of Jimmy Carter's address to the people on the energy crisis. This was used when describing the impacts of the chats.

Encyclopædia Britannica. "Heinrich Hertz." Image. Encyclopædia Britannica. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Heinrich-Hertz/images-videos#/media/1/263899/11575>. (Accessed February 22, 2020)

Heinrich Hertz is credited as discovering electromagnetic waves that allowed Marconi to broadcast messages, breaking the barriers of science. This image of Hertz is used when detailing his contribution to Marconi's discovery.

Evjen, Henry O and Henry G. Evjen. "An Analysis of Some of the Propaganda Features of the Campaign of 1940," *The Southwestern Social Science Quarterly* 27, 3 (December 1946): 235-261. (Accessed February 25, 2020)

Henry G. and Henry O. Evjen's 1946 journal article on propaganda features a button reading "NO MORE FIRESIDE CHATS" in blue font. A photograph of the button is used in the documentary to describe the opposition of Roosevelt's radio speeches and the techniques they used.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library. "Photograph Database". Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library & Museum. <http://www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu/archives/collections/franklin/?p=digitallibrary/digitalcontent&id=3254> (Accessed February 12, 2020)

A collection of several Roosevelt photos. These are used throughout the documentary when describing his gubernatorial career to his death.

Gazette of the United-States. "17 Sept. 1791." *Gazette of the United States*. September 12, 1791. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress.

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030483/1791-09-17/ed-1/seq-1/> (Accessed February 10, 2020)

In the early days of the United States, the main way for information to get across was by newspaper. This example of an early newspaper from 1791 shows how people would get their information and was shown when giving historical context in the documentary.

Golway, Terry. "The making of the New Deal Democrats." Politico. March 10, 2014.
<https://www.politico.com/states/new-york/city-hall/story/2014/03/the-making-of-the-new-deal-democrats-000000> (Accessed February 12, 2020)

This photo shows Roosevelt at a campaign rally for reelection. This is used when describing the responses to the 'fireside chats.'

Government Publishing Office. "Official Presidential Portrait of Donald Trump." Bookstore.
<https://bookstore.gpo.gov/products/official-presidential-portrait-donald-trump-8x10>
(Accessed February 25, 2020)

The official presidential portrait of Donald Trump is used when describing the impact social media has had on current presidents.

The Guardian. "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." The Guardian.
<https://www.theguardian.com/theguardian/2007/apr/25/greatspeeches> (Accessed February 10, 2020)

Roosevelt was known for taking vacations to Warm Springs, GA. A photo of Roosevelt smiling and sitting in a twine chair is used to demonstrate the president's mood and general tone on the air.

Halabi, Gina. "FDR versus Nine Old Men." U.S. History Scene.
<https://ushistoryscene.com/article/fdr-v-supreme-court/> (Accessed February 12, 2020)

This political cartoon of Roosevelt describing his ideas on the supreme court is used when describing Roosevelt's negative reception to 'Fireside chats.'

Harris & Ewing. "Warren G. Harding." Wikimedia Commons.
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c4/Warren_G_Harding-Harris_%26_Ewing.jpg (February 17, 2020)

A photo of 29th President Warren Harding is used when describing the eulogy he was given by Calvin Coolidge in the barrier-breaking first presidential radio address.

Historic Image. 1935. *Franklin D. Roosevelt Burns Us Constitution*. Pixels. Print Drawing.
<https://pixels.com/featured/1935-franklin-d-roosevelt-burns-us-constitution-historic-image.html> (Accessed December 13, 2019)

Roosevelt was not always seen positively in the eyes of the American press. Conservative political cartoonists would attack Roosevelt with their art. This website contains a political cartoon depicting Roosevelt using the flaming U.S. Constitution to light his cigarette whilst speaking into a microphone and the cartoon is used to show the negative reception of Roosevelt within the documentary.

iconic. "9/11: George W. Bush addresses the nation following the 9/11 attacks." Youtube. September 5, 2011. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HUXiByDQ3bA> (Accessed February 10, 2020)

An impact of the chats is that some presidents would go on the air to inform people about events. This video shows President Bush telling the American people about 9/11.

iconic. "George Bush announcing the liberation of Kuwait following Operation Desert Storm." Youtube. November 4, 2011. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IfwU9W-7evA> (Accessed February 10, 2020)

An impact of the chats is that some presidents would go on the air to inform people about events. This video shows President Bush telling the American people about Operation Desert Storm and is used when mentioning the impacts.

JFK Library. "IFP:135-F109-1M Kennedy Jingle Campaign Spot." Youtube. September 13, 2016. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yxGaa3xDGAU> (Accessed February 10, 2020)

This jingle for Kennedy's presidential campaign was played on the television and is used in the documentary as background music to set the tone for the impact.

King, James S. 1887. *Colonial days*. Print. Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2003666976/> (Accessed February 3, 2020)

In the early days, Americans would have to read newspapers to get their information. To show these people, a print drawing of average colonial Americans is shown when describing the barrier of reading information.

KQED Food. "F.D.R. -- Fireside Chat | New Deal Murals." Youtube. October 11, 2012. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aCP-9ZnWIwA> (Accessed February 10, 2020)

This recorded version of a 'Fireside chat' from 1935 shows the president's careful attention to detail and is used when showing how Roosevelt continued these radio addresses.

Library of Congress "President Franklin D. Roosevelt, bust portrait, facing front". Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/inaugurations/fdr/index.html#class> (Accessed February 10, 2020).

President Franklin Roosevelt was elected in 1933. A portrait photograph was used when discussing Roosevelt's inauguration after his 1932 presidential win.

Mahoney, Claude. "U. S. S. ARIZONA, 5 OTHER WARSHIPS LOST; IN PEARL HARBOR ATTACK, KNOX REVEALS." *The Evening Star*, December 15, 1941. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers* (Accessed December 24, 2019).

The *Evening Star* from December 15, 1941, provided a photograph of an article that featured the attack on Pearl Harbor. It was used in the documentary when discussing Pearl Harbor and Roosevelt's reaction to the event that sparked American entry into World War II.

Mathieson, S.A. "Marconi: The West of England's very own Italian wireless pioneer." *The Register*. https://www.theregister.co.uk/2015/02/23/geeks_guide_maroni_and_the_lizard_uk/ (Accessed February 10, 2020)

In 1901, Guglielmo Marconi found a way to use electromagnetic waves to transfer messages. This photo shows him using one of his wireless transmitters when describing his barrier-breaking discovery of radio.

"Marconi vs Tesla." *Marconi vs Tesla*. http://www.fmboschetto.it/didattica/90Radio/Radio_EL/2.html (Accessed February 10, 2020)

Guglielmo Marconi devised a way to distribute messages through electromagnetic waves. When describing how his revolutionary discovery led to the creation of radio, a portrait photo of Marconi is shown.

Moithey, Maurille Antoine. *Carte nouvelle des possessions anglaises en Amérique, dressée pour l'intelligence de la guerre présente et divisée suivant les prétentions des Anglois*. Map. Paris. <https://www.loc.gov/item/gm71005494/>. (Accessed February 23, 2020)

A picture of a map of the early United States. This photo is used when describing the early use of newspapers.

Nogales International. "Share the Coming Victory." *Nogales International*, October 29, 1932. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Library of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn96060774/1932-10-29/ed-1/seq-5/> (Accessed January 30, 2020)

A newspaper photo of Roosevelt and his running mate printed in the paper during the election. This is shown while mentioning the election of 1932.

NPR. "FDR's Losing Battle To Pack The Supreme Court." NPR. <https://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=125789097> (Accessed February 16, 2020)

This photo of the nine supreme court justices was used when describing Roosevelt's controversial 'Court-Packing' plan.

PBS. "Biography: Franklin Delano Roosevelt." American Experience. <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/eleanor-fdr/> (Accessed February 10, 2020)

As time during Roosevelt's first term started to run thin, Roosevelt would still go on the air. This image shows Roosevelt preparing for a speech in 1935.

Perth Amboy Evening News. "Nation Will Hear Coolidge." Perth Amboy Evening News December 6, 1923. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85035720/1923-12-06/ed-2/seq-1/> (Accessed December 24, 2019).

The Perth Amboy Evening News article features the first radio address by a United States President, Calvin Coolidge. This article was used as both a photo and a piece of background info when discussing the first presidential radio address given by Calvin Coolidge.

Philadelphia Sunday Bulletin. "Muntz TV Ad." Philadelphia Sunday Bulletin. October 20, 1963. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/puddleboy/1242129539/> (Accessed February 12, 2020)

A photo of an old television ad that was used in the documentary to mention the creation of television and how it affected communication.

The Roaring 20's. <https://theroaring20s-project.weebly.com/early-pop-culture.html> (Accessed February 10, 2020)

This webpage contains photos of people listening to the radio in their daily lives. This is used when describing how radio had impacted the world up until 1933.

Roberts, Randolph. "Talking to 40 Million People." The Sunday Star, December 2, 1934. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers* (Accessed December 24, 2019).

Randolph Roberts' article explains the process behind the creation of Roosevelt's 'Fireside Chats.' It shows how the White House prepared for every single speech. This information used in the documentary provided a behind-the-scenes look into how the addresses were produced.

Roosevelt, Franklin. "December 9, 1941: On the War with Japan." Audio. Recorded December 9, 1941. University of Virginia Miller Center. <https://millercenter.org/the-presidency/presidential-speeches/december-9-1941-fireside-chat-19-war-japan> (Accessed October 3, 2019).

On December 9, 1941, Roosevelt's Fireside Chat informed the public of the events of Pearl Harbor, the European theatre, and the U.S. Declaration of War. These events were included in the script to show the president's direct communication with the public after the attack.

Roosevelt, Franklin. "June 12, 1944: Fireside Chat 30: Opening Fifth War Loan Drive." Audio. Recorded June 12, 1944. University of Virginia Miller Center. <https://millercenter.org/the-presidency/presidential-speeches/june-12-1944-fireside-chat-30-opening-fifth-war-loan-drive> (Accessed October 3, 2019).

The final Fireside Chat of Franklin Roosevelt's Presidency was in 1944. The tone shows how even at the end of the fireside chats, Roosevelt kept his manner and calm tone until it was over. This will be used to show the end of the chats and how they affected people and to men.

Roosevelt, Franklin. "March 12, 1933: Fireside Chat 1: On the Banking Crisis." Audio. Recorded March 12, 1933. University of Virginia Miller Center. <https://millercenter.org/the-presidency/presidential-speeches/march-12-1933-fireside-chat-1-banking-crisis> (Accessed October 3, 2019).

The first Fireside Chat of Roosevelt's presidency is used in the documentary to show a barrier in communication was broken. Roosevelt talks about the banking crisis and how the banks work. Roosevelt speaks in simple and slow terms and shows his connection to the people of the U.S.

Roosevelt, Franklin. "October 12, 1942: Fireside Chat 23: On the Home Front." Audio. Recorded October 12, 1942. University of Virginia Miller Center. <https://millercenter.org/the-presidency/presidential-speeches/october-12-1942-fireside-chat-23-home-front> (Accessed October 3, 2019)

This audio clip of the 23rd Fireside Chat was recorded during World War II. It conveys the calmness and tone of Roosevelt trying not to scare the people of the United States. This can be used to show how Roosevelt tried to help calm the people during WWII.

Roosevelt, Franklin. "Radio Address of the President." July 24, 1933. <https://www.archives.gov/files/education/lessons/fdr-fireside/images/chat-01.gif> (Accessed February 12, 2020)

Roosevelt would draft out his speeches before he read them on the air. This shows one of Roosevelt's draft's and is used when describing how he wrote them out.

Rowe, Abbie. 1938. *Diplomatic Reception Room in the White House*. Photograph. Truman Library. <https://www.trumanlibrary.gov/photograph-records/82-54-84> (Accessed February 10, 2020)

Roosevelt would broadcast his barrier breaking speeches from the Diplomatic Reception Room of the White House. A photo by Abbie Rowe shows the Diplomatic Reception Room pre-renovation and is used when describing Roosevelt's setup and preparation with his "fireside chats."

Sullivan, Mark. "Controversy is of Service to Voters." The Evening Star, September 22, 1936. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1936-09-22/ed-1/seq-11/> (Accessed December 24, 2019).

This newspaper article is a conservative view of William Randolph Hearst against Roosevelt. Hearst, who once supported Roosevelt, calls Roosevelt's supporters 'communists.' This will help the documentary with an understanding of opposing sides.

The Telegraph. "The birth of pioneering electrical engineer Guglielmo Marconi." The Guardian. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/connecting-britain/guglielmo-marconi-birth/> (Accessed February 10, 2020)

A group of four photos showing Marconi is used when describing his contribution to radio. These photos are used when describing how Marconi broke barriers in science history.

Trump, Donald. "My use of social media is not Presidential - it's MODERN DAY PRESIDENTIAL. Make America Great Again!" July 1, 2017 5:41 P.M. <https://twitter.com/realdonaldtrump/status/881281755017355264?lang=en> (Accessed February 22, 2020)

A tweet from President Donald Trump's twitter account. This is used when describing the impact the chats have today and how our current president is affected.

University of Houston Clear Lake. "Historical Backgrounds-The Harlem Renaissance a.k.a. "The New Negro Movement." University of Houston Clear Lake. <http://coursesite.uhcl.edu/HSH/Whitec/xhist/HarlRen.htm> (Accessed January 30, 2020)

In the early 1920's, musicians like Duke Ellington were very popular. A photo of him is used to show the economic state of the country as it was in a stable place before the stock market crash.

UPI Staff. "On This Day: FDR sworn in as 32nd president." UPI. https://www.upi.com/Top_News/2018/03/04/On-This-Day-FDR-sworn-in-as-32nd-president/5421520137396/ (Accessed February 10, 2020)

After a landslide win, Roosevelt was inaugurated into office on March 4th, 1933. Eight days after this, he would go on to broadcast his first "fireside chat." A photo of him sitting at his desk is used when describing his plans for the "New Deal."

War Archives. "President Franklin D. Roosevelt Declares War on Japan (Full Speech) | War Archives." Youtube. August 26, 2011.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lK8gYGg0dkE> (Accessed February 10, 2020)

A video of Roosevelt's speech to congress on war with Japan. This shows how Roosevelt sent America into World War II and was used when mentioning the start of the war.

Wills, Matthew. "Franklin D. Roosevelt's Pulpit." JSTOR Daily.
<https://daily.jstor.org/roosevelt-pulpit/> (Accessed February 10, 2020).

In 1936, Roosevelt was running for reelection and needed the people to understand him as a person with his "fireside chats." Roosevelt had this portrait taken of him in 1936 and it is used to show how Roosevelt geared his "fireside chats" back into the limelight.

Secondary Sources

The American Experience. "Timeline of the Great Depression 1929-1938." PBS. November 29 2001. https://www.andrew.cmu.edu/course/88-301/classical_model/timeline.html (Accessed October 9, 2019).

This website contains a timeline of the major events during the Great Depression and a photo of a graph on the unemployment rate. It contains several photos of men standing outside of buildings and children eating. This will help my project have a basic knowledge of the events during this time. I will use this to help grasp my bearings on the time period and what was occurring at the time of the chats.

Biser, Margaret. "The Fireside Chats: Roosevelt's Radio Talks." The White House Historical Association. August 19, 2019. <https://www.whitehousehistory.org/the-fireside-chats-roosevelts-radio-talks> (Accessed October 10, 2019).

A description of the fireside chats from the perspective of the White House and the people. This shows and describes mainly from the people's perspective and how they viewed the chats. This will help show how people were affected by the chats.

Black, Conrad. *Franklin Delano Roosevelt: Champion of Freedom*. New York: PublicAffairs, 2003.

This biographical book describes in detail the life, the presidency, and the way President Roosevelt dealt with the Fireside Chats. The book goes into a full explanation of his choices behind the New Deal and the war. This book will be used to gain clear background knowledge of these events and help put a timeline into perspective.

Craig, Douglas. *Fireside Politics: Radio and Political Culture in the United States, 1920-1940*. Baltimore: The John Hopkins University Press, 2000.

This book shows how Roosevelt's chats were received and the political impacts behind them. This shows how newspapers received the fireside chats and Roosevelt's hatred for the press. This will give the documentary a background on why Roosevelt wanted to use radio instead of newspapers.

Dunning, John. *On the Air: The Encyclopedia of Old-Time Radio*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998.

This book shows how Roosevelt's chats were created and the development behind them. It describes how Roosevelt would record his speeches in the White House Reception Room and how the 'Fireside Chats' were produced.

Engineering and Technology Wiki. "Radio." Engineering and Technology Wiki. April 2, 2019. <https://ethw.org/Radio> (Accessed December 15, 2019).

An intricate but short description of the development of radio and its use throughout history. This will help further add to the intro and background of the documentary.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum. "Eleanor Roosevelt Biography." National Archives. 2016. <https://www.fdrlibrary.org/er-biography> (Accessed October 10, 2019).

A biography about the First Lady of during Franklin Delano Roosevelt's term, Eleanor Roosevelt. It describes her early life, her philanthropy, and accomplishments in great detail. This will help me gain a grasp on her life and her role in the chats and her husband's popularity.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum. "FDR Biography." National Archives. 2016. <https://www.fdrlibrary.org/fdr-biography>(Accessed October 10, 2019).

This website gives a full biography of FDR's life and shows his rise to the presidency. The biography describes his birth and childhood, campaigns, and later years. This will be used to gain an understanding of the president's life from his birth to his death.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum. "FDR Presidency." National Archives. 2016. <https://www.fdrlibrary.org/fdr-presidency> (Accessed October 10, 2019).

This describes the hardships and struggles of Roosevelt's Presidency and the many challenges and triumphs he faced while in office. A lengthy description on the fireside chats is placed on this web page. This will help describe and make the underlying problems Roosevelt was facing during the Fireside Chats more apparent.

Freidel, Frank and Hugh Sidey. "Herbert Hoover." White House Historical Association. 2006. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/about-the-white-house/presidents/herbert-hoover/> (Accessed September 29, 2019).

This website page contains a basic biography of President Herbert Hoover. It goes into unbiased detail on Hoover's life, presidency, and downfall. This source puts a perspective on the life of the president preceding Franklin Roosevelt.

Goodwin, Doris Kearns. *No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The Home Front in World War II*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1994.

This book describes Roosevelt's first chats. It contains a quote from Robert Trout describing his thoughts on Roosevelt's presentation. This helps the project show the impact on people that Roosevelt's way of speaking had.

Leuchtenburg, William E. "Franklin D. Roosevelt: Campaigns and Elections." University of Virginia Miller Center. 2019. <https://millercenter.org/president/fdroosevelt/campaigns-and-elections>(Accessed October 10, 2019).

This page gives a thorough history on the elections and presidential campaigns of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. This helps my project gain a sense of what each campaign of Roosevelt's presidency did to affect him.

National Archives. "FDR's Fireside Chat on the Recovery Program." National Archives. <https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/fdr-fireside>(Accessed December 10, 2019).

This page shows the process behind and response behind Roosevelt's chat about the NRA on July 24, 1933. This shows how the new deal was progressing and how he addressed the people about changes. This will help show the meaning behind the chat on the Recovery Program.

National Museum of American History. *NBC "Fireside Chat" Microphone*. Photograph. National Museum of American History, Washington D.C. https://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/search/object/nmah_687509 (Accessed February 10, 2020)

Roosevelt's "Fireside Chats" were all given out over radio to effectively reach the American people. The secondary photo from the National Museum of American History of the NBC microphone used during the 'chats' is used in the documentary to describe the thesis and the underlying theme of "Breaking Barriers."

Scott, Carole. "The History of the Radio Industry in the United States to 1940." EH.net. <https://eh.net/encyclopedia/the-history-of-the-radio-industry-in-the-united-states-to-1940> (Accessed December 3, 2019)

This detailed article shows how radio was developed and used throughout history. It describes the idea of radio throughout history and the idea of electricity. It describes in detail the pioneers and developers of this technology and how they created and perfected this technology. This helps describe the process of how radio came to be and will help

start an intro for the documentary.

Sterling, Christopher. "The Fireside Chats"-President Franklin D. Roosevelt (1933-1944)." Library of Congress. <http://www.loc.gov/static/programs/national-recording-preservation-board/documents/FiresideChats.pdf> (Accessed December 10, 2019).

A detailed article on the implementation and creation of the 'Fireside chats' that shows how complicated and detailed all of the speeches were. This will help create a more intricate feel and look inside the creation of the chats.

The White House Historical Association. "Franklin D. Roosevelt Funeral". The White House Historical Association. <https://www.whitehousehistory.org/franklin-d-roosevelt-funeral> (Accessed October 10, 2019).

This short article from the White House Historical Association describes the death, post-mortem transport, and funeral of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. This will help round off the body of the documentary and transition into the end of it.