

House Committee Testimony

Biography

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Charles N. Fishman

Author, "One Giant Leap," the story of the race to the Moon

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Charles Fishman, journalist and author

Charles Fishman is a journalist and the author of *One Giant Leap: The Impossible Mission that Flew Us To the Moon*, his rollicking re-telling of the race to the Moon in the 1960s, and how it shapes the way we live now. The book became a *New York Times* bestseller in its first week.

Fishman is an award-winning reporter, magazine writer and author, who started his career at the *Washington Post*, where he spent seven months covering the space shuttle *Challenger* disaster in 1986. He has been reporting on space ever since, for *The Atlantic*, *Smithsonian*, and for *Fast Company* magazine, his long-time professional home.

His book on Wal-Mart, and its impact on the economy of the United States — *The Wal-Mart Effect* — was also a *New York Times* bestseller, and it was the first book to pierce Wal-Mart's veil of secrecy. *The Wal-Mart Effect* changed how people thought about Wal-Mart, and is still the standard text for understanding the largest company in the world, used in business schools and universities around the country.

Fishman's book *The Big Thirst* is the nation's bestselling book about water and our relationship to it. *The Big Thirst* reshaped the conversation about water and how to manage it more smartly in an era of scarcity in communities not just in the U.S., but around the world.

As part of the reporting for *One Giant Leap*, Fishman flew in zero-gravity. More than just a re-telling of the story of Apollo, *One Giant Leap* aims to reframe the conversation about the race to the Moon, so that the historical impact Apollo had is more clearly understood.

Charles Fishman is a graduate of Harvard College. He lives with his wife, also a journalist, their two children, and two labradors, in Washington, DC.

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