

Selected, Annotated Bibliography on Journalistic Courage

Although the concept of “journalistic courage” dates to the early 18th century, the purpose of this selected, annotated bibliography is to note what has been written about journalistic courage in recent years. Three sources of information – newspapers, professional reviews and academic journals – explore journalistic courage in similar ways.

Four types of courage dominate. They are:

- Acts of physical risk
- Opposing or defying the dominant social or political wisdom, as in journalism that “goes against the grain”
- Risking loss of reputation or financial loss, either to the organization or the individual
- Jeopardizing one’s personal freedom or liberty, as in going to jail to protect the identity of a source

Coverage of journalistic courage rises and falls with events: acts of physical risk in times of war, risk of loss of reputation or financial loss during periods of scandal, or jeopardy to freedom and liberty when reporters are jailed.

Media Studies Journal in 2000 and Nieman Reports in 2006 published extensive collections of stories about journalistic courage. Media Studies Journal, organized chronologically, profiled figures like John Peter Zenger, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, and Jeffrey Schmalz. Nieman Reports is organized thematically. Both include domestic and international figures and cases.

Reports of journalists risking physical harm are the most common. Many articles in each type of publication discuss journalists at peril: Uganda- Tanzania war (The Journalist, 2004), the Columbia drug war (The New York Times, 1989), and current war in Iraq (Time Magazine, 2006).

Reviews and academic journals

Banning, Stephen A. “Courage Performance: Examining Standards of Courage Among Small Town Investigative Reporters in the 1950s and 1960s.” The American Journalism Review 17.2 2000: 53-68.

This article examines attributes of journalistic courage and how journalists themselves define journalistic courage. This study examines journalists from the 1950s through the 1960s.

Journalistic Courage

Berliner, Eve, eds. "Courage in the Pursuit of Truth." The Journalist Sep. 2004: 6-76.
This issue describes the personal acts of journalists who show courage in the missions to break barriers as they take daring risks to deliver the news.

De Uriarte, Mercedes Lynn. "Chronicle of Courage." Quill 87. (2000) 3: 17-9.
This article examines a critically acclaimed documentary film that chronicles the lives and contributions of the black press and their courage as journalists.

Giles, Robert, and Robert W. Synder, eds. "Courage." Media Studies Journal 14.2 (2000): 1-154.
This issue focuses on the courageous acts of journalists in the past and present. The focus of this is was to profile, "[...] journalists who worked on the margins of popularity, who blazed new but solitary paths or who left fleeting legacies." (See further annotation, by article, attached)

Kimbrough-Robinson, Carla. "Curiosity, courage keys to diverse journalism." Quill 94.1 (2006): 38-38, 4/5p.
The article discusses the importance of curiosity and courage to journalism as of February 2006. Curiosity allows a journalist to traverse the unknown in search of truth while courage brings them out of their comfort zones and enables them to talk to people that they would normally not interview or broach subjects that may be sensitive or challenging. This combination led to several moments of great journalism. With regards to the subject of diversity, journalists are often faced with the curiosity to see the viewpoints of those affected and test whether they have the courage to see the subject through.

Luddtke, Melissa, and Lois Fiore, eds. "Journalists: On the Subject of Courage." Nieman Reports 60.2 (2006): 3-116.
This issue describes the personal acts of journalists who demonstrate acts of courage while breaking barriers in the field of journalism and taking daring risks to deliver the news.

Niederpruem, Kyle Elyse. "A Valuable Lesson Learned." Quill. 88.3 (2000): p4, 1p.
This article focuses on the story of two young journalists, from Berkeley High School, who courageous disclose a story of monumental importance in the Berkeley community.

Newspapers

David Ignatius. "Courage in Their Coverage." The Washington Post 7 Dec. 2005: A.25.
This article is an editorial commentary on the courage of Arab and Iraqi journalists who are risking their lives to covering stories.

"Explaining Through our Journalism of Courage is Reader Empowered, India Empowered." Global News Wire - Asia Africa Intelligence Wire. The Indian Express Online 20 Aug. 2005. Retrieved online: Lexis Nexis Database.

Journalistic Courage

Gruson, Lindsey. "Boon to Paper in El Salvador: Free Speech." *New York Times* (1857-
Current file) 26 Aug. 1990: 1 pp.

This newspaper article discusses an act of courage that El Salvador's Dario Latino newspaper demonstrated in 1990.

Hevesi, Dennis. "13 Journalists Are Winners of Polk Awards." *New York Times*. 15
Mar. 1991: 1 pp.

This article profiles the courage acts of journalists who won the 1991 Polk awards.

Ignatius, David. "Courage in Coverage: The Risks in Reporting Real Stories in
Baghdad." *The Washington Post* 31 Mar. 2006: A.19.

This article is an in-depth interview of Anna Zarkova and her courageous acts as a journalist.

Media Studies Journal

The Zenger Trial by David Copeland: Focuses on the trial of John Peter Zenger, called the Zenger trial, and the trial's assumed a place of importance in understanding the development of freedom of the press in the U.S., in the demand by U.S. citizens for the First Amendment to the Constitution and in the courage of printers to fight evil and corrupt government. Zenger's trial lawyer, attorney Andrew Hamilton, based his defense of the German immigrant printer on the idea that truth negated a charge of libel--even though British law stated that truth made no difference and, indeed, made the libel worse because it could not be refuted.

David Ruggles by Graham Russell Hodges: Focuses on the endeavors of African-American printer David Ruggles in fighting against slavery in America in 1830. Operation of the first Afro-American printing press in America by Ruggles; Introduction of fiery newspapers advancing the cause; Recognition of his magazine *Mirror of Liberty*; Prohibition of federal legislators on discussions about slavery and racial discrimination.

Francisco P. Ramirez by Félix Gutiérrez: Focuses on the endeavors of California editor Francisco P. Ramirez during the conquest of Mexico by the United States military in 1840. Efforts to combine Anglo and Hispanic cultures; Imposition of equality, democracy and civil rights in the Los Angeles newspaper; Failure to realize the ideals causing domination of the US in Mexican territories.

Bloomer and Ballots by Sarah L. Rasmusson: Focuses on the creation of suffragist press in order to voice rights of women during the 1840 period in the United States. Reclamation of the Declaration of Independence at Seneca Falls in New York in 1848; Publication of *Lily* by Amelia Jenks Bloomer; Publication of the campaign for the right of women to vote in the American Suffragette.

Ida B. Wells-Barnett by Pamela Newkirk: Focuses on the efforts of Black journalist Ida B. Wells-Barnett to abolish racial bigotry in South America during the 1880 period. Account on the journalism in a religious weekly newspaper, *Living Way*; Invitation to

Journalistic Courage

write for Free Speech and Headlight; Effect of writing about the inferior conditions of black public schools on Wells-Barnet's career as a teacher.

Frank Hurley in the Antarctic by Robert W. Snyder : Focuses on the photograph of the ship, Endurance, stranded by the ice in the Weddell Sea, Antarctica in 1915 taken by Frank Hurley of Great Britain. Hurley as a member crew of the Imperial Trans-Arctic Expedition; Interest of Hurley in photography despite freezing temperature; Impact of the photographs from the expedition on Hurley's career as a photographer.

Robert Capa and the Spanish Civil War by Richard Whelan: Focuses on the career of German war photographer Robert Capa in Spain. Impact of Capa's experience at Dephot, a photographic agency, on career as a photojournalist; Interest on German avant-garde art and radical politics; Account on the photographs taken during the Spanish Civil War in 1936; Settlement of the controversy over the authenticity of Capa's great photographs.

The Journalism of the French Resistance by Pierre Albert: Focuses on the condition of print journalism in France after the German defeat French forces in 1940. Condition of the press after the termination of the Third Republic; Dismissal of publishing of 50 national daily newspapers; Complete surveillance of the government on the activities of the press.

This Female Crusading Scalawag by Bernard L. Stein: Focuses on the support of journalist Hazel Brannon Smith for black movements promoting civil rights in Holmes County, Mississippi. Account on the publication about a black killed by a racist police in the newspaper, Advertiser; Effect of the accusations of the rival paper, Holmes County Herald against Smith; Smith as a Pulitzer Prize recipient in 1964.

L. Alex Wilson by Hank Klibanoff: Focuses on the coverage of black journalist L. Alex Wilson of a civil rights protest in Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1957. Derailment of school desegregation by the Arkansas Governor; Mob scene with a crowd of white people in front of the school; Publication of the coverage of the event by the Chicago Defender.

Letizia Battaglia by Alexander Stille: Focuses on the works of crime scene photographer Letizia Battaglia in Palermo, Italy. Account on Battaglia's photography on the Sicilian Mafia beginning in 1974; Contribution to the elaboration of iconic images representing Sicily and the Mafia; Impact of the photographic works of Battaglia on public awareness on political connection of Mafia.

Picturing Breast Cancer by Betty Rollin: Presents an interview with Matuschka and Ned Asta, photographers and survivors of breast cancer in the United States. Publication of self-portraits revealing scars from cancer treatment; Effect of the photography on lives of the photographers; Views on breast cancer and mastectomy; Expectation on the political effects of art and activism.

Journalistic Courage

Great Courage, Small Places by Eric Newton and Mary Ann Hogan: Focuses on the significance of journalism on small-town news in many parts of the United States. Problems experienced by journalists in expressing political discrepancies; Account on smallest places as origins of greatest acts of journalistic courage; Popularity of the publication about racial discrimination.

Glasnost Betrayed by Emma Gray: Focuses on the murder of Russian journalist Larisa Yudina in Kalmykia in the Russian Federation in 1998. Investigation on the corrupt business practices of regional officials by Yudina; Leadership of Yudina in the liberal opposition, Yabloko Party; Account on the death of more than 30 Russian reporters since 1990; Financial difficulties of journalists.

Jeffrey Schmalz by Richard J. Meislin: Focuses on the revelation of the homosexuality of Jeffrey Schmalz, a top editor of The New York Times magazine in New York. Pursuit of career as a journalist despite contraction of AIDS virus; Interest in issues on AIDS and the politics of gay life; Impact of Schmalz's articles on The New York Times; Account on Schmalz's last article reflecting anger and desperation.

Native American Newspapers by Mark N. Trahan: Focuses on the endeavors of native journalists in the United States. Account on the freedom of the press law guaranteed to the Indian Country in 1968; Commitment to convey the truth in tribal journalism; Criticisms on the first native newspaper, the Cherokee Phoenix.

Breaking Ranks in Northern Ireland by Malachi O'Doherty: Focuses on the monopoly of journalism by Loyalist and Republican paramilitaries in Northern Ireland. Public consequences in contradicting paramilitary ideas; Division of society in terms of religious beliefs; Movement of the Sinn Fein organization; Selection of interviewees and commentators according to political positions.

Courage Isn't Enough by John Owen: Focuses on the practice of journalistic courage in Toronto, Ontario. Impact of the death of photographer John Hoagland in 1984 in El Salvador on war photographers; Account on the author's experience during a cross fire in the bloody Shouf war in Beirut; Risk of journalists' curiosity and eagerness to demonstrate gusto to correspondents.

Freedom Neruda by W. Joseph Campbell: Focuses on the struggles of journalists for freedom of the press in West Africa. Criticisms against the president of Cote d'Ivoire by a journalist under the pen name Freedom Neruda; Establishment of self-regulating monitoring for journalism under the Ivorian government; Jail term of Neruda; Change in the media scene during democratization of sub-Saharan Africa in 1990.

Who Has Guts? By James Boylan: Explores journalistic courage and independence. Resistance against legal and physical threats on one's native ground; Willingness to risk danger to tell disquieting news; Ability to define and defend own standards while operating in an organizational setting; Concerns over issues of morality and bravery.

Journalistic Courage