

COLUMBIA JOURNALISM REVIEW

A MAGAZINE AND WEBSITE OF INFLUENCE

“*Columbia Journalism Review* is the only magazine I know of that should put ‘buzz’ in its rate base, since buzz creators and sustainers are its readership.”

Tom Messner, Ad Age

“I’m a big fan of CJR—jump on each new issue when it arrives.

Scott McLemee, senior writer, The Chronicle of Higher Education

“Your piece on objectivity was the best thing on the practice of journalism I’ve read in the past ten years. Thorough, complex, nuanced. No handwringing or pat answers. I plan to copy and circulate it widely.”

Ken Otterbourg, managing editor, Winston-Salem Journal

“Thank you for a whole first semester’s lesson plans for my high school journalism class in one issue. And to think I ordered a textbook!”

Patti Williams, high school journalism teacher

“KMBC news director Michael Sipes said he will review his station’s policies in light of the CJR report...”

Aaron Barnhart’s TVBarn.com (a blog on the Kansas City Star Web site)

“This month’s cover story in the *Columbia Journalism Review* is a truly superb account...of the plight of Sami al Haj, a Sudanese cameraman for Al Jazeera who has been held in Guantanamo for the last five years.”

Salon.com

“...your editorial in CJR was widely distributed — and widely appreciated — throughout the ranks in the Foreign Service. Well done!”

Steve Kashkett, Vice President, American Foreign Service Association, U.S. Department of State

“What a stunning issue. A beautifully written editor’s note and page after page of reality from reports on the scene in Iraq... It is the sort of magazine journalism once performed by the better publications guided by brilliant editors with powerful ideas.”

*Pat Sloyan, Former Senior Washington correspondent, Newsday;
Board member of the Fund for Investigative Journalism*

“‘Into the Abyss’ should be required reading in every journalism class from high school to graduate school... for every self-described critic, blogger, pundit and commentator...”

James W. Crowley, President, Military Reporters and Editors

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“To assess the performance of journalism . . . to help stimulate continuing improvement in the profession, and to speak out for what is right, fair, and decent.”

— From the founding editorial, 1961

IMPACT STATEMENT

Columbia Journalism Review is in direct conversation with the people who do the work of journalism – reporters, editors, and producers; book writers and documentary makers, journalism teachers and scholars, media executives and media owners – and also with ordinary citizens who care about the quality of their news. This community wants a regular supply of original thinking about how to define and execute the journalistic mission in an increasingly difficult environment.

CJR aims to support and improve American journalism. It does this with its bimonthly magazine, founded in 1961, and with its Web site, www.cjr.org. This print-Web combination gives CJR a one-two punch that is taking journalism criticism to a new level, with the print magazine devoted to deep and original long-form analysis and the Web site in the mix with sharp critiques and reports.

When CJR acts as a watchdog, newsrooms take notice and take action. But the watchdog function is only a fraction of our role. We help journalists to see their work in new ways and to do the job better.

Editors and reporters from all over the news business often tell us a particular article had a powerful impact, and that they have distributed it widely. Articles from the magazine are often reprinted in collections and textbooks and are quite often hot topics on the Web. Both the print and online versions of CJR have been recently hailed in the industry with prizes and honors. Our writers and editors appear on panels, give speeches, and are interviewed widely in both broadcast and print.

CJR has helped foster a heightened public awareness of the challenges facing American journalism, and also to its centrality to American democracy and life. And it continues to influence American journalism for the better.

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