
PULITZER PRIZE'S BREAKING NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY INTENSIFYING STUDENTS' PHOTOJOURNALISM

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ABSTRACT

The recent surge in Pulitzer Prize-winning Breaking News Photography has prompted an exploration into its impact on student photojournalism. This research aims to investigate and analyze this phenomenon. The objective of this study is to assess the effects of recent Pulitzer Prize-winning Breaking News Photography on the intensification of student photojournalism. A qualitative approach, utilizing observational methods, was employed in this research. Sampling was conducted through cluster sampling, involving a total of 60 participants. The analysis of Pulitzer Prize-winning Breaking News Photography indicates a notable enhancement in the ability of students to produce high-quality journalistic photos. Assignments focused on reinforcing the essential principles of journalism have facilitated increased creativity in photo composition and improved accuracy in captioning. Moreover, the evaluation of student works uploaded to social media platforms has provided valuable insights for instructors. Additionally, the need for curriculum adaptation to emphasize skill development is highlighted, aiming to cultivate professional, integrity-driven, and honest journalists. The implications of this study underscore the significance of adapting curriculum structures to bolster skill development in student photojournalists, thereby fostering the emergence of journalism professionals characterized by integrity and honesty.

Keyword: Photojournalism, Pulitzer Prize, Journalism Students.

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INTRODUCTION

Photojournalism first appeared on Monday, April 16, 1877, in the daily newspaper The Daily Graphic, New York (Leonardi & Natale, 2018). The image was published on the first page and was news about a hotel and a saloon fire. This publication was the first milestone in photojournalism in print media, which was still in the form of sketches (Thomson, 2019). Photojournalism also developed into an era of modern photojournalism, the Golden Age, 1930-1950, showing its existence. Several publications promoting photojournalism include The Daily Mirror, The New York Daily News, Sports Illustrated, and LIFE (Langton, 2019). Photojournalism is synonymous with Henri Cartier Bresson and his candid and documentary photo style. Until Magnum appeared in 1947, it was the first news photo agency to provide journalistic photos from various parts of the world (Gervais & Morel, 2020). In Indonesia, photography entered in 1841, and the history of photojournalism was represented by the Domei News Agency, the Asia Raya newspaper, and the photo agency Indonesia Press Photo Service (IPPhoS) (Nordstrom, 2001).

Photojournalism connects people worldwide through images. Kenneth Kobre, a professor who leads the Photojournalism department at San Francisco State University, in his book Photojournalism: The Professionals' Approach, emphasizes that photojournalism does not only

complement the news in an essay as an illustration or decoration to fill the grey areas of a page (Lewandowski, 2022). Today, photojournalism is the best tool to concisely and effectively report human events. Marry Warner Marrien, in her book *Photography and Its Critics*, states that the effect of photography for which it was praised was not visual but social (Marien, 2021). Oscar Motuloh, founder of the Antara Photojournalism Gallery, quoted Wilson Hick, former LIFE photo editor from the book *Words and Pictures*, explaining that photojournalism is a communication medium that combines verbal and visual elements. This verbal element is described in the caption. Captions function to complete the information in an image because a photo without captions can lose its meaning (Lebret et al., 2015).

In simple terms, journalistic photos are photos with news value or photos that interest certain readers, and the information is conveyed to the public as briefly as possible (Gursel, 2016). Photojournalism is irreplaceable. Exposure to videos that flood the online world has not disturbed the power of photos. Photojournalism does not tell minute-by-minute events but is a two-dimensional recording that contains the elements required by readers to understand the entire incident (Treske, 2015). It stops time and gives us a real look at how time shapes history. With its documentary nature, photojournalism can make people look back at recorded images of what they have done and raise questions about what will happen in the future (Newton, 2013). Photojournalism helps people understand their environment and themselves, including identifying the things they should be wary of (Thomson & Greenwood, 2017).

The advantage of photojournalism over other media for conveying information is that it can overcome human limitations in letters and words (Langton, 2019). An important aspect of a journalistic photo is that it contains elements of fact, is informative, and can tell a story. Even so, technical beauty and art add value to photojournalism. The things around us or human daily activities are interesting to report (Hunter & Csikszentmihalyi, 2003).

A caption is accompanying text for journalistic photos. Fred S. Parrish, in his book *Photojournalism: An Introduction* (2001), states that captions help direct the perspective of a photo and explain detailed information that is not in the image, is confusing, or is unclear (Isaacs, 2013). Bresson also said that captions should not repeat information already in the image. Larry Burrow, a photojournalist for LIFE magazine who died in Vietnam, also stated that written information and images were equally important to him. Captions can sometimes lead the eye to look at a photo again. He exhales to liven up the photo by giving depth to the event. He reconciles photos with their context and helps readers understand the story behind the photo.

It cannot be denied that there are so many national and international photojournalistic works that awaken humanism and provide new understanding and perspectives on history and events. One of the many awards for photojournalistic work is the Pulitzer Prize Award. The Pulitzer Prize is considered the highest award for print journalism in the United States. This award was also given for achievements in literature and music, first awarded on June 4, 1917, and continues every year with the winner's announcement every April.

The recipients of this award are selected by an independent body officially regulated in the United States. The award was created by Joseph Pulitzer, a Hungarian American journalist and newspaper publisher, in the late 19th century. Awards are given in categories related to journalism, arts, and letters. To be eligible for this journalism award, only published reports and photographs produced by newspapers or daily news organizations based in the United States are considered. This award is given in the categories of Books, Drama, Music, and Journalism. The Books, Drama, and

Music categories are divided into seven sub-categories: Fiction, Drama, History, Biography, Poetry, General Nonfiction and Music. For the Journalism category, there are 15 sub-categories, namely: Public service, Breaking News Reporting, Investigative Reporting, Explanatory Reporting, Local Reporting, National Reporting, International Reporting, Feature Writing, Commentary, Criticism, Editorial Writing, Editorial Cartooning, Breaking News Photography, Feature Photography, and Audio Reporting. In this research, we will use a sub-category from the field of journalism, Breaking News Photography.

The Pulitzer Prize Breaking News Photography is part of the annual international award Pulitzer Prize in journalism. It continues the Pulitzer Prize Spot News Photography, awarded from 1968 to 1999. Starting from the second millennium in 2000, the name of this award was changed to the Pulitzer Prize for Breaking News Photography.

Thousands of photojournalists worldwide compete to take part and win. Moreover, with Indonesia's entry into the international global world, various other international associations, and Indonesia, becoming a developed country, Indonesia must better prepare itself to understand and take part in the international world. In this section, Udayana University English Literature participates in the challenge of the need for foreign language (English) Journalism Writers. By presenting the English for Journalism course, seventh-semester English Literature students who have been given Basic and Advanced English courses (Basic – Advanced Speaking, Writing, Reading, and Listening) are given additional abilities to use their basic and advanced skills in English. Journalism and writing to be better prepared to enter a competitive world of work and produce the best quality journalistic writing.

However, providing graduates who can write news and present photojournalism is insufficient. These graduates must be accompanied by the best qualities that exist for each graduate. Therefore, the basic question that arises is, what is the understanding of English Literature Semester VII students who are given English for Journalism lectures on the results of photojournalism winners of the Pulitzer Prize Breaking News Photography from 2015-2020 and the implementation of their analysis into each individual's photojournalistic work? Is there any development in their photojournalistic work before analyzing Pulitzer Prize winners compared with after analyzing them?

Sixty students were given journalistic photos that won the Pulitzer Prize Breaking News Photography for the 2015-2020 period to analyze the suitability of the photo and caption. Previously, they were assigned the assignment of looking for events and capturing and producing journalistic photos. Following extensive analysis of Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalism, 60 students were assigned to identify and capture events through photography, accompanied by descriptive captions. These creations were subsequently shared on their respective Instagram accounts.

The aim of this research is to understand and analyze the recent Pulitzer Prize-winning breaking news photography's impact on intensifying student photojournalism. The benefits of this study are to provide in-depth insights into the effects of recent Pulitzer Prize-winning breaking news photography on intensifying student photojournalism. This can enhance awareness of the importance and relevance of photojournalism in the current digital information era. The findings of the research analysis can be utilized to improve the curriculum and teaching methods in the field of photojournalism. Consequently, the quality of education in this field can be enhanced, offering direct benefits to students interested in journalism.

METHOD

The method used in this study is qualitative. The population refers to the entire group of people, events, or objects that are the focus of the researcher's attention for examination (Sudaryono, 2017) , with the population consisting of students from the English Literature Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Udayana University. The sample of this study is 60 seventh-semester English Literature students who take the English for Journalism course, using cluster sampling. Data was collected through observation method, where seventh-semester English Literature students taking the English for Journalism course were asked to analyze and understand Pulitzer Prize-winning journalistic photos from the past five years (2015-2020). They were tasked to search for news photos, provide suitable captions or short news, and upload them to the Instagram pages English Journalism Account - englishforjournalism_d and English Journalism Class C - englishjournalismc. Data analysis was conducted using a qualitative approach, focusing on students' ability to comprehend and analyze journalistic photos. Students were asked to assess the suitability of the photo and caption with the 5 W 1 H elements (What, When, Where, Who, Why, and How). After analyzing the Pulitzer Prize-winning photos, they were asked to search for news photos again, provide suitable captions or short texts, and re-upload them to Instagram. Through these stages, the study aims to evaluate the extent of students' understanding of Pulitzer Prize-winning photos for Breaking News Photography and its potential application in improving their photojournalism skills.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Two Instagram accounts are used as media to present student photojournalism results: the English Journalism C Class Instagram Account - englishjournalismc and the English Journalism D Class Instagram Account - englishforjournalism_d. On the English journalism Instagram account, there are 54 journalistic photo results from English for Journalism C Class students, which are divided into 27 photos before being awarded the journalistic photo that won the Pulitzer Prize

to analyze the content of the journalistic sentence structure and the other 27 are the results of photojournalism from English for Journalism C Class students after analyzing the results of photojournalism that won the Pulitzer Prize. Likewise, on the Instagram account englishforjournalism_d, which English runs for Journalism D Class students, there are 48 student journalistic photo results which are divided into 24 journalistic photos before being given the task of analyzing journalistic photos that won the Pulitzer Prize and 24 student journalistic photos after carrying out the analysis.

A total of 51 photos were taken before analyzing the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalistic photos and 51 after analyzing them; the researchers took a sample of 30% of the data for each treatment, namely 15 photos before and after analyzing the Pulitzer Prize photos. The results of this analysis will review the impact of its implementation on students' photojournalistic work, what changes have occurred in their ability to produce photojournalistic results, and developments in the structure of caption writing. In this report, only seven photos will be displayed out of 15. Photo and caption before analyzing Pulitzer Prize-Winner Photos:



Figure 1. Nikodemus Rangga



Figure 2. Wayan Pradnya Waisnawa



Figure 3. Febitha Vidyadari



Figure 4. Fiqi Ari Pradana



Photo 5. Jodie Butler



Figure 6. Sundari Okasunu



Figure 7. Desi Ramayanti

Pulitzer Prize Photo Analysis 2011-2020:



Figure 8. Mary Chind of The Des Moines Register

5w+1H

The caption clearly states the rescuer's name, the place where it was taken, and its condition. It also explains what happened and corresponds with what the photo depicts.

Caption

This journalist uses a short but informative caption. The photojournalist tells only what is needed in the caption as information related to the photo.



Figure 9. Carol Guzy, Nikki Kahn, and Ricky Carioti of The Washington Post

5w+1H

The caption clearly states the name of the man who tried to rescue the teacher, the place where the teacher was taken, and its condition. It provides a complete explanation of what happened and corresponds with what the photo depicts.

Caption

The caption used to provide a more specific explanation of what the photo depicts is quite short, but interestingly, the photojournalist tends to make sure the reader knows the condition by mentioning, "he crawls past a schoolgirl that perished at her desk when Ecole St. Gerard collapsed" in the caption so we wouldn't misunderstand the person in it.



Figure 10. Massoud Hossaini of Agence France-Presse

5w+1H

The photojournalist provides complete information about when it happened, who the girl screaming in the photo, how old she is, what happened in that condition, and how the worst feels presented very clearly through the caption and the photo.

Caption

Among all the winners, this photo is the only photo with a very long caption where it corresponds with the content presented in the photo. It is quite complex because this photo tells a complicated and sad story.



Figure 11. Rodrigo Abd, Manu Brabo, Narciso Contreras, Khalil Hamra, and Muhammed Muheisen of Associated Press

5w+1H

There is no specific information about the father's name and his son's name and age; however, complete information about the place and the situation felt by the man is provided. The reason for his son's death, the date, and the situation are clearly informed.

Caption

The caption, which provides a more specific explanation of what the photo depicts, is quite short yet informative.



Figure 12. Tyler Hicks of The New York Times

5w+1H

There is no specific information about who is the woman with kids in the photo and when it happened. However, the caption provides information about the place and the amount of killed people there. The photojournalist also inputs the feelings toward the situation.

Caption

The photojournalist does not tell more than what is needed in the caption as information related to the photo.



Figure 13. Photography Staff of St. Louis Post-Dispatch

5w+1H

There is clear information about the reason for the protest and the man's name in the photo. It also has the place taken and the situation. However, it is not clear enough when it happens but just the time set from the photo, at night.

Caption

The caption is a short yet quite informative caption that is being used in this photojournalism.



**Figure 14. Mauricio Lima, Sergey Ponomarev, Tyler Hicks
and Daniel Etter of The New York Times**

5w+1H

It clearly informs about the migrants in the frame and where they come from, so this caption is informative. Moreover, it provides a specific number of people and reasons for them to be in the sea and run away.

Caption

This journalist uses a short but informative caption. The photojournalist tells only what is needed in the caption as information related to the photo.



Figure 15. Daniel Berehulak, freelance photographer

5w+1H

This is the complete caption because it provides everything we are concerned about when we see the photo and the unsure of journalism like chronologically arranged into a caption.

Caption

Informative, and the arrangement of information in the caption is well.



Figure 16. Ryan Kelly of The Daily Progress, Charlottesville, Va.

5w+1H

The caption provides good chronological information about what is happening in the photo since the photo is very complex. It is normal for this photo to have no specific name because the photojournalist tries to capture the situation seen from the information about what is happening and represents in the photo that "A vehicle plows into a group of protesters." This caption also mentions the specific place and reasons for this mass.

Caption

This journalist uses a short but informative kind of caption.



Figure 17. Photography Staff of Reuters

5w+1H

This photo presents unique information because the subject is the rooster, and it provides specific information on the place and the age of the boy present.

Caption

Without a long caption, the amount of the caption already fits the information because the photo has already sent every message that the photojournalist wants to share.

Photo and caption after analyzing Pulitzer Prize-Winner Photos



Figure 18. Nikodemus Ranga



Figure 19. Wayan Pradnya Waisnawa



Figure 20. Febitha Vidyadari



Figure 21. Fiqi Ari Pradana



Figure 22. Jodie Butler



Figure 23. Sundari Okasunu



Figure 24. Desi Ramayanti

CONCLUSION

Providing Pulitzer Prize-winning photo analysis activities shows increased student photojournalism results, along with captions written to explain the events in the photos. The angle at which photos are taken becomes more creative, interesting, and authentic. The photo captions become sharper and sharper. Students' journalistic photos that are full of value and content and are displayed clearly on social and electronic media will make it easier for journalism subject teachers to understand better students' journalistic abilities and the activities that can be carried out to

stimulate growth and improve their abilities. The Semester Learning Plan can be adjusted to demonstrate better the need for skills that need to be improved and enhanced to produce results in the form of a journalist profession with superior abilities, integrity, and honesty. Stakeholders need resources such as these and are ready to be provided by carrying out clearly stated activities.

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