ABSTRACT

RESEARCH PAPER: News Management and Trauma Photojournalism

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Photojournalists are usually the first journalists on a scene when a tragedy is unfolding. Not only are photojournalists documenting history, they are also exposing themselves to traumatic and stressful events. Are the employers of photojournalist making mental health coverage and training on trauma available to freelancers, full and part-time employees?

This study surveyed 23 members of the National Press Photographers Association, who identify themselves as managing editors or photography editors. This research answers the question of whether or not editors (supervisors) are taking the precautions of traumatic stress and training their photojournalists how to manage stress and/or seek mental health counseling in the event of a post-traumatic event.

The survey method used in this research project had a very low response rate and small survey size. However, the information collected still gives quality insights into the management side of photojournalism. There will always be a continual need for more research to be completed on leadership in journalism and how they are managing photojournalists.