

“Journalism and Politics”

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Abstract:

Political journalism is an extensive outlet of journalism that includes coverage of all aspects of politics and political science, while the term usually refers specifically to coverage of civil governments and political power.

It has been categorized by a tug of war between reporters and executives where top politicians have the upper hand in the coproduction of news through their ability to provide critical information subsidies that most news media rely on. Political journalism aims to provide voters with the information to formulate their own opinion and participate in community, local or national matters that will affect them. It is provided through different mediums, in print, broadcast, or online reporting.

To provide an overview of the special issue of political communication the introduction identifies a preliminary set of rules that journalists use for representing politics in news. These rules guide new decisions in keeping with underlying journalistic norms about the workings of politics and the role of the press in the political system. Such political norms must also be reconciled with professional journalism norms of fairness, and with the economic norms of efficiency and profit that increasingly drive the new business. Increasingly sensationalistic narratives and dramatic production values both bridge and reflect the tensions among the various norms and practical rules that guide journalists in their daily representations of the political world.

This research indicates the relationship between the journalism and political news as well as explaining the principles of reporting also discussed about the role of media in politics and how the information is gathered and represented in newspapers.

Keywords: Politics, Journalism, news representation of politics, press politics

Introduction:

What is Journalism?

Journalism is the activity of gathering, assessing, creating, and presenting news and information. It is also the product of these activities. Journalism can be differentiated from the other activities and products by certain identifiable characteristics and practices. These elements not only separate journalism from other forms of communication, they are what make it indispensable to democratic societies. History reveals that the more democratic a society, the more news and information it tends to have. The importance of journalism is to understand the main role of journalism and the entire purpose to serve the citizens.

Being a journalist would help to enable the people to be completely filled up with love of writing and it acts as the best communication aid to make a career that would be telling everyman's life story.

The purpose of news is different mainly it had been used for knowing actually what is happening in the society. From it one can able to easily know what are events yet had to be conducted. In other part the news also had been used for entertaining purpose. It acts as a helping guide right from that place where you are you can able to easily collect the relevant details that you need. Television has become an integral part of present human life wherein it plays a dual and important role of providing updated information as well as educating the users. It also helps to create a conscious group of people in society by providing them timely updates. Various television channels provide a wide and live coverage 24/7 to the users thereby providing them repeated telecast of news which might have been missed by the people. Undoubtedly it provides the updated and latest news within no wastage of time along with live coverage it has many disadvantages. The impact of watching the violence and actual death scenes repeatedly may cause psychological disturbances and lead to health hazards.[16]

The goal of journalism is to have a deep investigation on the topic that they are working through it may be related to any field that gives the actual thing that is going on it. Going through it people should know the real fact about what is happening. Because the journalist has the ability to change awareness and it acts as a best chance to inform all things. This acts as the main opportunity to tell the stories as such what is happening in the interesting manner. As a journalist everyone get a chance to be a part of the history.

Political journalism aims to provide voters with the information to formulate their own opinion and participate in community, local or national matters that will affect them. According to Edward Morrissey in an opinion article from theweek.com, political journalism frequently includes opinion journalism, as current political events can be biased in their reporting. The information provided includes facts, its perspective is subjective and leans towards one viewpoint.[1]

Brendan Nyhan and John Sides argue that "Journalists who report on politics are frequently unfamiliar with political science research or question its relevance to their work".[2] Journalists covering politics who are unfamiliar with information that would provide context to their stories can enable the story to take a different spin on what is being reported.

Political journalism is provided through different mediums, in print, broadcast, or online reporting. Digital media use has increased and it provides instant coverage of campaign, politics, event news and an accessible platform for the candidate. Media outlets known for their political journalism like The New York Times and the Washington Post, have increased their use of this medium as well. Printed, online, and broadcast political humor presented as entertainment has been used to provide updates on aspects of government status, political news, campaign, and election updates. According to Geoffrey Baym, the information provided may not be considered "fake news" but the lines between entertainment and factual news may seem blurred or biased [3] while providing political updates. This type of journalism is analyzed, interpreted, and discussed by news media pundits and editorialists. It can lack objectivity which can prevent the accuracy of the presented information. The reporting of news with a bias view point can also take away the audience's ability to form their own opinion or beliefs of what has been reported. This type of reporting is subjective with a possible social or political purpose.

Overview:

Civic journalism has begun to develop a strong following again after first emerging as a philosophy in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Those who find civic journalism to be a new, progressive, and profound method for the media to engage with the public see it as an opportunity to revitalize democracy as we know it. As technological advances overtake the modern world, it is becoming less common for the general public to buy newspapers or watch TV news to inform themselves on the events in the political sphere. Including this, younger generations, such as Generation X, Generation Y, and even Millennials, are not coming out to the polls due to a variety of reasons. Overall, democracy is beginning to fail as there is a lack of civic engagement and even interference with democratic processes, such as Russia's involvement with the 2016 United States election, and even electronic voting (e-voting) machines that are being hacked and altering results. All in all, proponents of civic journalism believe that for democracy to regain its traction and glory in the modern world, the media must be more receptive to feedback from the public and take initiative to engage the public as well.

According to Oxford Research Encyclopedias,[4] the popularity of political journalism is rising, and the area is becoming one of the more dominant domains of journalism. Political journalism is meant to be more of an overseer of democratic process as they relate to civic engagement rather than a scapegoat for the issues with democracy. Including this, there are four key concepts that political journalism can be boiled down to. These concepts are the framing of politics as a strategic game, interpretive versus straight news, conflict framing and media negativity, and finally, political or partisan bias. In essence, these can be viewed as the four quintessential pillars of civic journalism.

Goals:

The goal of civic journalism, or public journalism, is to allow the community to remain engaged with journalists and news outlets, restore democratic values, and rebuild the public's trust in journalists. The concept of fake news arose due to the fact that it is so easy to manipulate or twist information these days and create a certain narrative that might be entirely incorrect. This has led to an overall decrease in the credibility that people have for journalists and media sources. Certain media sources or news outlets often come under a lot of heat for certain stories or narrative they push which are built upon fallacies. People argue for participatory democracy, but

politics now is largely considered a popularity contest, and consists of politicians making decisions to ensure their reelection. Proponents of civic journalism believe that this philosophy will allow individuals to have a greater say in decision-making and in the broader political sphere.

Given the rise in yellow journalism and search optimization algorithms that create an echo-chamber among mass-media, civic journalism is entering a niche role where it can shift the position of news within public reception. As of recent, most news publishers undergo more and more observation as their ethics and content come under extensive scrutiny for political biases. In a time where traditional news outlets concern themselves with how to effectively monetize and are not the main distributors of information, civic journalism pivots the role of publishers from distributing information to curating information. Given one of civic journalism's central tenets - making the press a forum for discussion of community issues - a publisher is able to seek out a position in boosting local engagement over spreading knowledge of worldly issues readily available via a web search.

Proponents and Opponents:

According to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Journalism and Mass Communications,[5] civic journalism is a differentiating philosophy and has a collection of opponents as well. These opponents of civic journalism find it to be risky and ineffective. Including this, they find the practice to bring about conflicts of interest, and believe it necessitates involvement into public affairs that is deemed unethical. John Bender, assistant professor of new editorial at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, claimed that journalists who are the most esteemed and high regarded play active roles in helping their community thrive. This practice would be an example of how civic journalism is indeed beneficial for the future of democracy as proponents believe.

Proponents of civic journalism are committed on certain issues. They believe integrating journalism into the democratic process would help inform voters and make them more aware of what is occurring in the political scope. Including this, it could make a difference in the democratic process if all voters were equally informed. An important aspect is ensuring that the information received by the public is all accurate and fact-checked. This is an important aspect that sometimes gives journalism, and certain news sources, a bad reputation, as previously

mentioned. Accuracy in political news and journalism can enable voters to be more involved in the democratic process. Civic journalism itself is the process of integrating journalism into the democratic process and allowing voters and the media to play a more active role rather than being witnesses in what happens in the political scope. Moreover, technology also plays an active role in educating voters and determining viewpoints.

Subsets:

Election journalism or electoral journalism: It is a subgenre of political journalism which focuses upon and analyzes developments related to an approximate election and political campaigns.[6] This type of journalism provides information to the voters that can educate and help form opinion that empowers a specific vote.

Knowing the subject and being properly prepared is vital in all fields of journalism. Before the journalist do any interview, he need to know something about the issue, its latest developments and history; the interviewee's background and politics; and the political system applicable to the issue. It could, for example, be pointless interviewing a local council leader about defense policy when defense is a central government responsibility. Equally, it could be embarrassing to ask a person why he opposes a measure when, in fact, he supports it in principle.

Reporter should try to prepare some searching questions. Some stories will demand a very critical approach, others may only need a clear explanation and some questions to make some points clearer.

Reporter must always pursue a line of questioning until he get an answer that will satisfy his readers or listeners. They cannot ask the party leader, association chairman or minister directly, so his readers or listeners rely on him to know what kind of questions they want answering. He may think he already know the answers, but the purpose of journalism is not to educate him. He exist as a journalist to inform his readers or listeners, so he should keep asking questions until he is sure that they will be satisfied with the answers.

It is important that reporter keep up-to-date records of any changes in government structures or political office. Whenever he write a story about any political or government changes, also make the necessary changes in the newsroom reference file. For example, if there is a cabinet reshuffle,

get a full list of the new ministers and put it in the news desk file. Regularly he should update his files and check contact numbers.

Like data journalism, makes use of numerical data, such as statistics, polls and historic data in regards to a candidate's chance of success for office, or a party's change in size in a government. It provides knowledge that may make the presented news hold more relevance. Information added to the reports are of campaign statuses and political events. A politician's strategy can be exaggerated or provided without context or historical perspective. Trends on each party candidate are reported and at times compared to previous party candidates.[7] The news on the status of the elections, like other political reporting's, are provided in different mediums. The election report coverage has taken full advantage of the digital era in providing instant access to news.[8]

Defense journalism or military journalism: It is a subgenre which focuses upon the current status of a nation's military, intelligence and other defense-related faculties. Interest in defense journalism tends to increase during times of violent conflict, with military leaders being the primary actors. During the course of military journalism, news reporters are sometimes assigned to military units to report news taking place in areas of conflict. The term embedded journalism was used when the media was involved in the reporting of the war in Iraq. Embedded journalism can also be biased because it is one sided. Information reported has been collected from the area the journalist has been placed with the possibility to lean towards the agenda of the group they have been assigned to.[9] This subgenre of political journalism is also applied to media coming from journalists embedded in a particular campaign or candidate. Like military assignments, reports can be influenced by the message the campaign or candidate is trying to bring across.[10]

How do anyone get started as a political reporter?

This may seem discouraging to a high school student, but it really isn't. Most governmental meetings are open to the public, and anyone can attend. (There's no admission charge.) What anyone hear and see at these meetings will teach him a lot of government and the way it operates.

If any person attend a meeting, prepare to be bored to some extent. A lot of the business that is conducted will be routine, and you may not fully understand what is happening. Because of that,

it's best to prepare. Find out as much as you can about the meeting and its **agenda** – the list of items that the governmental body will discuss – as possible.

These meetings get more interesting when citizens are allowed to speak, and there is usually time set aside for people to say what they have to say. If the reporter goes to a zoning board or school board meeting, he is likely to see a lot of people there who want to offer their opinions to the board about actions they are about to take.

Anything that is said at these meetings can be included in a news report. The reporter doesn't have to ask anyone's permission. He should ask the people involved in the meeting to explain things to him to help him understand what is happening.

Here are some other things that the reporter can attend to help get his feet wet as a political reporter:

- Election rallies
- Trials and court hearings
- Press conferences

The public affairs reporter performs a valuable job for journalism, the public and democracy.

The need for people who understand politics and public affairs and who can write about them so that others understand them will never diminish.

There are some ethical challenges facing political reporting. Some of the listed as follows:

- ❖ **Social Accountability:** What questions should any reporter ask before he tweets a contentious political bite? With the growing pressure to build a personal brand and how much of he is strategic to reveal across his personal and professional networks? How do he contextualize memes, trending's and likes in his reporting? How do he respond when his work is characterized in a way not consistent with its intent?
- ❖ **Digital and visual:** How can reporter be sure his cool data visualizations don't oversimplify? What are the best ways to aggregate information without plagiarizing or generalizing? What are important ethical guidelines when he is editing politically potent video? What about when he is reporting on potentially unethically edited clips?

- ❖ **Transparency and privacy:** With the growing expectation that anything politicians say in public could instantly spread around the world, are journalists always obliged to identify themselves as reporters? What, if anything, should still be considered private to a candidate or official?
- ❖ **Neutrality:** This concept is on the way out, but the recognition that we all carry assumptions is in. How do any journalist learn what biases he bring to a story? What do he do with that knowledge? How do he know if it's affecting his reporting?
- ❖ **Fact-checking:** Bill Adair, the “**father of Politifact**,” told the ethics conference that 2012 is becoming the year of the fact-checker. What are the best practices for journalists to call out misconstrued facts, or outright lies, in reporting and while interviewing? What are the best ways for the public to hold reporters accountable? Should TV stations reveal how much money they earn from political ads? Should they refuse to air ads that make untrue claims? What are the best ways to get away from he said/she said journalism?
- ❖ **Covering polls:** Many political reports mention the margin of error investigators identify in their own work, but what other best practices can help put numbers in the right context? Should there be a standard ranking of the value of different polls based on what information the investigators are willing to release?
- ❖ **Inclusion and representation:** If “feminism is way more volatile for a lot of people than ‘liberal’,” as Pulitzer prize-winning columnist Connie Schultz told the Poynter Kent State workshop crowd, should political sources quoted roughly match the gender and racial balance among the electorate, or among those in power? If you want to broaden the range of sources you speak to, what are smart ways to start?
- ❖ **The basics of political reporting:** What are the unique aspects of political reporting that demand particular ethical considerations?
- ❖ **Making the system better:** What guidelines might combine the best of both the Fourth and Fifth Estates? Should journalists actively press to change any laws, such as those that might make tracking campaign money easier? Are there ways to report or write that will encourage people, or candidates, to be civil, even in emotional disagreements? Is there an ethical obligation to make political coverage directly relevant to your audiences' lives? Is there an ethical mandate to understand the public's needs and force politicians to respond?

The new media's role in politics:

The new media environment is dynamic and continues to develop in novel, sometimes unanticipated, ways that have serious consequences for democratic governance and politics. New media have radically altered the way that government institutions operate, the way that political leaders communicate, the manner in which elections are contested, and citizen engagement. This section will briefly address the evolution of new media, before examining in greater detail their role in and consequences for political life.

New political media are forms of communication that facilitate the production, dissemination, and exchange of political content on platforms and within networks that accommodate interaction and collaboration. They have evolved rapidly over the past three decades, and continue to develop in novel, sometimes unanticipated ways. New media have wide-ranging implications for democratic governance and political practices. They have radically altered the ways in which government institutions operate and political leaders communicate. They have transformed the political media system, and redefined the role of journalists. They have redefined the way elections are contested, and how citizens engage in politics.

The rise of new media has complicated the political media system. Legacy media consisting of established mass media institutions that predate the Internet, such as newspapers, radio shows, and television news programs, coexist with new media that are the outgrowth of technological innovation. While legacy media maintain relatively stable formats, the litany of new media, which includes websites, blogs, video-sharing platforms, digital apps, and social media, are continually expanding in innovative ways. Mass media designed to deliver general interest news to broad audiences have been joined by niche sources that narrowcast to discrete users (Stroud, 2011). New media can relay information directly to individuals without the involvement of editorial or institutional gatekeepers, which are essential to legacy forms. Thus, new media have introduced an increased level of instability and unpredictability into the political communication process.

The relationship between legacy media and new media is interdependent. Legacy media have incorporated new media into their reporting strategies. They distribute material across an array of old and new communication platforms. They rely on new media sources to meet the ever-increasing demand for content. Despite competition from new media, the audiences for traditional media remain robust, even if they are not as formidable as in the past. Readers of the print edition of *The New York Times* and viewers of the nightly network news programs far outnumber those accessing the most popular political news websites (Wired Staff, 2017). Cable and network television news remain the primary sources of political information for people over the age of thirty (Mitchell and Holcomb, 2016). Consequently, new media rely on their legacy counterparts to gain legitimacy and popularize their content.

Ideally, the media serve several essential roles in a democratic society. Their primary purpose is to inform the public, providing citizens with the information needed to make thoughtful decisions about leadership and policy. The media act as watchdogs checking government actions. They set the agenda for public discussion of issues, and provide a forum for political expression. They also facilitate community building by helping people to find common causes, identify civic groups, and work toward solutions to societal problems.

Impact of Social Media on Indian Politics:

India's 16th National general election which was held in nine phases during April and May, 2014. It was probably one of the most awaited elections in the recent times. It was due to the changing Politics of India. Social media played a vital role in deciding which party wins the most seats. A interesting report published in April 2013 by the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI). The Mumbai-based Iris Knowledge Foundation, assisted IMAI in the study. People should learn about social media marketing courses in Mumbai? Facebook users have a tremendous impact over the results of the polls in 160 of India's 543 constituencies. The reason for this is the youth of India. As per study, 50% of population is below 25 age group. Secondly, 65 % is below 35 % age group. This population is either studying in college or working in various companies. Companies such as IT companies, BPO's, research centers and various other sectors or are either entrepreneur. Their busy schedule has created a virtual distance between television and radio. It is especially in case of acquiring or sharing information. The youth is tech

savvy and love being connected with updated trends and topics. Such connectivity is possible by using laptops, desktops or the most favorite a network connected mobiles.

Social Media Savvy Politicians:

Social media has become an integral part of all lives. Facebook and Twitter tend to provide news faster than most news channels today. Celebrities, sports stars and corporate head honchos are present on these sites so that they can keep in touch with people. They keep their fans and followers informed of latest updates, promote their work and listen to what people have to say.

Many politicians have also taken to social media like a fish to water. The best examples are Arvind Kejriwal and our Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Their updates on Facebook and Twitter keep us informed about latest happenings and future plans.

The media has been referred to as “The Fourth Estate” with the important function of being the news media – “the press” – and serving as the eyes and ears of the public. The traditional print and media reporting has been viewed over time as the way to insure the American public gets the real scoop on the functioning of government and viewpoints of political candidate. The news media is a social or political force or institution whose influence is not consistently or officially recognized. A free press serves four essential purposes:

1. Holding government leaders accountable to the people.
2. Publicizing issues that need attention.
3. Educating citizens so they can make informed decisions, and
4. Connecting people with each other in civil society.

Free media plays an important role in influencing political discourse during elections. When free and balanced, traditional media (print and broadcast) foster transparency and the determination of important electoral information. The rise of new media provides further opportunities for participatory citizenship.

Citizens are increasingly turning to social media platforms to follow election news and developments. Referred to as “The Fifth Estate,” this form of “news” media is a socio-cultural

reference to groupings of outlier viewpoints in contemporary society, and is most associated with bloggers, journalists publishing in non-mainstream media outlets, and the social media.

In many ways, the rise of the Internet and the social web has made things a lot better when it comes to being informed about the world. But in other ways—as with so many other things the Internet touches—it has made them much worse. And our trusted relationship with media (to the extent that we ever had one) has taken the brunt of the damage.

These days, politicians often complain about bias in the media, usually a liberal bias against the views of conservative politicians. They complain that the media's ability to decide which stories to report often reflects its partisanship. The news media would like us to think that the bias is restricted to the media's outlet's commentary and opinion pages.

The ethics of print and social media folks can be questioned on many levels including a failure to act unbiased in reporting the news; spinning the stories to advance the cause of their “chosen” candidate, and even coloring the questions asked during political debates.

Classification of social media:

Social media technologies take on many different forms including blogs, business networks, enterprise social networks, forums, microblogs, photo sharing, products/services review, social bookmarking, social gaming, social networks, video sharing and virtual worlds.

The development of social media started off with simple platforms such as sixdegrees.com. Unlike instant messaging clients such as ICQ and AOL's AIM, sixdegrees.com was the first online business that was created for real people, using their real names. However, the first social networks were short-lived because their users lost interest. The Social Network Revolution has led to the rise of the networking sites. Research shows that the audience spends 22% of their time on social networking sites, thus proving how popular social media platforms have become.

Functions of social media as a new tool in Indian general election:

In the context of relationship between politicians, social media and public, identifies number of functions that Internet have as follows:

- Politicians promote their controlled speech and present their point of view without being interrupted by journalists or by media format limitation.
- Social media has given privilege for politicians to post a probable political agenda.
- By means of social media, political parties or politicians can mobilize public and invites them to participate in discussion on some issues of public interest.
- By using the social media tools, politicians and political parties interacts apparently with more efficiently with their supporters, beyond institutional and governmental rigors.

Principles of political reporting:

The most important thing to remember about politics is that it involves people. It involves the politicians who make decisions, the public servants who carry out their orders and - most important - the people affected by their actions. As a journalist is the job is to serve the people affected, to explain how the decisions will affect their lives. They should also give them knowledge they need to take part in debates and vote for the people who will serve them best. The reporters should not be writing for the politicians or public servants concerned in particular issues; they should know already what is going on. Whenever they report on any political story, always ask their self: "How will it affect my readers' or listeners' lives?"

There is a further reason for reporting politics. If anyone tell the people what is happening, they can give their reactions to it. They can write letters to the editor, give their opinions or express their feelings directly to the politicians and public servants themselves. In this way, those in power know what the people they are governing think. This is important in any democracy.

Explain events and issues

One of the main tasks as a journalist is to explain events and issues in a way the readers or listeners can understand. If they only report what happens or what is said, they will give their readers or listeners a fragmented picture of the world. They also need to know how and why things happen. Their stories must always put events and issues in context, showing how they affect people.

Explanation not advice

There is an important difference between explaining events and giving advice on how to alter situations. Explanation is clearly one role of the journalist. Leave the political activist or the expert in that field to give advice. Their job as a journalist is to report different opinions, not to judge them. Be objective.

Know the audience

As with any area of news, it is important that reporter know their readers or listeners. They can then adapt the news-telling style to their general level of interest and understanding, remembering always that they should aim to inform the less-educated members of the audience as well as the educated ones.

It is worth adding here that some societies or communities are more "political" than others. By this it means that they see politics at work in issues more often than the members of some other communities.

An awareness of the general level of political consciousness in the community will help to determine which issues reporter need to cover - and how.

Do not confuse community's general level of political consciousness with the own interest in political affairs, which might be greater because they work in the media. If readers or listeners are not interested in politics, they should not force them. However, even a lack of interest in politics should not cut them off from receiving news of a political nature about things which affect their lives.

Be suspicious

It may seem obvious, but remember that reporter cannot believe everything they are told in politics. Always be suspicious about what people say, especially when they make promises or boast about their achievements.

When a politician or political activist speaks just to appear good (or to keep in the public eye for the next election), reporter should treat what they say as personal advertising.

When they speak on a current issue, you should ask whether their comments add to the people's understanding of the issue. If they do, that is news. If they do not, that is just personal advertising.

Cultivate sources and contacts

Even though reporter may be suspicious of the motives of politicians, they should still try to make a wide range of contacts among them. They may need to put aside your personal dislike for a politician or his philosophy. They should judge politicians they dislike in the same way as they judge those they admire. Whenever they speak on an issue, a reporter must ask:

- Do they have the power to do anything practical about what they are saying? Can they change words into deeds?
- Are they influential in shaping opinion?
- Does their specific comment increase your audience's understanding of the issue?

If the answer is "yes" to any of the above, they may be worth reporting.

Politicians in opposition often provide useful information about abuses by those in power. Both people and they are there to monitor the performance of the rulers, whether national or local.

People working in a country where confrontation is not encouraged in politics. In some countries, politicians not in power are meant to support the leaders, not oppose them. Everyone is urged to work together to achieve certain national goals. Even in situations such as these, criticism is usually allowed as long as its aim is to suggest improvements to the system, not simply to oppose it on ideological grounds.

In most political systems, the leaders and the people try to work together to improve their society. They can do this by exchanging views. Try to keep a balance between reporting the achievements of the powerful and reporting the concerns of the powerless.

Protect confidentiality

Because political reporters have to deal with both sides in an argument, journalist have a duty to respect the confidentiality of sources - they must keep any promises they give to keep certain

information to their self. For example, they should not tell an interviewee what they have just learned in confidence from their opponent unless they know that the opponent will not mind. If people feel that they can talk in confidence to them, they will often give them plenty of material, both on and off the record. On the record comments can be reported. Off the record comments are usually given on agreement that they will not be reported.

Know the subject

Knowing the subject and being properly prepared is vital in all fields of journalism. Before any journalist do any interview, they need to know something about the issue, its latest developments and history; the interviewee's background and politics; and the political system applicable to the issue. It could, for example, be pointless interviewing a local council leader about defense policy when defense is a central government responsibility. Equally, it could be embarrassing to ask a person why he opposes a measure when, in fact, he supports it in principle.

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It is important that reporters keep up-to-date records of any changes in government structures or political office. Whenever they write a story about any political or government changes, also make the necessary changes in the newsroom reference file. For example, if there is a cabinet reshuffle, get a full list of the new ministers and put it in the news desk file. Regularly update the files and check contact numbers.

Research Methodology:

A research methodology or involves specific techniques that are adopted in research process to collect, assemble and evaluate data. It defines those tools that are used to gather relevant information in a specific research study by using some tools like Surveys, questionnaires and interviews.

The overall research methodology adopted in this research will be discussed under following sub heads:

- **Research Design:** The research design is a detailed plan of action for the research. It contributes the blue print for collection, measurement, tabulation and analysis of the data. Historical research turns history or the past to study the patterns, their impact on the present, process and so on. In this sense, this research can be termed as a historical research.
- **Research Instrument:** This research is based on the secondary data. And the secondary data has been collected from different types of sources as literature reviews, research papers, books, articles, journals and websites.
- **Research Area:** The study is based on the relationship between the journalism and how they reporting about the political news. Also to provide an overview of the special issue of political communication identifies a preliminary set of rules that journalists use for representing politics in news.

Data Collection:

The data collection includes the collection through related research papers, newspaper articles, magazines, books, journals, research papers, reports and web sites etc. Mostly data is collected through Literature review.

A researcher collected the data through any or a combination of the following sources:

1. **Personal Experience/Knowledge of the existence of a problem:** Investigated new ideas and to be developed from hints or trends perceived from regular (daily/weekly) assignments related to the said topic.
2. **Discussion or tips from other people:** Discussion is done with friends, social associates also from listening to conversations in public offices, libraries, newsstands or newspaper vendors' locations.
3. **Reading.** Reading of local, national and international newspapers, magazines, websites, and subscription to relevant electronic mailing lists is done.
4. **News:** News on radio, television. It also includes paying attention to 'breaking news' and asking why or how what has been announced happened?
5. **Previous projects by other researchers or academic projects.** Problems already investigated may be re-looked under the following conditions: controversial findings, methodological weaknesses changes in time and place and suggestions for further investigations, which may be contained in previous studies.

Analysis:

Political journalism aims to provide voters with the information to formulate their own opinion and participate in community, local or national matters that will affect them. This study intends to explore the relationship among the journalism and politics. So in this research the data is collected via the secondary source. The data is collected and reviewed by literature review for understandable form.

'Literature' in the context of this paper refers to the written or printed word -documents and files of public institutions, media publications, books, etc., The researcher had gathered relevant document, printed, handwritten form for review. 'Review' means comparing and contrasting the works, views, perspectives and findings of previous researchers. The similarities and differences in their views or findings, etc., are identified. By the literature review researcher is discussed some of the opinions, findings, etc. of those who had worked in similar areas in the past. This literature

review served a number of purposes: it provided a theoretical basis for the work and offered the researcher an insight into the best methods, instruments for data gathering and the statistical tools for analyzing the data gathered, which previous researchers had used.

Conclusion:

Political journalism is becoming ever more important, as the role of government in both domestic and foreign current events becomes larger and larger. Political journalism is a critical part of this process, because accurate and clear reporting can hold people in power accountable for their words and actions. It is also a good way to get involved in major world events.

The current approach to journalism involves taking advantage of social media and modern technology to the fullest extent. This creates what is known as the 24 hour news cycle- there is always news coming out, and that applies as much to political journalism as any other area. Political scandals and conflicts can take place at any time, and modern journalists need to be capable of reporting not just accurately, but quickly. A journalist at any outlet faces rapid competition from other media outlets, so speed is critical.

On the other hand, having original content is also a major advantage. Long stories, painstakingly developed from investigation, are just as valuable as up-to-the-second factual updates. The right media outlet has a proper balance between deep, thoughtful, and unique content and rapid response teams that can keep their finger on the world's pulse.

That puts the contemporary political journalist in a difficult position. He or she needs to develop the awareness and skill to respond to events in the moment, making judgment calls about what facts are critical and which to discard. On top of that, to bring in viewers, it is important to conduct long term research projects that are of general interest and relevant to current events. The two skillsets are related, but they aren't the same, and a well-trained journalist needs to be proficient in both.

This kind of flexibility demands a wide breadth of background in different kinds of political coverage as well as a thorough understanding of the fundamental rules of journalism. These fundamentals are not just for form- they help budding reporters tease out the important facts, remain objective, and condense the information into a clear and illustrative news item. It all

comes down to the audience and their interests. Without understanding the basics, it is impossible to master the advanced tactics of reporting in a variety of different venues.

For that reason, this paper unit in political journalism is a powerful tool for budding reporters who need to get a firm grasp of the basic elements to political journalism. Whether it is getting quotes, interviewing key figures, building a network of sources, or writing to reach specific audiences, reporters need to master these skills before they can do any political reporting.

Limitations:

Due to the very limited scope of this report, it was not feasible nor necessary to review the large number of studies based on the primary data about Journalism and politics, which resulted in this report having focused/limited only for theoretical understanding of this area of research, but it would certainly be enlightening to get a more complete understanding. This report could be used as a first step towards building a theoretical framework. This paper discussed about the relationship between the journalists and how they covers the reporting about the political news by using various types of sources.

Topics for further research:

Much of the recent literature on political communication has focused on the adaptation by politicians to the mediatised public sphere and in particular their growing professionalism and news management. The growing importance of media advisers as central actors in the process of political communication has also attracted considerable attention on the part of political scientists. The research topics are largely focused on these two sets of actors and the inter-relationship between them. Yet somewhat surprisingly in the light of their central mediating role as producers of information, political journalists have tended to receive less attention in the relevant political science literature of the past few years has examined their role, functions, status and output.

The journalism industry is rapidly changing, and journalism jobs could be affected by the changes coming to newspapers and online news outlets in the future. From local network affiliates to the New York Times, the pressure to attract paying customers has created serious challenges for journalists trying to cover stories objectively and truthfully. The challenge for

news reporters and editors is to provide accurate coverage as quickly as possible without publishing false or biased information. As the news readership becomes overtly politicized, newspapers and networks have little choice but to change with the times at the expense of their credibility. The future topics or challenges of political journalism are personalized news feeds, declining the circulation, 24-hour news cycle, Political Advocacy and how they differ from fake news to real news. As well as to find the answers the questions in further research like

1. The changing profession of political journalism within the media
2. The inter-relationship between political journalists, politicians and public opinion: managing the interdependencies
3. New ways of framing political coverage and new forms of political journalism

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