

A Content Analysis of Us Media Framing of Conflict: Effects on Global Journalism and Its Social Consequences

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Abstract : This presentation outlines US media frames of recent interventions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Syria and their impact on global media and public discourse. A content analysis of sources, descriptors, and contexts of leading US media (AP, New York Times, Fox News) finds that news coverage highlights terrorism, justifies military action, and downplays the human costs. These media frames that normalize intervention also omit coverage of the environmental consequences of war, with scant or no reporting on pollution, destruction and contamination of agricultural infrastructures and the difficulty of any environmentally sustainable recovery. A content analysis of leading European and Middle East media (Daily Mail, Le Monde, Deutsch Welle, Al Jazeera) indicates that they have adopted the same reporting practices, frames, and techniques resulting in a hybrid, yet homogeneous, increasingly global news environment that does a disservice to the public interest and democracy.

Keywords : conflict, environment, media framing, public interest

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