

Theoretical Perspective on the Dearth of Investigative Journalism in Nigeria

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Abstract : Investigative journalism in Nigeria is increasingly declining as a result of some challenges associated with its practice, where corruption, incessant insecurity, embezzlement, religion, tribalism, and nepotism have indeed become a routine to the detriment of the country in every aspect of life. Investigative journalism is hardly being practised in Nigeria today because journalists fear for their lives. With in-depth interviews, this research uses the theory of media responsibility to examine the nature of investigative journalism in Nigeria, coupled with the exploration of secondary data - looking into how the Nigerian media disseminate news that is supposed to be continuous but is never brought to a conclusive end - where the hope of the audience with the current momentum of such news, as well as the enthusiasm of the audience to follow such stories is dashed, for lack of follow up of such stories. Therefore the paper suggests the need to resuscitate investigative journalism in Nigeria and the need to promulgate special laws to protect journalists.

Keywords : dearth, investigative journalism, Nigeria, journalism

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