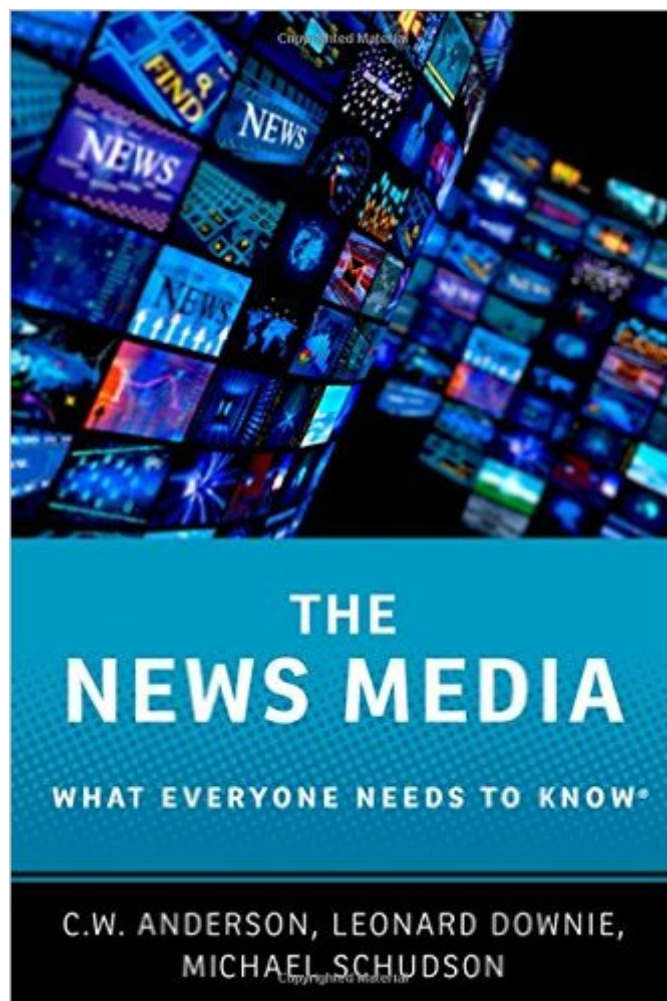


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The News Media: What Everyone Needs To Know®



Synopsis

The business of journalism has an extensive, storied, and often romanticized history. Newspaper reporting has long shaped the way that we see the world, played key roles in exposing scandals, and has even been alleged to influence international policy. The past several years have seen the newspaper industry in a state of crisis, with Twitter and Facebook ushering in the rise of citizen journalism and a deprofessionalization of the industry, plummeting readership and revenue, and municipal and regional papers shuttering or being absorbed into corporate behemoths. Now billionaires, most with no journalism experience but lots of power and strong views, are stepping in to purchase newspapers, both large and small. This addition to the What Everyone Needs to Know® series looks at the past, present and future of journalism, considering how the development of the industry has shaped the present and how we can expect the future to roll out. It addresses a wide range of questions, from whether objectivity was only a conceit of late twentieth century reporting, largely behind us now; how digital technology has disrupted journalism; whether newspapers are already dead to the role of non-profit journalism; the meaning of "transparency" in reporting; the way that private interests and governments have created their own advocacy journalism; whether social media is changing journalism; the new social rules of old media outlets; how franchised media is addressing the problem of disappearing local papers; and the rise of citizen journalism and hacker journalism. It will even look at the ways in which new technologies potentially threaten to replace journalists.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Journalism continues to be in a state of flux, with the whole industry shaken up in the past decade or so by the growth of the Internet and digital transformation. As a business sector it faces a number of challenges and threats and the boundaries between professional journalism and social media/citizen journalism are being often blurred. Who knows what the future may bring, yet this book attempts to track the changes thus far and also look a bit into the future to see what might happen. You don't have to be a media nerd to enjoy this book. Are we looking back at the past of journalism with rose-tinted spectacles on, harking for a past that might not have been as perfect as we may seek to imply. With transformation gripping the industry are we seeing greater transparency, competition and openness or are many of the older problems just being revised and transformed for our digital future. It was an enjoyable and informative read from cover-to-cover, even finding nuggets of new information to knock into this experienced journalist's mind that one had either forgotten or never learned in the first place, such as the first English language newspaper was not published in an English-speaking country! The design of the book, posing many questions within the chapter's introductory text, was a great feature, allowing for intelligent jumping between chapters for those who tend not to read sequentially. Clearly nobody knows what the future may bring and making forecasts can be a risky business; yet the authors managed to produce an interesting, possibly credible guess at what we may see in the future. It dove-tailed perfectly into the rest of this book that was a pleasure to read through. A highly recommended book for both industry-participant and curious generalist reader alike.

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