POLITICAL REPORTING IN THE AGE OF INFOTAINMENT

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ABSTRACT

This researched looked at how journalism has changed and how the prevalence of infotainment has had an impact on political reporters in print journalism.

Ten political reporters from large print publications or news bureaus based in the Washington D.c. were questioned using structured and semi-structured interviews about how their experience in the industry has changed since infotainment became present in journalism. The results indicate that though they see infotainment generally affecting journalism, they said their publications have fought against this shift by remaining focused on hard news.

Although many of the journalists interviewed thought infotainment doesn’t affect them personally, there has been an increase in challenges some journalists experience, such as securing interviews with political figures.

This research is important because it examines how print publications and the journalists who cover politics are affected by a shift in the journalism landscape.