

How Television News Journalists Can Improve News Gathering and Editing Literacy (Postprint)

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Date: 2023-10-08T00:00:00+00:00

Abstract

With the rapid development of television media, China's television industry is also undergoing further enhancement. As individuals pursue spiritual enrichment, their demands for news media are gradually escalating. However, from the current perspective, television stations still exhibit deficiencies in numerous aspects, including insufficient funding, outdated related technologies, and a shortage of professional talent, which collectively impede the development of television stations to a certain extent. This paper, proceeding from the actual circumstances of television stations and integrating the characteristics of the era, analyzes the inadequacies in journalists' news gathering and editing capabilities, and proposes several innovative recommendations.

Full Text

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ChinaXiv Cooperative Journal

Abstract

With the rapid development of television media, China's TV industry continues to advance. As people pursue spiritual enrichment, their demands for news media are gradually increasing. However, the current situation reveals that TV stations still suffer from deficiencies in many aspects, including insufficient funding, outdated technology, and a lack of professional talent, all of which affect their development to a certain extent. This article analyzes the shortcomings of journalists' news gathering and editing capabilities based on the actual situation of TV stations and contemporary characteristics, and proposes innovative recommendations.

Keywords: TV station; news journalist; gathering and editing capability; literacy

Chinese Library Classification: G222

Document Code: A

Article ID: 1671-0134(2018)01-094-02

DOI: 10.19483/j.cnki.11-4653/n.2018.01.036

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1.4 Emphasizing the Grassroots Role in News Gathering

During the news gathering process, journalists must pay close attention to details and remain close to people's daily lives. Consequently, news personnel need to focus on the psychological demands of the public, uphold service to the masses as a fundamental philosophy, and fully express the genuine thoughts of ordinary people. By immersing themselves in the lived experiences of grassroots communities, journalists can discover the basic appeals of common citizens, thereby enhancing the provincial station's standing among the populace and earning a strong reputation [?].

1.1 Information Filtering Capability

The effective enhancement of information resources serves as a crucial means to accelerate dissemination speed. Therefore, in news gathering, particular attention must be paid to detail control, integrating popular events that resonate with audiences while valuing their reactions to news coverage. This approach effectively satisfies people's information needs. News gathering constitutes an essential component of professional experience, requiring field visits and continuous investigation to accumulate practical knowledge, cultivate creative thinking, and ultimately improve the quality of news collection.

1.5 Social Responsibility in News Gathering

A journalist's primary responsibility lies in possessing a sense of social accountability. In news reporting, they must rely on facts to restore truth, persist in follow-up coverage, and provide perspective on social hot spots. By emphasizing fact-based public discourse and commentary, journalists can deliver authentic news that truly belongs to the masses. Consequently, news personnel must continuously strengthen their self-cultivation, uphold principles of social trust, actively guide public opinion, and fulfill their role in social guidance to promote harmonious societal development.

2.1 Lack of Professional Literacy Among TV Journalists

An excellent journalist must possess sharp news sensitivity to grasp key points, coupled with extensive work experience and practical life experience to properly weigh news value. However, examining the current state of the journalism field reveals that experienced professionals are often older, while newly hired journalists lack sufficient qualifications, demonstrating inadequate capabilities in news capture and editing. Their judgment and sensitivity are not as profound as those of veteran journalists, resulting in deficiencies in their reporting. Furthermore, some journalists fail to adequately restore the authenticity of news. A qualified journalist must possess strong professional qualities and achieve mastery in understanding and analyzing relevant news theories. Regrettably, some employers do not fully enforce these standards during recruitment, and certain practitioners lack commitment to factual authenticity, using sensationalistic headlines to attract attention at the expense of truthfulness—thereby violating the fundamental meaning of journalism [?].

1.2 News Editing and Planning Capability

Journalists must edit and plan the news they gather, analyzing clues, developing them in depth, and applying them skillfully. This represents a core professional competency. In practice, as journalists delve deeper into their craft, they must align with audience needs, rationally utilize and manage resources, and cultivate their news editing and planning abilities [?].

1.3 Enhancing Unity Among News Reporting Personnel

News work cannot be completed independently; it requires coordination and cooperation among staff members. During news reporting, camera operators, news anchors, and editing personnel must collaborate harmoniously, sharing responsibility for the news enterprise and achieving the collective value of the entire team.

2.2 Insufficient Training Efforts at TV Stations

Newcomers to news organizations often lack proper guidance, slowing their professional growth and contradicting sound employment principles—ultimately hindering the development of China's news industry. The value orientation of news originates from life and must be applied to life. As journalists gather and edit news, they must excavate, verify, and compile stories with value orientations that remain close to people's livelihood concerns. If news content becomes too monotonous, audiences lose interest and viewership declines, causing news organizations to lose their fundamental value [?].

3.1 Improving Professional Competence of News Journalists

Journalists must strengthen their personal qualities, conscientiously adapt to their work, and learn to improve themselves through practice. As excellent news professionals, they must cultivate a passion for journalism and develop sharp sensitivity, accumulating life experience and practical insights to continuously enhance their abilities. By excavating valuable news information from everyday life and restoring the authenticity of facts, journalists can elevate their professional competence. From the moment of employment, journalists must firmly grasp theoretical knowledge and apply it scientifically, developing keen judgment regarding news value. They must see through phenomena to perceive essence, discovering news value in ordinary life. Since news originates from life and reflects it as a realistic portrayal, journalists must ensure reliability and avoid fabricating stories merely to attract attention.

3.2 Establishing Correct Work Concepts

News journalists shoulder a significant mission and must produce the most authentic reports. They should eliminate “colored” reporting motivated by petty gains or selfish interests, instead deeply excavating authenticity to produce correct coverage that abides by professional ethics. Journalists must embrace hardship and fatigue while maintaining full enthusiasm for their work, always standing at the front line of breaking news to fully understand and analyze events. By earnestly learning from predecessors’ experiences and employing correct, reasonable methods to explore the essence of facts, they can become journalists with professional integrity—an ideal we continuously pursue. Only in this way can we attract greater public attention to the news industry [?].

3.3 Focusing News on Livelihood Issues

News serves as a vital channel for information, enabling people to learn about various events through television. During gathering and editing, journalists should strive to reflect real life and create emotional resonance with audiences. They must implement the Party’s guidelines and policies, consistently adhering to a people-centered philosophy and serving the people. While daily reporting on national affairs attracts minimal attention, coverage of food safety supervision and social medical security issues garners greater public interest. Journalists must be rooted among the masses, serving them by identifying news materials related to their vital interests. By reporting truthfully, journalists enhance authenticity and credibility, safeguard the people’s fundamental interests, and improve public attention to news, thereby contributing to the development of China’s journalism industry.

3.4 Strengthening Training for News Journalists

To help journalists quickly adapt to their positions and improve their capabilities, experienced senior journalists should actively mentor newcomers through

face-to-face training that addresses practical problems encountered in professional development. This approach cultivates brand awareness among news workers. Encouraging collaboration and resource integration fosters the development of professional teams equipped with market economy awareness, cooperative spirit, and management skills, thereby promoting industry advancement and driving better, faster development of television stations.

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Source: ChinaXiv — Machine translation. Verify with original.