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### Final Essay

As journalism has been around for centuries, its format and style of showcasing and transmitting the news to the public has gone through numerous changes. These changes have concerned physical properties such as the way stories are distributed (by print, broadcast, or on-line) to the way stories are structured (by genre, interest, or perspective). Especially in recent history including up to today, journalism has evolved to a point where anybody can easily access stories, thanks to technology. More so, stories written by journalists have also delved into controversial and viral topics more than ever before due to an increased awareness in national/international affairs from journalists and news corporations who focus on bringing the news from all over the world. With all these changes documented and still being observed, without a doubt, journalism today is a mixture of the old and the new forms of media, as well as the exposure of thousands upon thousands of stories from wherever. But do these qualities bode well or bad for the future of journalism? In my opinion, I think that the future of journalism is bright.

The biggest reason for why I think journalism is here to stay and arguably remain a relevant presence is due to the journalistic coverage and means for accessing this coverage from/to the reading and viewing audience (Bennett, "Why the Future of Media and Journalism is Really Bright?"). Certainly from the viewing and hearing audience, there are a lot of options on radio and TV to listen and watch the news. As technology has paved the way for the ease of access for obtaining these kind of news, we have witnessed going from very few channels and stations decades ago to

thousands of channels and stations today by satellite provider. Recent introductions such as “Internet TV” (YouTube, Hulu, Vimeo) and “Internet Radio” (Podcasts) have further expanded the coverage of virtual news and based from today’s examples, the future will most certainly have more advanced options. I would imagine that a majority of journalists in the future will start their own independent programs online (much more mainstream than today) to a point where 24-hour news channels such as CNN will become a thing of the past.

From the readers’ perspective, the shift from print to online stories has been evident. Despite this, around 40% of adults (as of 2011) still access traditional newspapers in contrast to the 46% who read news online (Rosenstiel, “Five myths about the future of journalism.”); this is expected to change in the future where I am certain that newsprint publication companies (such as the *Boston Globe*) will either fully transition to online distribution or become defunct. In the latter case, although a negative effect of the future of journalism, the overall net change doesn’t necessarily decrease the number of people reading the news. In fact, a rising source of obtaining the news in the future is via social media. It is already observed that sites such as Facebook and Twitter highlight “trends” of what the public has engaged in news-wise to every user. Newscasters and reporters have on their part, social media accounts to connect with readers in today’s news and social driven landscape. What does this indicate for the future? I could possibly see some journalists post excerpts and updates of their reports via social media since traditional print broadcast media is word/page and time-limited respectively. Perhaps due to the burden of those limits, social media may be the number one source for all journalists to do their job effectively in the future.

To briefly conclude, journalism is here to stay and there is a future for it; like any other form of sending and receiving information, the landscape for creating and delivering the news is changing but one thing will remain constant: its purpose—to inform people about the world around them in a truthful and approachable manner.

### Works Cited

Bennett, Randy. "Why the Future of Media and Journalism is Really Bright?" *The Huffington Post*. 18 April 2014. Web. 17 October 2014.

Rosenstiel, Tom. "Five myths about the future of journalism." *The Washington Post*. 7 April 2011. Web. 17 October 2014.