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May 5, 2003

**Current Trends in Journalism:
Changes in Journalism and the Use of
Photography After September 11, 2001**

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Introduction

Have the trends in journalism and photojournalism changed due to the coverage of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001? Though some trends have obviously been affected, this paper will show that the overall way in which US newspaper front pages present the news has been unaltered by those events. The current trends in journalism have shown themselves to be quite solid and difficult to change even in the face of actions which change every other facet of our daily lives and though some trends have shifted, the changes are not necessarily permanent.

Each of the 12 members of this J382 seminar class was asked to select a daily, non-New York based newspaper to analyze. We then decided to extract data only from the front page of one month before September 11, 2001 and one month almost a year after that date. We selected August 2001 and 2001 so that the number of days per month would be equal and neither month would include either the actual terrorist attacks or the anniversary of those attacks. For my portion of this seminar, I chose to study the *Chicago Tribune* because it is a major market newspaper located in a large city in Middle America. I felt that it would be an interesting representation of what many daily newspapers were publishing during our selected months of study. The *Chicago Tribune* along with the 11 other daily newspapers selected by members of this seminar varied in circulation, geographic location and quality to provide a diverse sample universe of the totality of US daily newspapers. Those 11 papers were the *Atlanta Constitution*, *Austin American-Statesman*, *Boston Globe*, *Dallas Morning News*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Idaho Falls Post Register*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Miami Herald*, *Ogden Standard-Examiner*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and the *Washington Post*.

Literature Review

To examine what has been previously studied in the realm of front page newspaper research, I used a journal article by Janet A. Bridges and Lamar W. Bridges. Their article, “Changes in news use on the front pages of the American daily newspaper, 1986-1993,” was useful in determining what characteristics they felt were important as well as the methods they utilized in their research. Their article studied the variables of proximity, timeliness, prominence, impact, conflict, magnitude and oddity in a sample of US daily newspapers. They began with a universe of 101 dailies for 1986 and only 96 of those newspapers were still being published at the 1993 cutoff date. 480 total front pages were studied and the Bridges’ attempted to describe the front page content, determine any front page patterns in news use and then identify changes in the content from 1986 to 1993 (Bridges 1997). My goal was to conduct similar evaluations in my study, using some of the variables from this article as well as the methods they used in examining the front page data.

I used another journal article which discussed the agenda setting of international news in US newspaper front pages. W. James Potter’s “News From Three Worlds in Prestige US Newspapers” selected eight large circulation and high quality US daily newspapers to analyze by dividing the level of news into the categories international/national, local/state and neither and the news topics into government, sensational, business, science/technology and popular (Potter 1987). These variables were refined by my J382 class, but the general principles which we used are present in this article. A total of 320 front pages from 1913 to 1983 were used for this analysis, and Potter set out to determine how the international news was distributed among areas of the world, if this distribution changed over time, and also if content changed over time. This is the same basic idea behind what the J382 class studied for this project.

Another variable which the J382 class decided to include in our analysis was that of dateline accuracy. The journal article by Donald R. Shaw, James Protzman and Richard R. Cole, “What do Datelines Add to a News Story?” studies a similar dateline variable. This article takes published stories and rewrites them slightly to determine if the dateline contributes to

reader knowledge of event location. Their results determined that datelines add little to reader knowledge and may actually confuse them (Shaw 1982). This led me to exclude the dateline data from my final analysis of *Chicago Tribune* front pages from August 2001 and August 2002.

In my quest to discover how the media handled other terrorist attacks, I read Tony Atwater and Norma F. Green's article "News Sources in Network Coverage of International Television." This article looks at 244 network evening news stories covering the TWA hijacking from June 14 through 30, 1985. Atwater and Green looked into who was primarily used to "personalize" the coverage of this hijacking, how these sources were similar or different among the networks, what settings these sources were shown in, and the domestic vs. non-domestic sources used (Atwater 1988). I was able to utilize the information in this article in my analysis of how the newspaper front pages depicted variables in this period after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

Additionally, I studied Brian K. Simmons and David N. Lowrny's journal article, "Terrorists in the News, as Reflected in Three News Magazines, 1980-1988," for an example of yet another form of mass media and their take on the reportage of terrorist attacks. The focus of this article is to determine the various ways the media portrays terrorist acts and the labels given to the perpetrators of such acts. A random sample of 185 (out of a possible 370) articles from March 1980 to March 1988 were analyzed from the news magazines *Time*, *Newsweek*, and *U.S. News & World Report*. Simmons and Lowrny were out to examine the claim that the "incorrect choice of label for terrorists at once romanticizes them, grants them undue legitimacy and contributes to the growth of their cause (Simmons 1990)." I used this information in my analysis of the photography of events from August 2001 and August 2002 to determine if there had been any change in the way terrorists were visually portrayed on US newspaper front pages.

Ken Auletta's journal article, "Battle Stations," was a key piece of literature to study in preparation for this project. Auletta takes a look at the world of post-September 11th television

news coverage. Network and cable news programs were forced to change every facet of their international reporting because prior to the terrorist attacks, it was assumed that Americans did not care about what was going on outside of the US. That assumption combined with the enormous expense of overseas correspondents caused many newsrooms to shut down or vastly limit their foreign bureaus (Auletta 2001). This attitude changed directly after the attacks, but has since reverted back to the same attitudes of days past. The temporary change can be seen in our J382 analysis of US newspaper front pages.

Applying Fiction Conflict Situations to Analysis of News Stories is an interesting study by Hunter McCartney which compares story selection in newspapers, news magazines and television news programs over a 1.5 year period to the typical conflicts written about in fictional stories. The three hypotheses he states are 1. "In news reporting, every major story angle is built around conflict because conflict creates interest," 2. "Angles for news stories affect the emotional reactions of news consumers, as do plots of literary works," and 3. Plots involve conflict divisions similar to the categories Dante gives to Hell's Circles. The most popular angles in newspapers were "people falling prey to cruelty or misfortune and an enigmatic situation facing people (McCartney 1987)." News magazines' most popular angle was the enigma while television news programs were more divided in their most popular types of stories. Crime/vengeance, falling prey to cruelty or misfortune, supplication and daring enterprise were all close together at the top of the rankings. The conclusions seem to prove that the fictional plot angles can be seen in all three types of news media studied in this analysis. Most interesting is what McCartney determines is the most and least likely reactions by news consumers to the types of stories most often used in the three media types. Indignation is most likely while love, honor and generosity are the least. The J382 study will determine if those story types continue to be the most popular even after the events of September 11, 2001.

Hypotheses

1. Though there have been some moderate changes, there has been no significant shift in the agenda of attributes in daily US newspaper front pages since the events of September 11,

2001.

2. The agenda of photography usage on daily US newspaper front pages has shifted dramatically since the events of September 11, 2001.

Method

I selected the *Chicago Tribune* as my US daily newspaper to study for this seminar because of its large circulation, central location (far away from both coasts), and reputation as a high quality disseminator of news. Members of J382 seminar were allowed freedom of choice of newspapers with only minor qualifications. We could not choose New York based newspapers, they had to be published daily and we had to be able to gain access to the sample months agreed upon so that all members were analyzing similar data.

To ascertain the reliability of the coding for this content analysis of the 12 newspapers, each member of the seminar coded five news stories selected at random from the front page of these newspapers. For the five major variables – topic, geography, hard news/soft news, description/interpretation, and level of conflict, the level of agreement ranged from 60% to 92%. The median level of agreement was 76%. Although this is slightly below the traditional criterion of 80% agreement, it is satisfactory for an initial comparison of how major attributes of the news may have changed from the month before September 11 to a year later. It also is necessary to take into account that this seminar used 12 different coders, a much larger number than is used in most content analysis projects.

My decision to study the *Chicago Tribune* for this seminar project was due primarily to its circulation and geographic location. The *Tribune's* coverage of events pre- and post-September 11, 2001 should not be influenced by its proximity to the events which occurred, being neither extremely close nor extremely far from New York. The New York daily newspapers were ruled out of this study due to their closeness to the attacks which made them local instead of national news. The selected dates of study were decided upon by a consensus of the seminar. We elected to study two months, exactly one year apart from each other, and we agreed to include data from the front page of every day from the first of the month to the last.

August 2001 was selected as the first sample month due to it being directly before, but not including, the terrorist attacks. August 2002 was selected as the second sample month because it falls exactly one year after our first sample month, and, also importantly, it would not include the one year anniversary of the attacks.

The study of these two sample months would require a constant set of variables agreed upon by the seminar class. After ten variables were decided upon, each coder was required to collect data about those variables for every major front page story from each day of the sample months for their chosen daily US newspaper. These ten variables were standardized into a codebook for the coders to follow in order to keep the results consistent for statistical evaluation. The variables and their possible resultants were as follows:

Variable #1 – Newspaper

- 01 Atlanta Constitution
- 02 Austin American-Statesman
- 03 Boston Globe
- 04 Chicago Tribune
- 05 Dallas Morning News
- 06 Houston Chronicle
- 07 Idaho Falls Post Register
- 08 Los Angeles Times
- 09 Miami Herald
- 10 Philadelphia Inquirer
- 11 Washington Post.
- 12 Ogden Standard-Examiner

Variable #2 – Headline

This is the coders' only text variable which included the first three words of each story's headline for use in future reference as needed.

Variable #3 – Date

This numerical variable includes the standard six digit date format: YYMMDD where YY is the last two digits of the year, MM is the month and DD is the day of the newspaper being studied.

Variable #4 – Text and/or Photo

- 15 Text only article
- 16 Photo only
- 17 Text and Photo coded identically
- 18 Text and photo coded differently.

Variable #5 - Topics

- 20 Politics & Government
- 21 Military/National Security/War
- 22 Business/Economy
- 23 Crime/Courts
- 24 Accidents
- 25 Disasters
- 26 Health/Welfare
- 27 Entertainment/Sports
- 28 Weather
- 29 Science
- 30 Environment/Housing
- 31 Education
- 32 Labor issues/Unions
- 33 Minorities
- 34 Social conflict
- 35 Religion
- 36 Other

Variable #6 – Geography

- 40 Local/Regional
- 41 National
- 42 International

Variable #7 – Dateline/Actual Location Agreement

- 44 Yes
- 45 No

Variable #8 – Hard News vs. Soft News

Variable #8 was coded as a sliding scale from one to five where one is the soft news extreme and five is the hard news extreme.

Variable #9 – Interpretation vs. Description

Variable #9 was coded as a sliding scale from one to five where one is the description extreme and five is the interpretation or analysis extreme.

Variable #10 – Level of Conflict

Variable #10 was coded as a sliding scale from one to five where one is the no conflict extreme and five is the high conflict extreme.

Results

The main focus of comparison for this seminar project is to determine any major shifts in journalistic trends from August 2001 to August 2002. In addition to that initial comparison, I elected to study the possible shifts in how photography was used on the front pages of our sample months. After the data was collected for both my chosen US daily newspaper, the *Chicago Tribune*, and for the 12 papers making up our sample universe, I ran 2-variable and 3-variable SPSS cross-tabulations to create tables for analysis. Upon in-depth examination of all the variable data, I determined that the variables containing the most relevant changes were geography (V6), hard news vs. soft news (V8), and level of conflict (V10). The other measured variable data had insignificant amounts of change and therefore will be excluded from the final results study.

The variable of geography resulted in some of the most interesting data when analyzed. In Table 1A, it can be easily determined that the percentage of local stories (40) in the *Chicago Tribune* dropped a drastic 9.4% while the percentage of both national (41) and international (42) stories rose that amount between August 2001 and August 2002.

Table 1A: Geography by Year - *Chicago Tribune*

	Geography		Total				
	40	41	42				
Year	2001	% within year	48.9%	33.9%	17.2%	100.0%	
	2002	% within year	39.5%	42.7%	17.8%	100.0%	
Total		% within year	44.1%	38.4%	17.5%	100.0%	

When this *Chicago Tribune* data is then compared with the 12 daily US newspaper sample universe from the seminar, the results can be verified. In this sample, the percentage change

in the variable data is less extreme than that of the single newspaper, but they do hold true.

Table 1B shows that the drop in local stories was only 2.6% while the rise in national was 2.3% and international stories rose .3%.

Table 1B: Geography by Year - 12 Newspaper Universe

	Geography			Total		
	40	41	42			
Year	2001	% within year	49.8%	33.5%	16.7%	100.0%
	2002	% within year	47.2%	35.8%	17.0%	100.0%
Total		% within year	48.5%	34.7%	16.8%	100.0%

In the analysis of the hard news vs. soft news variable in the *Chicago Tribune* for our sample months (Table 2A), the resultant data shows a strong trend away from soft news (1 & 2) and toward hard news (4 & 5). While the median selection (3) of this variable stayed almost constant, showing only a 1.1% downward shift between sample months, the soft news selections dropped by a combined 8.2% while the hard news selections rose 9.4% showing a clear shift in the trend of utilizing hard news on the front page in the place of soft news.

Table 2A: Hard News vs. Soft News by Year - Chicago Tribune

	Hard News vs. Soft News					Total			
	1	2	3	4	5				
Year	2001	% within year	26.1%	18.9%	20.6%	24.4%	10.0%	100.0%	
	2002	% within year	21.1%	15.7%	19.5%	32.4%	11.4%	100.0%	
Total		% within year	23.6%	17.3%	20.0%	28.5%	10.7%	100.0%	

This shift toward hard news is validated when the *Chicago Tribune* data is compared to the seminar’s sample universe. The percentages in change again show less extreme variations than the single newspaper, but the trend toward hard news is still evident in Table 2B. The two soft news selections (1 & 2) combined for a 3.2% drop in frequency while the hard news categories (4 & 5) rose 3.5%.

Table 2B: Hard News vs. Soft News by Year - 12 Newspaper Universe

	Hard News vs. Soft News					Total			
	1	2	3	4	5				
Year	2001	% within year	13.4%	18.4%	26.4%	26.6%	15.2%	100.0%	
	2002	% within year	11.5%	17.1%	26.0%	26.9%	18.4%	100.0%	
Total		% within year	12.5%	17.7%	26.2%	26.8%	16.8%	100.0%	

Even though the majority of news stories on the front page of the *Chicago Tribune* were already in the realm of “little to no conflict” during August 2001, the amount of conflict dropped even further following the events of September 11, 2001. Table 3A reveals that the two selections on the low end (1 & 2) of the level of conflict variable show an increase of 4.9% between the sample months which does not seem like a large change when it is realized that those two selections accounted for an average of 86.3% of the total front page articles. It becomes clear of just how significant this trend is when the high levels of conflict selections (4 & 5) are examined. Those two only accounted for 8.9% of the articles in August 2001 and that number dropped 3% down to a total of 5.9% of the front page articles in August 2002. This accounts for a significant drop in the level of conflict on the front page of the *Chicago Tribune*.

Table 3A: Level of Conflict by Year - *Chicago Tribune*

	Level of Conflict					Total				
	1	2	3	4	5					
Year	2001	% within year			24.4%	59.4%	7.2%	5.6%	3.3%	100.0%
	2002	% within year			26.5%	62.2%	5.4%	3.2%	2.7%	100.0%
Total	% within year		25.5%	60.8%	6.3%	4.4%	3.0%	100.0%		

The change shown in the *Chicago Tribune*'s level of conflict variable does not hold up precisely when compared to the seminar sample newspaper universe, but the overall trend is still apparent. Table 3B shows a 1.9% downward shift in the high conflict selections, but also shows a 3% decrease in the no conflict selection (1). The increase comes in mid to low conflict selections (2 & 3) which rose 5% between sample months. The trend away from high conflict on the front page is obvious.

Table 3B: Level of Conflict by Year - 12 Newspaper Universe

	Level of Conflict					Total				
	1	2	3	4	5					
Year	2001	% within year			33.8%	39.7%	15.9%	6.0%	4.6%	100.0%
	2002	% within year			30.8%	41.2%	19.4%	4.6%	4.1%	100.0%
Total	% within year		32.3%	40.4%	17.7%	5.3%	4.4%	100.0%		

Having shown the above trends in variables solely between the sample months for our seminar, I continued my investigation by adding a third variable into the cross-tabulations. By adding the text and/or photo variable I was able to determine if the trends shown for the overall

front page stories are consistent with the use of front page photography. I used the same three variables, geography, hard news vs. soft news, and level of conflict, as in the previous assessments to retain the uniformity of my evaluations.

Studying the variable of geography in relation to the text/photo content for the *Chicago Tribune* in Table 4A reveals that much like the standard analysis between sample months, the use of photography with a story decreased for local articles while it increased for national and international front page articles. The 8.1% combined increase in national and international stories with photographs tops the 7.1% decrease in local articles with photographs showing that not only are there more photos being used in those categories, but more are being used overall in the *Tribune*.

Table 4A: Text/Photo by Geography by Year - *Chicago Tribune*

Year	Geography			Total			
	40	41	42				
2001	Text/						
	Photo	15	% of Total	25.0%	22.8%	7.2%	55.0%
		16	% of Total	.6%	.6%	.6%	1.7%
		17	% of Total	23.3%	10.6%	9.4%	43.3%
	Total	% of Total	48.9%	33.9%	17.2%	100.0%	
2002	Text/						
	Photo	15	% of Total	22.7%	27.6%	3.8%	54.1%
		16	% of Total	.5%	0%	1.1%	1.6%
		17	% of Total	16.2%	15.1%	13.0%	44.3%
	Total	% of Total	39.5%	42.7%	17.8%	100.0%	

When compared to the seminar's sample universe, the numbers do not hold true. Table 4B shows that the only major shift in our total daily US newspaper group is the 2.3% increase in national front page articles with photographs. Both local and international articles with photographs decreased slightly causing a contrast to the figures shown by the *Tribune*. The most notable shift in this variable is a slight trend away from front page articles with photographs and towards front page articles without photographs.

Table 4B: Text/Photo by Geography by Year - 12 Newspaper Universe

Year	Geography		Total				
	40	41	42				
2001	Text/						
	Photo	15	% of Total	25.0%	20.7%	6.2%	51.9%
		16	% of Total	2.5%	1.3%	.6%	4.4%
		17	% of Total	22.2%	11.5%	9.7%	43.4%
	Total	% of Total	49.8%	33.5%	16.6%	100.0%	
2002	Text/						
	Photo	15	% of Total	22.4%	21.1%	6.8%	50.3%
		16	% of Total	2.6%	.8%	1.3%	4.7%
		17	% of Total	22.1%	13.8%	8.7%	44.5%
	Total	% of Total	47.2%	35.8%	17.0%	100.0%	

Observed variable shifts in hard news vs. soft news by text and/or photo by year reveals a similar data set as was shown in the earlier look at the increasing hardness of news in the *Chicago Tribune*. Table 5A reveals a 3.3% decrease in the two soft news variable selections with a 5.5% increase in the two hard news selections. This trend shows an increased hardness of photography used with articles on the front page during the sample months.

Table 5A: Text/Photo by Hard News vs. Soft News by Year - *Chicago Tribune*

Year	Hard News vs. Soft News					Total			
	1	2	3	4	5				
2001	Text/								
	Photo	15	% of Total	12.2%	11.7%	12.2%	15.6%	3.3%	55.0%
		16	% of Total	0%	0%	.6%	0%	1.1%	1.7%
		17	% of Total	13.9%	7.2%	7.8%	8.9%	5.6%	43.3%
	Total	% of Total	26.1%	18.9%	20.6%	24.4%	10.0%	100.0%	
2002	Text/								
	Photo	15	% of Total	9.7%	8.6%	13.0%	20.5%	2.2%	54.1%
		16	% of Total	.5%	0%	0%	.5%	.5%	1.6%
		17	% of Total	10.8%	7.0%	6.5%	11.4%	8.6%	44.3%
	Total	% of Total	21.1%	15.7%	19.5%	32.4%	11.4%	100.0%	

Comparing the *Chicago Tribune's* increased hardness of photography used with front page articles to the same variables for our seminar's entire sample newspaper universe again reveals similar trends, but with less extreme changes. Table 5B yields data results which show a decrease of 2.2% in the soft news selections with a 1.9% increase in hard news selections. The trend shift is still present but on a more moderated scale. The resultant data, while only mildly conclusive, does back up the results found in the study of the *Tribune*.

Table 5B: Text/Photo by Hard News vs. Soft News by Year - 12 Newspaper Universe

		Hard News vs. Soft News					Total				
Year		1	2	3	4	5					
2001	Text/										
	Photo	15	% of Total	3.9%	8.5%	14.8%	16.0%	8.7%	52.0%		
		16	% of Total	2.1%	.7%	.6%	.5%	.5%	4.4%		
		17	% of Total	7.4%	9.2%	10.9%	9.9%	6.0%	43.3%		
	Total	% of Total	13.4%	18.4%	26.4%	26.5%	15.2%	100.0%			
2002	Text/										
	Photo	15	% of Total	3.5%	7.6%	12.9%	16.4%	9.9%	50.3%		
		16	% of Total	2.1%	.9%	.7%	.3%	.7%	4.7%		
		17	% of Total	5.9%	8.5%	12.4%	10.0%	7.8%	44.5%		
	Total	% of Total	11.5%	17.1%	26.1%	27.0%	18.4%	100.0%			

Unfortunately, when analyzing the variables level of conflict by text and/or photo by year for the *Chicago Tribune*, the changes do not show significantly measured trends. The extreme selections in Table 6A show increases while their more moderate counterparts reveal decreases and the median selection is back to an increase. This wildly fluctuating data set does not reveal information which would lead to any predictable shift in trends.

Table 6A: Text/Photo by Level of Conflict by Year - *Chicago Tribune*

		Level of Conflict					Total				
Year		1	2	3	4	5					
2001	Text/										
	Photo	15	% of Total	12.8%	34.4%	4.4%	2.2%	1.1%	55.0%		
		16	% of Total	0%	1.1%	0%	0%	.6%	1.7%		
		17	% of Total	11.7%	23.9%	2.8%	3.3%	1.7%	43.3%		
	Total	% of Total	24.4%	59.4%	7.2%	5.6%	3.3%	100.0%			
2002	Text/										
	Photo	15	% of Total	13.5%	38.9%	1.6%	0%	0%	54.1%		
		16	% of Total	.5%	.5%	.5%	0%	0%	1.6%		
		17	% of Total	12.4%	22.7%	3.2%	3.2%	2.7%	44.3%		
	Total	% of Total	26.5%	62.2%	5.4%	3.2%	2.7%	100.0%			

Table 6B, shows a distinctly different range of data from Table 6A. In this case, where the entire sample newspaper universe is utilized, there is no change in the lowest level of conflict selection while the highest 2 levels decrease slightly. Levels 2 & 3 show minor increases, but none of the shifts either match with the fluctuations in the *Chicago Tribune* data or with the previous shifts in the text and/or photo variable by year for the sample months.

Table 6B: Text/Photo by Level of Conflict by Year - 12 Newspaper Universe

Year	Level of Conflict					Total				
	1	2	3	4	5					
2001	Text/									
	Photo	15	% of Total	15.8%	23.3%	8.3%	2.9%	1.8%	52.0%	
		16	% of Total	3.2%	.7%	.3%	.1%	.0%	4.4%	
		17	% of Total	14.9%	15.7%	7.1%	2.9%	2.8%	43.3%	
	Total	% of Total	33.8%	39.6%	15.9%	6.0%	4.7%	100.0%		
2002	Text/									
	Photo	15	% of Total	12.5%	23.1%	11.1%	2.2%	1.4%	50.3%	
		16	% of Total	3.4%	.6%	.2%	.2%	.2%	4.7%	
		17	% of Total	14.9%	17.4%	7.8%	1.9%	2.5%	44.5%	
	Total	% of Total	30.7%	41.2%	19.4%	4.6%	4.1%	100.0%		

Discussion

Have the trends in journalism and photojournalism changed due to the coverage of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001? Yes, there are definitely some changes in trends which can be extrapolated from the accumulated and analyzed data given here. The shift away from local articles (with and without photography) included on the front page and toward national and in some cases international articles is a certain effect caused by the attacks. The focus has turned from local events and now includes more worldly news because of the general public's newfound interest in actions happening further away than their own backyard. This can be viewed as the terrorist attacks having created a more familial feel for national news coverage. Americans no longer feel that they can avoid keeping informed of the happenings across our country. This idea also explains the trend toward hard news on the front page of US daily newspapers. When the shift is away from local news, editors are most likely to publish hard news articles from locations outside of the region. This trend can also be attributed to the various international conflicts going on during our sample months. With the Palestinian/Israeli conflict, the war in Afghanistan and the potential (at that time) war in Iraq, there were many high profile international news stories regularly making the front page. Interestingly, and seemingly in contrast to the other two studied variables, the level of conflict shown on the front page of the US daily newspapers dropped in the time between the sample months. This can only be explained in the idea that newspapers want to show the national and international hard news, but made a conscious attempt to steer clear of the most intensely violent stories due to the

nation's fragile psyche after September 11, 2001.

The increasing use of photography on the front page of US daily newspapers can be directly attributed to the effect September 11th had on photojournalism as a respected profession. Before September 11, 2001, many scholars thought that photojournalism was a dying art form, but the spectacular images published in the days and weeks after the attacks as well as the amount of space given to the images proved that photography was still important in newspapers. This also holds true in the examination of the increase in hard news photography. Newspapers no longer just use photos to fill space. They have once again become a vital way of disseminating information to the public.

These shifting trends are not necessarily permanent. A more long term study of the variables presented here would result in a more accurate analysis of the effects that September 11, 2001 had on journalism. For now, there are some moderate changes, but the question of if they will continue on this course or revert back to the way they were before cannot yet be answered.

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