

MOBILE JOURNALISM IN FINNISH TV-NEWS BROADCASTING

The impact on news storytelling

PIRKKA MAKSIMAINEN

Arcada, University of Applied Sciences, Helsinki, Finland

PURPOSE

Mobile journalism is a form of video journalism that relies on handheld devices to create news stories. Typically, these stories are completely shot, edited, and distributed by using only a mobile phone and its accessories. The main incentive for this study is my personal curiosity towards the development of technological equipment. Can professional journalism be acquired by using affordable tools, and how does it alter the way a news story is told to the public? In this study, I discuss the relative benefits and shortcomings of traditional-, solo video- and mobile journalism.

METHODS

The methods used for the study are a literature review and interviews. The literature review is founded on journals, articles, and books about mobile journalism, video journalism, civil journalism, communications, and the evolution of the journalistic field. In addition to these, concepts of reactivity, visuality, quality journalism, and slow journalism are discussed. The interviews are based on purposive sampling of six people from private and public sectors. The sample group is a combination of actual users, early adopters and trendsetters of new technology and a new way of working.

RESULTS

What makes mobile journalism so intriguing, is the fact that it is based on a commonly used tool, a mobile phone, and its accessories and applications. This equipment is within the grasp of almost any consumer, and it can be used basically anywhere without any external support whatsoever. It offers a method to create a finalized medium, covering the whole workflow from lens to screen. The low threshold of practicing mojo also has its side-effects. All end-products do not fill the steep criteria affiliated by journalistic media. End users might have a few prejudices with the concept and correcting these obligates the professional media to sustain journalistic values in their reporting, when pursuing mobile journalism.

CONCLUSION

Mobile technology can help video journalism to obtain more reactivity at the expense of overall quality. Reduced costs allow more people to participate in storytelling and can thus empower society. Mobile journalism requires multi-skilling and can decrease reliability. Practicing mojo emphasizes the significance of journalistic ethics.

DIFFERENT VIDEO SHOOTING EQUIPMENT



BASE INCENTIVES WITHIN MEDIASPHERE

