

NAME: _____

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Dig Deeper

April 3, 2023

EDUCATOR GUIDE KEY AND STUDENT PAGES FOR News Goggles What's it like to be a photojournalist?

In this document you'll find:

- **Teacher directions for this lesson.**
- **Editable student pages.**
- **An answer key for the student pages.**

Teacher directions:

1. **Distribute student copies of the viewing guide in this document (pages 2-7).**
2. **View the featured video and work through the viewing guide together.**
3. **Conclusion:** Have students use their notes from this viewing guide to brainstorm a response to the essential lesson question. Then, discuss as a class. To extend this question further, have students develop their thoughts in several paragraphs or an essay.



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Dig Deeper

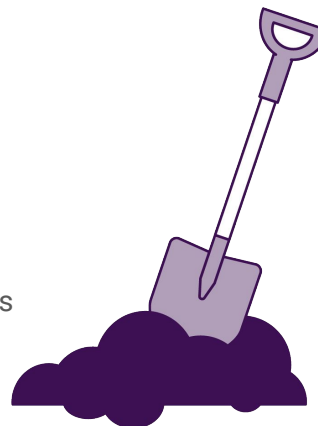
April 3, 2023

News Goggles What's it like to be a photojournalist?

Featured Video: [“News Goggles: Kent Porter, The Press Democrat.”](#)

Directions:

1. Watch the featured video, using this viewing guide to take notes about Porter's work.
2. Explain what it's like to be a photojournalist, including the role of ethics in photojournalism and how photojournalists work to document stories accurately and fairly.



Resource Connection Tip: Complete [Practicing Quality Journalism](#) in Checkology® to learn the standards of quality journalism by playing the role of reporter in a game-like simulation of a breaking news event.

* **photojournalism:** using images (photographs and/or videos) to report the news

PART A: Introduction to Kent Porter

What is Porter's role at The Press Democrat?
In what ways is Porter's job as a photojournalist self-contained?

* **manipulated content:** misinformation in which something is altered from the original, such as images that have had content added or removed using photo editing tools

* **dodge:** in photography, a method used to lighten an area

* **burn:** in photography, a method used to darken an area

PART B: Ethics of photojournalism

What is the role of ethics in photojournalism?

Pause the video when you see these images on screen. List two differences you can identify in Porter's photos below. Why are these changes considered acceptable?



Before

The News Literacy Project



After

Source: Kent Porter

After you've responded, resume the video.

CODE OF ETHICS

Visual journalists and those who manage visual news productions are accountable for upholding the following standards in their daily work:

- 1 Be accurate and comprehensive in the representation of subjects.
- 2 Resist being manipulated by staged photo opportunities.
- 3 Be complete and provide context when photographing or recording subjects. Avoid stereotyping individuals and groups. Recognize and work to avoid presenting one's own biases in the work.
- 4 Treat all subjects with respect and dignity. Give special consideration to vulnerable subjects and compassion to victims of crime or tragedy. Intrude on private moments of grief only when the public has an overriding and justifiable need to see.
- 5 While photographing subjects do not intentionally contribute to, alter, or seek to alter or influence events.
- 6 Editing should maintain the integrity of the photographic images' content and context. Do not manipulate images or add or alter sound in any way that can mislead viewers or misrepresent subjects.
- 7 Do not pay sources or subjects or reward them materially for information or participation.
- 8 Do not accept gifts, favors, or compensation from those who might seek to influence coverage.
- 9 Do not intentionally sabotage the efforts of other journalists.
- 10 Do not engage in harassing behavior of colleagues, subordinates or subjects and maintain the highest standards of behavior in all professional interactions.

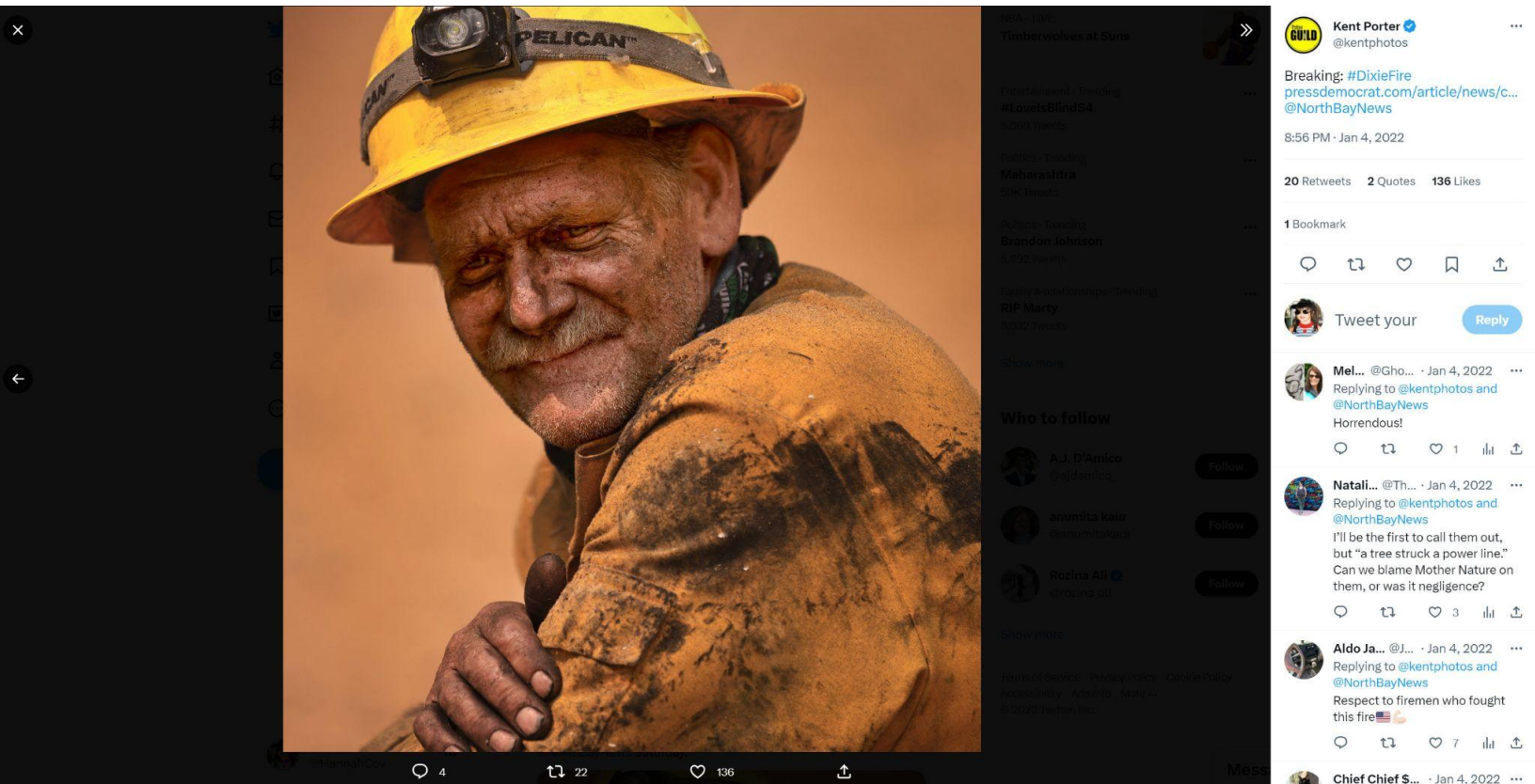
Source: National Press Photographers Association

Pause the video when you see the National Press Photographers Association [Code of Ethics](#) on screen. Match the following hypothetical scenarios with the number from the list. Then resume the video.

- A. A group of sailors return from overseas and call the local photojournalist. When the photojournalist arrives, they say that they would like to recreate the moment they first got off the ship to show how happy they were to return home. The photojournalist explains that the newspaper could not photograph or publish a recreated scene like this. It would violate ethic code # _____.
- B. A photojournalist is offered compensation and free meals for a year by a local business owner to cover opening day of their new restaurant. The photojournalist declines because it would violate ethic code # _____.
- C. Three photojournalists chronicle a lively new seafood festival. Innocuous graffiti is on a billboard in the background of the images. They do not edit out the graffiti because of ethic code # _____.

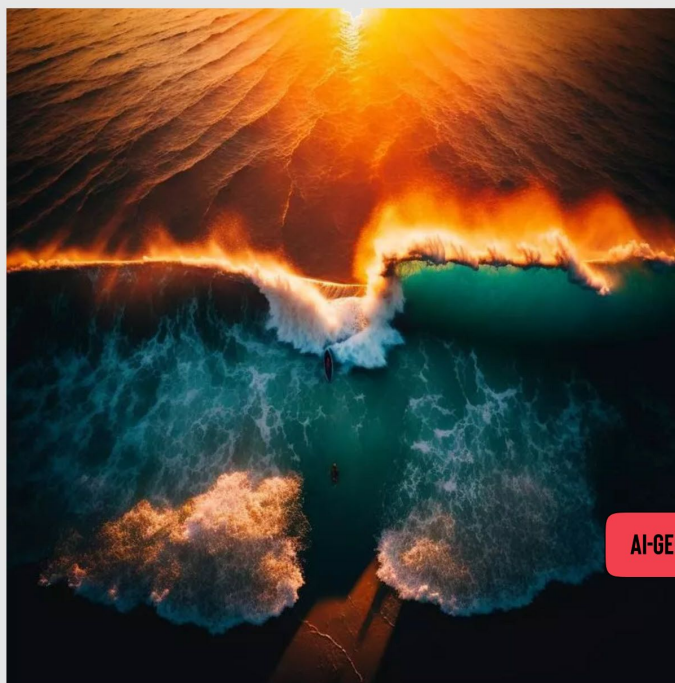
How does a photojournalist earn trust in a community?

How does Porter ensure he's documenting a story accurately and fairly in just a few photographs?



PART C: The importance of photojournalism

Now that visuals can be generated using artificial intelligence, such as the image below, why is photojournalism still important?



(Image credit: Absolutely AI)

What does Porter wish everyone knew about photojournalism?



Conclusion: Explain what it's like to be a photojournalist, including the role of ethics in photojournalism and how photojournalists work to document stories accurately and fairly. Use evidence from all parts of this viewing guide to support your answer.



Challenge: Using the NPPA [Code of Ethics](#), take photos of an event. Choose the two photos you think capture the event most fairly and honestly and share them with a friend. Explain why you chose those two. Alternatively, explore [Kent Porter's photojournalism](#) posts and try to determine the story he's telling and how he's telling it.





Dig Deeper

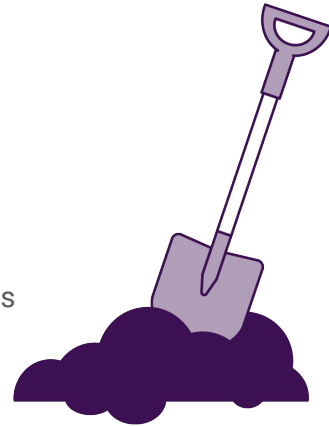
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* **photojournalism:** using images (photographs and/or videos) to report the news

PART A: Introduction to Kent Porter

What is Porter's role at The Press Democrat?

Porter was originally hired to take sports photographs, but his job has morphed and now he's more of a community journalist. With his camera, he tries to show people what's going on in Northern California.

In what ways is Porter's job as a photojournalist self-contained?

Porter explained how everything he needs to do his job is in his vehicle. He uses his camera, his phone, his GoPro (a camera made especially to capture action) – anything he needs to do the job. He can post his work online immediately if something is breaking news. Porter is rarely in the newsroom and often transmits from his car.

* **manipulated content:** misinformation in which something is altered from the original, such as images that have had content added or removed using photo editing tools

* **dodge:** in photography, a method used to lighten an area

* **burn:** in photography, a method used to darken an area

PART B: Ethics of photojournalism

What is the role of ethics in photojournalism?

Ethics guide what photojournalists do to show what really happened. Photojournalists can't set scenes up or move people. They can't manipulate images other than minor adjustments, such as burning and dodging to improve contrasts. They don't preview stories for people they photograph or write about, and they don't make up quotes or images.

Pause the video when you see these images on screen. List two differences you can identify in Porter's photos below. Why are these changes considered acceptable?



Before

The News Literacy Project



After

Source: Kent Porter

1. The "Before" photo is darker. Porter used dodging and burning techniques to amplify contrasts.
2. The "After" photo is cropped for a slightly different framing of the image.

These changes are ethically acceptable because they maintain the integrity of the photographic images' content and context. They don't mislead viewers or misrepresent subjects. They don't manipulate reality.

After you've responded, resume the video.

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Source: National Press Photographers Association

Pause the video when you see the National Press Photographers Association [Code of Ethics](#) on screen. Match the following hypothetical scenarios with the number from the list. Then resume the video.

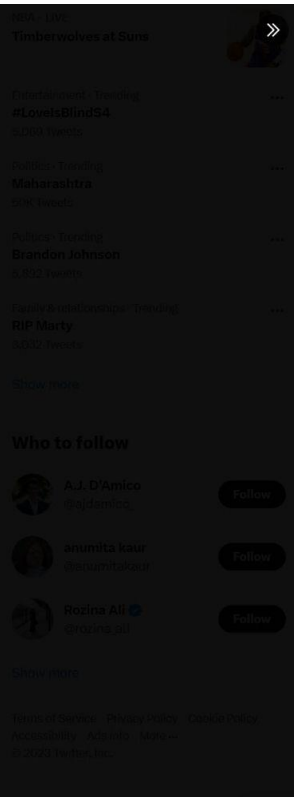
- A. A group of sailors return from overseas and call the local photojournalist. When the photojournalist arrives, they say that they would like to recreate the moment they first got off the ship to show how happy they were to return home. The photojournalist explains that the newspaper could not photograph or publish a recreated scene like this. It would violate ethic code # 2.
- B. A photojournalist is offered compensation and free meals for a year by a local business owner to cover opening day of their new restaurant. The photojournalist declines because it would violate ethic code # 8.
- C. Three photojournalists chronicle a lively new seafood festival. Innocuous graffiti is on a billboard in the background of the images. They do not edit out the graffiti because of ethic code # 6.

How does a photojournalist earn trust in a community?

It can take years to build trust as a photojournalist. Porter has built trust and loyalty with people over decades by talking with people and photographing events in the community. People have become familiar with him and trust he is going to do good work. He said that people are not always going to like you, but if you treat them with respect, then you're not going to have a problem.

How does Porter ensure he's documenting a story accurately and fairly in just a few photographs?

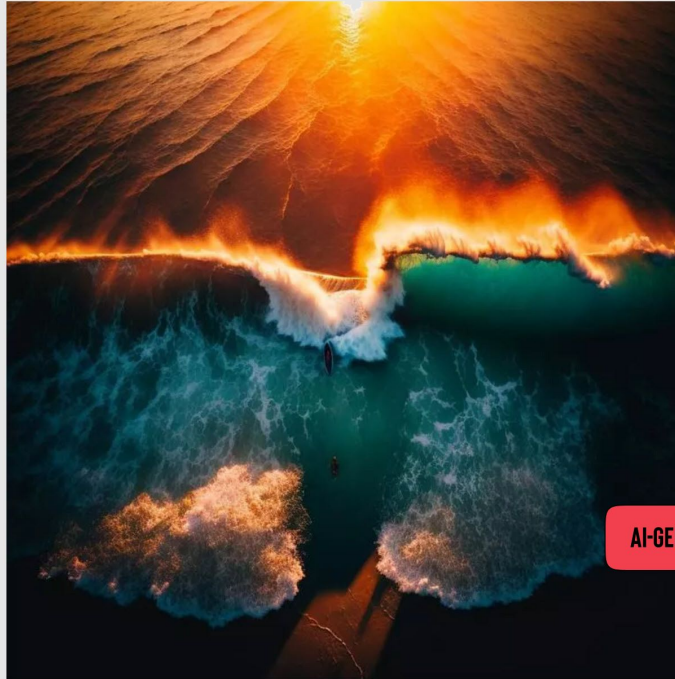
Porter doesn't try to editorialize (add his opinion to) his pictures. Instead, he simply photographs what's there. He tries not to put his personality into a photograph, meaning he can put in his style but not his opinion. Whatever he thinks personally cannot show in his photographs. He said if you tell the truth in a photograph, it will shine through. Porter often talks with people while on assignment and they loosen up, which he said leads to better, more truthful pictures. When dealing with sensitive topics, he tries to minimize harm.



PART C: The importance of photojournalism

Now that visuals can be generated using artificial intelligence, such as the image below, why is photojournalism still important?

People can think those AI images are real. But they are not. Photojournalists don't make things up. People may not agree with a photo Porter shot, but it's truthful and honest.



AI-GENERATED IMAGE

(Image credit: Absolutely AI)

What does Porter wish everyone knew about photojournalism?

Photojournalists are not out to embarrass people or make them look bad. They're trying to report the news in ways that are honest. He's trying to photograph what's going on in the community, and if it makes life a little better or exposes something nobody knew before, that's great. He said he is like everyone else, but if something happens in his community, he's going to be there to document it and has a right to.



Conclusion: Explain what it's like to be a photojournalist, including the role of ethics in photojournalism and how photojournalists work to document stories accurately and fairly. Use evidence from all parts of this viewing guide to support your answer.

Answers will vary. Be sure students incorporate key ideas from various points in this viewing guide.



Challenge: Using the NPPA [Code of Ethics](#), take photos of an event. Choose the two photos you think capture the event most fairly and honestly and share them with a friend. Explain why you chose those two. Alternatively, explore [Kent Porter's photojournalism](#) posts and try to determine the story he's telling and how he's telling it.

