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## EPISODE : <TITLE HERE>

Guest Scholar: Lea Hernandez

Topic Notes:

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## COLD OPEN:

(I'll show y'all the paperweight before we start tomorrow)

Robin: <polishing paperweight>

Paris: Robin, what are you doing?

Robin: <holds up paperweight> Just polishing my unicorn.

Joshua:

## **PARIS** <play intro>

## INTRODUCTION:

Hello and welcome to For Your Reference, brought to you by the Council on Library and Information Resources.

I'm Robin

**Paris:** I'm Paris

**Joshua:** I'm Joshua





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**Robin:** And this is yet another show where we're going to be talking about some pretty dark stuff. This time, we will be talking with our guest about media portrayals of violence against women. So, be warned.

**Robin:** So, y'all... I have been consuming media for a lot longer than either of you, and, in fact, before diving back into academia, I worked in journalism for a number of years. What I wonder is... have either of you had the sense that the media (whatever we mean by that) has been in a downward spiral throughout your lives, or has it always seemed terrible?

**Paris:** mmm this'll what I'll say... so as millennials we remember a time without instant connection to media and outside world without effort. But in today's digital landscape and as an information professional, I feel empowered than ever to really filter and choose my media intake. The constant barrage of information with the 24 hour news cycle agenda setting and constant updates make it difficult for me to stay engaged without information overload. With that being said, I've had to employ tools to help filter my news intake. So I guess I do see a downward spiraling to an extent...

**Joshua:** I studied 19th century newspapers, which is its own kind of special. A lot of what feels new right now was already happening back then. Including the downward spiral. If I had to compare, I would say it's more like one step forward two steps back.

**Robin:** I just remember working in the newspaper newsroom in the 90s when they were discovering that they could analyze readership not just by circulation numbers, but at the article level. And I have a lot of stories and opinions about how that changed some editorial decisions. A whole line of research revolves around that, but it's a bit different than the criticism of the media we'll be taking on today with our very special guest.

This is Reviewer 2.

**Paris:** <play reviewer 2 intro>

## REVIEWER 2:

**Paris:** <insert CLIR Overlay>

Welcome to Reviewer 2, where we invite scholars on to the show to ask them questions about their work, hopefully in a way that is productive and not soul-destroying.

**Paris:** <Remove CLIR Overlay>





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Our guest today is Dr. Lea Hernandez, Assistant Professor of Journalism: Race, News, and Community in the Department of Communication at the University of Utah.

Welcome to the show!

<Lea says what she wants to here...>

**Robin:** First, why don't you give us an overview of what you're exploring in your research?

**Robin:** You've described the way you approach your work as something of a kitchen sink method. Can you talk to us a little bit about how you approach that and why you felt it was important to break out of what some describe as more traditional methods?

**Joshua:** Since terms like hispanic, latino/a/x, and chicano/a/x can be confusing for some people and incredibly contentious and polarizing in the US and Latin America, can you help me/us/the audience understand how you are defining and using these terms?"

Need to do a follow up here

ok

**Robin:** Reproductive justice, in particular, has been one of your theoretical foundations. Can you tell us a little bit about that?

**Paris:** In your work, you talk about how violence against women of color is covered significantly less by the media, and the term used here is "Symbolic annihilation." Can you talk more about that?

When violence against women of color *is* portrayed, it's portrayed in some specific ways. How does that tend to play out?

let's skip this one Thinking about the term "violence journalism," I'd like to hear you talk about how the frameworks there distort our ideas about the US border with Mexico. As I see it, if you're only looking at some news sources, the entire border is a lawless, violent place where you could be killed at any moment by roving migrants, and yet, I have friends who live at the border who seem to be living happy peaceful lives...



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**Joshua:** Some of the stories you research sound like they were the basis for some of the darker episodes of “Criminal Minds.” How do you do this kind of work and keep yourself from falling into despair?

**Paris:** Before we go, can you give our viewers some search terms and resources that you think would be helpful if someone wants to look into the news coverage of violence against women and the relationship with other topics like reproductive health?

**Robin:** And now, to help us think better about how to do further research on this topic, we head over to Joshua and Paris with “Check This Out.”

**Robin:** <play check this out intro>

## CHECK THIS OUT:

**Paris:** Welcome back everyone, I'm Paris & this is my co-host Joshua, **PAUSE FOR JOSHUA HELLO**, and this time on check this out we're going to continue to cover the media literacy process that started out with Brad Serbers episode discussing targeted violence and expanding our search to include violence against women and coverage in the news. We just got some great advice from Dr. Hernandez so let's continue with those pearls of wisdom...

### List of Search Terms Image

Let's Revisit our first step, which is where we spoke about gathering your search terms from your own experiences, the reviewer 2 conversation and even laws or victim names that correlate to the topic.

**Joshua:** mmhmm, you might start off with general terms, but remember that as you read and obtain more knowledge on a subject your search terms will grow and you may run into convincing opposing arguments, conflicting interests or more, they key is to keep an open mind and take in this data as it provides context and a different perspective. Here's a list of some resources from Dr. Lea Hernandez's talk titled "News Coverage of Violence Against Women", additional sources include databases and access to public data.



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**Paris:** Next we talked about getting started with a librarian to help you find primary resources, and sources that will help build your new informed perspective. It doesn't have to be a librarian, it can be a local historian, a faculty member, or an archived image or photo of a tragedy. All of which have value and context that you will need to analyze.

**Joshua:** Yea it's funny how quickly with new information, your stance on a topic can change or shift because of a variable you never considered!

**Paris:** Right! Which is why you can't believe everything you read. Which leads us to evaluating these sources.

## **Joshua: Image of evaluation Questions**

**Paris:** So, finally our last slide in the review of last time here are some questions you might roll around in your head as you consider the narrative before you. What story is being told, from what perspective, what's to gain for them...is it an audience, is the narrative from the view of a sponsor who paid for a prime spot to push a political opinion... maybe...

**Joshua:** Probably the latter... not to be negative or anything...

**Paris:** Yo, listen here, Agenda setting is real Joshua and that's across all media platforms.

Alright, so now that we've analyzed our topic, you've organized the information into relevant sources and let the new context inform your opinions. You might feel like you know a little something, and probably want to talk about it? You've spent hours watching different news outlets and their coverage on violence on women, you've read the opinionated twitter threads littered with articles written through biased lenses declaring opinions as fact, and now you want to create or form an expression of your own. Well, how and what does that look like? Here's a list of things that fall under the media creation category, but not limited to....

## **Image List of media types**





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We've got the obvious such as speaking or sharing on social media, but this also includes modalities like Podcasts and creating flyers to bring awareness, these are just a few examples of what creation might look like for you.

**Joshua:** I'd like to hop in and remind y'all about the data visualizations as creative expressions. So whether it be the Mass Killing Database, that we shared a screenshot of in the Serber episode,, or a COVID19 infographic, these were media created to communicate a message to an intended audience. Which is what you do when sharing your information.

**Joshua:** No matter what modality you use, you're responsible for your creation. Sharing your thoughts on a blog, participating in the journalism process by interacting with a news source through the comments, or even creating a post to build awareness and enact change. Here are some key questions to ask yourself as you build your media...

## **Paris: Image with Media Creation Questions**

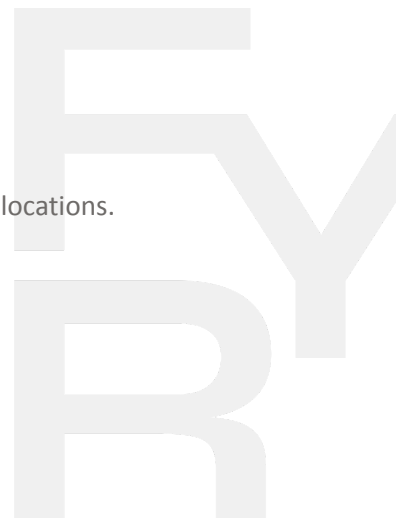
Who might be hurt by my message? Honestly I think that should be number one, but that's opinion, not fact. Another question might be, how do different people interpret this message, or Is this fact, opinion, or something else? All of these are questions that you can find on the Media Literacy Week website hosted by NAMLE which is the National association for Media literacy in Education.

**Paris:** The last step in the media literacy process is known as action, it's a culmination of the first few steps which are accessing, analyzing and evaluating, but now you take on the media literacy perspective in how you act or the call to action you request as an informed citizen.

Acting looks like...

## **Image of How can you act? Questions**

**Paris:** Examples include sharing voting information, upcoming topics on the ballots and locations.





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It can be engaging in thoughtful conversation that critically analyzes the disproportionate news coverage of one demographic in comparison to another. It looks different for everyone, you could even point them our way and encourage them to walk through the media literacy process.

**Joshua:** Acting doesn't always include being at the front of the line either. It might be supporting change through donations to a social justice organization that you support. It might be adjusting your language to be more inclusive when you're having conversations with others, or it might be reposting something you believe in. One of the easiest questions to ask yourself after you've gone through the process is, what actions may I take in response to this message? and How might I participate productively....

**Paris:** mmhmmm yes, *productively* being the keyword. We're not encouraging y'all to get in knock-down-drag-out fights on social media to convince someone to change their stance, but you can act in a way that incites change using the media literacy process. You ever heard the saying don't talk about it, walk about it, well that's what we're trying to encourage here. If you can take action beyond a like button and share credible data and sources that's a step...

**Joshua:** Yes we want y'all to go beyond creation and incite change among the community using those credible sources and experiences to speak out...

Paris \* Nodding head\* ... Well, that basically concludes our segment. We've finished up our first walk through of the media literacy process and you have two related examples that cover the intersecting subjects of targeted violence, communication, and literacy, all of these topics of which you can explore through the lens of media literacy.

**Joshua:** Yea, we covered a lot of ground today, but we'd love to hear about the sources you evaluated, if you created any media or what action you might have taken. You can share with us on ig @fyrpod, that's @fyrpod, all one word

**Paris:** Yea please follow us and share your thoughts, Until next time y'all \*Peace\*





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## OUTRO:

Robin: That's a wrap on another episode. Any parting words?

Robin: Thank y'all for watching, and we'll see you next time!

*<Roll Credits>*

FYR