Extra Extra: How Emerging Technologies Can Be Used to Combat Problems in Today's Digital News Environment

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Abstract

This research paper investigates how emerging digital media technologies, specifically on-demand audio Podcasts and immersive Virtual Reality experiences can be used to combat problems associated in the digital news landscape of today.

To understand this I first explored how news and journalism are constantly changing in form and medium to adapt to changes in technology and consumer behaviour. I began by charting the path from traditional print media to how digital news operates primarily in a post Web 2.0 internet space. I then analysed the digital news landscape of today and how the problems associated with fake news, low quality journalism and desensitisation tragic events came to exist in society.

Fortunately there is hope for the digital news industry with the public, especially young people, becoming increasingly digitally literate and engaged in how they are accessing their news. This has opened the door to new emerging technologies to enter the tapestry of news storytelling and address the issues I mentioned above with particular focus on the potential of Podcasts and Virtual Reality for journalistic purposes.

The research has been conducted through the analysis of various existing literature in the form of books, journals, articles and reports relating to the topics in question with examples and case studies of those who are using these technologies in a way that is innovative journalistically. These pioneers are acting to propel the industry forward in the modern media environment and are forging a path into the future of digital news.