



Statistics and the Quest for Quality Journalism

A Study in Quantitative Reporting

By Alessandro Martinisi and Jairo Alfonso Lugo-Ocando

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Challenges common assumptions about how journalists engage and use statistics for quality news and improves our understanding about the usage of data and statistics

This book looks at how numbers and statistics have been used to underpin quality in news reporting. In doing so, the aim is to challenge some common assumptions about how journalists engage and use statistics in their quest for quality news. It seeks to improve our understanding about the usage of data and statistics as a primary means for the construction of social reality. This is a task, in our view, that is urgent in times of 'post-truth' politics and the rise of 'fake news'. In this sense, the quest to produce 'quality' news, which seems to require incorporating statistics and engaging with data, as laudable and straightforward as it sounds, is instead far more problematic and complex than what is often accounted for.

Readership

- Undergraduate and postgraduate students in journalism and media in both research or vocational or applied sciences universities
- Scholars in the area of media, journalism and sociology
- Members of the general public keen on data and/or statistics awareness

Contents

List of Illustrations; Chapter 1: Introduction; Chapter 2: Numbers as information in the Information Society; Chapter 3: The never-ending debate on quality in journalism; Chapter 4: Statistics in journalism practice and principle; Chapter 5: The normative importance of 'quality' in Journalism; Chapter 6: Journalism meets statistics in real life; Chapter 7: The ideology of Statistics in the News; Epilogue; References; Index.

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