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DART CENTER
for journalism & trauma



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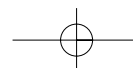
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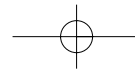
Photos: Courtesy of Christian Frei (2), Ursula Meissner (1)

"We should frame our questions with respect and research. We must be sensitive but not timid."

George Esper, AP correspondent

**The Dart Centre for
Journalism and Trauma**
an introduction





The Dart Centre for Journalism and Trauma is dedicated to informed, effective and ethical media coverage of violence, conflict and tragedy.

The Centre is a global, interdisciplinary network of news professionals, educators and health professionals.

It also addresses the consequences of such coverage for those working in journalism.

Violence and traumatic events are at the heart of the news business – and pose profound challenges to journalists.

The journalism of trauma demands knowledge, skill and support. How these stories are reported has enduring impact on victims and survivors, on the public and on policymakers.

The Dart Centre for Journalism and Trauma, based at the University of Washington in Seattle and with programmes in Europe and Australia, is a forum and resource for journalists to analyse issues, exchange ideas and advance education concerning the coverage of violence and tragedy.

PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

Specialised Seminars: The Dart Centre sponsors training and education programmes for journalists around the world. Recent seminars have focused on the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina; the Virginia Tech shootings; the reporting of war; the role of journalists in Northern Ireland during the Troubles; reporting family violence; rape and gender violence in war; and specialised workshops with journalists in Russia, the Caucasus and the Balkans.

Consultation and Training for News Organisations: The Dart Centre offers comprehensive and effective training programmes for news organisations, for journalists who cover violence and tragedy themselves, and for managers and editors.

Regional Centres: From its European base in London, and with offices in Germany and Scandinavia, the Dart Centre works with major news organisations such as the BBC, Reuters and WDR to train and support media teams. We have close partnerships with journalism training schools ranging from Bournemouth in the UK to Pamplona in Spain.

In Australia, the Dart Centre is currently establishing a training and support programme for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's news bureaux around the country.

Dart Centre Ochberg Fellows: The Ochberg Fellows Programme brings mid-career journalists together each year for an intensive week of seminars and conversations about the reporting of traumatic news events. Fellows are drawn from the US, from Europe, Australia and Latin America.

Dart Award for Excellence in the Reporting of Victims of Violence: The annual Dart Awards recognise newspaper and broadcast reporting that best portrays victims and their experiences, with accuracy, insight and sensitivity, while illustrating the effects of violence on individual lives and the process of recovery from emotional trauma.

Research: The Centre has a research base at the University of Tulsa in the US. We have supported a wide range of scholarly enquiry around the world into the impact of news coverage of traumatic events on the public and on journalists themselves.

Publications and Journalism Education: The Dart Centre publishes guidebooks, tip sheets, training manuals, educational video and other material aimed at working journalists and journalism students. We also provide curriculum modules, self-study units and other materials for use by working reporters, editors and producers and in the journalism classroom.



"It has taken the media industry far too long to realize that it is perfectly natural for journalists, like other people, to feel the effects of trauma. The media need to wake up to traumatic stress as a subject worthy of debate..."

Chris Cramer, managing director of CNN International Networks

