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## HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by dailyherald - 2007/02/16 00:39

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At Trolley Square on Monday, six people died and several other were seriously wounded when a young man went on a shooting rampage. For loved ones left behind, life has changed forever. It is theirs to agonize, to ponder the senselessness of it all, to grieve.

Read more...

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by unaffiliated\_person - 2007/02/16 10:03

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Put a name on the victim then. It was Vanessa Quinn that was all over the news. She was killed in front of the Bath and Body Works. Perhaps we should ask her husband, Rich Quinn, how he felt about? He learned of her death indirectly through the photo. I posted the story elsewhere, but he lost contact with her during the events in the mall. He tried calling and texting to no avail. His brother saw the body on the internet and mentioned it to him. He then used a news photographer's camera at Trolley Square to zoom in and see his wife. I regret he had to learn that way, but apparently the police were not giving out any information immediately afterwards to him.

I am not one for censored news. It is sometimes hoped that the shock of seeing the reality of the news (not just the headline of x people were killed) may move people into caring more about what is going on.

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by Marylb - 2007/02/16 12:50

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dailyherald wrote:

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Read more...

As hard as the decision to publish is, it serves a public purpose. Pictures have the power to make the unthinkable real whether the pictures are from a mall or a war. It can be argued that a Pulitzer Prize winning photo by Eddie Adams stopped a war. We all hate these pictures that force reality into an event but they provide a higher service beyond our raw emotion and pain.

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by unaffiliated\_person - 2007/02/16 13:03

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Norcal wrote:

dailyherald wrote:

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Read more...

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As hard as the decision to publish is, it serves a public purpose. Pictures have the power to make the unthinkable real whether the pictures are from a mall or a war. It can be argued that a Pulitzer Prize winning photo by Eddie Adams stopped a war. We all hate these pictures that force reality into an event but they provide a higher service beyond our raw emotion and pain.

Thank you. CNN has a headline article showing a dead Iraqi soldier on the front of their website, I am sure no complaints are heard. Censoring the news will only desensitize us to the reality of what we are reading about. People will care more about the violence in our world and how to stop it if it is more than a few letters pieced together.

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by belindar - 2007/02/16 13:54

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I recall, as a sophomore in high school, a classmate coming up to me and showing me a picture. Not knowing what it was, I looked. There was dead man on a floor with the top of his head blown off and his brains on the floor.

This was big news 10 years earlier. A man had come home from work, told the kids to go play with the neighbors, shot his wife and killed himself.

It was shocking and deeply disturbing to me as a 15 year old. I had just moved into that school from California, and wondered what kind of place we had just moved to. It was devastating to another young man that went to the school when he saw the picture being passed around. The man in the picture was his father. The student passing it around was the son of a photographer whose job it was to take the picture. The boy knew whose father it was and was telling that as he passed the picture.

If the story at Trolley square had been reported without a single picture, it would have still been a story to read about and learn from.

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by sansbox - 2007/02/16 13:58

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And yet, what would be the cost to a community if a newspaper were to sanitize its depiction of the world, publishing only Kodak moments of smiles and balloons and vibrant children, as though difficulty doesn't exist?

Nice try. However, there are many shades of gray (sanitizing) between frank depiction of an awful reality and your stated Kodak moments. Certainly you must know this, else you would have published a close up of the victim's body or injuries.(Maybe you would have if a photographer could have gotten the shot.) You choose what shade of gray to color your world and not every one is pleased with your choice. My initial reaction upon seeing the photo was "wow...so much for being sensitive to the victim's friends and family." Perhaps our society has moved past the need for such sensitivities and respect for the dead. Too bad.

It's all too true that bad news sells and I don't expect this to change. Not everyone needs to see to believe, or to understand the horror of the moment. Choose your shade of gray as you will...just don't try and support your choice with such spurious reasoning.

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by islandgirlinutah - 2007/02/16 14:48

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I do think that pictures can tell a lot about a story, and I can't help but believe that there was another picture taken that night that would have been more appropriate. Out of respect for the families and loved ones, and the victim, a local newspaper should approach such delicate matters with a little more caution. I hope that in the future the Daily Herald will be a little more careful with what they decide to print. We don't need things sugarcoated, we just need RESPECT for those in the community whose grief may have been worse due to the insensitive reporting. A picture is worth a thousand words. Unfortunately this one leaves a sour taste in my mouth.....sadness for the victim and her family, and anger at

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Daily Herald for not thinking through the consequences of posting such a picture to represent the Trolley Square shootings.

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by GrackMarginal - 2007/02/16 18:15

islandgirlinutah wrote:

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Exactly what is the difference between "we don't need things sugarcoated" and "we just need RESPECT"? What does your position look like in real life after some nut shoots up a shopping mall...?

Are you sure that you're not just blaming the messenger because the media reported an event that made you feel horrible?

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by iceman - 2007/02/16 20:40

dailyherald wrote:

At Trolley Square on Monday, six people died and several other were seriously wounded when a young man went on a shooting rampage. For loved ones left behind, life has changed forever. It is theirs to agonize, to ponder the senselessness of it all, to grieve.

Read more...

The Herald did the correct thing posting the picture. Utah needs to wake up and realize they are not beyond the heinous crime that occurs around the world. People need to be vigilant, and the picture hits this home...or at least should.

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by Wren - 2007/02/16 20:49

Such postings educate the people in the valley that such things can happen anytime anywhere.

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by megus - 2007/02/16 23:28

The Herald pushed the envelope and now wants all it's readers to justify it.

It's to bad we have sunk to such levels.

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by GrackMarginal - 2007/02/17 15:44

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MEgus wrote:

The Herald pushed the envelope and now wants all it's readers to justify it.

It's to bad we have sunk to such levels.

If getting readers to justify it was the goal, why would the Herald ask an open-ended question whose answer might very well turn out to be against publication of photographs of the dead?

I'm sure the Herald would be happy if readers were to justify its use of body pictures, but its survey looks to be about as neutral a way of probing public sentiment as it's possible to create.

Sounds like you're just mad that most respondents to the poll are supporting the newspaper. Wah, wah! Why is it sinking to a low level to simply ask what people think?

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by bigdaddyofsix - 2007/02/17 22:51

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MEgus wrote:

The Herald pushed the envelope and now wants all it's readers to justify it.

It's to bad we have sunk to such levels.

You tell them,  
We should not show the people of Utah the real world!  
We should sugar coat it, make it look all clean and stuff.. ;D

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by observer - 2007/02/20 19:28

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islandgirlinutah wrote:

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I agree with you 100%. We absolutely do not need to see a picture to get the impact. Worse, it's an inexcusably brutal and callous way to treat the family as well as any young kids who might see the picture.

It was thoughtless and irresponsible. No excuses for it!!!

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by iceman - 2007/02/20 20:06

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observer wrote:

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and what of the victims from 911? On live TV people were filmed jumping to their deaths as the buildings came crashing down...were you equally outraged? You are a pathetic pacifist Observer who would rather see with rose colored glasses and live under a rock. You are a fool to think that violence will escape you.

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by JayeG - 2007/02/20 20:10

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Iceman wrote:

observer wrote:

islandgirlinutah wrote:

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And if the Islamic fanatics have their way...America's children will soon be seeing much worse than a picture of a body lying on a mall floor.

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by islandgirlinutah - 2007/02/23 13:52

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Iceman wrote:

and what of the victims from 911? On live TV people were filmed jumping to their deaths as the buildings came crashing down...were you equally outraged? You are a pathetic pacifist Observer who would rather see with rose colored glasses and live under a rock. You are a fool to think that violence will escape you.

You seriously did not just call me a pathetic pacifist Observer! How stupid to assume that you know everything about a person based on a few sentences they wrote. Almost not even worth the dignity of a response. Don't for one minute think that I am some Molly Mormon girl who has never seen anything outside of the state of Utah. I have been to other countries and seen a lot worse than what we see here in Utah. And, I guess that is why I have settled down here in Utah, because compared to the rest of the world, yes, we do live a life full of rose colored glasses. That doesn't mean I live under a rock, and am not aware of anything else happening in the world. It just means I choose to raise my children in a place where they can be safe, and when they ARE old enough, believe me, I will take them to other countries so they can see just how lucky their lives have been.

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by Betz - 2007/02/23 14:27

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islandgirlinutah wrote:

Iceman wrote:

and what of the victims from 911? On live TV people were filmed jumping to their deaths as the buildings came crashing down...were you equally outraged? You are a pathetic pacifist Observer who would rather see with rose colored glasses and live under a rock. You are a fool to think that violence will escape you.

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No, Iceman called Observer (another poster) a pathetic pacifist.

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by anonymous - 2007/02/23 14:53

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islandgirlinutah wrote:

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I wouldn't take much offense at what Iceman said if I were you. He's like that to everyone. I do agree the pictures were necessary though. In my opinion, it's hypocritical for a person to be shocked and angry when the picture of a death in SLC is posted on a local newspaper, while pictures of dead soldiers and Iraqi children are constantly being shown in newspaper and magazines with little or no outrage from the citizens of Utah. Those people have families too. Why does showing the death of a Utah citizen receive so much outrage while all these other deaths go unnoticed?

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by JayeG - 2007/02/23 15:24

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Betz wrote:

islandgirlinutah wrote:

Iceman wrote:

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No, Iceman called Observer (another poster) a pathetic pacifist.

Thank you Betz.

I would add one thing for the 'utah island girl's' benefit. What makes you think that your children are safe just because they live in Utah?

Yes...there are alot of countries who have it much worse. But Utah is not all that entirely safe of a place to live, especially if you consider down-winder's syndrome.

And Utah's children are not immune to the attentions of predators, abductors, rapists, and murderers. We have just seen proof of this at the Trolley Square Mall.

Nor are they all that much safer from the grasp of drugs and alcoholism.

It is a naive person indeed that believes their children are safe just because they live in Utah.

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by Blondie - 2007/02/24 05:22

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islandgirlinutah wrote:

Iceman wrote:

and what of the victims from 911? On live TV people were filmed jumping to their deaths as the buildings came crashing down...were you equally outraged? You are a pathetic pacifist, Observer, who would rather see with rose colored glasses and live under a rock. You are a fool to think that violence will escape you.

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Iceman tells it like it is, but he was definitely talking to another poster. Living in Utah will not let your children escape reality, and you should not shelter them from it, kids need the truth also to make better judgements and choices. I wish you well in covering their eyes as to what the world has become. Maybe if you told them the truth and guide them you would not need to be so insecure. IMHO ;)

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## Re: HERALD POLL: Was picture appropriate?

Posted by iceman - 2007/02/24 08:09

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unaffiliated\_person wrote:

Put a name on the victim then. It was Vanessa Quinn that was all over the news. She was killed in front of the Bath and Body Works. Perhaps we should ask her husband, Rich Quinn, how he felt about? He learned of her death indirectly through the photo. I posted the story elsewhere, but he lost contact with her during the events in the mall. He tried calling and texting to no avail. His brother saw the body on the internet and mentioned it to him. He then used a news photographer's camera at Trolley Square to zoom in and see his wife. I regret he had to learn that way, but apparently the police were not giving out any information immediately afterwards to him.

I am not one for censored news. It is sometimes hoped that the shock of seeing the reality of the news (not just the headline of x people were killed) may move people into caring more about what is going on. He found out by the picture being posted? You idiot, he found out from the police that night, not two or three days later from a news paper.

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