

Themes Promoting Community and Individualism
in U.S. and Canadian Media Law and Journalistic Practice

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Vernon A. Keel, Professor
Elliott School of Communication
Wichita State University

The second part of the paper begins to examine the influence of English and French traditions on journalism and journalistic practice in Canada in ways that are similar to or different from those in the United States, particularly with respect to how these approaches encourage community or individualism. This part grows out of some earlier work done by the author on English, French and American influences on professional values of journalists in the United States and Canada.¹

Differences in the Canadian and American Experiences

Concerns about community, community-building and nation-building have been part of the Canadian experience from the beginning. Realities of history and geography have caused Canadians to be concerned about issues related to national unity, cultural identity, and foreign, mostly American, cultural influence through the media of mass communication. These concerns have resulted in various national communication policies, regulations, and controls which, in turn,

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