

asking is do we really need that initial foundation of a link upon which we build whatever truths, whatever information that we can.

I may be crazy, I think there are core truths. If I as a reporter, and I am witnessing bodies, if I cannot call that a massacre in Sabra-Shatila, and not have someone say: "that is personalization." If I can't say and describe what I am seeing that sometimes, yes, is strong, and all we can do is get it in homogenized form or through various filters, I think we all lose. Now we may not be the best filter always, the reporters in the field, trying to be witnesses. We get misled, we get carried off with the whole temper of whether it is dangerous times or election times, or high times or low times. We're not perfect. But when you eliminate that factor, or when you make reporters what I call, human exclamation points, to say, hi, here's presence, we are really there, rather than giving information. When you lead the public and the viewer to distrust that that person truly was a witness, I think we all lose.