

---

## **MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION IN RELATION TO LAW**

---

Shifa Chouhan, BLS LLB, Rizvi Law College

### **ABSTRACT**

In today's world, media is the quickest and the most widely used device to gain information concerning the happenings within the global. In mass communication, media is a type of communication device that stores and provides data to the general public at large. Media has connected human beings throughout the international locations and creates consciousness and advances the spectrum of communication in the society. Modern media is available in diverse formats, including print media like newspapers, magazines, books; digital media such as television, movies, mobile devices and various types of software system with the advancement of the technology. However the foremost essential part of the media world is the power of the internet that we have been granted with. Internet and media are interdependent sources, it is like food for the human body, without food the life span of an individual would be limited. But with great power comes great obligations and along with the benefits, there are also downsides that come with being in the media world. We stay within the era wherein great assessment of time is taking place. Every day there are new innovations which revolve around the sector of generation and we have become drawn to the world of technology. The 21<sup>st</sup> century is the age of the know-how economy. New thoughts and innovations are bigger than money. One such innovation that we have been granted with is "Media". We get deeper within the intensity of media and communication and the way with spreading knowledge and creating individuals aware this tool can be dangerous too and create mayhem among the society if misused.

Keywords: Communication ; Knowledge ; Law ; Media ;

Media and communication perform an important function in our day-by-day lives as it's the supply of knowledge we have a tendency to rely on to grasp concerning the affairs of the world. From reading the newspapers to watching the news, without even realising it, we have become addicted to the media world unknowingly. However this dependency will cause to be dangerous for us because sometimes this source can mislead a person's mind due to erroneous information. Our technology has evolved greatly, from a time wherein human beings migrated from village to village for verbal exchange, in the twenty-first century we are just a phone call away from interacting with our friends and family.

Technology has advanced and improved our way of life however there are also bound disadvantages hooked up to the current technology too. While our communication skills have evolved with time in assessment to the ancient India, so have we additionally developed within the methodology of a way to create a rift among the society with the utilization of Media. With straight-forward accessibility to communication through these sources, it is also easy to generate hate among the folks.

We have evolved in every experience and that includes the negativity associated with it too. When the media guides people, they can also mislead people, and regardless of how critical media has been in our everyday life however its proven to be time and again a dangerous poison that is feeding the detest of the people among the society. And to put an end to this negativity there are certain boundaries that the law imposes on the media world.

Before we delve into the intensity of media and its inter-relation with the society and law, let's first recognize what media surely stands for and also the role it plays in an individual's life.

Mass- Media is the main means of communication. Mass-media is the only and the quickest mode of gaining knowledge, now no longer simply it's the quickest mode to make human beings aware of the statistics round the arena however it's also effortlessly reachable to each individual within the world. One can get right of entry to this supply on their cellular phones, televisions, radios and different virtual techniques developed through the years however the maximum conventional use of this supply is through newspaper, magazines and others.

### **Importance of Media and Communication**

Our generation has evolved from the Palaeolithic Era typically referred to as vintage stone age era to the Cenozoic Era in easy time period referred to as the current life. The 21<sup>st</sup> century is

the modern century withinside the Anno Domini era or Common era underneath the Gregorian calendar.<sup>1</sup>

Since the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the Indian media came into existence since then and have become active. Indian media is one of the oldest kind of media within the globe. The first actual invention in the world of media was the Printing Press which began out in India as early as 1780 shifting to Radio Broadcasting which commenced in 1927.<sup>2</sup>

We are dwelling withinside the length of evolution in which technology are invented with the intention to simplify and higher the life-style of the people. We began out from printing media and we are now in a time in which digitalization is the principle-consciousness of the media world. Media has been improvised over time.

From a time, where for a mere communication a person would have to travel for hours to communicate with someone living in another village/state or communicating through letters which used to take months to deliver to getting our life-styles promoted to transportation and mobile phones. Our era has advanced highly over the past decades. But along with the technology and progress of life our century has provided us to make our life more convenient and everything easily accessible with information provided at the comfort of your home. Cutting-edge lifestyle is a dream which our ancestors always persevered.

Media and communication are a crucial part of our everyday life's as they keep us up to date on a wide variety of topics revolving across the world. Media message conveys critical impacts and enables us to get facts and additionally shape opinion and make decisions concerning the facts that is provided to us through the media regarding the information that is given to us through media.<sup>3</sup>

### **Advantages of Media**

### **The future of World is Media**

The media stream began after the discovery of paper from print media and over the years it advanced in virtual media such as news channels, social media and others. The media not only spreads knowledge and awareness among people however it additionally also performs various

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.popularmechanics.com>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.nimc-india.com>

<sup>3</sup> <https://books.openbookpublishers.com>

fundamental functions in our society. One of those functions is entertainment. We are uncovered to the media in taxis, buses, trains, and planes. We type to depend on this flow for entertainment purposes, be it for travel or to catch a breather, that is the supply of amusement all of us depend upon either its watching films or taking note of track on radio, media has linked us throughout the world with each other.

Not simply this prevent here, however it has also additionally connected millions and billions of human beings at the social media streams like Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and plenty of other digital streams that are extensively used round the arena. We can start to orient ourselves withinside the information cloud through parsing what roles the media plays in society, inspecting its records in society, and searching on the manner technological improvements have helped carry us to in which we are today.<sup>4</sup>

Communication is more diverse than ever, whether or not its private dialogue with closed ones or a massive brand's manner of verbal exchange with a consumer. The mainstream advent of the net withinside the early 1990's delivered new and thrilling verbal exchange methods, inclusive of digital media channels that permits users to share messages quickly around the world.<sup>5</sup>

Communication through the media has only gotten better and better over time. Not simply it is used to interact and communicate with people however it is also used as a device to market your commercial enterprises online via social media websites as with only a click on your post you will be able to produce awareness and entice numerous human beings to your commercial enterprise. This doesn't simply forestall with promoting a commercial enterprise online however media additionally also provides meticulous information over the happenings around the world. Whether it's the contemporary state of affairs revolving around Russia-Ukraine conflict or the Hijab Ban moving into Karnataka or the upcoming elections which might be on the corner, media provides us information associated with this situation as though we are present wherein some of these events are happening. Our lives are extraordinarily depending on the media world as it's an integral part of our existence and without the existence of media it had be as though there were no life on earth.

---

<sup>4</sup> <https://open.lib.umn.edu>

<sup>5</sup> <https://online.maryville.edu>

## **Positive Impact of media in Covid-19**

Not a single day goes by without reading the newspaper in the morning. The second most important thing a person does when they wake up is to read newspaper over a cup of tea. Imagine being able to catch up in the current issues revolving around the world from the comfort of your living room. You don't even have to be compelled to imagine this state of affairs in your mind as this is the truth of all the people in every household. Sitting at your home, you can get access to the information concerning the invasion occurring in Ukraine and the Indian students which are caught there because of the continued conflict with Russia. The Indian Government has commenced an evacuation process to bring back safely the Indian students which are stranded in Ukraine safely. We are getting live updates on the situation in Ukraine as there are videos browsing on social media concerning seven hundred students which are left stranded withinside the nail-biting cold as combating escalates in Ukraine. Supplies are strolling low and get access to water is absolutely reduce off, focused on the survival instincts and forcing numerous humans to soften snow in order to drink water.<sup>6</sup>

Not only that, when a worldwide virus was detected in 2019 that caused everything in the world to shut down, the only source that held us together was the media world. With every single component getting close-down which include the necessary stores such as medical, groceries and others have been close right all the way down to defend and protect us from the life-threatening state of affairs which was revolving around the arena.

It became as though the earth has stopped revolving, human life was paused for the longest length in mankind. It was an un-usual moment which left human beings stunned to their core. In this era of madness, wherein people were stuck in different parts of the world away from their family and friends, media was the only source which saved our sanity intact by keeping us connected to our cherished ones.

Media has been the only source we all relied on daily to know about the current situation during the time of Covid. Everything was at a standstill because of the pandemic however media was the only medium of communication which changed into nonetheless supplying statistics within the covid era. Whether it's the live update on the current covid cases or the availability of vaccines in every state, everything was kept transparent through the various platforms of media

---

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.tribuneindia.com>

that is the conventional antique approach like newspaper or the digital advancement like the social media websites.

Not only does the work of the media end here, however it has also helped fund people who have confronted exquisite loss throughout the lockdown by alerting the general public to the availability of essential survival items such as food, masks and others. Even when people were strangled in their home, media helped all the individuals by helping them communicate with their cherished ones and alerting them in advance of the necessary precautions.

## **Disadvantages of Media**

### **Source for misleading people**

Media has grown to become an integral part of our life's and one of the essential factors in a human being's life.

Media was invented with the purpose to make the human being's conscious concerning the current world events of the arena and to offer them with statistics in order that they have a clean opinion about the situation of the society, as human being's, we are an important part of the society and our manner of thinking and critiques makes an exquisite distinction in making it a higher vicinity for us to stay in. The media not only provide with intellectual information, but it also provides us with entertainment through the use of various digital platforms.

But while this platform gets mis-used, it creates an havoc withinside the society as human being's everywhere in the world get access to the conventional and virtual varieties of media and when this source provides with erroneous information, it is the most dangerous tool for mankind in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It can be used as a tool to wage wars between the nations and people with one deceptive information. It every so often becomes tough for us to absolutely rely upon media for information as this field is corrupted by people who want to shape the minds of ordinary people. We do not have any device that can come across whether or not the information furnished through media are 100% accurate.

We cannot absolutely rely upon media and entrust ourselves to it for the best supply of statistics and it's far continually a debate whether or not the statistics supplied to us is faux or not. One such supply for misleading records is social media, as customers often came across fake and

deceptive records on social media.<sup>7</sup>

### **Negative Impact of media in Covid-19**

During the lockdown period, numerous faux information regarding the deaths and cases of the people infected with Covid had been circulated on mainstream media like Instagram, Twitter and other sources, causing a disruption among the society. Not simply social networking sites, however even media channels had been one of the sources misleading the people with faulty information all through the lockdown. Whatsapp became the biggest hub for misleading the people as a lot of fake messages associated with the virus had been circulated like wildfire on these platforms. Media helped us stay connected with our cherished ones by making it easy to communicate with each other even when we were locked in our homes, but it was also one of the main factors that caused people to create chaos and not bind themselves with the government guidelines with the faulty information which was easily provided on these platforms. One defective or faulty message is sufficient to cause an uproar among the individuals. An individual cannot rely on media for any political critiques as media in recent times works to form the opinion of people with the aid of filling them with faux information in place of raising awareness of what's going on in the society. It has become a means of making money rather than spreading awareness while maintaining transparency to the society. The media today is no longer transparent, just a source that forces you to form opinions about people by brainwashing them these days is no more transparent but just a source which force-build opinion on people by brainwashing them.

### **Inter-relation of law and media**

Freedom of the media is certainly a fundamental part of the liberty of expression and crucial considered necessary of a democratic system. The Indian Constitution has granted this freedom through manner of Fundamental Right.

The media, that is obligated to recognize the rights of individual, is likewise also obligated to work inside the framework of felony concepts and statutes. These concepts had been framed through manner of minimal requirements and do now no longer intend to detract from better requirements of safety to the liberty of expression.<sup>8</sup>

---

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.pewresearch.org>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.presscouncil.nic.in>

## **Rights granted by state to media world**

Media regulation is the frame of regulation that regulates the manufacturing and use of media. Media regulation can practice to a huge style of media types, consisting of broadcast television, the internet, and print media. Media regulation exercise encompasses all criminal problems which can get up in the course of the manufacturing or intake of diverse kinds of media. Generally the authorities now no longer alter newspapers and magazines.

The Press Council of India is a quasi- judicial frame constituted through the parliament and regulates print media in India. Its fundamental goal is to hold and enhance the great of newspaper and information corporations and to keep the liberty of press.

Freedom of press isn't particularly cited in article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution and what's cited there may be handiest freedom of speech and expression. The Indian Constitution does now no longer offer freedom for media separately. But there may be an oblique provision for media freedom. It receives derived from Article 19(1) (a). This Article ensures freedom of speech and expression.

The media is an important factor in everyone's life as it has improved communication between us. No matter how many times I stress about the reality that media has being aligned with our existence, it will not be sufficient to explain the significance and threatening facet outcomes that is connected to the media international. As in today's time, media is used as a weapon to create disruption and war withinside the society as with technology, people have upgraded themselves with digital techniques to create bloodless conflict among the people and the technique of divide and rule is utilized by the masterminds of the people who abuse this invention with the aid of gambling with the minds and emotions of the common man and intentionally create a conflict of opinions between individuals by providing misleading facts.

Just like how we cannot judge a book by its cover similarly in addition we cannot blindly agree with all the information that is offer with the aid of using media world through different platforms without doing our own research. Media has helped us tremendously in our manner of living as it offers with excellent highbrow information to the common man in all of the spheres of existence however the negativity that is connected to the media world cannot be overlooked as all that glitters isn't gold because it generally will become tough to distinguish between facts and faux news.