BENEFITS AND DRAWBACKS OF NEW MEDIA AND MEDIA FREEDOM

Vineet Kaul (2017) researched on “The Pros and Cons of New Media and Media Freedom.” The research suggests that technological advancements have changed the face of media, and media freedom is currently not legislated sufficiently. Kaul (2017) focuses on the effect of media freedom in developing countries. His research suggests that the media freedom has the power to democratize a developing nation as the first benefit. He also noticed the extension of communication lines between societies, and also fast, efficient, and effective if new media is given the freedom to operate. Given the level of connectivity, the new media gives the developing nations to the global arena; the research suggests that new media will spur growth and development of the developing countries.

There are also challenges facing new media’s freedom. The rules governing media need to be rewritten in order to regulate the new media. Media is still a high-pressure professional that faces threats, and in some cases untimely death, due to the political and reputational issue of powerful individuals or groups. The new media is now global, with the internet bringing in journalists from other nations. The freedom allowed to these journalists can only be regulated from their employer bases unless new international standards of media freedom are set. In addition, media freedom has been seen to spread negative images very fast, even in cases of fake news.

This article provides relevant information that concerns change, which the society is currently facing. After the invention of the first car, the government must have thought of these cars as horseless carts and could have delayed the legislation process of vehicles. Similar to this case, the government must realize that the new trends of communication have changed the face of journalism. The extents to which information can go, the speed it can cover, and its effectiveness in a minute is currently alarming. In developing countries, this information can enhance their democracy through exposure to poor leadership, and formation of human rights movements against negativity among other things that need media freedom.

However, there should be legislation of the new trends in media freedom. Currently, the developed world has more media freedom than the developing nations. A media house from the US or the UK will more easily gather information and disburse it from India than an Indian Journalist can with information from the developed countries. It is clear that information flow should be regulated at an international level. An international body should set standards and oversee the application. Media freedom should not be violated or controlled by political systems if the situations of poor governance have to be controlled in the developing world.