

## \*Small Town Girl – Big City Dreams\*

"Nothing is impossible, the word itself says 'I'm Possible!'"



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OCTOBER 31, 2013

## Actress Shares Her Life Story at Hofstra University's 11th Day of Dialogue

By Emily Soule

On Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, members of Hofstra University and the surrounding area gathered in Spiegel Theater to listen to Actress Qurrat Ann Kadwani speak. Kadwani travels around the country sharing her stories of being an Indian America and the struggles she has had to deal with throughout her own life. This powerful performance was a part of Hofstra University's Day of Dialogue; a day devoted to pondering and reflecting on the issues that face not only our community, but our nation and the world. Kadwani begins her performance by talking about the struggles of having "the most difficult name to pronounce." She claims it would have made no difference had her parents remained in India, but moving to America forced her to have to try and explain her name to everyone she met. The nickname Q, which she now goes by, is the namesake of her performance, *They Call Me Q*. Kadwani's ability to talk about her life in such a personal way was a huge contribution to Day of Dialogue. The audience entered a brand new world of hatred and difficulties as they listened to what she dealt with. Rachel Tom-Quinn, a Hofstra University Senior who attended the performance said "shows like this contribute to really understanding the cultures that exist around us, other than our own." When asked why Kadwani chose to do a one-woman show and what effect she thinks it has on the audience, she responded with "I really love the solo play format. I love the honesty that actors bring to that... Because they have a story they need to tell, a story to share with the audience." Darius Haber, a Hofstra University sophomore, agreed saying that "she was able to portray the story better by herself because all the characters actually came from her own memory. And that gave it have a stronger effect." "They Call Me Q is 60 minutes, 13 characters, and one actress leaving her heart on the stage in order to convince people to "change the way they see themselves and the world."

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OCTOBER 29, 2013

## Assignment #3 Infographs

There comes a time in every crafter's life where you go to the store, and find themselves completely lost. Arts and crafts stores seem to be never-ending rows filled with glitter, sequins, and anything else you could imagine. For your convenience, here are the top five items every crafter should have in their toolbox.

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OCTOBER 17, 2013

## Guest Speaker Notes

Forms of Digital Media for Reporting News:

- Blog
- Tweet
- Typography
- Video
- Interview
- Photo
- Slideshow
- Online publications
- Facebook post
- Pinterest
- Instagram
- Apps
- Tumblr

### **INITIATIVE**

Willfred Burchett – Australian Journalist

- Very conservative
- Most famous for covering the bombing of Hiroshima

1. What would you do differently in covering this story?

- If I were to be covering this story, I wouldn't have done TOO much differently but I would try to show more respect for the affected victims. Civilians were killed and suffered greatly and that was just not fair. I would want them to know that I was there to share their stories and not to hurt them or cause them anymore pain.

1. Using digital media, how would you overcome some of the challenges Burchett faced? Such as losing his camera?

- Losing a camera in this day and age is not as detrimental as it

might have been to Burchett whilst covering this story. Cell phones nowadays have incredible cameras as well as photography apps that can help make photos clearer and better. These photos can be instantly uploaded to Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, blogs, and many other forms of digital media making them immediately available to the public and saved for future reference for the journalist.

1. What forms of digital media would you use to cover this story and why?

- I would use my own blog, Twitter, and Facebook to share my story. Twitter could be used to update followers regularly throughout my journey to cover this story and my blog and Facebook could be used to share multiple photos and posts that would cover the story in much more than 180 characters.

### **SBS World News: Indigenous models 'unlikely to get work' in Australia**

1. What are some differences you notice with the Australian news compared with those you notice in American News?

- It was filmed more from an entertainment point of view than it was for news. Bright colors, exciting titles, and not stereotypical to most news story. There was no attribution to sources, hence no credibility.

2. What are some examples of digital media NOT used which could compliment the story?

3. How much credibility is in the story?

- There really is NO credibility to this story. There are no professional's interviewed, only models and magazine's opinions. Which while they are interesting, they do not prove anything. And, they only focused on about 2 fashion leaders, completely ignoring the hundreds of others that surely exist in Australia.

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O C T O B E R 1 0 , 2 0 1 3

## Class Notes: Infographics – Data Driven Journalism

### ***Infographics:***

- Graphics that use visual representations of information, data or knowledge. These graphics present complex information quickly and clear, such as in signs, maps, journalism, technical writing, and education.
- The first infographics were cave paintings, then later maps. As time progressed image visualization increased like every area of technology and media.

### ***Infographics can make information...***

- More accessible
- More enjoyable
- Easier to understand
- Can be incredibly viral, with potential to drive traffic and generate interest.
- Adds a relatively unused multimedia effect that has only reached the cusp of digital journalism.

### ***Inverted pyramid of data:***

- Find: searching for data on the web
- Clean: Process to filter and transform data, preparation for visualization.
- Visualize: Displaying the pattern, either as a static or animated visual
- Publish: Integrating the visuals, attaching data to stories
- Distribute: Enabling access on a variety of devices, such as the web, tablets and mobile
- Measure: Tracking usage of data stories over time and across the spectrum of uses

### **Tips for Creating an Infographic:**

1. Be concise: Design your infographic to make one main point.
2. Be visual and be creative: Although infographics do combine text and images, the emphasis should be on making a visually appealing graphic.
3. Be self-explanatory: The visualization should explain the data, with minimal exposition.
4. Be relevant
5. Be transparent. Cite your sources.
6. Be different: Pie charts and bar graphs are readily understandable, but they can be pretty bland.
7. Be accurate: The visualization should not misrepresent your data.
8. Say something: Your infographic should convey a message, and not be an infographic for the sake of itself.
9. Be judicious: Not every story warrants an infographic.
10. Copy Edit: As with any copy you plan to post online, it's good to run your infographic by another set of eyes – to assess and edit both content and format.

### ***Strong examples of stories with data:***

- Employee salaries
- Test scores
- Government issues
- Polls
- Sports stats
- Crime stats
- Stats, stats, stats!

### ***More tips for Working with Data:***

- Make it manageable. Break the data down into chunks you can use.
- Keep it simple. Ask simple questions of the data and try not to get too complicated.
- Mash it up. Some of the best data journalism is about joining datasets together you wouldn't have thought of.
- Don't be scared of the numbers or trust it too willingly. Journalists are often terrified of numbers to the extent that they don't question them properly.
- Try not to go native. Remember you're a journalist and your mission

is to explain the data and interrogate it properly.

**Data in Journalism:**

- Make sure your sources are accurate
- Where did you get that data?
- Polls and surveys can be conducted to create data from thin air, and this can be a story.
- After you have said data, it's up to you, the multimedia journalist, to figure out HOW to use it.
- Broadcast/Print Journalists (TV/Internet/Print): charts, graphs, infographics, screen shots, diagrams, etc.

**Video Infographics:**

- You can apply the same principles to visual representation of infographics ... which is the next and most obvious transition of the industry and this specific multimedia element.

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O C T O B E R 8 , 2 0 1 3

## Assignment #3: Video Interviews

### **Do students feel safe on and around the Hofstra University campus?**

In the past two months, Hofstra University and its surrounding neighborhoods have experienced and extreme crime rate increase. Students have been held at gun point and robbed of their belongings on multiple occasions. Is it safe to be off campus at night? Could Public Safety do more? Students Aaron Rodwin, Laura Holfester, and Taylor Napoli took the time to share their thoughts on whether or not they feel safe in the Hofstra Environment. All three students agreed that being on campus was made them feel safe, but they all also agreed that Public Safety could definitely improve in the surrounding areas.

[CLICK HERE to see the interviews!](#)

Tagged [#JRNL10](#)

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