



**CITY UNIVERSITY
LONDON**

Live Blogging: Media Convergence Matured?

University of Gothenburg, Sweden, 24 January 2014

Dr Neil Thurman





A “dangerous” word?

- **Technological convergence** – “fusion” of video, telecoms, computing
- Convergence of **industrial structures** and ownership and control
- Convergence of **patterns of use** (consumers)
- **Cultural and textual** convergence.

SILVERSTONE, ROGER (1995) “Convergence Is a Dangerous Word”,
Convergence: The International Journal of Research into New Media
Technologies 1(1) pp. 11–13





Cultural and textual convergence.

“both fact and fantasy lose their distinctiveness, and previously discrete categories of media content and function blend in an electronic hybridity”

- Infotainment
- Docu-dramas
- The live and pre-recorded





A dangerous word?

- “Structured inequalities ... created & sustained” by e-media
- “progressive erosion of principles of ... universal access”
- Sees the use of media and information technologies by “individual, non-business” users as “situated ...[in] home, family and household”.





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“this ‘democratization’ of media use signals a broadening of opportunities for individuals and grassroots communities to tell stories.. to present arguments.. to share information”

Jenkins and Deuze, 2008

Jenkins, Henry and Deuze, Mark (2008) “Editorial: Convergence Culture” *Convergence* (14) 1





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the emergence ... an integrated media system has been slow, a result, some argue, of institutional inertia and technical obstacles

“the future of media and information technology ... is neither certain nor predictable” - **Silverstone, 1995**





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“In a longitudinal study of 83 online news sites in the US, Greer and Mensing (2006) found **a slight increase** in interactive features from 1997 to 2003”

“Dimitrova and Neznanski’s (2006) study of the coverage of the Iraq war in 2003 in 17 online newspapers from the US and elsewhere showed no increase in the use of video and audio in the US newspapers compared to Schultz’s study published seven years earlier.”

Steensen, Steen (2011) “ONLINE JOURNALISM AND THE PROMISES OF NEW TECHNOLOGY: A critical review and look ahead” *Journalism Studies* (12) 3



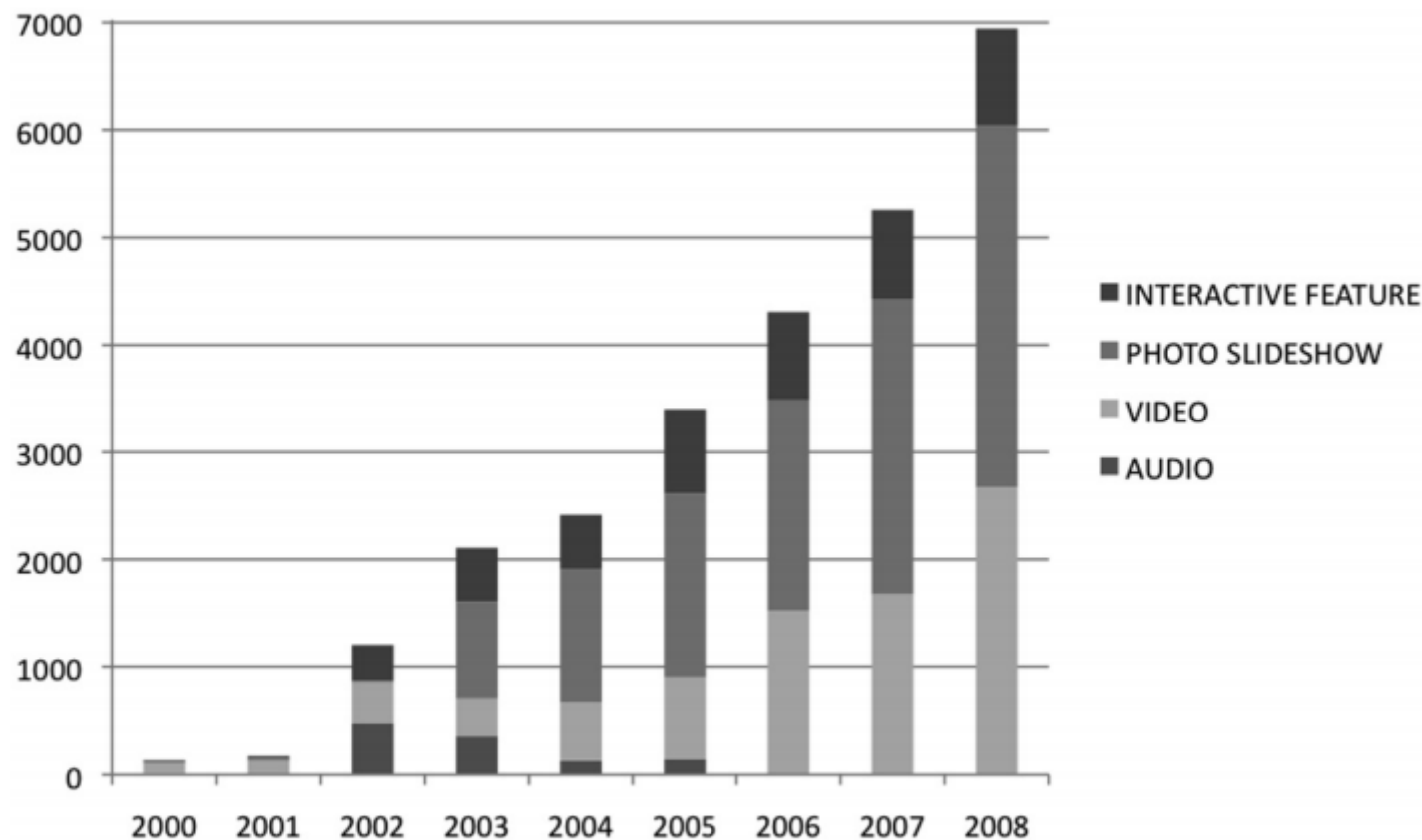


Figure 1. Total number of multimedia packages published on nytimes.com 2000–2008, based on results from the multimedia search option on nytimes.com.



- New forms of long-form online narrative journalism
- Live Blogs





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New forms of long-form online narrative journalism

The New York Times

1155



Snow Fall

The Avalanche at Tunnel Creek

By JOHN BRANCH

The snow burst through the trees with no warning but a last-second whoosh of sound, a two-story wall of white and Chris Rudolph's piercing cry: "Avalanche! Elyse!"





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Snowfall: Ambitions

- to make a “Single story out of all the assets”
- “Weave things together” so “Text, video, photography & graphics could all be consumed in a way that was similar to reading—a different kind of reading” “wanted [visual] to feel like a natural continuation [of text].”...
- ... so “readers would ... feel that they were reading into the graphic, and not seeing it as a distraction”

Source: Duenes et al (2013)





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New forms of long-form online narrative journalism

THE SUNDAY TIMES



MY YEAR WITH MALALA

In January, Malala Yousafzai, the Pakistani schoolgirl shot by the Taliban, asked Christina Lamb to write her book. From theatre trips to a visit from Angelina Jolie, this is the story of their remarkable time together





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New forms of long-form online narrative journalism

theguardian

Share

Tweet 93

Introduction

Brutality

Upset

Eccentricity

One-upmanship

Defection

1868



ENGLAND V AUSTRALIA

It is amongst the longest, hardest and most engrossing battles in the world, spanning numerous sporting disciplines and defined by countless contests.



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theguardian

NSA FILES: *DECODED*

What the revelations mean for you.





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New forms of long-form online narrative journalism





The image shows a tablet displaying the Guardian Business Blog. The website layout includes a top navigation bar with links like 'Home', 'Money', 'Life & style', 'Travel', 'Environment', 'TV', 'Data', 'Video', 'Mobile', 'Offers', and 'Jobs'. The main content area features a large article titled 'Eurozone crisis live: UK refuses to contribute to €200bn IMF package' with sub-headlines about Mario Draghi, German foreign minister, and Asian markets. To the right of the article is a line graph showing a fluctuating trend. Below the main article is a section titled 'Our selection of best buys' featuring a list of products and services with their prices and ratings. Further down, there's a section for 'Free finance guides' and a 'guardianinvesting' logo. The tablet is held by a person, with their hand visible at the bottom left corner.

Breaking news: California Rim Fire contained but full control may be weeks away

« || »

US-Israeli missile tests raise tensions over Syria

Last updated four minutes ago



LIVE Israel has confirmed that it carried out a joint missile test with the US in the Mediterranean

592 comments

LATEST

"Syrian online activist The 47th says the Sky News report is correct and a press conference on the defection is planned for 5pm local time (3pm BST) in..."
Syria crisis - live updates

- ...was angry at Labour MPs cheering
- ...President Obama's decision to send more missiles
- ...Syria refugee numbers reach 2 million
- ...Ed Miliband hardens criteria for Syria strike
- ...McCain: rejection of strikes would be catastrophic
- ...US bombs

Miliband: scrap lobbying bill



Labour leader says charities and trade unions could find themselves in legal trouble over democratic advocacy

142 comments

- LIVE** Live blog – calls to delay lobbying bill
- Fears over reach of lobbying bill
- Ed Miliband's 'unhelpful and shaming' comments
- The lobbying industry's response

Microsoft buys Nokia handset unit



Deal worth €5.4bn delivers Europe's last big handset maker into US ownership and moves Microsoft firmly into device manufacturing

- Microsoft and Nokia's problems - in three graphs
- LIVE** Business live - Microsoft-Nokia deal
- The rise and fall of a mobile phone giant
- Twitter reaction to mobile deal

Endurance swimmer Diana Nyad sets record 110 mile swim from Cuba to Florida without shark cage



« || »

The Kalahari Desert's dark side



Food preferences Taste geography



Andrew Brown Pope Francis and the Vatican's 'crows and vipers'

Sport

United land Fellaini after day of farce



Football: Man Utd signed Marouane Fellaini but claims of imposters confused attempts to sign Ander Herrera

- Bale's unveiling worth wait for fans
- Pictures: the best images as Bale joins Madrid
- Video: a day in the life of a world-record signing
- Bale brings mixed feelings in crisis-hit Spain
- Interactive: the Premier League ins/outs

Özil seals £42.5m Arsenal move



Football: Arsène Wenger has signed Mesut Özil and the Italian goalkeeper Emiliano Viviano on loan

- Amy Lawrence: Özil can illuminate the Emirates
- Transfer deadline day – as it happened
- David Conn: sustainability limits stretched
- Football Weekly: the pod on deadline day

Ireland v England live



Guardian Jobs

Find quality roles on Guardian Jobs.

Online dating



Find your soulmate with the Guardian's dating site

Join Guardian Soulmates

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Six to nine-month writing courses



CRICKET ▶ [England win the toss and field against Ireland in the one-day international in Dublin](#) [Rankin, Ballance and Carberry play](#) || ◀ ▶



Sportsday - transfer reaction **LIVE**

Reaction to a record-breaking transfer deadline day, including high-profile moves for Mesut Ozil and Marouane Fellaini.

Transfer Deadline Day



Ozil deal tops record-breaking transfer deadline day
FOOTBALL



Federer beaten by Robredo at US Open
TENNIS

Ireland v England **LIVE**

Live text & TMS commentary, plus Scotland v Australia updates



Man Utd sign Everton's Fellaini for £27.5m
FOOTBALL



Summer transfer window in numbers
FOOTBALL

Headlines

FOOTBALL
Arsenal complete £42.4m Ozil signing

FOOTBALL
Everton complete triple

Scores, Results & Fixtures

Tennis: US Open

[Scores](#) | [Men's draw](#) | [Women's](#) | [Order of play](#)

Horse Racing

[UK & Ireland](#) | [Global](#) | [7:00 PM](#)

ScribbleLIVE



AP

DAILY NEWS

TORONTO STAR



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.



SKY SPORTS



The Economist



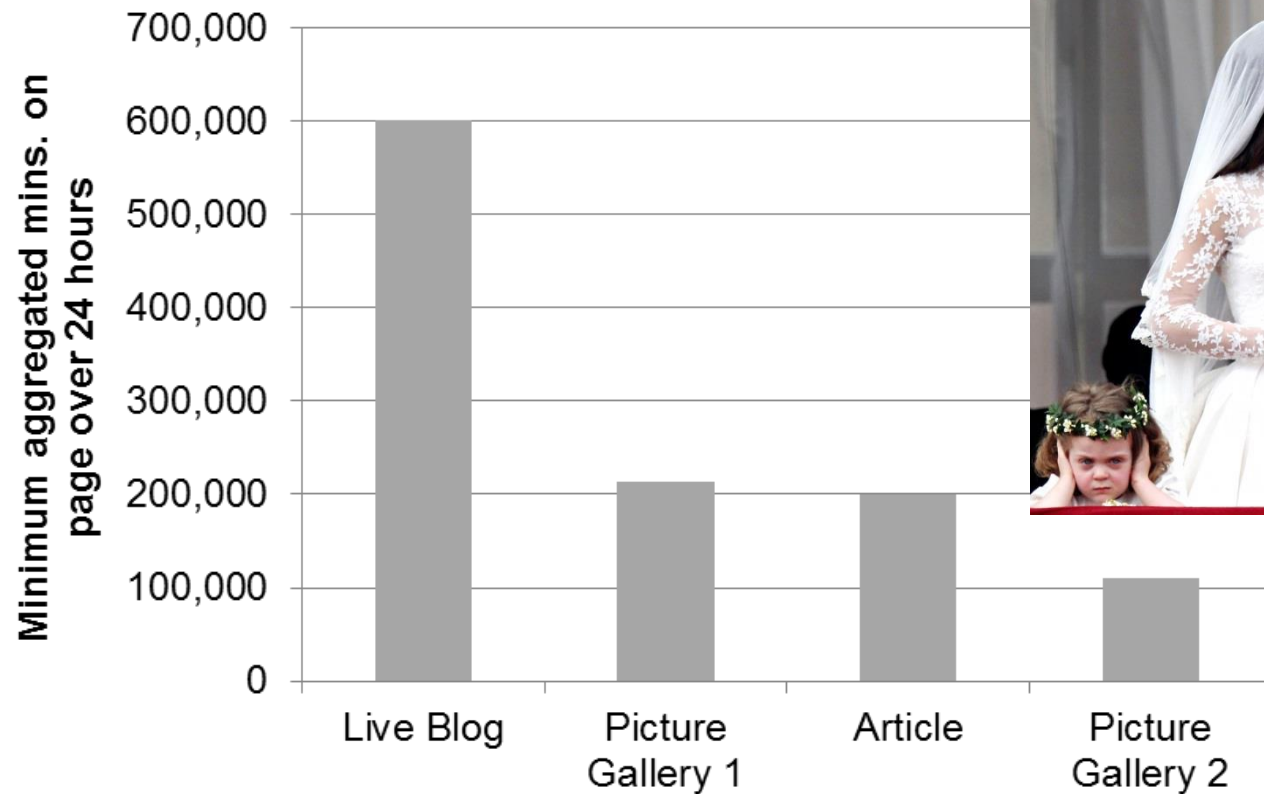
SPIEGEL ONLINE

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

THE GLOBE AND MAIL 

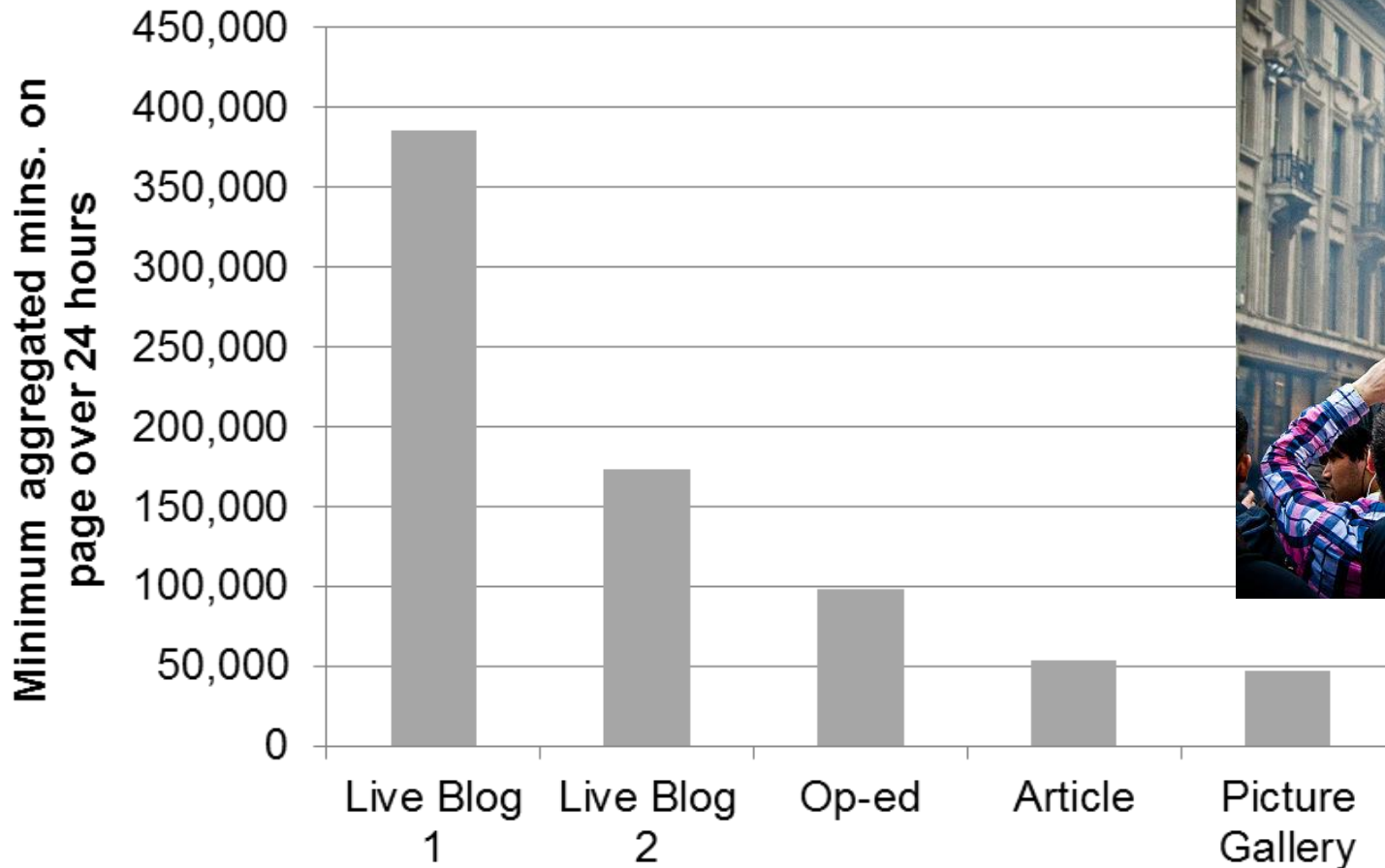


Time spent on 4 news formats, coverage of Royal Wedding, Guardian.co.uk, April 2011





Time spent on 4 news formats, coverage of protest march, Guardian.co.uk, March 2011



Engagement per visitor / visit duration (mins)



Total unique visitor numbers=49 million

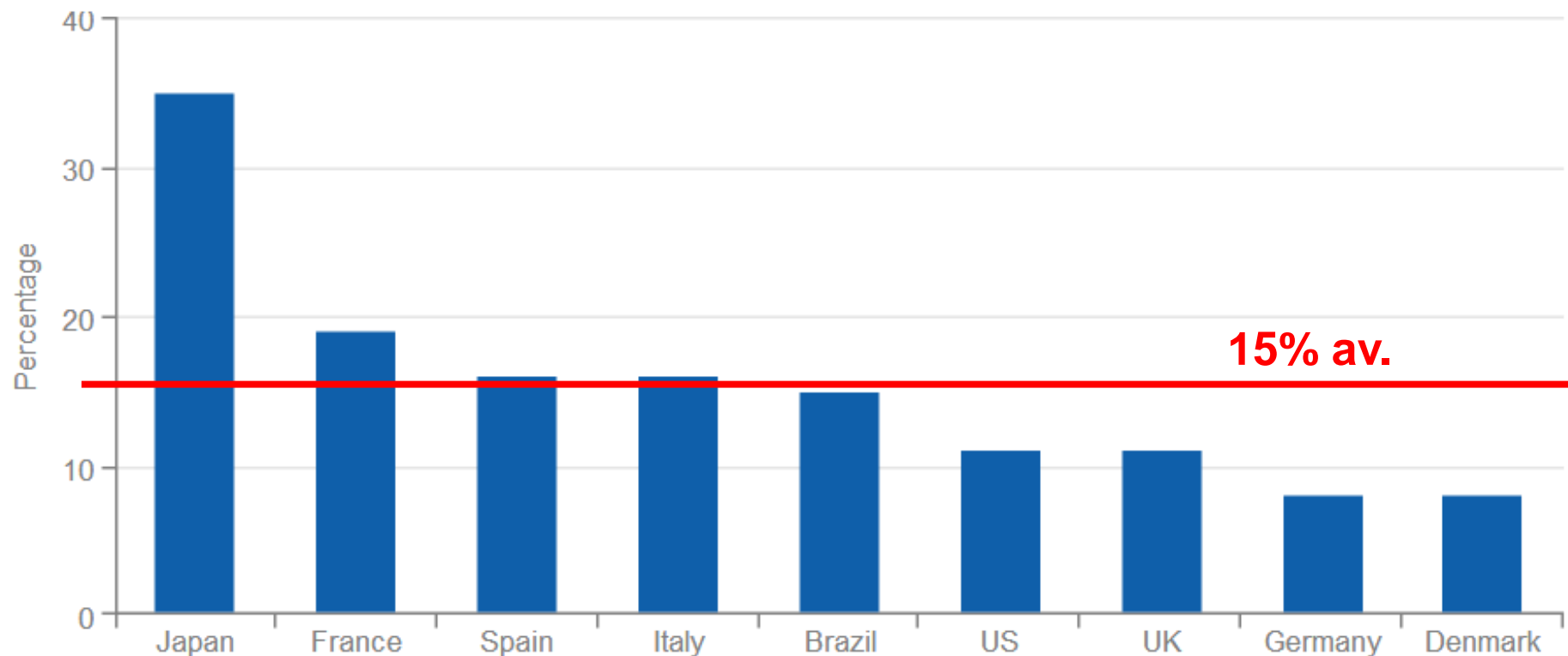


Country	Sample Size
UK	2078
Germany	1099
Spain	1016
Italy	1003
France	1016
Denmark	1024
US	2170
Brazil*	1003
Japan	1004

Field work January 2013

Online survey. Excluded respondents who'd not accessed news in previous month

Popularity of live blogs by country



Q11: Thinking of the way you looked at news online in the last week, which of the following ways of consuming news did you use?

Base: All markets UK (n=2078) US (n=2028) Spain (n=979) Japan (n=978) Italy (n=965) Germany (n=1062) France (n=973) Denmark (n=1007) Urban Brazil (n=985)

January 2013



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Live Blogging – significance

- “the pivotal platform for newsrooms”
— **Prof Charlie Beckett (2010)**



- “transforming journalism”
— **Paul Gallagher (2011)**, head of online content at the Manchester Evening News.





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Live Blogging – recent examples

Glasgow helicopter crash- bbc.in/18a4p8v

UK energy pricing - bit.ly/18a3LYO

NSA files - latest - bit.ly/1c6sR8M





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Live Blogging – key characteristics

Direct relaying of commentary and analysis as events unfold

9.25am: Standard & Poor's has said it won't downgrade South Korea's credit rating following the death of Kim Jong-il.



Our ratings on South Korea take into account temporary uncertainties associated with North Korean security risks as well contingent liabilities arising from a possible reunification of the North and South.

But it warned that South Korea's rating or outlook could be revised if the succession plan was not smoothly implemented or if there were other

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14:30: The E
€207.5bn on
year.

15:30: Georg
banking

9.25am: Star
credit rating 1



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succession p
signs of politi

Earlier, Fitch
move on Sou

9.38am: Chri
a press conf

Date-stamped updates



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Live Blogging – key characteristics

Reverse
Chronological
order with latest
update at top

LIVE	Sort by:	Latest first	Oldest first	Auto update:	On	Off
10:17 BST	The OECD has is predicting that the UK economy will shrink by 0.7% this year, according to Sky . Here's an extract from its story.					
	“ The Paris-based organisation reduced its 2012 growth forecast for Britain by more than an entire percentage point, cutting it from the 0.5% growth it predicted in May to -0.7% - a major contraction.					
10:14 BST	There will be an urgent question on planning in the Commons at 11.30am, according to Paul Waugh .					
10:11 BST	The Press Association has just snapped this.					
	“ Home secretary Theresa May will announce her decision on whether computer hacker Gary McKinnon can be extradited to the United States by October 16, his lawyer Karen Todner said today.					
10:00 BST	And here are the main points from the Nick Clegg interviews. I've taken the quotes from PoliticsHome .					
	• Clegg said that the current planning laws needed to be changed because they were “frankly useless”.					
	“ At the moment, if you're a house builder and you're got planning permission to build X number of houses on a site, if after five years, you've been unable to build homes on					



Often contain multimedia elements and make generous use of links

As it happened: England riots day five

52K [Share](#) [f](#) [t](#) [e](#) [p](#)

Key points

- PM David Cameron says every action will be taken to restore order, with contingency plans for water cannon to be available at 24 hours' notice
- MPs and peers recalled to Parliament for Thursday to debate riots
- It is relatively peaceful across England on Wednesday night after rioting in several cities on Tuesday and in London the previous three nights
- PM says police have legal backing to use any tactics necessary, including using baton rounds
- Three men, aged 31, 30 and 21, died when they were hit by a car in Birmingham as they protected property
- Three courts in London will stay open Wednesday night to deal with the number of people charged

Report

Reporters: Anna Browning, Vanessa Barford, Fiona Bailey and Rebecca Cafe

1321: The BBC's Clive Coleman at Highbury Corner magistrates' court says many are being committed for sentencing at the crown court. The reason for this is the magistrates' bench feel the riot was such an aggravating feature to the burglary that the crown court ought to sentence because they have additional powers. The magistrates feel that they had insufficient powers to sentence for a single count of burglary. They could only sentence for six months whereas that could be up to 10 years at the crown court.

1341: The Met Police release a second tranche of images of people they would like to speak to about the recent disorder affecting parts of London, as part of Operation Withern.

1340: Greater Manchester Police release a first batch of 17 CCTV images of suspects wanted in connection with the rioting and looting last night in Manchester and Salford.

1343: Ministry of Justice statement: "We have enough prison places for those that are sentenced to custody. There is substantial capacity in the

WATCH

Riot fightback under way, says PM



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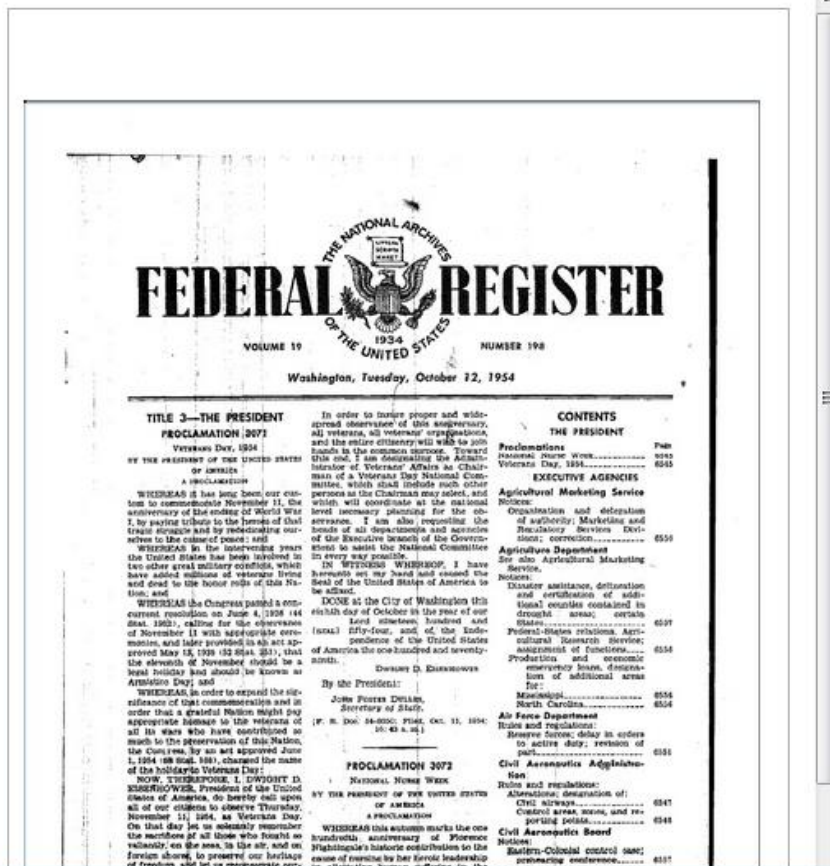
The Uni

today. REUTERS/KEVIN Lamarque

by Amy Tennery (Reuters) November 11 at 4:24 PM



This is a copy of the official Veterans Day Proclamation from 1954:



SHOW ME MORE LIKE VETERANS DAY PROCLAMATION

Scribd. Download Share 1 of 1

by Margarita Noriega (Reuters) November 11 at 4:09 PM



Here's a bit of background about Veterans Day, via the [Department of Veterans Affairs](#): World War I – known at the time as “The Great War” - officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months

The Tory treasury twitter feed (an official account) has hit back.

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Here's a bit of background about Veterans Day, via the [Department of Veterans Affairs](#): World War I – known at the time as “The Great War” - officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of “the war to end all wars.”

by Margarita Noriega (Reuters) November 11 at 4:08 PM



Farm helps traumatized veterans re-enter civilian life [[Al Jazeera America](#)]

by Amy Tennery (Reuters) November 11 at 4:06 PM





REUTERS

EDITION: U.S.

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Iran Elections: Iranians Vote for the Islamic Republic's Next President

Friday's presidential election in Iran is unlikely to bring significant change to the Islamic republic, whose supreme leader has ensured hard-line candidates dominate the field. But the sole moderate could upset the race. Reuters World brings you live coverage of the elections, including in-depth reporting, analysis, photography, interactive graphics, video and more for this event.

< OLDEST | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | NEWEST >

ScribbleLIVE



Arash Karami @thekarami

June 14 at 7:46 PM

Kayhan, close to Khamenei is reporting 75% turnout, that's 37.5 million people.



READER COMMENT: I've been at odds with whether to VOTE or not. and I did eventually at 10:45pm. There are still people queued in order to vote. Honestly I couldn't believe it! I feel relieved right now. I think it was worth another shot.

by MiAd Frqn edited by Margarita Noriega (Reuters) June 14 at 7:52 PM



Golnaz Esfandiari @GESfandiari

June 14 at 8:12 PM



WORLD NEWS



Putin rules out handing Snowden over to United States

MOSCOW/NAANTALI, Finland -

Russian President Vladimir Putin confirmed on Tuesday a former U.S. spy agency contractor sought by the United States was in the transit area of a Moscow airport but ruled out handing him to Washington, dismissing U.S. criticisms as "ravings and rubbish". | [Video](#)

Russia, U.S. fail to set up Syria peace talks

Scalpel in hand, Chinese Premier Li stirs reform hopes

Unrest leaves 27 dead in China's troubled Xinjiang: Xinhua

Argentina asks U.S. Supreme Court to hear debt appeal

Rousseff's referendum plan for Brazil runs into trouble

Political will and big spending put Austrians to work

Australian PM Gillard faces leadership battle ahead of poll

» [More News](#)



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Live Blogging – key characteristics

Corrections flagged
explicitly

theguardian

News | Sport | Comment | Culture | Business | Money | Life & style | Tr

News > Media > Phone hacking live

POLITICS BLOG



12.37pm: Nick Raynsford did not say who he was referring to, but on Twitter my former colleague Gaby Hinsliff suggests this might have been a reference to Jenny Watson, head of the Electoral Commission. Watson has complained about being the victim of some particular hostile briefing from an unnamed government source.

Correction: We now understand it was not Watson. Apologies.

In response to another question about whether BSkyB came up in his conversations with Brooks, Cameron says the point he is trying to make is that he was not involved in BSkyB decisions. He did not even know when announcements were going to be made.

12.42pm: Penny Mordaunt, a Conservative, says the aid agencies are saying that donations to famine relief in east Africa are down because the phone hacking scandal is taking up too much media attention.

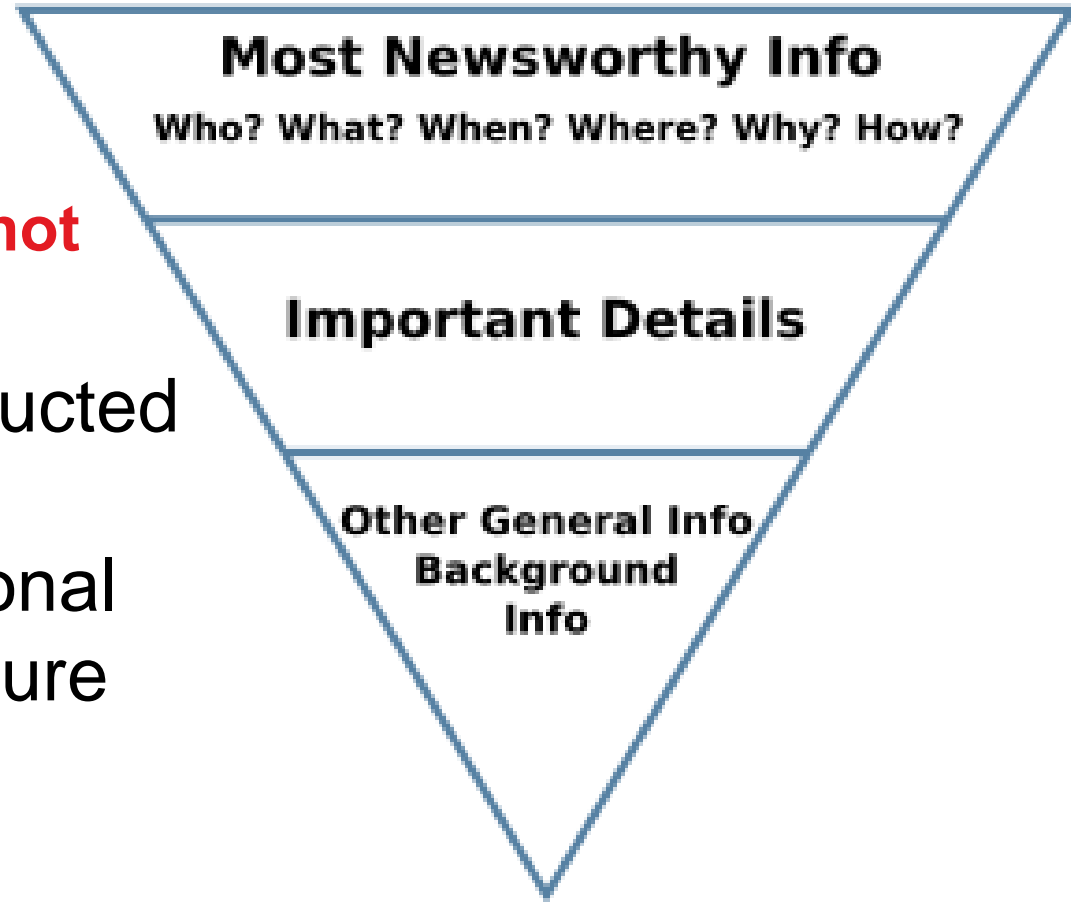
Cameron says that is why he wanted to press ahead with his visit to Africa.



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Live Blogging – what it's not

- Not a narrative constructed after the event
- Doesn't use conventional inverted pyramid structure





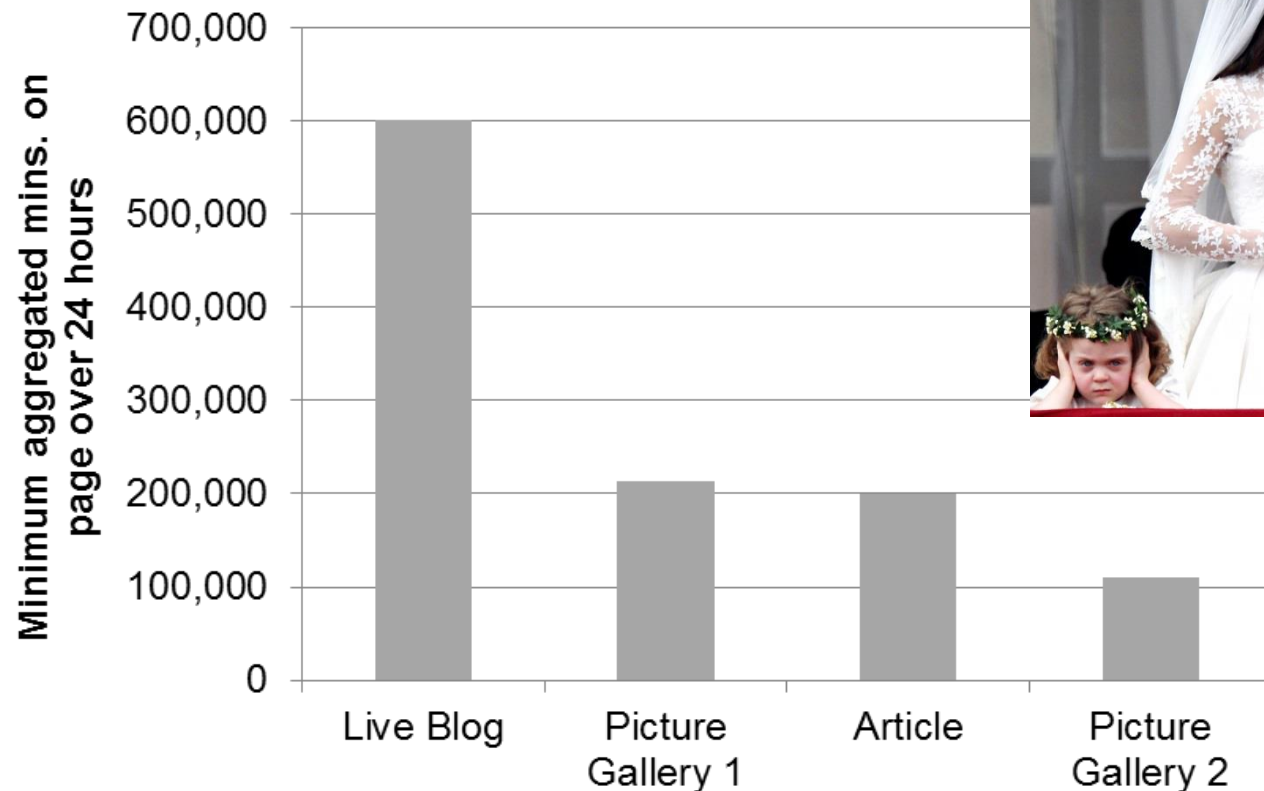
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Live Blogging – what it's not

- Not truly analogous with rolling TV news coverage because:
 - Less reliance on visual and aural channels
 - Live Blogs allow longer gaps between updates when there is lull in story (1/2 hour) – not acceptable on tv!



Time spent on 4 news formats, coverage of Royal Wedding, Guardian.co.uk, April 2011

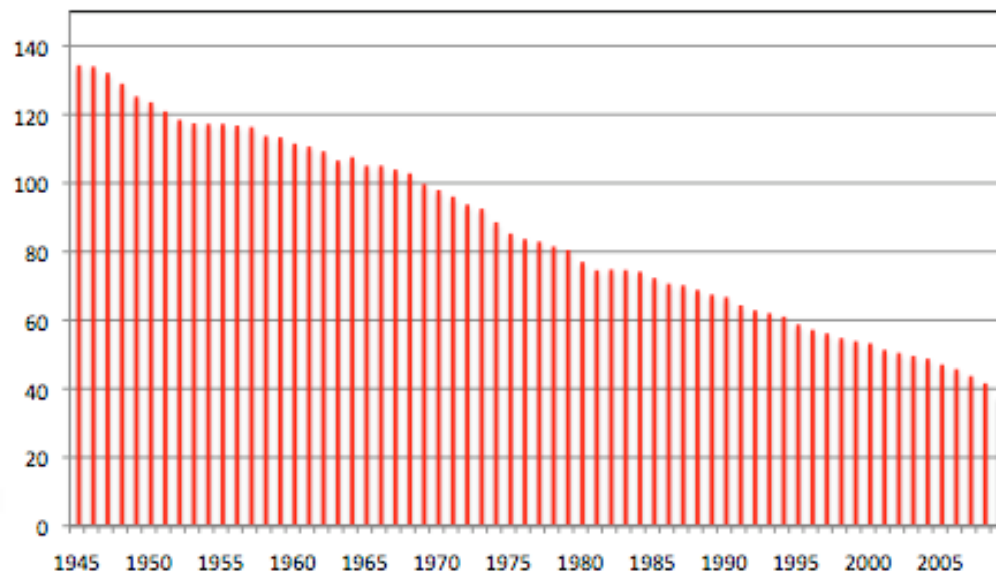




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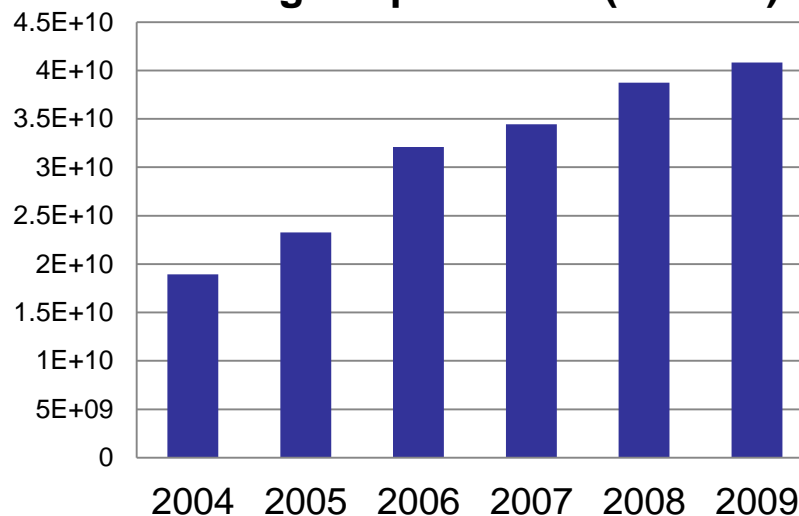


US Newspaper circulation per 100 households



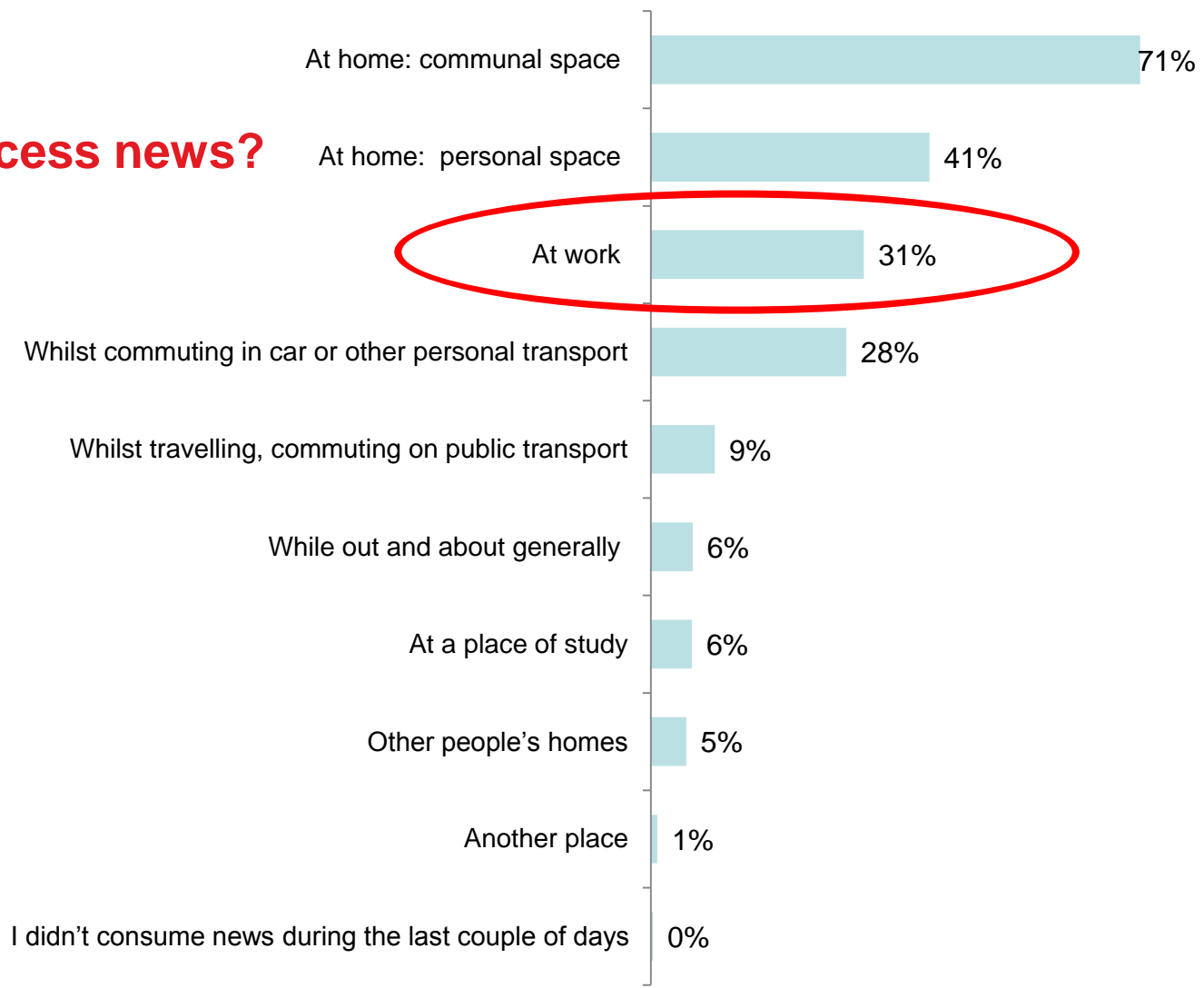
Source: Newspaper Association of America

Combined US Newspaper Online Page Impressions (billions)





Where do you access news?

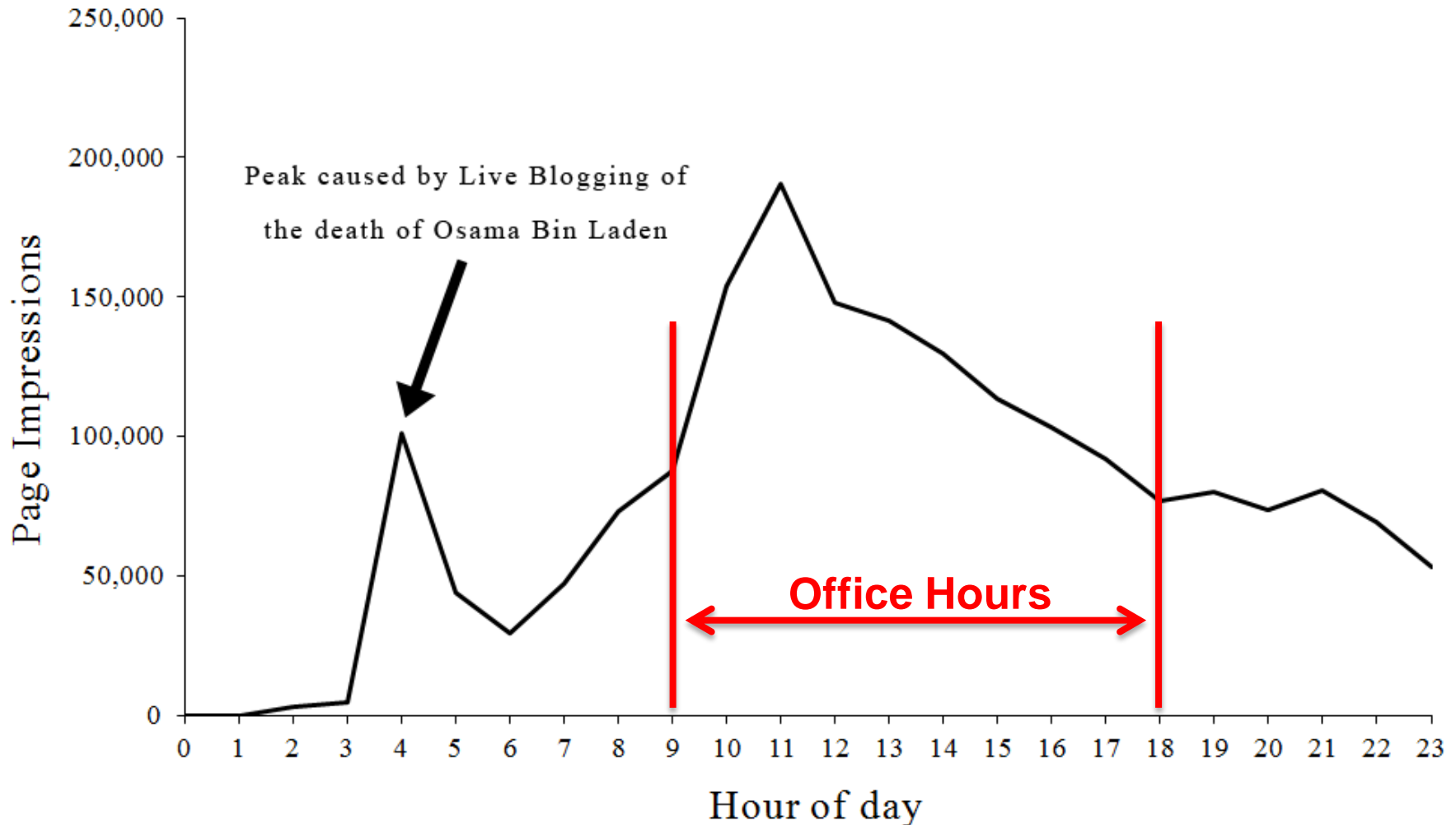


- UK3A. Where were you when you looked at/listened to the news over the last few days?
- Base: Denmark=994



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Aggregated hourly page view data for 10 Live Blogs at Guardian.co.uk, March-May 2011.





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‘News at Work’ consumption patterns....



- Methodical & comprehensive 1st visit to new sites followed by...
- Several subsequent visits motivated by “need for a distraction or **more info about an event**”

Source: Boczkowski, 2010



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‘News at Work’ consumption patterns....



- Habit of **monitoring** news sites homepages and often **not “clicking on stories”** during subsequent visits.
- Preference for **textual** rather than aural, animated or highly visual **content** (“privacy concerns” in office location).

Source: Boczkowski, 2010



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How Live Blogging suits 'News at Work' consumption

Regular updates (av. every 9 mins) provide follow up information about events.

"I like the immediacy... being kept up-to-date"

"I like simple bite-sized nuggets of information on updates"

"I like that it is updated when a new item on the story breaks"

—Survey respondents, pers. comm, Aug '11





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How Live Blogging suits 'News at Work' consumption

Use of a single–dynamic–page, suits users' preference for monitoring a page rather than clicking on stories

"I like that it gives you many different little points about the story"

—Survey respondent, pers. comm, Aug '11

29 users in our survey 'liked' the 'convenience' of Live Blogs.





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How Live Blogging suits 'News at Work' consumption

Text format more suitable for reading in office where workers need to look as though they are working

“Something I can glance at if I’m busy”

“Perfect way to keep up to date during the working day”

“Easier to read while getting on with other things (e.g. at work!)”

—Survey respondents, pers. comm, Aug ‘11

■ Disagree

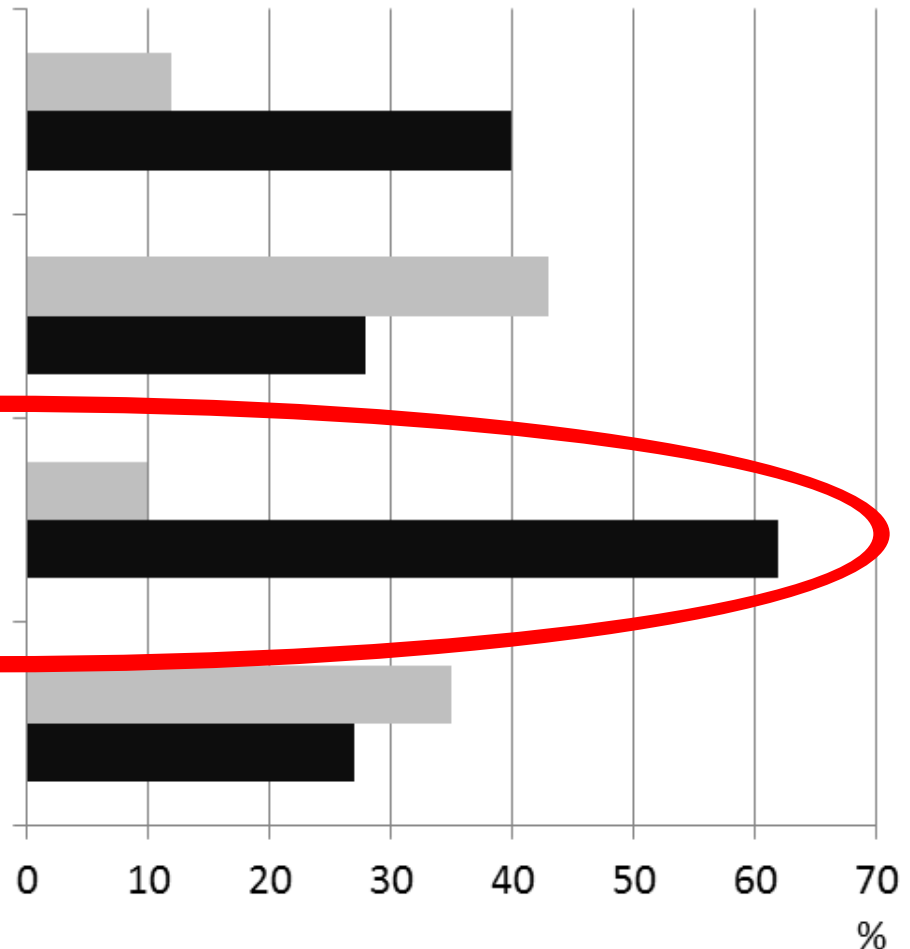
■ Agree

LIVE news pages are more balanced than article pages because they give a range of opinions and routinely link out to sources and supporting documents

LIVE news pages can be difficult to understand because the story is broken into short updates

LIVE news pages are a convenient way of following news while I am at work

I worry about the accuracy of the information on LIVE news pages



January 2013



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‘News at Work’ consumption & news content

‘News at work’ consumers prefer “non public-affairs stories – in particular sports, crime and celebrity”

“better fodder for conversations with co-workers than public affairs news”.

—Boczkowski, 2010: 153

‘News’ from DailyMail.co.uk homepage, 4 Jan ‘12 >

► Do us a favour! Imogen Thomas declares she's going on a diet... to lose the three ounces she gained over Christmas
Tweeted photo to prove it



► Golden girl Cameron Diaz debuts her new short hairdo as she frolics on the beach in a tiny bikini
Holidaying in Hawaii with friends



► Jump into bed with Paris! Topless Hilton strips off as she boasts about socialising with Princes William and Harry
Says they're 'gentleman'



► Will Alesha end up paying a high price for her ambition?
She has been poached from Strictly to rescue Britain's Got Talent



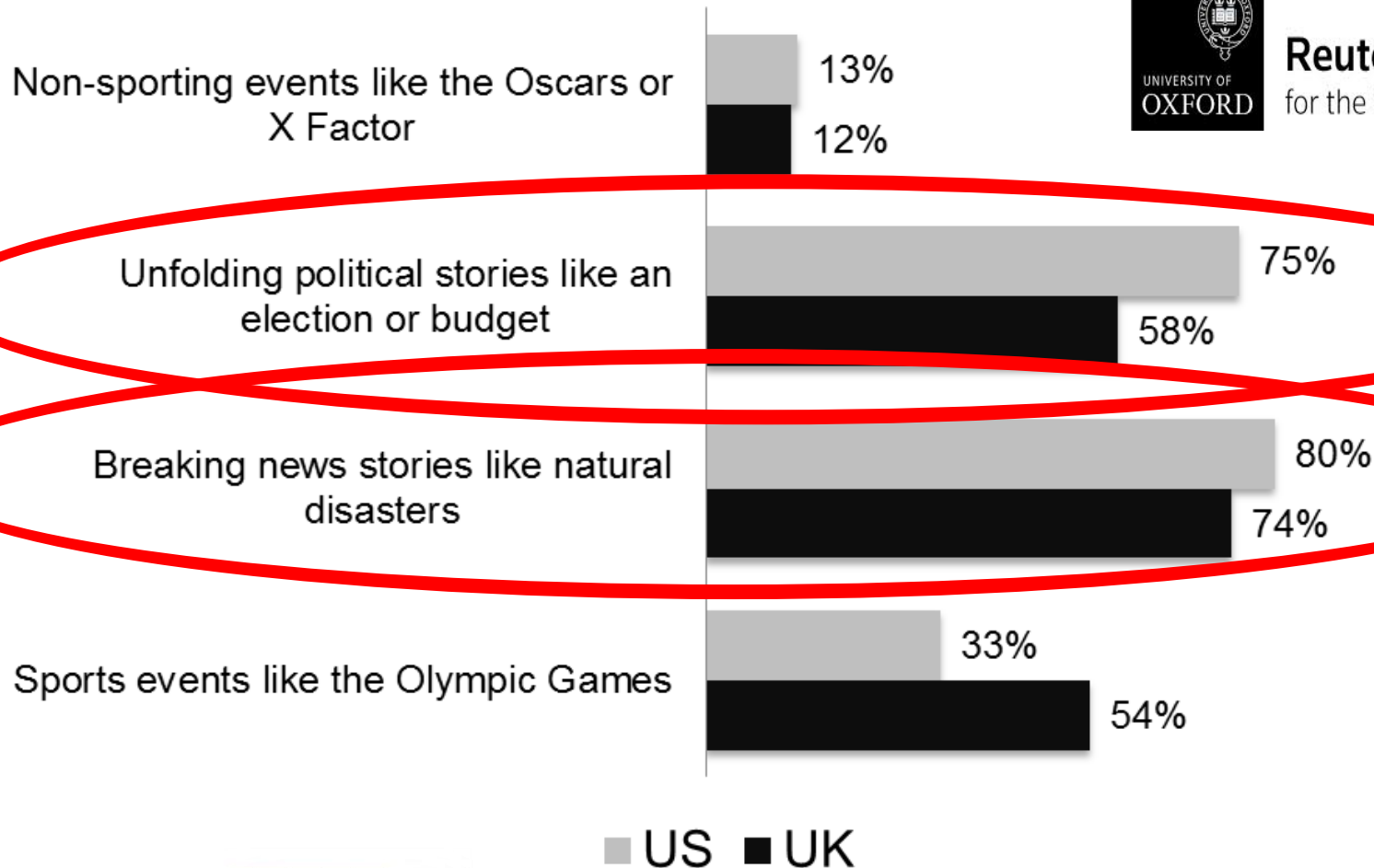
► Just married! Holly Branson shares first kiss with husband Fred Andrews as her proud family look on
Romantic scenes in Necker



Popularity of different types of live news pages (live blogs) with US and UK news consumers, January 2013.



Reuters Institute
for the Study of Journalism



Popularity of different types of live news pages (live blogs) with US and UK news consumers. January 2013.



Reuters Institute
for the Study of Journalism

Non-sporting events like the Oscars or X Factor

13%

12%

Unfolding political stories like an election or budget

75%

58%

Breaking news stories like natural disasters

80%

74%

Sports events like the Olympic Games

33%

54%

■ US ■ UK





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“It is sometimes a bit of a shock to be reminded that, in operational and practical fact, **the medium is the message**”

—Marshall McLuhan (2001: 7)





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- **Risks**

- Little time for factual verification
- Trivialise news
- Confuse readers
- No time for the basics

- **Opportunities**

- Rebuilt trust
- Increase participation





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“looser culture of corroboration”

Corroborate --

vb1.(*tr*) to confirm or support (facts, opinions, etc), esp by providing fresh evidence: *the witness corroborated the accused's statement*

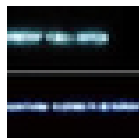


7.01pm: There are reports on Twitter that the sports clothing store Lillywhites is now on fire.

Lillywhites on fire piccadilly circus

<http://yfrog.com/gzrtqbej>

less than a minute ago via Twitter for BlackBerry®



Chris Snell

chrissnelltweet

PEOPLE HAVE
HIV/AIDS

PEOPLE HAVE
HIV/AIDS

PEOPLE HAVE
HIV/AIDS

7.56pm: Matt Taylor has said the post at 7.01 reporting a fire at Lillywhites should be corrected. The smoke that can be seen in the picture is from the fire on Jermyn Street reported by Paul Lewis at 6:59. Firefighters put the blaze out shortly afterwards.



PHOTO

PHOTO: Despite Sandy, Soldiers Stand Guard At Tomb Of The Unknown Soldier

by GIOVANNI PERALTA
October 29, 2012 12:49 PM

Updated at 1:18 p.m. ET. Not Taken During Sandy:

The Old Guard reports on Twitter that the photograph we posted of soldiers standing guard over the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was taken in September. It was not taken during Sandy, as the First Army Division Gavel, said in its Facebook page.

Here is one taken today, according to the Old Guard.



Sgt. Brett Hyde, Tomb Sentinel, 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), keeps guard over the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier during Hurricane Sandy at Arlington National Cemetery, Va.

Sgt. Jose A. Torres Jr./U.S. Army

Our Original Post Continues:

This is perhaps one of the more stunning pictures we've come across today:



Soldiers of the 3d Inf Reg. continue to stand guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, despite the worsening weather conditions surrounding Hurricane Sandy.

First Army Division Gavel's Facebook

According to the First Army Division Gavel, which posted the picture today on its Facebook page, the three soldiers of the 3d Infantry Regiment stood guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier as the first heavy bands of rain from Hurricane Sandy moved across the Washington, D.C. area.

"The tomb," they write, "has been guarded continuously since 1945."

The U.S. Army has more information on the tomb.

Updated at 12:50 p.m. ET. More Photos And Background:

Back in 2011, during Irene, the Old Guard stood watch over the tomb. As Mark reminded us at that time, there is a shelter the soldiers could use, but they have



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Cumbria unfolds

- 12 people
- Body of g
- Police des

This page



Police stand n
Cumbria. Phot

6.00pm:

We're going

25 comments. Showing 50 conversations, sorted oldest first

0

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8+1

in

Share



Benulek

02 June 2010 1:18pm

439

This is a fast developing story and the details are sketchy at this stage, so if you are in the area and have news please post a comment below or email at matthew.weaver@guardian.co.uk

This is deeply irresponsible. If you have concrete information, contact the police. If you have rumours, keep them to yourself.



Elpheba

02 June 2010 1:19pm

This comment was removed by a moderator because it didn't abide by our [community standards](#). Replies may also be deleted. For more detail see our [FAQs](#).



drbendysn

02 June 2010 1:19pm

335

I think having a comment section on this is pretty ghoulish and in bad-taste. It's only going to be strewn with conjecture and potential libel. Best just to let the truth come out properly instead of this rolling, almost certainly erroneous way of doing things.



Fwoggie

02 June 2010 1:22pm

17

I hope Alan Hannah doesn't get done later for jumping a red light :/ You never know though, I've read about crazier things than that.



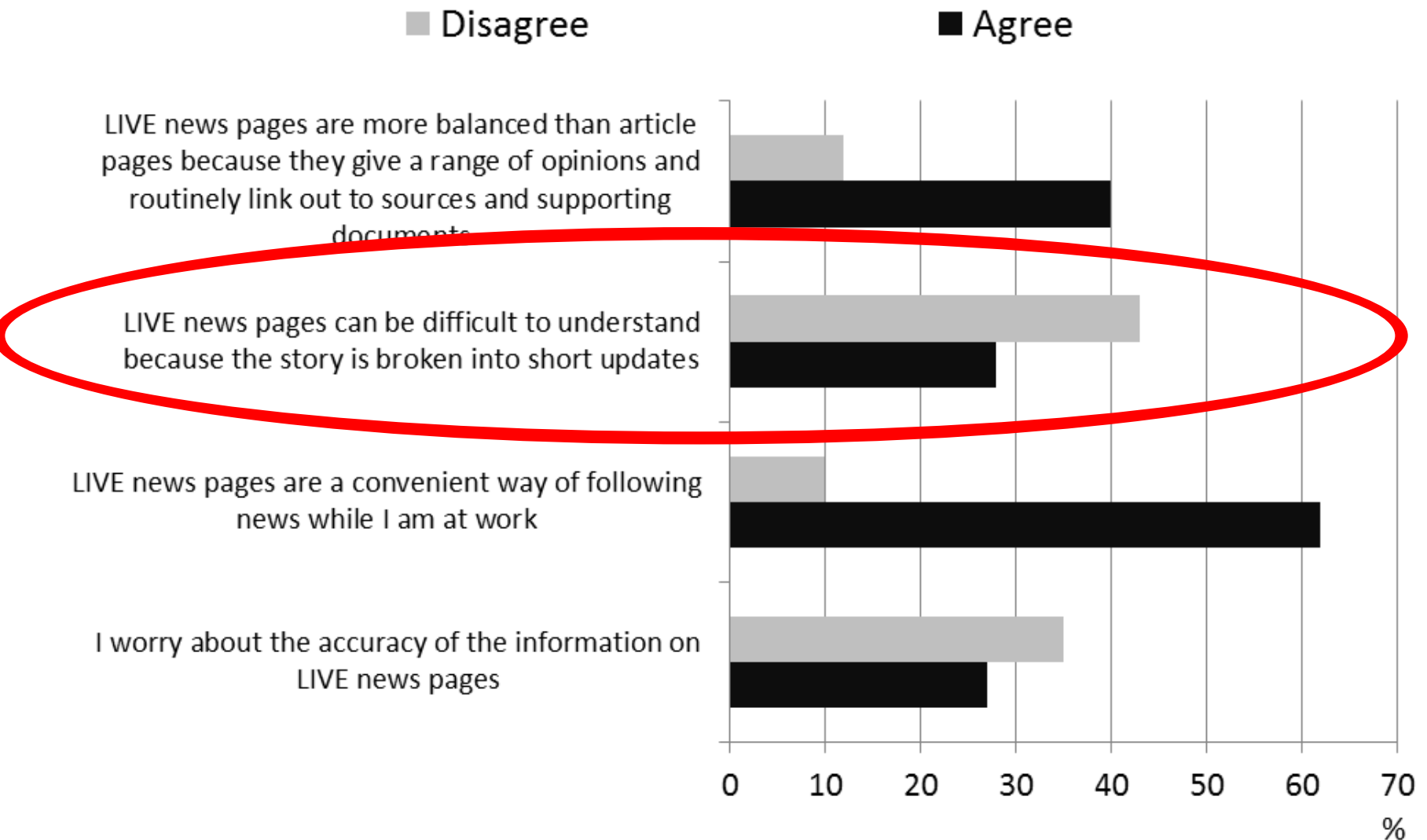
FifthCookieMonster

02 June 2010 1:23pm

145

One notch further down in the degeneration of the Guardian.

Usability



Reuters Institute Digital News Survey 2013, UK sample.



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Live blogs – threat to ‘universal access’

- Live blogs – resource intensive – 15 ‘person hours’ each

“There is still a need for self-contained, structured reporting and analysis, and for narrative storytelling, but its relationship with the live stream is still developing. We are still working to understand how they can best complement one another and how the two can be blended together when appropriate. And, for newsrooms, what the implications are of trying to do both”

-- Steve Herrman, editor BBC News Online, July 20, 2013.





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- **Risks**

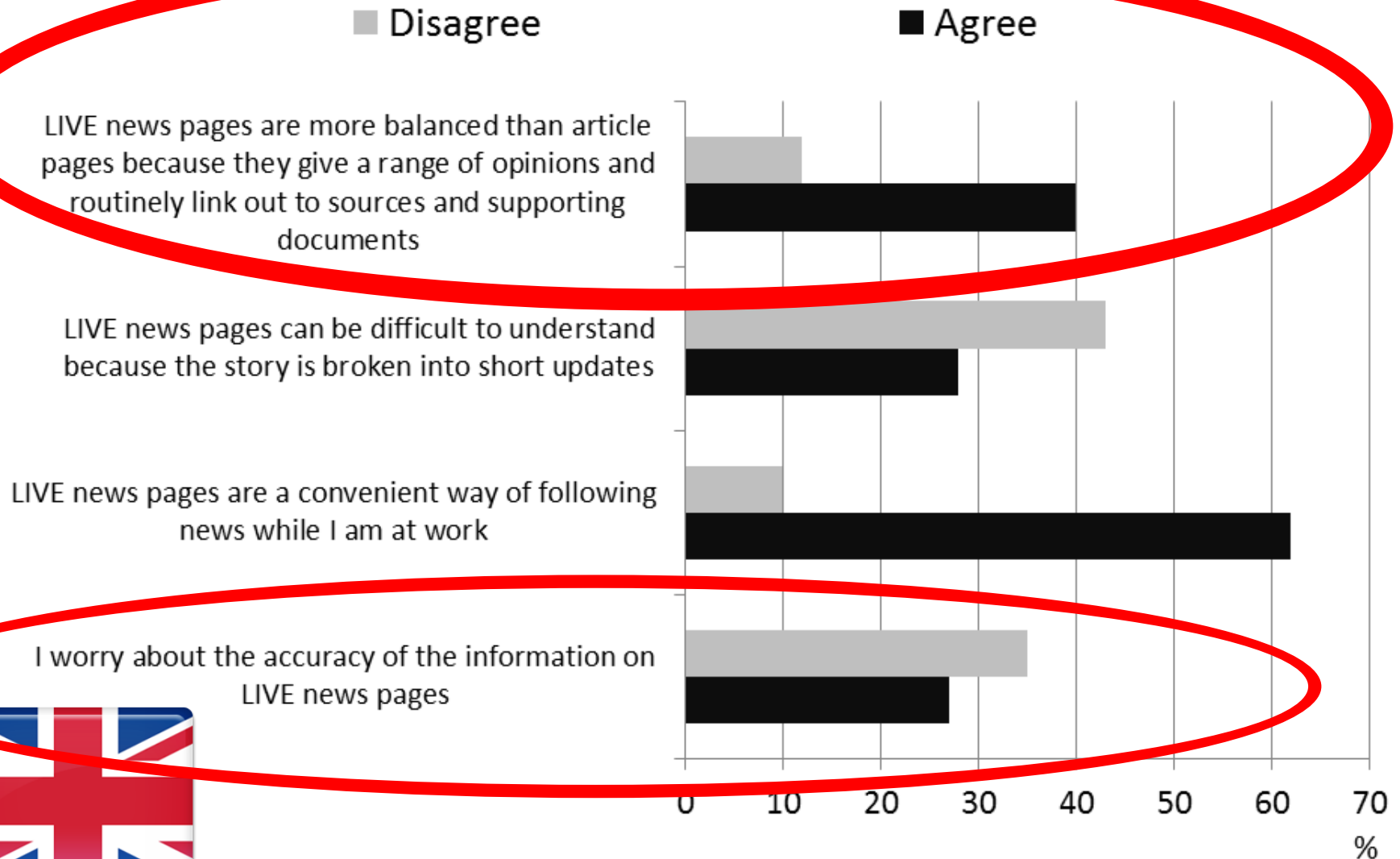
- Little time for factual verification
- Trivialise news
- Confuse readers
- No time for the basics

- **Opportunities**

- Rebuilt trust
- Increase participation



Usability, balance, accuracy, convenience: UK readers' attitudes





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Live Blogs – trust and objectivity

“less opinion based
and more factual...I
feel more
empowered to make
up my own mind”

“the person
writing it is less
likely to have
an angle”

“I trust it more
than some
articles...most
of it's not
opinion, it's
more fact
based.”

“I'm more engaged in news than I have
been for years. For me it's about being
able to make up my own mind.”

—user survey and interviews, pers. comm, Aug '11



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**Objectivity = verification
+ transparency +
supporting evidence +
balance**



Aggregation and links

- **16.25** hyperlinks per live blog at *The Guardian* (Thurman and Walters, 2013: 91)
- Live blogs = **one third substantive quotes** (ibid)
- Median number of links in regular news articles - **2.6** (Stray, 2010).
- Best practice:
 - Attribute transparently (block quotes etc)
 - Link to source material directly.

The OECD has is predicting that the UK economy will shrink by 0.7% year, according to Sky. Here's an extract from its story.

“ The Paris-based organisation reduced its 2012 growth forecast for Britain by more than an entire percentage point, cutting it from the 0.5% growth it predicted in May to -0.7% - a major contraction.



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Making corrections

- Acknowledge within the live blog as quickly as possible.
- AND go back to the original post.

theguardian

News | Sport | Comment | Culture | Business | Money | Life & style | Tr

News > Media > Phone hacking live

POLITICS BLOG



12.37pm: Nick Raynsford did not say who he was referring to, but on Twitter my former colleague Gaby Hinsliff suggests this might have been a reference to Jenny Watson, head of the Electoral Commission. Watson has complained about being the victim of some particular hostile briefing from an unnamed government source.

Correction: We now understand it was not Watson. Apologies.

In response to another question about whether BSKyB came up in his conversations with Brooks, Cameron says the point he is trying to make is that he was not involved in BSKyB decisions. He did not even know when announcements were going to be made.

12.42pm: Penny Mordaunt, a Conservative, says the aid agencies are saying that donations to famine relief in east Africa are down because the phone hacking scandal is taking up too much media attention.

Cameron says that is why he wanted to press ahead with his visit to Africa.



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Live Blogs – trust and objectivity

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—user survey and interviews, pers. comm, Aug '11



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“this ‘democratization’ of media use signals a broadening of opportunities for individuals and grassroots communities to tell stories.. to present arguments.. to share information”

Jenkins and Deuze, 2008

Jenkins, Henry and Deuze, Mark (2008) “Editorial: Convergence Culture” *Convergence* (14) 1





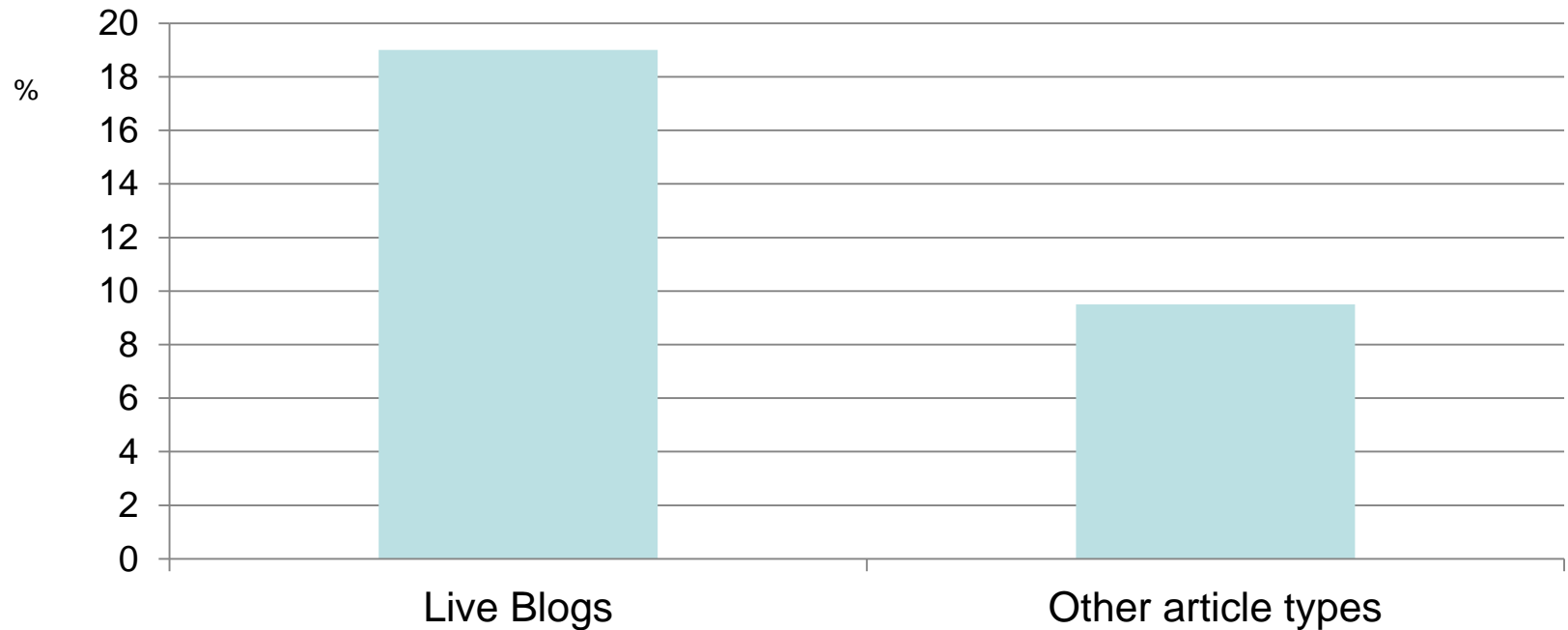
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Insert screenshot of a users' live blog using scriblive platform





Likelihood of users to participate in news formats at Guardian.co.uk



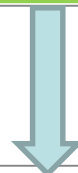
Source: Thurman and Walters (2012), n=189

% user-generated content

“structured inequalities ... created and sustained by electronic media” – **Silverstone, 1995**

**Guardian
live
blogs**

**Newspapers
& TV news
websites**



Guardian.co.uk
(Thurman &
Walters, 2012)

Virginia Tech
(Wigley and
Fontenot,
2009)

Tucson,
Arizona
shootings
(Wigley and
Fontenot,
2011)

Series: Eurozone crisis live

Eurozone crisis live: Italy faces 'billions of euros of losses' on derivative contracts

LIVE Italy risks losing around €8bn over debt deals made as it tried to improve its finances before joining the euro, the Financial Times reports.

- Details
- Early reaction
- German confidence hits six-year high
- Commodities pioneer Marc Rich dies



Graeme Wearden

guardian.co.uk, Wednesday 26 June 2013 10.44 BST

Jump to comments (120)



Open for comments. [Sign in or create your Guardian account](#) to join the discussion.

119 comments. Showing conversations, threads , sorted

8 PEOPLE, 9 COMMENTS



Antiehypocrite

26 June 2013 8:23am

46

Let me guess..... Goldman Sachs was advising



kizbot ▶ **Antiehypocrite**

26 June 2013 8:30am

8

@Antiehypocrite 26 June 2013 8:23am. Get [cifFix](#) for Firefox.

Lol... beat me to it.



Gelion ▶ **Antiehypocrite**

26 June 2013 8:31am

14

It's only €8 billion.

The UK lost about £750 / €900 billion to the bankers since 2008 in QE, unemployment and loss of taxes, loss of SME loans, the devaluation of sterling, directly propping up the banker balance sheets (at least that money might come back).



Scaff1 ▶ **Gelion**

26 June 2013 8:38am

4

Replies: This is the Eurozone Map. It's all here in the balance of it.



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LONDON

“If you get any more than a hundred comments it becomes impossible to write the live blog and read the comments”

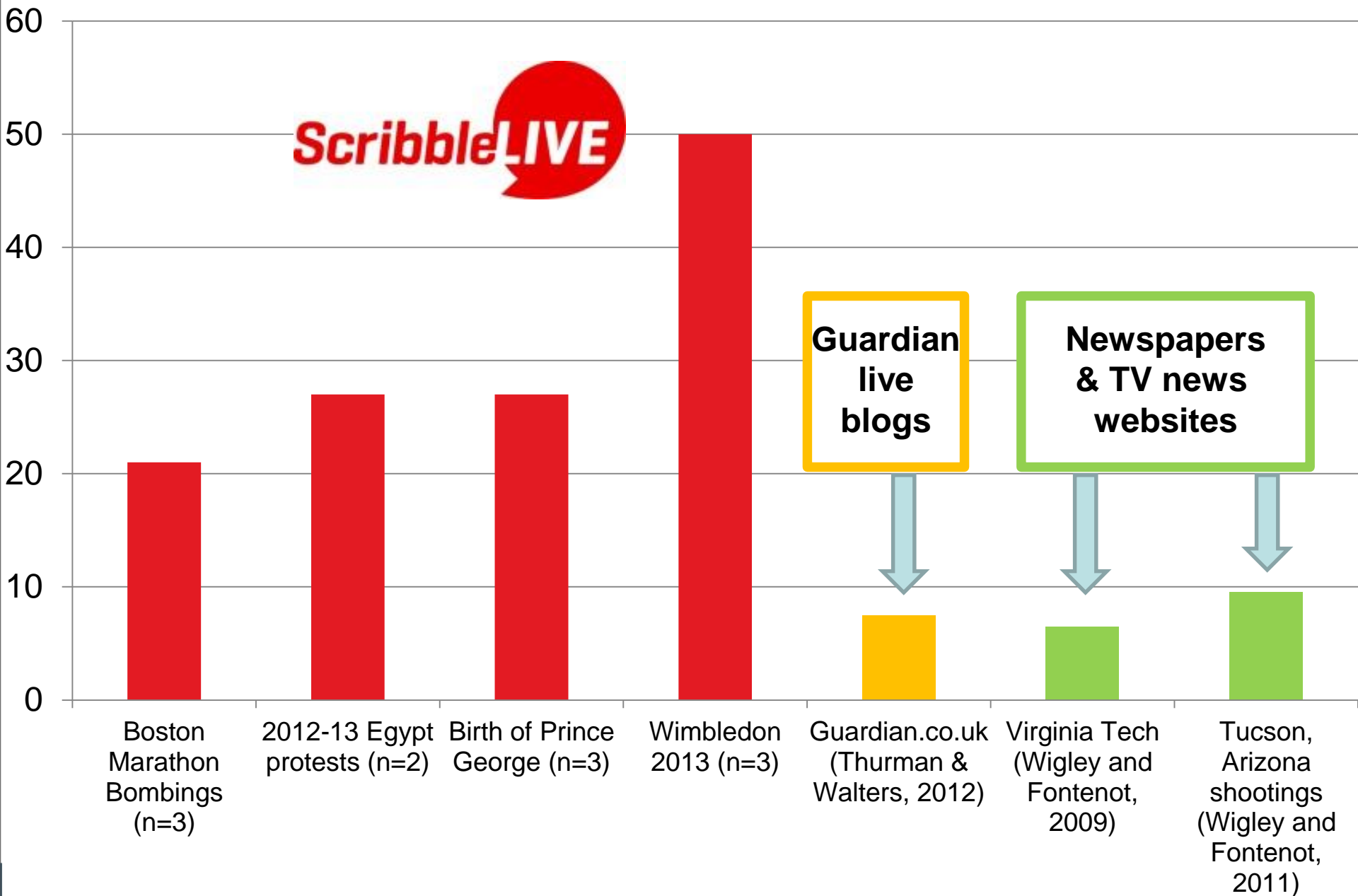
- Matt Wells, personal communication, June 17, 2011

“[live blogging sports events] is quite a busy process and it would be difficult to keep an eye on Twitter”

- Rob Smyth, personal communication, July 6, 2011.



% user-generated content





REUTERS

EDITION: U.S.

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Iran Elections: Iranians Vote for the Islamic Republic's Next President

Friday's presidential election in Iran is unlikely to bring significant change to the Islamic republic, whose supreme leader has ensured hard-line candidates dominate the field. But the sole moderate could upset the race. Reuters World brings you live coverage of the elections, including in-depth reporting, analysis, photography, interactive graphics, video and more for this event.

< OLDEST | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | NEWEST >

ScribbleLIVE



Arash Karami @thekarami

June 14 at 7:46 PM

Kayhan, close to Khamenei is reporting 75% turnout, that's 37.5 million people.



READER COMMENT: I've been at odds with whether to VOTE or not. and I did eventually at 10:45pm. There are still people queued in order to vote. Honestly I couldn't believe it! I feel relieved right now. I think it was worth another shot.

by MiAd Frqn edited by Margarita Noriega (Reuters) June 14 at 7:52 PM



Golnaz Esfandiari @GESfandiari

June 14 at 8:12 PM



WORLD NEWS



Putin rules out handing Snowden over to United States

MOSCOW/NAANTALI, Finland -

Russian President Vladimir Putin confirmed on Tuesday a former U.S. spy agency contractor sought by the United States was in the transit area of a Moscow airport but ruled out handing him to Washington, dismissing U.S. criticisms as "ravings and rubbish". | [Video](#)

Russia, U.S. fail to set up Syria peace talks

Scalpel in hand, Chinese Premier Li stirs reform hopes

Unrest leaves 27 dead in China's troubled Xinjiang: Xinhua

Argentina asks U.S. Supreme Court to hear debt appeal

Rousseff's referendum plan for Brazil runs into trouble

Political will and big spending put Austrians to work

Australian PM Gillard faces leadership battle ahead of poll

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**Non
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source interaction**

**Technology-mediated
source interaction**

