

## **MEDIA; AS A FREE SPEECH AND AS A POLITICAL WEAPON**

*by:*

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I think it is the media biased partnered by illiteracy of whom may be reading through online platforms. What I am pointing out that the media is now a weapon to either attack or defend the person, a group, and even the government. It is a now a platform of public scrutiny wherein daily news domestic and international are made available public by Facebook, YouTube and websites. Where is the problem then? More often negative side are overwhelmed the positive side. Instead of bringing out the truth and making the public informed of what is going on, the Facebook, specially, it become a toxic community with persons of automatic dissenters and concurred to the viral whatever may be it is.

There is no problem of opposition, in fact it is the essential to democracy. It makes the balancing power to come up and debate a particular issue whether it is in accordance to the rule of law or not.

Irresponsible media used, if this continue to abused, such as spreading unverified news and trial by publicity it will result to more serious problems. Classic example would be the Dacera Case, remember the suspects (allegedly) was already suffered a defeat as they criticized, adjudged, and tagged as murderer's rapist not in court of law but publicly raging on Facebook and twitter. Those who had share, comment and write through online, what happened after the official finding was not a rape slay? Isn't they become shut and quiet, some are retweeted that they are very sorry and they admitted their fault. How about the victims then? Isn't their integrity, all of their careers, and names are now all forfeit. What a catastrophic event for both parties and to the government.

See, that impede and one of the burdens to our government to take another step to good governance. Borrowing the term " Think, before you click ", should always be remember as the society transform to digital and aided by technologies.

*References:*

<https://www.unesco.org/en/communication-information/media-information-literacy>