

Social Media and its implication towards citizen journalism

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A few years ago, many new media experts believe that blogging would transform journalism and that every one can get how of the power in information distribution and becomes individual media. With the rise of social media, the scene has changed. The optimistic view is that the rise of social media, such as Twitter and Facebook, has turned every individual into a visible information sources and transmitter, and by collective wisdom, the most creditable information can spread through the world in a couple of hours, like the case of Iran revolution. However, when information has become so fragmented, disbursed and transient, it takes a lot of professional journalistic work to reprocess the information, contextualize the dialogue and retell the story. It seems that commercial media, with its resources and organization form, is in a much better position to do the journalistic work. What would be the implication to development of citizen journalism then? On the other hand, social media have grasped information from citizen websites and some how relocate the citizen community to a semi-public individual's own network. How shall citizen media platform rebuild its community network? This presentation is to outline the major challenge confronted by citizen media against the background of the development of social media.