

Regulatory Framework for Citizen Journalism: A Public Assessment

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Abstract

Following the recent comments by scholars, professionals and media experts that most of the publications in the new media are scandalously packaged and malignant to journalistic ethos, this study examines the workings of citizen journalism, its features and impact in Nigeria from the backdrop of the need for a regulatory framework. Survey and descriptive research instruments were used to collect data for analysis. A sample of 400 respondents was drawn from the 722,664 population of people in Enugu metropolis. The analysis revealed the lack of a strong regulatory framework as the bane of citizen journalism. It was also revealed that the phrase `journalism` has been found to give participants in this social network a false sense of professional conduct. Based on this, the researchers

recommend the replacement of citizen journalism with a less conventional term like multi-platform-audience participatory communication (MPAPC)

Keywords: Journalism, Regulatory framework, Citizen Journalism, Participation