

News and the Sociology of Professions

The rise of professionalism

- The idea of science and the 19th century evolution of newspaper
- Journalists as professionals: neutrality and other news routines
- The integration of journalistic routines into other institutions
 - Parajournalism
 - Politics as campaigning

Key events in evolution of journalism as a profession

- The rise of public relations
- WW II and Edward R. Murrow
- The selling of candidates: 1960 - 1968
- Watergate and Vietnam -- journalism as a cynical profession
- Heavy news commercialization in the 1980s

Problems with professionalism

- Bennet: as much the problem as the solution
- Schudson: journalism has become "event-centered, negative, detached, technical, and official"