

Social Change Project Annotated Bibliography

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Annotated Bibliography

Boykoff, Jules, and Russ McFeely. "Framing Brittney Griner: The US Media, Race, Gender, and Geopolitics." *The International Journal of Sport and Society*, vol. 15, no. 1, 2024, pp.123-152.

In this academic journal, Boykoff and McFeely uncover how U.S. media sources framed Brittney Griner's imprisonment during and after her detainment in Russia. The authors analyze the intersectionalities of race, gender, sexuality, and how it has shaped media narratives, often reinforcing stereotypes. This analysis highlights how Brittney Griner was not only framed, the authors provide information that contributes to the reflection on how Griner's case brought attention to how the media portrayed a black woman with several intersectional identities.

Overall, this source highlights important ideologies that played a role in the perspective media consumers have on the case. This piece is important for understanding the broader implications of sports media coverage in a global context. This source is very

"The Brittney Griner Case: How a Basketball Player Got Caught in the Middle Between Russia

and the U.S." *CE Noticias Financieras*, 29 July 2022, <http://libproxy.usc.edu/login?url=http://www.proquest.com/wire-feeds/brittney-griner-case-how-basketball-player-got/docview/2696581059/se-2>.

This source is a news article that pertains to the exact information behind the arrest of Brittney Griner. It is an important source for providing a evidenced based timeline of key events and details that clarify what occurred. This article could help with understanding the case's significance internationally while focusing on the legal proceedings.

Keaton, Ajhanai. "Brittney Griner, Intersectionality, and 'Woke Politics': A Critical Examination of Brittney Griner's Return to the United States" *Human Kinetics Journal*, vol. 41, issue. 2, 2023, pp. 141-151.

This article gives an overview of the detainment of Brittney Griner's in 2022 in Russia. It focuses on intersectionality, through her identity as a female, Black, and lesbian athlete. The article explores themes of "woke politics," racial privilege, and how identity can shape justice. For our project, the article will work in the introduction of information as well as bringing identity into sociopolitical action. It mentions social justice as well as activism— all aspects that will be discussed in our project.

Larkin, Paul J., and Dakota Wood. "Clemency for Favored Constituents: The Brittney Griner-Viktor About Prisoner Swap." *The International Lawyer*, 56, 3, 2023, 443-481, <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.5049363>.

This article was published in *The International Lawyer*, the official publication for the American Bar Association's International Law section. It's a thirty-eight page case that criticizes the actions of President Joe Biden regarding his approval of the Griner-About prisoner swap. The authors highlight their distaste in the message they inferred through this swap: that the US valued the return of a WNBA basketball player over keeping a high-risk criminal behind bars. This article will serve as a way to see how this swap is viewed by its nonsupporters. In doing so, it will contribute to maintaining a well-rounded perspective on what Americans thought of the Griner-Bout swap.

Lavelle, Katherine. "'Plays Like a Guy': A Rhetorical Analysis of Brittney Griner in Sports Media" *Project Muse*, vol. 9, no. 2, 2014, pp. 115-131.

This essay dives into how *Sports Illustrated* and ESPN pictures Brittney Griner, usually casting her achievements to her tall height and unique femininity. These ideas on athleticism and physical appearance creates an unfair and sometimes sexist view on women in sports. Introducing more research by Miller (2010) and Roth and Bascow (2004), the essay author explores how media outlets tend to focus on specifically physical critiques, instead of focusing on her background, talents, and personality. This source is perfect for our research project because it analyzes how physical differences can reduce and overshadow one of a kind talent and accomplishments in female sports.

McFaul, Michael. "What the Brittney Griner Prisoner Swap Says About Russia-U.S. Relations."

All Things Considered, interviewed by Michel Martin, hosted by Mia Estrada and Natalie Winston, National Public Radio, 10 December 2022. Transcript, <https://www.npr.org/2022/12/10/1142099355/what-the-brittney-griner-prisoner-swap-says-about-russia-u-s-relations>.

This is an interview between NPR host Michel Martin and former US Ambassador Michael McFaul. Michael McFaul was an ambassador in Russia, and had spent many years there as the US representative. As such, he has a distinctly close understanding of what this swap means for US-Russia relations. The interviewer, Michel Martin, asks questions regarding peace negotiations between Russia and the US, as well as hope for the future. McFaul's thoughts provide key insights on the behind-the-scenes of both the Russian and American administrations. It sheds light on the potential while also being grounded in the realistic. This will contribute greatly to the discussion of the swap and what it means for these two great nations.

Northeastern University. "Why Did the U.S. Agree to the Brittney Griner Prisoner Swap?"

News@Northeastern, 9 Dec. 2022,

<https://news.northeastern.edu/2022/12/09/brittney-griner-prisoner-swap/>.

This article, published by Northeastern University's news platform, discusses the reasons behind the U.S. government's decision to proceed with the Brittney Griner-Viktor Bout prisoner swap. It provides insights from legal and political experts, addressing both the humane aspect of securing Griner's release. This also includes the broader geopolitical considerations that could result from the swap. The article also examines the public's

reaction to the trade, including criticisms that the U.S. has prioritized a celebrity over the other 153 detained Americans who are not able to go home.

The article is informative and presents multiple viewpoints on the controversy itself. It also provides great information about other prisoners who have been wrongfully imprisoned and are still imprisoned now. This also emphasizes the magnitude that this trade had caused in American politics. However, given its university affiliation, it may not carry the same level of investigative journalism as major news organizations. Nonetheless, it provides a well-rounded and analytical discussion of the prisoner swap between Brittney Griner and Viktor Bout.

Myre, Greg. "Who Is Viktor Bout, the Prisoner the U.S. May Trade for Brittney Griner?" NPR, 28 July 2022, <https://www.npr.org/2022/07/28/1114236683/who-is-viktor-bout-the-prisoner-the-u-s-may-trade-for-brittney-griner>.

This NPR article provides an in-depth background on Viktor Bout, the Russian arms dealer whom the U.S. considered trading for Brittney Griner's release. It examines Bout's criminal history, his role as an international arms trafficker for Russia, and the potential political implications of the prisoner swap for both countries. The article highlights the ethical and strategic considerations of exchanging a convicted arms dealer for a high-profile American athlete detained in Russia.

This article offers a factual and fair analysis of the international and public affairs between countries. NPR provides an accurate and fair account of Viktor Bout's past, drawing from official government statements and expert insights. However, it largely presents a Western perspective on the trade, emphasizing the U.S. concerns about releasing a high-profile criminal. While it does provide some historical context about Russia, the article doesn't deeply analyze Russia's motivations or the broader geopolitical implications of such exchanges.

Pickman, Ben. "Brittney Griner's Off-the-Court Impact Remains in Phoenix." Sports Illustrated, 10 Aug. 2022. <https://www.si.com/wnba/2022/08/10/brittney-griner-phoenix-mercury-community-service-russia-shoes>

This article highlights Griner's community service efforts, particularly her work with the Phoenix Rescue Mission. It describes her involvement in shoe drives and other charitable initiatives, showing how she has inspired similar efforts across the WNBA. The piece focuses on her local impact and alludes to her influence over her community. While it doesn't explore her broader influence, it gives us information on what is important to her and what contributes to her philanthropic identity.

Small, Geoffrey. "Brittney Griner: A Lesson for Activists on Intersectionality." U.S. RESIST NEWS, 22 Dec. 2022. <https://www.usresistnews.org/2022/12/22/brittney-griner-a-less>

on-for-activists-on-intersectionality/

This article examines how Griner's identity as a Black, lesbian athlete placed her at the center of discussions on race, gender, and LGBTQ+ rights. It explains how activists and advocacy groups rallied around her, using her case to highlight intersectional discrimination. While insightful, the article focuses more on activism than on Griner's personal views.