I. Hurricane Katrina

A. Media: Newspapers

1. NYTimes headline: “Despair and Lawlessness Grip New Orleans as

Thousands Remain Stranded”

2. NYPost: “Dodge City” with picture: military vehicle, with soldiers, weapons at the ready

3. USA Today: “Looters, they are like cockroaches!” wealthy lady in

unaffected suburb

4. NYTimes (story); quoting New Orleans Swat Commander: “armed groups terrorizing, gang rape . . .”

5. Washington Post: “Its Like Baghdad on a bad day” and “Troops Back from Iraq find another war zone.”

6. AP: Looters getting closer to populated areas.

C. Television

1. CNN Lou Dobbs: City in Crisis, wide spread looting, even shoes that

“don’t fit.”

2. CNN Situation Room Wolf Blitzer increasing violence and snipers.

3. CNN Newsnight Kitty Pilgrim: police can’t do their jobs and are quitting because of snipers.

3. Fox: “Wild West”

a. fire for the joy of arson (no support)

b. guys in pick up trucks with auto weapons (no support)

c. looting, murder and rape

d. standoff at St. Bernard’s Paris

4. Today Matt Lauer: “What are the rules of engagement”?

D. On the spot

1. Fox: Shepard Smith: 100s huddled under freeway, organized, sharing,

no violence. Lots of anger.

2. Geraldo: no violence at Convention center, no food, no water

3. Scarboro: no violence, no food, no water, no help

E. Oops! We made a mistake!

1. LA Times:
   1. no roving gangs
   2. no wide ranging looting
   3. no murders at the Superdome

2. NY Times: four violent deaths citywide during entire

period

3. Knight-Ridder

a. b. not one confirmed sniping.

b. Air Force, Coast Guard, Homeland Security,

Air National Guard

4. New Orleans SWAT team official reported

a. entered convention center only once

b. saw no weapons, no reports of rape or murder

c. no water, no food

5. WP: Official National Guard report: no violence at the convention center

6. violence confirmed: police in white suburb turned back people trying to flee by firing over their heads.