**EXAMPLE OF AN EFFECTIVE INTRODUCTION**

Yet another news article about an attempted bombing made the headlines in the *Detroit Free Press* newspaper on September 23, 1972. The incident involved 20 sticks of dynamite placed in a 500,000-gallon jet fuel tank at K.I. Sawyer Airforce Base. This was the fourth mention of bombings that made it to the front page that week.

Violence in the news is nothing new, but the way it is reported on is constantly changing. The research question guiding this study is: What is the difference between the coverage of violent newspaper reports in American cities between 1972 and 1999? Much news tends to be negative due to editors’ reliance on conflict as a determinant of news value. This paper will examine news stories that would result in someone or something facing harm. Three main themes will be examined in this paper. The first is the quantity and content of violent stories being reported on. The second is the way each year approached storytelling and how this may have affected the violence of the stories themselves. And the third is how the audience could affect the reporting of violent events. This paper compares 10 newspaper articles from my mother’s birthday with 10 articles from my birthday and analyzes the content accordingly. Newspaper issues will come from the *Detroit Free Press* backfile for the dates September 19-23, 1972, and March 1-5, 1999.

**EXAMPLE OF AN EFFECTIVE CONCLUSION FOR A PAPER**

The quantity of violent news will always fluctuate depending on the time period, but the way in which it is reported will change depending on the audience. Reporters will conform to new style of reporting based off what is desired by the audience, like the form of thematic storytelling that focuses on an overarching theme of a story. Sometimes, presenting news in a theatrical way, can suppress the violent tendencies of newspaper editorials. With less exposure to hard news, an audience can begin to experience a passive newspaper experience.

Based on my review of the reporting in these two time periods, the Detroit Free Press of 1972 had reporters who focused on the traditional no-nonsense style of reporting, that delivered unaltered facts and statistics to their audience despite their violent nature. This type of reporting was beneficial in this post-war era in the US, that needed information about foreign relations. Whereas, reporters in 1999 confronted a thematic narrative approach to reporting, that may have suppressed the violence of articles, and delivered the overarching lesson to the story. Which was beneficial in the non-war time, that focused primarily on research and scientific health studies.

**EXAMPLE OF A BODY PARAGRAPH THAT USES PROPER FOOTNOTE STYLE. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS CAME FROM A DIFFERENT PAPER**

The amount of coverage devoted to public health, medical research and scientific innovation differed greatly between the two dates. The papers from the week of June 8, 1987 include expansive coverage of the AIDS crisis and the efforts being made to curb its effects, including health officials’ calls for quarantines and mandatory testing,[[1]](#footnote-1) and the debate over abstinence-only sex education.[[2]](#footnote-2) The June 8 issue also features a first-page story about genetic engineering: “Fourteen years after scientists first spliced genetic material from one microbe into another to create a bit of life that never before existed, genetic alterations once confirmed to science fiction are becoming ever more common.”[[3]](#footnote-3)

1. Philip M. Boffey, “Health Officials Fear ‘Sideshow’ Efforts Will Hurt AIDS Fight,” *The New York Times,* June 8, 1987. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. James Barron, “Koch Orders New AIDS Ads Stressing Sexual Abstinence,” *The New York Times,* June 8, 1987. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Keith Schneider, “Science Debates Using Tools to Redesign Life,” *The New York Times,* June 8, 1987. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)