Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Audience Involvement and Tragedy**

*Opening discussion: Read the following statements and place a checkmark based on whether you agree or disagree.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Statement** | **Agree?** | **In the middle?** | **Disagree?** |
| 1. Journalists have an obligation to protect their sources. |  |  |  |
| 2. Sometimes becoming a source can put an average person in harm’s way. |  |  |  |
| 3. If a source could be harmed from a story, journalists should not report on it. |  |  |  |
| 4. If there is no way for a journalist to get a story, it is a good idea to turn to citizen journalists to get the story through social media or eyewitness reports. |  |  |  |
| 5. If there is no way for a journalist to get a story, it is a good idea to turn to citizen journalists to get the story, even if it means they could get hurt in the process. |  |  |  |
| 6. Journalists should keep from sharing sensitive information with the public if it has not been authorized by police or other authorities. |  |  |  |
| 7. Journalists should keep from sharing sensitive information that could harm sources with the public if it has not been authorized by police or other authorities. |  |  |  |

Which of the above statements do you feel most strongly about? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Why?

Which of the above statements do you feel could go either way? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Why?

*Directions: As you view the slideshow, record your thoughts using the chart below.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Event** | **What happened in this scenario?** | **How was this story told through social media by citizens?** | **How did citizen journalists tell this story in a vital way?** |
| Mass shootings (Virginia Tech, Aurora movie theater, etc.) |  |  |  |
| Killing of Osama bin Laden |  |  |  |
| Arab Spring |  |  |  |
| City riots (Baltimore, Ferguson, Chicago, etc.) |  |  |  |

To what extent should journalists engage citizens as reporters through social media in tragic or dangerous circumstances?