



The Transformation of Investigative Journalism in China: From Journalists to Activists

By Haiyan Wang

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Investigative journalism emerged in China in the 1980s following Deng Xiaoping's media reforms. Over the past few decades, Chinese investigative journalists have produced an increasing number of reports in print or on air and covered a surprisingly wide range of topics which had been thought impossible by the standards of the Communist era. In the 2010s, however, investigative journalism has been replaced by activist journalism. This book examines how, with the aid of new media technologies and in response to new calls for social responsibility, these new-era journalists vigorously seek to expand the scope of their journalism and their capacity as journalists. They tend to perceive themselves as more than professional journalists, and their activities are not limited to the physical boundaries of newsrooms. They are not only detached observers of society but also engaged organizers of social movements—they are social activists as well as responsible journalists who challenge state power and the party line and point to the limitations of the more traditional conceptions of journalism in China. This book analyzes how journalism in China has been gradually transformed from a tool of the state to a means of broadening calls for democratic reform.

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Editorial Review

Review

Well-researched and documented, Haiyan Wang's book successfully maps out the process by which investigative journalism in China has taken an advocacy turn to become an activist form of journalism during the reform era. It shows how the journalistic professionalism of the West is appropriated for the articulation of an emergent journalistic paradigm that is rooted in Chinese intellectual traditions and contextual dynamics. The book will become a key text for anyone interested in the mutual constitution between journalism and social change in contemporary China. (Joseph M. Chan, The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Haiyan Wang has written a smart, eye-opening book about investigative journalism and activism. Wang deftly shows how and why investigative reporting often blends into activist reporting in contemporary China, given persistent limitations grounded in the country's media politics and economics. The analysis is grounded in impeccable research and offers novel insights into how journalists negotiate personal and institutional commitments amid challenging conditions. This book is a must-read for understanding why investigation and activism are not divergent journalistic traditions. (Silvio Waisbord, George Washington University)

Lucidly written and richly contextualized, Dr. Wang's compelling analysis of investigative journalism and activism clarifies the ambiguities and contradictions of 'media reform' in China. It also holds considerable implication for comparative communication. (Chin-Chuan Lee, City University of Hong Kong)

About the Author

Haiyan Wang is associate professor in the School of Media and Communication at Shenzhen University.

Users Review

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Elizabeth Wiggins:

This The Transformation of Investigative Journalism in China: From Journalists to Activists book is not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by reading this book is actually information inside this publication incredible fresh, you will get data which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. This kind of The Transformation of Investigative Journalism in China: From Journalists to Activists without we realize teach the one who reading it become critical in thinking and analyzing. Don't end up being worry The Transformation of Investigative Journalism in China: From Journalists to Activists can bring if you are and not make your carrier space or bookshelves' come to be full because you can have it in the lovely laptop even mobile phone. This The Transformation of Investigative Journalism in China: From Journalists to Activists having excellent arrangement in word as well as layout, so you will not sense uninterested in reading.

Mary Logsdon:

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The Transformation of Investigative Journalism in China: From Journalists to Activists can be one of your starter books that are good idea. Many of us recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in language, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to set every word into pleasure arrangement in writing The Transformation of Investigative Journalism in China: From Journalists to Activists nevertheless doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource facts that maybe you can be among it. This great information could drawn you into new stage of crucial contemplating.

Dina Hirsch:

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