Patrick Gorski
21 April 2020

Assignment 6

Anonymous Anas reveals African Prison Mistreatment

Anas Aremeyaw Anas is an undercover journalist. His immersive stories expose corruption and organized crime throughout Ghana. Continuing to conceal his identity, this is how he initiated his TED talk from February of 2013, in Long Beach, California. He explained the bad guys would come for him if he didn't conceal his identity.

Anas Aremeyaw Anas showcased for the first time ever, his undercover work in the Nsawan Prison. From a pile of dead bodies to waiting in line to receive toilet paper to inhuman food being served, the system is unbelievable. There was an abundance of cannabis, heroin, and cocaine, easier to get on the inside, than the outside. It was a true experience, as he went through the court system into prison ethically like everyone else.

His immersive journalism consists of three basic principles: naming, shaming and jailing. "Journalism is about results, it is about affecting your community or your society in the most progressive way," Anas Aremeyaw Anas said, as he spoke through his mask of red and white wires.

In the story Spirit Child, while on stage, in front of an audience and being recorded, Anas Aremeyaw Anas mentions the take down of the alleged killing of children with deformities. The parents felt their children were not good enough to live in society, therefore they would have them killed. An Al Jazeera video clip of the set up was shown during the TED talk. The parents would hire guys to create a concoction to give the child to take and die.

Anas Aremeyaw Anas created a sting with a prosthetic boy to lure the suspected killers out. As they were about to kill the boy, the police where there to arrest them. He concluded the story with the alleged killers before the courts now. "We will put them where they belong," the anonymous wired man said.

The Spell of the Albinos, in his second key presentation story, went in depth about the children in Tanzania born with Albinism are considered "unfit for society." Their bodies are chopped up with machetes, for concoction or financial gain. The masked man, who goes by the pseudonym, Anas Aremeyaw Anas, went undercover to expose these people and bring them to justice.

Evidence is important. Everything needs to be backed with hardcore evidence, especially in Anas Aremeyaw Anas' case. There was an alleged case of cocoa being smuggled by an officer through bribery.

Ellen McGrory, a Retired Adult Probation Department Officer, argues that this is a nontraditional way of catching criminals. She argues “police officers traditionally caught offenders in the act of a crime, rather than a journalist setting up a sting for the police.” Regardless of the bad publicity he receives, Anas was not afraid to display the highlights during his presentation. Anas believes in the good work he does, the finance minister supports his endeavors.

Charles Gorski, a City of Chicago Engineer, believes “Anas does the world’s work.”

Anas emphasized the fact that immersive journalism works on his part of the continent. From his series Africa Investigates, a lot more bad guys will be put behind bars.

Anas Aremeyaw Anas closed out his attentive TED talk with, “When evil men destroy, good men must build.”

He was interviewed after the speech. He concluded with undercover being a last resort. He noted his team is important, and that everyone has a hazard in their life, his being slightly riskier.

Ellen McGrory – Retired Adult Probation Department Officer (Mother)
Chicago, Illinois, United States
Ellenmcgrory5@gmail.com
(xxx-xxx-xxxx)

Charles Gorski – City of Chicago Engineer (Father)
Chicago, Illinois, United States
blank@blank.com
(xxx-xxx-xxxx)