

## Western Washington University

## Western CEDAR

Scholars Week 2020

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## Journalism in the Age of Doxxing

Kathrine Huntington Western Washinton University

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## Journalism in the Age of Doxxing

Doxxing is known as the release of private information without consent of the person it is directed towards. It is important for journalists today to be familiar with what doxxing is, what ethical dilemmas it creates as well as how to protect themselves against being doxxed

- Doxxing comes in three forms; releasing information with malicious intent, political reasons or to uncover an anonymous user.
- The threat of being doxxed makes journalists think twice about taking a stance that could be considered controversial and sometimes choose to not publish at all rather than face the harassment.
- Doxxing can have long lasting health effects such as PTSD, depression, anxiety, hyper-vigilance, fear for safety and many more.
- In 2017 the Committee to Protect Journalists addressed doxxing as a global threat to journalists and created a safety advisory specifically for it.

By Kathrine Huntington huntink2@wwu.edu (360)953-4956

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