

Abstract

Ethics, credibility and objectivity in the history of photography, especially journalistic

This work deals with photography as with a socio-ethical pictorial medium, and covers the period from its invention to the mid-fifties of 20th century. I describe the history and development of ethical aspects of photography in the context of the process from image taking to its publication in the press, and its importance in the context of the time. The photos presented in the thesis are selected from those that have, due to their specific impact at the time they were taken, particular importance, and have extraordinary informative value related to ethical aspects in the historical development of photography. I mention photographers and photos that draw attention to the newly emerged ethical problems enable others to see pains, wickedness and injustice in the society, to rouse conscience of the society, and give impetus to correct these. In this respect, photography has played an important and irreplaceable role. There are also presented photographs documenting ethical failures of whole nations under the influence of monstrous ideologies of charismatic leaders, as a memento for future generations to help them to avoid similar events.

Keywords

Photography, journalism, social ethics, child labor, propaganda, manipulation.