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Covid-19 in International Media: Global Pandemic Responses is one of the first books uniting an international team of scholars to investigate how media address critical social, political, and health issues connected to the 2020-21 COVID-19 outbreak.

The book evaluates unique civic challenges, responsibilities, and opportunities for media worldwide, exploring pandemic social norms that media promote or discourage, and how media serve as instruments of social control and resistance, or of cooperation and representation. These chapters raise significant questions about the roles mainstream or citizen journalists or netizens play or ought to play, enlightening audiences successfully about scientific information on COVID-19 in a pandemic that magnifies social inequality and unequal access to health care, challenging popular beliefs about health and disease prevention and the role of government while the entire world pays close attention.

This book will be of interest to students and faculty of communication studies and journalism, departments of public health, sociology, and social marketing.

Editors


Douglas A. Vakoch, Ph.D., is President of METI, a research organization dedicated to Messaging Extraterrestrial Intelligence and sustaining civilization on multigenerational timescales. As Director of Green Psychotherapy, PC, he helps alleviate environmental distress through ecotherapy. He is a frequent commentator on television programs that explore astrobiology—the hunt for life in the cosmos. His expertise includes space exploration, the societal impact of science, and environmental threats to humanity's long-term survival. Dr. Vakoch has published over 20 books covering the search for life beyond the Earth, the psychology of space exploration, COVID-19, environmental health, and ecofeminism. He has been featured in such publications as The New York Times, The Economist, Nature, and Science, and he has been interviewed on radio and television shows on the BBC, NPR, ABC, the Science Channel, the Discovery Channel, and many others, with recent appearances on PBS’s NOVA Wonders and the Netflix documentary series Alien Worlds. Dr. Vakoch is Editor-in-Chief of the book series Space and Society, as well as general editor of Ecocritical Theory and Practice.
Testimonials

"This extremely timely and much-needed study of the media's role in covering Covid-19 provides an excellent global and comparative perspective of how different societies' media are responding to the unprecedented risk brought on by the pandemic. Covering all inhabited continents, it provides fascinating and in-depth accounts of the media's role in the pandemic. This book should be mandatory reading.”
University Professor Folker Hanusch, Ph.D., Professor of Journalism, Department of Communication, University of Vienna; Editor-in-Chief, Journalism Studies; Vice-Chair, Worlds of Journalism Study

"Pollock and Vakoch have assembled a formidable collection that demonstrates the richness of communication theories and analysis for understanding multiple aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The book features stellar contributions from around the world that examine the communicative, technological, political and cultural complexities of the pandemic, as well as different government responses and performance.”
Dr. Silvio Waisbord, Director and Professor, School of Media and Public Affairs, George Washington University; Past Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Communication, 2015-2018

"In the midst of a global crisis, COVID-19 in International Media: Global Pandemic Perspectives presents a rich and timely panoply of the way governments, citizens, and the media around the world have framed the Corona pandemic. An exemplary effort of internationally collaborative scholarship, this book is a must-read for scholars in health communication and journalism as well as in political and strategic communication.”
Dr. Thomas Hanitzsch, Chair and Professor of Communication, Department of Media and Communication, LMU Munich; Chair, Worlds of Journalism Study; Editor of Worlds of Journalism: Journalistic Cultures around the Globe and The Handbook of Journalism Studies

"A pandemic is a global event, handled and experienced in many different ways in different contexts and creating important global information flows, debates and competitions. Scholarship on communication in pandemics rarely reflects this global character. But here is an exception—a highly diverse collection that explores COVID communication in a wide range of national and transnational contexts across the world, deeply informed by first-hand knowledge of those contexts.”
Daniel C. Hallin, Distinguished Professor, Department of Communication, University of California, San Diego

"The COVID-19 pandemic has precipitated unprecedented challenges to society to reduce the spread of viral infection, death, and suffering around the globe. However, some countries did a better job than others in avoiding the (pandemic misinformation) 'infodemic' by using media strategically to mobilize public acceptance of prevention guidelines. This important book examines which media communication strategies worked effectively to help minimize danger from the pandemic, and which mediated communication practices made the pandemic even worse in different parts of the world. There are important lessons to be learned about effective communication and strategic use of media to address important public health threats that this book powerfully illustrates.”
Gary L. Kreps, Ph.D., FAAHB, University Distinguished Professor, Department of Communication; Director, Center for Health and Risk Communication, George Mason University

"The COVID-19 pandemic underscores the critical importance of media of all kinds in the precarious efforts to forge a shared understanding of the health threats we all face. With accounts from every continent, this volume carefully and effectively explores the social and political contexts in which media respond to once-in-a-century challenge.”
Tim P. Vos, Professor and Director of the School of Journalism, Michigan State University; Co-author of Gatekeeping Theory, and President, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, 2020-2021

"COVID-19 in International Media offers an important and timely account of the roles and responsibilities of news and social media in the face of a pandemic of massive proportions. Authors from around the world contribute to a discussion that will for years to come set an agenda for researchers and policymakers alike.”
Theodore L. Glasser, Professor Emeritus, Department of Communication, Stanford University; Past President, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

"This book delves into some of the continued injurious consumption practices—ecologically insensitive social behavior, wet markets, and environmental destruction—that will continue when the medical hype of COVID-19 is long past, and when the next pandemic will inevitably again punish societies for their inability to adapt to the natural world. The solutions are known, but is anyone listening? The authors of this book explain what needs to be done.”
Keyan G. Tomaselli, Distinguished Professor, University of Johannesburg; Johns Hopkins Health and Education South Africa Lifetime Achiever's Award; Co-editor, Development and Public Health Communication
Understanding Media Psychology is the perfect introductory textbook to the growing field of media psychology and its importance in society, summarizing key concepts and theories to provide an overview of topics in the field.

Media is present in almost every area of life today, and is an area of study that will only increase in importance as the world becomes ever more interconnected. Written by a team of expert authors, this book will help readers to understand the structures, influences, and theories around media psychology. Covering core areas such as positive media psychology, the effects of gaming, violence, advertising, and pornography, the authors critically engage with contemporary discussions around propaganda, fake news, deepfakes, and the ways media have informed the COVID-19 pandemic. Particular care is also given to addressing the interaction between issues of social justice and the media, as well as the effects media has on both the members of marginalized groups and the way those groups are perceived. A final chapter addresses the nature of the field moving forward, and how it will continue to interact with closely related areas of study.

Containing a range of pedagogical features throughout to aid teaching and student learning, including vocabulary and key terms, discussion questions, and boxed examples, this is an essential resource for media psychology courses at the undergraduate and introductory master's level globally.

Authors

Gayle S. Stever is Professor of Psychology for Empire State College of the State University of New York, USA. She works in the areas of developmental psychology, media psychology, and fan studies. Her writing has centered around celebrity–audience relationships, the nature of attachment both within and outside of a media context, evolutionary psychology as it relates to media, and mixed-methods research.

David C. Giles is Senior Lecturer in Psychology at the University of Winchester, UK. He explores the impact of media on human behavior with a particular interest in celebrity–audience relationships, the dynamics of online interaction, qualitative research methods, and psychological issues around artistic and cultural activities.

J. David Cohen is a Visiting Instructor in Psychology for Empire State College of the State University of New York, USA. He passionately pursues how media, technology, celebrity, and storytelling impact humans. Specific areas of interest include entertainment media, marketing and persuasion, video games, and mediated violence.

Mary E. Myers is program coordinator for the Doctor of Strategic Communications program at Regent University, Virginia, USA. She has developed and teaches in a unique applied strategic communication doctoral program. Her research work primarily centers on the discovery of an early educational radio broadcaster; she also explores parental attachment, social media, and crisis communication.

Reviews

"Understanding Media Psychology is a long needed, approachable text that introduces students to the growing field of media psychology. Laced with examples ranging from classics to contemporary, it offers an engaging and clear overview of key theories, concepts, and issues in this area of research from an interdisciplinary perspective."
Rebecca (Riva) Tukachinsky Forster, Chapman University, USA

"This is the book that I have been doing without for years and wanting desperately. Media Psychology has needed a text like this that explains and contextualizes the field, and that does so in a way that works for a variety of audiences. Like an Olympic gymnast who makes her moves look easy, the authors’ clear and engaging style deftly delivers a tour-de-force in scholarship."
Karen Dill-Shackleford, Fielding Graduate University, USA

"This book is an all-inclusive scholarly bible of Media Psychology. The chapters, written by prominent celebrity scholar, Gayle Stever, and her talented team of media psychology authors, include the history of media psychology, research methods, positive psychology, social justice issues, advertising, media literacy, the audience, dark media, gaming, social media, Covid-19, and the future of media. This is all explained with familiar and practical pop culture examples that readers will certainly appreciate. Each chapter concludes with comprehensive questions that invite readers to evaluate the content and make it personally meaningful by connecting it to their attitudes, behaviors, and previous knowledge base. Consider this book as a staple in the library of everyone who needs a smart read on media psychology."
Joanne Broder, Media Psychologist and Former President, Society for Media Psychology and Technology
Health & New Media Research (HNMR) invites the submission of original research manuscripts for publication in Volume 5, Issue 2. HNMR focuses on the role of communication and new media in public and environmental health to advance scholarly discoveries and real-world solutions. HNMR is an open-access, international, biannual peer-reviewed academic journal published in June and December by the Health & New Media Research Institute at Hallym University (South Korea).

The deadline for manuscript submissions is September 15, 2021. As an incentive for authors to contribute to this journal, there will be an award of US$1,000 for accepted papers. The submission should not have been published previously nor may any included material be drawn from previously published work. Submissions to HNMR must not be under consideration for publication in any form elsewhere.

For more information about the journal and submission, please visit our website: www.jhnmr.org.

Inquiries should be sent to hnmr@hallym.ac.kr.

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