LAWS 1207 — LESD — JIBC

Law Enforcement in a Diverse Society

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Cohort: _____   **Name:** _____

Do news writers have biases for or against police?
— an "honour system" opportunity

This bonus opportunity expires on 5 December 2016.

Your mission is to see if you can find media bias or neutrality in news items that mention police. Do you think media creators are biased against police? Or do you think media creators are fairly reporting the news? To complete this mission, you will skim through 24-hour *Diversity News* cycles looking for any mention of police. I have simplified the process by collecting together news feeds from CBC, Global, BBC, conservative and liberal newspapers, religious organizations, United Nations and human rights groups, LGBTQ, police detachments and other groups — a wide range of interests that you can read with one click on *Diversity News*. You will skim the *Diversity News* for three days and collect data on the news items related to policing.

To start go to Blackboards LAWS1207 - scroll down to Links "out there…":
  CLICK *Diversity News on the* menu bar. You will be rerouted to a twitter feed. Alternatively, you can "follow" *Diversity news* on your own twitter feed.
  SCROLL and SKIM through the past 24 hours of posts and identify all police-related articles where a police officer or police event is in the lead sentence. Repeat for three days.
  CATEGORIZE each police-related news item you find by putting a check mark in the following table.

Add a check mark for every police-related *Diversity News* item you find for three days.				
24-hour news feed for:	**Police Positive** - praises police actions	**Police Negative** - criticizes police actions	**Police Neutral** - duty related announcement	**Police Other**
Day 1: Date				
Day 2: Date				
Day 3: Date				

Your conclusions: Consider the patterns you are seeing in the previous table. Are news writers biased for, against or neutral toward police?

Rules and conditions for this bonus challenge

☐ **Scroll** through a full 24-hour cycle of news (check the time stamp on the lower right of each post).

☐ **Read** the police-relevant news for three days — you do NOT have to read three days in a row — just three days.

☐ **Be** careful to not count the same event twice. The same event can be covered by many groups and appear multiple times in posts written by different authors in the news feed.

☐ **Write** in the date for each day you are monitoring Diversity News.

☐ Categorize by placing a check mark in the above table for each police-related news item you find.

☐ Write your conclusions after you have collected and analyzed your police news data. What do YOU think about how the media creators are writing about police?

☐ **Sign** the "honour system code below.

☐ **Attach** a pdf scan of this form — both sides of the page — to the respective bonus activity submission box (see Blackboard menu).

☐ **Submit** a completed paper copy of this form — checking off each rule — to indicate you have complied with each rule.

"On the honour system"

I someday aspire to be a law enforcement officer and take the following oath:

I swear/solemnly affirm that: I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, Queen of Canada, Her Heirs and Successors; I will, to the best of my power, cause the peace to be kept and prevent all offences against the persons and properties of Her Majesty's subjects; I will faithfully, honestly and impartially perform my duties as a law enforcement officer. (B.C. Reg. 204/98; O.C. 723/98)

In preparation for the supreme integrity and honesty that will be expected of me in my future career, I am committed to conducting myself in my law enforcement studies accordingly. With the oath above in my mind, I affirm that I have been truthful, met all conditions, followed rules, and given credit for others work in the assignment, quiz, paper, exam, etc. I have —or am about to — complete.

(Sign your name here to so affirm) _____