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News Item

# Why do people avoid news? It's not just because it makes them feel bad | Nieman Journalism Lab

By Mark Coddington and Seth Lewis

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Going back to at least the 1990s, some journalists and scholars have been pushing for a form of journalism that centers on the needs of the community it serves — not just in an abstract sense, but by allowing the community to actively set the agenda and including it in the newsmaking process. That philosophy has taken different forms over the years — public journalism, civic journalism, citizen journalism, participatory journalism, engaged journalism — but it has always maintained the same vision of journalists and community members together ensuring that the news serves the community, first and foremost.

In their new study in Journalism Practice, Andrea D. Wenzel and Letrell Crittenden give an up-close look at a fascinating ongoing example of this kind of journalism — *community-centered journalism*, as they call it — in Philadelphia, where both of them are based. Their case involves two neighborhood projects with deep community involvement: Germantown Info Hub and Kensington Voice.

[...]

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