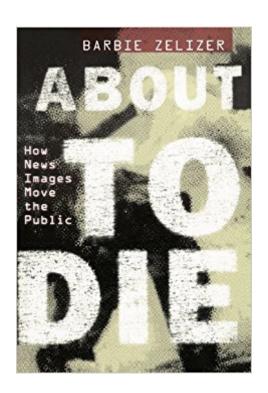
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# About To Die: How News Images Move The Public





### **Synopsis**

Due to its ability to freeze a moment in time, the photo is a uniquely powerful device for ordering and understanding the world. But when an image depicts complex, ambiguous, or controversial events--terrorist attacks, wars, political assassinations--its ability to influence perception can prove deeply unsettling. Are we really seeing the world "as it is" or is the image a fabrication or projection? How do a photo's content and form shape a viewer's impressions? What do such images contribute to historical memory? About to Die focuses on one emotionally charged category of news photograph--depictions of individuals who are facing imminent death--as a prism for addressing such vital questions. Tracking events as wide-ranging as the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake, the Holocaust, the Vietnam War, and 9/11, Barbie Zelizer demonstrates that modes of journalistic depiction and the power of the image are immense cultural forces that are still far from understood. Through a survey of a century of photojournalism, including close analysis of over sixty photos, About to Die provides a framework and vocabulary for understanding the news imagery that so profoundly shapes our view of the world.

#### **Book Information**

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#### Customer Reviews

this book is a brilliant study of photography. the author is very well read and puts together a lot of the major thinking about the contemporary culture of news photography. I teach photography and this book was very helpful to me in my work in giving me a deeper understanding of the roles of journalism in shaping our world. I am gateful to the author. This book will change the way we think about news images. In tracing how images of disasters, war and terrorism have taken their place in the news, it raises important questions about what news images are for. A must-read!

I liked the book overall. The print was small & I had a problem with that. Would recommend this book if this subject is your thing.

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