

The explosion of online media has really significantly changed journalism. When I worked for the New York Times, we considered our only competition was the Washington Post. If another news organization, let's say the Des Moines Register, broke a new story that we didn't have, we really didn't care that much because we didn't see that as competition. These days, every news organization has a website. Every blogger has a website, and everybody's pumping out all this information online, and so it put a real premium on speed on getting the story out very fast. The acceleration of news has been just unbelievable in recent years, and when you have an emphasis on speed, what happens too often is people want to cut corners. People want to not pay attention to ethical guidelines because they want to get the story up first. Now, I think it's really, really important for journalists in this age to make sure they don't succumb to the sort of signing song of speed and having it up first because one of the things that is really true is that everybody remembers who made a mistake on a story. Nobody remembers who had the story up first.