

ESSAY #1

My experience with this news blackout exercise was blessedly tolerable, but laid bare the overwhelming presence and necessity of news. My days consisted of a work day and a day in my dorm room completing school work, where I assumed I would not be exposed to much information. I was astoundingly wrong as incoming information served as both a backbone of communication and an ever present buzz in my periphery. Attempts to avoid news transformed into a hypervigilant effort that ultimately failed.

ESSAY #2

For 48 hours, I was cut off from the world. Not because of a power outage or a technical glitch, but because of a news blackout. As a college student, I rely on the news and media to stay informed about current events, but this experience taught me valuable lessons about the role of news and media in my life, and the importance of taking a break from the constant barrage of information.

