

Amanpour Insists the Sky is Green

Many stories are told about the eccentric Kaiser Franz-Josef I, penultimate Emperor of Austria-Hungary. Most of them are presumably urban legends, including this one – but that doesn't matter for present purposes: the story is that the Kaiser was visiting an exhibition of modern art. And he said to one of the artists standing proudly by his painting: “well, that isn't bad, but tell me, young man, why have you painted the sky green, and the grass pink?”

“Because that is how I see them, your Majesty”, replied the painter.

The Kaiser nodded sympathetically and turned away. But then turned back in puzzlement to ask a supplementary question: “But in that case – how the devil did you happen to choose *painting* as your profession?”

Likewise Christiane Amanpour sees the world like **this**:

“I think the press was muzzled, and I think the press self-muzzled. I'm sorry to say, but certainly television and, perhaps, to a certain extent, my station was intimidated by the administration and its foot soldiers at **Fox News**. And it did, in fact, put a climate of fear and self-censorship, in my view, in terms of the kind of broadcast work we did.”

Now, clearly she is a talented and cultured woman. She must have had a choice of many careers. But since she is capable of giving credence to such a whopper of a **conspiracy theory** (intimidated by *Fox News*?), and since she seems to have no more understanding of the meanings of the terms “**press was muzzled**”, “**intimidated**”, and “**climate of fear**” than a deep-sea oyster, one has to wonder how on earth she came to choose *journalism* as her profession.

Fri, 09/19/2003 - 00:23 | [digg](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [permalink](#)

An Iranian Student

And she used to advertise for Khatami for free...aaah everything adds up now! :)

by a reader on Fri, 09/19/2003 - 07:50 | [reply](#)

i would have to say the same ...

i would have to say the same about helen thomas...in fact, i have!

<http://www.all-encompassingly.com/archives/000167.html>

by [travis](#) on Tue, 09/30/2003 - 21:04 | [reply](#)

Violence in Brazil - A Cry for Help

Dear Sir/Madam:

My name is Maria Enedina Bezerra and I am writing you from Fortaleza, Brazil. I want to inform you about the violence in Brazil. The cities of Brazil are taken by criminals and the population is being terrorized and tortured in the hands these criminals and the government is doing absolutely nothing about it. To be taken at gun point by criminals at broad daylight here has become a common experience for Brazilians. I would like to ask your institution to come down here and make an inquiry about this situation here in Brazil. The world has to know the state of violence in which Brazilians live nowadays. I think that if the international media/press would come down here and make an inquiry or a documentary to show to the world this terrible situation, the Brazilian government would start doing something to change this.

Every day hundreds of motor drivers are assaulted at street crossing at gunpoint and taken to ATM machines. Bandits at daylight also sack houses and apartment buildings. Buses are stopped on far off roads and passengers are herded out of their seats and forced to give all their belongings. Then they are forced to take off their clothes and are put in the luggage compartment of the bus while the bandits leave scotch free with the passengers' money and belongings. This and much more needs to be shown to the world so that some serious measure can be taken to stop this unbearable condition. The population lives terrorized and this is happening in all the major cities of Brazil, such as Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Salvador, Recife, Fortaleza, Belo Horizonte, etc.

I was taken at gunpoint this past week and it was the most frightening experience I have ever gone through. I want to make something to change this situation here in Brazil and I need help from a serious institution that is willing to come down here to make an inquiry and possibly a documentary to show to the world what is happening here in Brazil. This violence has to stop, but I think only intense international pressure on the Brazilian government will make this situation change.

You can count on me as a translator if you are coming down here to make a documentary on the state of violence in which we Brazilians live in here. My e-mail address is "neda@unifor.br". I am a professor of Anthropology at the University of Fortaleza and I live in

fear 24 hours a day, fear of being killed by the thousands of

criminals who roam the streets of Brazil.

Sincerely,
Maria Enequina Bezerra.

by Maria E. Bezerra on Sun, 05/22/2005 - 02:49 | [reply](#)

Where are all the parents gone (HIV/AIDS in Kenya)

Dear Sir/Madam

My name is Natanael Nuulimba, I am working with an organisation that works with minority groups in Botswana www.kuru.co.bw . I once watched a program on the TV on the scourge of AIDS in Africa titled :Where are all the parents gone, by Christiane Amanpour. I would like to have access to this material so that we can use it for our information and outreach program. I would like to thank Christiane for the good work that she has done. Please can some one get back to me

Regards

Natanael

by a reader **Natanael Nuulimba** on Tue, 10/17/2006 - 12:43 | [reply](#)

I have read your story and he

I have read your story and hear in your words the trauma you have suffered. You sound injured and terrorized. I hope you receive treatment for the psychological wounds this incident seems to have caused, so that this perpetrator will not continue to cause you harm for the rest of your life. It sounds like counseling would do you much good.

by a concerned reader on Wed, 09/12/2007 - 02:37 | [reply](#)