

ABSTRACT

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FEAR OF CRIME AND PERCEIVED CREDIBILITY OF BROADCAST NEWS

Research in the area of television and fear of crime has revealed a relationship between the amounts of television watched and levels of fear of crime. More current research in this field has noted that attention to television also contributes to the cultivation of fearful feelings. This research examined the relationship between the perceived credibility of the broadcast news media and levels of fear of crime. The relationship between perceived credibility of broadcast news and the amount watched was also examined. The research examined these relationships in students enrolled at California State University, Fresno. No relationship was found between perceived credibility of broadcast news and fear of crime. Only a weak relationship between some aspects of perceived credibility and amount watched was found.

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