

My extended essay focused on the work of Don Bartletti, a photojournalist for the *LA Times*. My main goal was to investigate whether photojournalism can be considered a form of art. Thus, I found myself faced with the daunting task of defining “art”. I then applied this definition to Bartletti’s Pulitzer Prize-winning series of photographs “Bound to el Norte” and reached the conclusion that his work does, in fact constitute art.

Finally, I briefly discussed the ethical implications of photography in the media and made a series of historical links in order to justify my claim. I found the process of writing my extended essay extremely valuable as it enticed me to contact a person whose work I admire greatly. Interviewing Mr Bartletti allowed me to learn more about the inner workings of a field which fascinates me. I particularly appreciate that the extended essay allows students to pursue a subject of genuine interest in great depth. With this in mind, I would advise any student to choose a topic they are passionate about.

Furthermore, the extended essay is a valuable experience in that it provides college-bound students with experience on how to tackle similar assignments in their near future in a methodical fashion.