

Part III: Challenges for a New Era

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1. Notice that many Pulitzer Prize public service winners in the 1980s were about business, while in the 1990s environmental topics seemed to dominate. What trends in the U.S. might have contributed to this?
2. The conversational, personal style of Jane Schorer's stories for the Des Moines Register about rape victim Nancy Ziegenmeyer (pp. 338-344) were described in 1990 as "weird journalism." Discuss the rise in such personal feature-writing over the last few decades. Has it been good or bad for journalism in general?
3. Investigative editor Jeff Leen of the Washington Post has been involved with stories that won the Pulitzer Prize for public service at the Miami Herald (1993) as well as the Post (1999, 2000 and 2014.) What characteristics do you see in him as a journalist that might account for this strong connection with nationally honored reporting?
4. Women have continued to become more important in newsrooms. Discuss whether the advancement of women has been fast enough in journalism. What do you think is the future for gender equality in the profession?
5. How good a job are the Pulitzer Prizes doing today as far as recognizing the best American journalism? What changes would you recommend the Pulitzer Prize organization should consider, and why?