This I believe Michael Sobrepera January 31, 2011 AP Language

I believe that news is important. That knowing what is happening in the world around me is critical. When a politician makes a decision I should know. When a large group of people decide to riot or overthrow a government I should know. When the winds that guide society change direction I should know.

I remember when I was much younger, far too young to vote. I began to follow the news. At first I listened to the radio. The station I listened to is heard up to four states in any direction and in hindsight was slightly biased; but, I was intrigued. The things that I learned from the news led to discussions with friends about what was going on. I began to support political groups, even campaign for politicians and referendums. All this I did before our society even recognizes a person as having any real power, thanks to the news. And through all of this I began to believe in the importance of news.

Over time I extended my news sources. I now listen to NPR whenever driving, leave CNN or FOX on the TV, tour through Yahoo! news whenever I sit down at a computer, and pop up the Associated Press application on my phone all the time. As I have gained more and more access to news I have gotten more and more addicted to knowing what is going on; and, I have become more and more convinced as to the importance of the news. In the current world and especially in our country, every person's opinion can and often does carry some weight. We have a political system where politicians are forced to listen to the people. With that kind of power vested into each individual person, I feel that I should be educated on the happenings of the world and the activities of politicians. In my opinion the only way to be educated on these things is to follow the news, and as such I believe that the news is important.