

# Brooke Becher

MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST | RESEARCHER

## CONTACT



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## PROFILE

A journalist with 6+ years of experience and recent masters graduate. My background is in culture, counterculture and local news. I am actively pursuing a shift to human rights advocacy, partial to solving rape culture. Creative and strategic, I excel in reporting positions within collaborative teams. Packaging hard data in engaging narrative outfits — guiding an audience through the micro to macro on "the big issues" of the human condition — best defines my communication style.

## EDUCATION

### MASTER OF LIBERAL ARTS: JOURNALISM, WAR REPORTING & INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

University of Lincoln | 2021

Dissertation: *A Litmus Test on Rape Culture in the Media, Through the Lens of Alternative News Outlets*

### BACHELOR OF LIBERAL ARTS: JOURNALISM & MASS COMMUNICATIONS

California State University, Long Beach | 2016

Magna Cum Laude

## VOLUNTEER

### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S PEACE GROUP

Guest panelist, "Role of Media in Fostering World Peace"  
May 2021

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### OC REGISTER, LA WEEKLY, GOOD MAGAZINE, ETC.

*Freelance Journalist | Present*

Writes and reports for daily, weekly and monthly publications. Beats range from same-day turnaround, hard news stories to long-form features and profiles. Independently researches and reports stories both pitched and assigned. Became a checkpoint source of information for local communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### LA CANVAS

*Music, Arts and Culture Editor | 2016 – 2017*

Brought on by HLR Media LLC to renovate a once prominent media brand based in Los Angeles that competed on a global scale. Built a team of freelance writers, photographers, contributors and producers in one month. Implemented an internship program. Planned an editorial budget for print issues cover to cover. Edited, wrote and reported while updating website and optimizing social media engagement daily.

### THE EDGE

*Co-creator | 2016 – 2017*

Spearheaded a weekly, start-up publication on print and digital platforms. Worked with two fellow editors to shape the vision of the publication. Led editorial meetings. Managed a team of interns. Designed issues cover to cover. Expanded website hits to 30,000 per month within six months of publication.

### LOS ANGELES MAGAZINE

*Editorial Intern | Spring 2015*

Primarily worked in the research department to fact-check stories using contact lists, search engines and databases. Participated in editorial meetings. Pitched story ideas. Contributed content for online and print. Expedited editorial production month-to-month.

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## HONOR SOCIETIES

*Kappa Tau Alpha  
Phi Kappa Phi*

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## ACCOLADES

**First place** Best Arts and Entertainment Story at the 2016 California College Media Association Awards

**Second Place** Best Newspaper at the 2016 CCMA's

**Finalist** Youth Media: Best Feature Writing Print or Online for Los Angeles Press Club's 57th SoCal Journalism Awards

**£8,000 grant** 50% Global Scholarship, awarded to the highest achieving international applicants at the University of Lincoln

**\$2,500 grant** Toyota scholarship

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## SKILLS

### *Professional*

- Proficient in German
- Conducting interviews
- Information collection, organization
- Public speaking
- Fact checking
- Working on tight deadlines
- Problem-solving

### *Technical*

- Content management: Wordpress, others that utilize HTML or CSS
- Organizational tools: Google Drive, Excel, Slack, Storybase, etc.
- Social media: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.
- Design tools: Canva, InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator
- Databases: Google Scholar, LexisNexis, Academic Search Complete, JSTOR, etc.

## PROJECTS

● **DIFFICULTIES IN REPORTING WARTIME RAPE & SEXUAL ASSAULT**  
*Presentation | Dec. 2020*

Summary: Rape is normalized as a "byproduct of war." Reporters must exercise caution to not perpetuate harmful narratives.

Skills: Social ontology research, exploratory research, framing

● **THE PROOF IS IN THE BURDEN: THE INHERENT BIAS OF ENGLISH COURTS IS SYSTEMIC, NOT PROVISIONAL**

*Essay | Feb. 2021*

Summary: Despite the Defamation Act of 2013, 'libel tourism' lives on.

Skills: Case studies, critical commentary, comparative analysis

● **HOW LATE-STAGE CAPITALISM INFILTRATES NEWS VALUES FROM ALL ANGLES, WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF CONFLICT & WAR REPORTING**

*Essay | Feb. 2021*

Summary: Nearly all western media is owned by just six conglomerates. Clickbait economies have successfully bought news values, compromising integrities of the industry at-large.

Skills: Critical analysis, exploratory research, logical reasoning

● **RECALIBRATING WESTERN JOURNALISM TO A NEW, ETHICAL CODE: EMPOWERMENT**

*Essay | June 2021*

Summary: A call to action to expand the definition of journalism in order to better serve the needs of the now & restore trust in the profession.

Skills: Resolution-oriented research, literary review, theory

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## REFERENCES

### **Sanem Sahin**

*Dissertation adviser*

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### **Jennifer Karmarkar**

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