

**Title of Article:** Reportage of Maternal Mortality in Selected Nigerian Newspapers.

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### **Abstract**

This study evaluates the reportage of “Maternal Mortality” in Nigerian newspapers within the year 2009. The major focus of this study is to assess the role of the Nigerian press in creating awareness of and/or enlightening the Nigerian public on the subject matter. Content analysis was the study design employed for objective, systematic, and quantitative description of the manifest content of the print media in this study. A total of 47 reports on maternal health issues were harvested from three newspapers- The Guardian, The Punch and Nigerian Tribune- chosen for the study. Data in this study were presented in tables and percentages were used for analysis. The units of analysis for the study comprised editorials, features, opinions, news, pictures, illustrations, advertorials and interviews. Most of the reports on maternal mortality in the selected Nigerian newspapers, within the study period, had a favourable coverage but were not projected in forms i.e. editorials and interviews that would enhance the salience of the subject matter- maternal mortality.

**Keywords:** coverage, health communication, media, maternal health aspects, maternal mortality