

Reporting During the Black Death

Directions: After reading various documents from the period of the Black Death, you now have a grasp of the circumstances from the time period. While reading the documents, you should have analyzed the various sources for their content, author, purpose, impacts on the culture, and tone. In addition, you should have identified the individuals controlling the narrative, those whose voices were lost in the narrative, and also be able to identify the misinformation/rumors that surrounded the spread of the Black Death. Now, it is time for you to be the journalist. Imagine that you are a journalist from the time period. You now have the power to give voice to those who were voiceless during the period. You will do the following:

1. *Identify the demographics of the individual that you are interviewing.*
2. *Identify why they are an under-reported story during the period.*
3. *Discuss how their story is different from the narrative that is told in other sources (be sure to use evidence from the sources provided in the DBQ).*
4. *You will “conduct an interview” by writing your questions and their responses from their point of view. What would they say about this time period? What information would they want us to know? Each response must be elaborate, detailed, and take us to the events from the period. (You will write one to two paragraphs for each question (minimum of six questions)).*

Demographics of Interviewee	
Age	60
Gender	Female
Occupation	A plague nurse
Location	Europe
Religion	Christian
How are they different from the narrative in other sources?	I would have an example of someone being affected by the under-report and tell what she is saying, what is happening to her, and how she feels about it.
How are they an under-reported story?	They needed nurses to work with the infected so they got women that were widowed and elderly living off charity because they were the least important people and others eyes and people knew they would die doing that job. Also, they get no sympathy nor appreciation for what they are doing.

Interview: Please put in as a question and answer format

1. How do you feel about this whole situation with the Black Death?

I am devastated, stressed, and fearful. So many of my coworkers, family members, and friends have died and/or abandoned me because of the virus. I have to be around people that are infected and most likely will catch it and die. I'm barely thriving. Lastly, I can't leave where I live to get away from it because I have to work with the infected because they need more labourers.

2. How do you feel about working in this position?

I loathe it. I don't like doing the things they want me to do to the infected, I don't like being surrounded by others with the virus, and it is making my mental health go a little haywire.

3. What work do you have to do?

A few things I have to do are serving as keepers for the infected. Inspecting corpses and reporting what exactly killed them. Washing, shaving, and dressing a person's corpse so they are ready for burial. We have to always be quarantined and are only about to go to work. Me and many other women get accused of things like conveying the pestilent taint from sores of the infected to those who were well and were "wretches who out of greediness to plunder the dead, would strangle their patients and charge it to distemper in their throats" which I most certainly not would do.

4. Do you like that job?

Not at all. I am not treated with respect, not appreciated for the death risks I am taking doing this job, I am not trusted, and I don't want to get infected.

5. Do you feel safe doing this job?

I never feel safe anymore. I am always around the infected or by myself so no one gets it. I feel anywhere I go, I will be able to catch the virus.

6. Do you like the way women are looked upon?

Not at all. Women are working so hard, risking their lives, doing these scary tasks so they don't get punished, losing family and friends and for what? We don't even get a thank you. This is one of the worst jobs ever imaginable.

Please complete the reflection on the [Google Form](#).