



JOURNALISM ETHICS

Paragraph from the speech by Ezequiel P. Paz , director and editor of "La Prensa" of Buenos Aires on the 56th anniversary of "La Prensa", October 18, 1925

"To give information with exactness and truth, not to omit anything that the public has a right to know, to use always an impersonal and correct form without prejudice to rigorous and forceful thought, to exclude rumors, those statements that are refuge behind such phrases as 'it is said,' or 'we are assured,' and to affirm only that which has become conviction based on proofs and documents, to consider that the lack of an item of news is preferable to its erroneous or unjustified publication, to take care that the personal opinion of the writer be not expressed because that would be equivalent to commenting on the news, and the reporter must not invade the field reserved to other sections of the newspaper, to remember before writing how powerful is the instrument that the writer is using, and that the harm caused to an official or private person can never be completely repaired by an explanation or a rectification, in however gentle manly spirit this may be given, to keep serene and elevated ground in debate and not to affirm anything today that we may have to modify tomorrow and finally, to inscribe in letters of gold in permanent place, always in sight of your work tables, the words of Walter Williams, that outstanding North American servant of the press

NO ONE SHOULD WRITE AS A JOURNALIST

THAT WHICH HE CANNOT SAY AS GENTLEMAN

*Adopted as its code by the delegates to the First
Pan American Congress of Journalists,
April 7-13, 1926*

*Affirmed as its creed by the Inter
American Press Association during its
Sixth General Assembly ,
October 13, 1950*