The Holocaust Wasn’t Journalism’s Finest Hour: What Would Aristotle Do?

By Eric Sandstrom, Assistant Professor, Mass Communication

Media coverage of the Jewish Holocaust raises troubling questions about the performance of American journalism during World War II. Was there a scarcity of news about the annihilation of six million Jews? Had The New York Times done a better job of telling the world about Hitler’s Final Solution, could he have been stopped? Such questions presume journalists failed to adequately report the biggest story of the 20th Century. Some media critics say there was too little coverage of the Holocaust. How many news stories would suffice in covering genocide? Journalism ethics may provide a cautionary tale for today’s journalists and the public they are entrusted to serve.

Please come with your lunch, bring your faculty and staff colleagues, and enjoy the forth presentation of the spring Colloquium series.