

"COURAGE FOR" Facebook Pages:



Advocacy Citizen Journalism in the Wild

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Introduction

Media Blackout has lead citizens to use social media to make crime reports. "Courage for" Facebook pages have emerged where "courageous" citizens share reports. Our goal was to understand the posting dynamics of these advocacy citizen reporters.

Results and Discussion

We present a descriptive analysis of two Facebook pages used to circumvent the information blackout imposed by criminal organizations. The pages provide online spaces about the crimes in their communities. We study the pages' posting dynamics. We find that the these pages engage in a form of citizen-driven advocacy journalism, with some focusing on state and country-wide affairs, while others on neighborhood-level events.

We discovered that:

Some citizen reporters, especially those from the Courage for Michoacán page, appear to be Investigative Journalists.

Others, especially citizen reporters from Courage for Tamaulipas appear to be News Flash Journalists.

Political Corruption



Breaking News

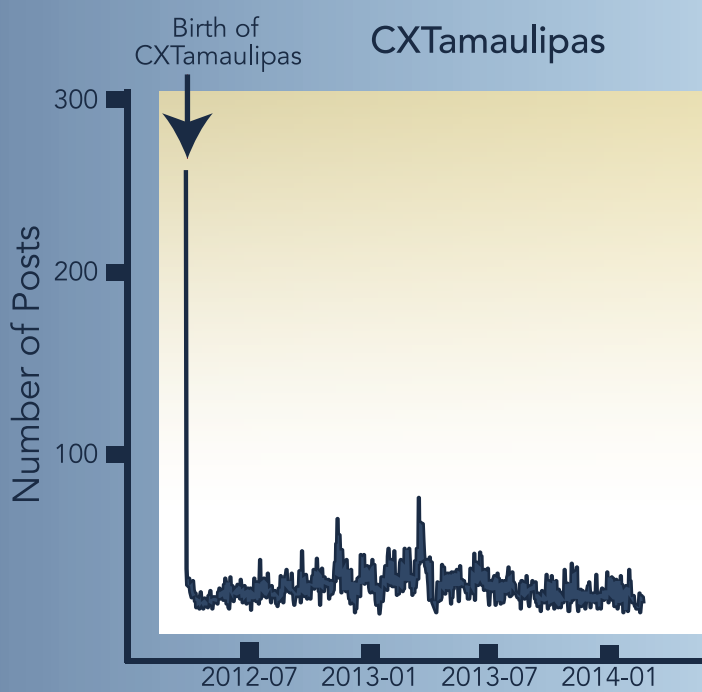


The reporting dynamics of the citizen journalists from the pages are different. The Tamaulipas page is more homogenous, while Michoacán gives more coverage to certain offline events.

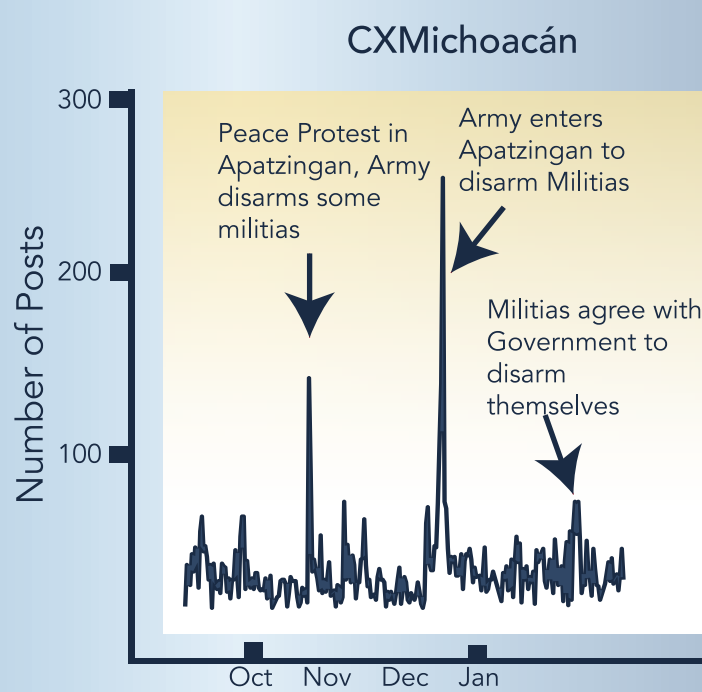
Reports from Tamaulipas, are more News Flash and have:
(1) less words
(2) less images
(3) cover more locations;
(4) hardly mention public figures.

Locations	Tampaulipas	Michoacan
Public Figures	0.68 f	0.38 f
Reporters	7.0 f	30.1 f
Armed Citizens	0.65 f	0.75 f
Drug Cartels	0.96 f	15.24 f
Government	3.06 f	16.47 f
	4.35 f	14.12 f

Reports from Michoacan are more Investigative Journalists and have:
(1) more words
(2) more images
(3) cover less locations;
(4) mention more public figures.



Tamaulipas: News Flash Journalists.



Michoacán: Investigative Journalists.

	CXtamp	CXMich
Percentage of reports with certain references	0.68 f	0.38 f
	7.0 f	30.1 f
	0.65 f	0.75 f
	0.96 f	15.24 f
	3.06 f	16.47 f
	4.35 f	14.12 f