



Vulnerable sources policy

The Wyoming Tribune Eagle believes that fair and impartial journalism does not require journalists to set aside their empathy or consideration for others. Some of the best reporting requires speaking to people that have a real stake in the issue. Those same people can face real consequences for speaking with the press.

Sources can be attacked online, be cut off from certain communities, lose jobs or membership to certain groups and even face violence in some cases.

For that reason, it is important to the Wyoming Tribune Eagle that journalists have clear reasons for including certain sources, how those sources are referred to and what personal information is divulged.

By following these practices, the Wyoming Tribune Eagle hopes to build trust with community members who can offer unique perspectives on relevant issues.

The Wyoming Tribune Eagle aims both to get these meaningful stories to our community and to minimize harm when working with these vulnerable sources – providing relevant, effective reporting without further traumatizing sources.

This means communicating clearly with vulnerable sources, and being considerate of their emotional state at the time of questioning. This also means writing with the source's physical and emotional safety in mind, offering opportunities for sources to ask questions about the reporting process and offering anonymity when appropriate.

This does not mean excusing the actions of those in positions of power or those who pose a threat to the community. The WTE aims to continue fact-based, reliable and accountable reporting, while including vulnerable sources when appropriate.

