

# Untold Stories



**The Stories  
We Should Tell**

**The Stories We Can Teach Others To  
Tell**

# Untold Stories

## From The Palm of your Hand



- James P. Mahon
- From Ireland
- Lectures on the BA + MA at University of the West of Scotland since 2016
- Reporter/Anchor for CBS + PBS Affiliates, IrishTV, RTE
- Focus: Mobile Journalism
- Author: Through Irish Eyes



# Untold Stories

- Untold Stories from a War Zone
- Untold Stories + Mobile Journalism
- Audience
- Educational Significance
- My Doctoral Research
- Mobile Journalism: Evolution or Revolution
- Audience
- Educational Impact

# What is an Untold Story?

A story that has happened or is happening that hasn't been told

A story that should be shared to a wider audience

Hyperlocal, Local, Regional, National or International or inside us

Our role is to extract the story and do it justice

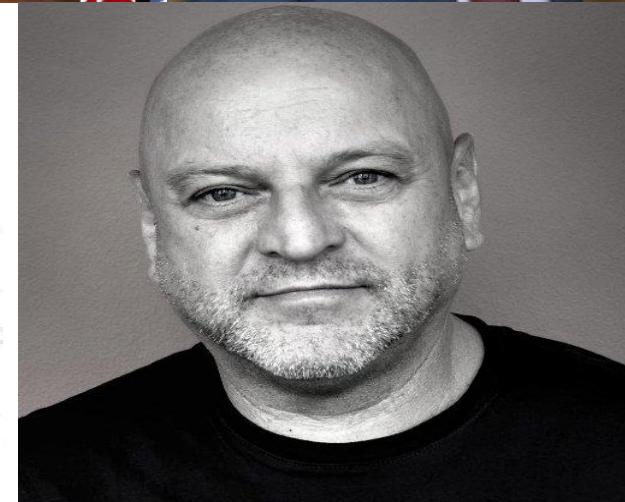
Our role is to educate, train and prepare the messengers who are and will deliver these stories

There is no  
greater agony  
than bearing  
an untold story  
inside you.

*-Maya Angelou*

# Mosul: Iraq

- Spring 2017, The Retreat of Isis.
- Are there Untold Stories?
- Where are there?
- Who do they involve
- How do I get to where they are happening
- Who can help me
- Plan/Strategy/Safety



# Mosul, Iraq



- Iphone 6 + Ipod
- Google Drive + Wifi +Hotspot
- Laptop, Chargers, Adapters
- Fixer, Translator, Network
- Clothes, Community, Language, Respect
- Limitations
- Time Management
- BBC Scotland , Irish Catholic News, WDEF News 12 CBS

# Mosul, Iraq



- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T5fGdeAqp3Q>

# Mosul, Iraq

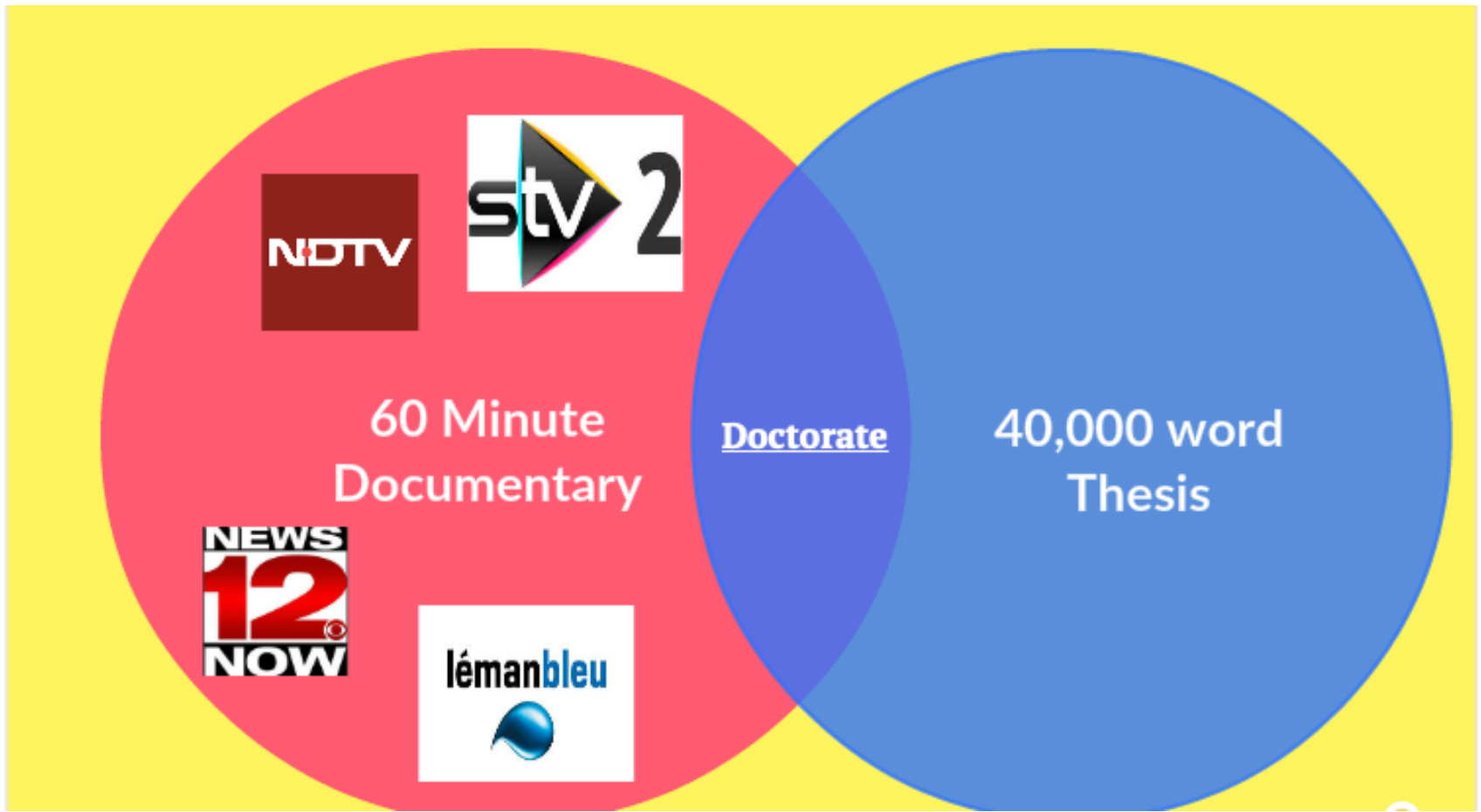
## Reflections:

Humility  
Appreciation  
Educational Material  
Insights  
Expertise

## Recommendations:

Time Management  
Technology  
Editorial Guidance  
Ethical Decision Making  
  
Stay away from Dodgy  
Yogurt = **Food Poisoning**

# Doctoral Research: The Untold Stories of The Storytellers



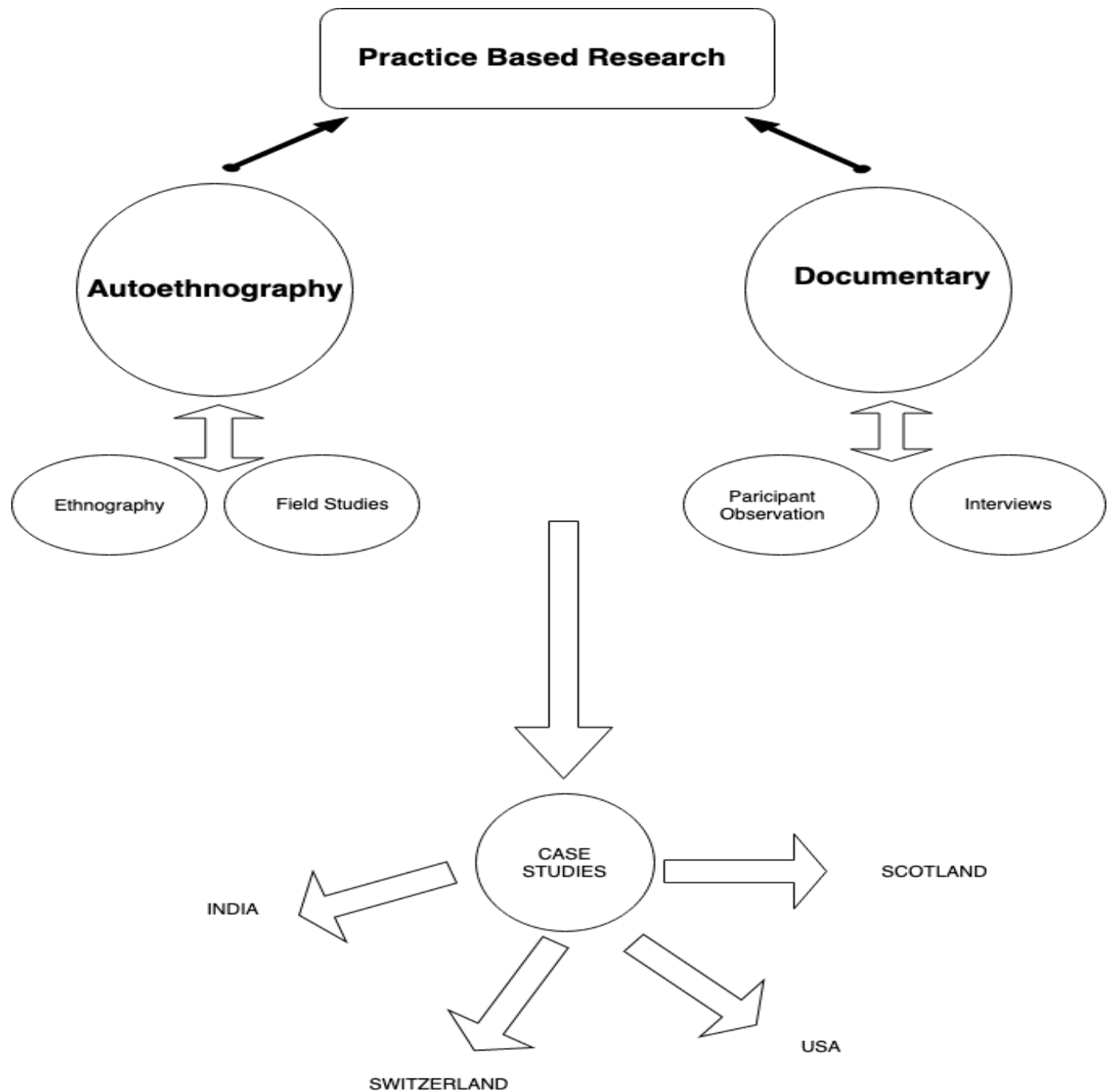
# 2018 + 2019 Research Overview

- This study examines the impact that mobile phone technology has on broadcast journalists in a select number of newsrooms in the developed and developing world. The stations are in India, The United States, Scotland and Switzerland.
- The research comprises two elements, an hour long video documentary and a forty thousand word written analysis and reflection on the data collected during the documentary.

# Approach

- 5 days with each newsroom:
- Ethnographic + autoethnographic
- The research questions whether mobile technology or news demands are driving this transition.
- The documentary is a fly on the wall documentary and observational style piece with little on screen interference from the researcher.





# Form

- This approach allowed the interviewees to dictate the flow of the film and bring the viewer on a journey in to their worlds and their newsrooms.
- I've shot, edited and produced the piece using the same technology as the case studies.
- This allows the researcher the academic space to also reflect, analyze and alter his own practice



# Video Reels:

UNIVERSITY OF THE  
WEST of SCOTLAND  
UWS

Trailer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N7kHGhHh8fM>

Full Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dznq62s&feature=youtu.be>



NEWS  
12  
NOW

 lémanbleu

stv 2

LIVE

NDTV  
24x7

# The Case Studies



- **STV 2**, was a short lived local TV news output for Scotland. The result of awarding local broadcast licenses to STV for remoter regions of Scotland
- Launched in spring 2017 and ceased in summer 2018.



- **Léman Bleu** in Switzerland is a centralized news hub that can deploy their reporters to urban and rural locations.
- It is recognized as a pioneer in mobile journalism implementation.
- Goujard profiled the station as a global leader in MOJO in 2016 for the International Journalists Network.

# The Case Studies



- The CBS affiliate, was one of the first American TV stations to implement mobile phone video streaming with Dejero app broadcasting services for iphone and ipad journalists in 2012.
- Ricky McClain, as the station's chief engineer is cited by Dejero technologies in an early testimonial regarding cellular live streaming use.



- NDTV in India, covers a vast news patch reaching more than 7 million homes that provides, local, national and international news output.
- It delivers the world's first vertical live streaming content in partnership with Samsung for android users.

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- Bruce was the most active mobile journalist from a team of 15 STV 2 reporters across Scotland
- 80% of his live shots were via Phone
- Challenges he faced included coverage issues
- He mostly worked alone having to cover a vast area
- Mobile journalism enabled him to deliver content quickly to his online and social media teams back in Glasgow





- All of News 12's reporters gathered content using mobile phones
- 90% of all live shots were via Phone
- The newsroom packaged content using a blend of phones and cameras
- Mobile journalism enabled them to enhance their Live breaking news output for TV and social media viewers
- News 12 have been training and developing mobile TV journalists since 2012



LIVE

NDTV  
24x7

- 95% of NDTV Reporters are Mobile Journalists
- They are one of the only TV news stations in the world to use phones as studio cameras
- Their self designed video file management sharing system was created to their exact news needs
- HopLive is the world's first Vertical live streaming channel
- The majority of the HopLive news team are under the age of 25





- Léman Bleu blend mobile and traditional camera journalism
- They have worked with journalists from America to Japan in helping them embrace MoJo
- Their approach of creating a mobile journalism community amongst their viewers who act as content gatherers for them is pioneering
- They have trained local businesses, charities and sports clubs to become video content creators since 2015





**APP USAGE**



**INFRASTRUCTURE  
RESTRICTIONS**

# Key Debates



**Evolution or  
Revolution**



**Traditional Or  
Digital/Mobile**



**CONTENT  
GATHERER Or  
REPORTER**

# Mobile Journalism

## Strengths

- Light and Flexible
- Cost Efficient
- Easy To Learn
- Social Media Friendly
- Ease of Sharing Content
- Range of Custom Apps

## Limitations

- Zooming
- Shooting at Night
- Video Consistency
- Audio Concerns
- Data Restrictions
- Network Coverage

# ***Educational Implications***

## **Delivery**

- Camera Skills or Mobile Shooting Focus

**Industry**  
**Demands/Theory/Practice/Blended**

- Long form, short form or Mobile

Storytelling Principles  
Remain- Device Can Vary

- Audience, Digital = Vertical or Horizontal

Legal, Social Media,  
Ethical Challenges, Online

# Untold Stories:

“You have to be interested in people, if you want to tell their stories” Dyer, 2019