How the Mass Media Portrayed Jerry Sandusky, Penn State University and Joe Paterno

Image can be portrayed as many things, and the ongoing investigation into Jerry Sandusky and Penn State University sex abuse trial has sent the media into a friendly. The people around Jerry Sandusky had to worry about their image. Thanks to how the media has portrayed the situation surrounding Joe Paterno, people do not know what to think about him or his dismissal. The media did not get the information they wanted during the trial from victim 1, and so they have said little about Mike McQueary.

**How the media portrayed Penn State University and Jerry Sandusky in the media**

Because of Jerry Sandusky’s actions, Penn State University and the people around him have had to worry about their image. Penn State University had a lot of concerns about their actions before and during the scandal which led to the outcome. People thought Jerry Sandusky was a great man because he starting the ‘Second Mile’. Sandusky has been considered a monster by his peers because of the actions that he did in the past.

The Penn State University faculty had no idea what was going on with Jerry Sandusky prior to the allegations coming out (Cooky 2012). Penn State’s Football team was bringing in $70,208,584 and there was more than half of that came in from profits. Penn State University was more worried about the money coming in from the football team then what was going on with Jerry Sandusky (Giroux and Giroux 2012). Penn State University and the media in State College were forming relationships but it was not the closest due to all of the information that Penn State didn’t give to the media (Rossi2012).ESPN, one of the well-known media corporations was really hard on Penn State University and everyone involved with the scandal including Joe Paterno and Jerry Sandusky (Ott 2012).
People thought Jerry Sandusky was an honest man by doing charity work and starting the Second Mile. The media considers Jerry Sandusky, a value to the Penn State team in 2000 (Smart and Wolfe 2000). Jerry Sandusky had a national reputation as a great defensive coach (Sandusky, Sporkin et al. 2012). Jerry Sandusky came up with the charity of the Second Mile. (Dimitriadis 2012)

Sandusky’s actions have affected the people around him, making him into a monster. Sandusky was portrayed as the monster that had been getting away with it for years (Dorfman, Mejia et al. 2012). Even though Joe Paterno and Jerry Sandusky were two of the main people involved in this scandal, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett has been failed to be mentioned in the scandal. Tom Corbett contributed money towards ‘The Second Mile’ (McLaren 2012). Some of the writers at ESPN in Bristol, CT, said the residue of the Sandusky scandal will stain Paterno’s legacy indefinitely (Butterworth 2012).

**Joe Paterno: Before and after he passed away**

The media has portrayed the situation surrounding Joe Paterno different than Jerry Sandusky because the people do not know what to think about him or his dismissal. Before Joe Paterno passed away, he was seen an asset to the Penn State football team. Surrounding the allegations that were descended on Joe Paterno, the society that supported Penn State University and Joe Paterno had no clued what to think. The media possible had an effect on the dismissal of Joe Paterno.

Before Joe Paterno passed away, he was seen as a great man, a role model, and an excellent coach for the men on his team. Joe Paterno was looked at as the greatest football coach in history but his death makes people wonder what they should think (Allison 2012). Joe Paterno was seen as the leader when it came to academics and the football program. None of the Penn
State faculty members had to worry about the football players (Bérubé 2012). The death of Joe Paterno in January of 2012 becomes the fall of a great college coach and the end of an era (Leonard 2012). Before Joe Paterno had died in January 2012, he was viewed as the face of the scandal (Butterworth 2012).

People are torn on what to think about Joe Paterno in light of the allegations and what his actions were surrounding them. Joe Paterno and the higher superiors of Penn State were not portrayed for what they didn’t do but for what they did do (Dorfman, Mejia et al. 2012). Joe Paterno might have thought the way that he was handling the situation was different than what other people thought was not moral (Rinehart 2012). Joe Paterno was falsely named in the grand jury report to be named part of the crime for not fully reporting the incident in 2002 (Gallini 2012). According to the Freeh report, Joe Paterno had known plenty about the allegations that Jerry Sandusky was charged with (Gallini 2012).

The media had focus on the wrong objects in the case, and that it had been blown up on the social media’s may have led to the dismissal of Joe Paterno. According to Bass, the students felt like the media had played a role in Joe Paterno being fired from Penn State University (Bass, Newman et al., 2012). Social media was blowing up with information about Sandusky, Joe Paterno, and Penn State (Senger 2012.). The media concentrated on Joe Paterno and Jerry Sandusky but nothing to do with the children that were involved with this scandal (Garoian, 2012). The scandal was in International and United States news media with the complete information even the abusive stories (Moore, 2012).

**Mike McQueary and the Outcome of Jerry Sandusky’s Trial**

The media did not get the information they wanted during the trial from victim 1, and they have said little about Mike McQueary. During interviews, the media was more concerned
about the University itself then who was involved. Mike McQueary has been a key suspect because he was a first-hand witness when the investigation first started. Jerry Sandusky’s trial has been going and even though he has been convicted.

When the media talked about Penn State University, they did not care about the football program, but more the people involved, because State College would not give the media the information they wanted. ESPN one of the well-known media was really hard on Penn State University and everyone involved with the scandal including Joe Paterno and Jerry Sandusky (Ott, 2012). Media silences about big concepts like the Penn State Football program playing for win at all cost which took place while Joe Paterno was coaching (Cooky, 2012). The media covered who was involved but not the economic downfall that places around Penn State University would have (Proffitt and Corrigan, 2012). Penn State University and the media in State College were forming relationships but it was not the closest due to all of the information that Penn State didn’t give to the media (Rossi, 2012).

Little has been said about Mike McQueary even though he has been a key player the whole time and was a first-hand witness. Mike McQueary was a former player and then became coach”. (Garoian 2012) “Mike McQueary saw Jerry Sandusky showering with a boy.” (Houck 2012) “Mike McQueary was the key witness in the trail against Jerry Sandusky.” (Dimitriadis 2012)

Jerry Sandusky’s trial has been going and even though he has been convicted he is trying to appeal even though victim 1 has come out with his tell all book. “On December 7, 2011, Jerry Sandusky was arrested on new sexual assault charges.” (Curry 2012) Jerry Sandusky has been arranged to spend 30-60 years in jail. (Rosenberg 2012) Jerry Sandusky has filed an appeal to get a new trial due to the speed of the trial. (AP 2012) Victim 1 reveals a book about surviving Jerry
Sandusky. (AP 2012)
Biography


