

"Biased media is a real threat to democracy"

1) Introduction:

2) Decoding the terms "democracy" and "biased media."

3. Why biased media is a real threat to democracy?

(i) Altering electoral process outcomes by changing the perception of public.
(2016 US Presidential elections).

(ii) Hampering informed decision making by public regarding policies
(Brexit Referendum in UK)

(iii) Promoting partisan divide by aligning themselves with political parties.
(Fox News, MSNBC News channel)

(iv) Undermining trust in institutions by airing disinformation regarding institutions.
(Propaganda against Army in Pak).

Enhanced trust deficit

v) ~~Censoring the viewpoint~~
~~of opposition parties~~ which
have ^{policies} critical to government
(Parliament session in
Pak)

vi) ~~Weakening public accountability~~
of government by ~~projecting~~
only the good ~~policies~~.

vii) ~~Promoting sectarianism~~
and ~~extremism~~ by ~~dividing~~
people on religious grounds
[Glorification of the killer
of Salman Taseer - accused
of blasphemy].

viii) ~~Encouraging sensationalism~~
over substance to ~~divert~~
public debate from ~~real~~
issues.
[Study of International Journal
of Politics].

ix) ~~Spreading misinformation~~
without ~~proper fact checking~~
[Vaccine hesitancy] → Polio.

4) Measures for the Reformation of media to strengthen democracy.

- (i) Strengthening Press Freedom by legal protection to journalists.
(Norway, Finland case studies).
- (ii) Encouraging independent public broadcasting that is free from influence of government and corporate control.
(BBC in UK).
- (iii) Promoting ethical journalism standards to uphold transparency and accuracy in reporting.
(Press Council in Denmark)
- (iv) Promoting media literacy to distinguish credible news from fake news.
(Finland case study).

5) Conclusion:



Well organised and Relevant
good