Journalism Project: DUE November 15

This assignment asks you to look at an on-line newspaper from outside the U.S. You will be asked to follow a news story about women and girls related to one of the topics of our course. You should choose either one long article related to your topic (otherwise known as a “feature”) or two or more shorter articles to make sure that you understand the issue in depth. The article(s) you choose should contain sufficient context and information. A short article is typically one that is 1-4 paragraphs long. Please consult with me. Both of the articles should come from either the same newspaper, or from two different newspapers within the same country. This will allow you to make a more informed analysis of a situation within a specific country.

I strongly encourage those of you who are bilingual or learning another language to investigate non-English speaking publications. I can assist you with translation or find someone who can.

I would also recommend that you check out the United Nation's Website about Women and Global Media to give you a global perspective:
http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/followup/session/presskit/fsl0.htm

Analysis:
Your task is to report on how women are represented in the news story. You should be able to answer the following questions: who is the subject of the news story? What is the context of the event? When did these events take place? What are the reasons given for this situation?

However, the analysis section of the essay is the heart of the paper. It requires you not just to report on the facts of the articles, but to dissect the language and tone used to discuss an issue facing women. Who do you think is the audience of the paper? conservative or liberal - elite or working class, for example. Does the writer of the article(s) use essentialism to think about women and the topic? If they discuss inequality, what reasons do they give for that inequality? I expect you to incorporate at least two pieces of statistical information about women and girls in your newspaper’s country from Joni Seager's Penguin Atlas of Women in the World. I also expect that your essay will refer at least once to the assigned reading for October 13th from An Introduction to Women’s Studies: Gender in a Transnational World, "World Media," by William Wresch, 307-313.

Topics:
Women and politics
Women/girls and work
Women and nationalist movements
Women and reproductive rights
Women and health
Women and body image
Women and globalization

Women and education
Women and the military
Women and sexuality/LGBT issues
Women and migration/immigration
Women and mothering
Women and sport

Any story related to girls' lives as well
There are other topics that may be appropriate given the cultural context of the country you pick. Please see/email me if you have any questions

**Tips on Cross-cultural newspaper reading and internet newspapers:**

1) The English used may be different than American English. They may use words in an unfamiliar way to you. For example, a recent article in the *Times of India* stated: "The Indian Army reached hitherto inaccessible areas...". In American English we don't use "hitherto" all that often, although it is used in Indian English and British English much more frequently.

2) If you are unfamiliar with online newspapers, you should know that although most of them are free, but you often have to register an email address with them. If you want to avoid spam, you might use a hotmail (free) account address to register.

3) Usually the current day’s news is free, but to look at archived articles might cost you several dollars. I HIGHLY recommend that if you find an article you are interested in that you print it out immediately!

4) This assignment requires that you spend several days looking at articles in order to view a large enough sample size to select 2-3 relevant articles. Please do not try to do this assignment in one afternoon.

**Paper details:**

3 page essay - worth 20% of your grade- double spaced, stapled. Proofreading, clear academic writing and interesting insights all count towards your grade. Please attach paper copies of the newspaper articles you worked on.

**Newspapers:**

There are many, many newspapers in English. I have given you a sampling of international newspapers in English:

**India:**
- timesofindia.com (leading English language daily)
- expressindia.com
- feminaindia.com (leading women's magazine)
- hindustantimes.com

**South Africa:**
- sundaytimes.co.za

**Kenya:**
- http://www.eastandard.net/

**Australia:**

**Jamaica:**
- http://www.jamaica-gleaner.com/gleaner

**Mexico:**

**Canada:**
- http://www.ottawasun.com/

**Great Britain:**
- http://www.timesonline.co.uk/ (conservative perspectives)
- http://www.guardian.co.uk/ (liberal perspectives)

**Ireland:**
- http://www.ireland.com/