

# **Censorship as an instrument to barrier the development of broadcasting service in Zimbabwe.**

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## **Abstract**

The Zimbabwean media laws have failed to emancipate the broadcasting service by recycling the old systems of its former colonizers, Britain and its media laws. For instance the constitutional law of Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (AIPPA) endorsed in 2001 is basically connected to Law of Official Secrets Act of 1970. The current laws stills restricts how media practitioners access information and unveil rampart corruption or atrocities done to ordinary people by those in power under the law and censorship boards. All broadcasting media companies' operations are controlled by Broadcasting Services Act (BSA) and a board called Broadcasting Authority of Zimbabwe (BAZ), which issues licenses to those who want to own broadcasting services. Currently, only two privately owned radio stations by politicians have been issued. Zimbabwe broadcasting Co-operation (ZBC) is still monopolizing the television industry. The research made use of a descriptive case study method and yield that the media laws and BAZ have been constraining the growth of broadcasting service in Zimbabwe and many respondents indicated from the forum groups that they have resorted to satellites television, as ZBC Television is producing poor quality programs that are highly politicized.

## **Keywords**

Constitutional laws, television and broadcasting.

## **Biographies**

**Fortunate Tatenda Mauyakufa** is a young researcher and also a filmmaker, who attained her honours degree from Midlands State University in Zimbabwe. While studying in Zimbabwe, she took the initiative on rising an awareness to different communities about children in probation institutes. She further directed and produced a documentary on Blue Hills, which is one of the largest probation institutes in Zimbabwe. In 2011 she worked as a temporary teacher. She recently was an assistant facilitator of theatre and arts for the new curriculum, which the ministry of Primary and Secondary schools had introduced, under Pfumvudza Media Company. Currently, she is a regular contributor at Women Arts Festival and a member of Zimbabwean theatre.

**Anup Pradhan** is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Quality and Operations Management under Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment at the University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg, South Africa. He is NRF (National Research Foundation) rated researcher in South Africa. He is registered engineer with the Nepal Engineering Council. He earned his B.Sc. in Agricultural Engineering from Bangladesh Agricultural University (Bangladesh), M.E. in Agricultural Engineering and Systems from Asian Institute of Technology (Thailand) and PhD in Biological and Agricultural Engineering from University of Idaho (USA). He has held posts at Alternative Energy Promotion Centre, Nepal and Institute of Engineering, Nepal. His research interests include life cycle assessment, renewable

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