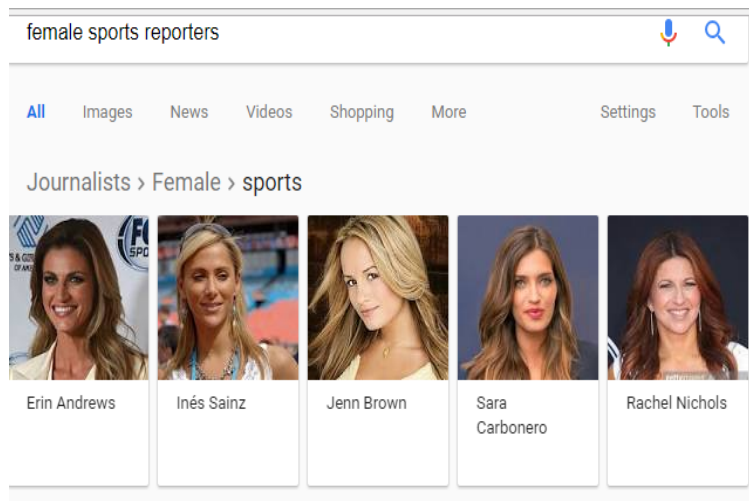


Women's Constant Battle for Equality in Sports Journalism

May 18, 2018 – By: Anthony Quach

It is no secret that women in the sports journalism field face more challenges than their male counterparts. Whether it's not being taken seriously in their line of work, or being harassed by fans, athletes and colleagues or being scrutinized simply for their gender, these women must endure it all, while still trying to maintain their composure and their level of professionalism.



10 All-Star Female Sports Reporters | Hollywood Reporter

<https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/gallery/10-all-star-female-sports-605094>

Erin Andrews, Charissa Thompson, Hannah Storm, Lesley Visser and Mary Carillo dish on the sexism, fashion faux pas, and the stigma of being called "Sideline ...

The hottest female sports reporters - Men's Journal

<https://www.mensjournal.com/sports/15-hottest-female-sports-reporters-industry/>

Lindsay Czarniak, ESPN. Czarniak worked her way to ESPN's SportsCenter desk after rising through the ranks at NBC Washington, where she reported on the Capitals and Redskins. ... McHenry has worked on a wide range of shows, including NFL Live, Baseball Tonight, and SportsCenter.

Hottest Sports Reporters: Photo List of Sexy Female Sideline Reporters

<https://www.ranker.com/list/hottest-female-sports-reporters/mark>

No matter how much change there is for female sports reporters, they will continue to be stigmatized against simply because it's how society is. The gender gap between male and female sports reporters should come as no surprise. If you were to google "female sports reporters", most of the search results on the first page has nothing to do with their accomplishments but instead it mainly consists of search results such as "The hottest female sports

reporters", "Sexy Female Sideline Reporters", and the list goes on. The oversexualization of these women adds to the fact that viewers do not see them as established journalists, but simply eye candy for their viewing pleasure. So much emphasis is placed on their appearance that it takes away the focus from the stories they are covering.

When it comes to reporting sports, let alone regular news, most audience tend favor a male reporting on sports, and they are not quite as accepting when a woman does it because some of them believe these women are not qualified or knowledgeable enough to being reporting on sports in the first place. Not to mention, some fans can be extra critical of women sports reporters if they make a mistake on air, and when that happens, they become an easy target for insults from hecklers, fans, and even athletes sometimes.

Take for instance the incident with Carolina Panthers Quarterback Cam Newton and Jourdan Rodrigue. Back in October 2017 in a press conference Jourdan Rodrigue, a beat reporter from the Charlotte Observer asked Newton, “Cam, I know you take a lot



Credits to ABC News

of pride in seeing your receivers play well, Devin Funchess has seemed to really embrace the physicality of his routes and getting those extra yards. Does that give you a little bit of enjoyment to see him kind of truck sticking people out there?” Even before Rodrigue finished her question, Newton was seen smirking and his response was “It’s funny to hear a female talk about routes.” The lack of respect shown by Newton towards Rodrigue only further proves that some men that do not take women reporters seriously, and even as someone knowledgeable as Rodrigue, was still ridicule and met with disrespect from Newton when all she was trying to do was her job. As knowledgeable and as prepared as these female sports reporters may be, it doesn’t change the fact that there are some people who believe that women should not be reporting on sports. As we can see with the Cam Newton incident and his sexist remarks, it is one of many struggles female

reporters have to face and endure in this field. It's a constant battle for respect and equality for women in this profession. Even in this day and age, no matter how qualified women may be when it comes to reporting on sports, they will continue to be stigmatized against simply because of their gender and the fact that some people do not want to hear their sports news from the mouth of a woman. In order for there to be change, society would have to move away from the norm and move past the sexist ideology that women are incapable of succeeding in a male-dominant field such as sports reporting. While there are strides moving for female sports reporters, there is always room for improvement for the future.