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## Media frenzy: Reporters swarm San Bernardino shooters' apartment

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In a display that raised questions about journalistic integrity, cable news outlets made live broadcasts of their reporters entering the apartment of the San Bernardino shooters and, in some cases, rifling through their belongings.

A flock of journalists armed with broadcast cameras entered the Redlands, California apartment where Syed Farook and Tashfeen Malik lived on Friday,

after a reporter unfastened a piece of plywood blocking the door that had been placed there by the FBI. He said that he had permission from the landlord.



**J Austin Closs**  
@acecloss

4 Dec

@tobyharnden Are you in their apartment?



**Toby Harnden**  
@tobyharnden

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@acecloss Yep. I unscrewed the board on the front door the FBI had put on. With the permission of the landlord, who was beside me.

1:53 PM - 4 Dec 2015

12 1

News outlets like MSNBC, CNN, BBC and CBS news broadcast live scenes as their crews poured into the apartment. Reporters rummaged through the items of the now-dead suspects, including family photos, children's toys and personal documents.



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Look Inside Syed Farook's Home as Media RANSACKS Apartment Without FBI Permission [dlvr.it/CwPwsq](http://dlvr.it/CwPwsq)

2:14 PM - 4 Dec 2015

5 2

One MSNBC reporter even went as far as to show the detailed image of an ID card belonging to Farook's mother, on live television.



**David Boles**

@DavidBoles

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MSNBC just doxed Rafia Farook, mother of a terrorist, on live television. I've blurred the important bits.

12:49 PM - 4 Dec 2015

1,374

648

*"These are photographs here the family has," MSNBC reported Kerry Sanders said, rifling through a stack of family photos.*

While the San Bernardino Police Department had initially said that the apartment was still an active crime scene, it was later revealed that the investigation was turned over to the FBI, who had cleared the apartment of evidence.

*"We executed a search warrant on that apartment, and last night we turned that over back to the [landlord]," said David Bowdich, assistant director at the FBI field office in Los Angeles. "Once we turn that location back over to the occupants of that residence or once we board it up, anyone who goes in at that point, that's got nothing to do with us."*

Reporters were later removed from the apartment, though the circumstances

of the expulsion were not clear.



**Evan Sernoffsky**

@EvanSernoffsky

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And just like that, reporters have been flushed from the apartment

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63 20

The apartment's landlord was originally reported to have let media inside, but claims to have been "rushed" by journalists.



**FIRST LOOK INSIDE SHOOTERS' HOME**  
**LANDLORD DESCRIBES KILLERS TO MEDIA** CBSN

 **CBS Los Angeles**  
@CBSLA Follow

Landlord says he didn't allow media into San Bernardino shooters' apartment: 'they rushed' [cbsn.ws/1cUhbOw](http://cbsn.ws/1cUhbOw)

12:52 PM - 4 Dec 2015

1,184      396

CNN reporters said that the landlord was escorted away from the premises by law enforcement and put into a car.

 **Jon Passantino**  
@passantino Follow

CNN reporters outside San Bernardino killers' home says landlord was escorted away by law enforcement, put into unmarked vehicle

2:10 PM - 4 Dec 2015

566      264

The coverage of the suspects' apartment caused widespread outrage on Twitter, with some users questioning the journalistic ethics of showing photographs and personal information of people associated with terrorists.

 **Andrew Stiles**  
@AndrewStilesUSA Follow

MSNBC yesterday: Stop implicating all Muslims in terrorism!

MSNBC today: Here are some pictures of Muslims we found in a terrorist's house.

2:31 PM - 4 Dec 2015

405      335

 **Sara Lang**  
@SaraLang Follow

Does MSNBC realize there might be real world consequences

for the folks who are being shown, in conjunction w/ terrorists, on national tv?

12:31 PM - 4 Dec 2015

70 49

RT's [Tabetha Wallace](#) also questioned the legality of the mainstream media's actions.



**Tabetha Wallace**

@TabethaWatching

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My thoughts and prayers go out to the legal teams at [#CNN](#) and [#MSNBC](#).

4:41 PM - 4 Dec 2015

44 80

More than one user drew comparison between the sensational behavior of the media and 'Nightcrawler,' a movie about a sociopathic and exploitative broadcast journalist starring Jake Gyllenhaal.



**Jordan Hoffman**

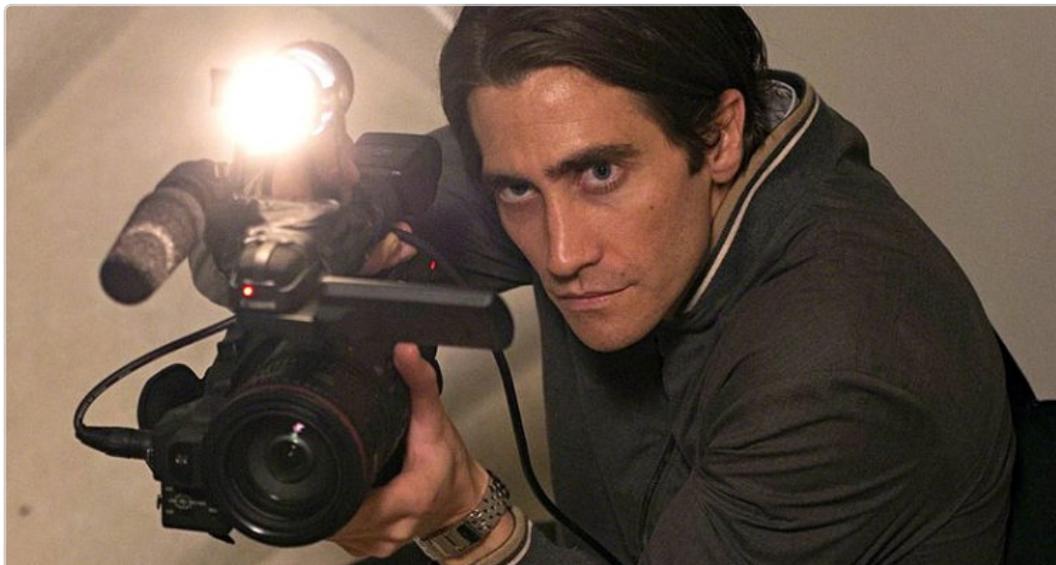
@jhoffman

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MSNBC's really nailing this NIGHTCRAWLER cosplay.

12:44 PM - 4 Dec 2015

168 237





**Seymour Sludgeworth**

@SSludgeworth

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EXCLUSIVE: Photo of guy who let the entire media into active crime scene inside the terrorist's apartment.

1:59 PM - 4 Dec 2015

8 10

MSNBC later apologized for showing identifying information and photographs on air.

"MSNBC and other news organizations were invited into the home by the landlord after law enforcement officials had finished examining the site and returned control to the landlord. Although MSNBC was not the first crew to enter the home, we did have the first live shots from inside. We regret that we briefly showed images of photographs and identification cards that should not have been aired without review," a statement from a network spokesperson read.



**Ashe Schow**

@AsheSchow

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Full apology from @MSNBC on showing identifying info on air:

3:27 PM - 4 Dec 2015

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