

# **ABSTRACT**

This study examines how international media impacts humanitarian aid through the experiences of volunteers in Africa. The researcher interviewed 26 volunteers from organizations like Doctors Without Borders, the Red Cross, and the Peace Corps to explore how news stories influence their views and actions. The findings reveal that while volunteers often rely on mainstream outlets like CNN and BBC for information, their on-the-ground experiences lead them to question these narratives. They find that media coverage usually overlooks important historical and political contexts, which can affect local aid by shaping funding decisions. The study highlights the responsibility of media consumers to seek more diverse and locally-focused stories. Using concepts from the African Postcolonial Theory and Critical Media Theory calls for a more thoughtful approach to sharing information about humanitarian crises.

Key Words: Africa, Humanitarian Aid, Information, International Media, Postcolonialism, and Volunteers.