

Editor's Note: On Credibility

May 31, 2006

A free press can be good or bad, but, most certainly, without freedom a press will never be anything but bad. ~Albert Camus

It is tautological that a free press is at the core of what constitutes a free and open society. Moreover, rational constraints on the exercise of free speech are not unreasonable. Freedom of speech should not allow one to shout "Fire!" in jest, in a crowded theatre. Freedom of the press should not affirm the unchecked right to circulate specious stories of blood libel as history.

The credibility of a serious journal demands not only that its content is accurate, but also that the integrity of the editorial process is preserved. Interference with this process for reasons of politics or commerce can only result in the entire journal – along with its sister publications – being brought into question. In this issue of ISRJEM, Dr. Joel Lexchin addresses this issue head-on.

The Israeli Journal of Emergency medicine pledges to our readership our ongoing dedication to the advancement of knowledge and unbiased dissemination of fact.

Sincerely,

Steven Marc Friedman, MD, MPH

and

The Editors,
Israeli Journal of Emergency Medicine