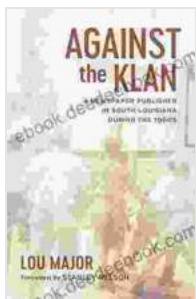


# Influential Newspaper Publishers in South Louisiana During the Tumultuous 1960s: Shaping Media and Public Affairs

During the transformative era of the 1960s, South Louisiana emerged as a pivotal region in the American Civil Rights Movement and other social upheavals. At the forefront of these turbulent times, the press played a pivotal role in disseminating information, influencing public opinion, and shaping the course of events.

In this comprehensive article, we delve into the lives and legacies of three influential newspaper publishers in South Louisiana during the 1960s: John Henry Crump of the *Shreveport Journal*, Malcolm Johnson of the *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, and James Russell Wiggins of the *Washington Post* (a Louisiana native whose early career shaped his views).



## Against the Klan: A Newspaper Publisher in South Louisiana during the 1960s (Media and Public Affairs)

by Lou Major

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 1690 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 199 pages

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## John Henry Crump: The Tireless Advocate



John Henry Crump, a staunch advocate for civil rights and racial equality, led the *Shreveport Journal* for over three decades. Under his stewardship, the newspaper became a powerful voice for change, consistently challenging segregation and discrimination.

Crump's unwavering commitment to justice extended beyond the pages of his newspaper. He actively supported the NAACP and other civil rights organizations, often providing financial assistance and using his influence to promote their causes.

### **Malcolm Johnson: The Pulitzer Prize-Winning Visionary**



Malcolm Johnson, a visionary editor of the *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, played a pivotal role in shaping the paper's influential coverage of the Civil Rights Movement. Under his leadership, the newspaper earned a reputation for fair and balanced reporting, earning Johnson a Pulitzer Prize in 1959.

Johnson's coverage of the nonviolent protests and violent confrontations that characterized the era was praised for its depth and objectivity. He believed that the press had a moral responsibility to inform the public about the struggles for civil rights, regardless of the risks involved.

### **James Russell Wiggins: The Louisiana-Born Press Titan**



Although not a newspaper publisher in South Louisiana during the 1960s, James Russell Wiggins's formative years in the region shaped his perspectives as the influential editor of the *Washington Post*.

Wiggins, a native of Opelousas, Louisiana, brought the values of Southern progressivism to his role at the Post. He believed that the press should be a watchdog for the public interest, holding those in power accountable and advocating for justice.

### **Their Impact on Media and Public Affairs**

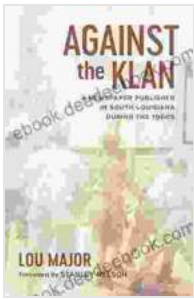
The influence of these three newspaper publishers on the media and public affairs during the 1960s was profound. Their unwavering commitment to truth, justice, and equality helped to shape the coverage of the Civil Rights Movement and other social issues.

Their newspapers became platforms for public discourse, informing the public about critical events, fostering dialogue, and challenging societal norms. They played a vital role in mobilizing people to demand change, both in South Louisiana and beyond.

John Henry Crump, Malcolm Johnson, and James Russell Wiggins were influential figures who used their positions as newspaper publishers to shape the course of history during the tumultuous 1960s. Their passion for truth, justice, and equality left an enduring legacy on the American press and the public discourse.

As we reflect on their contributions, we are reminded of the power of journalism to inform, inspire, and effect change in society. Their unwavering commitment to their principles serves as a reminder of the vital role the

press plays in holding those in power accountable and advocating for the public interest.

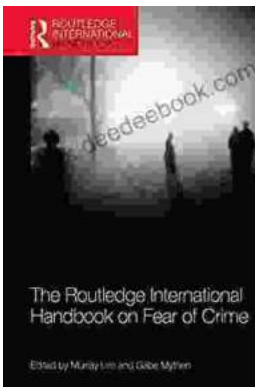


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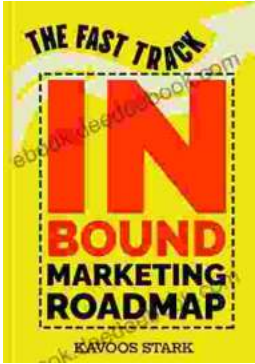
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