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Unit 2 RAB

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**RAB ( Reflective Annotated Bibliography**​ )

**Introduction**

My research question is: How has the CV pandemic impacted and changed the National Basketball Association (NBA) and their players. I am interested in this topic because I am a big fan of the NBA and I can always enjoy a good basketball game. When the country decided to take covid seriously many jobs were required to shut down for a certain time and the NBA had to shut down as well. I already knew that this was the first time the NBA has dealt with a pandemic because it wasn't even founded yet for the last pandemic the U.S. faced (Spanish flu accoreed in 1918, NBA was founded in 1946). Some points I plan to explore and find out more about are how much money the NBA and players lost because they require fans to attend and watch. I also want to find out about the personal life of the NBA players and how their personal life's different now.

**Source Entry 1**

**Part 1 MLA Citation**

/ by Kelley Ekert. “Which NBA Players Are Vaccinated, Unvaccinated against COVID-19?” *RSN*, 3 Oct. 2021, https://www.nbcsports.com/washington/wizards/list-vaccinated-unvaccinated-nba-players-ahead-season.

**Part II Summary**

In the article “Which NBA players are vaccinated, unvaccinated against Covid-19?” Ekert talks about the effects of the Covid Virus in the NBA and how certain NBA players have dealt with the vaccine. Although there are no vaccine mandates in the NBA there is pressure on NBA players to either get vaccinated or lose privileges. For example fully vaccinated players don’t have to be regularly tested and can sit together at team meals, travels and the locker room. However for the un-vaccinated players testing is mandatory on all days involving practice, travels, and can even be tested multiple times on a game day. The cities of New York and San francisco have implemented vaccine mandates, which means that unvaccinated players from those cities are not permitted to play in any game held in those cities. A Brooklyn Nets superstar, Kyrie Irving is not vaccinated and because of that he can miss 41 home games without pay, which is half the season. Another player who plays on the Warriors,(located in San Francisco) Andrew Wiggins was not vaccinated as well. He even requested a religious exemption from the Covid vaccine. After the NBA denied his request he then got the vaccine so he wouldn’t lose his money and miss games. Many players throughout the NBA have their own thoughts on the Covid vaccine and handle it in their own ways.

**Part 3A Reflection**

I would advise this article to friends of mine and people who enjoy watching the NBA because I learned a great lot on how the Covid Pandemic brought new situations for the players.. Not only was I able to find out the protacles the league took to still keep their business going, but I also found out what individual players had to deal with. I like how the writer shows the experience of the basketball players who took the vaccine and the players who are against the vaccine. Every player doesn’t have the same thought process and I was interested to read why a player took the actions they took. Something I wish the author added is that based on vaccination status among players I'm curious as to if the vaccination has caused friction among NBA teammates. I know that many NBA players' main focus in the sport is winning a championship. How do these players feel when their teammates miss games due to their thoughts on the vaccine?

**Part 3B Rhetorical analysis**

This article is written by Kelley Ekert, a digital editor and throughout the article she gives us straight facts to how several NBA players were impacted by covid in their own ways. Due to the author giving us facts instead of biased opinions the readers are able to have their own reactions and thoughts on what they just read. Kelley Ekert shows the perspective of both the vaccinated and unvaccinated and the treatment they receive based on their decisions. The intended audience of the article are People who follow basketball and anyone who watches a sport that involves fans.

**Part 4 Notable Quotables**

“​​​​If that’s something we’re supposed to highly be protected from, that’s funny that it only reduces your chances of going to the hospital. It doesn’t eliminate anyone from getting COVID.” (Beal, Paragraph 15)

“It should be everyone’s decision. I see it both ways. If you want to get it because you feel more protected and you feel safer, and it’s protecting people around you, get it. That’s good for you. But if you feel like, ‘Oh, for me, I don’t feel safe getting it, then don’t get it.” (Porter, Paragraph 25)

“I know that I was very skeptical about it all, but after doing my research, I felt like it was best suited for not only me, but my family and for my friends. That's why I decided to do it,” ( James, paragraph 30)

**RAB Source entry #2**

**Part 1 MLA Citation**

Greif, Andrew. “How the NBA Adapted to Change during the COVID-19 Pandemic.” *Los Angeles Times*, Los Angeles Times, 11 Mar. 2021, https://www.latimes.com/sports/story/2021-03-11/nba-changes-covid-19-pandemic-year-later.

**Part 2 Summary**

In the article “How the NBA adapted to change during the COVID-19 pandemic” the author gives us various ways the NBA was impacted by Covid and adapted to the pandemic. When players are doing interviews now for the media they would have to talk through a zoom call rather than face to face. According to the Golden State Warriors Chief Executive and President, NBA team executives and other employees have been forced to collaborate and work remotely instead of meeting in an office environment, which has not been as effective. However, he concedes that this situation has not been entirely bad, that there have been some positive attributes. For example, the senior team has become a closer group due to the many hours spent working online. The cancelation of the NBA season caught league executives and players off-guard. Due to this national and local broadcasters and their crews lost jobs. Broadcasters were required to announce games remotely and were confined to their hotel rooms for days. Also the biggest portion of the NBA revenue comes from the fans. Now that fans aren't allowed until the health authorities deem it’s safe enough the NBA lost 40% of their revenue from the fans. The NBA has fallen $1.5 billion in 2020.

**Part 3A Reflection**

I would recommend this article to those who follow the NBA and anybody who wants to find out how jobs that require fans were affected due to the Covid Pandemic. The NBA is an entertainment business and most of their money comes from people who enjoy viewing and watching the NBA. I believe 1.5 billion dollars is way too much money to lose, this makes me wonder how much the NBA would make per season before the pandemic. I learned that the NBA staff and administration had to do a lot of strategizing on how they can keep prospering as a great entertainment business. I am able to realize that the viewers and fans outside the NBA staff and players are very important to the NBA's success. Whether It’s media people or ticket buyers, the NBA needs both of them to continue succeeding.

**Part 3B Rhetorical analysis**

This article is written by Andrew Greif, a writer for the Los Angeles Times who covers the NBA and the Clippers. Greif is always up to date with the NBA and gives accurate information. The intended audience for this is NBA fans and the purpose of the article is to show the readers how the administration and staff of the NBA adjusted to the Covid Pandemic and the effects of it. The Los Angeles Times is a respected source and is the largest metropolitan daily newspaper in the country.

**Part 4 Notable quotes**

“When teams hit the road, it’s become standard for television and radio play-by-play announcers and their analysts to call games remotely and for players to stay largely confined to their hotels” (Greif, paragraph 23)

“ work our way through that and how much direct access, face-to-face access, that media people have with our teams, whether that’s practice or postgame news conferences. There’s good and bad in that, I think.”(Welts, paragraph 26)

“The normal media access policy benefits everyone: the league, its teams, its players and, most of all, the fans whose passion fuels the league’s business model.”(Robbins, paragraph 27)

**RAB Source Entry #3**

**Part 1 MLA Citation**

Sow, Moussa (NBA fan for ten years+). In person Interview. Bronx, NYC. 18 NOV 2021

**Part 2 Summary**

My friend Moussa is 22 years old and has been a big fan of the NBA since the start of middle school, which was over ten years ago. Moussa is the perfect person to talk with about the impact and change the NBA has faced during the pandemic because he follows the NBA closely as a fan and makes weekly bets on Fanduel (sports betting)hoping for a win each time. He even attended a couple of games.

The first question I asked Moussa is how he felt when the NBA first shut down earlier in the pandemic. “Ahh man, I was so disappointed I had no idea when the NBA would come back, I thought fans wouldn’t be allowed until 2 years later, It would suck” he said. Moussa really valued attending games and cheering or booing for the teams playing and thought the NBA would lose the best part of themselves with the fans being gone. He couldn’t see a near future where fans would be allowed which let him down. Moussa mainly cared about the effect the NBA would have on him rather than the NBA players and staff.

I then asked Moussa who his favorite NBA player was and if he knew their vaccination status. He told me his favorite player is Bradly Beal and he believes he is vaccinated because he’s currently playing for his team. Moussa is wrong though, Bradley Beal is not vaccinated , he’s allowed to play in his city and all the games because his home arena in Washington doesn’t require players to be vaccinated.

The last question I asked Moussa is what he missed the most during the time the NBA was shut down. “ I mainly missed being able to bet on fanduel because I made a lot of money from it, but also when NBA came back I was upset that fans weren't allowed for like a year”

The NBA plays a big part in Moussa’s life, whether it’s for entertainment or to make money he uses them at both. Moussa wishes that every player can play whether they are vaccinated or not because that would create the best experience for the fans and the players.

**Part 3A Reflection**

For the most part I understand and agree with what Moussa is saying. I also agree that the NBA shutdown was a let down. He’s also right that the fans are the most important part of the NBA weather even though he was just talking about the energy they bring to the game. The fans are also very important because they account for 40% of the NBA revenue. I believe that Moussa is too self centred on this subject and that he should care to find out the problems the people who actually work in the NBA have dealt with because that’s what they do for a living. I thought it was important to understand the feelings and actions of the workers on the business side of the NBA to fully understand how the NBA brands itself, but Moussa didn’t think that deeply.

**Part 3B Rhetorical analysis**

The person being interviewed was able to point out an important aspect of the NBA when mentioning the fans. Moussa is a long time fan of the NBA and understands the value of the entertainment and the social life the NBA has to offer. The intended audience for this interview are fans of the NBA and sports who want to find out the effect the NBA had on fans during the pandemic.

**Part 4 Quotable quotes**

**“**I was upset that fans weren't allowed for like a year.”

“I mainly missed being able to bet on fanduel because I made a lot of money from it.”

**Conclusion Paragraph**

In my research I learned so much on how the NBA as a business and their players were affected due to the pandemic. When I first came up with this topic I wanted to really find out how the players were managing their own choices and how the business of the NBA would change during the pandemic. Due to my research I was able to find out some of the thought process from specific players of the NBA. Not just one or two players but several NBA players who had different experiences through the pandemic. There were some players who struggled more than other players and some who had it easier based on what I read. Before doing my research I knew that it would only make sense for the NBA to take losses as a business due to the pandemic, now due to my research I know the specific losses. The NBA lost over a billion dollars in a season which is just crazy. They had to put in a lot of effort to adjust to the pandemic and made the decision to treat the two different types of players, vaccinated and unvaccinated, how they saw fit. I am able to conclude the NBA is a strong business and they had to pull out a lot of moves to make sure they continue being prosperos even when faced with a pandemic. They are still in the pandemic and I will keep my attention on this because I want to see all the ways the NBA and their players adapt to the pandemic.