

Mayhill Fowler: Citizen hero or villain?

 blogs.lse.ac.uk/polis/2008/06/20/mayhill-fowler-citizen-hero-or-villain/

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An acquaintance is married to someone high up on the US political blog website [Huffington Post](#) which has made waves in the US elections with its “citizen reporters”. Apparently, the [HuffPost](#) senior editors were very conflicted about reporting a story that was damaging to Obama – the man they clearly backed for the candidacy. That in itself raises questions about the Huffpost’s claims to be opening up a new form of more accountable news media.

The story was broken by Mayhill [Fowler](#) who has given [The Guardian](#) an interesting interview. She has a different take on what she does:

“I’m going to be 62 this summer and I know what’s important. Being a mother, that’s important. Nursing your own mother until the day she died, that was important. Being a minor footnote in the 2008 election – that’s really not.”

I have written about this [already](#) saying that I don’t see her actions as any worse than mainstream journalism techniques. But is that good enough?

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