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00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:10,266

[Written title: Arak Journal, Overcoming Challenges]

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00:00:10,266 --> 00:00:13,666

[Music] [Written question: How did you address challenges you encountered in your research?]

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00:00:13,666 --> 00:00:16,733

[Written question: How did you address challenges you encountered in your research?]

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00:00:16,733 --> 00:00:19,433

One of the earlier iterations that I had

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00:00:19,433 --> 00:00:25,566

for poverty and food insecurity was that

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00:00:25,566 --> 00:00:29,433

I was trying to tie it to political

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00:00:29,433 --> 00:00:34,600

instability. I was drawn to the fact that

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00:00:34,600 --> 00:00:38,300

there were commonalities between social

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00:00:38,300 --> 00:00:40,866

upheavals and uprisings and hunger.

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There's a reason that we saw bread riots

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00:00:43,700 --> 00:00:46,300

in both the French Revolution and in the

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00:00:46,300 --> 00:00:50,766

Arab Spring. There was a high correlation

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00:00:50,766 --> 00:00:53,733

with social upheaval and the rise in

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00:00:53,733 --> 00:00:56,366

food costs. I didn't have that

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00:00:56,366 --> 00:00:58,566

universality that I was looking for. I

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00:00:58,566 --> 00:01:02,333

didn't have that that, you know, that red

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00:01:02,333 --> 00:01:05,966

flag. After going through some more

18

00:01:05,966 --> 00:01:09,100

literature, that helped me refine it and

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00:01:09,100 --> 00:01:12,300

frame it. And sort of I was afraid to do

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00:01:12,300 --> 00:01:14,666

so but widened the perspective, you know?

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00:01:14,666 --> 00:01:17,766

What happens when a place is politically

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00:01:17,766 --> 00:01:20,166

unstable if the institutions cannot

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00:01:20,166 --> 00:01:23,200

function to help their citizens? Well

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00:01:23,200 --> 00:01:25,300

then those who are most vulnerable, those

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00:01:25,300 --> 00:01:28,300

who are most poor, are the ones were more

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00:01:28,300 --> 00:01:30,600

susceptible to increases in food

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00:01:30,600 --> 00:01:32,766

insecurity. I suppose my biggest

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00:01:32,766 --> 00:01:35,733

challenge was making it not as technical.

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It was finding pieces that weren't

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00:01:39,366 --> 00:01:42,333

giving me all the scientific and legal

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00:01:42,333 --> 00:01:44,600

jargon. Because, like I said, it was

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00:01:44,600 --> 00:01:48,066

difficult to find the survivor stories

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00:01:48,066 --> 00:01:51,400

and to relate that in a way that didn't

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00:01:51,400 --> 00:01:57,133

come off as appealing to pathos without

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00:01:57,133 --> 00:02:00,933

having any real logic behind it. It's

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00:02:00,933 --> 00:02:05,533

it's always a very difficult area. Like

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00:02:05,533 --> 00:02:08,033

when you have to mix the two just

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00:02:08,033 --> 00:02:11,533

finding ways to support your research

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00:02:11,533 --> 00:02:15,500

and support your your topic. And I think

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00:02:15,500 --> 00:02:18,700

I found definitely that almost every

41

00:02:18,700 --> 00:02:22,833

source I used had statistics all over

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00:02:22,833 --> 00:02:25,800

the place, and nothing saying, "This is the

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00:02:25,800 --> 00:02:27,133

real impact of this."

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00:02:27,133 --> 00:02:29,900

And that's why I really reached out in

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00:02:29,900 --> 00:02:32,300

the end to Paul because I just wanted

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00:02:32,300 --> 00:02:35,066

someone to sit down with and talk to

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00:02:35,066 --> 00:02:37,433

about it instead of staring at a

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00:02:37,433 --> 00:02:38,600

computer screen.

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00:02:38,600 --> 00:02:41,633

I think the 10-page thing was really

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00:02:41,633 --> 00:02:44,400

difficult. I always over-research so

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00:02:44,400 --> 00:02:46,266

I went in and I was like, "Okay, I'm gonna

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00:02:46,266 --> 00:02:47,766

find any resource that I can possibly

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00:02:47,766 --> 00:02:49,600

find on this and I'm just gonna compile

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00:02:49,600 --> 00:02:51,800

it all and see where I end up." And even

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00:02:51,800 --> 00:02:54,666

then I was realizing just talking about

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00:02:54,666 --> 00:02:57,566

like person to person, I was not finding

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00:02:57,566 --> 00:03:01,000

enough. So I really had to kind of push

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00:03:01,000 --> 00:03:03,300

myself to say, "Okay, what can I do to fill

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00:03:03,300 --> 00:03:05,600

10 pages? What can I do that's gonna be

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00:03:05,600 --> 00:03:07,966

like related to the topic and

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00:03:07,966 --> 00:03:09,733

informational and important, but at the

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00:03:09,733 --> 00:03:12,933

same time help me like reach the page

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00:03:12,933 --> 00:03:14,600

limit that I needed to make?" So that's

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00:03:14,600 --> 00:03:16,533

where I think the "journalist angle" came

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00:03:16,533 --> 00:03:18,900

in. Which is something where I was as I

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00:03:18,900 --> 00:03:20,000

was writing, I'm like I can't believe

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00:03:20,000 --> 00:03:22,266

I hadn't thought of this before as like

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00:03:22,266 --> 00:03:24,366

a you know student reporter and someone

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00:03:24,366 --> 00:03:26,300

who is involved in journalism. And I was

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00:03:26,300 --> 00:03:28,266

like, "Oh, well obviously there's some sort

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00:03:28,266 --> 00:03:30,466

of like influence here and something

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00:03:30,466 --> 00:03:33,933

needs to be said about it." [Music] [University of Delaware, Library, Museums & Press animated logo.]

73

00:03:33,933 --> 00:03:37,200

[Music] [University of Delaware, Library, Museums & Press animated logo.]

74

00:03:37,200 --> 00:03:39,233

[Music] [University of Delaware, Library, Museums & Press animated logo.]