



# PRESS RELEASE

**e Press Release: 3rd Degree**

**TX: Tuesday 19 July at 9.30pm**

With the much anticipated Bang Bang Club movie about four young photojournalists whose pictures captured the last days of apartheid being released this week, 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree takes a look back at the this period in our history and explores how South African media freedom was born.

In the last 18 months government has been trying to push through a bill to protect state secrets, but the bill has been met with extreme disapproval from both civil society and the media. With harsh criticism levelled against this bill the government is heading back to the drawing board.

But there are other means to sensor information as a weekend newspaper reported a few weeks ago, that two of its investigative journalists were being intimidated by police.

Then there is the hostility that the media face from GCIS CEO Jimmy Manyi who accused the press in a recent radio interview of having “media tendencies”

The South African media has come a long way and has played a pivotal role in our history.

Is the importance of the free media being undermined, is the profession under threat?

Ends