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#### Journal Entry 4

Reading the article on the morality of VR was really eye opening because it really laid out all the questions that VR brings up when used as an immersive news outlet to inform. I liked how the article asked questions and made the reader think about the issues for themselves because it is a topic up for debate at this point since it is so new and still upcoming. I watched the TED talk after reading the article and I liked reading the article first because it laid the groundwork for my opinion on VR used in that form for news, and set the stage for the future, which the TED talk was. The talk was really interesting, the man who created these immersive films is working with the United Nations to try and help the people in the videos he creates.

I believe that VR can be a very effective tool to create empathy, Chris Milk from the Ted talk made a very strong case by showing how he was using this technology to do so. It can allow the user to be on the same level with anyone in the world, and that can really affect a persons viewpoint and opinion on a matter because they can feel as if it is their own even just briefly. I also do understand from the article and how there can be some ethical concerns because of the format potentially being seen as media entertainment and even disrespectful and too obscene to show to everyone. For example, in the article, the author talks about how in a regular film you can Frame the shot and leave out things that “should be left unseen” but with VR and 360 videos you can’t do that and that is may be seen as a problem. That point can also look at from the other

perspective that people shouldn't be sheltered from the reality if that's what they're opting for, which they are because in order to experience VR because the viewer needs to put on the headset first. Personally I believe that VR in this use can be beneficial if used correctly to teach people and allow them to empathize, but of course, trying to be as respectful as one can be in a fully immersive world that is not your own. I believe that VR is our future and can allow the world to empathize and "interact" with each other. Of course, ethical issues may come up about if this is okay or not, but that is expected with all forms of media and I don't think it should stop this one from being used to its full potential.