

Journalists are just puppets in the hands of those who have the power.

Why?

(Try to find out what feelings and needs are alive in the other person: empathic resonance)

Are you feeling uncertain/ suspicious?

Do you need honesty/integrity?

I guess you are uncertain/suspicious because for you honesty/integrity is an important value. And you aren't sure journalists are independent in the way they spread the news. Is that what you are saying?

What if?

(Mirror questions: how would it be if you were standing in the shoes of that person)

Do you personally know someone who is working as a journalist? Do you know how they manage to do their job?

Can you imagine how they would react when you are telling them they are just puppets in the hands of others?

Self-reflection

(Questions you can ask yourself in silence to support yourself in understanding the other person)

How important is honesty/integrity for me?

When do I have the need for it?

How do I feel when this need is not fulfilled?

Empowerment

(More information on the issue and tips how to explore the problem and continue the discussion)

Independent journalism is still a major backbone of democracy in Europe. Bigger media are reporting in a trustworthy way about facts. Their commentaries, however, might have a tendency towards a more liberal or a more conservative base.

Still, the core task of a journalist is to truthfully and objectively report about news. To do this a journalist needs to fairly hear both sides and report both sides evenly. But something like independent journalism doesn't exist. A journalist is always dependent on their own sources. That's why we as readers have to be critical and have to come to own opinions instead of believing everything which is communicated in media of all kind (including social media).

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