

### CASE 14b: FEAST & FAMINE

Kevin Carter, a free-lance photographer, photographed masses of starving people at a feeding station in Sudan.

Away from the feeding station, he came upon an emaciated Sudanese child crawling toward the feeding center. As he was photographing the child, a well-fed vulture landed a few feet away and began to stalk the child. Carter eventually shooed the bird away, but it is not known if the child survived. Carter's powerful image won Carter the 1994 Pulitzer Prize for Photography. Although acclaimed by many, much of the response was critical for publishing this photo and awarding it the Pulitzer Prize. Carter was angrily criticized because he took the picture but did not assist the child, although she was one among thousands of refugees crawling toward the feeding station.



1. Some insist that photojournalists are necessarily observers rather than participants, removed from the subjects they photograph, documenting rather than intervening. Is this an ethically-correct view of the profession?

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2. Although Carter did not carry the child to the feeding station, is it enough, ethically, that he shooed the vulture away?

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3. The photograph brought global attention to the plight of the Sudanese and eventually aid. Does this information have any effect on the ethical analysis of the case?

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**"UPON THE CONDUCT OF EACH DEPENDS THE FATE OF ALL."  
~ Alexander the Great**