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Journalists' well-being in the wake of the Jokela school shooting incident. A study on psychological reactions after working with a crisis-related assignment.

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In the study, experiences of Finnish news journalists working with the Jokela school shooting are studied from a psychological perspective. A qualitative analysis of open-ended questions is presented. The study was carried out as a part of a larger study five months after the incident, realized as an Internet survey.

A total of 126 news journalists working with the shooting incident either on the scene or indirectly, i.e. from the office or regionally in another part of the country, participated in the study. Results were analyzed using a conceptual framework of previous research.

Reactions and thoughts of the journalists, presented in the paper, consist of answers roughly divided into three main groups: (1) occurrence and types of personal traumatic reactions in journalists, (2) overall work-related ethical issues and (3) reactions to the public criticism after the incident.