

Esmerelda Fuentes
Visual Rhetoric Narrative

It's 8 a.m. time to wake up. Half asleep, I struggle to get to my desk and turn my computer on, even before I run to the bathroom. My homepage is set to the New York Times, forcing me to see outside the Stanford bubble. I head out to breakfast and I pick up a paper copy of the New York Times. Yes, I am a bit obsessed with this newspaper. I am bombarded with images that help in my selection of what stories to read. Once I return to my room, I am not ready to start working, so I spend about 30 more minutes trying to wake up by visiting a few more sites.

I check the San Antonio Spurs website, especially after a basketball game, to check their standings in the Western Conference. (I am a big Spurs Fan!) Once I read any new articles, I go to my home town newspaper website, www.mysa.com, and read anything that looks interesting, again, basing my decision on the images as well as the titles. I have noticed that I choose the articles to read solely on how attractive and attention-grabbing they are. I keep informed on current events by reading the front page articles; a strategic placement of what the newspaper feels will attract people.

Once I'm ready to start my day, I walk over to the bathroom and am again bombarded with images all around me, even inside the bathroom. But this time it is in the form of flyers, all trying to convince me to vote for them or attend some sort of event. They are all very colorful and have some sort of slogan that will make me feel responsible for the starving people in a third world country or will bring a smile to my face. The flyer on the right has all the qualities of a good attention-grabbing flyer. It is colorful and the setup is perfect for presenting all the details. After looking at all the flyers, I realize that attractive flyers, as well as some sort of comedy are what most people resort to. However, looking at the election flyers, those that actually mention how prepared the candidate is and what his or her plans are if elected, are more efficient to acquire the vote. I now walk back to my room ending my morning routine.