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The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 incited reactions across the globe and continue to have an undeniable effect on current events. Undoubtedly understanding what happened before, during, and after that day is of critical importance for understanding the roles of America and the Middle East today. When analyzing the way politicians, newspapers, the public, and scholars have talked about 9/11, what they talk about and the perspectives they come from heavily influence the interpretations of that day's events. I argue that national media emphasized topics of cultural unity, civic unrest, and imminent threat. This contrasts with New York's interpretation of events, which concentrates on individual experience and the short and long term effects of the attacks on the city itself. Furthermore, I also highlight the lack of information and a rise of misinformation among a generation that has little firsthand experience of the events themselves. A lack of education stands to significantly impact their ability to understand current events, and demonstrates the importance of improving both the scholarship and the pedagogy in tandem.