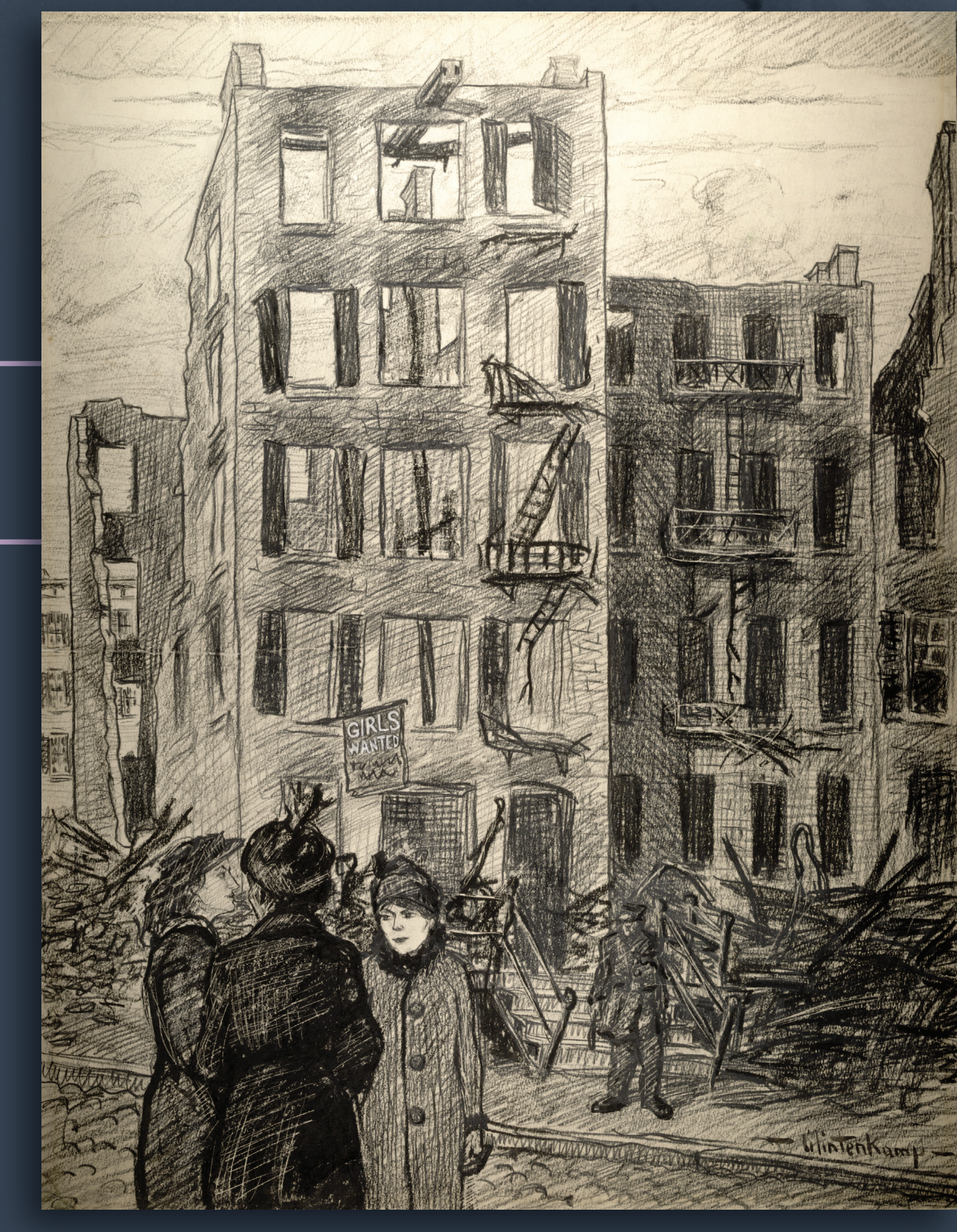


Retelling Stories

How widely the news initially covers a disaster and how the story is repeated has an effect on how it is remembered. The story can change over time, and be incorporated into various forms of media. Some stories fade while others continue to generate wide interest. These stories have power and can lead to positive change.

The Triangle Shirtwaist Fire

The Triangle Shirtwaist fire of 1911 is remembered because of the tragic loss of life that could have been prevented, and the resulting changes to laws requiring safety measures such as unlocked doors to allow people to escape a fire. Most of the 146 victims were Italian and Jewish immigrant women. The factory owners were fined \$75 per victim.



Three women standing across the street from the burned-out shell of a building from which hangs the sign, "Girls wanted." | Girls wanted / Glintenkamp, 1916



Graphic from the Titanic Museum Attraction in Branson, Missouri. | Titanicbranson.com/media

The Titanic

The Titanic sank on April 15, 1912, and 1,500 people died. Most of the victims were 2nd and 3rd class passengers but a number of wealthy passengers also died. The disaster led to the Radio Act of 1912, the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (1914), and the creation of the International Ice Patrol.

The SS Eastland

The SS Eastland was a passenger ship with a history of safety issues. It was based in Chicago and used for tours in 1915 when, while still docked in the Chicago river, it rolled over, killing 844 passengers and crew. Many passengers were Czech immigrants and employees of the Western Electric Company on their way to a company picnic.



View of Eastland taken from First Tupper Place. | Set of 6 Penny postcard supplied by Kathie Kamil Estate Sales of Kansas City, MO



The scattered tail assembly of the TWA Collision with the unique three vertical stabilizers missing, as photographed by park rangers during the CAB investigation. | Courtesy of the National Park Service

04 | The 1956 Grand Canyon Collision

United Airlines Flight 718 and TWA Flight 2 collided over the Grand Canyon on June 30, 1956, killing all 128 aboard both aircraft. A Civil Aeronautics Board investigation determined the aircraft had been flying in each other's blind spots and did not see each other prior to impact. After the incident, Air Traffic Control was modernized and the Federal Aviation Administration was created. The site of the crash was declared a National Historic Landmark in 2014.

Questions to keep in mind:

Have you heard of these disasters?

What do you know about them?

Whose stories are told?

Why have you heard of some but not others?

RMS Titanic departing Southampton on April 10, 1912. | Francis Cockburn O'Rourke Stuart, photographer, (1843-1923)



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