



**Nellie Bly**, using her **freedom of the press**, wrote her first newspaper editorial at the age of fourteen for the Pittsburgh Dispatch. By twenty one she was reporting on the political situation in Mexico, which was then under the dictatorship of Porfirio Díaz. By twenty three she had famously committed herself to a mental asylum to report on the deplorable conditions from the inside. Her pioneering work helped spawn the field of investigative journalism.