

# ***Murray Fromson, Champion of Press Freedom, Dies at 88***

By [Neil Genzlinger](#)

June 12, 2018

Murray Fromson, a well-traveled print and broadcast reporter who helped found the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press at a time when journalists faced hostility during President Richard M. Nixon's administration, died on Saturday in Los Angeles. He was 88.

His son, Derek, said the cause was Alzheimer's disease.

Professor Fromson, who also had a long career at the University of Southern California, joining its journalism faculty in 1982 and directing its journalism school from 1994 to 1999, covered many of the biggest news stories of his time: the Korean War, the Vietnam War, civil rights, the famine in Bangladesh and more.

One of those stories was the 1969 trial in Chicago of antiwar leaders on charges related to violence at the Democratic National Convention there in 1968. Mr. Fromson, working for CBS News at the time, became concerned about the aggressive stance being taken by John N. Mitchell, Nixon's attorney general, toward reporters and principles of journalistic confidentiality.

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