# The Inside Story: Hutton, The BBC, and the Sexed-Up Dossier

In 2003, the world was gripped by the Iraq War. The United States and the United Kingdom, led by President George W. Bush and Prime Minister Tony Blair, invaded Iraq, claiming that the country possessed weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). However, no WMDs were ever found, and the war proved to be a costly and disastrous mistake.

In the lead-up to the war, the BBC broadcast a report that claimed that the British government had exaggerated the threat posed by Iraq's WMDs. The report was based on a dossier of intelligence that had been provided to the BBC by the government. However, the dossier turned out to be flawed, and the BBC was accused of bias and inaccuracy.



Stumbling Over Truth: The Inside Story and the 'Sexed Up' Dossier, Hutton and the BBC by Lilian Jackson Braun

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audience, but that it had made a number of errors in its reporting. The inquiry also found that the government had exaggerated the threat posed by Iraq's WMDs.

The Hutton Inquiry was a major turning point in the Iraq War. It exposed the flaws in the government's case for war, and it led to a loss of confidence in the BBC. The inquiry also raised important questions about the role of the media in a democracy.

## The Inside Story

The Hutton Inquiry was a public inquiry that was set up to investigate the BBC's report on Iraq's WMDs. The inquiry was chaired by Lord Hutton, a former High Court judge. The inquiry heard evidence from a wide range of witnesses, including BBC journalists, government officials, and intelligence experts.

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## The Sexed-Up Dossier

The sexed-up dossier was a dossier of intelligence that was provided to the BBC by the government. The dossier claimed that Iraq possessed WMDs and that it was an imminent threat to the United Kingdom. However, the dossier turned out to be flawed, and it was later found that the government had exaggerated the threat posed by Iraq's WMDs.

The sexed-up dossier was a major factor in the decision to go to war against Iraq. It provided the government with the evidence it needed to justify the invasion. However, the dossier was based on faulty intelligence, and it led to a war that was based on false pretenses.

#### ## The BBC's Report

The BBC's report on Iraq's WMDs was broadcast on May 29, 2003. The report claimed that the British government had exaggerated the threat posed by Iraq's WMDs. The report was based on the sexed-up dossier that had been provided to the BBC by the government.

The BBC's report was highly controversial. The government accused the BBC of bias and inaccuracy. The BBC defended its report, but it later admitted that it had made a number of errors.

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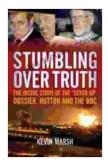
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The Iraq War was a major disaster. It cost the lives of thousands of people, and it destabilized the Middle East. The war was based on false pretenses, and it has had a lasting negative impact on the reputation of the United States and the United Kingdom.

The Hutton Inquiry is a reminder of the importance of truth and accuracy in journalism. The media has a responsibility to inform the public about

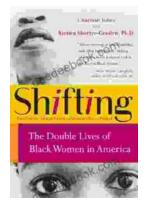
important issues, and it must do so in a fair and impartial manner.



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