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## Representation of Pandemics in the Media: The Spanish Flu Case Study

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Inspiring Minds Submission  
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### **Representation of Pandemics in the Media: The Spanish Flu Case Study**

This Major Research Paper compares the portrayal of the 1918 Influenza in the media in Spain and Canada. This pandemic, dubbed by the public as the “Spanish Flu,” presents a historical case study that demonstrates the detrimental social, economic, and political implications of associating a virus with a foreign nation, which is particularly relevant in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic today. To this end, the study analyzes headlines, stories, advertisements, and political/editorial cartoons in Spanish and Canadian newspapers (such as *El País* and *The Globe and Mail*, respectively) to document the Canadian press’ role in perpetuating this harmful rhetoric, which in this case lead to discrimination against Spaniards in Canada and affected international relations between the two countries for decades afterwards.

Word count: 122