

# Data should be free

**Rob van Kranenburg**

kranenbu@xs4all.nl

It is very simple people, data should be free. From privacy to privacies, originality to originalities and some odd stuff.<sup>1</sup>

if i am gone and with no trace i will be in my minor place – Bonnie Prince Billy

And as for the law well, “We have our very own Mademoiselle de Keroualle to treat that question,” says I.

Or

Let’s hear it for some peace and quiet.

Or

What is wrong with sub-Saharan Africa?

I don’t know. Let’s find out.

On April 3, 1:04 pm Wolfgang Woehl <tito@rumford.de> wrote:<sup>2</sup>

In response to Marc

MarC marc\_contrib@ramonvinyes.es who wrote:

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<sup>1</sup> Input from the EU-India Workshop/IP Conference, Sarai, Delhi January 2005, Ways of Working II, Ways of Working 2, Appropriation and Collaboration in Contemporary Arts Practice March 2005, London, DC Tales, Santorini, June 2003.

<sup>2</sup> On the Reader List; Date: Mon, 4 Apr 2005 07:25:07 +0200

From: <ish@sarai.net>

To: A list for linux audio users <linux-audio-user@music.columbia.edu>

Subject: [Reader-list] Re: Commercial VS NonCommercial Creative Commons [WAS: Re: [linux-audio-user] more odd music]

List-Id: “A list on Media and the City, Information Politics and Contemporary Culture” <reader-list.sarai.net>

> > I raise this issue because I'm starting a musical project and I would like to never release any work that could end like <http://www.lokitorrent.com/> when the people shares it, I would like to use other musicians works (and I can't afford to pay them for such work now) and I would finally like to win fairly some money making good music (without this money I will never be able to buy decent instruments)

> > is it an utopia?

Says Wolfgang:

> Marc, I'm flabbergasted. This is 2005. There's no way you could prevent people from copying or sharing things in the digital domain. DRM is a joke. The industry that promotes it is a joke. The business model is gone, don't you know that?

> How can anyone \*own\* music? How did Bach do it? How did Capitol Records do it? The only way to make that claim to some extent real were technical limitations -- and those are gone for good.

> Coming up with something like G-C-E7 is a complex process, sure ;) Hell, make it Bbmaj9-Gm7-F/C-C-D/C. But do you really intend to say this is yours? That you invented this, put it into the world, out of the blue? Isolated from everything you've ever heard or experienced in your life? Originality someone? What is that?

Share your stuff and you will get back more than you ever dreamed of. To make money it is, in my experience, fairly promising to put your family's estate to sensible use or, in the lack of an estate, work. The clownesque, inspired, spiritual, grotesque, old-fashioned, great field of making music will probably get you all \*but\* money.

> I'm a bit ashamed to see that all this sounds quite patronizing. Excuse me, Marc. This a patronizing day and it transfers.

> Wolfgang

Let's put our estate to work!

First of all we must conclude that Keynes was right:

"At the outset of the Great Depression in 1930 Keynes wrote an essay entitled "Economic Possibilities for Our Grandchildren" in which he declared that the economic problem, in the sense of meeting subsistence needs of everyone in the rich societies, might be solved in a hundred years. The issue would then become one of how to deal with leisure as the work week declined to three hours a day, a total of fifteen hours a week. At that point, he claimed, a new moral code might develop to bring society "out of the tunnel of economic necessity into the daylight." Until then, however, the world would have to stick to an alienated moral code in which "fair is

foul and foul is fair,” that is, one based on the greed and exploitation associated with the accumulation of capital.”<sup>3</sup>

Thanks Maynard! Only 25 years to go. Let’s speed it up!

Dirk Bruere knows what is wrong with Britain and the US of A:

Date: Tue, 18 Jan 2005 13:40:08 +0000  
From: Dirk Bruere <dirk@neopax.com>  
Organization: Neopax

Sounds like Britain’s view of hitech when I was at research labs in the late 70s.

The ‘suits’ could never take seriously anything us ‘geeks’ were talking about because we wore T shirts and didn’t mix with the ‘right people’ at the right clubs. I wrote a proposal in 1977 for an ‘electronic book’ for the GEC Hirst Research Centre. Only found out years later that Alan Kay beat me to it. Anyway, even then the place was called by New Scientist ‘The graveyard of good ideas’. Pinned that cutout on the notice board, but it disappeared sharpish. The rest is the hitech history of the UK.

30yrs on, it seems the US is following in our footsteps.  
The place where things are going to happen is China.

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Dirk  
<http://www.theconsensus.org>

China:

“When interviewed by the Zhongguo Qingnian Bao(China Youth Daily), one of China’s leading newspapers, Wu Jianmin, former Chinese ambassador to France and currently president of the China Foreign Affairs University, said that China’s diplomacy is transforming from “responsive diplomacy” (fanying shi wwaijiao) to “proactive diplomacy” (zhudong shi waijiao).”<sup>4</sup>

And Jamie?<sup>5</sup>

Jamie says – pockets full of pirate gygabites – that it ain’t going to last long for IP to come tumbling down. He speaks of lunches with top record company guys

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<sup>3</sup> From: “ZESTEconomics Desk” <vipbat@gmail.com>  
Date: Sun, 27 Mar 2005 19:03:16 -0000  
Subject: [ZESTEconomics] The End of Rational Capitalism  
The End of Rational Capitalism  
By John Bellamy Foster

Guerilla News Network | March 17, 2005  
[http://www.gnn.tv/headlines/1464/The\\_End\\_of\\_Rational\\_Capitalism](http://www.gnn.tv/headlines/1464/The_End_of_Rational_Capitalism)

<sup>4</sup> “Energy First. China and the Middle East”, by Jin Liangxiang, *Middle East Quarterly*.  
<http://www.meforum.org/article/694>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.jamie.com/>

who confess to him –smiling- they know this can't go on for ever, but until it crumbles good they will snatch every eurocent.

In a hit-and-run accident, the airbag goes off. The driver does not escape, because the airbag had a GPS beacon that was triggered.<sup>6</sup>

“In Bolivia, a rural radio station uses the Internet to answer questions from listeners - like the farmer who wanted help dealing with a worm that was devouring his crops. Working online, the station found a Swedish expert who identified the worm, and broadcast the information on pest control to the entire community.”<sup>7</sup>



Brian says:

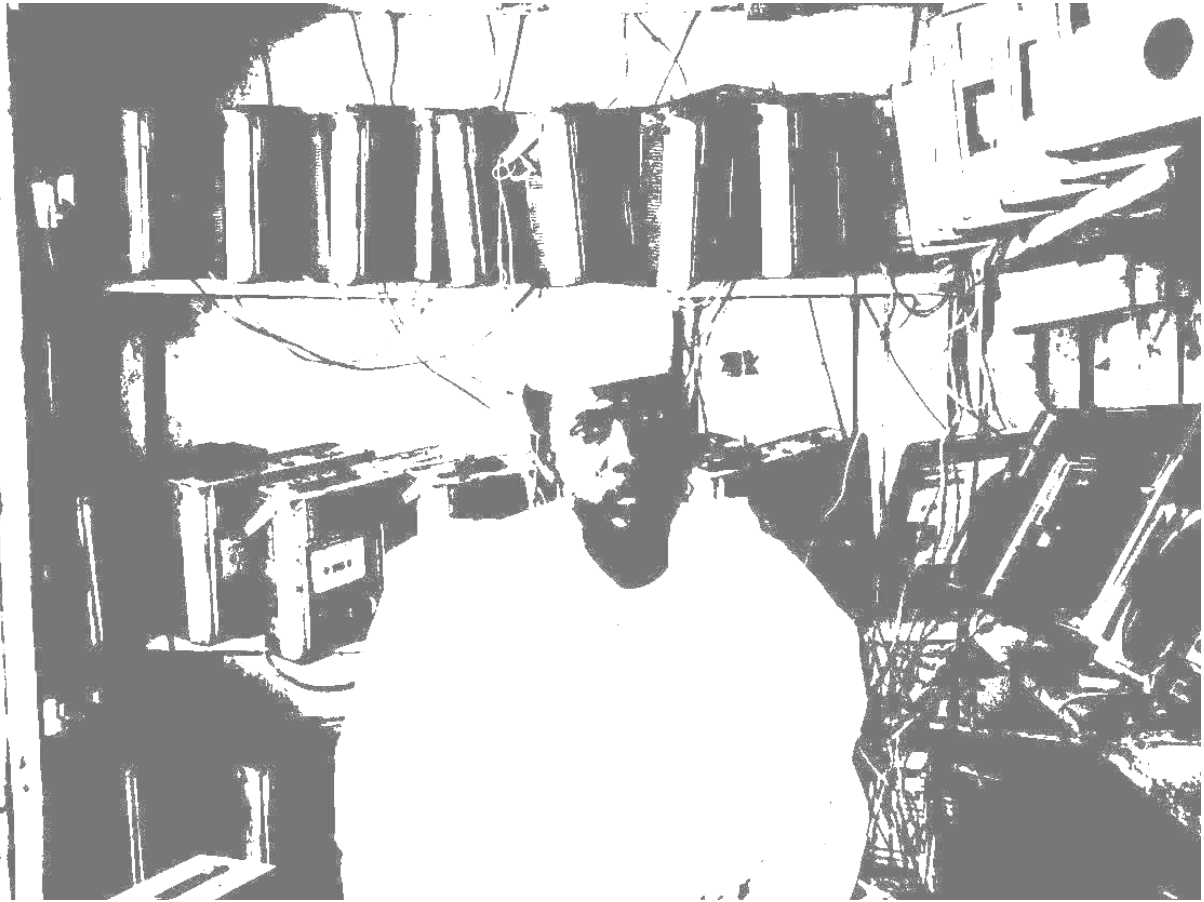
This is not a pirate.

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<sup>6</sup> Date: Fri, 18 Oct 2002 09:32:39 -0700 From: Steve Cisler <cisler@pobox.com>  
To: nettime NETTIME-L@bbs.thing.net Subject: <nettime> Fear drives tech market

<sup>7</sup> Alexandra SamuelHow radio, cellphones, wireless Webare empowering developing nations

<sup>8</sup> Brian Larkin and Jamie King searching for a connection at Delhi Airport.



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And we agree. This is not a pirate.

I think we all can agree on this:

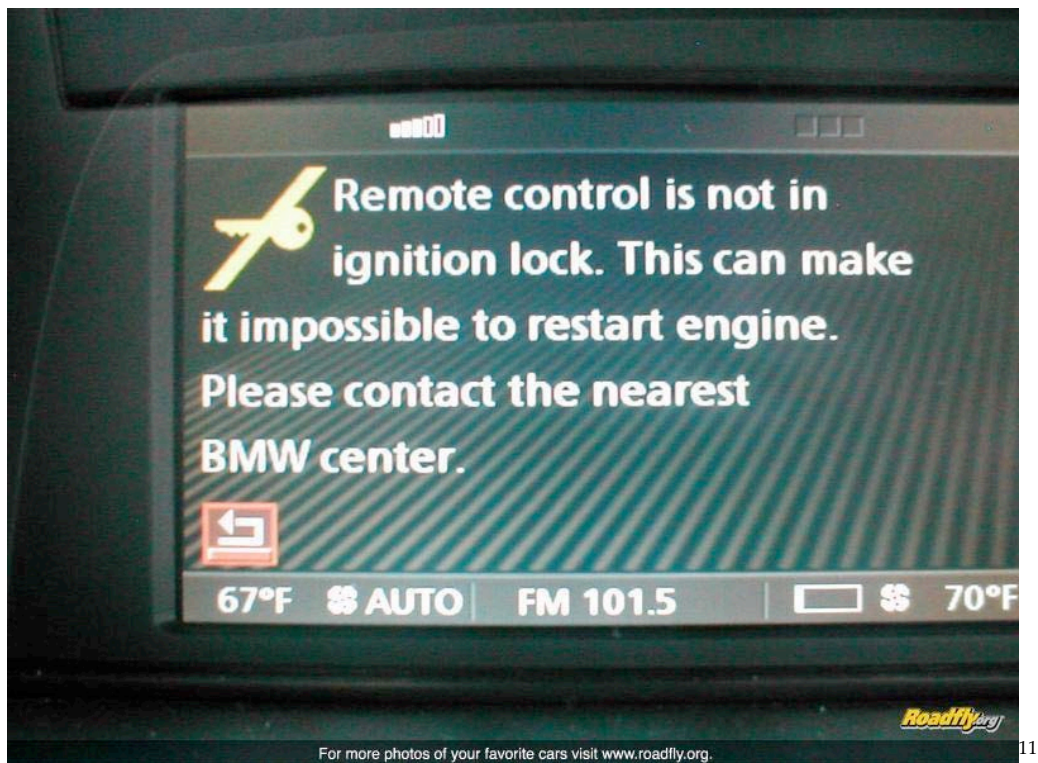
The decisive difference in techné between the young, vibrant, alive nations such as China and India and the old, shivering, dying nations of Europe is easily shown in two images.

In the new 754i BMW sedan the iDrive, also known as the miracle knob “is designed, through a computerized console, to replace more than 200 that control everything from the position of seats to aspects of the navigation of the car itself to climate, communications and entertainment systems.” In May 2002 15,000 7-series were recalled. “BMW tried to do too many things at once with this car, and they underestimated the software problem,” says Conley, ex-CEO of EPRO Corp.” Only two-thirds of hardware has been unleashed by software. There are so many predecessors and dependencies within software that it’s like spaghetti-ware. It’s not that easy to get all these little components to plug and play.”<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Picture by Brian Larkin.

<sup>10</sup> From: Dewayne Hendricks dewayne@warpspeed.com January 16, 2003 “Consumer Products: When Software Bugs Bite” By Debbie Gage  
[http://www.baselinemag.com/print\\_article/0,3668,a=35839,00.asp](http://www.baselinemag.com/print_article/0,3668,a=35839,00.asp)



That is what you get when you hide all axiomatic code, protocol and procedural knowledge. If your car won't start you have to go to the nearest BMW Centre. If your neighbour's car will not start it is not advised to help him or her anymore as the electric current for your power cables could damage the engine. Imagine! Helping your neighbour is bad for your car.

Now take a look at this car in Delhi.

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.roadfly.org/bmw/gallery/picture.php?path=25876,1;25871,1;-43,1>; Thumbnail Browse Photos & Albums: "I-Drive in crazy mode" This is what happens when BMW puts an Idrive into a 745 li





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We see the car, the engine and the tools to fix the engine, put it in the car and....drive it. We see code, protocol and procedure. Anyone with a mind to it can get to work on it. It is designed to be visible.

Europe's Future and Emergent Technology Programs as well as the major corporate labs as the new EU vision of Digital Territory have fallen unequivocally for pervasive computing (ubicomp, ambient intelligence, things that think, i3, Disappearing Computer Initiative<sup>13</sup>) which for the first time in the history of technology sets forth its own disappearance as technology as fundamental to its success.<sup>14</sup> The result will be dumb interfaces that hide all keys

<sup>12</sup> Photographs taken by author.

<sup>13</sup> *The disappearing computer*,<sup>13</sup> - launched by Future and Emerging Technologies, the European Commission's IST Programme - is a vision of the future: "in which our everyday world of objects and places become 'infused' and 'augmented' with information processing. In this vision, computing, information processing, and computers disappear into the *background*, and take on the role more similar to that of *electricity* (it. mine) today - an invisible, pervasive medium distributed on our real world."

<sup>14</sup> 'Ephemerisation' was Buckminster Fuller's term for describing the way that a technology becomes subsumed in the society that uses it.<sup>14</sup> The pencil, the gramophone, the telephone, the cd player, technology that was around when we grew up, is not technology to us, it is simply another layer of connectivity. Ephemerisation is the process where technologies are being turned into functional literacies; on the level of their grammar, however, there is very little coordination in their disappearing acts. These technologies disappear as technology because we cannot see them as something we have to master, to learn, to study. They seem to be a given. Their interface is so intuitive, so tailored to specific tasks, that they seem *natural*. In this we resemble the primitive man of Ortega y Gasset:

"...the type of man dominant to-day is a primitive one, a *Naturmensch* rising up in the midst of a civilised world. The world is a civilised one, its inhabitant is not: he does not see the civilisation of the world around him, but he uses it as if it were a natural force. The new man wants his motor-car, and enjoys it, but he believes that it is the spontaneous fruit of an Edenic tree. In the depths of his soul he is unaware of the artificial, almost incredible, character of civilisation, and does not extend his enthusiasm for the instruments to the principles which make them possible."<sup>14</sup>

to the technology that drives it and consequently it will keep citizens from being able not only to fix it when it is broken but to build on it, to play with it, to remake, remodel, reuse it for their own ends.<sup>15</sup> I believe this being able to negotiate stuff, stuff that is axiomatic thinking embodied, is called: *creativity*.

“Wireless, computers and other innovations are quietly eliminating huge barriers to development in poor parts of the world.

All these benefits are coming via motorcycle - Internet-enabled motorcycles. A wireless network links computers in the village to computer chips on each of five motorcycles a fleet. Each vehicle has a transmitter that allows it to upload and download e-mail and data via Wi-Fi, as it passes by village computers. At the end of the day the bikes return to a hub where they upload the information received. The next morning they download e-mail and data from the hub and take it out to the villages for transmission. Villages like Robib have been described as “leapfroggers” communities or even whole countries in the developing world, that are using information and communication technologies to leapfrog directly from being an agricultural to an information economy. It’s a phenomenon that combines technology high and low in innovative ways, and is generating not only economic benefits but a new world of educational, social and political opportunities.”<sup>16</sup>

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This unawareness of the artificial, *almost incredible*, character of Techné – the Aristotelian term for technique, skill – is only then broken when it fails us:

“Central London was brought to a standstill in the rush hour on July 25 2002 when 800 sets of traffic lights failed at the same time -- in effect locking signals on red.”<sup>14</sup>

Every new set of techniques brings forth its own literacy: The Aristotelian protests against introducing pencil writing, may seem rather incredible now, at the time it meant nothing less than a radical change in the structures of power distribution. Overnight, a system of thought and set of grammar; an oral literacy dependant on a functionality of *internal* information visualization techniques and recall, was made redundant because the techniques could be externalised. Throughout Western civilization the history of memory externalisation runs parallel with the experienced disappearance of its artificial, man made, character. An accidental disappearance, however much intrinsic to our experience, that up till now has not been deliberate:

“The most profound technologies are those that disappear. They weave themselves into the fabric of everyday life until they are indistinguishable from it.”<sup>14</sup>

<sup>15</sup> How hard it is to write about a world becoming strange, or new, or spooky, after the dotcom crash, after the high hopes of increasing productivity through IT, of readers and writers becoming *writers*, of liberty finally around the corner: a product to be played out in all kinds of gender, racial and cultural roles, a process to drive decision-making transparency in both offline and online processes. Only to have woken up to the actual realization of a highly synergized performance of search engines and backend database driven visual interfaces. Postmodern theory, open source coding and multimedia channeling promised the production of a new, *hybrid* space, only to deliver the content convergence of media channels.

And yet, I claim that we are in the progress of witnessing the realization of such a new space. In places where computational processes disappear into the background - into everyday objects - both my reality and me as subject become contested in concrete daily situations and activities. Buildings, cars, consumer products, and people become information spaces by transmitting all kinds of data through RFID that are rapidly replacing the barcode.

We are entering a land where *the environment has become the interface*, where we must learn anew how to make sense.

<sup>16</sup> From: Shalini Kala <skala@idrc.org.in>

Subject: [bytesforall\_readers] ICT tools empowering developing nations. Dear all:An interesting article in one of Canada’s leading newspapers on the role ICT tools are playing in redefining growth paths of the developing world in ways never thought of before. Shalini  
PUBLICATION Toronto Star





The best-known example is Bangladesh's GrameenPhone, which has established a network of pay-per-use cellphones throughout the country. A similar network in South Africa has created a network of over 1,800 entrepreneurs, operating "phone shops" in over 4,400

Information gathered by cellphone lets farmers in Senegal double the price they get for their crops, and herders in Angola track their cattle via GPS.<sup>17</sup>

Hey!

It is very simple people, data should be free.

We disambiguate the situation. Jamie says:

"Serious problems are revealed in this form of networked co-operation for traditional modes of organising knowledge. While those who have most to lose spend a good deal of time working out ways in which the value of an information good can be preserved, it is becoming harder and harder to

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DATE 2005.01.17

SECTION Business

SOURCE Special to the Star

BYLINE Alexandra SamuelHow radio, cellphones, wireless Webare empowering developing nations

<sup>17</sup> Alexandra SamuelHow radio, cellphones, wireless Webare empowering developing nations

separate one particular piece of information from the 'common good', either conceptually or practically. Using laws and technological impediments to preserve scarcity is therefore, at best, a losing battle. Knowledge divorced from physical media is non rivalrous by nature. Nothing short of legislating away the internet itself, or reversing the switch to digital media will re-establish the strong IPRs these measures seek to enforce."<sup>18</sup>

If we go to jail for IP, where are the jails to hold us?

There is no more stick.

Shuddha says:

Dear all,<sup>19</sup>

(apologies for cross posting to members of the Reader List and Commons Law)

I have been spending some quality time recently enhancing my tastes in music, augmenting my fledgeling itunes music collection, and getting myself an education in the wilder shores of hip hop, apart from collecting a few rare Glenn Gould recordings, thanks to the generosity of digital technology, a community of p2p users and the internet. Now, as some of you must be aware, this is the kind of activity that grandmothers and teenagers have faced fines, and prison sentences for. Naturally, this causes me some anxiety, as I cannot afford a fine, and have no intention of doing time. The fate of millions of people like me, will be decided in the days to come in the United States (and hence will set precedents elsewhere) in the MGM vs. Grokster case that is now being heard in the United States supreme court. I append below, a report on the ongoing legal battel, which appeared in the New York Daily news and is written by Errol Louis.

What I found particularly striking in this report was the image that it gives us of a US Supreme Court bench, with an average age of 70 between them, arch conservatives as well as committed liberals, seeming to come together (which happens very rarely) singing praises of the iPod, even as the lawyers representing the music and movie companies that claim to speak for and to young audiences, argued against technological innovation.

Enjoy, and now I must return to my musical self education project

Shuddha

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<sup>18</sup> The Dissolving Fortress, work in progress.

<sup>19</sup> "Date: Sun, 03 Apr 2005 04:05:36 +0530

From: Shuddhabrata Sengupta <shuddha@sarai.net>

Organization: Sarai

To: reader-list@sarai.net, commons-law@sarai.net

Subject: [Reader-list] Judges and iPods : MGM vs. Grokster

Reply-To: shuddha@sarai.net

List-Id: "A list on Media and the City, Information Politics and Contemporary Culture" <reader-list.sarai.net>

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Music moguls on wrong side of copyright fight  
Errol Louis

[http://www.nydailynews.com/news/ideas\\_opinions/story/295250p-252770c.html](http://www.nydailynews.com/news/ideas_opinions/story/295250p-252770c.html)

The Supreme Court bars reporters from bringing technology into the main chamber where arguments get heard. No cell phones, laptops, tape recorders or cameras of any kind; pen and pad are the only tools allowed. A similar low-tech spirit governs the court's nonpublic work areas, including its nearly computer-free law library. The building only got Internet access two years ago.

But during a landmark technology case argued before the court this week, MGM vs. Grokster, the nine justices, average age 70, almost sounded like teenage gadget freaks, firmly wedded to the high-tech wonders of the day. Justices Anthony Kennedy, David Souter and Stephen Breyer all sang the praises of the iPod.

To make the irony complete, lawyers representing the youth-centered movie and music industries came off like tech-averse stiff, begging for legal weapons to battle a tidal wave of digital innovation that's turning the business of culture upside down.

Grokster, Morpheus and a handful of other companies distribute peer-to-peer software that allows computer users to swap digital files of documents, images, music and movies. Music files - perfect digital copies taken from original CDs - get downloaded 2.6 billion times a month, and half a million movies are downloaded every day.

The moguls who run America's movie studios and music labels failed to understand the digital revolution would transform their industries - and were equally blind to market resentment over constantly rising prices charged for mediocre music and movie fare.

Studios with the nerve to charge \$10 a head for "Booty Call" or "Gigli" were practically begging for audience retaliation. By downloading movies for free, the public is telling Hollywood what such piffle is really worth.

Music labels that once invested time and care to cultivate songwriters and musicians have been swallowed by profit-obsessed conglomerates that now rely on one-hit wonders by overhyped, underdeveloped performers to meet quarterly Wall Street targets. Rather than waste money on uninspired CDs, many listeners pick the hits they like via Grokster and ignore the rest.

In the past, the entertainment industry bitterly complained about - but ultimately survived - the player piano, the phonograph and the VCR, although many users of these gadgets routinely violate copyrights. The justices, who have lived through many of these transformations, hammered the entertainment business from the bench.

Arch-conservative Justice Antonin Scalia complained that making Grokster liable for free downloading might cause digital entrepreneurs to be sued the day

after going into business. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, a liberal who normally disagrees with Scalia, wondered how anyone could prove Grokster caused its users to make illegal downloads.

The suits in the entertainment business should brace for bad news when the decision comes down. They may actually have to use the one weapon needed to compete with Grokster: creativity.

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List archive: <https://mail.sarai.net/pipermail/reader-list/>

Perhaps we start negotiating our corporeal copyrights while we are at it?

A group of prominent scientists announce the creation of two open-source peer-reviewed online journals on biology and medicine. They intend to bring the best papers in the public domain. Says Dr. Harold E. Varmus, chairman of the new nonprofit publisher, "Our ability to build on the old to discover the new is all based on the way we disseminate our results."<sup>20</sup>

How about a break?

A break with the old?

How about disseminating your results in 3D?

'To test whether people with dyslexia are less able to link sounds to what they see, the researchers asked 36 dyslexics and 29 people without the disorder to sit in a darkened room and look at a series of closely-placed lights, and indicate which light came first.' ... 'Indeed, people discriminated better between the lights when they also heard sounds. However, non-dyslexics only improved when the sound appeared within 150 milliseconds of a light, while dyslexics improved even after an interval of 350 milliseconds between light and sound.' These findings suggest that dyslexics have an "abnormally large window of time in which they combine visual and auditory information," Wallace said.' ... "We think (dyslexia) is even more fundamental than language, and more global than vision," Wallace said.'<sup>21</sup>

How about breaking with the old?

How about breaking with the old ways of protesting?

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<sup>20</sup> Date: Mon, 30 Dec 2002 17:52:10 -0600 From: Ian Pitchford [ian.pitchford@scientist.com](mailto:ian.pitchford@scientist.com) To: [evolutionary-psychology@yahoogroups.com](mailto:evolutionary-psychology@yahoogroups.com)

Subject: [evol-psych] New premise in science: Get the word out quickly, online

<sup>21</sup> Dyslexics Unable to Coordinate Sight and Sound // brain processing?  
<<http://www.reuters.co.uk/newsArticle.jhtml?type=healthNews&storyID=3791251&section=news>>

Boring!

“If we get too wound up about what might happen, especially at the march, then trouble will become a self-fulfilling prophesy. If people keep reading they are going to be dragged off by riot police, then they will be less likely to take the family for a walk around Edinburgh Castle to protest at how selfish we in the richest countries are. Declining numbers will offer the stage to troublemakers.

Similarly, if the only alternative response reported from Perthshire is angsty youths in gasmasks getting chased around the woods by FBI agents, then the chance to push novel ideas, however kooky and prescient they turn out to be, will be lost.

We should stop being obsessed by the potential for violence, because it will only bring it on. Instead, we should prove we are capable of doing for politics what we do for the arts with the Edinburgh Festival. Find a way to get the voices of those outside heard, and then Scotland could redefine G8 summits for ever.”<sup>22</sup> ruaridhnicoll@hotmail.com

How very sensible!  
Why not do it?

In SMART MOBS, Howard Rheingold documents the role of text coordinating mass demonstrations against President Joseph Estrada in January 2001.<sup>23</sup>

Everything is possible now. I wonder why people can not see that.

Datamining is a very old practice. Before people had computers to compute databases with, they read their tea. Or better the leaves left in the cup after they had drunk their tea. Hmm!

*“I first became interested in tea leaf reading when I was about 19. My mother knew a woman who wished me to perform a spell to help her. She was not a witch and did not practice magic, but she asked that I aid her with something supernatural. Like most honest witches, I did not expect or ask for any payment in return. She was so thrilled with my work, however, that she presented me with a gift: an antique teacup made especially for tea leaf readings. The cup shape is plain, but the outside and inside of the cup is covered in small symbols and pictures carefully hand-painted in black. There were no instructions for reading the symbols or how to use the teacup, so I looked around in books and on the internet to see what I could find about reading the leaves.”*<sup>24</sup>

See what you can learn on the internet?

Best go learn reading tealeaves. You might get some sense of your past.

How far does this combat zone stretch really?

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<sup>22</sup> A summit for good Scotland has a chance to put itself on the political map with G8 Ruaridh Nicoll Sunday February 27, 2005 [The Observer](#)

<sup>23</sup> List-Archive: <http://www.aoir.org/pipermail/air-l/> Date: Sat, 18 Jan 2003 11:16:47 -0800

<sup>24</sup> <http://www.witch-crafted.com/tea.htm>

“The Pentagon said it plans to equip four quick-response public affairs teams with two-way videophones in order to provide near-real-time visuals from combat zones. The videophones, made by Scotty TeleTransport Corp. and using Inmarsat satellite service, can send and receive video over two simultaneous channels at speeds about twice as fast as devices used by TV correspondents in Afghanistan. The videophones would allow the public affairs officers to almost instantly counter hostile propaganda, and set up videoconferences with military commanders in the field. “We’re finally getting a realization in the world that information is power,” spokesman Lamp said Monday of the videophones.”<sup>25</sup>

Now we are getting somewhere. There seems to be a logical move from visualization to bureaucracy:

“The idea that ‘visualization’ is ‘the first duty’ of any future ethics would strike many senior managers in both public and private sector organizations as odd, given that assessing the likely impact of a range of potential courses of action in an environment of some uncertainty is a crucial aspect of the work they perform.” (Paul du Gay, 2000: 54).

Paul du Gay<sup>26</sup> explores the religious and romantic genealogy of bureau critique in the work of Alasdair MacIntyre, Zygmunt Bauman, and Tom Peters, a genealogy that is focussed on the fragmented role of the manager and the moral monoculture of the instrumentality supposedly fostered by bureaucracy. He questions the productivity of claiming ‘the inner conviction of the person of conscience’ as an absolute principle to which all personae are to be held accountable, as “in highly differentiated modern societies, plural spheres of life have given rise to quite different ethical personae that are ‘non-reducible’. (59)

If this critique of the everyday experience of a perceived rational instrumentalism is coupled with a structural social-cultural emphasis on the value of change as something that is valuable in itself, almost even *for* itself - then any sphere of thought and action that is characterized by stability, is in conceptual and very real trouble:

“‘Change’, in today’s management terminology, is often represented as an unalloyed good. Indeed, it has become a matter of serious criticism to accuse an institution or individual of being incapable of adjusting to ‘change’ or failing to grasp its multifarious ‘opportunities’. Transformation

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<sup>25</sup> From: Marcel <Marcelrf@Bellsouth.net>

Mailing-List: list WFHSG@yahoogroups.com; contact WFHSG-owner@yahoogroups.com

Delivered-To: mailing list WFHSG@yahoogroups.com

List-Unsubscribe: <mailto:WFHSG-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com>

Date: Wed, 22 Jan 2003 16:13:45 -0500

<sup>26</sup> Title: In praise of bureaucracy

Paul du Gay, Sage publications, LTD, 2000.

A book about bureaucracy and ethics throughout which a plural Weber runs, more specifically – as du Gay writes in his Introduction – about the *ethos* of bureaucratic office, is most necessary for two reasons: a critical insight into the nature of the current crisis of the businessman as a figure of authority (is it axiomatic of capitalism or a particular historical configuration?) and a critical insight into the nature of bureaucracy as a fundamental key to issues of sustainability: how can change itself be managed? How can context be managed?



is the order of the day and those that cannot or will not accede to and thrive on its demands are history (Clarke and Newman, 1997; du Gay, 1996)."

In this clash between entrepreneurial management and administration, du Gay makes a strong plea for a powerful public bureaucracy as occupying the middle ground between entrepreneurial politics and the private sector.

These issues are at the heart of our contemporary public domain. In *Science and Technology in a Vulnerable World* (2002), Lewis M. Branscomb, claims

"We must understand that the source of our vulnerability to terrorism is not the terrorists themselves. Our vulnerability is generated by our economic, social, and political systems. Our vulnerability comes about through something I call economic ecology. This idea holds that competition in the market economy maximizes efficiency and stability at the cost of resiliency. If you have a highly competitive market economy, everyone is driven to greater efficiency. But the public also wants stability. *Stability, with only small perturbations, is built into the system. But this does not work unless you have a peaceful, obedient society that does not threaten to exploit these vulnerabilities. This society cannot avoid threats to leverage that very hyper-efficiency.* One of our biggest problems is that the critical elements of our infrastructure are deeply linked. When one part is attacked, we see a domino effect on the other parts. The three most obvious infrastructure elements are energy, communications, and transportation. If you bring down any one of these three, the other two are affected. For example, if you bring the energy sector down, you cannot communicate and you cannot travel. There is a lot you cannot do. Terrorists understand that, and we must deal with this reality."

*Theorists* must try to understand it too. A reevaluation of bureaucracy and the bureaucrat as a cultural figure, might be a productive beginning. As du Gay claims:

"Perhaps it is time, once again, to appreciate the ethos of bureaucratic office – albeit in a suitably contextualized manner – as a positive extension of the repertoire of human possibilities rather than merely as a dehumanizing or disempowering subtraction."

We do need to appreciate the ethos of bureaucracy.

We do.

As:

"Economic development depends mainly on the emergence of dedicated, talented, and honest national and regional political leaders."<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>27</sup> Date: 2 Apr 2005 10:38:41 -0000  
From: ZESTGlobal@yahooogroups.com  
To: ZESTGlobal@yahooogroups.com  
Subject: [ZESTGlobal] Digest Number 110  
What is wrong with sub-Saharan Africa?  
From: "Aman Malik" <aman.malik@gmail.com>

And this requires bureaucracy:

“Sustained economic growth requires, everywhere, the accumulation of physical and human capital, as well as the acquisition of technological capabilities. This process does not occur in a historical vacuum, devoid of the influence of powerful social and political factors. Structure, institutions, and policies are critical determinants, as is the availability of qualified technical and administrative personnel.

Indeed, the availability of a highly qualified bureaucracy in both South Korea and Taiwan ~ and before that in their model country, Japan ~ was a necessary precondition for achieving rapid economic growth. By contrast, the shortage in SSA (sub-Saharan Africa), of scientific, technical, and administrative skills, such as those of engineers, natural scientists, managers, and technicians, is a key reason why the East Asian “miracle” could not be reproduced there.”<sup>28</sup>

(and that is what’s wrong with sub-Saharan Africa)

Building bureaucracy requires trust:

‘In a report in this week’s issue of the journal Science, Dr. P. Read Montague Jr. and colleagues at the BCM Human Neuroimaging Laboratory and California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, Calif., describe where and when trust is formed between two anonymous people interacting via functional magnetic resonance imaging in machines more than 1,500 miles apart. They found that as the interaction continued, the trust response occurred earlier and earlier in the subjects’ interchanges - until a decision about trust occurred even before the latest interaction was completed.’ [...] ‘The study was made possible by hyperscanning or hyperscan-fMRI, a breakthrough that allowed Montague and his colleagues to synchronize the scanning of two interacting brains.’<sup>29</sup>

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Energy First ; China and the Middle East  
From: “Aman Malik” <aman.malik@gmail.com>  
What is wrong with sub-Saharan Africa?  
By Simon Teitel Daily Times | April 1, 2005  
[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page==story\\_19-3-2005\\_pg3\\_4](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page==story_19-3-2005_pg3_4)  
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<sup>29</sup> Delivered-To: electronetwork-l-outgoing@openflows.org  
Delivered-To: electronetwork-l@openflows.org  
Date: Sat, 2 Apr 2005 09:36:20 -0600  
Subject: ~e; EM observations #10  
From: brian carroll <human@electronetwork.org>  
To: electronetwork-l@openflows.org

Trust requires love:

‘In a springtime sort of story, researchers say they’ve used advanced scanning methods to pinpoint the region of the brain where feelings of trust arise.’ .. ‘Turns out those emotions are nestled in the same area as the most powerful springtime feeling of all -- love.’ [...] “Love is a primitive, basic, emotional affective state,” he said. “So is trust. Trust is something that a child has for its mother or a lover has for a lover.”<sup>30</sup>

Yes.

That is how simple it is.

Love brings trust. Love negotiates trust.

Trust builds relationships. Relationships are embodied in people: middle men. Love builds trust, trust builds bureaucracy. Love builds trust, trust builds boredom.

Three cheers for boredom.

Let’s hear it for some peace and quiet.

Sleeping in the midday sun<sup>31</sup>

Tone it down, now  
Tone it down  
Tone it

down

now

Sleeping in the midday sun and ah don’t you worry, you can walk about in my dream

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Sender: em.list@electronnetwork.org  
Reply-To: electronnetwork-l@openflows.org  
The trust game: Measuring social interaction // em measure of mind  
<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=22096>

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The trust game: Measuring social interaction // em measure of mind

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=22096>

[and] Science Discovers Where Trust Begins // em emotive-thought

<http://www.forbes.com/lifestyle/health/feeds/hscout/2005/03/31/hscout524855.html>

<sup>31</sup> John Cale singing on Buffalmo Ballet but I’m listening to the Walkabouts. Walk about baby!

walk about in my dream now

I will walk us home