

Whitespace Journalism: *Designing Meaningful Absences into the Networked Press*

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[147 words, including reference]

Dryzek (2002) wrote that the “most effective and insidious way to silence others in politics is a refusal to listen.” (p. 149) But listening often fails to register as full-fledged participation, neglected among democratic institutions focused on helping people speak, publishing stories, adding to the marketplace of ideas. The press is one such institution. With its increasing dependence upon networked, technological infrastructures, an opportunity exists to reimagine the networked press as a listening institution – to create infrastructures that not only create speech but also opportunities to listen. In this paper, I show how and why the networked press might design for listening. Specifically, I argue that the press could strive for meaningful silences, practicing a kind of “whitespace journalism” to produce purposeful absences that help guarantee a public right to hear.

Dryzek, John S. (2002). *Deliberative democracy and beyond: Liberals, critics, contestations*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.