

KOKOUSKUTSU

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Eeva Aarnio, Mikko Jäkälä, Jari Hoffrén & Pekka Isotalus:

New forums for political actions: considering the role of technology

The article challenges to define the point of departure of tele-democracy in which the narrative of democracy is in no way completed nor is there mutual understanding of what democracy even is. In the dialogue between technology and democracy technology is an instrument for political activity; yet it is not itself a political agent. Attention should be paid to democracy which uses technology as its medium rather than to technology itself. The article introduces a target-hierarchy of tele-democracy which can be used as an analytical device. It helps to read and perceive the multi-dimensionality and the agents of technologically mediated politics. The hierarchy illustrates how the usage of technology gets more challenging along with the striving for democratic operations. The outcome of combining technological and political activities is not always teledemocracy, nor is it always being pursued. Communications, informing, electronic transactions and conversational arenas are examples of technology being used as a new media for political activity. The challenges of technology are at their most demanding when striving for multi-auditive teledemocratic politics. This field challenges the political agent using technology to listen to others, to take actively responsibility for his/her decisions, choices and operational orientations.

Mari Maasilta:

Poponguine goes global

Senegalese cinema meets international audiences

The article discusses how national and non-national audiences are constructed in Senegalese cinema. Being continuously economically dependent on western sponsors and their interests, African cinema has, during the last decades, turned towards foreign audiences. In this situation the cinema has to look for new strategies: how to speak to different audiences at the same time. In the article 'speaking to' refers to those verbal and visual means that position the viewer as belonging to 'us' or 'them', and which make them to identify with the film. According to European producers African cinema is attractive for European audiences because of its exoticness, but, at the same time, it should not be too different from the aesthetic values of European cinema. In the analysis of *Ca twisté* a Poponguine (Moussa Sene Absa, Senegal, 1993) two more strategies have been found. They are called appealing to common experiences of European and African audiences and global media nostalgia, which refers to common experiences created by global media.





Iiris Ruoho:

Makers of family series and reality images

The article concentrates to examine the speech of script-writers and of editors on brainstorming and carrying out family series of TV2 (The Finnish Broadcasting Company, YLE). The creators of early family series of the 60's made tv drama to mirror what took place in the modern welfare state. Their ethos to scan reality through 'window' was accompanied with an idea of television as a tool for converting the world into a better place to live. This idea was followed by the strong stress to documentarism in the seventies. The mixing of fact and fiction in some programs remained annoying for the politicized society. In the eighties it was already apparent that the boundary between fact and fiction did not have strategic objectives any longer. This development continued in the 90's. However, the possibility of describing the world realistically remained untouched. With time the makers of the family series adopted an idea what is a suitable way to bring up the imagined reality in the convention. This way the family series of TV2 has been

allowed to remain unchanged as a genre which consensus is characteristic e.g. in regard to a social gender system.

Minna Nikunen:

Gendered mediation of murder-suicide. Cruel killings and missing perpetrators

This article presents an analysis of two murder-suicide cases in Finnish press. The categorizations that are used are formed according to the mundane knowledge of violence and why different people are involved. There is also mundane knowledge of rights and obligations that are attached to different categories: the moral order. The focus of this article is on gendered categorizations and violence. In the first example, the perpetrator is a man and his victim is a woman. They have had an intimate relationship. In second example the perpetrator is also a man, but his victim is another man. There is a difference how the innocence of the victim, the responsibility of the perpetrator of his actions and the motive are constructed. This construction is based on different "sense" when the people involved are seen as a couple and when the case is seen as violence between two men.

Sari Pietikäinen & Jaana Hujanen:

Changes in everyday use of news? The consumption of news media among the youth

This article examines the ways in which the Finnish youth uses news media. We are particularly interested in examining possible changes in the use of television news as well as printed and on-line newspapers and features of such changes. By drawing on the results of a large survey, we pay attention to the frequency and characteristics of use of news media among the youth. Besides examining the use of these media, we explore how the youth have taken up the new possibilities to participate in the production of news media contents, for instance by voting in Gallup or giving feedback to the journalists. The findings do not lend support to the general claims regarding drastic changes in the use of news media among the youth, for instance in terms of the role of news in their everyday life or active participation via new technology. Rather, the use of news media among the youth can be described as less committed and more irregular than before.

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