

Review of: "Animation and YouTube as Alternative and Counterhegemonic Digital Public Sphere in Zimbabwe"

Yulia Belinskaya¹

¹ Universität Vienna

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

- In general, it is an interesting piece that tackles important story about resistance and dissent in animation.
- Author claims to analyse and theorise the animation as a digital public sphere - this claim is not achieved by the paper. There is enough literature accessing social media and YouTube in particular as a virtual/digital/parallel public sphere, the author should pay attention to this literature and build their argument on it.
- The paper lacks the methodology chapter, it is not clear what is authors' approach to the analysis of the animation videos - is this discourse analysis?
- The analysis in itself is interesting but not sufficient, but with no formal introduction in what has been made is also hard to review the results.
- There are minor typos throughout the text, e.g. page 2, paragraph 1: ".Others have looked at the emergent phenomenon of social media dissidence", there is inconsistency in referencing.
- "The nexus between social media and propaganda reflects a gap in the aforementioned literature" - this needs further explanation