

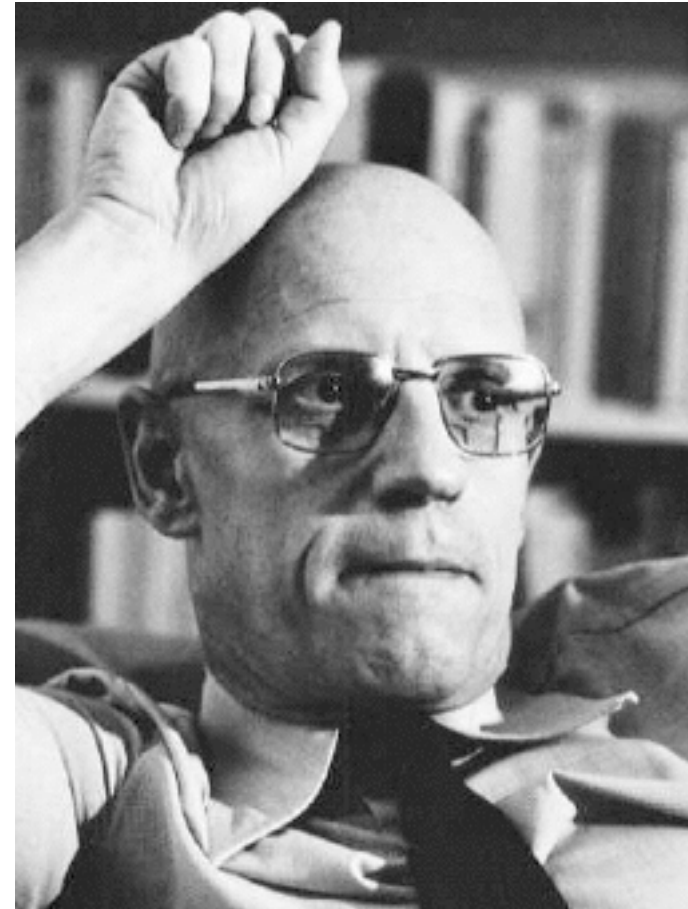
Digital ID: A Sociological View

Digital Identity Forum
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Will Davies

“Do not ask me who I am, and do not ask me to remain the same. Leave it to our bureaucrats and our police to see that our papers are in order”

Michel Foucault



Aspects of identity

- Source: Who gave me my identities?
- Geography: Where do they come from?
- Management: How do I combine them?
- Temporality: Are they changeable?

Modernisation and identity

	Traditional	Modern
Source	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bestowed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bestowed and chosen
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Place-based	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Place and non-place-based
Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Over-lapping	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fragmented
Temporality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inescapable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opportunities for anonymity

Digital ID as a force for modernisation

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Source | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ‘Networked individualism’: choosing who to be |
| Geography | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ‘Virtual Community’: escaping place |
| Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multiple ID: pseudonymity |
| Temporality | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ‘No one knows you’re a dog...’: anonymity |

But...

What I call modernity, some call complexity, which needs dealing with.



Digital ID counter-weight to modernisation

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Source | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Biometrics: removing choice from identification |
| Geography | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ubiquitous computing: re-embedding ID in place |
| Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data-sharing: preventing pseudonymity |
| Temporality | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surveillance: preventing anonymity |

The Digital ID arms race

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Source | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The politics of the right to identify |
| Geography | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The politics of people flows |
| Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The politics of ID pluralism |
| Temporality | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The politics of ID endurance |