

MAKING NEWS

Balancing Newsworthiness and Privacy in the Age of Algorithms

Erin Carroll, Georgetown Law

Vol XCIII, No. 311

Thursday, January 4, 2018

\$1.25

Three Questions

- What information do citizens need?
- What information is in the public sphere?
- How do we acquire that information?

A Change in Gatekeeper



“The people who built these platform companies did not set out to do so in order to take over the responsibilities of a free press. In fact, they are rather assumed that it is the outcome of their engineering success.”

Erin Carroll, “A Change in Gatekeeper,” *Georgetown Law Journal*, 2018.

Press v. Platforms

- Journalism	→	- Engineering/Software Design
- News	→	- Content
- Reader	→	- User
- Relevant to public	→	- Relevant to user
- Watchable in the public square	→	- Profitable in public square

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Emily Bell, Director of the Tow Center for Digital Journalism, Columbia Journalism School

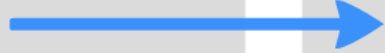
Press v. Platforms

- Journalists



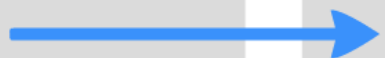
- Engineers/Coders/
Designers

- News



- Content

- Reader



- User

- Relevant to public



- Relevant to user

- Watchdog/facilitate public
square/educate/profit



- Profit/facilitate public
square

Erin C. Carroll, *Making News: Balancing Newsworthiness and Privacy in the Age of Algorithms*, 106 GEO. L. J. 69 (2017).

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