# Article information:

Algorithmic management and the politics of demand: Control and resistance at Uber - ScienceDirect  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0361368223000363>

# Article summary:

1. Uber's platform-based control, characterized by algorithmic processes, has a strong disciplinary effect on its driver-led workforce.

2. The gig economy workforce engages in practices of enduring, subverting, or exiting the conditions of algorithmic management to "take care of oneself".

3. The distance between management and the workforce plays a significant role in how workers respond to and navigate algorithmic control in the gig economy.

# Article rating:

Appears moderately imbalanced: The article provides some useful information, but is missing several important points or pieces of evidence that would be required to present the discussed topics in a balanced and reliable way. You are encouraged to seek a more balanced perspective on the presented issues by exploring the provided research topics and looking at different information sources.

# Article analysis:

The article titled "Algorithmic management and the politics of demand: Control and resistance at Uber" explores the impact of platform-based control on Uber drivers. While the article provides some valuable insights into the experiences of Uber drivers, there are several potential biases and limitations that need to be considered.

One potential bias in the article is its focus on negative aspects of algorithmic management. The authors argue that Uber's control algorithms operate with strong disciplinary effects, but they do not provide a balanced perspective by discussing any potential benefits or positive outcomes of algorithmic management. This one-sided reporting may lead readers to form a negative opinion about Uber's practices without considering other perspectives.

Additionally, the article relies heavily on interviews with only 36 Uber drivers from Australia and France. This small sample size raises questions about the generalizability of the findings. It would have been more robust to include a larger and more diverse sample to ensure a comprehensive understanding of how drivers engage with platform-based control.

Furthermore, while the article references Foucault's concept of self-formation, it does not adequately explore alternative theoretical frameworks or counterarguments. By solely focusing on Foucault's ideas, the authors limit their analysis and fail to consider other perspectives that could provide a more nuanced understanding of worker responses to algorithmic management.

The article also lacks evidence for some of its claims. For example, it states that workers engage in practices to "take care of oneself" but does not provide specific examples or empirical data to support this claim. Without concrete evidence, these claims remain unsupported and speculative.

Moreover, the article does not thoroughly address potential risks associated with algorithmic management. While it briefly mentions concerns about control at a distance, it fails to delve into issues such as worker exploitation or lack of job security that have been raised in relation to gig economy platforms like Uber. By neglecting these important considerations, the article presents an incomplete picture of the implications of algorithmic management.

In terms of promotional content, the article does not explicitly promote any particular viewpoint or agenda. However, its focus on the negative effects of algorithmic management at Uber could be seen as implicitly promoting a critical stance towards the company and its practices.

Overall, while the article provides some valuable insights into the experiences of Uber drivers, it is limited by potential biases, one-sided reporting, unsupported claims, missing evidence, unexplored counterarguments, and a lack of consideration for potential risks. Readers should approach the findings with caution and seek additional sources to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the topic.

# Topics for further research:

* Benefits of algorithmic management in the gig economy
* Worker responses to algorithmic management in different industries
* Alternative theoretical frameworks for understanding platform-based control
* Empirical data on self-care practices among gig economy workers
* Risks and concerns associated with algorithmic management in the gig economy
* Job security and worker exploitation in gig economy platforms

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/69e22cbfa36c407356c62a514cc53179>