# Article information:

When food‐delivery platform workers consent to algorithmic management: a Foucauldian perspective - Galière - 2020 - New Technology, Work and Employment - Wiley Online Library  
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# Article summary:

1. This article examines mechanisms of compliance in algorithmic management, challenging the assumption that platform workers are solely subjected to fear and passivity.

2. The authors utilize a Foucauldian framework to reconceptualize platforms as exerting both rational and normative control over workers.

3. Through a case study of Deliveroo, the authors highlight how algorithmic rational control is reinforced by techniques of subjectification, leading to an active mobilization of workers and the promotion of a hyper-meritocratic ideal of justice.

# 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 "When food‐delivery platform workers consent to algorithmic management: a Foucauldian perspective" explores the mechanisms of compliance among food-delivery platform workers in the context of algorithmic management. The authors argue that while algorithmic management has been predominantly analyzed in terms of disciplinary power and rational control, there is also a normative control aspect that needs to be considered. They utilize a Foucauldian framework to reconceptualize platforms as exerting both rational and normative control over workers.

One potential bias in this article is the focus on algorithmic management as a form of control and power over workers. While it is important to critically analyze the impact of algorithms on labor practices, the article seems to assume that all forms of algorithmic management are inherently negative and oppressive. This assumption may overlook potential benefits or positive aspects of algorithmic management, such as increased efficiency or improved customer experience.

Additionally, the article relies heavily on qualitative data from a single case study of Deliveroo, a food-delivery platform. While case studies can provide valuable insights, they are limited in their generalizability. The findings from this specific case may not be applicable to all food-delivery platforms or other industries utilizing algorithmic management.

Furthermore, the article makes claims about the reinforcement of algorithmic rational control through techniques of subjectification without providing sufficient evidence or examples to support these claims. It would have been beneficial for the authors to provide more concrete examples or quotes from platform workers to illustrate how these techniques are being implemented and experienced.

The article also lacks exploration of counterarguments or alternative perspectives on algorithmic management. By focusing solely on the negative aspects and potential biases within algorithms, it fails to acknowledge any potential benefits or arguments in favor of algorithmic management.

There is also a promotional element present in the discussion section where the authors highlight the governmentality power of algorithmic management by promoting a hyper-meritocratic ideal of justice. This suggests that algorithmic management can lead to a fair and just distribution of work and rewards, which may not necessarily be the case in practice.

Overall, while the article raises important questions about algorithmic management and its impact on workers, it is limited in its scope and fails to provide a balanced analysis of the topic. It would have been beneficial for the authors to consider alternative perspectives, provide more evidence for their claims, and acknowledge potential benefits or positive aspects of algorithmic management.

# Topics for further research:

* Benefits of algorithmic management in labor practices
* Positive aspects of algorithmic management in food-delivery platforms
* Critiques of algorithmic management in the context of labor control
* Case studies on algorithmic management in different industries
* Counterarguments to the negative impacts of algorithmic management
* Governmentality power and algorithmic management

# Report location:

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