

'NO & _': Resources on Refusal

This is a collaborative document put together by the organisers and participants of the 'No & _'forum on technological refusal, the launch event of the Critical Technoscience Platform (CTP) at Maastricht University on Thursday 5 February & Friday 6 February 2026.

Past & future events:

- Communal Resistance to Artificial Systems - 4th Annual Civics of Technology Online Conference held online on July 31st and August 1st, 2025: <https://www.civicsoftechnology.org/2025conference>
- NICA course on Withdrawal and Refusal: Genealogies, Theories, Politics (Nov-Dec 2025) organised by Joost de Bloois and Pepita Hesselberth (UvA): <https://www.nica-institute.com/core-course-withdrawal-and-refusal-genealogies-theories-politics/>
- Log Out! The Technopolitics of Refusal, University of Toronto, March 2024: <https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/iccit/upcomingevents/log-out-2024>
- Conference program 'Temporalities of Refusal' (2024) https://newcastle-my.sharepoint.com/personal/ndv22_newcastle_ac_uk/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fndv22%5Fnewcastle%5Fac%5Fuk%2FDocuments%2FToR%2FTemporalities%20of%20Refusal%20%2D%20Programme%20%2D%20Final%2Epdf&parent=%2Fpersonal%2Fndv22%5Fnewcastle%5Fac%5Fuk%2FDocuments%2FToR&ga=1
- Transmediale for Refusal (Berlin 2021-2022) <https://202122.transmediale.de/programme>
- The Refusal Conference – Berkeley (2020): [Refusal conference 2020](https://afog.berkeley.edu/programs/the-refusal-conference): <https://afog.berkeley.edu/programs/the-refusal-conference> and [Refusal conference reading list](https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/5f2876f679889c3267ee6dee/5f9ee565ac26f99c8320fa25_AFOG_refusal_reading_list.pdf): https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/5f2876f679889c3267ee6dee/5f9ee565ac26f99c8320fa25_AFOG_refusal_reading_list.pdf

General (website/blogs/collectives etc.):

- The Practicing Refusal Collective (<https://www.thesojournerproject.org/about/>)
- Post45 'Gestures of Refusal' (<https://post45.org/sections/contemporaries-essays/gestures-of-refusal/>)
- Introducing "Media Quiteracy": <https://www.civicsoftechnology.org/blog/introducing-media-quiteracy>

- Refusal as Ethnographic Concept: An Interview with Carole McGranahan, Elisa Sobo, and Erica Weiss: <https://www.culanth.org/fieldsights/refusal-as-ethnographic-concept-an-interview-with-carole-mcgranahan-elisa-sobo-and-erica-weiss>
- Refusal as Act, Refusal as Abstention: <https://journal.culanth.org/index.php/ca/article/view/ca31.3.05/375>
- Q&A: How refusal can be an act of design: <https://news.mit.edu/2024/how-refusal-can-be-an-act-of-design-jonathan-zong-0325>
- “Design Refusal” and the Limits of Co-creation (Angeliki Balayannis - Wageningen University and Research): <https://www.4tu.nl/du/columns/Design-Refusal-and-the-Limits-of-Co-creation/>
- Refusal as Research Method in Discard Studies: <https://discardstudies.com/2016/03/21/refusal-as-research-method-in-discard-studies/>
- Ethnographic Refusal: A How to Guide: <https://discardstudies.com/2016/08/08/ethnographic-refusal-a-how-to-guide/>
- <https://www.thomasdekeyser.com/> - forthcoming book on ‘Techno-Negative: a History of Refusal’ (under contract with University of Minnesota Press) on the philosophical history of technological refusal + Machines in Flames, the debut film of the Destructionist International, and the first in a series on the appetite for abolition in ultra-leftism: <http://www.machinesinflames.com>
- We Will Rise Again Stories and Essays on Protest, Resistance, and Hope Edited by Annalee Newitz, Karen Lord and Malka Older: <https://www.simonandschuster.com/books/We-Will-Rise-Again/Annalee-Newitz/97811668095959>
- Refusing GenAI in Writing Studies: A Quickstart Guide: <https://refusinggenai.wordpress.com/>
- Giving Voice to Generative AI Refusal in Rhetoric and Writing Studies: <https://www.technorhetoric.net/29.2/disputatio/fernandes-mcintyre/index.html>
- Technological Refusal When Our Bodies Are at Stake - Seeta Peña Gangadharan: <https://responsibledata.io/anniversary/technological-refusal-when-our-bodies-are-at-stake/> + <https://www.oddbproject.org/2019/06/01/technologies-of-control-and-our-right-of-refusal/>
- Technologies of control and our right of refusal - Seeta Peña Gangadharan https://www.ted.com/talks/dr_seeta_pena_gangadharan_technologies_of_control_and_our_right_of_refusal

- Control, Refusal, Trust and Care: A toolkit for making change in the cultural field: <https://waag.org/sites/waag/files/2024-04/Control%2C%20Refusal%2C%20Trust%20and%20Care.%20Artsformatio n%20Toolkit.pdf>
- transmediale festival creates a space for critical reflection on cultural transformation within media and technology: <https://transmediale.de/en>
- Rights, access & refusal working group – JustAI: <https://www.just-ai.net/rights-access-and-refusal>
- Refusing AI: How Journalists Avoid Falling for AI's Hype - Dr Tomás Dodds : <https://www.oii.ox.ac.uk/news-events/events/refusing-ai-how-journalists-avoid-falling-for-ais-hype/>
- [Blog] Is refusal a feminist possibility? Emma Harrison: https://sussex.figshare.com/articles/online_resource/Blog_Is_refusal_a_feminist_possibility/23482235
- Listening to Refusal: Opening Keynote for #APTconf 2019 – Donna Lanclos: <https://www.donnalanclos.com/listening-to-refusal-opening-keynote-for-aptconf-2019/>
- <https://peoplevsbig.tech/the-movement/>
- Algorithmic Sabotage Research Group. [n. d.]. *Manifesto on 'Algorithmic Sabotage'*. <https://algorithmic-sabotage.github.io/asrg/manifesto-on-algorithmic-sabotage/>
- Ali Alkhatib. [n. d.]. *Destroy AI*. <https://ali-alkhatib.com/blog/fuck-up-ai>
- Emily Bender. [Jan 13, 2026]. *Resistance Isn't Denialism*. Mystery AI Hype Theatre 3000: The Newsletter. <https://buttdown.com/maiht3k/archive/resistance-isnt-denialism/>
- Paris Marx. [July 18, 2025]. *Getting off US Tech: A Guide*. Disconnect. <https://disconnect.blog/getting-off-us-tech-a-guide/>
- EXTENSIVE LIST OF GENERAL CRITICAL AI RESOURCES AVAILABLE HERE: Fernandes, M., McIntyre, M. Gray, K., & Messina, C.M. (2024). *Resources on refusing, rejecting, and rethinking generative AI in writing studies and higher education*. <https://tinyurl.com/ewwaibib>
- Khalili (2026). No Phone, No Social Safety Net: Welcome to the 'Offline Club'. <https://www.wired.com/story/europe-offline-club-phone-addiction/>
- McCray, P. (2022) How the RESISTORS Put Computing into 1960s Counter-culture. <https://spectrum.ieee.org/teenage-hackers>
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- <https://against-a-i.com/>
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- Boon, E. (2019). How to refuse the world without leaving it: on art & censorship in an international context. <https://dutchculture.nl/en/news/how-refuse-world-without-leaving-it-art-censorship-international-context>
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- Furze, L. (2025). Resist, Refuse, or Rationalise – Just don't Roll Over. <https://leonfurze.com/2025/01/27/resist-refuse-or-rationalise-just-dont-roll-over/>

Podcasts:

- This Machine Kills - Refusing the Everyday Fascism of Artificial Intelligence (ft. Dan McQuillan): <https://open.spotify.com/episode/2QTGG68TCTwWDpkyN8c0Pu?si=GqzRS3ejQd2cCOe9nrtO5g&nd=1&dlsi=157f3758788940c6>
- This Machine Kills - Decomputing for a Better Future (ft. Dan McQuillan): https://techwontsave.us/episode/286_decomputing_for_a_better_future_w_dan_mcquillan
- Philosophize this - The Frankfurt School Pt. 7 - The Great Refusal: <https://www.philosophizethis.org/podcast/the-great-refusal>
- The Deeper Thinking Podcast - The Violence of Listening: Silence, Power, and the Ethics of Refusal: https://open.spotify.com/episode/7GpPNzmTWvoQsguDkc86G2?si=7jdbr9y_RtG-t4iPOcJmvg&nd=1&dlsi=95713e9b4e554dbe
- The Data Fix – Refusal, with Blair Attard-Frost: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/4ca84na0Pb9EGwhrXhPmOF?si=BJwovWpQS3mDCICOfPwciw&nd=1&dlsi=e21f13ee18b34e91>

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Alternative software (refusal to use big tech and adapt to their core design principles)

Breaking with the dominance of powerpoint:
Html-based presentation software created by Hakim El Hattab and contributors: reveal.js
<https://revealjs.com/>