Humanists Critique Data

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- Data

- Classification

- Databases

- Example

Data

Data are imagined and enunciated against the seamlessness of phenomena.

– Lisa Gitelman

Data

Classification

All information systems are necessarily suffused with ethical and political values, modulated by local administrative procedures.

There is no such thing as an unambiguous, uniform classification system. […] This in turn means that there is room in the constutition of any classification system […] for technical decisions about the scheme to systematically reflect given

organizational and political
positions.

– Geoffrey Bowker and
Susan Leigh Star

Databases

He will count to one-hundred, saying the numbers aloud. "One, two, three," etc., all the way up to 100. He will not write the numbers; no, he won't. *Listen*. He will end like this: "… nahn-tee-nahn, hunnert."

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