

Nice creative title

Meyer 1

Alec Meyer

Whiteleather

English 250

2/5/19

summarizing no bold

article

Assignment II: Murray's Take on Technological Mourning

The reading "When Mourning Goes Viral" by Sarah Murray explains the advantages to social media mourning and the stigma that comes with it. Murray begins the reading with one of the first examples of mass-social-media mourning, Steve Job's death. Millions of people came together on platforms such as Youtube, Twitter, and Facebook to express their feelings and mourn his death.

Murray's first stated advantage of social media is that it gives the user an audience for their grieving. The process of uploading and sharing is instant; the whole world knew about Job's death in only 12 hours. Murray describes the increase of online mourners as a "Popularity contest". Publicly sharing death and seeking attention could be seen as "self serving" and "insensitive", but, "there is more to this than just a race to be first."

Photographs, text, audio and video are examples Murray gives for quick and efficient online mourning. With all of these outlets and devices, Murray is able to create a comparison to other, more long lasting rituals. The social media ritual is for example, expressing your grief in 140 characters, choosing the correct pictures and/or emojis for your facebook post, or posting the correct type of video to show your grief.

Murray compares the ability of bringing people together over a death online to tribal traditions and rituals, such as gathering for long periods of mourning (common Judaism ritual) or having all of the men in a tribe start shouting (South American Malfulu tribe ritual). Since nowadays people aren't physically together and connected like these communities, people had to find a new way to come together

in this "globalized world." Murray concluded that the modern way of mourning ^{isn't} that different from the traditional rituals.

87% B+

Alec,

You did a nice job touching upon a lot of the article's key points.

Be sure to include in-text citations.

Style notes:

- (1) avoid pronouns
- (2) avoid vague words "this/it"
- (3) avoid contractions

Best,

ms.w

WORK cited

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Murray, Sarah. "When Mourning Goes Viral." *Death*. Ed. Rachelle M. Smith, Fountainhead, 2012, pp.

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