

This contribution discusses some foundations of a critical theory of the Internet. It visits three specific critical theories of the media, communication, technology, culture and society: works by Raymond Williams, Dallas Smythe, and Herbert Marcuse. It argues that insights of these thinkers can form foundations for a critical theory of the Internet. All three thinkers have had profound influence on my own work and thought, which is especially evident in two of my recent books: *Digital Labour and Karl Marx* (2014) and *Culture and Economy in the Age of Social Media* (2015). I will also talk about these works in this presentation.

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