

Reply ID: 7r+9

(received 9-8  
mailing today, of  
post from about  
8-25?)

Hi Ms.A 😊 First, sorry for the extra scribbly appearance of this entire reply. I really don't know why my writing is so kindergarten-y today. It's weird... possibly a touch of exhaustion? I'm trying to get it under control, lol. But unlike my regular posts, I just write out a reply one time and that's that, so they're always a bit more raw, in appearance and content, too.

Glad the parenthetical addition to the "Comment Reply" title helped you notice the one meant for you. If there's something else I should do, please let me know! I'd like this to be as accessible as possible, and whenever I do get a friend or family member to go to this site for me, every single time they say the same thing: "It's not very easy to navigate." Probably one just has to be familiar with it and it's fine. Still, if there's a way I can hack it for people's convenience, I definitely want to know.

I'll look into that transcript excerptation/annotation idea a bit more. I have access to, oh, maybe 5 or 6 hearing transcripts right now. It would be some work, and I worry that it might take ~~so~~<sup>so</sup> much contextualizing to make sense of the things that are being said (and my critiques of them), it could become overwhelming.

Interesting you brought up tablet monitoring. A rumour was spreading awhile back that someone was denied parole after he claimed to spend a lot of time using some learning app, then the parole board zombies called him out, saying they saw he just played video games all day. I dug into that as much as I could, including asking a guard who is usually assigned to those hearing, just to see if she had seen any sort of uptick in that sort of gotcha game... she didn't know what I was talking about. Seems it was just fiction. I know that besides that one rumor, I've never heard a peep from anyone I know who's actually had a hearing, no one saying their activities were brought up in any way. I suspect it could have an impact, but probably only in extremely narrow circumstances, like when someone actually gets in trouble and is investigated for something tablet-related.

What you said about "social contracts/investments" is chilling. I agree, so far these systems don't seem to be set up or used for any particularly insidious surveillance, but that people are talking about it at all... god, these punishment systems just keep finding ways to expand their sphere of control. As a kid, I recall adults saying things like "what is the world coming to?", but it was always a bit tongue-in-cheek. Now I'm seriously asking, though... what IS the world coming to? It feels like, not anything very good, at the moment.