

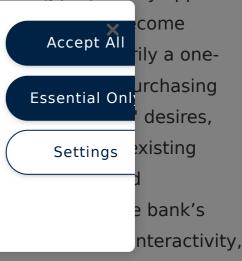
### Abstract

Banking is going mobile and becoming social. Today your smartphone is your own personal and portable bank vault, allowing you to access, deposit and transfer money with a light caress of your screen and a deliberate tap on an imaginary digital button. Our devices, in other words, are allowing money and debt to achieve what money has always 'desired' – ubiquity, immateriality, infinite accessibility and instantaneity. Moreover, connecting banks with customers' mobile devices using proprietary apps

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app-based banking allows the financial system to extend its ability to track, surveil, judge, influence and control credit-seeking populations in ever more precise and predatory ways. In this paper I suggest that the extension of banking services onto our smartphones is not so much a convenience or service as it is the manufacturing of yet another market – a mobile banking market – that enables the banking system to track and tag the trajectories of the spaces in between more conventional points of exchange. I suggest also that mobile banking apps serve to whet the appetite of consumers for a cashless future of digital currencies which economists argue is necessary – or even inevitable – in the face of what economists call the 'zero lower bound' – the financial quandary that results when interests rates hit 0 percent and financial stimulus using lower interest rates becomes impossible in a world where cash remains an option.

**Q** Keywords: banking

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## Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the author.

## Notes on Contributor

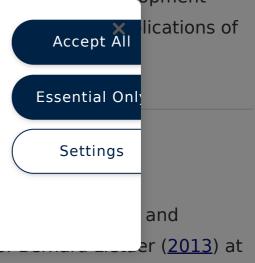
Matthew Tiessen is an Assistant Professor in Professional Communication in the Faculty of Communication and Design at Ryerson University (Toronto) and a Research Associate at the Infoscape Research Lab, directed by Dr. Greg Elmer. Dr. Tiessen holds a Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Insight Development

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<u>lietaer.com</u>, Daly and Farley (2010), as well as web-based initiatives such as <u>publicbankinginstitute.org</u>, <u>positivemoney.org</u>, feasta.org and dyndy.net – including dyndy.net's recently published volume (Sachy 2014).

## Additional information

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