

Blog

New York Times: Madrid Bombing Trial Opened to Streaming --> Video

February 21, 2007 10:29 AM

Tags: "War on Terror", Civil Liberties, Technology, Video, Web sites

Got to love the little greenscreen demo in the [article's photo](#). I guess those two lamps behind the talking head help matte in the background. It also looks as if here background is not a physical place at all, but an info-graphic.

One of the things that is interesting about the article, at least from a US perspective, is that most of the cameras-in-the-courtroom anxieties rehash what was debated about [Court TV](#) years ago. For example: "And in California, a judge said on Friday that he would allow full television coverage of the rock producer Phil Spector's murder trial, declaring that it was time to discard 'fear of cameras in the courtroom.'"

Unconsciously mimicking Court TV Primetime's "Seriously Entertaining" tagline a representative from Datadiar, the tech company hosting the video, claims: "It may be difficult to understand why we do this for free," she said. "We are objective. We are in the middle. We are only lawyers and professionals, and offering information. It's not like television."

Granted, Datadiar is online, and may be able to claim it is literally not television. (Even though the rep is making a qualitative claim as well.) But can this coverage *ever* be objective? Will it devolve into entertainment? Sure, it may not literally be TV, but is it worse, i.e. ... *YouTube*?

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