

**Nicholls, Brett**, University of Otago, New Zealand

**Documenting Conspiracy: The Loose Change Series as Truth Telling Tactic in the State of Exception**

Loose Change is a controversial series of films that reinvestigate the 9/11 attacks upon the USA. Independently produced on a small budget by non-professional filmmakers, the films consist of an unfolding assemblage of diverse materials in feature length documentary form. This paper examines how this assemblage connects to and seeks to challenge the Bush war machine. Rather than deal with how factual the content of the film is (an important but different consideration) the paper asks: how does this assemblage constitute itself as truth? And what is at stake in the truth that the films construct? My contention is that as a form of conspiracy theory the Loose Change series opens up legitimate concerns with what might be called "Big Government" in the situation of a state of exception (Agamben).