

# High-level accessibility review – BTAA (Reveal Digital’s Independent Voices)

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# Reveal Digital's Independent Voices

## Summary (top 3 problems for Reveal Digital's Independent Voices)

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This assessment covers portions of the Reveal Digital's Independent Voices application. The assessment revealed some problems with screen reader compatibility, resulting in screen reader users sometimes missing critical information needed to understand how to operate the features.

1. **Color combinations** – there are multiple red on grey or white color combinations that have a low contrast ratio. People who have low vision or are colorblind may have difficulty reading text if the contrast between the text its background is insufficient. When the contrast ratio between text and its background is adequate, people who have low vision or are colorblind are more likely to be able to read the text.
2. **Use of color** – links are defined as links by using a change of color alone. When color alone is used as the only visual means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element, people who are blind, have low vision, or are color blind will not be able to access that information. It is perfectly acceptable to use color to convey information as long as it is redundant with another visual indication (such as real onscreen text, icon, pattern, or a contrast ratio between elements greater than 3 to 1) AND text that can be accessed by a screen reader (such as real onscreen text, screen reader accessible alternative text, or ARIA attributes). When information conveyed by color is also conveyed by redundant visual and screen reader accessible information, people who have visual disabilities will have access to that information.
3. **Link context** – links in the pages are often not using the context or allowing a user to work out the visual context when they use a screen reader. When link text - along with its immediately surrounding content - does not completely describe the destination of a link, people who are blind, and people with mobility impairments, reading disabilities, and low vision may have more difficulty understanding the purpose of a link so they can decide whether they want to follow the link. In order to sufficiently describe a link's destination, the link text and its immediately surrounding content must provide a complete description of the destination. (Note: Whenever possible, provide link text that identifies the purpose of the link without needing to refer to surrounding content.) Meaningful link text helps people choose which links to follow without requiring complicated strategies to understand the page.

## Accessibility findings

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### Project wide issues

The issues presented in this section were identified in multiple pages and are recorded here to avoid repetition. These are applicable to each screen. Due to particularities, similar issues are still reported on a page per page basis, where applicable.

### Automated findings using Axe

1. **SC 1.4.3** - Elements in pages must be provided with sufficient color contrast.

Issues found through automated testing come from the Axe plugin, an open source accessibility testing tool that is available for Firefox and Chrome. Details here: <https://www.deque.com/products/axe/>.

### Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

1. **SC 1.4.1** – Links are indicated to be links with a change of color alone.

2. **SC 1.4.5** – Images of text are used instead of text alone for the main logo.
3. **SC 1.1.1** – Alternative text for image with text in does not include all of the visual text for the main logo.

## 1. Reveal Digital's Independent Voices Home page

Source: <https://voices.revealdigital.org/>

Test case: Test homepage, including menus, navigation, search boxes, links, images, header/footer, etc. Is the "featured in this collection" image/text accessible? The Help menu is a pop-up – is this accessible?

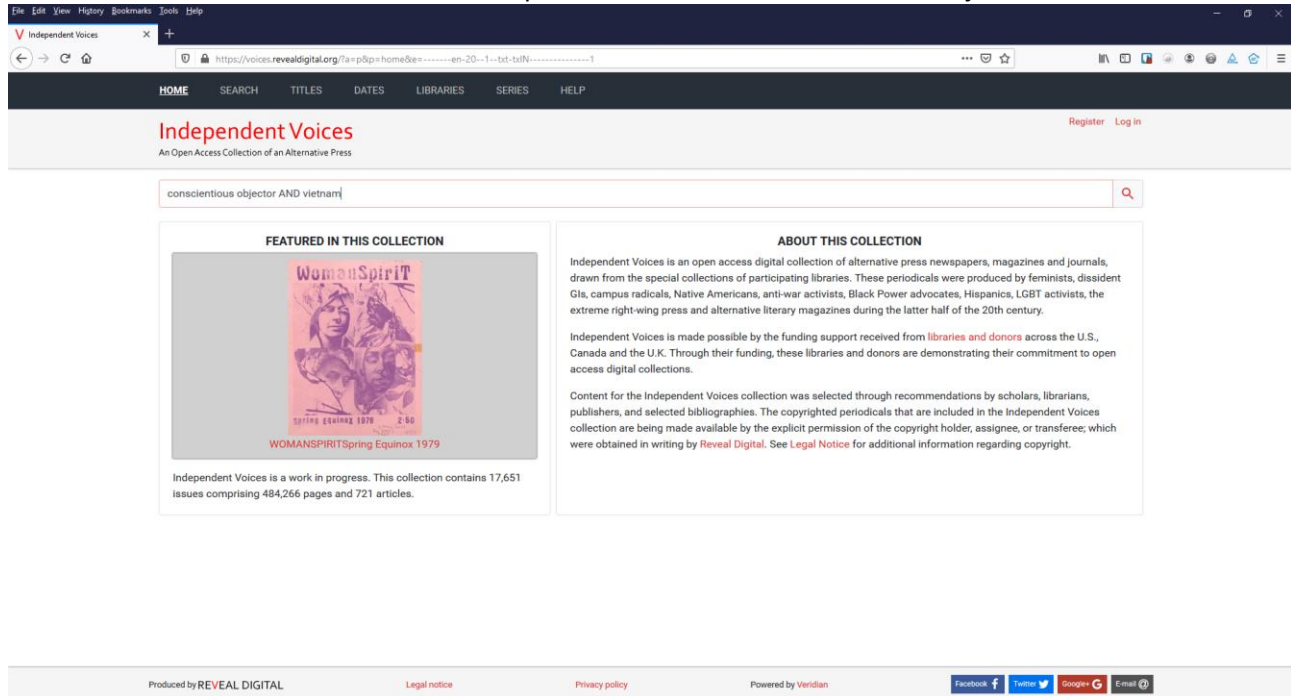
The screenshot shows the homepage of the Independent Voices collection. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for HOME, SEARCH, TITLES, DATES, LIBRARIES, SERIES, and HELP. Below the navigation is a header with the title "Independent Voices" and the subtitle "An Open Access Collection of an Alternative Press". There are also links for "Register" and "Log in". A search bar is located below the header. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column is titled "FEATURED IN THIS COLLECTION" and features a thumbnail image of a newspaper cover from "FORWARD" dated "Forward6/1/1975". The right column is titled "ABOUT THIS COLLECTION" and contains text describing the collection's scope and funding. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with information about the project, including "Produced by REVEAL DIGITAL", "Legal notice", "Privacy policy", "Powered by Veridian", and social media links for Facebook, Twitter, Google+, and Email.

No issues were found that are not in the project wide issues.

## 2. Reveal Digital's Independent Voices Search Box

Source: <https://voices.revealdigital.org/>

Test case: Test the search box near the top – do a search for: conscientious objector AND vietnam



The screenshot shows the Independent Voices website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for HOME, SEARCH, TITLES, DATES, LIBRARIES, SERIES, and HELP. Below the navigation is the site title "Independent Voices" and the subtitle "An Open Access Collection of an Alternative Press". A search box is located below the title, containing the text "conscientious objector AND vietnam" and a search button. Below the search box are two columns of content. The left column is titled "FEATURED IN THIS COLLECTION" and features a cover image of "WOMAN SPIRIT" magazine from Spring Equinox 1979. The right column is titled "ABOUT THIS COLLECTION" and contains text describing the collection's origin and funding. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with production credits, legal notices, privacy policies, and social media links.

### Automated findings using Axe

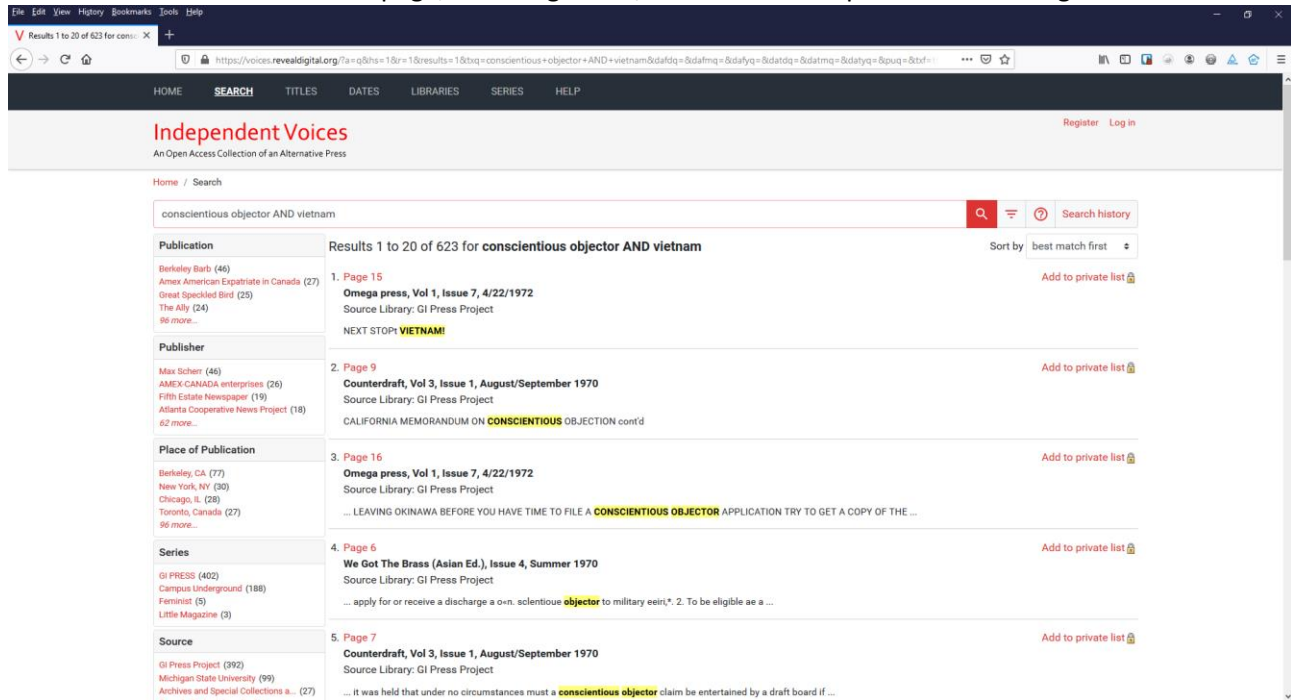
1. SC 3.3.2 - Form elements must have labels.

### 3. Search Results Page

#### Source:

<https://voices.revealdigital.org/?a=q&hs=1&r=1&results=1&txq=conscientious+objector+AND+vietnam&dafdq=&dafmq=&dafyq=&datdq=&datmq=&datyq=&pug=&txf=txIN&ssnip=txt&e=-----en-20--1--txt-txIN-----1>

**Test case:** Test search results page, including filters/limiters at the top and down the right-hand side.



#### Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

1. **SC 2.4.7** – Keyboard focus is not always visible on buttons like advanced search or help.
2. **SC 1.3.1** – Lists are not used to group filter options in the left side of the page
3. **SC 2.4.4** – The “Add to private list” link is repeated with no context to the page to be added.
4. **SC 1.1.1** – The graphic “locked” is not associated to the links “Add to private list”

## 4. Conscientious Objectors Unite Article

Source: <https://voices.revealdigital.org/?a=d&d=BFHADGC19690904.1.8&srpos=6&e=-----en-20--1--txt-txIN-conscientious+objector+AND+vietnam-----1>

Test case: Test a result page, like this Conscientious objectors unite article. Is the text on the left readable/accessible? Is the reader/page viewer accessible?

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a document viewer. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <https://voices.revealdigital.org/?a=d&d=BFHADGC19690904.1.8&srpos=6&e=-----en-20--1--txt-txIN-conscientious+objector+AND+vietnam-----1>. The page title is "Independent Voices" and the content is a newspaper article from the "GI Press service" dated September 4, 1969. The article is titled "CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS UNITE AT FORT JACKSON". The text discusses the formation of a committee of conscientious objectors at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and their opposition to military service. The document is presented in a multi-column layout with various text blocks and images. The browser interface includes a search bar, navigation buttons, and a footer with social media links and a "Powered by Veridian" notice.

### Automated findings using Axe

1. SC 4.1.2 – Buttons must have discernible text announced by assistive technologies.
2. SC 1.1.1 - Images must have alternate text.
3. SC 1.3.1 - <li> elements must be contained in a <ul> or <ol>.

### Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

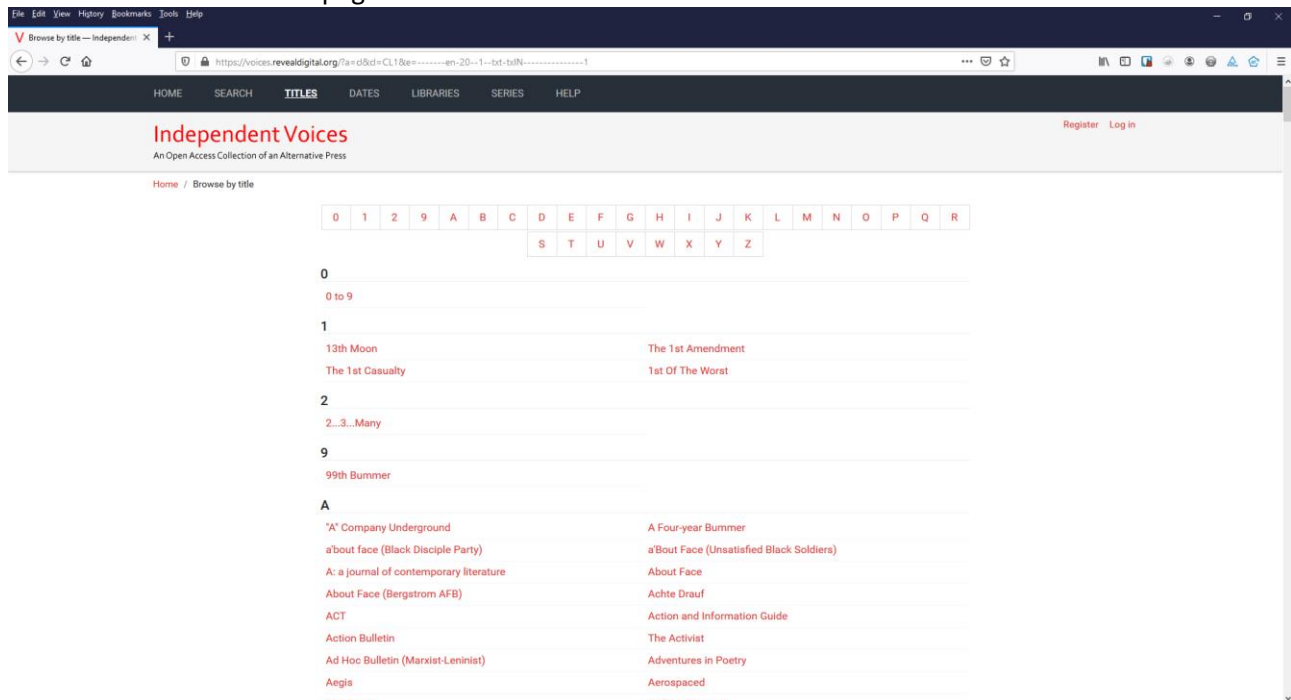
1. SC 2.1.1 – The keyboard cannot focus the main image or activate the image specific menu.
2. SC 1.1.1 – The active image is not given a meaningful label for the screen reader user to identify or focus it.



## 5. Titles

Source: <https://voices.revealdigital.org/?a=cl&cl=CL1&e=-----en-20--1--txt-txIN-----1>

Test case: Test the titles page.



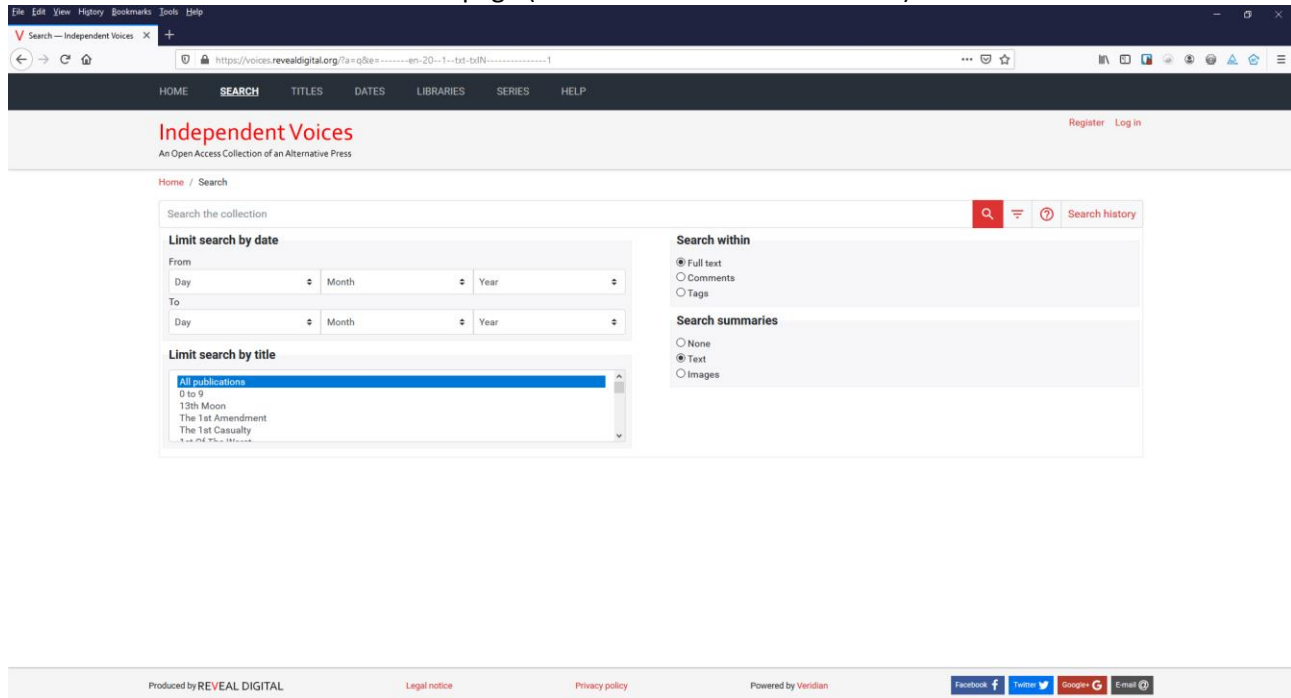
### Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

1. **SC 4.1.2** – The breadcrumb trail does not indicate the current page to the screen reader user.
2. **SC 2.4.4** – The alphabet filter does not indicate the purpose of each letter or number to the screen reader user.

## 6. Advanced Search Page

Source: <https://voices.revealdigital.org/?a=q&e=-----en-20--1--txt-txIN-----1>

Test case: Test the advanced search page (no need to do an actual search).



### Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

1. **SC 2.4.7** – Keyboard focus is not always visible on buttons like advanced search or help.