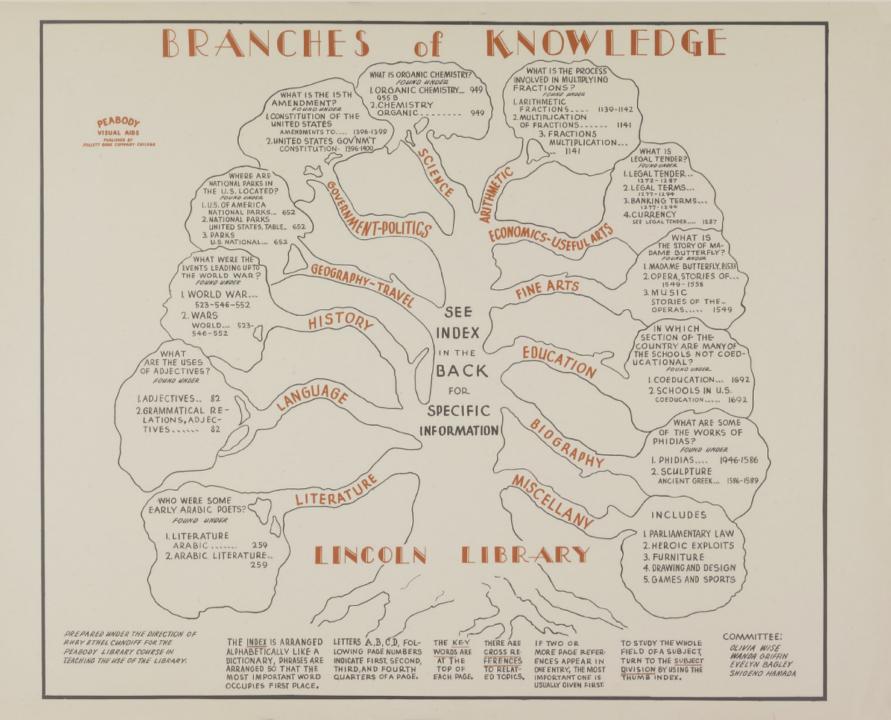
What does "Age of Algorithms" even mean?

How do systems become racist?

How are they exploited by racists?

...what do we do now?!?

# Information has to be organized and how it is organized matters.



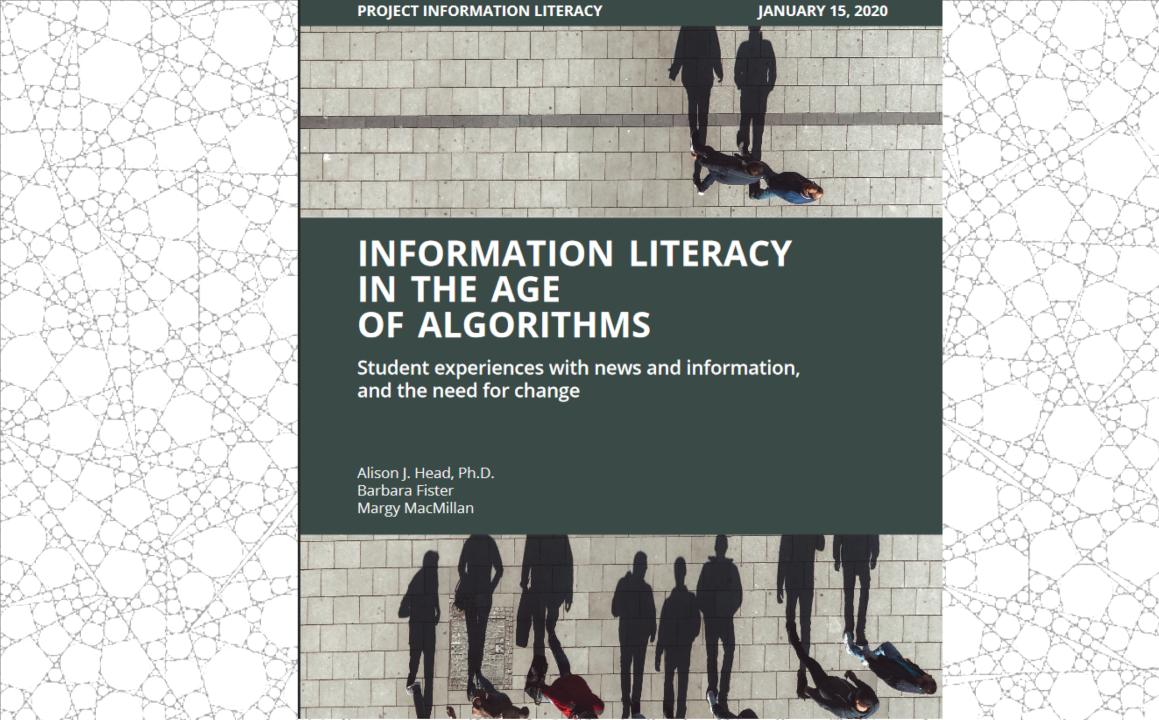
### My Library

Search for anything.

Find Exactly What I Need

You're welcome.





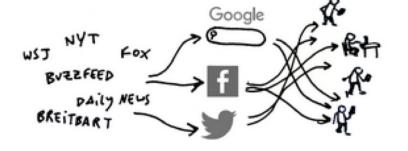
LIFE IN THE

AGE OF Algorithms





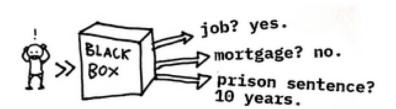
Platforms seek patterns in data to try to predict and influence behavior



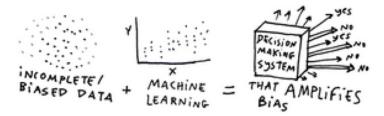
and personalize news and advertising, based on guesses about individual preferences



creating the potential for us to experience different realities



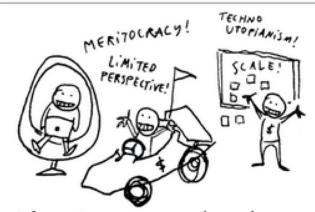
Our lives are increasingly influenced by decision-making systems that build on correlations



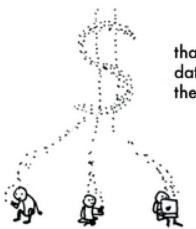
using "artificial intelligence" software that relies on incomplete data to make generalizations

NO! ARRANGES!

and amplifies existing biases at large scale



Information systems we depend on are shaped by a tech culture marked by narrow perspectives and overconfidence



that rely on mining users' data and manipulating their behavior



in ways that undermine our trust in news, politics, and each other.

jessica yurkofsky (2019)



The Project Information Literacy (PIL) "Life in the Age of Algorithms" for the Information Literacy in the Age of Algorithms Report has a Creative Commons (CC) license of CC BY-NC SA.





"...just a fancy technology-enabled form of stereotyping and discrimination, which is inherently problematic, but it's easier for us to overlook because it's happening online and we're not seeing it."

software engineer

Q All

X





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#### RESEARCH ARTICLE



## Dissecting racial bias in an algorithm used to manage the health of populations



- D Ziad Obermeyer<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Brian Powers<sup>3</sup>, Christine Vogeli<sup>4</sup>, D Sendhil Mullainathan<sup>5,\*,†</sup>
- + See all authors and affiliations



in

Science 25 Oct 2019: Vol. 366, Issue 6464, pp. 447-453 DOI: 10.1126/science.aax2342



**Article** 

Figures & Data

**Info & Metrics** 

**eLetters** 



### Racial bias in health algorithms

The U.S. health care system uses commercial algorithms to guide health decisions.

Obermeyer *et al.* find evidence of racial bias in one widely used algorithm, such that Black patients assigned the same level of risk by the algorithm are sicker than White patients (see the Perspective by Benjamin). The authors estimated that this racial bias reduces the













# PROPERTY UNDER 24 7 SURVAILENCE

The New Jim Code:

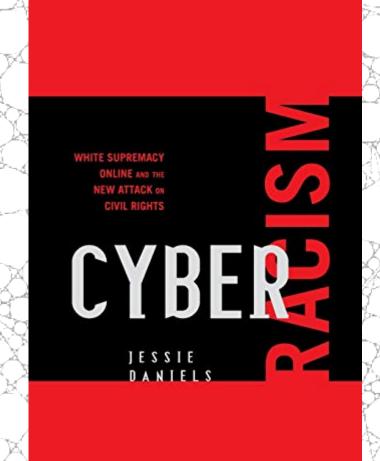
The employment of new technologies that reflect and reproduce existing inequalities but that are promoted and perceived as more objective or progressive than the discriminatory systems of a previous era.

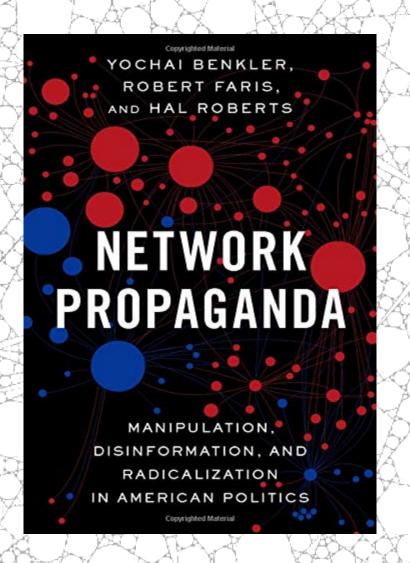
Ruha Benjamin,

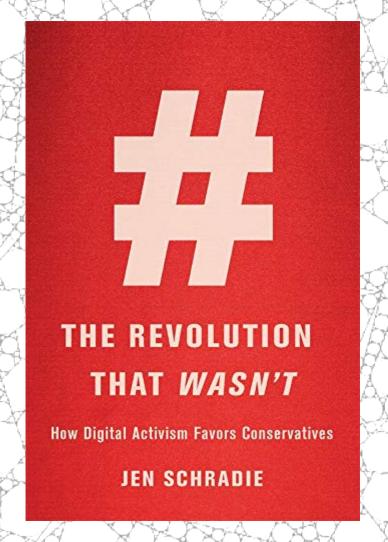
Race After Technology\*

\*really good book!













So ... how do we get out of this mess?

Predictive Policing is rooted in war and occupation. It is yet another tool, another practice built upon the long lineage including slave patrols, lantern laws, Jim Crow, Red Squads, war on drugs, war on crime, war on gangs, war on terror ... However, this time it's the veneer of science and technology, algorithms and data processing, hot spots, and math that give the Stalker State the power, justification, and supposed right to predict, to pathologize, and to criminalize whole communities, and to trace, track, monitor, contain, and murder individuals. This is the trajectory before the bullet hits the body.

StopLAPDSpying.org







#### **Image credits**

triangular circle packing (background) – Mario Klingman "Tree of Knowledge" poster – photo by char booth on Flickr "perfect catalog" image by Matt Reidsma, used by permission 1942 catalog filing – LOC Stupid computer – photo by ffluster Hands - Photo by Perry Grone on Unsplash George Floyd memorial - Photo by munshots on Unsplash State police deployed in Minneapolis – Photo by Tony Webster on Flickr Cluster of cameras – photo by Ashley on Flickr Property under surveillance - Photo by Jon Tyson on Unsplash Man holds deplorable and pepe sign in St. Paul - photo by Fibonacci Blue on Flickr Child with "plandemic" sign – photo by Paul Becker on Flickr Doris Rudd Porter, "human computer," with Manometer tape, ca. 1946 (?) via NASA Site of announcement where Minneapolis city council defunded police – Photo by Tony Webster on Flickr Large protest in DC – photo by Ted Eytan on Flickr



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