

FEMINIST AI

AND THE

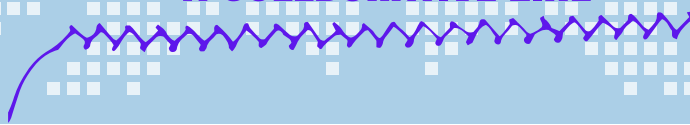
POLITICS

OF

XXXXXX

ALGORITHMS

A COLLABORATIVE ZINE



POLLCY'S FIRST VIRTUAL FEMINIST ZINE-MAKING WORKSHOP (JUNE 2026) CONVENED FEMINIST COLLECTIVES, ORGANIZATIONS, ARTISTS, AND TECHNOLOGISTS FOR A COLLABORATIVE CREATIVE SESSION EXPLORING FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES ON DIGITAL GOVERNANCE, FEMINIST TECHNOLOGY, MOVEMENT ORGANISING, AND DIGITAL JUSTICE.

THE WORKSHOP USED ZINES AS A MEDIUM FOR STORYTELLING, DOCUMENTATION, AND POLITICAL EXPRESSION, POSITIONING ZINE-MAKING AS A FEMINIST METHODOLOGICAL TOOL FOR COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION, MOVEMENT MEMORY, AND RESISTANCE.

THIS ZINE IS THE COLLABORATIVE RESULT FROM THAT WORKSHOP.

PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS:

ALIBI LENS AFRICA | APC/CORE23LAB | GENERATION
ALIVE | DIGICIVIC INITIATIVE | LADIES IN
TERTIARY EDUCATION (LAITE) | SINATSISA LUBOMBO
WOMEN AND GIRLS EMPOWERMENT ORGANIZATION |
AKILI DADA | BINGWA CIVIC TECH LAB | THE
YELLOW MOVEMENT | FEMINIST MOVEMENT BISOBASI
TELEMA | (Q)REATIVE | WOMEN OF UGANDA NETWORK
(WOUGNET) | SINATSISA LUBOMBO WOMEN AND GIRLS
EMPOWERMENT ORGANIZATION

CTRL + RESILIENCE: FEMINIST AI EDITION



PART I:

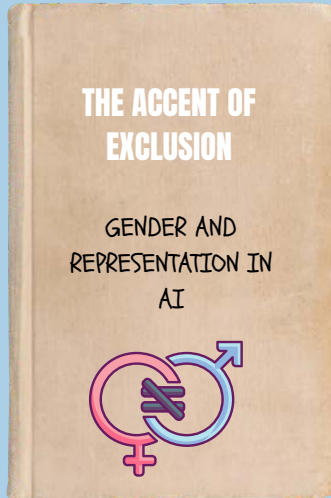


FEMINIST
DESIGN
FOR
BIASED
SYSTEMS.



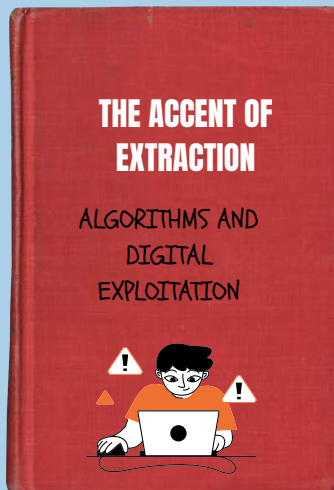
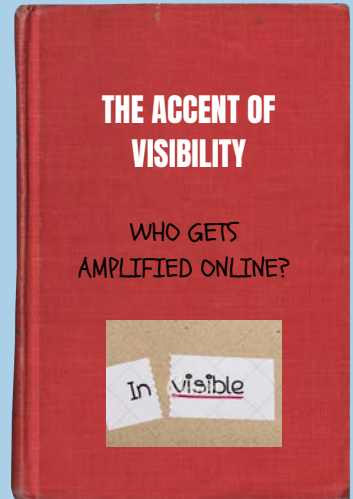
THE INTERNET HAS AN ACCENT

"ZINING ONLINE RESILIENCE"



THE INTERNET
SPEAKS:

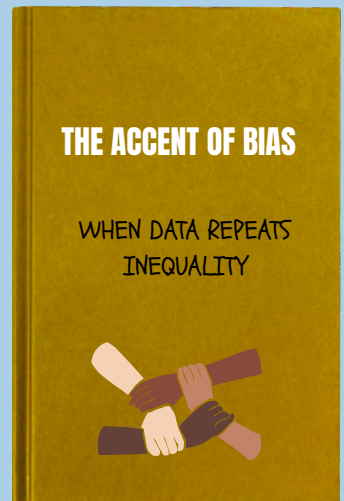
IT RECOMMENDS,
RANKS, FILTERS,
TRANSLATES,
MODERATES,
PREDICTS, AND
DECIDES. WE ARE
OFTEN TOLD THAT
THESE SYSTEMS ARE
NEUTRAL—THAT
ALGORITHMS SIMPLY
FOLLOW DATA AND
THAT AI MERELY
REFLECTS REALITY.



BUT EVERY SYSTEM IS
TAUGHT WHAT TO
VALUE.

HIDDEN VOICES
INSIDE OUR
TECHNOLOGIES
DECIDE
WHOSE KNOWLEDGE
IS PRIORITIZED,
WHOSE EXPERIENCES
ARE IGNORED,
WHOSE STORIES ARE
AMPLIFIED, AND
WHOSE LIVES ARE
RENDERED
INVISIBLE.

POLITICS EMBEDDED
IN CODE



GENDER AND REPRESENTATION IN AI

SAFETY BY DESIGN

FEMINIST REPRESENTATION IN DATA IS NOT OPTIONAL—IT DETERMINES WHOSE SAFETY IS BUILT INTO DIGITAL SYSTEMS.



PEOPLE INFORM
ALGORITHMIC
BIAS

PEOPLE INFORM
ALGORITHMIC
BIAS

PEOPLE INFORM
ALGORITHMIC
BIAS

CTRL+ INCLUSIVE DATA

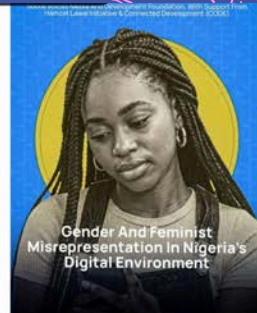
What we need?

01. INCLUSIVE DATA

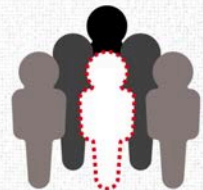
02. CTRL+ACCESS

03. CTRL+VISIBILITY

04. PLATFORM ACCOUNTABILITY



Women from marginalised groups facing intersecting discrimination due to ethnicity, disability, income, or rural location face even greater vulnerability to AI-driven inequalities.



ALGORITHMS AND DIGITAL EXPLOITATION

TURN THE VOLUME UP

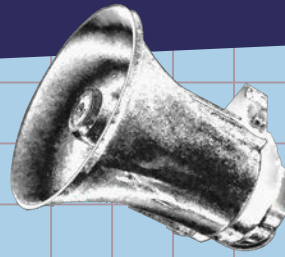
THE INTERNET OFTEN COMES WITH PREWRITTEN NARRATIVES WHERE CERTAIN GROUPS ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE CAST AS PROBLEMS, RISKS, OR "VILLAINS," WHILE OTHERS ARE ASSUMED TO BE NEUTRAL USERS OR DEFAULT VOICES.

THESE NARRATIVES ARE NOT ACCIDENTAL; THEY ARE SHAPED BY DATA, DESIGN, AND LONG-STANDING SOCIAL BIAS.

A FEMINIST INTERNET RESISTS THESE PREWRITTEN ROLES. IT REFUSES SYSTEMS WHERE SOME PEOPLE ARE AUTOMATICALLY FRAMED AS THREATS WHILE OTHERS ARE TREATED AS NEUTRAL. INSTEAD, IT PUSHES FOR SYSTEMS THAT ARE DESIGNED TO SEE PEOPLE FULLY, NOT THROUGH INHERITED BIAS OR ALGORITHMIC SHORTCUTS.



WHEN DATA REPEATS INEQUALITY



“

DIGITAL ID WITHOUT
DIGITAL SECURITY IS
DIGITAL CONTROL
CIPEsa

WHEN DATA REPEATS
INEQUALITY,
IMBALANCE
BECOMES INVISIBLE
UNTIL IT BREAKS
SOMETHING.”

**IMAGINE A BENCH BEHAVING
LIKE A SYSTEM.**

DATA REMEMBERS PATTERNS, NOT FAIRNESS.

SOME STRUCTURES DEPEND ON UNEQUAL WEIGHT.

BALANCE WAS ASSUMED, NOT DESIGNED.

SOME STRUCTURES DEPEND ON UNEQUAL WEIGHT.



WHEN FEMINIST REPRESENTATION IS
MISSING IN DATA, PROTECTION BECOMES
UNEVEN. WHAT IS NOT SEEN IN DATA IS
NOT PROTECTED IN SYSTEMS.

WHO GETS AMPLIFIED ONLINE?

CREATIVE
RESISTANCE



USE FILMMAKING TO DOCUMENT WHAT
SYSTEMS FAIL TO AMPLIFY.

MAKE ZINES THAT PRESERVE VOICES
OUTSIDE DIGITAL VISIBILITY.

CHANGE
STARTS HERE,
EVEN ON YOUR
SCREEN

THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

ALGORITHMS ARE
OPINIONS EMBEDDED IN
CODE

EVERY ACTION COUNTS.



DIGITAL ROOTS CARRY OUR LEGACY



A DIFFERENT DATASET
CREATES A DIFFERENT
POSSIBILITY OF SAFETY.

“

FEMINIST ABSENCE IN
DATA BECOMES
STRUCTURAL ABSENCE IN
SYSTEMS.

TO IMAGINE FEMINIST
FUTURES IS TO REWRITE
WHAT SYSTEMS ARE
ROOTED IN

“

DIGITAL SYSTEMS ARE
NOT JUST PLATFORMS OF
VISIBILITY

THEY ARE ROOTED
INFRASTRUCTURES OF
POWER, DATA, AND
DESIGN. WHAT WE SEE AS
ALGORITHMS TODAY IS
SHAPED BY WHAT WAS
ENCODED, EXCLUDED, AND
PRIORITISED FROM THE
START.



FEMINIST FUTURES ARE DESIGNED, NOT DISCOVERED



So what does it actually look like?
Five things. Non-negotiable.



SAFETY MUST BE BUILT IN, NOT ADDED LATER

ALGORITHMIC VISIBILITY MUST BE ACCOUNTABLE,

POWER IN ALGORITHMS MUST BE TRANSPARENT

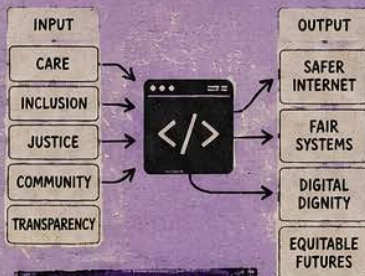
STORYTELLING IS PART OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE

**FEMINIST FUTURES ARE DESIGNED, NOT
DISCOVERED**



9

REWRITING THE CODE



ALGORITHMS CAN BE
DESIGNED DIFFERENTLY.



SHE AL

WE ARE DIFFERENT IN EXPERIENCE, NOT IN WORTH.

WE ARE MANY STORIES WOVEN INTO ONE FUTURE.



CTRL + RESILIENCE: FEMINIST AI EDITION

Zined By:

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References & Further Reading

1. **Paradigm Initiative — LONDA Report (Digital Rights & Inclusion in Africa)**

a. Download hub (all LONDA reports):

<https://paradigmhq.org/londa/>

2. **Paradigm Initiative —Signal (Digital Rights Film)**

a. Watch/explore through Paradigm Initiative

resources: [Paradigm Initiative —Signal \(Digital Rights Film\)](#)

3. **Social Voices — Gender & Feminist**

Misrepresentation in Nigeria's Digital Environment

a. Download PDF: <https://socialvoices.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Gender-and-Feminist-Misrepresentation-in-Nigerias-Digital-Environment.pdf>

CTRL + RESILIENCE: FEMINIST AI EDITION



PART II

MY PHONE ME!

How AI And Algorithms Use
Our Own Data Against Us.



THE FEED IS WATCHING

Have you ever talked about something in passing, did a quick google search for it, or paused on a video for a few extra seconds, only to find your feed suddenly riddled with it?



Introducing: The Echo Chamber

A magical land where you are right about everything because everyone on the internet agrees with you.

Where you needn't waste your energy trying to learn something new because every view you've ever held is already right in front of you.

A magical land where old-fashioned things - like having to actually read something from the source or having to sit for an hour & listen to a novel take - go to die.

A magical land where you needn't bother with any of that.

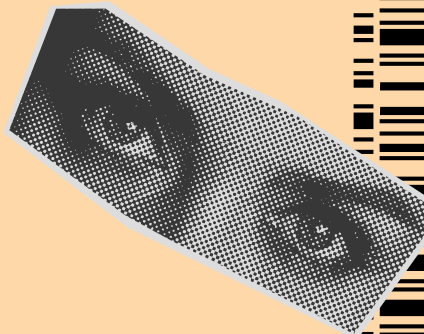
A magical land where you needn't even bother thinking, because the thinking will be done for you.

A magical land where you needn't ever tire yourself by questioning. **Anything.**

But answer this:

Has this magic land bewitched you?

Will you choose to live in it?



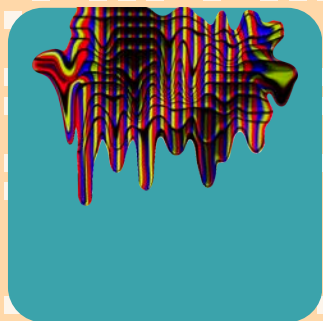
There are 6 billion
people on the internet.

6 billion lives.

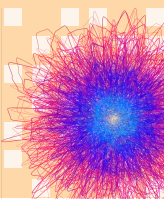
6 billion experiences.

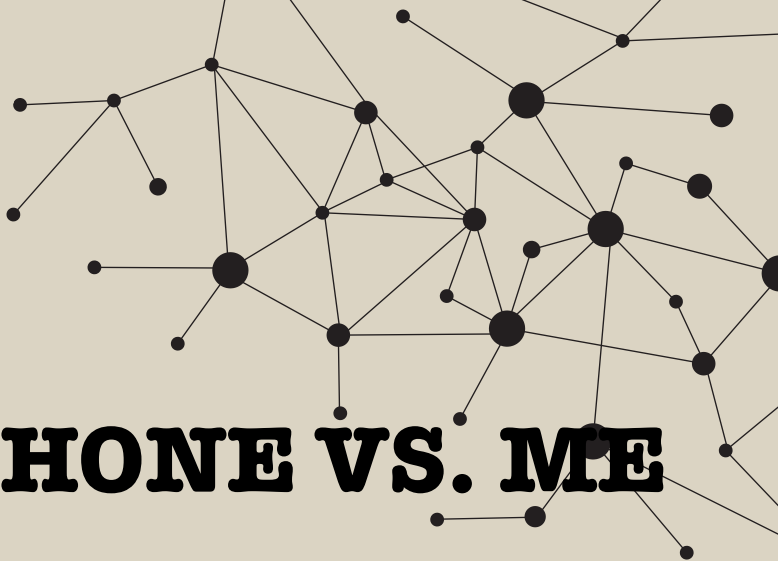
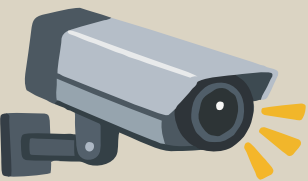
6 billion perspectives.

And yet, we only hear the
same ideas, philosophies,
and experiences over and
over again.



Every video we watch
for a few seconds
longer, every comment
we like, every idea we
search for on a whim
feeds our algorithms
very specific
information about us.
And in return for our
oh-so-boundless
generosity, it feed us
back an unending river
of highly curated
content that it knows
we will certainly
enjoy.





MY PHONE VS. ME

How algorithms and AI use our
private data against us





 My data 



Feminists Vs AI

Okay

Cancel

 They want our data

 We can't live without it

 We can't hold them accountable

 Who do we hold accountable?



ALGORITHMIC BIAS

DATA IS NOT NEUTRAL

- BIAS IN
 - DATA
 - DESIGN
 - ALGORITHMS
 - DEPLOYMENT

=
DISCRIMINATORY OUTCOMES

FROM HISTORICAL INEQUALITIES
TO DIGITAL INEQUALITIES

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE DATA?
WHO DECIDES?
WHO BENEFITS?
WHO IS HARMED?

ALGORITHMS REFLECT POWER.
WE MUST CHALLENGE IT.

AI AND SURVEILLANCE

WATCHING, PROFILING, CONTROLLING

WE ARE NOT DATA

- ✓ FACIAL RECOGNITION
- ✓ PREDICTIVE POLICING
- ✓ SOCIAL SCORING
- ✓ DATA COLONIALISM
- ✓ PRIVACY VIOLATIONS
- ✓ CHILLING DISSENT

SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGIES REINFORCE OPPRESSION.
RESISTANCE DEMANDS ANOTHER FUTURE.

FEMINIST ETHICS IN AI

CARE. JUSTICE. LIBERATION.

CARE OVER COMPLIANCE

- CENTER PEOPLE, NOT PROFIT
- INCLUDE MARGINALIZED VOICES
- BE TRANSPARENT & ACCOUNTABLE
- CHALLENGE POWER IMBALANCES
- BUILD FOR COLLECTIVE WELL-BEING

REIMAGINING RESPONSIBLE INNOVATION

ANOTHER AI IS POSSIBLE

SUSTAINABLE
EQUITABLE
INCLUSIVE
DEMOCRATIC
COMMUNITY-LED
INTERSECTIONAL
FUTURE-ORIENTED

TECHNOLOGY SHOULD SERVE LIFE,
NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND.

IMAGINE. DESIGN. TRANSFORM.

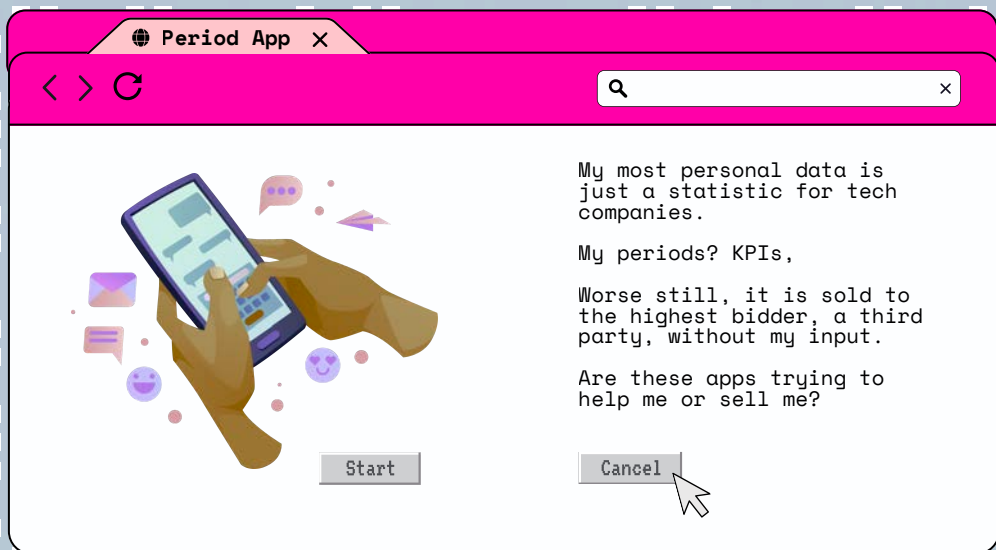


WEBSITE
COOKIES

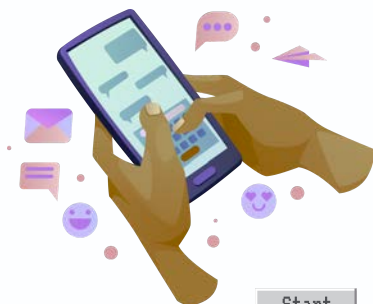
**MY DIGITAL FOOTPRINT IS MY
LIFELINE.**

But is my safety assured?





Period App



My most personal data is just a statistic for tech companies.

My periods? KPIs,

Worse still, it is sold to the highest bidder, a third party, without my input.

Are these apps trying to help me or sell me?

Start

Cancel



THIS IS A
MIND CONTROL
DEVICE

#PIZZAGAT

PART II

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Rebecca Ryakitimbo

Lunga izata

