

## Final Word

Lieke Boon GIT/Q42 Meetup 24 June 2015

#### Riddle

A father and son are in a horrible car crash that kills the dad. The son is rushed to the hospital; just as he's about to go under the knife, the surgeon says, "I can't operate—that boy is my son"

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### Unconscious Bias

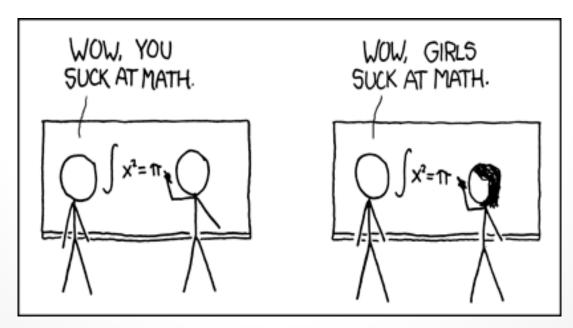
We're constantly overlooking much of the world around us and there's actually nothing mysterious about it.

- We receive 11 million of bits of information every moment
- We can only consciously process 40 bits

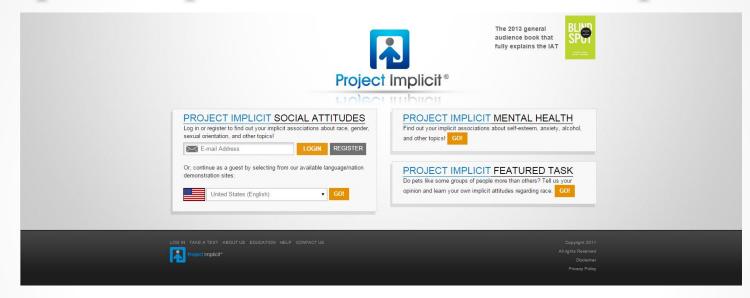
Conclusion: Stuff gets broken while our brain is sorting information & our objectivity is certainly clouded.

## Gender bias

- Most people would agree that gender bias exists...in others
- All of us, myself included, are biased.



#### https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/



- Explicit: how much science is associated with men or women.
- Implicit: how quickly words like 'math' and 'physics' are associated with 'boy' or 'man'.



#### Riddle

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# Gender bias could be a major threat

- Good news: Bias can be weakened
- Bad news: You can't do it alone



# Accept that you're biased

If you'd like: take the Implicit Associations Test

## Use inclusive language





lol the email sent out on more gender-inclusive wording for job regs starts with "hi guys" fastcompany.com/3044094/why-we... @courtneyseiter @sunils34

5:02 PM - 25 Mar 2015

Fast Company



How Changing One Word In Job Descriptions Can Lead To More Diverse...

When the social media platform Buffer removed the word "hacker" from their job titles they noticed a change in who was applying.

View on web





# Hold yourself and others accountable: point it out

# Use your imagination: counterprogram your brain



### To do:

- 1. Awareness: Accept that you're biased
- 2. Use inclusive language
- 3. Hold yourself and others accountable
- 4. Use your imagination: counterprogram your brain

### Almost the final word...

I hope that I showed you in these 10 (>?) minutes that by the simple act of talking openly about behavioral patterns, it makes the subconscious conscious.

Talking can transform minds... which can transform behaviors ...which can transform communities ... which can result in a better environment for (e.g.) women in tech.

# Final word (!)

- Thank you Felienne, Kristin, Katja & Erika for sharing your code, your knowledge and your experience.
- You're amazing role models!
- Last but not least: I think we did some great 'Bias Busting' tonight



## Thank you

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