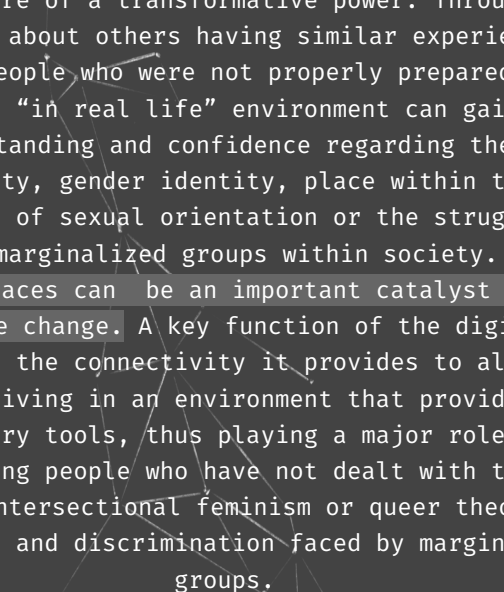


Technological

The recent advances in technology rarely had a net positive impact on promoting tolerance and equality within our society. To promote a more positive change there have been different approaches to utilizing the technology available. QueerOS argues that, if the frame for a digital experience is already within a neoliberal, white, straight, and cis perspective, then that translates directly into the experience itself. The manual for a yet to be designed operating system attempts to change that. Even so, as of now this is more of an intellectual thought experiment. In comparison, the use of the internet as a safe space to share experiences for the queer community as described by Legacy Russell has more of a transformative power. Through learning about others having similar experiences young people who were not properly prepared by their "in real life" environment can gain understanding and confidence regarding their identity, gender identity, place within the spectrum of sexual orientation or the struggles faced by marginalized groups within society. These safe spaces can be an important catalyst for positive change. A key function of the digital space is the connectivity it provides to almost everyone living in an environment that provides the necessary tools, thus playing a major role in sensitizing people who have not dealt with topics such as intersectional feminism or queer theory to the issues and discrimination faced by marginalized groups.

An abstract geometric pattern consisting of numerous thin, light-colored lines connecting small dots. The dots are scattered across the lower half of the page, and the lines form a complex, web-like structure that resembles a network or a stylized map. The pattern is more dense in some areas and more sparse in others, creating a sense of depth and movement.

Technological

One interesting example on how these people might be reached could be made by looking at the development of memes, as the author of GlitchFemenism recognizes by including them in her publication. Platforms promoting short content like Instagram or TicTok have become a staple in most people's online experience. By recognizing, using and encouraging the shortening of people's attention spans they have made sure to stay one of the most relevant means of online communication for years now. Memes for example have become a digital artform of the younger generations, a subculture with billions of eyes on it, the prevalent form of online humor. Sadly, once somebody finds something funny, they are much more likely to agree with any point made. Even politically conservative people are more likely than usual to recognize any issue highlighted by a well-made meme.

Is it frustrating that very serious issues of discrimination on a societal level have to be highlighted by something as informal as memes to gain higher recognition among younger generations?

Yes, but that fact should not deter from the opportunity to create a society more conscious of these issues.

Meaning that if the people advocating inclusiveness confine themselves to well-reasoned, but comparatively long and difficult to read texts, they are forfeiting the political identity, vital parts of digital culture for younger generations to those who wish to perpetuate and enhance cycles of discrimination.