

DATA ETHICS LECTURE 4

RECAP PROMISES

PREVIEW ...

Ali Alkhatib

@_alialkhatib || hi@al2.in

March 31, 2022

ROADMAP FOR TODAY

- Ali goofed
(you’re not responsible for reflections from last week)
- Recap Promises
 - eliminate “bad” work
 - scale social programs
- Preview ...

ADMIN STUFF?

- reading time/reflection

ADMIN STUFF?

- reading time/reflection
- let's do that again →

check the zoom chat for a link

PROMISES

ROADMAP

- “AI will replace [tedious or dangerous] human labor”
- “AI is the only way to scale systems for social good”

LABOR

AI WILL REPLACE [BAD]

HUMAN LABOR

“AI WILL RID US OF BAD JOBS”



“AI WILL RID US OF BAD JOBS”



“AI WILL RID US OF BAD JOBS”



Starting Soon...



MARY L. GRAY

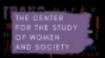
**"Ghost Work in
Pandemic Times"**

Moderated by Dána-Ain Davis



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Co-sponsored with the Center for LGBTQ Studies (CLAGS), The Center for the Humanities, The Graduate Center PhD Program in Anthropology, The Feminist Press, The Graduate Center Library, the PublicsLab, and Public Programs.



THE
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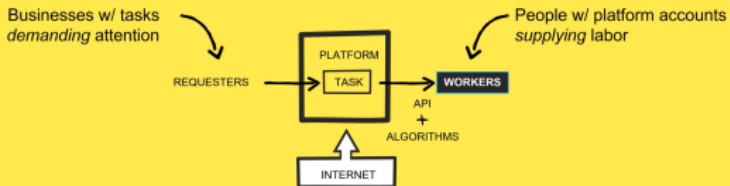
How to
Stop Silicon Valley
from Building a
New Global Underclass

GHOST

Mary L. Gray and Siddharth Suri

WORK

Value proposition: Blend *moments* of human creativity and code



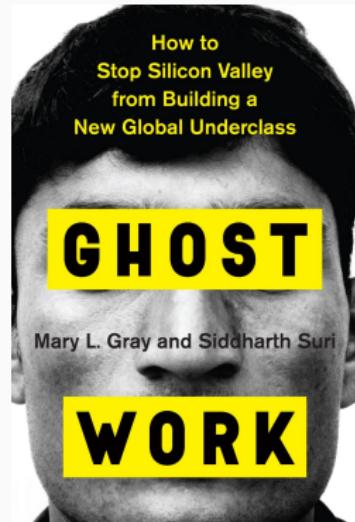
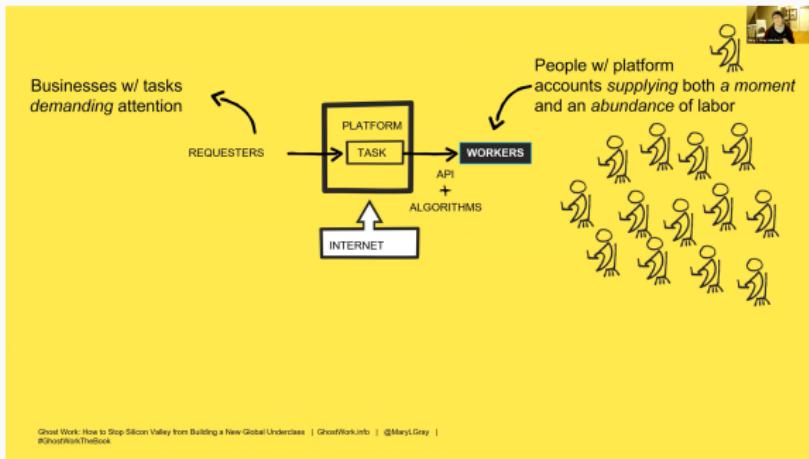
Ghost Work: How to Stop Silicon Valley from Building a New Global Underclass | GhostWork.info | @MaryLGray | #GhostWorkTheBook

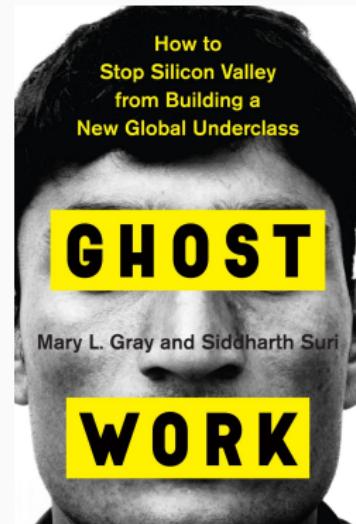
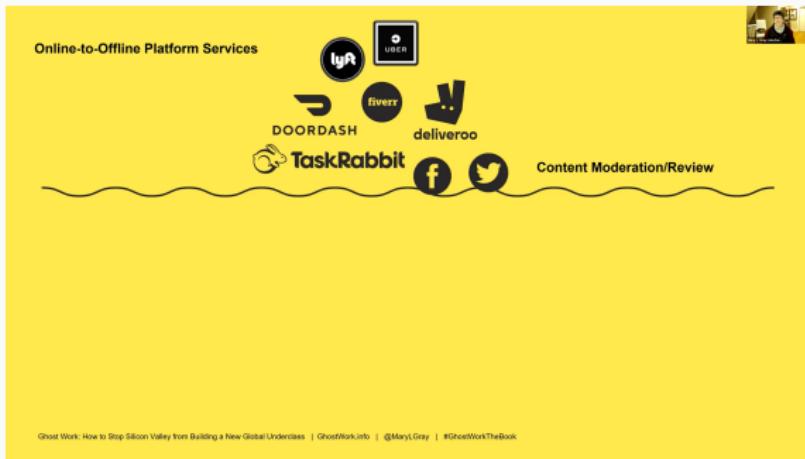
How to
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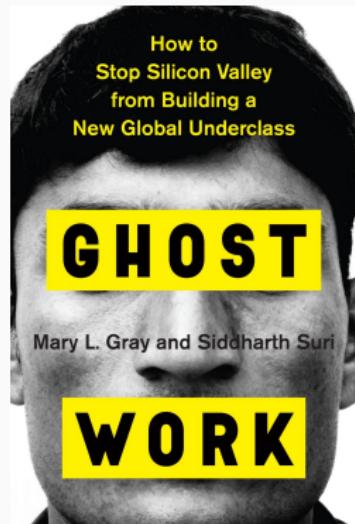
GHOST

Mary L. Gray and Siddharth Suri

WORK









HUMAN COMPUTERS



Mary Jackson



Dorothy Vaughan



Katherine Johnson



Christine Darden



PIECEWORK



[I had to guard an empty room](#)

[the guardian.com/money/2018/may/04/i-had-to-guard-an-empty-room-the-rise-of-the-pointless-job](#)

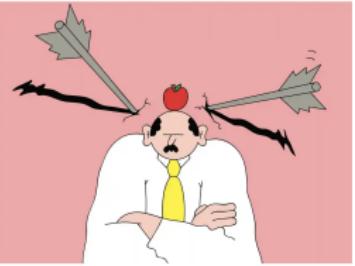
Work & careers

I had to guard an empty room: the rise of the pointless job

Copying and pasting emails. Inventing meaningless tasks for others. Just looking busy. Why do so many people feel their work is completely unnecessary?

David Graeber
Fri 4 May 2018 11.02 EDT

1686



Shoot me now: does your job do anyone any good? Illustration: Igor Baranov

One day, the wall shelves in my office collapsed. This left books scattered all over the floor and a jagged, half-dislocated metal frame that once held the shelves in place dangling over my desk. I'm a professor of anthropology at a university. A carpenter appeared an hour later to inspect the damage, and announced gravely that, as there were books all over the floor, safety rules prevented him from entering the room or taking further action. I would have to stack the books and not touch anything else, whereupon he would return at the earliest available opportunity.

The carpenter never reappeared. Each day, someone in the anthropology department would call, often multiple times, to ask about the fate of the carpenter, who always turned out to have something extremely pressing to do. By the time a week was out, it had become apparent that there was one man employed by buildings and grounds whose entire job it was to apologize

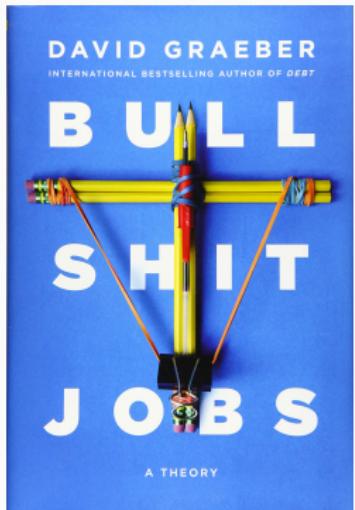
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- He just looked lost': worries over Bruce Willis's cognitive state surface



How should we talk about changes in labor?

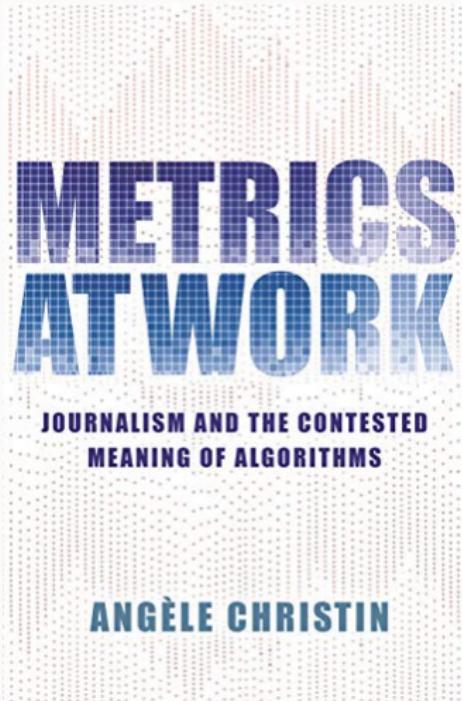
QUESTIONS

- How is the automation of this work being facilitated?
- Are those jobs replaced, shifted, or ...what?
- How has work changed for the people doing work?

break for group discussion, then reconvene

SOCIAL GOOD

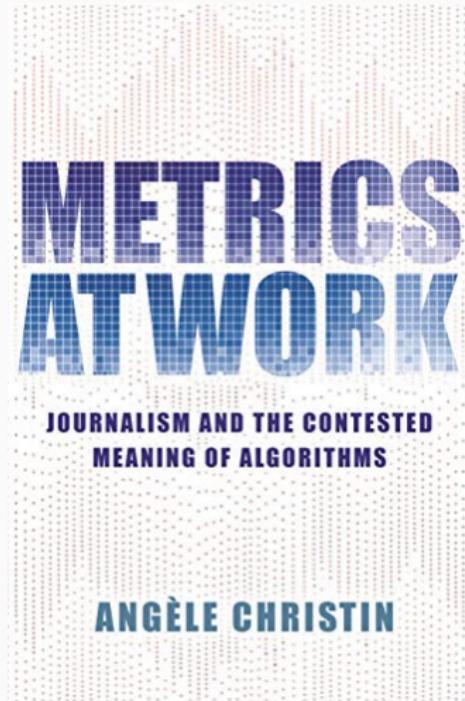
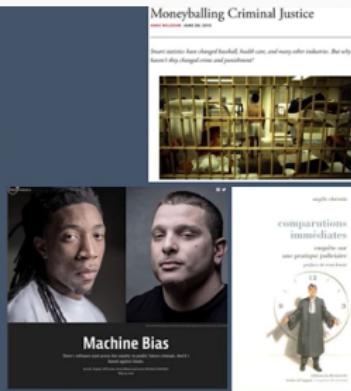
**AI WILL ALLOW US TO SCALE
SOCIAL WELFARE**



UC San Diego
The Design Lab

'Moneyballing Justice'

- Context: mass incarceration and racial bias in the U.S. criminal justice system (Alexander 2010)
- 'Smart statistics' (Milgram 2014) or 'machine bias' (Angwin 2016)?
- Examining how these tools are used (Christin 2008)



Digital Poorhouse

"This book is downright scary—but...you will emerge smarter and more empowered to demand justice." —NAOMI KLEIN



AUTOMATING INEQUALITY

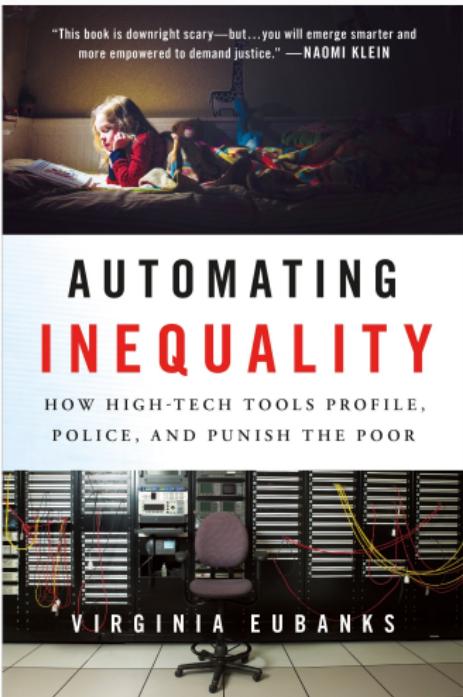
HOW HIGH-TECH TOOLS PROFILE,
POLICE, AND PUNISH THE POOR



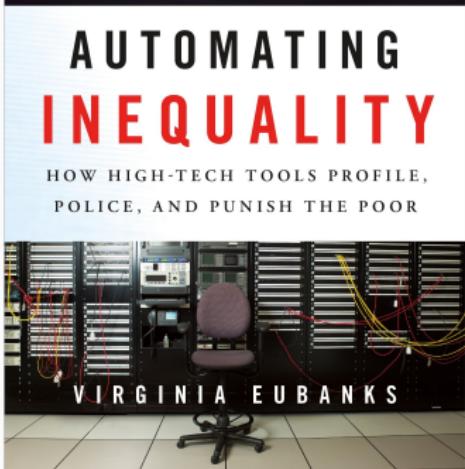
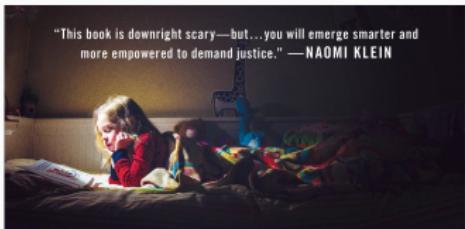
VIRGINIA EUBANKS

“You better watch
what they’re doing to
us, because

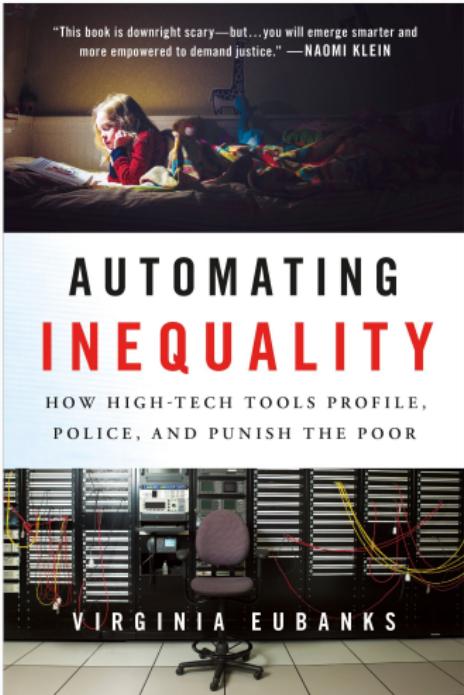
they’re coming for
you next”



*primary goal: to increase
self-determination*



*would this be tolerated if
it weren't targeted at the
poor?*



Disability, Bias, and AI

Meredith Whittaker, AI Now Institute at NYU
Meryl Alper, Northeastern University; Cynthia L. Bennett, University of Washington; Sara Hendren, Olin College; Liz Kazianas, AI Now Institute at NYU; Mara Nilla, New York University; Meredith Ringel Morris, Microsoft Research; Joy Rankin, AI Now Institute at NYU; Emily Rogers, New York University; Marcel Salas, New York University; Sarah Myers West, AI Now Institute at NYU

NOVEMBER 2019

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*AI-enabled systems ...are
often introduced to the
general public under the
guise of offering service to
disabled people ...serving
to normalize the presence
of [invasive surveillance]
in our day-to-day lives.*

The image shows a screenshot of a book cover. The title 'Disability, Bias, and AI' is at the top. Below it is a list of authors: Meredith Whittaker, Al Now Institute at NYU; Meryl Alper, Northeastern University; Cynthia L. Bennett, University of Washington; Sara Hendren, Olin College; Liz Kazlunas, Al Now Institute at NYU; Mara Mills, New York University; Meredith Ringel Morris, Microsoft Research; Joy Rankin, Al Now Institute at NYU; Emily Rogers, New York University; Marcel Salas, New York University; Sarah Myers West, Al Now Institute at NYU. The publication date 'NOVEMBER 2019' is below the authors. The table of contents follows:

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ISSUES IN SOCIAL WELFARE?

What are the issues that data-driven
systems *claim* to address?

What are the issues that data-driven systems *claim* to address?

What are the facets of welfare that data-driven systems *actually* address?

QUESTIONS

- What is *supposedly* supported by the expansion of AI in a given context?
- How would this service differ if the human workforce were expanded?
- How does this algorithmic approach change the dynamic for people seeking resources?

break for group discussion, then reconvene

