

# **FAILURE IN DESIGN RESEARCH**

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## ON-DEMAND WORK

Gig work

Crowd work

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Gig work

UBER



Crowd work



upwork



### **ALIA**

Allowing workers to book clients,  
communicate with each other, and  
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### VITAE

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**Solidarity**

**Solutions to underlying social issues**

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Lourdes Dobarganes cleans the apartment of a client in San Francisco. She is the kind of domestic worker Alia is trying to serve by allowing individual clients to chip in on benefits. (Photo by Carlos Avila Gonzalez, San Francisco Chronicle/Polaris)

Mercedes Martinez scrubs other people's kitchen sinks and mops their floors every day of the week. At night she comes home to care for one of her sons. The money she makes covers their bills, but not benefits. When she catches the flu, she doesn't get paid. But one of her clients recently introduced her to [Alia](#), a website that helps her

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Thinking along these lines forces us to confront how we participate in violent, oppressive systems and practices, but that can inspire us.



# **FINDING, TRANSLATING, AND APPLYING THEORIES**

## NEW TECHNOLOGIES, OLD METAPHORS

On-Demand Work

Piecework

**CHI 2017**

Artificial Intelligence

Street-level bureaucracies

**CHI 2019**

To Live in Their Utopia

**CHI 2021**

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