

# NEW PROTOTYPES IN HUMAN RIGHTS TECHNOLOGY

---



**John Higgins**  
Product Manager, Benetech Labs



Evaluate current technology use and institutional processes within Human Rights organizations to understand existing gaps

Briefly outline our research process

Present preliminary ideas to solicit feedback, inform development, and find additional partners for testing/implementation

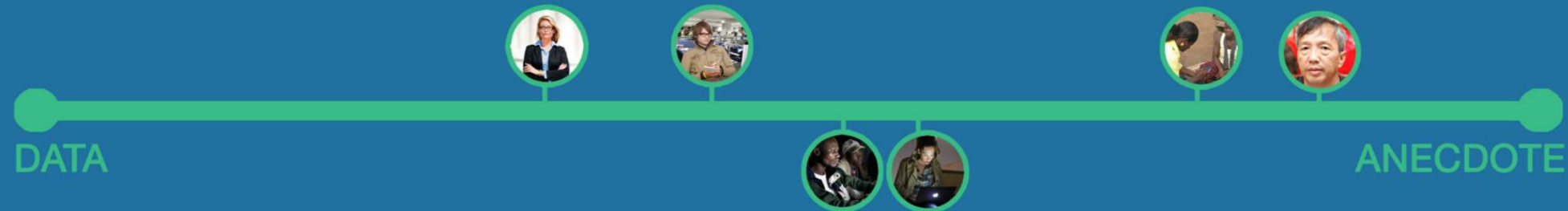
# 1 PRELIMINARY USER RESEARCH

Over the course of several months, Benetech's Human Rights Program conducted individual interviews with dozens of partners in the human rights field. Our staff engaged field workers, larger international organization staff, academics, journalists, researchers, trainers, and intermediaries, from a wide range of countries and regions.

①



②



③



# Headquarters Harrison : Activist Manager

“Challenges are beyond us and within us...”

Harrison works tirelessly to do the greatest good with the limited resources he has available to his organization. Harrison is always trying to grow the organization's capacity by establishing protocols to assist in training towards advocacy. Harrison's goal is to use the limited resources to make social services available to those in need, collect data on injustices committed, and share that data with police and government forces to hopefully spur policy changes. The environment for funding is tight, and as such there is a perceived pressure to show quantitative improvements brought about as a result of his organization. Harrison tries to keep his activists and sources as secure as possible, but is limited by available funds and technology.



## Goals:

- Help as many people as possible
- Continue to gather resources to expand impact
- Build capacity through training and pedagogy
- Demonstrate impact to funders
- Keep his associates and sources safe
- Build impactful relationships to drive change

## Needs:

- More resources: money, people, and technology
- Reliable connectivity and communication channels
- Quick, iterative methods of building capacity
- Trusted relationships for social service provision
- Acknowledgement of success, demonstrable value
- Face time with governing officials to advance causes

TRAINING THE TRAINER | CAPACITY BUILDING | SECURE STORAGE | SOCIAL SERVICE REFERRALS  
LOW RESOURCES | PEDAGOGY | MONITORING AND EVALUATION | TERRITORIAL WITH DATA

benetech

# Felicity Fieldworker : Hands-On Activist

“Concerned about security for victims, also for me..”

Felicity began volunteering with her organization after growing tired of hearing about human rights violations experienced by her friends and families. Felicity was given a donated device by her organization for data collection. Her relationship with technology is fickle, as she often finds herself struggling with low battery and low connectivity. Felicity largely investigates rumors in her neighborhood and the local media, attempting to verify and document possible human rights abuses. As rumors spread, Felicity often finds herself competing with local police to collect information as securely as possible. Felicity often falls back to traditional data collection methods when frustrated or feels like she is intruding.



## Goals:

- Collect data within context
- Don't let capture medium affect trust or relationship
- Investigate rumors and find truths
- Analyze behavioral changes to judge impact
- Create safe spaces for physical and digital interactions

## Needs:

- Access to information early to gather accurate accounts
- Reliable connectivity and communication channels
- Collection of witnesses to corroborate rumors
- More reliable and user friendly technology
- Easy methods to increase secure data storage
- Overcome language, literacy, and cultural barriers in collection
- Availability to ask for additional resources in response to need
- Establish connections to reduce feelings of ostracization.

FICKLE WITH TECH | COMPETE WITH POLICE | STREAM OF LIFE | TECH INTRUDES ON POVERTY  
AUTONOMY | TRACKING BEHAVIORS | SAFETY | SECURITY | LOW RESOURCE | RUMORS

benetech



● Sang ● Harrison ● Cheryl  
 ● Felicity ● Nancy ● Vincent



Over the course of several months, Benetech's Human Rights Program conducted individual interviews with dozens of partners in the human rights field. Our staff engaged field workers, larger international organization staff, academics, journalists, researchers, trainers, and intermediaries, from a wide range of countries and regions.

## 2 CURRENT PROTOTYPE IDEAS



# 3

## HUMAN RIGHTS MEDIA REPOSITORY

Many unique video records of potential violations live offline, invisible to other organizations preventing advocacy and momentum building.



import video import metadata share metadata



TAGS 03:34 / 04:58

MANUALLY ADDED:

- 0:05 Red pick-up truck XY4Z55 0:32 x
- 0:12 Car with broken tail light 0:51 x
- 0:45 Man handcuffed 1:30 x
- 1:12 Iraqi soldier 2:53 x
- 2:07 Safety cone 2:12 x
- 2:24 Cell phone destroyed 2:38 x
- 2:45 American soldier 3:18 x

AUTOMATICALLY ADDED:

- 0:21 314 x
- 0:42 قف (stop) x
- 1:37 XY4Z55 x
- 2:05 Iraqi Flag x
- 2:34 AK-47 x

## CONTACT



organization name: Benetech Inc.  
contact: J. Smith  
fingerprint: 4324.1234.234832422393

add service



## GENERAL

title: Police checkpoint arrest  
category: arrests  
description: Police arrest a man at a checkpoint in Baghdad May 2014

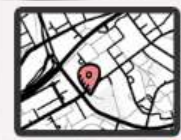
date of capture: May 12 2014

time of capture: 13:00



verification: attach  
witness testimony of events

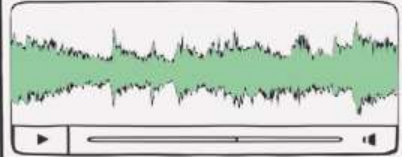
## LOCATION



FROM METADATA

- ☒ use metadata location, anonymize to: 50 km
- ☐ choose location: within of
- ☐ crowdsource location using frames choose

## AUDIO



- ☒ add transcription: transcribe
- ☐ crowdsourced segment transcription add
- ☐ shuffle for anonymity

search trends about contact



submit

Police checkpoint

search

org LGBT rights Iraq x

cat police violence x

loc Baghdad x

loc map area x

tag rainbow flag x

tag police car x

tag 314 x

tag Iraqi flag x



A



prev

next

info

organization: LGBT rights Iraq  
video title: Police checkpoint Baghdad  
category: Police violence

media info

DURATION: 4:55  
DATE OF CAPTURE March 2013  
TIME OF CAPTURE: 13:00

location



tags

Jumpsuit Execution Imprisonment  
ISIS Flag Fire Checkpoint Tank  
Child Soldier Assault Rifle

contact



B



prev

next

info

organization: LGBT rights Iraq  
video title: Traffic incident May  
category: Extrajudicial Killing

media info

DURATION: 2:18  
DATE OF CAPTURE May 2013

location



tags

Traffic child Handcuffs  
sirens

contact



search trends about contact



submit

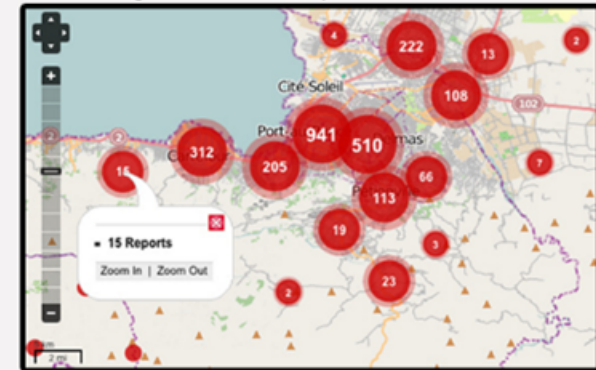
trending tags - all time

rank	*	tag	trend	
1		US military uniform	100.0	
2	▲2	Assault rifle	91.5	
3	▲3	Child soldier	88.1	
4	▲3	Police car	82.3	
5	▲4	Prison jumpsuit	81.2	
6	▲5	ISIS flag	80.9	
7	▲3	US flag	80.4	
8	▲5	Checkpoint	78.5	
9	▲11	Fire	78.0	
10	+	Police handcuff person	76.5	

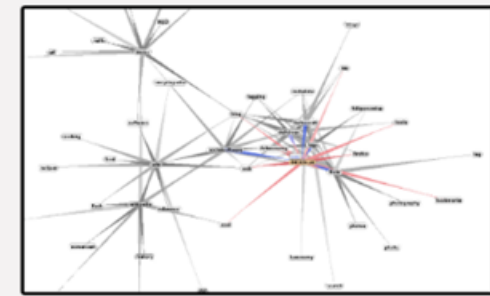
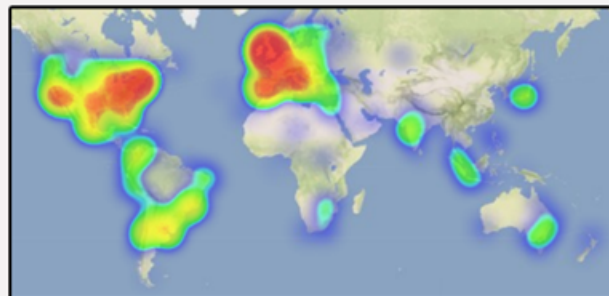
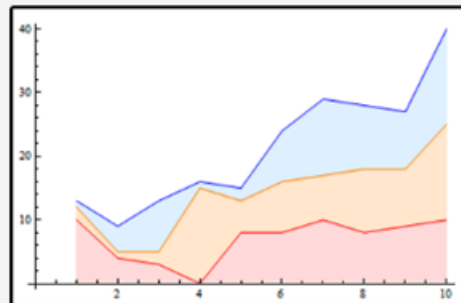
trending tags - past week

rank	*	tag	trend	
1		US military uniform	100.0	
2	▲2	Assault rifle	91.5	
3	▲3	Child soldier	88.1	
4	▲3	Police car	82.3	
5	▲4	Prison jumpsuit	81.2	
6	▲5	ISIS flag	80.9	
7	▲3	US flag	80.4	
8	▲5	Checkpoint	78.5	
9	▲11	Fire	78.0	
10	+	Police handcuff person	76.5	

trending locations - past week



analytics - "US military uniform"

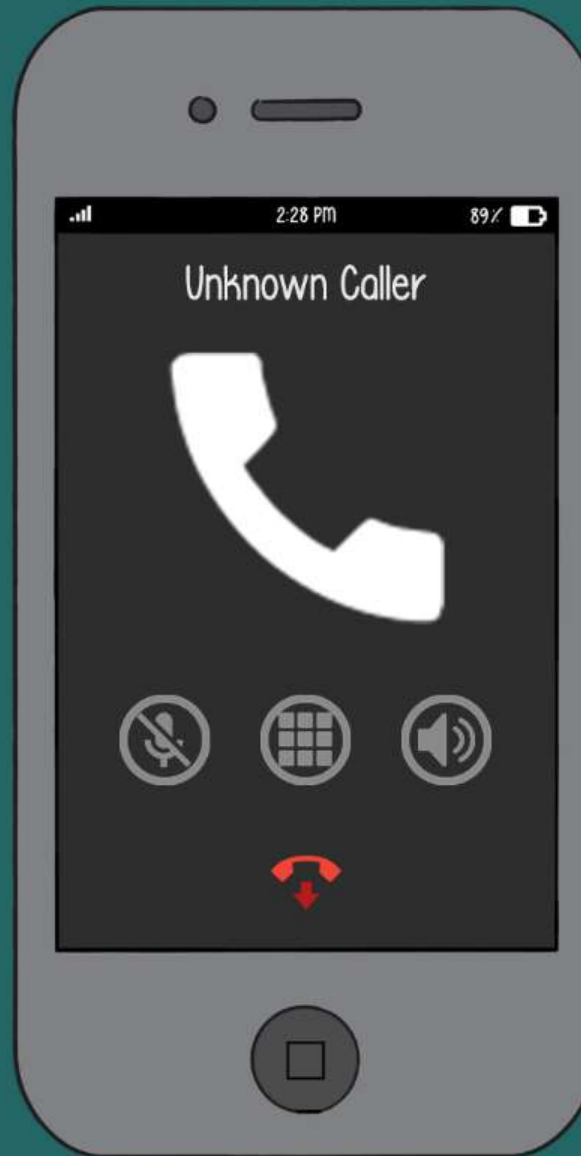


# 4

## DIGITAL SECURITY TRAINING ARGs

Current digital security & tool trainings often are not participatory, not realistic, and are difficult to assess effectiveness.





My PGP fingerprint is  
1392 0437 2660 D556 5DOE  
287D 85C0 1347 9453 3C50



## available modules

orbot



author: guardian project  
guides user through accessing hidden services on android devices.

[more details](#)

add module



strong passwords



author: benetech  
training to ensure users create highly secure passwords that are difficult to brute force.

[more details](#)

add module



media metadata



author: benetech  
ensures media uploaded by the user doesn't contain identifying location or meta info..

[more details](#)

add module



panic button



author: guardian project  
guides user on setting up panic button app, used to alert contacts and close apps





Search...



**Smith, Jane** 3/5  
jsmith@email.org  
(321) 555-1234

**Doe, John** 7/10  
jdoe@email.org  
(555) 555-4321

**Jones, Jack** 4/10  
jjones@email.org  
(321) 555-5552

**Smith, Jane** 3/5  
jsmith@email.org  
(321) 555-1234

assign module

Assigned ↺

**secure chat** ▾  
assigned: 12/10/2015  
  
 [more details](#)

**secure calling** ▾  
assigned: 12/16/2015  
  
 [more details](#)

Completed

**phishing** ▾  
assigned: 12/01/2015  
completed: 12/02/2015  
  
[more details](#)

**HTTPS** ▾  
assigned: 12/03/2015  
completed: 12/04/2015  
  
[more details](#)

**geotagged media** ▾  
assigned: 12/10/2015  
completed: 12/10/2015  
  
[more details](#)

[benetech.github.io/HRP](https://benetech.github.io/HRP)

John Higgins

---

[johnh@benetech.org](mailto:johnh@benetech.org)

find us this week!

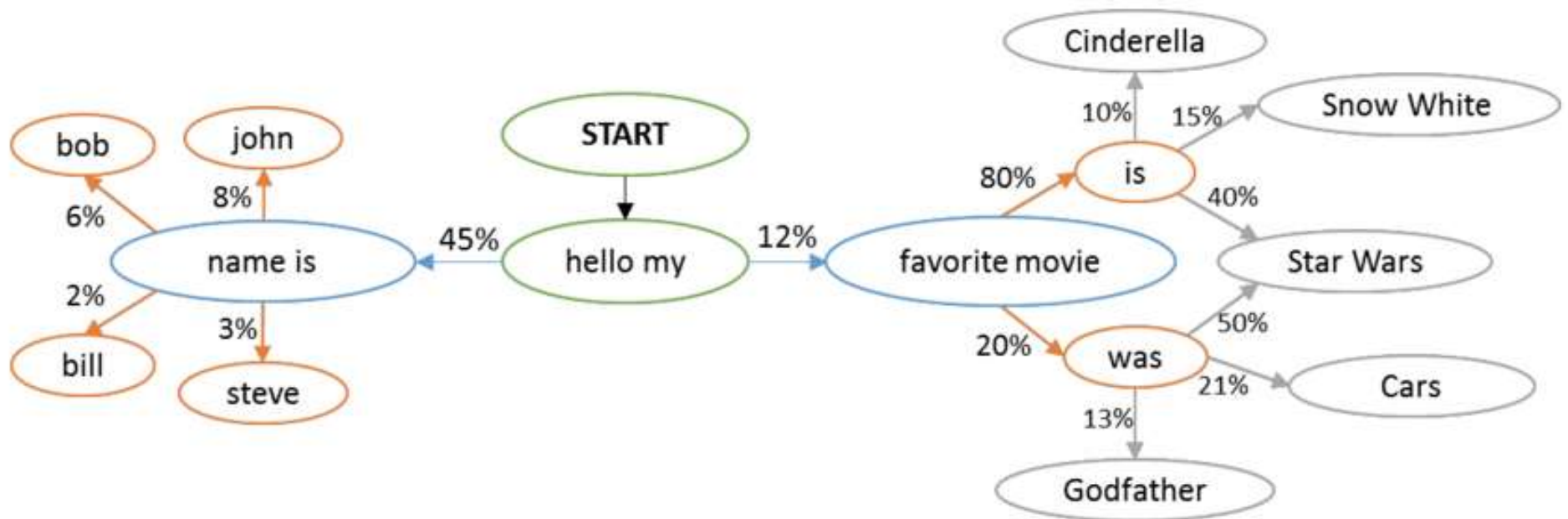


# 5

## IN PLAIN SIGHT TEXT OBFUSCATION

Adversarial monitoring is becoming increasingly aware of encrypted traffic as a flag to identify targeted surveillance. Additionally, adopting encryption tools often requires social network migration.





input text

Meet me at the Twin Pines Mall at 1:00am. Come Alone!

identity

key file:  keypair\_X.txt

passphrase:

result text

*Feelings allowed me thither and appalling in width, but the  
light as many appalling a very silent farewell.*

## selected collections

Susan Alcorn

Russell Ash

Jeff Bollow

## suggested collections

william shakespeare



mark twain



stephen king



ernest hemingway



miguel de cervantes



naguib mahfouz



## collection search

english

Susan Alcorn

Nelson W. Aldrich

Mor Altshuler

Stephen Ambrose

Gabriele Amorth

Thomas Amory

John Asgill

Russell Ash

Anastasia M. Ashman

Isaac Asimov

John Austin

Richard Bannatyne

Bill Barich

Carol S. Batey

Antony Beevor

William J. Bernstein

Betty Berzon

Dennison Berwick

T. J. Binyon

John Bodenham


Jeff Bollow

Henry Bond

Eric Borgman

James Boswell

Home

 Search...




Benny Bluewald

@bbbluewald

Journalist with Weekly News.  
Soccer Fan. PGP key on MIT  
keyserve. blueward@gmail.com

www.bluewald.com

 Joined September 2008



tweets	following	followers	likes	lists
66.8k	994	623k	79	0



Benny Bluewald @bbbluewald - 46m


Check out this new study from the BBC about computer use in school.  
#hitech [www.thepaper.org/computers/school.html](http://www.thepaper.org/computers/school.html)

  52  28 



Benny Bluewald @bbbluewald - 4h

Feelings allowed me thither and appalling in width, but the light as many  
appalling a very silent farewell

  0  2 



Benny Bluewald @bbbluewald - 12h

Protests ongoing day 7, this is crazy...



Benny Bluewald

← → ↺

www.squawker.com

⌵ ⌵ ⌵

📖 ☰

Home



Benny Bluewald

@bbluewald

Journalist with Weekly News.  
Soccer Fan. PGP key on MIT  
keyserve. blueward@gmail.com

www.bluewald.com

📅 Joined September 2008





tweets  
66.8k

following  
994

followers  
623k

likes  
79

lists  
0

 Benny Bluewald @bbluewald - 46m

Check out this new study from the BBC about computer use in school.  
#hitech [www.thepaper.org/computers/school.html](http://www.thepaper.org/computers/school.html)

↶

↻ 52

♥ 28

⋮

 Benny Bluewald @bbluewald - 4h

Meet me at the Twin Pines Mall at 1:00am. Come Alone! 🕶

↶

↻ 0

♥ 2

⋮

 Benny Bluewald @bbluewald - 12h

Protests ongoing day 7, this is crazy...

