GEOG701 Annotated Bibliography

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1. Monarrez and Chien (2021)

This paper evaluates ethnic and racial compositions of neighboring schools to find discontinuities. The question is to what extent do neighboring schools segregate their populations and school resources (such as staffing). The authors find over 2000 pairs of neighborhoring schools that are vastly different from each other in ethnic composition and resources, suggesting that school attendance boundaries (SABs) are drawn in ways that amplify segregation, intentionally or otherwise. They link existing inequalities to those created by the New Deal's Home Owners' Loan Corporation redlining policies using historical maps. While they use SABs extensively, they source their data privately, rather than using the public School Attendance Boundary Survey.

2. Saporito and Van Riper (2016)

This paper contextualizes the 'school attendance zone' or 'school attendance boundary' (SAB) as a concept in education research and demography. The authors establish the benefits of diverse schools and argue that the drawing of SABS is one of the best tools available to administrators to increase diversity. They explore the causation and wy directionality of segregation in neighborhoods in schools, considering the 'regularity' of school catchment zones, meaning if the zone is square/rectangular/compact or irregular/large/amorphously drawn, and show that the more irregularly drawn (i.e. not rectangular) shapes contribute to school diversity. Compact, rectangular SABs tend to mirror the demographic makeup of the overall city, meaning that a grid of SABs will simply reproduce the existing segregation in the city. SABs which are 'gerrymandered' to be sprawling and irregular can draw students from across different ethnic neighborhoods in the city, resulting in a more diverse school. The thesis of this paper is that segregation in schools is largely driven by segregation patterns in the local residential areas, though this not a universally agreed upon pathway. They develop measures of irregularity, including concavity, convex hulls, and Polsby-Popper. As well, they calculate spatial clustering and absolute diversity measures for race/ethnicity. Shape comparisons are made to US congressional districts and find that on average, school catchments are mostly regular, but that some are very irregular. The major finding of this paper is that the irregularly shaped catchments are almost always more diverse than the compact catchments. They use the 2009 SABINS database to show that this pattern largely holds, that irregularly drawn SABs almost always have diverse schools.

3. Rey et al. (2011)

This paper is concerned with advancing the study of spatial dynamics of neighborhoods, as opposed to neighborhood composition; i.e. spatial boundaries of a neighborhood vs. the people that live within it. The authors argue that while both are critical for understanding neighborhood change, the study of spatial boundaries is vastly underinterrogated compared to neighborhood composition. The framework presented ivolves regionalizing census tracts (using a Max-P algorithm) in Metropolitan Statistical Areas for two time periods and then investigating 22 neighborhood characteristic variables from census. Results were examined in the regionalized study area (neighborhoods) and at the /a priori/ level (tracts). The findings suggest that higher density, smaller land area, and more centrally located (centrality) neighborhoods tend to experience the highest degree of change.

4. Fu (2020)

This article asks Q1: Which disciplines are most quantitively interact with geography for the purpose of advancing sustainability science; Q2: How to best promote geograpic sciences in transdisciplinary methodologies /public policly/, /urban planninging/. The author collect data on frequencies of 11 words that appear with "geography" + "sustainability" in titles, keywords, and abstracts in publications of the ISI Web of Science from 2010 to 2019. The resulting associations between geography, sustainability are orgazied along different dimmensions, such as research objects, policy areas, and modelling methodology. The author then theorizea and describes 5 distinct spheres of research that geographers could pursue to advance the use of geographical methods into sustainability studies: Geographical processes, Ecosystem services and human wellbeing, Human-Environmental Systems, Sustainable development, and Geo-data and models for sustainability.

5. Thatcher et al. (2016)

This article contributes to theoretical understanding of the role of big data in capitalist production. Through End User License Agreements and myrriad smart devices and sensors, technology firms collect and aggregate data in a way that resembles David Harvey's Accumulation by Dispossession. Individual data points are abstracted away from the "lifeworld" and algorithmicly processed to generalize and predict purchasing and consumption patterns. "Social norms, aesthetic pleasures, and perceived values encourage the use of an increasing array of technologies equipped with

sensors that quantify and then communicate data about previously private times and places to third-party actors." This process is termed "data colonialism," to contrast with the framing of technological advancements as "digital frontierism." Further investigation in this area for me is the role of big data in the "filtering" of news and personal information feeds from the basis of the aggregated digital identities created by dispossed data.

6. Crampton (2015)

This paper provides a study of the complications of the technological advancement of big data. It draws primarily from examples of consequences drawn from the US Intelligence Agencies (IC) and are primarily divided into two categories: (geo)privacy and algorithmic security. "Big data are a matter of technologic /practices, epistimologies, and ontologies/." The article provides a detailed summary of key facts about the IC revealed by the Snowden documents; personel, budgets, specific operation details, and entertains the legal arguments surrounding things like bulk surveillance and 'incidental collection'. The author argues that corporate activities actively extend the state by increasing its reliance on the private sector; government purchases data, underwrites research, funds operations that increase government's depth of view. The paper touches on uses of big data by the government for warfare, particularly with drones in the war on terrorism. The author provides avenues for future research: Better histories of development of geospatial IC, better accounting for IC operations, better encryption and legal protections (informed consent about government surveillance.

7. Laniyonu (2018)

This article presents an empirical analysis of the post-industrial policing hypothesis by operationalizing gentrification and applying spatial Durban models in New York City between 2010 and 2014. Spatial Durbin models an outcome of interest as a function of endogenous interaction effects, direct effects, and exogenous interaction effects. Effects are modelled based on differing theories to explain the spatial variation of policing, including rational-beauracratic theory, and conflict theory; racial threat, economic threat. Initial analysis yields support for all of these theories - Effectively, the Durbin modelling reveals that gentrification in a given tract is very strongly associated in increases in policing in neighboring tracts, but negatively associated in itself. As well, these effects vary with the extent of gentrifiation that has occurred - the author distinguishes between tracts inelligable for gentrification, tracts elligable, and post-gentrified tracts. These findings support the notion that police are utilized to drive undesired persons from a given area to make it more ammenible to the in-moving richer, whiter population. The poorer, darker population is corralled and heavily policed in adjacent tracts. Police ramp up their postindustrial policing practices in areas known to be undergoing change (i.e. experienced influx of 'undesirable' people).

8. Sampson et al. (1997)

This article is a study of the correlates of violent crime across varried neighborhood contexts, using the Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods dataset; the census tracts of which were regionalized into neighborhood clusters. The basic hypothesis is that collective efficacy, and through it informal social control, can explain the variation of violent crime across neighborhoods. Things like duration of tenacy and homeownership matter more than economic stratification or demographic factors (race). The methodology involves a hierarchical model of variations within persons, variations within neghborhoods, and variations between neighborhoods to get at correlates of social cohesion. After operationalizing collective efficacy, the author finds that collective efficacy is negatively related to violence in neighborhoods using regression modelings. Several additional tests were run to determine the extent that previous homicides, concentrated disadvantage, immigrant concentration and resident stability factor into violent crime, and found that collective efficacy was by far the largest effect. The results imply that collective efficacy can be meausured reliably at neighborhood scales and is relevant to the story of violent crime in Chicago neighborhoods. One major flaw of the study is that the operationalization of collective efficacy is done by collecting survey responses rather than actually observed.

9. Herring (2014)

This paper demonstrates a good deal of variation in large homeless encampments, and attempts to develop a typology. The study is the first to comparitavely examine variegated homelessness within a single analytical framework, consisting of 12 encampments across 8 municipalities on the west coast. The result is a topology of 4 kinds of encampments: /cooptation/, /accomodation/, /contestation/, and /toleration/. The author utlizes interviews with municipal administrators, non-profit actors, and the homeless residents, as well as living in the communities from a period fo 2009 to 2011. The typology reveals that the type of encampment is largely "co-structured by policies of the state and the adaptive strategies of homeless people and their allies in their particular urban context." This is clear by contrasting the aesthetics, purpose, and results of Portland's Dignity Villiage (accommodation) with the prison-like structure and restrictions of Ontario's THSA (co-optation). These two examples represent the 'legal' end of the typology. The illegal encampments range from serving an explicitly political goal of bringing awareness to homelessness (contested) to mirroring representations of condensed poverty, including the open-air drug markets (toleration). This paper should be considered in a continuum of post-industrial policing in service of capital. Underlying many of the findings in this paper are the facts that municipalities take these actions at the behest of landed residents and commercial interests.

10. Certomà (2020)

This paper is a review of a new concept called Digital Social Innovation (DSI), which refers to innitiatives that attempt leverage digital technologies to co-create solutions to a wide variety of social needs. DSI is associated with the development of "smart cites." The paper argues that a applying a critical geography lens to these initiatives could yield important perspectives about the power relationships involved. The author thus elaborates on 4 avenues of research that critical geographers should pursue. The suggested agenda starts with investigating DSI as networks of networks and deconstructing mainstream narratives about smart hyperconnected city in relation to the reproduction of capitalism. Are cities laboratories for technocratic governmental solutions? Are they incubators of citizen critical engagement or do they aid in the production of state and market power? This article is a little obtuse without any prior knowledge of some of the works referrenced. Further investigation: Manifesto for Digital Social Innovation (Chic 2020), Ind.ie, Mastodon, Digital Space (concept).

11. Andreasson and Rajah (2022)

This article demonstrates a system dynamics model to model the influence of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC, the conservative lobbying group) on American legislative process through their increased membership. The political science literature guiding the model suggests that a shift in governance to 'network governance' is causing a reduction of resources in public institutions via the creation of new institutions. New problems result in the creation of new institutions, which absorb resources away from the existing institutions. The model demonstrates 6 feedback loops that reinforce and increase ALEC membership and influence in the legislative process. The authors then employ scenario analysis, wherein several hypothetical situations (based on 'what if'-ing real events, i.e. corporate backlash after the Trayvon Martin killing was linked to ALEC) are evaluated against a baseline scenario. The explanations provided by the model make sense and are intuitive, but the data driving the model is mostly implied, and unclear - the specific driving points are unstated. ALEC is very secretive with its data and does not generally assist in this expose. I might consider more research on system dynamics methodology in the event I want to model political behavior.

12. Richardson et al. (2019)

This paper expands upon the term 'dirty data' to reflect the nature of data production in policing - derrived from corrupt and unlawful practices, and presents three case studies of police departments that were simulatniously under a consent decree or some other federal investigation while developing predictive policing systems. The idea is that these departments are under investigation as a result of their corrupt practices (including dirty data creation and utilization) while using those practices to inform their predictive systems. I read the Chicago section, which describes the Strate-

gic Subject List, which was both ineffective at its stated goal and entirley informed by the corrupt and biases practices that preceded it. The paper ultimately argues that dirty data exists systemically in the criminal justice system. The paper concludes with a brief, but concise discussion of the role of police as servants of capital (my interpretation), the dynamics of gentrification and the threat/consequences of unabatted use of dirty data in policing systems.

13. Batty (1997)

This paper is a widely cited typology of new frontiers created by the intersection of computers and geography. The author delineates and defines 3 distinct aspects of the digital world that are relevant to geography: cspace: the space within computers, cyberspace: the use of computers to communicate, and cyberplace - the infrastructure of the digital world. The author presents these aspects as interconnected and constantly influencing each other, along with the traditional concept of space/place. In this context, it seems that I would be interested most in cyberplace and the implications of its growth on public systems - how better systems can help improve society but more critically safeguarding against the dangers big data imply: the destruction of any concept of privacy or control over ones own life. The paper is relatively dated given the advance of technology in the previous two decades, and there is sure to be more recent works that I should investigate for any concrete phenomenon which might overlap with my research interests.

14. Speer (2016)

This paper describes and advances an argument for the right of the homeless to a 'right to the city', originally articulated by Lefebver in 1996 (?); effectively arguing for a more dignified life decoupled from capitalist commodification of housing and sanitation infrastructure. The article details the conditions endured by Fresno's homelessness community using interviews and visits to encampments over several months. There is a discussion of municipal policy to displace and dehumanize the homeless while refusing to consider ammeliorating the conditions on the ground, primarily waste and sanitation services. A lot of the paper has to do with accesss to bathrooms for bodily autonomy. Public defication, urination, bathing, love-making, is dehumanizing, but conditions are such that nobody wants to provide (pay for) a solution for preventing it, so instead it is mobilized to advance arguments for destoying encampments. This paper has heartbreaking accounts of destruction of makeshift homes and treasured posessions to advance the normative arguments presented.

15. DeWitt (2022)

This comment is a law review of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), in which the history of the evoluation of CEQA is described - the motivation, formulation, passage, and eventual mobilization and

weaponization of the legislation to block construction projects, particularly as it relates to housing. It also highlights 3 major ways that California has attempted to circumvent, weaken the blockade of CEQA, mostly through state legislation: SB540, AB70, and AB73. These leverage other mechanisms in the state, such as the Regional Housing Needs Assessment - if the municipality isn't within projections to meet the needs as defined by the RHNA, certain CEQA requirements, time constraints, etc. could be bypassed. Because these bills needed leglislative concessions to pass, such as requirements that developers pay workers prevailing wages, or that they bills fail to pass at all, they are largely inneffective for increasing the State's housing stock. The author concludes that solutions from within the stateare not viable, and that California should consider adopting policy fixes from other states: MA, MN, and NY, in ways that streamline the regulatory steps involved in housing development. These mostly involve trying to protect developments from frivolous or otherwise counterproductive CEQA lawsuits: removing anonymity, creating municipality-specific CEQA processes, enacting housing-friendly zoning statutes, and others. Ultimatly these are all subject to California's Supreme Court and have their own barriers. CEQA remains a impenetrable barrier for increasing the supply of housing in the state, seemingly in service of landed Capital to pursue commercial developments and upscale housing above multi-family dwellings, apartment buildings, and low income housing.

16. Kauppinen et al. (2022)

This article is an empirical investigation of the causes of segregation in schools in Helsinki, Finland. The study design uses the total population in the city and school catchment zones to create a regression discontinuty design to determine if national origin (operationalized as 'Western' vs 'Non-Western' is a causal factor in residential/neighborhood and school selection and driving segregation. Several distinctions can be made between school systems in Helsinki vs. the US, including the extent of privitization and charter schools that exist here but not there. Catchment boundaries are found to be a causal factor in intra-urban residental mobility. The results are stratified by income and household composition (single person, dual persons, dual persons with child under 7, dual persons with child over 7, etc. The greatest pronouncement of the boundaries as a causal factor in migration was found in high income people with children under school age: wealthy parents utilize their resources to select what they think are the better schools, determined by the share of non-western migrants and subsidized housing in the catchment zone.

17. Bernelius and Vilkama (2019)

This paper is an analysis of the two-way relationship between school catchment segregation and urban residential mobility in Helsinki, Finland. The city is an interesting case due to the (self-proclaimed) egalitarian nature of Nordic civic infrastructure - the quality of schools not only exceed those

in the US, but they are largely uniform across the city in quality and resources. The main finding of this paper is that despite the uniformity, urban mobility and segregation can be linked to parent's perceptions of school/neighborhood quality in the sense of demographic factors. The data demonstrates that while housing decisions are influenced by multiple factors, the catchment areas are linked to residential mobility patterns of native Finns in systematic ways: family mobility is higher when the child is not school-aged, but drops off dramatically once they are. Parents move to try to get the 'best' socioeconomic context for their children, and stop once the childs networks are being established.

18. Burrell and Fourcade (2021)

This article is a thorough reading of literature concerned with 'Big Data' and discusses the social implications of the various transformations caused. It takes a particularly marxist perspective by positing the rise of a new occupational class called the coding elite, who has consolidated power through technical control and therefore the digital means of production over the marginalized class: cybertariat

19. Florida (2003)

This article is generally exploring dynamics of social ties and social makeups in regional/city transformation and development. Florida is refuting claims about the importance of social capital, positing that in the modern era, people want quasi-anonymity and don't really want to live in ties that are invasive or prevent them from pursuing their own lives. He then lays out a theory of the creative class, a cadre of people that are educated and creative are the primary drivers of economic growth in cities and regions. The rest of the paper attempts to quantify three theories, ocial capital, human capital, and creative class, as being determinitive of the growth of a city. The general conclusion is that social capital is much less predictive than human capital, while creative class out-predicts them both. The paper is generally opaque in that these theories are quantified into indexes that the reader don't get to read, though the entire paper is generally an abstraction of his book, which presumably has more details. The creative class putting a high value on 'tolerance'. All of the concepts in this paper are not sufficiently defined for me to judge them on their merits due to this article being a summary of Florida's 2003 book, rise of the creative class.

20. Woods (2017)

Development Arrested is a seminal work that combines several methodologies to describe the history of development in the region known as the Mississippi Delta. The work is largely concerned with the power structures involved in the creation, action, and dissolution of administrative bodies in the region; but Woods also draws upon the development of culture in the region, and as such this book is also an epistomology of the blues, broadly defined.

Supporting articles: Isenberg et al. (2004), Tiefenbacher (2019)

21. Golumbia (2009)

The Cultural Logic of Computation presents a critique of the ideology that David Golumbia calls 'computationalism', which is the belief that computers and algorithms can and must underwrite the fundamental organization of society and the distribution of resources. The book begins by placing computationalism in relationship to the works of Noam Chomsky, who's works have largely redefined the field of linguistics. Golumbia argues that The implications of Chomsky lead to computationalism, which is most fulfilled and complete in an authoritarian state, rather than the leftist ideology that Chomsky publicly espouses. Eventually, the book moves to discuss computationalism in the context of global culture and the advancement of technology, and in particular the notion that computationalism is a logical extension of rational individualism which itself is often deployed to support neoliberal economic arrangements. The contrast between the communitarian ideal that computers are marketed to evoke and the reality that they are utilized to impose a top-down, anti-democratic, even authoritarian ideology is a recurring theme in the book.

- 22. Brazil et al. (2022) This article is a comparison of 5 different methodologies that can be used to measure opportunity (or lack thereof) in neighborhoods. The methods compared are: California: CalEnviroScreen 3.0 (CES), Child Opportunity Index 2.0 (COI), Low Income HousingTax Credit Opportunity Index (LIHTC), Opportunity Atlas, and the Regional Opportunity Index (ROI). The general disagreement between each of these indexes was more substantial in the higher opportunity areas in the state. The major take away from this study is that measuring opportunity for policy applications should not be performed in a one-size-fits-all capacity instead the measures taken should be carefully considered alongside the type of programs that are designed to be implemented. As well, low opportunity designations may carry a degree of stigma that could negate the programs being implemented, and the general disagreement at the high opportunity (lower income) end of the mapping suggests that these are sometimes applied more arbitrarily than it might seem.
- 23. Burdick-Will (2018) This paper tests two hypothesis regarding the 'placeness' of elementary schools: first that parents of students will report stronger ties to the friends and neighbors also attached to that school, and second that parents will shift the orientation of their percieved neighborhood boundaries in the direction of the school their child attends. These are tested using the Making Connections survey, which surveys 28 low-income schools in 10 cities. Importantly, the survey includes questions that require respondants to draw the physical boundary of their neighborhoods in relation to the location of the school. Results confirm both

- hypotheses, but the methods used to confirm H2 (drawing) are a bit confusing. I should return to this paper to evaluate the findings when I have a better understanding (and more time!)
- 24. Church and Murray (1993) This paper is responding to a model formulated by (Diamond and Wright, 1987), who were trying to optimize school closures and school utilization. Church and Murray show that the Diamond and Wright paper biased the closures of lower capacity schools, which would result in utilization problems across a district. A major problem with the original formulation is that it minimizes the deviation between open and closed schools, which leads to the closure of smaller schools, regardless of location, because it would lower average utilization rates. This leads to a discussion about school utilization rates more based in reality - a school is not optimally utilized at 100 percent capacity because the school needs to have some operating space for student fluctuation both during and in-between academic years. To adjust, Church and Murray add an additional constraint to the model, which accounts for deviation between only schools that remain open. The adapted model is then turned loose on a hypothetical (tov) dataset of 15 tracts and 5 schools. I must remember that I was 1-years-old when this paper came out so the computing power (which is boasted about in the paper) had significantly less capacity than it does now. Though the model is saled up to a larger dataset (200 tracts and 9 schools, unclear if it is a real area), the use of toy data for the model really detracts from its usefulness at this point in time due to the degree of assumptions it takes - particularly equallity in capacities and racial balances
- 25. Gubits et al. (2018) This paper is an analysis about different approaches to addressing homelessness. It specifically wants to understand if long term housing assistance is more effective relative to other, less generous policies. The study employes over 2000 families across 12 sites and models effectiveness between transitional housing, short term housing subsidies, and long term housing subsidies. The long term interventions resulted in fewer instances of homelessness, food insecurity, and other indicators of well-being at a cost that was on average 9 percent higher than other interventions. As well, the model indicated that the less generous interventions have little effect on these metrics.
- 26. Healy (2017) In his provocatively titled "Fuck Nuance, Kieran Healy describes three kinds of 'nuance traps' that are common in sociology, some of which are applicable to my work. Most of these have to do with understanding that nuance is not a replacement for theory, that having a high resolution model with tons of data points is largely useless without a theoretical principle to guide hypothesis. Ultimatley, this paper argues for more rigorous investigations of theories that guide research in a effort to make them more robust. An underrated part of Healy's writing is how he describes the role of an academic in the public age. In particular he

- argues that to the extent possible, sociologists should participate in public debates and posit their theories on social media (he recommends twitter), but cautions the various traps that are innevitable in this participation.
- 27. Herring (2019) This article demonstrates a turn in the orientation of policing towards 'quality of life' complaints against the homeless. These complaints stem from a massive increase in "anti-social behavior" laws across the United States (probably as a result of an increase in the homeless population. These include bans on camping, sleeping in public, loitering, living in vehicles, and more. On average, cities in California have 9 anti-homeless laws (LA and SF have 21 and 24). This article contains a plethora of qualitative work that describes the formulation of anti-homelessness policy and reactions from municipalities, including the 'shuffling' of poverty around the city, and the privelidging of high impact areas (such as near where city officials live). Its primary data source is a hoard of 311 calls. See the vignette at the start of the article: "We're playing a massive game of whack-a-mole... I get it, but where are they supposed to go?"
- 28. Leckie (2009) This UK article explores the relationships of pupil mobility to academic acheievment. The author argues that even advanced modeling techniques fail to acknowledge that various moves during a student's academic career can impact achievement. Unsurprisingly, the author finds that moving during school is negatively associated with academic performance, though the strength of this effect is dependent on the timing of these moves. A major finding is that a strong primary school effect (finishing the entirety of primary school in one location) has positive lasting effects on academic performance. This augments rather than contradictions previous findings that secondary schools were the more important as the author still finds strong effects.
- 29. Murray (2000) This paper presents and analyzes the differences between two clustering models: the Interaction Clustering Problem (ICP) and the Median Clustering Problem (MCP). ICP is much more sensitive to the functional quality of cluster groupings than is the MCP. That is, when an MCP grouping is evaluated as an ICP, it always results in a functional difference that is greater than when an ICP grouping is evaluated as an MCP. There are large and numerous occurrences of functional dissimilarity between evaluated clusters for ICP. The use of the MCP to approximate the ICP resulted in clusters which were as much as 46 percent less efficient therefore, for [[exploratory spatial data analysis]] and GIS applications dealing with interaction more generally, The ICP should be preferred.
- 30. Owens et al. (2016) This collaboration of segregation scholars is an investigation of income segreation dynamics in schools and school districts. By combining Census and CCD (school) data, they investigate trends of these dynamics through . The general finding is that income segregation increased from 1990 to 2010 by about 17 percent with 28 percent

- STD. This paper is useful for its thorough evaluation of different factors that could be independent variables in regression modeling in the school-neighborhood nexus, as well as a formulation of Rank Order Index (Reardon2011) to model segregation. This is a good one to review for a general understanding of the dynamics of school segregation since 1990.
- 31. Takahashi et al. (2002) This paper presents an analysis of 8 semistructured interviews with homeless women with children in Orange County to determine to what extent their status as parents coincides with the stigmitization of homelessness as a major barrier to reentery. A takeaway from this article is that despite the fact that all participants were employed and housed, they reported that their status as homeless was constantly reinforced by family, friends, and social workers, in ways that resulted in shame, which they cited as reasoning for not enrolling in services or benefits that might have aided them. These interviews were performed in 1998 however culture around homelessness services and the transitional housing from which the respondents were recruited may have shifted.
- 32. Williams (1961) This is an essay that was originally published in Raymond William's 1961 book that I originally read in my undergraduate Media and Cultural studies program. It is a narrative history of the development of the advertising industry that I associate with the family of cultural critics; chomksy, adorno and horkheimer, stuart hall, gramsci, etc. The rage in the quote from losing yet another public space to advertising is reflects the general feeling of dread and disappointment that I get from recalling watching the internet develop over time. the internet experience grew from the mysterious place I used to play browser games and chat with my friends over AIM as a kid into this thing that is supposed to represent humanity's' salvation but has just become an unnavigable deluge of advertising, data farming, third-party-isms and EULAs.

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