

BlackLandscapesMatter

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Observation

The racial hierarchy in the United States has been prominent since its genesis. African-Americans especially have been murdered often without the presence of real threat or probable cause. A spike in murders of African-Americans by law enforcement in the mid-2010's lead rise to the BlackLivesMatter movement.

Problem

The primary visual tools to communicate these murders were live footage or photographs. Because the murders took place at different times and locations, there was a conceivable visual disconnection. Despite the media attention, I could not find any maps or spatial datasets to supplement the discourse.

Scope of Project

For my honours senior thesis, I made a modest atlas of the BlackLivesMatter movement. The project will display maps about and relevant to the BlackLivesMatter movement. While the purpose is to have usable, open source maps for the movement, the greater purpose is to show the spatial significance of African Americans in the United States.

A total of 5 maps was the expectation for the project. The maps were to both print/static and interactive, web based maps.

There were no financial costs for this research.

Uncertainties

- Data availability
- Data accuracy from federal, state and local news sources
- Clarity of contribution instructions

Goals

- Surface spatial connections about the murders and reactions of African-Americans
- Create an open source project for others to contribute to

User Profile

There are two types of users this project is targeting: readers and contributors. Both types of users have the same two goals: to view the maps and to share the maps. Someone is considered a user if they read the article and viewed the maps. The primary difference between the users is their coding experience.

A **reader** is someone who views the map(s).

- Age range: 16 – 26
- Education level: Highly educated, Bachelors or in progress
- Coding experience: None to little
- Interests: race, media, news

A **contributor** is someone who contributes to the map(s).

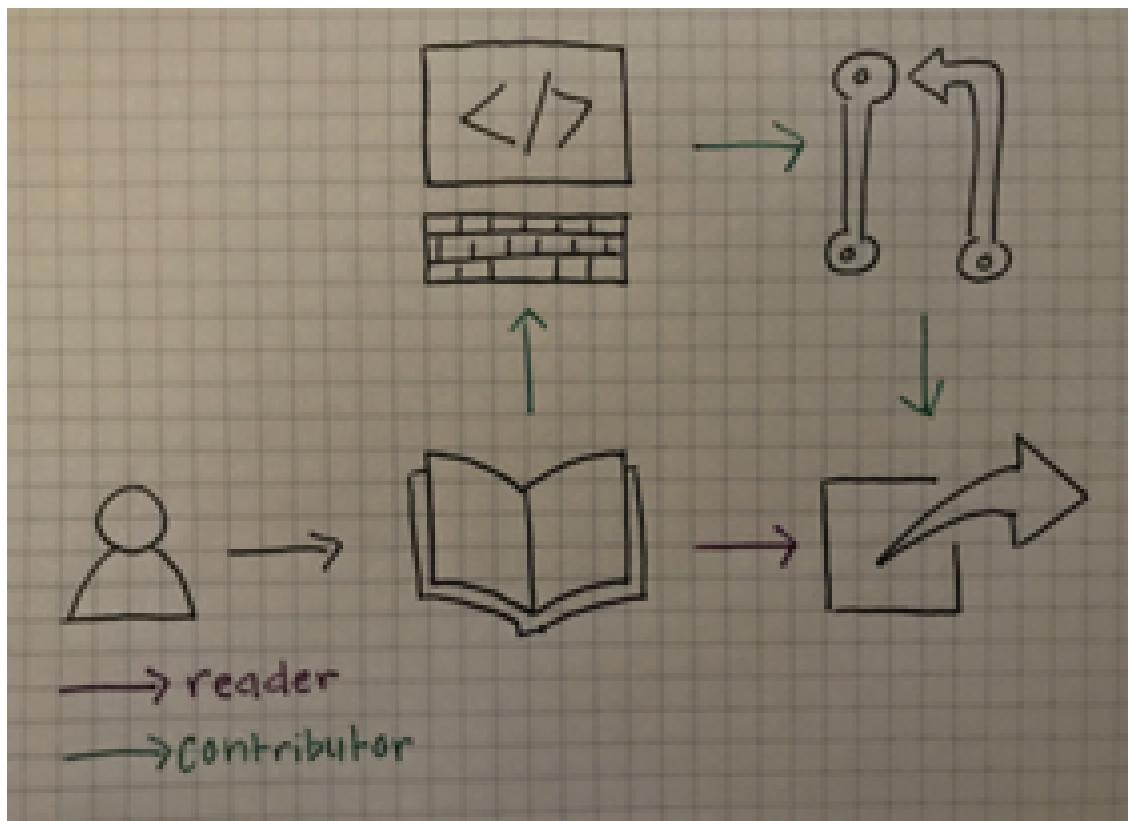
- Age range: 18 – 26
- Education level: Highly educated, Bachelors or in progress
- Coding experience: Little to years
- Interests: race, media, news, open source, programming

User Journey

The journeys are different based off the type of user.

A **reader's** call to action for readers is to share to the article.

A **contributor's** call to action is to add to the project, submit it for review via a pull request to the open source repo and finally share the work.



Results

5 maps were created and shared. 3 are print and 2 are interactive web maps. The print maps are about murders, protests and the school to prison pipeline. The two web maps are about murders and protests and Twitter response to the events.



Anguish Assembly

