

Feminist Cartographies

Designing feminist map icons

Introduction

Feminist cartographies can be defined as the (often) visual expression of spatial information that intentionally and explicitly addresses questions of power, inequality, representation, and ethics. A map may be feminist in terms of content, form, and/or process. In this activity, you will create your own feminist maps beginning with icon design. Using feminist data visualization principles and Maki icons from Mapbox as inspiration, you will design new, alternative icons digitally or by hand!

Feminist Data Visualization Principles (D'Ignazio and Klein 2016)

- Rethinking binaries
- Embracing pluralism
- Examine power and aspire to empower
- Consider context and subjectivity
- Representing Uncertainty
- Legitimize embodiment and affect
- Make labor visible

Goal: Use feminist data visualization principles to design alternative icons!

Directions

Step 1: Pick an icon and think about its limitations. How can the icon be improved through a feminist lens?

Step 2: Drawing on feminist data visualization principles (above), iteratively redesign the icon. Keep your sketches and drafts.

Step 3: Reflect on your designs in writing and annotate your sketches!

For example, what icon are you working with? Which feminist data visualization principles are you drawing on? How does your icon improve the original design? When would you use your icon and what are the limitations/advantages of your design?



baseball



basketball



bicycle
share



circle



circle
stroke



clothing



college



cricket



dentist



doctor



entrance



golf



hairdresser



heart



lodging



marker



pitch



playground



police



shop



skiing



soccer



square



square
stroke



star



star
stroke



suitcase



swimming



tennis



theater



toilet



triangle



triangle
stroke



wheelchair