# Legal Research in the Age of Black Lives Matter

Understanding algorithmic bias & dismantling structural racism



Southerners: The slaves should count for population for representatives
Slaves: So does that mean we're people not property?
Southerners:

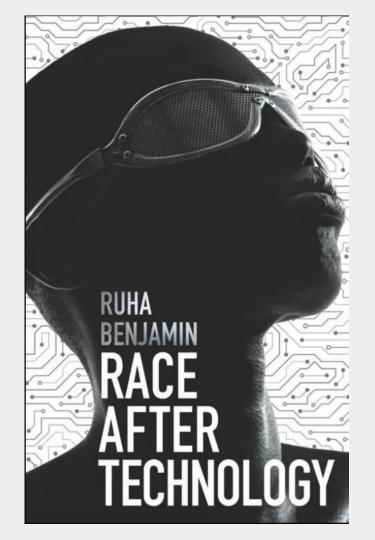






The "New Jim Code"

the use of big data and algorithms in ways that deepen existing inequality and further entrench them











### PREDICTIVE POLICING







The Allegheny Family Screening Tool

Predictive Risk Modeling in Child Welfare in Allegheny County

# Critically examining machine learning algorithms

algorithms are tools that are

developed in a particular environment

for a particular purpose



## Recipe for Machine Learning Algorithms

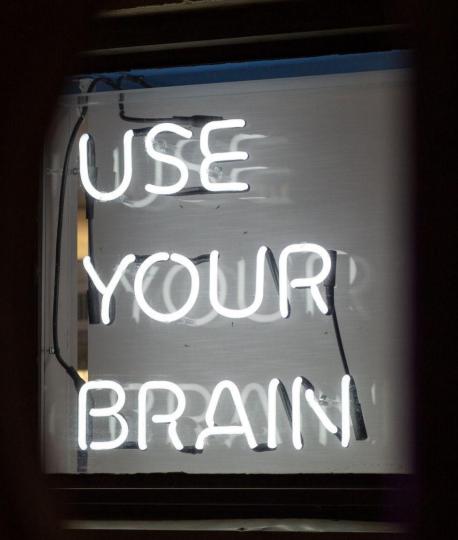
- 1) Tidy data
- 2) Choose a <statistical> model
- 3) Process your data (extract/convert/transform variables, i.e. stemming)
- 4) Sample: choose testing & training datasets→ measure the fit of the model
- 5) Tune parameters: tweak models/metrics
- 6) Bundle the steps into a workflow and
- 7) Predict!



Get friendly with data by learning to talk to computers in the language(s) they understand.









### Contact

Sarah Lin

Information Architect & Digital Library @RStudio, PBC

sarah@rstudio.com

Twitter: @sarahemlin

Website: <a href="http://sarah.rbind.io">http://sarah.rbind.io</a>

"What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."

--Jane Goodall

