Week 3 Position Paper: Politics and Data Exploitation

1. Do you think that Cambridge Analytica and Facebook behaved in an ethical manner?
2. Comment on the behavior of **Alexander Nix**, and the employees at Cambridge Analytica. Were they behaving ethically and professionally? Provide examples.
   1. Nix - Lied to parliament
3. Was the whistleblower, **Christopher Wylie**, behaving ethically to release the information? What does he mean that **data was being weaponized**?
4. Did Facebook behave ethically and responsibly regarding **allowing access to users’ data** and their later claims regarding deletion of the data?
5. How is data collection and political advertising being used in **political campaigns** to influence outcomes? Are we being manipulated?

Manipulation: Yes, refer to David Weigel quote in notes under Carole Cadwalladr page.

1. **"Data has surpassed oil as the world’s most valuable asset, and it is being weaponized to wage cultural and political wars."  Brittany Kaiser - former business development director for Cambridge Analytica**

Do you agree with **Brittany Kaiser**’s quote as detailed above? Explain your opinion.

1. Are you concerned about similar unethical influences having been used during future elections? Explain.
2. What implications does data manipulation as exhibited by Cambridge Analytica have for the future of democracy and civil society? Are you concerned about this?

* Feels like “The Great Hack” is kind of one layer deeper in the propaganda campaign
* Who’s really at fault, Cambridge Analytica or Facebook? The people who used the data, or the people who didn’t protect it?
  + Is it really their fault? Or is it our own fault, since we freely give our data away?
    - Who hold’s the responsibility for data safety?
      * The creator of that data?
      * The platforms who create this data as a consequence of the services they provide?
      * The organizations seeking out the data?