
Rethinking Tech-utopias: A Feminist Take on the Digital

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August 17, 2018

— The analytical lens

- **The politics of feminism** in the digital context is intertwined with the discourse of digital rights
- Rights are not a neutral tool for the protection of individuals, but themselves a vehicle of governance and domination.
- Open up or circumscribe possibilities and so, are key sites of establishing hegemony
- Dominant digital rights discourses reflect certain political ideologies and normative visions of society.. and thus shape feminist politics

— Four critical conjunctures

**The freedom
turn**

**The choice
turn**

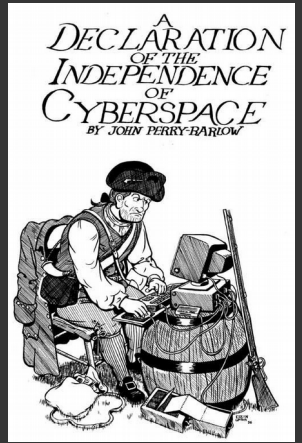
**The
intelligence
turn**

**The ethics
turn**

1. The freedom turn

Californian ideology in the 1990's

“We are creating a world where anyone, anywhere may express his or her beliefs, no matter how singular, without fear of being coerced into silence or conformity. Your legal concepts of property, expression, identity, movement, and context do not apply to us. They are all based on matter, and there is no matter here.”



Feminist vision of the cyborg

- a liminal being that transgresses gender stereotypes with its own subjectivity

in *Simians, Cyborgs and Women, Reinvention of Nature*, 1991



Donna Haraway

A Cyborg Manifesto

Uneasy confluences...



Internet Freedom in foreign policy

Google - Internet censorship as trade barrier

Women and the digital divide - liberty meets the market



2. The choice turn

.. in the late 2000's, the web was morphing into an ad-stream



Instead of being an interconnected set of websites, the Internet is now comprised of a collection of disconnected mobile apps. From a sociological point of view, we see a shift ..
.. diversity and interconnectivity, archivability and durability, searchability and openness, and decentralisation were dominant values. Now newness and popularity are dominant values

- Hossein Derakhshan



... And some queer activists seem to believe that Western sexual rights campaigns will somehow trickle down into our post-colonial communities and have a positive impact.

They take hope in young millennials, digital natives who have grown up more liberal-minded, speaking a 'universal' Internet coolness language that has transgressed boundaries.

Remember: our project for queer liberation is bound with a resistance of colonialism and capitalism. Theirs is not.

— Epoch-defining revelations



Arguing that you don't care about the right to privacy because you have nothing to hide is no different than saying you don't care about free speech because you have nothing to say

– Edward

Snowden

Privacy and the right to personal data



Service Skill India

Digital Wellness & Cyber Security Course must for every VLE!!!

Digital Wellness & Cyber Security course through the platform

Intel cyber security ये सर्विस आप को करदेगी मालामाल बहुत अच्छा कमिशन मिल रहा है जाणणे के लिये देखिये ये विडिओ

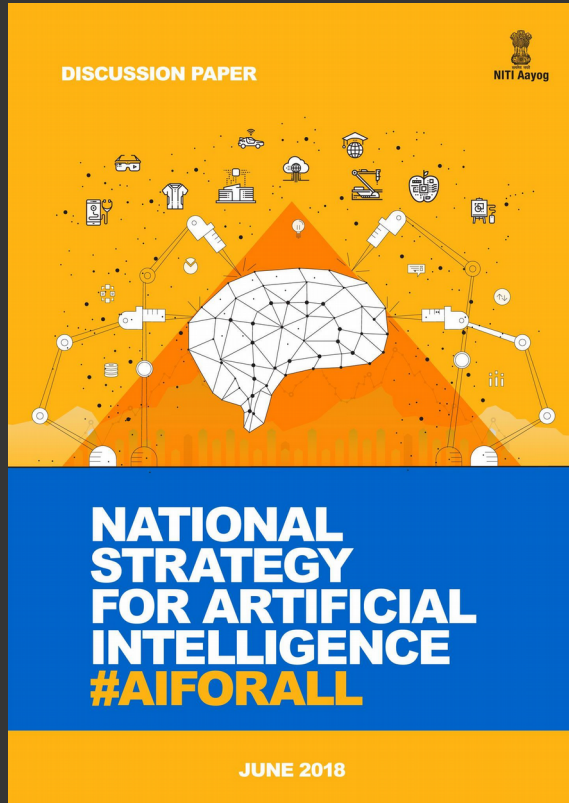
A promotional slide for a "Digital Wellness & Cyber Security Course". The slide features the Service logo and Skill India logo at the top. The main text is in Hindi, stating that the course is mandatory for every VLE and that Intel Cyber Security offers a high commission. The background is yellow with black text.

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3. The intelligence turn

Click to add Title

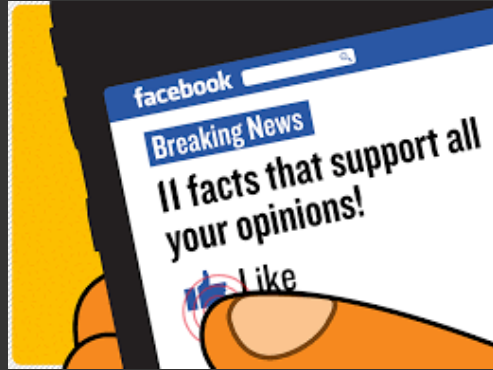
A new economy and future - with AI



New opportunity or neo-colony?



Algorithms and erosion of the public



Social movements learn the social media game

Filter bubbles and unconversations

Encoding discrimination

4. And now, the ethics turn

The truth that was always fake - Cambridge Analytica



Google

Rules

1. I do what I want.

2. See Rule 1

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- **The strange case of corporate self regulation**
-
- **The ethics whitewash**
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**A particular form of identity politics is
admissible**

**Body politics antagonistic to digital capital
erased**

How should we recover political feminism?

Thank you