

Feminist Tech Initiatives;

where feminists craft Technologies of One's Own

Is technology

...magic?



A dangerous meme



Shutterstock image for "tech" & "software"

The spectacle of “high-tech”;

binaries: expert/user ~ producer/consumer



Announcing Amazon Web Services DeepComposer

The male geek;

a stereotype that feeds on itself



Big Bang Theory characters



Vacancy for software developer

Autonomy or Dependency?

Who is being served?

The importance of being dependent;

who is funding Tech Research?



Jeffrey Epstein with MIT Professor Marvin Minsky

Call for action;

“actively take steps to change the power dynamics”



danah boyd ✓
@zephoria



Last night, I was honored by the @EFF. As I reflected on what got me to this place, I realized I needed to reckon with how I have benefited from men whose actions have helped uphold a patriarchal system that has hurt so many. Here is my acceptance speech:

medium.com/@zephoria/faci...



Hackerspaces;

where people are more than just consumers and users



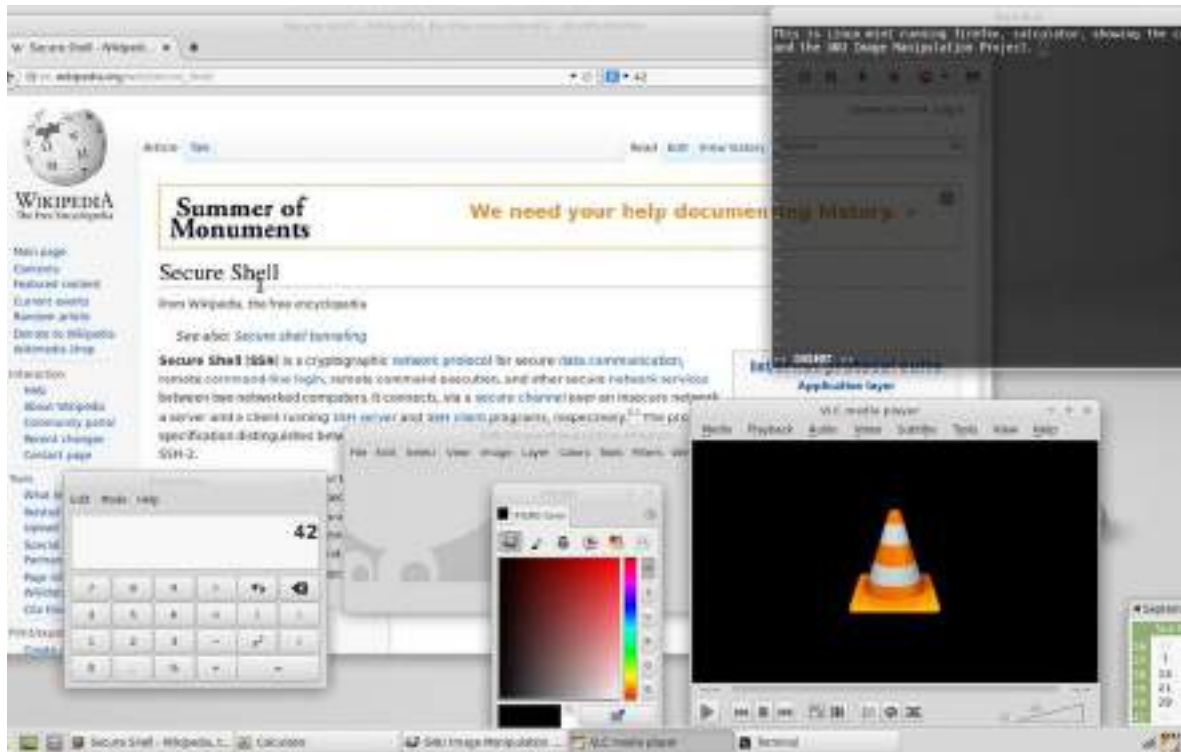
Hackerspace in Helsinki



Hackerspace in Athens

F/LOSS movements;

claim the right to use, study, modify and share software



Linux Mint (Ubuntu) Xfce desktop environment, VLC, GIMP, VIM, Calculator, Calendar and Firefox.



Fosdem conference 2019

Commons & Communities;

political resistance & activism



Gender diversity in Tech and F/LOSS;

The New York Times

The Gender Gap in Computer Science Research Won't Close for 100 Years

New report examines sexism in the workplace

Women in tech: Have you faced gender-based discrimination?

August 26, 2019 | Sarah Schlothauer

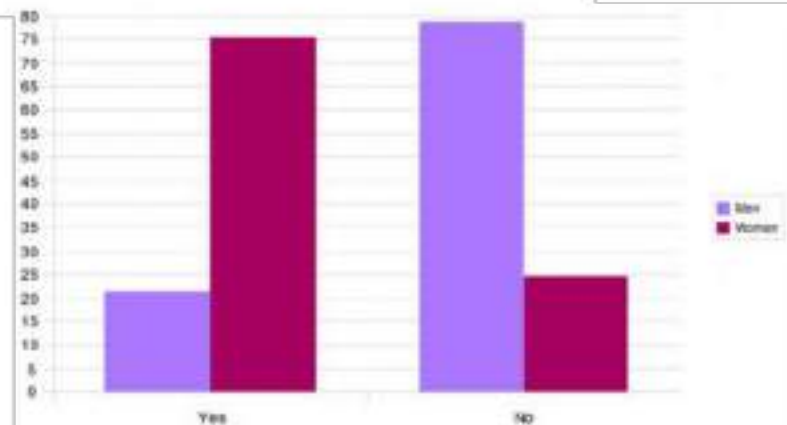
Why are women leaving technology jobs?

July 31, 2019 | Georgina Varley

Glue work, lack of role models, and childcare costs were just a few of the topics discussed at our Elephant in the Room session. Let's take a closer look...

KLINT FENLEY BUSINESS 06.02.17 07:00 AM

Diversity in Open Source Is Even Worse Than in Tech Overall



Regarding the FLOSS community as a whole, have you ever observed discriminatory behaviour against women?

Documenting gender exclusions;

creation of collective memory

Geek Feminism Wiki

GEEK FEMINISM HIGHLIGHTS → NEW TO FEMINISM? → EXPLORE →

In: *Incidents*

Timeline of incidents

This is a timeline of sexist incidents in geek communities including:

- Technology industry
- Free and open source software
- Gaming
- Comic Book Fandom
- Science Fiction Fandom
- Universities
- ... and more

Ada Initiative

Supporting women in open technology and culture

2011-2015

Continue supporting women in open technology and culture



Co-founders Mary Gardiner and Valerie Aurora

Main points;

1. Dependency in a Tech Industry whose main goal is ever-growing profit

2. Hackerspaces & F/LOSS open up the access and engagement with technological knowledge and practices

3. Gender gap, exclusions and sexist incidents in Tech Industry as well as in F/LOSS

/ETC;

a Feminist international Tech event

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Open Call for contributions

Eclectic Tech Carnival 2019

8 - 13 October in Athens, Greece

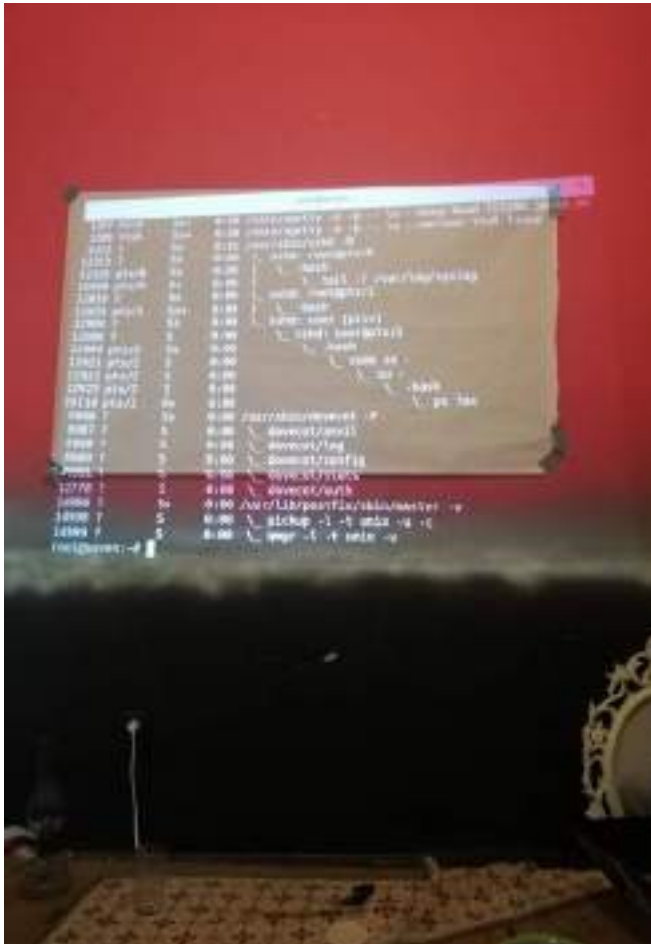
Halt and Catch Fire

/ETC is a gathering of feminists, who critically use/study/share/improve everyday information technologies in the context of the free software and open hardware movements. We have a feminist approach that expands the hack meetings' reflection on politics with an intersectionalist point of view. The next /ETC will take place in Athens, Greece, from 8. till 13. of October 2019.



/ETC;

discussions and tutorials



Mail Servers & Delta Chat



Data on a map, using leaflet

/ETC;

workshops and performances



Hardware crash course



Role-playing performance

Potential of Feminist Tech initiatives;

1. to raise awareness ~ diversity and inclusivity in tech

2. to re-politicise technologies ~ practice and critique

3. to amplify feminist narratives ~ protect feminist work

Project Proposal;

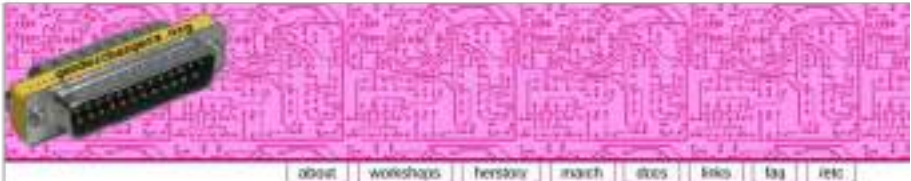
1. interviews of participants in feminist tech projects;

2. testimonies of gender exclusions in tech;

3. workshops about tools situated in feminist tech projects;

Interviews;

with women involved in feminist tech projects



Sleight Mirror Party - networked performance installation and workshop.



radio centraal streaming

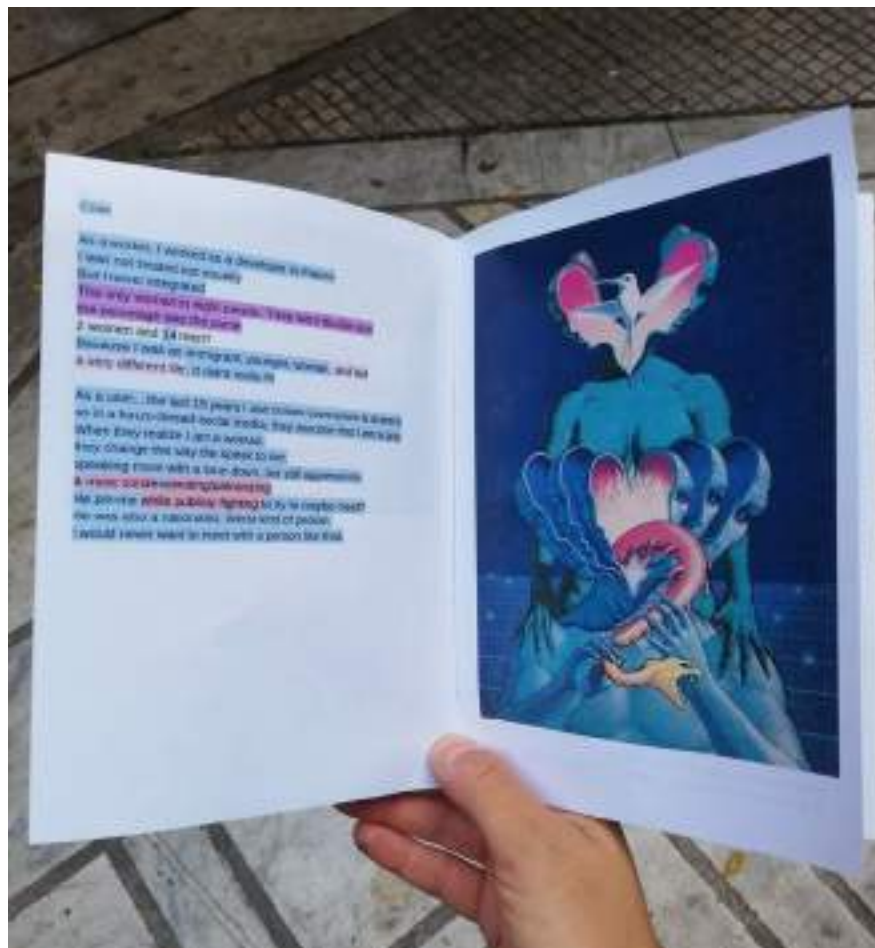


U kan hier live naar Radio Centraal luisteren (Flash vereist).



Testimonies;

sharing stories of gender exclusion in tech



B **I** **U** **S** [list of icons]

151 but we didnt want the university to say that
152 "they" where doing these workshops
153 In the end the workshop wasn't official (?),
154 so we we weren't paid for the workshop, only for the materials
155
156
157 **Bob**
158
159 In every environment, hackerspace, job
160 I always feel excluded
161 Even in a bar, if they have a technical conversation
162 they dont listen. It's like I'm not there
163 In jobs, they want to "hire" a woman,
164 but the things I was proposing...
165 they were saying --yea yea-- but they didnt do anything
166 there was no onboarding,
167 so it was hard to get into the workflows
168 zero communication, zero documentation to help me develop
169 I had a stalker in a physical political space -
170 we were talking about technology
171 I told him I am going in another continent
172 when I arrived there, I didn't feel welcome later I found out,
173 the stalker had gone there, and told some stories about me
174 I feel they dont understand what they are doing wrong
175 I was trying to "seem" more masculine
176
177
178 **open discussion**
179
188 I started to be less kind, authoritative in my speech
189 I started to be less kind, authoritative in my speech
190 I started to be less kind, authoritative in my speech
191 I started to be less kind, authoritative in my speech

Workshops;

research technologies situated in Feminist Tech groups

IRC [\[edit\]](#)

-Chat for everyday backstage communication during organising an event.

Δchat [\[edit\]](#)

-App for chatting over email; using the existing email server network.

GNU Mailman [\[edit\]](#)

-For managing electronic mailing lists.

Mastodon [\[edit\]](#)

-For self-hosted social networking services.

Wiki [\[edit\]](#)

-For documentation around feminist hack communities, gatherings etc.

Etherpad [\[edit\]](#)

-For real-time multi-authorship writing and editing.

Nextcloud [\[edit\]](#)

-For creating and using file hosting services.

Inkscape, GIMP, ImageMagick [\[edit\]](#)

-FiLOSS tools for design in order to create posters, stickers, flyers, zines.

Feminist server [\[edit\]](#)

-Infrastructure to resist

- Digital targeting of women, feminists, queer, people of colour etc.
- The centralisation of the Internet and its transformation to a consumption sanctuary and space for surveillance.
- The control and tracking of dissent voices by governments among others.

+++ Work in progress +++

Prototypes;

hackpacts & Py.rate.chnic session

Hack Pact [\[edit\]](#)

#H1_Setting up a Raspberry Pi as a Wireless Access Point [\[edit\]](#)

#H2_Install Etherpad on Raspberry Pi [\[edit\]](#)

#H3_Document a session of story-sharing and discussion using Etherpad [\[edit\]](#)

#H4_Fanzine making using Inkscape and Scribus [\[edit\]](#)

#H5_Create PDF booklet using a script [\[edit\]](#)

#H6_Gif making to capture the process collective writing in Etherpad [\[edit\]](#)



Cha Cha Chat [\[edit\]](#)



Rita & Artemis

Title [\[edit\]](#)

Cha Cha Chat: Chat about Chat, through an Internet Relay Chat :-)

Next steps;

1. continue interviews and transcriptions;

2. experiment with methods of publishing testimonies;

3. build the research group, find place for meetings;

Points to reflect;

How will this research become one publication?

What medium would fit for it?

Who would find this research useful?