



A FEMINIST PERSPECTIVE ON TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

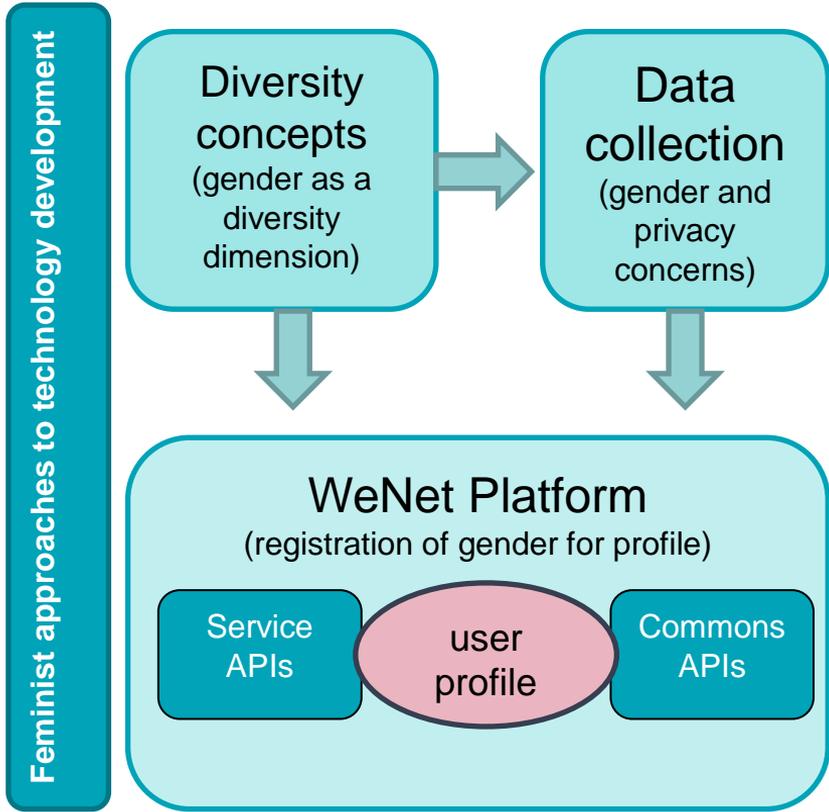
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Laura Schelenz

*International Center for Ethics in the Sciences and Humanities
University of Tübingen*

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GENDER ASPECTS IN WENET RESEARCH AND THE TECHNOLOGY

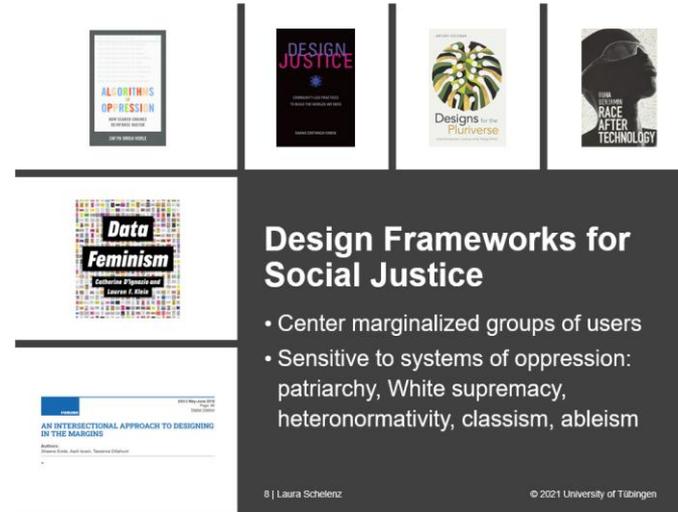
Feminist Technology Development

Gender as a category of power →
must be contextualized in its
application and analysis

Risk of reproducing gender bias
through historical data

“Data feminism asserts that data are not neutral or objective. They are the products of unequal social relations, and this context is essential for conducting accurate, ethical analysis.”

(D’Ignazio and Klein 2020: 18).



Schelenz 2021: Reducing Bias through Contextualization, *Presentation at BIAS, Leibniz Universität Hannover, 9 October 2021*

Schelenz 2022: *Artificial Intelligence Between Oppression and Resistance: Black Feminist Perspectives on Emerging Technologies. In Ariane Hanemaayer (Ed.): Artificial Intelligence and Its Discontents. Cham: Springer International Publishing (Social and Cultural Studies of Robots and AI), pp. 225–249.*

Black Feminist Technology Design



Safiya Umoja Noble 2018



Ruha Benjamin 2019



Sacha Costanza-Chock 2020



Sheena Erete 2021



Jakita O. Thomas 2018



Yolanda A. Rankin 2021

Ayanna Howard 2020



Diversity from a feminist perspective



“We live in a society that includes a population of people who are all similar yet "different" in how they move through this world, experience this world, and are perceived by others in this world”

Anderson and Middleton 2018: 1

Diversity as different positionalities; diversity-awareness as the acknowledgement of different positionalities in society

Diversity-aware technologies and feminist imaginaries



Hyphen Labs:
Neurospeculative
Afrofeminism

Designing with feminism in mind



Build ***diversity-aware technology*** = technology that takes into account the diversity of its users and is explicitly non-discriminatory.

- 1) Represent diverse users in datasets that are employed to build computer models but be aware of the social context of this technology.*
- 2) Self-reflect our possible biases as system designers and question the assumption we hold.*
- 3) Conduct diversity-awareness training in technology development teams.*

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THANK YOU!