The left and the anti-digital movement

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SPEAKERS

Ed Saperia, Dan Lewis, Gemma Copeland

Dan Lewis 00:11

Good evening. Welcome to the TWT 2020 session on the left and the anti digital digital movement. My name is Dan Lewis. And I am one of the organisers of The World Transformed also well known for when people are talking about how we strategize around an issue for shouting out digital digital because I believe that the future of what we do is digital. Now before we get started, I just need to run through a few quick little housekeeping rules. So, in regards to our general rules of engagement, we want everyone to feel welcome in these spaces, and for everyone's voices to be heard. So please bear this in mind when engaging with the chat or comment boxes during sessions. Please don't use inappropriate, rude or unkind language, and please don't spam. Participants who violate these principles may be prevented from further posting in the chat or comment box. Also, in this session, we will be using a live transcription service called Otter. Attendees using otter will have to follow a link and open the transcripts as a separate window. The link will be shared in the chat box by a tech volunteer Thank you Mark for all your hard work and Rory. And if you are having difficulties, please message the tech volunteer on the chat. Also, big shout out to our supporters network, TWT is free for all. But it's only made possible by the contributions of our supporters. If you are able to please consider supporting us at The World transformed.org forward slash support. And I'm sure Mark will be posting that in the chat throughout tonight's call. And I hope that as many of you as possible will click the link and become a supporter just like me. And that will help sustain our work all year round, which you can find more information about on the website, The World transformed.org. Now, moving into the session, I remember when I was you know, when I was born, I don't remember when I was born. But when I was young, that a computer in every home was a dream, mobile communications were for sci fi, and the TV was the closest thing to a video call that we'd ever imagined at that time? 30 years later? Yeah, I'm 30 now it's mad. And I can order any meal I want from a slab of glass in my hand that being an iPhone or whatever phone it is that I might want to use. My nine year old daughter chats with friends and family around the world, on the tablet, sometimes in the digital world called Roblox that I still struggle to understand. And I like to think of myself as a techy. The digital revolution is said to be upon us, I believe it's rushing by and leaving too many of us behind. Not always through our own faults, but because of our reaction to change. And from our homes to workplaces. Digital is taking over. Keeping an eye on your own house while you're not there. Taking on the low skilled jobs that come with low pay and improving our day to day lives. How do we react to this? And how do we make sure we're not left

1

behind? And most importantly, how do we make sure we are in control. Our world leaders don't understand technology and they've proven this time and time again. We should be using this to our advantage, building our movement and outsmarting them in all we do. From digital voting to digital organising, we need to think more about how we use digital in everything that we do on the left. And today we're talking about exactly this. And we have two very special guests who have joined us to talk about these things, and some of the work they've been involved with around these specific issues. First of all, is Gemma Copeland. He who is a digital designer and member of common knowledge a not for profit worker cooperatives, that builds digital tools for and with grassroots activists. She is also a part of the designers and cultural workers branch of United voices of the world. Big up the mandem and galdem out there. So also we have Edward Saperia, who is the Dean of the London College of political technology. Which studies emerging communities of practice in the public sector and civil society. Now, I've spoken way too much for my daughter's liking on the internet. And considering this is on YouTube, she's definitely going to see it. And she'll appreciate me shutting up. So I'm going to pass over to Gemma, who's going to talk about some of the work that she's been involved in. And yeah, I'll let you take it away. Gemma, thank you so much.

Gemma Copeland 05:02
Awesome. Thanks, Dan. And, yeah, so I'm mainly going to be talking about my work as part of the coop common knowledge. So we're a not for profit, worker coop of four members, the worker coop means we're like a company democratically owned and run by ourselves and the not for profit. That means that, like any surplus that we make from projects goes towards solidarity work with activists. So what we're focused on is really like enabling people to self organise, and specifically, kind of through digital means. So we try to increase the capacity of different activist groups by designing and building digital tools. We try to be kind of less about electoral politics and more about like grassroots organising, and empowering people to kind of make change in their own lives directly. Um, so we've worked with, we've been going for a couple of years now. And we, yeah, we try to really kind of form ongoing partnerships with different groups. And like kind of see each project that we work on is like a close collaboration as well. So we've worked with people like Momentum, The World Transformed also, London renters union, nurses united, and progressive international We also do things like contribute to research projects. So for example, we contributed to the labour together review of the 2019 general election and in that like we kind of researched like how the Labour Party use digital technologies, how they attempted to kind of bring in community organising and their general like organisational structures. And in general in the work that we do, we kind of tried to look for like, patterns and shared needs that different people have and like where does common ground with the idea of being like the more that we can kind of generalise and share amongst the wider movement, the more kind of change we can help come about I guess. So in terms of thinking about like today's topic, and how we see digital technology in like, and the left and within politics. Guess kind of crucially, we see technology is like an enabler of organising tactics, not a replacement. So we always try like when we start a project, we try to understand like, Okay, what is the wider context? Like what is the theory of change? And I guess partially because of like, how we're structured being like a wake up call, and trying to like exist as much as we can outside of capitalism. We don't want to just like build things for the sake of it, but you actually want to like help people achieve political change. So we tried to really like avoid making digital design decisions based on like our assumptions, and instead really, like begin with research, talk to the groups like, like, understand the organisation, what they're doing, and also understand the kind of people that they're talking to and, you

2

know, We also like to do lots of testing. So kind of creating lightweight prototypes, iterating quickly, like making sure that there are lots of moments for reflection. Um, I guess one of the main things that we've found, like, these approaches that I've just kind of listed that are actually pretty standard in the tech world, and often called like agile, but within activism, it's maybe a bit of kind of a new approach. And what we've found is, with all these different projects that we work on, there's kind of some element of like, training the people that we're working with, and like, I guess, helping them change their mindset a little about, like, I guess, their overarching strategy and how technology fits in as an element of that. So it's about kind of looking at like the mindset, different processes you have to use, then the digital tools to In kind of that order, and in general, what we found is like people are really open to this and really up for like learning as much as possible, which is super cool. Um, I guess another thing that we talk about a lot is like the confusion maybe between different types of activism, which we think is kind of accelerated by digital technology, particularly like social media platforms. So we find that like, sometimes, like, because of social media, and what it kind of requires you to do like being always online and always kind of having statements to make, move very quickly and like, you know, interacting in the feed where all this different content is mashed up, like, and you don't really know what's real or not. That there can be kind of a confusion between like, what is communication, what is mobilising? And like what is actually organising. And in general, we try to like steer the focus towards like organising, rather than just like mobilising like a mass of people. To go and like, click smash that like, um, because yeah, generally like we don't want to achieve clicktivism we want to like achieve real change. Um, so, yeah, and I think this is like, you know, avoiding clicktivism is even more of an important thing right now. Because it's harder now to kind of protest and to gather safely, etc. So we really have to start thinking about these digital spaces as like, a place where politics happens, rather than like a place where people just go in and rant about politics. And I guess the change in mindset here is maybe a bit like, it's about thinking slower, and more long term and more structural, and kind of like, yeah, building power training people giving people the tools to do it themselves.

11:34

So in terms of like, I guess our experience in like, introducing technology to political activists. Um, sometimes it can be difficult. I think that's not limited to, you know, the political sphere. I think any organisation if you're trying to adopt a new technology, it's really hard. A lot of time, like people have had bad experiences in the past. Which is, like understandable or they may be like really sceptical about how much technic will help them. Um, one of the, I guess, interesting things about Coronavirus is that it's forced people to go to these spaces more to use these tools. Like they haven't had the choice and have had to quickly kind of learn new techniques, new tools, etc. which can be sometimes very awkward. It's definitely exhausting. We're really sick of zoom all of us I'm sure. And I guess what we're finding is. Well, we kind of encourage people to apply the same techniques that they use in real life as they do, like in digital spaces. But there's also something that's always a bit like hard to recreate. Um, I guess the other thing that we've noticed is like, a lot of the time, political organiser's experience of technology is that it is like an exhausting and frustrating task, often because they're kind of wrangling huge spreadsheets. And there's a lot of work that's done that's very tedious. That could actually be kind of like automated, which is something that like computers are really really good at, but instead you have activists kind of like wasting all that energy and kind of like fitting together. Um, you know, tools that are intended just for consumer use, and paid for by data harvesting, but then trying to like use them for left wing political organising. And then I guess the final thing is, I guess there's something around digital

3

literacy as well. Like, often, there's kind of this, like, there's not that much knowledge about how technology works. And so people tend to, like, not want to deal with it, where as there's lots of stuff that like that shouldn't like be kind of like all developers are gatekeepers to digital technology. Um, so yeah we try to like also increase digital literacy generally, and other people kind of, we collaborate with or like are in our house and co working space space for, like founders and coders. They're doing like, really, really good work and kind of, you know, teaching more people like a wider group of people to actually be able to use tech. So yeah, I guess in conclusion, like with all these things, like the main thing that we've really learnt is like, there's not much point building digital solutions, you actually need to kind of talk to the organisers themselves and kind of look at like how you can kind of change the, like, make create a cultural shift within the organisation. Before you can, yeah, really start changing things.

Dan Lewis 15:00
Sorry, I was just taking notes from everything you was saying. That's brilliant. Thank you so much, Gemma. What we'll do is we'll come back to some more questions about some of the stuff you said and also talking specifically about the movement. And how we can change that culture, really interesting what you said at the end there about don't just build the digital solutions. What we need to look at is changing the culture. And I think that's a massive part, is the culture. You've hit the nail on the head there. So what we'll do is we'll just pass over to Ed. I love your title, Dean of the London College of political technology. Take it away, my friend.

Ed Saperia 15:38
Everyone, can you hear me? Fine? Fantastic. Okay, great. So I'm just very Ed Saperia. I'm going to talk briefly about who I am. And then I will talk about the existing technology landscape and how that, you know, the implications that has for politics. And then I'll talk a bit about the structure of the labour movement and the implications that has for this. And then finally, I'll talk about what, you know, sort of you as an individual who's shown up to this can do particularly because you're likely to be a lot more savvy and if you've managed to find your way here. So, first of all, I've been studying governance and technology for about 10 years now and Wow, what a 10 years there's been a lot has happened I mean, frankly, what what an amazing six months and one year and two year and three years it's been. It's really an amazing field where a lot is happening. What have I done so, I've run Wikipedia is largest ever event it's global summit in 2014. And I was head of community stratergy For the Green Party in 2015. And then in 2015, I founded this institute, really to study this field, you know, which was just sort of starting up in this way. And that's been running for Yeah, for five years, we've hosted thousands of civic community. So we sort of look at civic communities, we look at communities of civil servants, communities of journalists, communities of activists, as well, and so on, and see how technology is changing the things that they do. And, you know, I've probably studied 1000 different communities now and online and in person. And I've seen some some surprising things, I have to say. And really, you know, the biggest thing to take away is the whole in many ways, the whole structure of how societies is built is sort of changing in lots and lots of small ways at the same time. And these taken together can can have some surprising outcomes. And I think if you look at the news, you will see that that is true. So the first part of this is is sort of What's the existing technology landscape? You know? And how and what does that mean for politics. So, you know, more or less, I would say, the most important, you know, besides the internet itself, the most important technology that we've that we've produced is this. And this is really changing the way that people sort of interact with the world. Nowadays, where, you

4

know, the vast majority of people are not just humans, but they are humans who are connected. So they can message anyone that they have ever known, and they can look up anything they like, and they can also find things to get angry about. And the sad thing about this, and all of the software that lives on it, most of the time, is it's a sort of venture capital funded, you know, capitalist, you know, output. And then, you know, then, in some ways, there are some good things about this. You know, because of the sort of creative, destructive nature of capitalism, you know, the quality of the sort of the software is very good and also Because of both venture capital and also ad supported models, things tend to be cheap or free for the most part, I think, you know, most of the software they're using right now, you didn't pay for, which is, you know, which is great. And, and it allows lots and lots of people to use software that they otherwise couldn't afford, if they were paying the true price. And this, you know, is certainly true in this country and is very, very true in other countries where they would have absolutely have no access to this at all. But obviously, this comes with downsides. And, you know, that primarily is the fact that a lot of the software is designed for extraction. So I think a lot of people I mean, you know, hopefully you may have heard of, you know, some can become quite mainstream is this idea of, you know, Facebook's algorithm feeding it. Almost everyone in the world somehow uses Facebook, and you know, they're scrolling their feeds and the feeds are, they're purely there just to try and keep them looking at ads as much as possible. And it turns out, that a side effect of this or rather, the best way to do this is to show them things that are kind of annoying. And things that are annoying turned out to be political polarisation and somehow a side effect. It has contributed to the polarisation of politics sort of globally. And, and, you know, one little thing I've been looking at is, I mean, think of this sort of idea about Facebook being suspect is, is, is relatively mainstream now. And people are starting to be sort of sceptical of it at the societal level, but nobody has started thinking about, for example, dating apps, which also have algorithms, which are also, you know, not necessarily working in the user's best interest. And I have a theory that, you know, perhaps in 100 years, we'll look back and think that maybe, you know, the widespread proliferation of dating apps with, you know, with algorithms that are not well scrutinised, may be the more significant thing that comes out at this time, so, so, you know, that's the downside of sort of VC funded venture capital fund in technology. And, and to contrast that you can talk about kind of Maybe anti capitalist technology, which, you know, of which there is not that much. But some, you know, really, sort of the original foundations of the web are anti capitalist, and, you know, sort of produced by academics as sort of public projects, which is why, you know, which is why we can all use email, and we can always use websites without paying to go there somehow. And these are good examples of sort of open source, open licenced infrastructure, and things like this do exist, you know, and are produced. And the downside is, you know, because they don't have this massive investment, access to investment that that commercial software has. They tend to be, either very expensive, or in practice, you don't exist at all or a very primitive. However, I mean, there are some really, you know, sort of outstanding examples. You know, for me, I think Wikipedia is one of the best examples of Public Interest technologies of public interest technology project. And, you know, something, which I hope you'll be familiar with. But some other examples are who targets me, which is a nice little counterpart to Facebook. So that was a project there was, in fact, launched in this very room and new speak house. And what it does is it it's a it's something you can instal in your browser, and it will track political advertising you're being shown and aggregated to sort of make Facebook political targeting more transparent. And another example is mastodon, which has also come out of this community, which is sort of open source, Twitter, and kind of Twitter like, piece of software, which where, tou own your own data, and it's federated, it's a federated system so people can set up their

own servers and and have their own communities rather than depend on you know, one company In America, you know, across the sea, determining what can be written or not. We're in a really interesting time in terms of in terms of the technology landscape, because, you know, while or other, you know, we're starting to see sort of sovereign interests and technology splitting off into, you know, the kind of, sort of American internet and then sort of the Chinese internet and the European Internet, and then they're having like different sort of regulatory environments, which are causing sort of national scale conflict. I mean, we can see I mean, example would be, you know, Huawei is sort of not allowed, and also Tick Tock as well. But anyway, so, you know, we're sort of a very interesting time where things are changing very fast. But the downside is, you know, most of the technology we use most of the time is this sort of capitalist fundamentally. So that's where we are, in terms of the labour movement. I think, you know, I spend quite a lot of time advising lots and lots of different kinds of people who are trying to make the world About how you know what they can do, or rather, you know, how their organisation can adapt to a digital age. And I think, you know, the key thing to realise here is, you know, no matter where you know, whatever, sort of, you know, CLP you're part of or whatever. You know, the movement as a whole is made up of a lot of different organisations of different kinds. And this goes to further than just the party and is more than just about campaigning. And these these organisations are all allies, you know, more or less. So, you know, we're talking about the sort of ecosystem of unions, we're talking about the ecosystem of charities, you know, there's hundreds of thousands of charities and organisations that provide legal aid, universities, citizen's advice bureaus, libraries, MPs offices, you know, local councils to some extent and then also, you know, counsellors organisations that are co ops you know, The media or at least some of it, and even, you know, very strongly parts of the civil service. So, you know, parts of a service that are really upholding, you know, transparency and then sort of openness and, you know, acting on consultations are really somehow your friends. And when it comes to technology, this is important to take into account. So, you know, and this is happening, not just in this country, but also abroad. So, you know, a lot of these organisations are sort of changing, you know, a lot of them were set up a long time ago, certainly before the internet was mainstream. And were really set up with the restrictions of paper in a fundamental way, what a lot of these organisations do is they move information around, and that used to be a lot harder than it is now. And the, the consequence of that is shown in the design of these organisations. So we're sort of undergoing a shift where a lot of the way that these organisations work is sort of changing quite a lot. And that's pretty painful, but we're starting to see some nice outcomes, I think, but it will take time. And I think, you know, it's important to see the Labour Party as a part of this shift. So, you know, somehow, situational awareness is the most key thing. So for example, you may find that, you know, one of these organisations is suddenly releasing data or information that it didn't, it didn't release before that you can access or offers a service or, you know, allows you to access to whatever talent help in a way that was not there was not available before and, and obviously, because you're part of this about technology, and maybe one that's sort of distant. So somehow keeping a track of this is is sort of the hard part, an ongoing project in this, you know, the sort of political technology community is mapping all of these organisations and what they're doing. Increasingly we have good tools to do this. So for example, and new speak house produced a project called charity based.uk, which is a open searchable database of all charities and it gives you what their, what their missions are and who their trustees are and what their budgets are, where they're located and their email address, and it gives you this, you know, sort of on a map of by by constituency. So, you know, you can find all of these allies and work together with them. And, you know, the same is true for many other kinds of organisation. So, you know, I think that, that's sort of the

6

key thing. In terms of you as an individual, if you're sort of thinking about how you can help, you know, how you can help the situation, I think, you know, it's important to remember, you know, you're not the only person in in in the country who is trying to do this. So, you know, which is good, and doesn't mean that you shouldn't do anything, but you have to sort of figure out ways to work together at scale. And there's sort of a, you know, two obvious things you can do. Well, three, you know, one is you can, you can help people in your community, you know, with sort of basic digital literacy can help them get ahold of, of commodity hardware. So, you know, there are very, very good phones and laptops, which are very cheap now. And I think it is something you know, possible within the labour movement to more or less give, give one of these to anyone who needs one. And certainly anyone who's sort of helping to do this kind of work, and also help them get up to speed with the sort of core tools of activism, which is more or less WhatsApp, Google Docs, and zoom. You know, if, if everyone can use WhatsApp, Google Docs and zoom, we've really taken a big step forward in terms of just getting people in the right place, and then sort of knowing the things they need to know. And then there's obviously a whole universe of other special more specialist tools, but if everyone can use WhatsApp, Google Docs or zoom, we're doing pretty good. And, you know, I see something in the comments that you know, I mean, there are open source alternative but I mean, in some, sometimes you have to be a bit tactical about things. So, so, you know, you can sort of do that you can help any organisations at a local level. Get up to speed. with you know, with the technology they may or may want to use again both you're CLP and any other things, you know, local charities and stuff like that. And then at a sort of a system level, I think there are two key things to think about one is supply of talent. So, you know, in this system as a whole, there are a million organisations and there are 50,000 people who have the skills to help them and somehow we need to make sure people people's find you know, find their way and also attract people who might otherwise be working in perhaps a more lucrative commercial jobs to go and, you know, instead find a job with there local charity, you know, at a bit of a discount, but, but they can have much impact that way. And then a big part of this is actually just not being aware of where these jobs are found. But, but, you know, that will help a lot. The second thing is also, you know, some some sort of philosophical point, which is, you know, we have all of these organisations of different kinds across this country and in fact, worldwide starting to serve, you know sort of digital services. And this allows for things to be sort of arranged in a different way. And in particular, it allows organisations to sort of specialise much more than they could before. So, you know, before when when sort of Tamayo's reach was limited, you had to sort of thing mostly on a sort of local or regional level, and you try and provide, you know, sort of a suite of services for that area. But instead, when things start being able to be delivered digitally, we can think about, you know, to take, for example, something like legal advice. There are maybe 500 lawyers in the country who provide legal advice to you know, sort of community cases. And at the moment, you know, they don't particularly do you know, any kind of specialisation or they mostly sort of like serve their local communities. But now that we have, now that we have, you know, technology, and then people are increasingly having a lot of access to it, you can start having a much greater degree of specialisation and load balancing between these you know, between these, this sort of, like, resource/ So when you're trying to think, you know, sort of how can I help? It's also useful to think, you know, how can I specialise in something very specific that can then serve, you know, the whole country, or perhaps, you know, if you've come up with a really good idea of something that could be, you know, the whole world, and also at the same time, looking at what, what services are being provided elsewhere that could very specifically solve your problem. And this is a, you know, this is quite a painful process and then discovering, all you know, discovering and being discovered when you offer, you know, sort of

7

an abstract service, which which can scale, it is difficult, I think, one ways of conceptualising it the challenge of this next sort of phase of transformation, which is, you know, we suddenly have a lot of people in a lot of places who can all help and what does that look like, rather than, you know, somehow our local things which can help at a local level, which, you know, and then then they have to supply a lot more, but at least they're easy to find. So that somehow at a high level, I think what this challenge is right now. And that's, that's all I have to say. Thank you.

Dan Lewis 31:44
Thanks so much Ed and Gemma as well. Really interesting to hear what you're talking about as individuals what we can do, and the kind of actions we can take. I know this, there's definitely someone who's paid by telegram to promote it in the comments. Yeah, there are loads of other options.

Edward Saperia 32:02
I mean, you know, telegram is great. It's much better than WhatsApp. But unfortunately, people just won't be on it. Right. I think that's the trade off here is it's much better to have technology that people use as opposed to technology that people don't.

Dan Lewis 32:15
Definitely.

Ed Saperia 32:17
And I think you know, when you're really like trying to try to achieve things, is it you just have to, like, go where the people are?

Dan Lewis 32:22
Yeah, most definitely. And I think one of the one things I was going to say on that point is, I agree, we've got to telegram although I'm struggling just to get people on WhatsApp in the first place. So getting people to use a new service that there are less people on and I suppose some of the other questions come up, which you mentioned at the beginning of your talk about, you know, capitalism who owns these companies who owns these applications? So WhatsApp who owns that facebook, instagram, facebook, facebook, well, Facebook is facebook, and so forth. It keeps growing the different platforms that these companies own. So thanks, guys for, you know, just giving us a bit more information about the stuff you've been involved in. And some of the actions right now currently when we look at you know, it all in regards to political campaigning, there's a larger audience for labour, and more so the left online, the right have a growing audience, but they are effective in using tech to influence voters and mobilise at the ballot box, which clearly in 2019, and in years before, we failed to do that, we failed to get those numbers at the ballot box. But if you look online at some of the more left oriented content that is available, especially some of the accounts, they have the largest followings, they have the widest reach. And what I want to understand from you guys, and your understanding is, you know, what are the what are the defining differences between the left and the right and how we use it, and how we achieve our long term goals, whether that is electoral victory, or starting to make changes within society. I know. I'll start with Gemma because I know you were talking about moving away from clicktivism, which we all love some clicktivism. I remember that thing it was, I think, Thunder Wave or something where you've got everyone to tweet something at the exact same time. But what I

8

always wondered to myself, What effect does that have on the real world? What change just because we, you know, 10 million people tweet the same message. It doesn't mean that we're going to get a new prime minister or that we're going to and start see some real environmental changes made in Parliament. So what are your thoughts on that, Gemma?

Gemma Copeland 34:43
Um, yeah, I mean, looking at it in terms of the election. Oh God, there's been so much kind of reflection and like licking our wounds and everything. So I don't know, want to get to much into talking about that, I guess. There are a couple of different sides to it. I think, on one hand, like, in a way, the Tories maybe had a bit better digital strategy and were maybe a bit like had less qualms about kind of really using data. I feel like the left kind of, you know, for very good reasons, like have ethical concerns and like, you know, data is often kind of framed in this like very creepy way. Whereas like the Tories, you know, during the campaign, they really like collected loads of data on voters or potential voters like a really, really granular audience segmentation, you know held focus groups to confirm their hypotheses like, and like had really targeted ads and stuff. So having heard something in that it was just like, I guess absolutely, like embracing digital as a tool and like having a strategy and the way to, like, implement it. I guess when you look at it, in terms of the wider left, I think there's this maybe, I guess, like what you see, especially maybe with Twitter is like that there's loads of different like sub segments of the left and it comes like a very, very big part of their identity is how they kind of present in these kind of spaces and you know, speaking the code and like kind of, maybe sometimes destroying each other on like very tiny details, which I think the right. I don't know from firsthand experience, but like, maybe have much less, like qualms about like minute differences in like, tactics or theories of change or anything like that. They just like care about power. And yeah, I guess that can be part of it as well.

Dan Lewis 37:02
Yeah, I definitely do think the Tories care less in general about anything that they do. If it does go wrong, you know, we'll fix it later. If we're in power then we don't need to worry about it at all. What do you think about the the differences in how we use technology to actually number one electoral victory but actually bring about real world change?

Edward Saperia 37:26
So of course, as a as a researcher, I'm fastidiously politically neutral, as you can tell by the fact that I'm talking at this conference. But I think you know, somehow well. You know, if you want to look at sort of, you know, left leaning social media dominance, you want to look at things like, you know, look at look, the US like things like, Chapo trap house and stuff, which are very, very successful. And I think, you know, don't necessarily make sense in the political context in the UK, but maybe give some kind of an idea of, you know, what sort of a platform like that could look like here. But more than that, I would say, thinking about social media, too much is bad for you, or rather bad for you as a campaigner. And and really, I think it's important, both sort of strategically, and in terms of how influence it has in terms of electoral outcomes, is far over stated, and much better to do is focus on I mean, you know, if you want to think about it that way, you know, think of the hundred, you know, hundreds of thousands of charities in this country and help them all have good social media, because they're going to reach into many, many, many different communities in all different places. And, and, you know, getting them from zero to one is pretty easy. Whereas whereas, thank you about, you know, trying to create, like a small number

9

of, you know, sort of messaging powerhouses that that somehow smash over the other side is really, you know, I think actually a waste of energy in comparison. You know, whereas if, you know, every single time they come into contact with anyone who actually wants to help them and make their lives better, you know, they, they get a political message, that's probably a much better. And particularly, you know, now we're talking to a widespread audience, you know, it's something that you can do, as opposed to wishing someone else was going to do.

Dan Lewis 39:10
Yeah, I, I agree with you definitely, that when thinking specifically about the real world change you can make, if you think about the kind of organisations that are actually doing stuff in the real world, and how you can help them that's, you can have a massive impact on the world around us. And now going back earlier to I mentioned about Facebook, they are own Instagram, they're own WhatsApp and so forth. They're generally the big tech companies aren't really trusted by a lot of people, yet attracting people to smaller independent platforms for networking, organising and sharing information, as we were talking about earlier in the comments, and I think it was Crassius, I wasn't trying to call you out there. I just brilliant, brilliant the way that you were a sponsor for them. But not an official sponsor. But you know, how do you guys think we can develop online spaces that overcome these challenges? How do we bring people together? without having to give int o those big capitalist organisations? Do we just use their platforms to our advantage? Or should we start looking at ways in which we can create our own spaces online? Whoever wants to go first on that one, because I think you've both got very interesting backgrounds in this.

Edward Saperia 40:31
I mean, if I may, you know the thing about. Sorry, my dogs Yeah. Now the thing about these platforms is much like the way that junk food is more tasty, they're probably going to be less fun. At least to begin with. So, you know, I would say, like, Don't get too hung up on it, use whatever is easiest and gets you to your goal in the first instance. But also, you know, keep an eye on, on what else is available and be willing to experiment. Because you know, the worst that you can do is to have to try again, but the best thing you can do is maybe find something that really helps, really helps. And I would say something that is really important is if you find, you know, sort of independent technology that you you know, that you find important you should support it because no one else is.

Gemma Copeland 41:20
Yeah, I would totally agree with that. Like, I agree with what you said before about you have to go where the people are, as much as I love the kind of decentralised web movement, and we definitely kind of promote open source tools to as many people as we can. At the end of the day, like I think Yeah, as you said Dan, it's better to kind of build upon like there. Yeah, go to where they are build upon the thing rather than trying to convince everyone to a completely new space, because a lot of the time, I guess, if you do you set up a new space, you are often only talking to then to like a very, very nichw group of people that want to like, download a new app, which is an incredibly hard thing to convince people to do. And yeah, basically, I guess it's encouraging like even more bubbles in a way. So yeah, I guess in general. We encourage people to like ease existing spaces that make sure that like, you can kind of Yeah, shake them to your needs. Make sure that they are safe well maintained like they have a good culture, etc.

10

Dan Lewis 42:32
Brilliant, um, there's a question from smash report. For Gemma. You mentioned using these social media platforms to make politics happen rather than as an echo chamber. How do you propose we do this or increase our reach?

Gemma Copeland 42:51
I guess I'm one side of it is about, like definitely being on these platforms, but maybe instead of like just broadcasting it's about listening, it's also like, yeah, I guess building relationships. I think the thing is, like, in some ways, it's a little bit weird. These days, it's to think about these like platforms, online spaces is like, really like a digital tech thing, because they really are just like a normal social space, especially with Coronavirus time, like be equivalent to any other kind of physical space that we'd be in. And like so in the same way as you would in a physical space, you can like find people build real relationships with them like make communities etc. And then yeah, I guess it depends on the activism. But basically ?? make change.

Dan Lewis 43:47
That's totally understandable and what you said there about listening I think it's it's very important to think about the things we do in real life as well when digital organising. And listening is a fundamental part of any type of especially community organising, and having those conversations with people where you're the one doing the least talking.

Edward Saperia 44:08
Can I reply to a comment?

Dan Lewis 44:10
Yeah, go for it, man.

Edward Saperia 44:12
If you're annoyed at WhatsApp, but you recognise that it's hard to get away from, you should look at matrix which has a which has a WhatsApp bridge. So it's open source software that can interact with WhatsApp and allow you to basically allow people to use WhatsApp to integrate with you but then you can use open source software. So that solves both problems.

Gemma Copeland 44:33
We're fans of matrix as well. We've not had a chance yet to properly use it but it does look cool. It doesn't solve the kind of total encryption thing. Like at the end of the day, some people still using WhatsApp, but it's definitely a step in the right direction, because you can use many different platforms.

Edward Saperia 44:49
For most places. For most situations, encryption is a very important. It's like, sort of a slightly, you know, contrarian view for me, but I think I seen a lot of people waste a lot of time trying to be very secret about things that aren't very secret.

Dan Lewis 45:05

This is fantastic. This is like a dream of mine, sitting on the live stream with a couple of techies, talking tech stuff and learning new things. Now, for me, a digital future includes robots and technology taking on low paid work. People being paid in cryptocurrency and using community owned banks, while our education system is online, but integrated into reality. And I could go on and on and on. And I'd love to hear your views on how we should be thinking about how technology should be integrated into the ideas we have for what socialist future looks like, I know you need to be impartial, Ed. But if you were to imagine a socialist future, using technology, and specifically here, I'm thinking about a lot of us as activists, we want to try influence government policies. And I remember back I use this a lot. So any of my friends watching have probably heard this before. But I remember I think it was Chris Grayling talking a couple of years ago about the fact that he seen these driverless cars in San Francisco or something. And he was amazed like, this is brand new technology. And I was sitting there thinking to myself, no, it's not. They've been working on this for like, I don't know how long and our governments like the people in power have mentioned already. They just have no idea. So what are the kind of things we should be doing really? Or what are the ideas that we should be trying to put forward Do you think to try and build that brighter future and transform the world in the way that we wish to see it? So Gemma, if you want to go ahead with this one?

Gemma Copeland. 46:35

Oh, yes, um sure. Okay, I think this is a really interesting question. I think that because like what Ed said, before most tech is made, like in the context of capitalism, it's actually kind of hard to imagine it outside of that, um, a lot of the time, it's like that classic oft quoted, William gives something like the future is here. It's just unevenly distributed. So part of it, I think is like, it will look like what it is for rich people, which is like, it's not a kind of crueles surveillance and it's actually much more in the background. I think, like not in your face. And then I think, aside from that, So I'm a big like, science fiction fan, particularly Ursula Le Guin when, and I always kind of refer to the dispossessed when I'm kind of thinking it's like, Okay, what would my socialist or anarchist future look like, utopia look like? Um, I think the interesting thing with the dispossessed everyone read it. If you haven't Is that it's definitely doesn't come across as high tech, and definitely not rich in resources, which I think is very important for us to consider thinking about a future and of course, climate change. So it feels much more like people have made an active choice where tech should come into their life. So there is stuff where like, technology is kind of used like this cyber sin like distribution of like, where people go and like occasionally work although, most of their life, they like, do as little work as possible that that's like a great line and that where it's kind of like, they don't actually have a difference between the words play and work and like anything that's like, not fun, is called drudgery, whereas work is more like play for them. And I think like, for me, this is a really good example of like, what tech can do in its best possible form. I think a lot of the time, like, you're in the book, it's just some enabler to like, have people spend time together, basically live in a society where there isn't like money, and you're doing things for fun, and you have dignity. Yeah, that's what I'd say.

Dan Lewis 48:53

Brilliant. Go ahead Ed.

Edward Saperia 48:55

12

You know, I think that there's a sort of a, like an infrastructure part of it, and there's kind of a policy part of it. And so, you know, sort of for the policy part, we just have to make sure that civil society is strong, right, you know, policy is a lot of questions. And then often technologies limit is sort of a red herring, it just takes existing issues and kind of, you know, kind of rearranges them a bit. And then you just have to make sure that, you know, the people working in the, whatever conservation organisation you know, that that's trying to save the environment can can, can use the data that they have available. And then you know, sort of have the skills they need to, to to advocate for whatever they're trying to advocate for. And, you know, I really try, I really like to think of, you know, policy fundamental policy is like a broad reining process that has like, infinite corners, right. And there are many, many organisations that try and fill these corners. And you have to make sure that they have the skills that they need, you can think of policy as sort of the output of the process. Right. And so that's the policy side, in terms of infrastructure. You know, I talked about, you know, this idea that you can sort of have public interest technology. And then largely, I think this stuff doesn't exist, you know, we have some, and then, you know, even worse, a lot of the stuff that we have is sort of designed to look like the capitalist stuff is just not owned by Americans. And then that's some, you know, that's a good start, but it doesn't really, you know, create a new universe that we can live in, that doesn't look the same. So, you know, the difficulty there is you sort of need a whole lot of very smart people to work for not very much money to make things that the public needs, but luckily, we have those and we call them, you know, academics. So, so frankly, You know, my answer to this is we should get academics and bully them into making software as opposed to writing papers that no one reads. Which again, is a rather contrarian opinion.

Dan Lewis 50:49
That's, that's why I got you guys on the call because I wanted your opinions. We've got another question that's come in from the chat. And every time I pick up my phone, it reorientatis, so I'm just gonna find it, but it is from Will Brindley, I think was the name or Bindley. Sorry, question on visual literacy, with Trump's tweet in low res screenshots of USA flags, versus polished, polished graphics, especially from the Clinton campaign or Biden campaign, I imagine and the screenshots ultimately winning what can we learn from this now just to add my own comment on this? I love I'm not sure what, what the level of language that we're allowed to use here, so I'll call it crap. But crap posting, you know what I mean? I have a whatsapp group just for crap memes. And there is no there is no rules on the level of quality to your memes. And I always think that the best memes look like they're the worst made ones. On many campaigns that I've been involved with. We've often said, you know, let's not wait, if we got to do those kind of memes we have to don't have a lowest standard, I don't mean attacking people. I mean as in the quality of the means, and I definitely think they work. I think people appreciate it. I know from the stuff that my daughter's into the stuff you see on Tick tock, like the quality of sound or some of the TIC tocs infuriates me, but I know there's a reason behind that. So, in regards to the question, that is askeed there, I've rambled a bit so I'll just ask the last bit is you know in regards to the difference, what can we learn from the quality that we are putting their online? Should we be thinking about Making sure that things are pristine

Gemma Copeland 52:48
Yeah. Um, yeah, I think okay, I think there's two sides to it in some on one side you have like the memes or whatever and like, it is very definitely like less polished aesthetic that gives it legitimacy also with like, social platforms. I think on the other side, this kind of, like thinking of this from like with my

13

kind of graphic designer hat on. I think that there's like, if you think about fake news or whatever like that you can like apply a high level of visual polish to make something yeah seem more legitimate and kind of like, you know, spread disinformation etc. So I guess you have kind of two ends of the spectrum one's to like misinformed people. And the other is just to become viral and to have people share it. And I think that it's really hard though, like, when basically, you know, when you're scrolling through Twitter, you don't have a lot of time you take things on face value, you don't have time to deconstruct everything that you see. And I'm sure all of us kind of get, like sucked into something that is completely not true sometimes. I don't know if that answers any question.

Dan Lewis 54:06
It's definitely and I think also on the point of like, these memes because it has become so mainstream looking at terrible terribly made memes or low resolution. It's easier for disinformation to spread in the way that you're talking about, you're getting sucked into and so forth. And, and that's, that's a part of this, you know, the whole anti 5g thing and, and all that. Ed ny comments?

Edward Saperia 54:33
You know, I mean, my first comment will always be, stop worrying about social media is not important. It is not as important as everyone thinks it is, you know, and spend that time doing something else. But the, which is you know, like from from a political activism perspective. But, you know, I mean, I think this is the wrong frame of the question, like, you know, people recognise value. You know, you're never gonna be a Marvel movie, right? You know, it's just like, why don't you try and put things on social media which are useful to people. You know, and that's not about being expensive, that's just about producing things that are useful, you know? Like, how are you gonna? How are you gonna improve people's lives today? Right. And I think that that's something that is much better to think about. Than then sort of, like, how can you, you know, what's a good repost or, you know, or sort of, like, how can we show pictures of happy people waving? I mean, it's just irrelevant. No one cares about that. And particularly, I mean, actually, so you're talking about effects, right? I mean, you know, not many things like fake news. And people are really sort of wringing their hands about deep fake. You know, this is really your fate. You can create really realistic you know, videos of people saying whatever you like, and they're very worried about this. But you know, the most successful things like that would just, you know, some pieces of fake news or just things that, you know, mocked up screenshots of WhatsApp messages and things like that, which made it look like people were saying things they didn't say, and these aren't expensive to make anyone can make these in, you know, in 10 in 10 minutes. So so like, it's more about being smart rather than being expensive.

Dan Lewis 56:04
Yeah, definitely, like one of the oldest ones similar to the WhatsApp messages is the the fake tube sign. So it's so easy. You can there's a million websites out there. Yeah, you type in a bit of text, and it puts it on a one of those tube signs. And I've done it before, like for political reasons, where you put it up there, and there's always one person who's like, Ah, that's not real, for whatever reason, and it is smart. And I think there is a culture here as well in some of the education he's talking about. And I think in the comments a few people have mentioned, it's about the way in which we're teaching people about how to use technology, look out for these things and actually understand them. Think about what you're consuming before you start repeating it, which perfectly moves on to my next question, where in today's

14

society, we've seen too often conspiracies, that 5g is dangerous. a cashless society is a part of a plan to control us. And I remember, you know, when they told us that mobile phones or computers will turn us into zombies, let's not get into mobile phones, turning us into zombies, but you know what I mean? But more importantly, like what are the cultural changes needed? to easily report with these conspiracies and start a healthier conversation about how we can use technology to our benefit, especially when thinking about the kind of world we want to live in? So going off the questions that I've already asked and the things that you guys have have spoken about. I feel that more people think that 5g is dangerous, then there are people who actually understand what 5g is and what are the things that you think you know you may not know the answer to this one but that we can do as people who are politically aware and also in to tech to rebuttal, those kind of arguments and start taking away the conspiracies against technology so that more people start embracing it, rather than fearing it.

Edward Saperia 58:09
God, you know, I'm I'm forced into into into annoying conversations about this all the time. But and I think people read, you know, so there's a very big, let's say, you know, trend or practice or thing that people like doing, which is when they see people talking about things aren't true. They think they can change their minds by telling them things that are true, but the you know, the, the fact that there are people who go and convince themselves of falsehoods, the solution to that is not more facts. Right, more facts will not solve that. You know thats the number one, right? So don't don't think if you put something online, that robot something, it's going to affect anything. And, and then now, you know, when you think about, you know, people out in the world believing falsehoods, you first of all, you have to think about why that upsets you, right? Cuz, you know, it turns out forever people have believed falsehoods, and somehow we just somehow a bit more aware of it for whatever reason. And then the general sort of, in a way you talk about this as about information environments, then, you know, there's one very important thing, which is people who make very significant decisions that affect a lot of people, like policymakers, for example, have correct information and come to correct conclusions. And you can do that because, you know, they tend to be a bit more discoverable and accessible and convicable. So, you know, that's something you can definitely do. Alternatively, you can try and make sure that people who, you know, who don't believe in, in sensible things, don't get into those positions. That's that's like sort of ideal. But if you are stuck in a situation where, you know you're trying to argue with someone who believes You know, any, any of your examples? Much better is I mean, you know, this is something the right has learned very well is the dead cat strategy, which is talk about something else. Right? You know, people people believe about believe this stuff because somehow they don't have anything else to do. And and what's much better as you know, you sort of help them in their lives and help them give them something else to worry about that isn't this. And then an arguing them is just getting into sort of like a practice which they enjoy, which has brought them to where they are. So, you know, don't engage, or at least engage in a different way.

Dan Lewis 1:00:13
The way I've engaged is I've changed why Wi Fi, Wi Fi router name to 5g COVID testmast. And all the people who have the notifications on a new Wi Fi device nearby that walk past my house, I see them looking and panicking, and it's fantastic. They're normally the ones who Yeah, are into that stuff. But you're definitely right Ed I agree with a lot of that. Gemma, have you got anything to say on that?

Gemma Copeland 1:00:40

Yeah, I think definitely this kind of taking a different approach is an important one. I think that like, a lot of the time conspiracies, it will be based in something right. So kind of completely dismissing it. Well, maybe like, also ignore the root cause. I think it's like, yeah, there has to be kind of an element of empathy as well. And kind of understand that like, Yeah, probably comes from someplace. The example that I always kind of make use is the story of like the Luddites so like, it's used as kind of like insult if you refuse to use technology or whatever, but if you look at the history of it, you know, the, like this group called the luddites, we're not like anti technology, because it was technology, they were anti technology because it was going to lead to like, exploitation and like loss of work for workers. So like, a lot of the time there is like a reason to be worried about this. And that like, like, there's been plenty of situations where tech has been used for like, not so good purposes or whatever. And so I think it's kind of again, it's it's this thing about listening to people kind of understanding it. And yeah, I agree, like the answer's is not more facts that like kind of maybe trying to see that viewpoint, as long as it's not an absolutely, like wildly right wing viewpoint, I guess. And then kind of like, understand, like, what does this mean in like more of a like, social context like, like, what is this person trying to say?

Dan Lewis 1:02:17

Thank you so much, guys. We've got a brilliant question. From an I should have should have asked this one earlier really. Eric Hughes? Could you all give us your favourite piece of tech or software for organising that we might not know about? So I think you did one earlier, but you can do another one. Gemma Is there any great tech out there that you're using at the moment,

Gemma Copeland 1:02:41

I mean, signal. The messaging app is always the one like a favourite. Because it's super secure. It's like open source. It's really well designed and everything. They even have stickers. So yeah, it's probably the one I recommend

Dan Lewis 1:02:58

Ed. What's your favourite piece of tech right now?

Ed Saperia 1:03:01

Oh, you know, this is in some ways, like my special subject. So it's well, I mean, ironically, the thing I was really liked for a long time is something for organising events. So that's somehow not not even who cares now, I think okay, you know, like always, you know, first thing I would say is, use things that people know, you know, Google Docs is amazing. But But, but in spite of the notes over, you don't want to know that so. So I would say I know wiki surveys are cool, like, you know, check out allourideas.org is pretty cool. But also a little plug for myself. So I'm working on and working on a piece of organising software which is called docs plus, which hasn't launched yet, so you can't use it. But you know, you'll probably get to hear about it quite a lot in a few months. So if you go to docs, plus you can see a page that isn't very helpful, but one day, one day it will be something you can use.

Dan Lewis 1:04:16

Brilliant, while mine To be honest, I'm because of COVID and the lockdown, I'm learning how to start using my camera equipment in a totally different way. So I'm learning how to use OBS not just for

16

screen recording Netflix if it's allowed, but yeah, OBS is a core piece of software that you can do a lot with when it comes to streaming, content creation if you're into YouTube and making a lot of video stuff. So yeah, that's, that's an it's open source. So there's a lot of things that you can do with it. But to be honest, I'm more of a consumer of tech rather than a creator. So this is why this is like a dream for me sitting with Gemma and Ed, just talking tech, which I could go on for ages. I think there is one more question. Mark, would you mind just putting it on the screen for us? Because I've real disoriented my phone. And I can't get back to the comments. Have you got it Mark? Yeah, how do you set up basic organising tools, culture, etc, with a new group of people that have come together to do something? So So how do you To set up basic organising tools culture/ Yeah, I'm not quite sure I totally understand that question. But I think one of the first things you've got to do is a bit of an audit because I, in my day job I do do a bit of organising. And the first thing you've got to do is a bit of an audit on your team. Find out where people are at and make sure that you in regards to culture, set boundaries, you know, messages after 10:00pm, are they acceptable? Make sure that your core group and the people that you're organising with that they're up for that you've got those boundaries. And you definitely have a disputes process. One of the big things that one of my colleagues taught me is that and in a lot of things is just because you're online doesn't mean that you need to resolve it there. And then if there's an issue, sometimes you need to take a step back, have a think about it and come back to it. And when I talk about having an audit, I would say like think about the, digital literacy of the people that you're working with some people might not they may use WhatsApp, but they may not know that they can add it on a desktop and that you can share files and so forth. And some people might be on a pay as you go phone and not have unlimited data like you do. So that's, that's my tips if I may step on your toes, comrades, but Gemma what would you say an answer to that question?

Gemma Copeland 1:07:01
Yeah, I think definitely kind of working out. Okay, what tools do we actually need? A lot of the time when we're working with groups, we'll just have like an initial meeting and kind of like understand like, okay, like, what are the very basics of this? I think also yeah, kind of setting like a standard of using it. And I put in the private chat here there's like a, you have to register unfortunately, like it's behind the hava SR email, but another acronym put together like a kind of digital tools for activism list, which can be quite good because it like compares the various Yeah, tools that are out there, across various matrixes. Um yeah, I think I think that's it for now.

Ed Saperia 1:07:50
I shared a whole bunch of tools in the chat if someone can do that for me. Sorry, this kind of answering the last question. Okay. I mean, it depends what you're trying to do. I mean, I think the problem with a lot of activism is, in practice, it's sort of a lot of people start doing activism without really any idea what they're trying to do. And they just kind of get people together with no real goal. And then it sort of turns into more like a sort of cultural activity rather than something with a sort of outcome that's, that's aimed at. So, you know, a lot of the problems like toxic behaviour, and then burnout and stuff happen in situations where there's no purpose. So it's really a sense, you know, it's just want to be aware of that, like they the worst communities are one where it's just sort of people hanging out. You know, and if you if you're really have a if you really have like a service you're trying to do or something you're trying to achieve, then, you know, the technology depends on what you're trying to do. So, you know, in a sense there's not really a, there's not really a, an answer to that. And then I tend to find, you know, there is,

like, many questions come up, which, which are actually just reflections on the fact that, like, somehow the mission is not stated, well, like things like, you know, we should have, we should have a website and then spend a lot of time trying to decide what to put on our website is somehow like a classic, you know, you know, activist groups will sort of form and then spend a year trying to figure out what's going on website and it's just sort of a massive waste of time and energy. And then points to the fact that probably like somehow that that energy is better, is better focused elsewhere. So again, I would say, you know, rather than rather than form an activist group, why didn't go and find a charity and help them because they, you know, they really, really, really need you. Well, you know, and they know exactly what they need to do. Whereas whereas, you know, trying to do, you know, trying to sort of like do direction setting in a group that sort of randomly assembled is very, very difficult.

Gemma Copeland 1:09:48
Yeah, I think I would add to that, I added another link in the chat. And one thing that I always reference, it's very old now, but the text tyranny of structurelessness. And like how important it is kind of like define these structures. So because otherwise, like, unintended structures will form. So in a way, like, that is more important than the digital tools themselves. And themselves, I think, I guess, like speaking about, like, Oh, do we need a website or not? It's the same as like what we were saying before, like, it should just be where, where are the people that we want to organise or, you know, be part of and then go to those spaces.

Dan Lewis 1:10:28
I like that. I like that a lot. Well, guys, thank you so so much, like I'm here every Friday in my office, if you want to just hang out and tell me more about The stuff that you're working on because, you know, it's so cool. I love it honestly. And like I say, I'm a I'm a consumer of technology. So when you guys make anything cool, please do send, send it over, I will definitely be sharing it amongst my circles. And I can't wait for Ed, the project you're working on at the moment. I can't wait for that to be finished. I've got a few ideas of what I could do with that. So yeah, that's the end of the session. I really appreciate Gemma, Ed's New speak house and common knowledge obviously got a shout out the organization's Have I missed any organisations. Big up the organization's big up the people. Thank you very much everyone for tuning in. I've got a couple of quick announcements to make. First of all, one close to my heart, I just want to say send some special love. I doubt there'll be watching this right now, but to the O'Brien family, there's one of the oldest members of Bootle Labour Party where I live, sadly passed away today. And I send all of my love to you and your family. Yeah, fantastic, just person. So I believe you deserve that respect. And then here's to the less important stuff, but definitely worth you checking out. We want to continue these discussions. So we have dedicated spaces on our community forum. I believe mark will be sharing a link to this. If you've already set up your account, you can click this link that should be posted in the chat to find the relevant discussion thread to this event, or any other discussions that are on there. And if you're registered for the festival, check your email for your sign up link to the forum. If you're unable to find a sign up link please email info at The World transformed.org Also don't forget to register for other events. There are loads of events at TWT 20. I don't know how we've gone from in January to organising in a real life festival in Liverpool to then be an unsure of what we're going to be organising. And now our team have managed to bring together this, every event is filling up very quickly. So make sure that you are registered for any events that you want to attend as quickly as possible. Make sure you're you go to The World transformed.org forward slash register and

18

then go to the individual event you would like to register for on the programme. Finally, last but not least, most importantly, if you've enjoyed this session or any of the other sessions, and would like to help us sustain our work through this festival and beyond, watch this space, there is so much to come trust me, please consider supporting us at The World transformed.org forward slash support. Again big thank you to the viewers Ed Gemma Rory and Mark on tech. I have had one of the best Friday nights in a while. So pretty much everyone I hope you enjoy your weekend. Peace, love solidary.