

# **feminism & beyond**

contemporary perspectives  
on gender and technology

**access**

## **access information**

A feminist internet starts with enabling more women and queer persons to enjoy universal, acceptable, affordable, unconditional, open, meaningful and equal access to the internet.

Furthermore, it's necessary support and protection for unrestricted access to information relevant to women and queer people, particularly information on sexual and reproductive health and rights, pleasure, safe abortion, access to justice and LGBTIQ issues. This includes diversity of languages, skills, interests, and contexts.

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If online feminism becomes the nervous center of the feminist body politic, what becomes of women who have no/limited access to the internet?

🐦 @CharleneCac (22:12 - 14 de abr de 2018)

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**research shows women believe that the internet will empower them and make them feel equal, along with other economic and social opportunities.**

 Shubha Kayastha (2018)

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 @CharleneCac (22:12 - 14 de abr de 2018)

true feminism advocates EQUALITY, not supremacy. all we want is the same access, benefits, and opportunities that men get without trying.

🐦 @somnomania (09:02 – 8 de jun de 2019)

The ability to access and use the internet effectively is central to women's digital inclusion. Research has shown that when women gain meaningful internet access and participate in evolving knowledge societies, it is not only women that benefit their families, villages, communities and countries also gain from their empowerment. Promoting internet access for women is therefore much more than an issue of gender equality; it is an essential part of the economic, social and political development of the countries in which women live.

**The literature indicates a shift to an awareness of the fact that even if women can access ICTs, or if these technologies are available to them, they will not necessarily adopt or enjoy universal, acceptable, affordable, unconditional, open, meaningful or equal access to them. Some refer to this more nuanced understanding**

The internet can be a great tool for discussing and exploring feminism, but what if not everyone has access to it? Then what? #wgs240

🐦 @echri100 (22:30 – 31 de jan de 2018)

**of access as “meaningful” access; signifying that the potential of ICT depends on how and the extent to which women use ICTs. In general terms, the literature indicates an increased awareness that mere access is insufficient: access must be universal and affordable, unconditional and equal, as well as unfettered.**

I retweeted something stating that we need feminism to allow us to access the rights that we don't have just because we are women. All those that liked my retweet were women. This is the problem. Men will not take a stand with us and this is why they think we stand against them.

🐦 @daisycarts (19:29 – 16 de mai de 2019)

While we know when sexual content in the Internet is seen as 'harmful content' it restricts access to important information related to one's sexual health and exploring one's sexuality, especially for the communities where sex and sexuality isn't or couldn't be spoken about openly.

📖 Shubha Kayastha (2018)

Tech is helping abortion providers overcome rising challenges - "The more Silicon Valley embraces women's healthcare, the more it destigmatizes an industry that some women remarkably don't even know is legal." #prochoice #feminist #feminism

🐦 @builtbymom (05:47 - 8 de jun de 2019)

Real feminism is legislating away  
women's liberty and access to choices.

🐦 @TiffanyAr (00:58 – 4 de jun de 2019)

**Policies, programmes and initiatives are required that maximise the potential positive outcomes of internet access and use for women and women's empowerment, including policies and interventions that use the internet to address the structural inequalities that underpin women's disempowerment overall.**

📖 Spuy, Anri van der; Souter, David (2018)



# information

If you wanna educate yourself about feminism, tumblr posts shouldn't be your main source of information.

🐦 @sam4nthaflovers (12:23 - 30 de mai de 2018)

@ the young girls following me, don't learn your feminism from twitter because there are a lot of people on here who don't know what they're talking about. READ. Reading helped me vet information. Otherwise, you'll digest everything you see on here.

🐦 @luxurynegro (15:31 - 26 de fev de 2019)

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enri van der; Aavriti, Namita (2018)

There are myriad ways in which personal information can be recorded, tracked, shared (including social media, pregnancy and menstruation apps where people voluntarily share information); here algorithms can often deploy stereotypes leading to discrimination that may in turn reduce women's agency, impede women's sexual and reproductive health and rights, and exacerbate abuse and violence.

■ Spuy, Anri van der; Aavriti, Namita (2018)

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**There is general awareness today of the fact that information and communication technologies (ICTs) are not gender neutral. ICTs are shaped by social contexts where they are used and developed (usually in the global North or, more specifically, the US or China).**

 Spuy, Anri van der; Aavriti, Namita (2018)

Google is way too free and information is way too available for people to not be embarrassed to admit they don't understand feminism in 2018.

 @EEBUBEE (10:18 - 30 de ago de 2018)

Immaterial labour is extracted in the information society, and a large portion of that is emotional and affective labour on social media, especially done as a labour of care by women, gender non-conforming and transgender people and other vulnerable groups and people. The difficulties in measuring this labour are also connected to the difficulties in measuring cultural production, the shadow economy and unpaid labour. This connects also to the future of work and how labour is or will be transformed in the information economy, in relation to automation and artificial intelligence. Automation will particularly impact on labour that is low-end, repetitive and usually done by those who are vulnerable, including women and those located in the global South.

Is feminism “trendy,” or are more women coming of age in a world w/ access to more information than ever before?

**We need to focus on the positive side of feminism and not spend so much time hating or spreading false information.**

🐦 @WeAreWomanUS (18:55 - 14 de jul de 2017)

**Feminist talk must therefore walk the sacred line of the indivisibility and interdependence of all rights, asserting how freedoms in the information society are inextricably tied to an egalitarian internet.**

📖 Anita Gurumurthy (2017)



Association for Progressive Communication (2016). The **Feminist Principles of the Internet**.

Gurumurthy, Anita (2017). **A history of feminist engagement with development and digital technologies**.

Kayastha, Shubha (2018). **Online violence: beyond just an act**. In Feminist Voices in Technology. Helen Taranowski [ed.].

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