

Reading group TBD Spring 2020

FIRST MEETING: Tuesday, 21 April, 16:00h (online)

Ruha Benjamin

*Race After Technology:  
Abolitionist Tools for the New Jim Code*



Are robots racist? Is visibility a trap? Are technofixes viable? What is social justice in the high-tech world? These questions are raised in **Ruha Benjamin's book *Race After Technology* (2019, Polity Press)** that we will read during our TBD reading group spring session 2020.

*Race After Technology* explores how emerging technologies can reinforce White Supremacy and deepen social inequity. Automation has the potential to hide, speed up, and deepen discrimination while appearing neutral and even benevolent when compared to the racism of a previous era. This "New Jim Code" encodes inequality as normal and designs technologies that stratify and scantify social injustice in everydaylife.

**TBD ('to be defined')** is a reading group at the intersection of Science and Technology Studies (STS), feminism, queer studies, posthumanism and new materialism. We are interested in engaging with works - both contemporary and otherwise - that engage relationships between technology, sexuality and culture.

TBD is hosted by the research group **Gender/Diversity in Informatics Systems** and the department of the **Soziologie der Diversität** at the **University of Kassel**. First meeting this semester will take place on Tuesday, April 21, at 16:00h. **!! Due to Corona Virus, the first meeting will be online.** To join, please email Jennifer Stoll ([jennifer.stoll@uni-kassel.de](mailto:jennifer.stoll@uni-kassel.de)) and Goda Klumbyte ([goda.klumbyte@uni-kassel.de](mailto:goda.klumbyte@uni-kassel.de)).