

COLLABORATORY AGAINST HATE

RESEARCH AND ACTION CENTER

*Collaborative interdisciplinary research
to combat extremist hate*

Carnegie
Mellon
University



University of
Pittsburgh

🔗 The Problem

Extremist hate groups have radically changed the way they operate and mobilize people to advance their agendas. The internet and social media not only provide groups with a vast arena for recruitment, but also places where they can hide. These platforms have made the distribution, mobilization and spread of online hate much harder to monitor and prosecute. It's also more difficult to decipher the extent to which virtual communities of hate are simply reinforcing each other or being pushed by organized extremist organizations. That's created challenges for researchers and law enforcement who are trying to understand how these groups work and how to intervene.

🔗 Pitt + CMU

The center will bring together the collective expertise from all relevant disciplines — including computer science, data science, social sciences, psychology, psychiatry and the law — as we seek to better understand and combat hatred based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation and other prejudices.

The center aims to develop effective interventions to inhibit every stage in the creation and growth of extremist hate, as well as interventions to minimize its impacts. Researchers will study how extremism originates and circulates, how it shapes extremist views and fosters polarization in society, and how it provokes harmful and illegal acts, with a focus on its effects on minoritized and marginalized groups in society.

Join us.

We are currently calling for interested collaborators with diverse backgrounds and relevant expertise to build out the center's research team. We welcome those with knowledge and passion for combating extremism and radicalization.

CONTACT US TO JOIN

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LORRIE CRANOR // CO-DIRECTOR

Lorrie Faith Cranor is the Director and Bosch Distinguished Professor of the CyLab Security and Privacy Institute and FORE Systems Professor of Computer Science and of Engineering and Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University. She also directs the CyLab Usable Privacy and Security Laboratory (CUPS) and co-directs the MSIT-Privacy Engineering masters program. In 2016 she served as Chief Technologist at the US Federal Trade Commission. She co-founded Wombat Security Technologies, a security awareness training company that was acquired by Proofpoint. She is a fellow of the ACM, IEEE, and AAAS and a member of the ACM CHI Academy.

KATHLEEN BLEE // CO-DIRECTOR

Kathleen Blee is Distinguished Professor of Sociology and the Bailey Dean of the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences and the College of General Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. A highly productive scholar, Kathleen has published 7 books and over 100 journal articles and book chapters. Much of her scholarship is based on analysis of her up-close ethnographic observations and interviews with white supremacists in the United States. Blee has served as advisor on violent extremism to numerous civic, religious, and governmental bodies including the armed forces, police and security agencies, U.S. Congressional committees, synagogues and churches, educator forums, and schools.

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