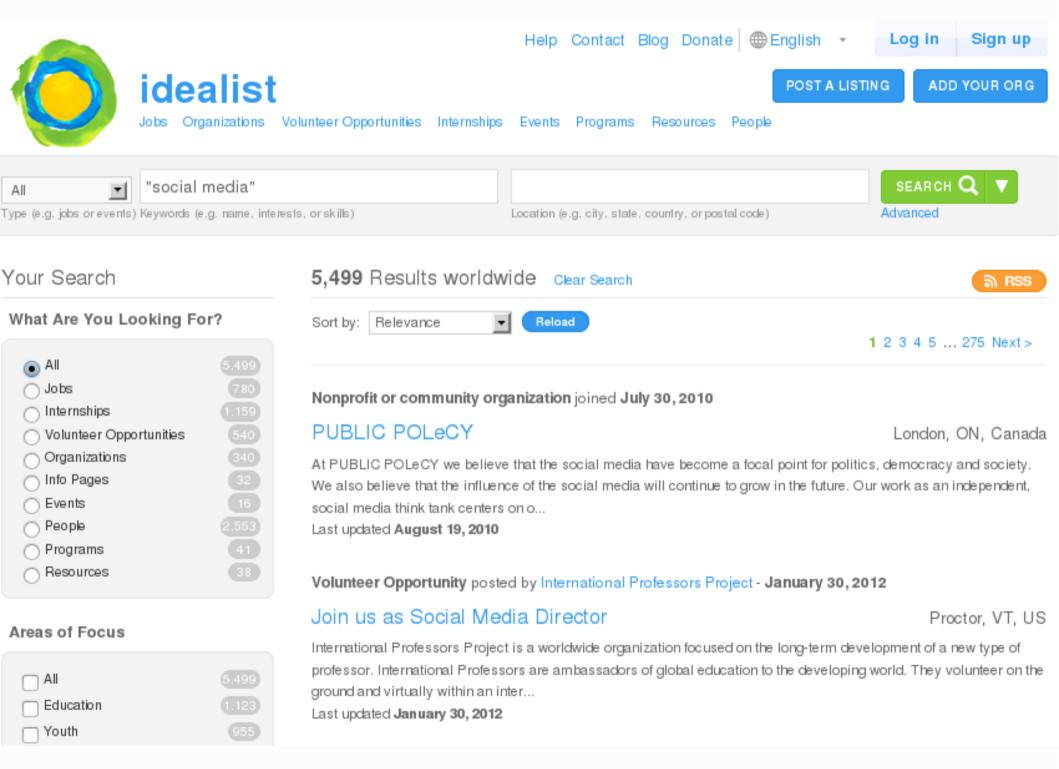
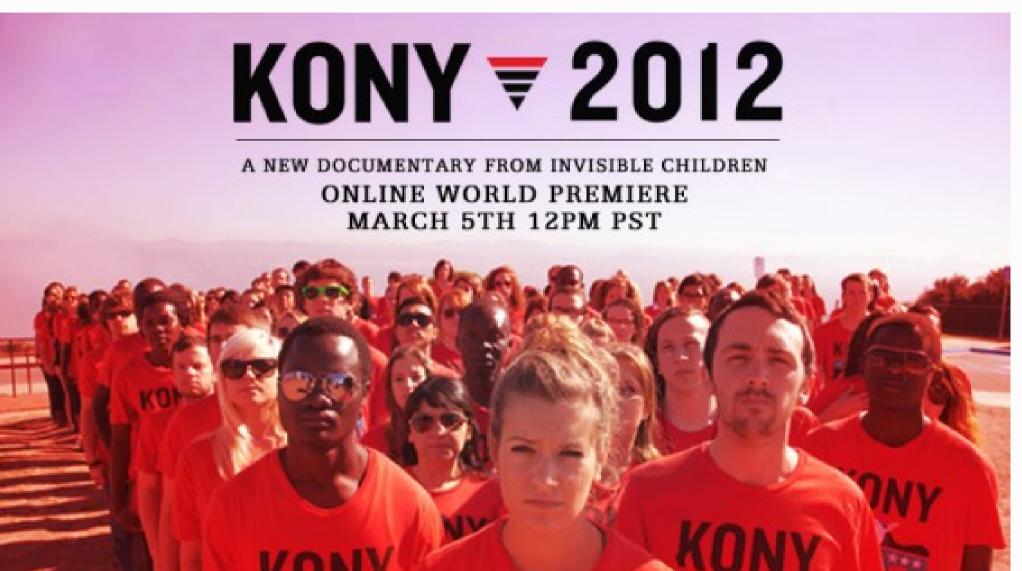
Communications Technology & Social Change Activism

- 1. How can social change efforts take advantage of new media?
- 2. How can we build new technologies for activism and social change?
- 3. How can we take control of technology development as a means of social change?

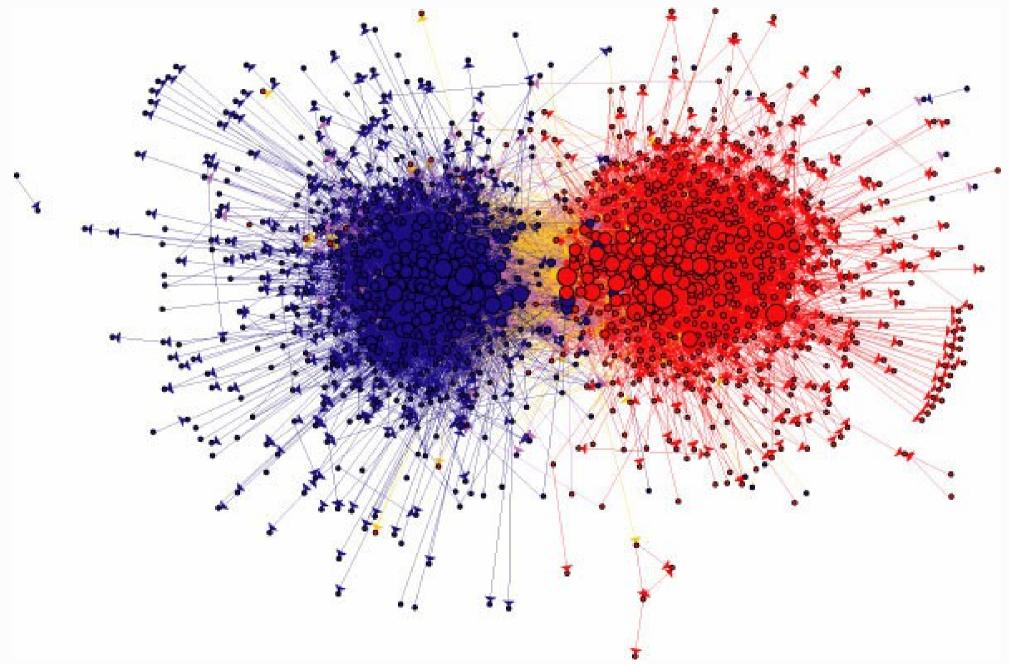
How can social change efforts take advantage of new media technologies?







Polarization in Political Blogs





Reich et al. 2011 – Social Media In Classrooms

How can we build new technologies for activism and social change?



Twitter Creator On Iran: 'I Never Intended For Twitter To Be Useful'

JUNE 24, 2009 | ISSUE 45.26

SAN FRANCISCO—Creator Jack Dorsey was shocked and saddened this week after learning that his social networking device, Twitter, was being used to disseminate pertinent and timely information during the recent civil unrest in Iran. "Twitter was intended to be a way for vacant, self-absorbed egotists to share their most banal and idiotic thoughts with anyone pathetic enough to read them," said a visibly confused Dorsey, claiming that Twitter is at its most powerful when it makes an already attention-starved populace even more needy for constant affirmation. "When I heard how Iranians were using my beloved creation for their own means—such as organizing a political movement and informing the outside world of the actions of a repressive regime—I couldn't believe they'd ruined something so beautiful, simple, and absolutely pointless." Dorsey said he is already working on a new website that will be so mind-numbingly useless that Iranians will not even be able to figure out how to operate it.



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How can we take control of technology development as a means of social change?

Free Software's Freedoms

- 1. Use software for any purpose.
- 2. Study and modify.
- 3. Distribute copies to others.
- 4. Collaborate and share your changes.

```
$monitor = array( '42107457' => 1, '9359890' => 1);
// Put baddies (hotties?) in here

/* Monitoring these people's profile viewage.

Stored in central db on profile_views.

Helpful for law enforcement to monitor stalkers and stalkees. */
```

