

Feminism and protocols

01

Juliana Guerra
Derechos Digitales

Mallory Knodell
Article 19

In the first version we were trying to cover two different problems:

In the user level

Describe some internet threats considering gender and other social locations where people can experience both oppression and privilege

Identify how those threats can be related to internet protocols

Inside the IETF

Identify some manifestations of gender discrimination in IETF archive, by analyzing terminology and contexts of RFCs and I-Ds.

Point out how mentality (in this case, about gender roles) is embedded in protocols designing

In version 01 we chose to address the first problem, as follows:

RFC 8280 focuses on how some protocols can enable or restrict specific human rights, assuming that those fundamental rights are held by all people equally.

Based on the **Feminist Principles of the Internet**, this draft recognizes how different social locations may determine people's capacities to exercise their rights through the internet.

Intersectionality

- * To understand how multiple forms of discrimination overlap
- * Not focused on the problem of equality but on difference
- * Discrimination is not analyzed in terms of effective access to rights, but the conditions and capacities that people have to access those rights

Social location the multiple layered identities people live, derived from social relations, history and structures of power through which people can experience both oppression and privilege

Oppressions can be structural and dynamic, determined by gender, race, sexuality, geographical location, abilities or health conditions, among other factors

Matrix of domination the way in which the powers that produce and reproduce intersecting oppression are organized

ACCESS

PRINCIPLE	HARM	RELATED TO PROTOCOLS
Access to internet	Restricted connectivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- End-to-end principle- Interoperability- Decentralization
Access to information	Blocked sites, Monitoring by content, identify users by IP or type of traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Content agnosticism- Censorship resistance
Usage of technology		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Internationalization- Interoperability- Adaptability (permissionless innovation)- RFC5646

MOVEMENTS

PRINCIPLE	HARM	RELATED TO PROTOCOLS
Resistance		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Integrity
Movement Building		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Integrity
Governance		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- RFC7704

Next steps

- * Develop a methodology to establish a relation between oppressions on the internet and how protocols can enable them, or not.
- * Collect cases, based on documented violence / vulnerability user cases as well as response strategies and experiences by feminist technical community.
- * Participative process.