Responsibility in AI Systems & Experiences (RAISE) at the University of Washington presents:

Casey Fiesler

Data Is People: Unintended Consequences in AI and Data Science

Friday February 25, 2022, 9-10am PT

Join: https://washington.zoom.us/j/94636255672

Abstract: Hardly a day passes without a new technology ethics scandal in the news, and many of them touch on AI, machine learning, and data science—from privacy violations in data collection to biased data feeding algorithms to unexpected uses of research. This talk builds on two threads of my research: (1) empirical work towards best practices for research ethics in data science, including understanding possible harms of using public data without consent; and (2) ethical debt (as a parallel to technical debt) in technology design and research as the precursor to the types of unintended consequences that underly many ethical controversies. I will suggest strategies for being more forward-thinking and for remembering the people present in data.

Casey Fiesler is an assistant professor in Information Science (and Computer Science by courtesy) at University of Colorado Boulder. She researches and teaches in the areas of technology ethics, internet law and policy, and online communities. Her work on research ethics for data science, ethics education in computing, and broadening participation in computing is supported by the National Science Foundation, and she is the recipient of an NSF CAREER Award. Also a public scholar, she is a frequent commentator and speaker on topics of technology ethics and policy, and her research has been covered everywhere from The New York Times to Teen Vogue, but she's most proud of her TikToks. She holds a PhD in Human-Centered Computing from Georgia Tech and a JD from Vanderbilt Law School.

RAISE is a UW-wide group of students and faculty interested in the broad space of responsibility in AI, trustworthy machine learning, human-centered computing and data science. As part of this group, our mission is to engage in scholarly, educational, and outreach activities that lead to foundational research in these areas. https://www.raise.uw.edu.

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