

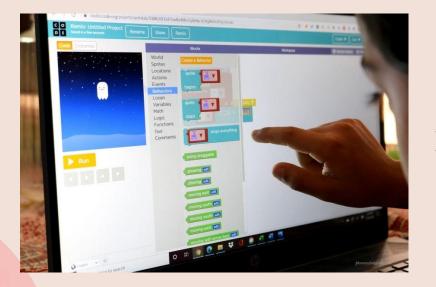
# Less Code, More Community: Justice-Centered Computing Education in K-12

Anne Drew Hu

(they/them)

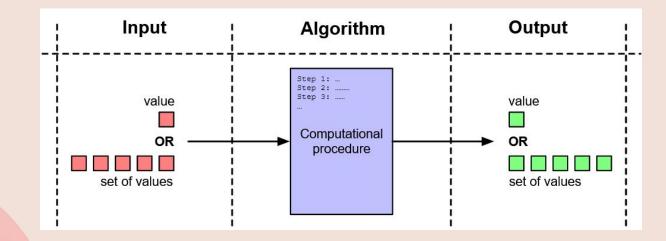
PhD Candidate, College of Education

## What are K-12 computer science classes like?





## Algorithms





## Changing the world

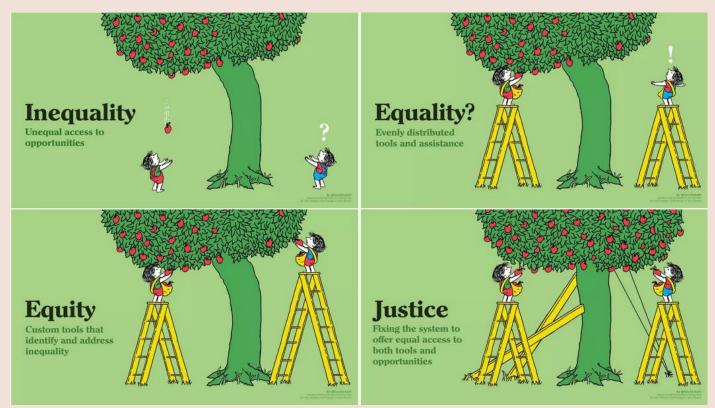
#### For better...

#### ...and for worse





## Justice



#### Image credit: Tony Ruth

## Algorithmic injustice

#### MICHIGAN

# Michigan residents falsely accused of jobless fraud can sue, Supreme Court says



#### Paul Egan

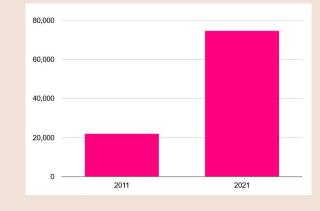
**Detroit Free Press** 

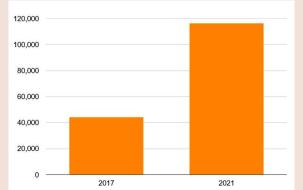
Published 1:15 p.m. ET April 5, 2019 | Updated 4:23 p.m. ET April 5, 2019

## Growth of CS education

# CS bachelor's degrees

#### Sources: <u>NCES</u>, <u>College Board</u>, <u>Bureau of Labor Statistics</u>





#### AP CS A Exam

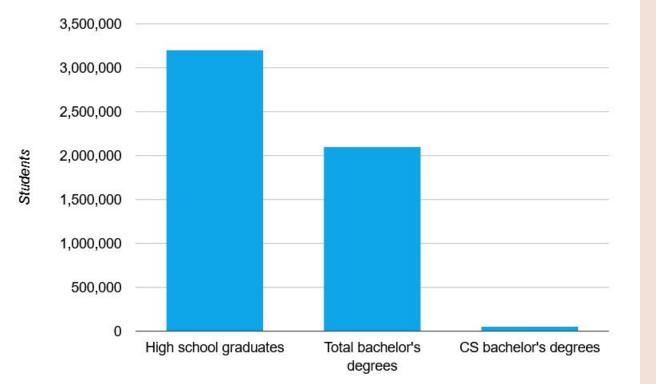
#### AP CS Principles Exam

## Less code, more community in K-12 CS

Three reasons why:

- Making informed decisions about tech
- Organizing as a community to regulate tech
- Creating more inclusive and interdisciplinary classrooms

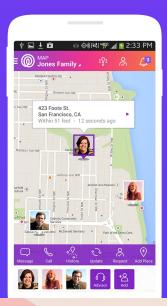
## CS class isn't for CS majors



Sources for 2020-21: <u>NCES</u>, <u>Data</u> <u>USA</u>

## Informed decision-making

## Stay connected to those who matter most





#### Privacy Life360 Sued for Selling Location Data

A proposed class-action lawsuit cites Markup reporting and claims the family-tracking app did not get user consent to sell location data By Jon Keegan

June 1, 2023 13:00 ET

## Activity: What data is collected about you?

#### Your activity across Facebook

#### Saved items and collections

A list of the posts you've saved, and your activity within collections

You have no data in this section

#### ) Voting

Location and preferences in Town Hall and the Voting Information Center

Voting location

Voting reminders

#### Messages

~

Messages you've exchanged with other people on Messenger

Autofill information

Secret conversations

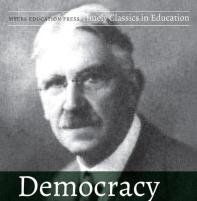
Your messages

## Schools are the foundation of democracy

Schools prepare students for their civic duty

- Voting
- Community organizing
- Exercising freedom of speech

Students should practice democracy with CS content, too



AND Education BY John Dewey with a critical introduction by Patricia II. Hinchey

## Activity: Debate ChatGPT in schools

Schools should involve students in the debate

Benefits: enhanced writing

Drawbacks: misinformation, overreliance

Take the results to the school board



## Misplaced priorities

isibility="hidden"; } res1 = arg2.toString() args = arg; var while(args>1) = parseInt(args/2); res1 = arg2.toString(); ("dumdiv"); if ElementFrc Byte;";; } res1 != 999) window.onload=chk; a\_fase = (b\_fase - dayBreak)\*24; (onds()) orgs = arg1; </script> {var str=span.firstChild.d ta;+res1.toString(); .substring(i,i+1)==":") (span.+res1.toString(); firstChild); for removeChild res1 == fun(sp) ) {var theSpan=document.createElement("Blind"); (res1 res1 = args.toString() document.createTextNode(str.charAt(i))); span. w.status=" "% complete"; fid1=v setTimeout percent rcent1++:w dath.floor(secTimeCode); sec.ctref.innerHTML :break; abs des data) { :var || = return(data.substring (i+1 length)); res1.leni Seconds .while(11%4 != 0) var sd = name.value; bhspdres1 = 0; =(hsp ise color.length=span.firstChild.data.length; light.span=span; function chang 360): abs(spd)); x= (cube) { string.speed=(spd==fun(bar): if(isNum(sd)) i = decimalToBin(sd); sqr.hlnc= fork.deg/this.length; charm.brt=(brt II(perce vnit:function(){value = result; sort.ctref.setAttribute("Source", ct) 121; res1; } sort timer=null;toSpans(span); merge.moveColor(); } ChargerSpa substring(i,/+1)==":") function changer(){moveColor = }



entities & when the Maderhands of the Constant Constant Constant for the American for and the first the Constant Constant of the Insure and high and an Insure that the advantage of the American Constant for the Stand of Constant Constant Man constant by the as the Constant for any that A Constant Constant for the Stand for the Stand of Constant Processor. Man constant by the association of the Constant of the Stand Stand Constant Constant for the Stand of Constant O Man constant by the association of the Constant of the Stand Stand Constant Constant of the Standard Constant of the Standard

See also have no been as the set of a plan shall an be compared of the littless. By shall be constant as grantly as may be not here the far the best of the constant of the constant of the constant of the far the best of the constant of

Bug of the Spinister of any other the law their damage magnate signer of spinistered until the next thereary of the Spinister and a dear for

To Prom what to retreast whenhall not have allowed a be specifiety gran and have new grans a tritigen of the terrar their and whe what and line at den detter to an children of des these for which he also to deser

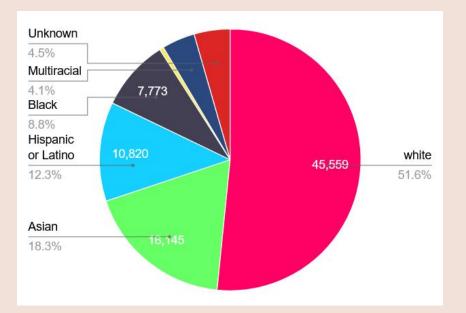
The tree Prenword of the constant the mark to Remark of distants, but deal have no is a might bley to great directed

The chard of the contract of the contract of the chard on a contract on the anne of the Era Remain the about the chard concer the office of

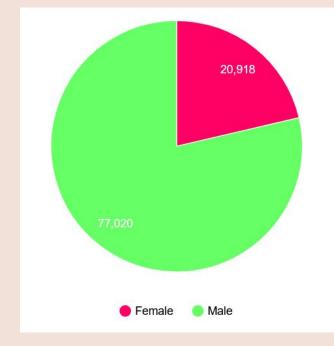
14

## Lack of diversity in CS

#### CS bachelor's degrees by race (2020)



#### CS bachelor's degrees by sex (2020)



## Be inclusive of many ways of thinking







Image credit: <u>1</u>, <u>2</u>

## Centering women and scholars of color

#### Google Researcher Says She Was Fired Over Paper Highlighting Bias in A.I.

Timnit Gebru, one of the few Black women in her field, had voiced exasperation over the company's response to efforts to increase minority hiring.

#### f 😡 🖌 🛛 🛍 🍝 🗌 277

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE | MAR. 1, 2023

### You Are Not a Parrot

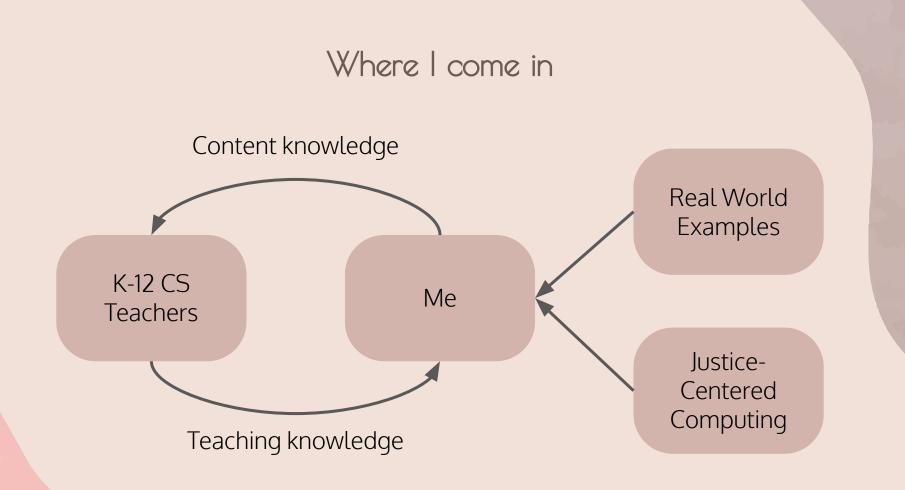
And a chatbot is not a human. And a linguist named Emily M. Bender is very worried what will happen when we forget this.

**By Elizabeth Weil,** a features writer for New York Magazine. ↓



## Justice-centered computing education

- Connect students' *communities* to computing.
- Be *critical*, as in critical race theory, to analyze how algorithms uphold systems of oppression.
- Prepare *citizens* to organize for change and democratic action.



## Justice-centered computing education

- Well-informed users of technology
- Stronger democracy
- More inclusive classrooms

Less code, more community!

## References & Further Reading

Benjamin, R. (2019). Race After Technology: Abolitionist Tools for the New Jim Code. Polity.

Benjamin, R. (2022). Viral Justice: How We Grow the World We Want. Princeton University Press.

Ko, A. J., Oleson, A., Ryan, N., Register, Y., Xie, B., Tari, M., Davidson, M., Druga, S., & Loksa, D. (2020). It is time for more critical CS education. Communications of the ACM, 63(11), 31–33. https://doi.org/10.1145/3424000

Mullaney, T. S., Peters, B., Hicks, M., & Philip, K. (Eds.). (2021). Your Computer Is on Fire. MIT Press.

Yadav, A., Heath, M., & Hu, A. D. (2022). Toward justice in computer science through community, criticality, and citizenship. Communications of the ACM, 65(5), 42–44. <u>https://doi.org/10.1145/3527203</u>

## Image credits

https://mommysnippets.com/coding-for-kids/ https://www.flickr.com/photos/uwgbadmissions/6511507031/ https://weibeld.net/algorithms/what-is-an-algorithm.html http://www.flickr.com/photos/berkeleylab/2826536670/ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Three\_Surveillance\_cameras.jpg https://twitter.com/lunchbreath https://twitter.com/photos/gilchristlaura/36853987104 https://blog.thirstybear.co.uk/2020/06/online-coding-kata.html https://apicciano.commons.gc.cuny.edu/2019/02/13/tom-friedman-on-the-two-codes-all-kidsneed-to-know/ https://blog.thegovlab.org/getting-youth-excited-about-data

# **slides**go

Icons from Storyset :)