

Using Tech for Social Justice

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**what is a
sociotechnical
problem?**



Sociotechnical problems are issues that humans face that *could* be resolved or better understood through computing.

At HtH, we teach technology as a tool to help us address the problems that face Black, Indigenous and Latinx communities.

example sociotechnical problems and solutions

Problem: Disproportional school suspensions

Why is this an issue for BIPOC communities?

What is the data solution?

How did technologists come up with the right solution?



example sociotechnical problems and solutions

Problem: Breast cancer detection

Why is this an issue for BIPOC communities?

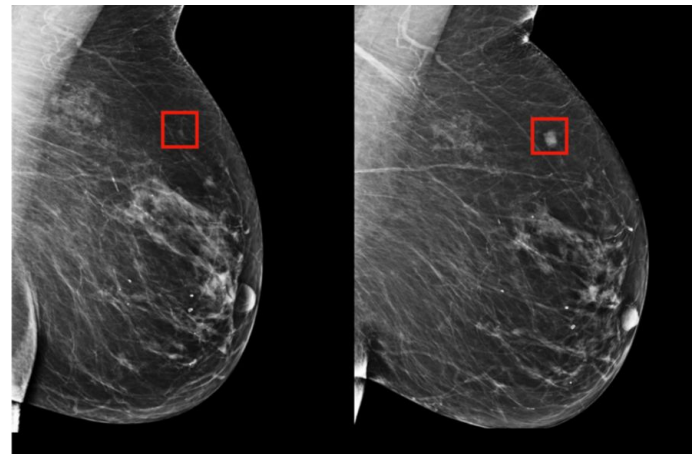
Currently women of color die of breast cancer at significantly higher rates. Less likely to have their cancer detected early. Access to testing is lower in communities of color.

What is the technology solution?

The software analyzed scans from more than 90,000 mammograms and used that to recognize and develop patterns for detecting breast cancer early.

How did technologists come up with the right solution?

They discovered that the software was just as good at detecting breast cancer in people of color as white people.



example sociotechnical problems and solutions

Problem: Technology for Indigenous Language Retention

Why is this an issue for BIPOC communities?

The issue is that indigenous people are losing their language.

The language carries culture.

What is the technology solution?

An app for translating.

More options for settings on your phone(keyboard that can translate)

How did technologists come up with the right solution?



example sociotechnical problems and solutions

Problem: Language barriers for Latinx parents of school age kids

Why is this an issue for BIPOC communities?

Parents can't engage in child's education
Children get frustrated, success is at stake

What is the technology solution?

A chatbot that utilizes the messenger the parents already use and trust (as opposed to public networks or other apps they weren't willing to learn)

How did technologists come up with the right solution?





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He also practices fine art, and has had his work showcased at the ProArts Oakland, the Kala Art Institute, and the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. Currently, Jonathan is a Generation Thrive Leadership Fellow with the Golden State Warriors & Kaiser Permanente, and was named to the 2020 YBCA100 list for changemakers in our society.



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Thank You!