# ATN NEWSLETTER

Wait... Could an AI be racist?



#### DATES OF NOTE FOR MARCH

All Month: Women's History Month (Theme: Moving Forward Together! Women Educating & Inspiring Generations), Irish Heritage Month, **Francophonie Month** 

1st to 29th - Ramadan

1st - Zero Discrimination Against AIDS

Day, St. David's Day

3rd - World Hearing Day, Clean Monday 3rd to April 19 - Orthodox/Great Lent

5th - Ash Wednesday

8th - International Women's Day (#AccelerateAction)

13th to 14th - Purim

13th to 16th - Hola Mohalla

14th - Holi

15th - UN International Day to Eliminate Islamophobia, International

**Day Against Police Brutality** 

17th - St. Patrick's Day, Holy Thursday

18th to 24th - Neurodiversity Week

20th - Spring Equinox / Motoyi, International Francophone Day,

Nowruz

21st - International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, World Down Syndrome Day,

**Omnisexual Awareness Day** 

22nd - World Water Day

23rd - Earth Hour

26th - Purple Day (Epilepsy Awareness)

27th - Laylat Al-Qadr

**30th - World Bipolar Day, Eid al-Fitr** 

31st - International Transgender Day of Visibility, National Indigenous

**Languages Day** 

#### **OUR 3RD ANNIVERSARY AND ALGORITHMS**

From the desks of the Antiracist Teachers Network:

Welcome back to another International Women's History Month! The release of this issue marks a total of twentyeight newsletter releases and three years of reaching out to all of you through a digital forum.

Normally during International Women's History Month, we try to align our newsletter with the yearly theme, however, one thing has been lingering in the back of our minds. Artificial Intelligence.

Look, we're not here to judge whether or not you use AI. Though, we will say our newsletter is and will always be written with the human brain power and compassion of our two-person writing team. We will also inform you that over the years there has been a staggering amount of evidence that artificial intelligence is racist in its <u>algorithmic training</u> (<u>and sexist</u>).

So, what can we as educators do as we witness Al get integrated into pretty much everything possible along with the latest form of digital racism?

Well, being informed is the first step. And we hope this issue helps you to reevaluate the benefits of AI against the racism it can potentially perpetuate.

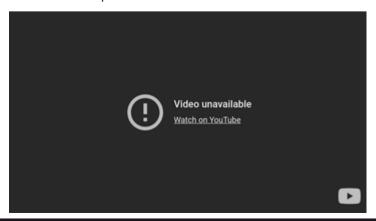






### **COOL STUFF!**

- Brookings provides an interesting discussion on how <u>Al in</u> schools can bring biases as well
- <u>The Algorithmic Justice League</u> (AJL) has developed <u>education guides</u> exploring algorithms along with a viewing guide for <u>Coded Bias</u>
- The Urban Alliance on Race Relations event Al, Black-Disabled Youth & The Criminal Justice System
- The California Department of Education has created a series called <u>Learning With AI, Learning About AI</u> with focuses on bias, social impacts and the ethics
- The University of Warwick has a webinar focused on Al, Race & Racism and Critical Pedagogies
- Stanford Law School has collaborated with the United
   Nations to develop a report regarding Al and Racial Bias
- Democracy Now! has several articles focusing on this topic, but we'd like to highlight <u>How AI is Enabling Racism &</u>
   Sexism
- SageJournal provides the results of a study focused on teaching children about algorithmic bias and how it could apply in your classroom
- EdWeek has an article focused on why schools need to discuss racial bias in edtech
- The Radical Al Podcast may have ended but their episode catalogue provides a variety of analysis on Al, it's ethics and how racism can shape it



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

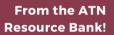
Come see the ATN at:



The ATN Presents: Addressing Hateful Language in Schools: Strategies for Educators

The ATN is collaborating with Local 38's PD committee for a half day workshop focused on developing understanding around harmful language in schools. Register for this unique PD on March 11, 2025 at the Glenmore Inn through Eventbrite!

## OUR MONTLY BOOK RECCS



\*Disclaimer: We did our level best to try and find books on AI from diverse authors, but all we found were either AI generated books or information guides from unknown authors, so this month's Book Reccs are for educators only.

#### For Educators

**Algorithms of Oppression: How Search Engines Reinforce Racism** by Safiya Umoja
Noble

Hidden in White Sight: How AI Empowers and Deepens Systemic Racism by Calvin Lawrence

Unmasking AI: My Mission to Protect What Is Human in a World of Machines by Dr. Joy Buolamwini

The Racist Robot: How AI is Reinforcing Systemic Discrimination by Anaya Patel Viral Justice: How We Grow the World We Want by Ruha Benjamin

**Is Artificial Intelligence Racist? The Ethics of Al and the Future of Humanity** by Arshin Adib-Moghaddam

Automating Inequality: How High-Tech Tools Profile, Police, and Punish the Poor by Virginia Eubanks

<u>Data Feminism</u> by Catherine D'Ignazio and Lauren F. Klein

Race After Technology by Ruha Benjamin

