

INFORMATION PANEL

REWRITING THE AI NARRATIVE: FROM PARALYSIS TOWARDS RADICAL IMAGINATION

Progressive Technology Project &
Climate Justice Alliance

THE A.I. RACE

for US dominance in artificial intelligence race



Watch on  YouTube

THE DATA CENTER AND A.I. BOOM NARRATIVE

- US A.I. Action Plan
 - Deregulation
 - Ramp up (dirty) energy infrastructure
 - Accelerate AI adoption and public investment
- Narrative Framing
 - Inevitable
 - Win Race Against China
 - “Whether we like it or not”
 - Whatever it takes
 - No One Expected This
 - U.S. Controlled Algorithms Only
 - Transform Security + Defense
 - AI development will determine our future



A RECYCLED NARRATIVE

- “For space science, like nuclear science and all technology, has no conscience of its own. Whether it will become a force for good or ill depends on man, and only if the United States occupies a position of pre-eminence can we help decide whether this new ocean will be a sea of peace or a new terrifying theater of war.”
- – JFK, We Choose to Go to the Moon



TECHNOLOGY IS A POWER RELATIONSHIP

- All technology is a power dynamic
- We need to question
 - Who dominates and controls it?
 - Who sets the rules? Who is being centered?
 - What narrative are they building and why?
- Context is everything
 - How does the rise of authoritarianism / fascism play into the narrative they are building?
 - What does it mean for our interconnected communities?

THE NEED FOR RADICAL IMAGINATION

"Without the radical imagination, we are left only with the residual dreams of the powerful and, for the vast majority, they are experienced not as dreams but as nightmares of insecurity, precarity, violence, and hopelessness. Without the radical imagination, we are lost."

- The Radical Imagination: Social Movement Research in the Age of Austerity By Alex Khasnabish and Max Haiven