

Observations on the Gamergate scandal

Multiple signs point to the existence of an unidentified disruptive organization that acts in the manner of an operations group of a hostile intelligence agency while seeking to dominate areas of cultural influence. This organization has the power to run blatantly false information on the BBC and CBC and in many American newspapers; to control the content of popular websites Wikipedia and Reddit; to remove users from Wikipedia and Twitter for disagreeing with members of this organization or expressing concern over its activities and not for any reason of misconduct; to have products pulled from store shelves in Australia and New Zealand today over a debunked scare that ended a decade ago; to have producers expelled from marketplaces in multiple industries for reasons of politics and not misconduct; to silence nearly all institutions that would normally speak out against these actions; and has recruited a member of the Council on Foreign Relations to produce propaganda on its behalf.

This organization has demonstrated an ability to control the narrative of what the American people are allowed to hear on matters of politics and business misconduct. The organization has made contact with multiple government agencies with the apparent motive of using federal authority against its business competitors and political opponents. The organization has had members or associates present at meetings attended by key personnel in the cybersecurity arena, including Howard Schmidt of Ridge-Schmidt Cyber and Mike Echols of the Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources department of DHS, and may have recruited a BICES administrator working for General Dynamics. It is the opinion of this author that the sum of these actions constitute a threat to national security.

Associations of this organization:

- * Linked to the Adbusters organization
- * Multiple direct and indirect links to Microsoft executives and researchers
- * Funded in part by the Canadian government
- * Linked to a former official at the White House Office of Science and Technology
- * Linked to the Anonymous hacker movement, several “chan” boards, and the GNAA
- * Incorporates a preexisting international network of feminist activists
- * Incorporates the transgender activist group Sylvia Rivera Law Project
- * Includes a number of fraudsters, con artists, and small-time criminals across the US
- * Linked to HSBC
- * Linked to organizations that do business in China
- * Includes or is linked to persons who have weak connections to the UAE and Qatar
- * Weakly linked to the embezzlement of \$144 million from Louisiana pension funds

There is no known evidence of any organized harassment of women in game development or any opposition to women in the video game industry other than that activity performed by the organization attempting to suppress the spread of information about the Gamergate scandal.

This author requests a team of at least 24 investigators dispersed across multiple time zones, drawn from military personnel already deployed worldwide, to map out the connections of this organization. The group will need a VPN, software tools for tracking relationships over time, and the ability to request records from other agencies on persons of interest.

The state of free speech on the Web

The Internet, not long ago a bastion of free speech, now resembles the state-controlled media behind the Iron Curtain of the Cold War where opinions against the party line are actively suppressed and holding such an opinion comes at a risk to one's financial security and future employment prospects.



A developer is threatened with blacklisting for claiming that the game industry is progressive and welcoming to women.

A Google employee posted this message in the manner of Russian newscasters going off script to tell the truth. There is an unconfirmed rumor that the employee was fired on the orders of Google community manager Casey Monroe.



Payment processors Flattr, Gratipay, and Patreon have stopped service for the web forum 8chan because it allows discussion of the Gamergate scandal. Web hosting providers EIG (HostGator), GNAX, and OVH have shut down websites for covering the story.

Websites accused of political censorship of information related to Gamergate (based on witness reports, many unconfirmed):

420chan	Gawker Media	Pastebin
4chan	GiantBomb	PC Gamer
ABC News (US)	GitHub	Polygon
Alternate History	Gitlab	Reddit
Ars Technica	The Guardian (UK)	RPG.net
Battle.net	IGN	RPS
Cracked	InfoWars	Slashdot
Daily Dot	Internet Archive	Something Awful
Danbooru	Joystiq	Steam
Destructoid	Hacker News	TV Tropes
Facebook	Kotaku	Twitter
Fark	Metafilter	Verge
FetLife	Motherboard/VICE	Wikipedia
Gamasutra	N4G	Youtube
GameFAQs	Nationstates	ZeldaUniverse
Games Nosh	NeoGAF	
Gamestop	NPR	

Ideology

The ideology of this unidentified force resembles an offshoot of Soviet communism that has survived and grown in influence after the end of the Cold War while losing all intellectual rigor, becoming a cargo cult that lives on its own sense of self-righteousness, support from unidentified financiers, and a surprisingly strong business acumen. The traits of this organization include:

- A Manichean binary view of society that sees everything as either absolutely purely good or absolutely purely evil, with nothing in between and no room for debate.
- The celebration of whatever is disruptive or counter-cultural, unless it is disruptive or counter to their own activities.
- The desire for power over others, and the rejection of human rights. Any means may be used to gain an advantage over outsiders, resembling the Fair Game policy of Scientology.
- The rejection of, and obligation to destroy, everything that is not “progressive” or “diverse”, words redefined to mean only that something is controlled by this organization. Competing leftist leaders and institutions are subverted or destroyed.
- The rejection of the scientific method. Evidence is not to be questioned, debated, or brought to the table. The practice of rational discussion is considered offensive. Arguments are won by preventing the opposing speaker from being heard.
- An unrestrained hatred of “white” people, resembling the white devil theology of the Nation of Islam. The members of this organization are almost all white themselves.
- A belief in the inherent evil of biological maleness, not only social traits or gender roles, to the extent that members of the group are pressured into sexual reassignment surgery.
- An adamant refusal to criticize any aspect of Islam or recognize the existence of Islamic extremism. All terrorism is justified as “resistance to oppression” and the United States is blamed for every incident.
- The rejection (or more likely the ignorance) of Marxist economics. Members of the organization are drawn from the middle or upper class, tend to be (or portray themselves as) leaders in business, and ignore the concerns of the lower classes except when they can be used to disrupt society.



The organization shares the communist attitude that it is on “the right side of history” and that anyone who disagrees with the methods or ideology of the organization in any way is “reactionary”, “conservative”, and must be destroyed. The group claims for itself the legacy of all past progressive movements while attacking the reputations of surviving members of those movements and denouncing them as old and conservative.

The organization makes heavy use of identity politics as a recruiting tool. It works over long periods of time to infiltrate and subvert existing cultural identities and respected institutions, incorporate support for the organization as part of the group identity, and eliminate any dissenting opinions. All captured institutions are then used to send similar messages to multiple different interest groups across multiple forms of media. The organization does not have a name for itself but claims to represent whatever identity its members choose to speak for, and claims that the entire identity is under attack by bigots whenever any individual representative is criticized for any error or misstatement.

The organization's advocacy is marked by the deliberate misuse of academic terms of social study, all misused in the same manner by all members. Racism, the sub-classification of humanity formalized by Carl Linnaeus, is redefined as “prejudice plus power” to justify racism against white people. Sexism is similarly redefined as something that only men can do to women. Patriarchy, a term for a social structure that legally forbids women from positions of leadership, is redefined to the opposite extreme of precision as a vague and constant all-encompassing state of being. Rape culture, a term for a culture where rape is socially acceptable, is redefined to mean any culture where anyone ever could commit rape regardless of how much the culture frowns upon it. The net effect of these new definitions is that anybody of any race, gender, or creed, of any level of guilt or innocence, may be accused of the most heinous racism, sexism, and encouraging rape, without legal recourse for libel. The organization aggressively takes advantage of this strength to destroy the reputations of people and businesses that are in the way of it obtaining more power, starting with whoever objects to the misuse of these terms.

Similarly, the organization believes that the recognition of people as male or female is a form of hatred against transgendered people regardless of whether the person so identified is transgender or not. This is not seen as conflicting with the same organization's identification and hatred of men, and the organization considers it hateful and bigoted to recognize the inconsistency.

Due to the large number of youth among the organization and a few pictures on the internet that claim to represent sections of textbooks, it is believed that these false definitions are currently being taught in university social studies courses and in high school sexual education courses with the effect of teaching the youth that this organization is the only force in the world standing against the evils of racism and sexism, that allies can be identified by their use of these false definitions, and that enemies can be identified by their failing to use these false definitions.

The organization is believed to research and keep lists of everyone it has disagreed with. This information would be valuable to a hostile force in eliminating potential dissidents and resisters in advance of a hostile action. This data collection should be a cause for concern when considering the organization's favorable disposition towards Islamist organizations that are known to have active recruiting networks in the United States.

Methods

The disruptive organization operates by a pattern of claiming that there is a problem of racism or sexism within a business or social group by blowing a minor issue out of proportion or fabricating an issue entirely, and then accusing those within the group who dismiss the severity of the issue of being unforgivably racist or sexist. By the start of a campaign the disruptive organization will already have journalists of good reputation willing to write stories about the “problematic” or “toxic” culture of the group, and will have members inside the group who will petition for the current leaders to be replaced by members of the disruptive organization to fix the invented problem. Once in power, the disruptive organization makes continued membership within the group dependent upon agreeing with the political viewpoints of the new leaders and never criticizing them.

When resistance is met, the organization will respond with whispering campaigns alleging sexual misconduct; media smear campaigns; threats to boycott businesses employing resisters; hacking activities, including swatting and the release of personally identifying information; and telephone harassment, including death threats. In the case of Gamergate, Breitbart London reporter Milo Yiannopoulos and game developer Slade Villena of San Jose, California have said that dead animals were sent to their homes. The activities of this organization tend to be so minor that law enforcement agencies will not spend time looking into them, as in many cases no laws are broken and those investigating individual incidents are not likely to see a wider pattern.

Observers have noted similar patterns of behavior suggesting that the same organization may be responsible for numerous incidents:

- The turn of multiple feminist organizations around the world toward denouncing and excluding the “trans-exclusionary radical feminists” (TERFs) who were widely considered to be the most extreme of feminists before the anti-TERFs appeared; calling for the outlawing of the safe spaces of womens' restrooms and gym showers; and forcing the closure of the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival for only allowing “womyn-born womyn” to attend.
- The election of persons associated with John Scalzi and publisher Tor Books to the leadership of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America (SFWA), which was shortly followed by the permanent expulsion from SFWA of Theodore Beale, Scalzi's opponent in the election, on a charge of racism; the firing of longtime SFWA Magazine editor Jean Rabe, a woman, on a charge of sexism against women; the denunciation of two writers as sexist for saying that the attractiveness of one female science-fiction author had brought more women into science fiction by breaking the stereotype of women writers being unattractive; the establishment of racially segregated meetings at SFWA conventions; and a pattern of all Hugo Award nominees being writers for Tor Books or sharing the same political agenda.
- The launch of the Atheism Plus movement, the “Coffeegate” incident in which all atheists were collectively accused of harboring a rape culture because one man once invited one woman to his hotel room for a cup of coffee, and the firing of Phil Mason from Free Thought Blogs for resisting peer pressure to join the movement.

Adbusters

Adbusters launched the Occupy protests of 2011 in the spirit of the Arab Spring protests,¹ promotes “culture jamming”, and advocates for a world revolution.² It is a disruptive organization, but not one that would be expected to promote a big business agenda and the abuse of power by the powerful.

Jim Munroe is the public face of Adbusters and several artistic associations that share an appreciation for communist and other generally socially disruptive themes. These include the Hand Eye Society which formed around 2008 with the goal of “meshing Toronto's videogame communities”. The logo of the Hand Eye Society includes the upraised fist.³ These associations offer publicity, training, and social connections to young artists while promoting most heavily those artwork and artists that incorporate disruptive themes into their work.

Miguel Sternberg identifies the Difference Engine Initiative as a project of the Hand Eye Society and names person of interest Chelsea van Valkenburg as one of its alumni.⁴ The Difference Engine Initiative held a Feminists in Games workshop with person of interest Jennifer Jenson.⁵

1 “#OCCUPYWALLSTREET - A shift in revolutionary tactics.”, Adbusters, 13 July 2011, <https://www.adbusters.org/blogs/adbusters-blog/occupywallstreet.html>

2 “World Revolution Day“, Adbusters, 10 September 2014, <https://www.adbusters.org/blogs/world-revolution-day.html>

3 Jim Munroe, “About”, Hand Eye Society, 15 January 2009, <http://web.archive.org/web/20090707104038/http://handeyesociety.com/whats-this-about>

4 Miguel Sternberg, letter regarding Brendan Frye, 2011, <http://pastebin.com/y7ChpCmp>

5 Jim Munroe, “Feminists in Games Workshop”, 20 March 2012, <http://handeyesociety.com/inspiration/feminists-in-games-workshop/>

Jonathan McIntosh

Jonathan McIntosh is a photographer, video editor, and philosopher with a focus on “disruptive” works and “social justice”. He is believed to be the brother of Jeffrey McIntosh, an importer of Chinese tea,⁶ and the son of Bruce McIntosh of Olga, Washington, who has both Jon and Jeffrey in his G+ circle.⁷ McIntosh published “A History of Subversive Remix Video” in the *Journal of Transformative Works and Cultures*.⁸

Jon McIntosh gave a talk on “Movements for Social Justice in the US” at the Institute for Global Justice in Jakarta, Indonesia in 2004.⁹ While claiming to represent “The Global South”, McIntosh disrupted a speech by World Trade Organization Secretary-General Pascal Lamy at Harvard University in November 2006.¹⁰

McIntosh attended the May 2006 Networked Publics conference at the University of Southern California's Annenberg Center for Communication. Mizuko “Mimi” Ito described a photograph taken at the conference as containing:¹¹

Jonathan McIntosh of ad remix fame, uber autonomist Marxist political theorist Harry Cleaver, and our own netpublics fellow Merlyna Lim and very talented graduate students and activists Sasha Costanza-Chock, Aram Sinreich, and Richard Hodkinson.

As of 2010 McIntosh was Ito's “curator for the political remix genre”.¹²

McIntosh spoke at the 2011 Digital Media and Learning Conference at UC Irvine.¹³ Organizers of this conference included the MacArthur Foundation which paid UC Irvine \$4.732 million to support the conference and associated research;¹⁴ The University of California Humanities Research Institute (UCHRI); Pearson Education; Microsoft Research; and the Mozilla foundation.¹⁵ UCHRI is directed by David Theo Goldberg, a fellow of the UCI Critical Theory Institute¹⁶ and reportedly an advocate of Islamist terrorism.¹⁷

6 Caitlin Jones, “The Story Behind McIntosh Tea“, Dwolla, 11 February 2013, <http://blog.dwolla.com/mcintosh-tea/>

7 Google + page for Bruce McIntosh, accessed 5 May 2015, <https://plus.google.com/108173603922390284745/posts>

8 Jonathan McIntosh, “A history of subversive remix video before YouTube: Thirty political video mashups made between World War II and 2005”, *Transformative Works and Cultures*, Volume 9, 2012, <http://journal.transformativeworks.org/index.php/twc/article/view/371/299>

9 Resume of Jonathan McIntosh, http://web.archive.org/web/20150108204003/http://bostonworkersalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/jonathanmcintosh_resume.pdf

10 Jonathan McIntosh, “Activists Disrupt Forum on WTO“, press release, via third-party blog, <http://acrazycatlady.blogspot.com/2006/11/activists-disrupt-forum-on-wto-at.html>

11 Mizuko Ito, “Reflections on Netpublics Conference”, 18 May 2006, <http://web.archive.org/web/20060615200914/http://netpublics.annenberg.edu/conference>

12 Mizuko Ito, “Peer-Based Learning in a Networked Age”, 13 May 2010, http://www.itofisher.com/mito/publications/peerbased_learn_2.html

13 “About the conference”, Digital Media and Learning Conference, 2011, <http://dml2011.dmlhub.net/>

14 MacArthur Foundation 2011 form 990PF page 95. An additional \$8.24 million was allocated for future expenses.

15 “Sponsors”, Digital Media and Learning Conference, 2011, <http://dml2011.dmlhub.net/conference2011/sponsors.html>

16 “David Theo Goldberg”, http://web.archive.org/web/20061230214929/http://www.uchri.org/main.php?page_id=160

17 Tammi Rossman-Benjamin, “Anti-Zionism and the Abuse of Academic Freedom,” *Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs*, 5 January 2009, <http://jcpa.org/article/anti-zionism-and-the-abuse-of-academic-freedom-a-case-study-at-the-university-of-california-santa-cruz/>

Feminist Frequency

Jonathan McIntosh, mentioned earlier, is the writer of Feminist Frequency which is well known for a series of videos featuring Anita Sarkeesian. Katherine Cross, another person of interest, serves as secretary of the organization.

The great divergence in the reception of these videos between social classes is remarkably similar to the Gamergate situation. The Feminist Frequency videos have been widely denounced by common members of the public as lacking in understanding of feminist concepts; lacking any knowledge of the intersection of feminism and video games, to the point of describing a celebrated feminist character as an insult to women and describing a sexualized character hated by feminists as a positive portrayal of a woman; falsifying the content of video games, to the extent of saying that a game requires the player to kill women when the game discourages the player for doing so and punishes the player who does; using plagiarized material; and otherwise being of poor quality. Contrasting sharply with the public response, there has been no significant criticism of the videos in any major commercial medium or in academia where the videos have received great praise and have been described as being of academic quality. Many websites ban critics of the videos from their forums, and some close their comments section to prevent any criticism from appearing.

This author suspects that there are multiple forces at work. There is a donor force which provides money and influence to feminist causes, or is expected to do so. This would be the sum of governments and private donors. Chasing their money is a great marketing force that is promoting Sarkeesian as a famous feminist, a product to sell to the buyer, and simultaneously manufacturing the perception of a need to address how women are treated in video games and the technology industry, for which specialists can be offered to prevent a business from receiving negative news coverage. This force has demonstrated the ability, through social pressure and financial pressure, to suppress criticism of its product quality by controlling avenues of dialogue that might connect the critics in the lower class to the decision makers in the upper class. This force is joined by, or may already include, a political force that seeks to promote feminist concepts and is not dissuaded by questions of competence.

Feminist Frequency recently posted a video giving a feminist stamp of approval to a Capybara Games character. Capybara Games is a member of the Microsoft ID@Xbox program.

Anita Sarkeesian is believed to have studied under Jennifer Jenson of York University in Toronto, previously mentioned as an associate of Adbusters. Before attending York, Sarkeesian had a history in marketing where she promoted handwriting analyst Bart Baggett and direct-mail marketer Alex Mandossian. Sarkeesian gave a speech at the 2011 conference of the feminist activist group Women, Action, & the Media.

Katherine Cross is a board member of the Sylvia Rivera Law Project and a board member of the Third Wave Fund. The Third Wave Fund shares a street address with the Proteus Fund, the Piper Fund, and the Colombe Foundation. Cross has been published in *Loading*, the magazine of the Canadian Game Studies Association which is led by Jennifer Jenson of York University in Toronto and Suzanne de Castelle of Simon Fraser University in Vancouver.

Microsoft

Multiple signs point to Microsoft being part of the network exposed in the Gamergate scandal and its aftermath.

Georgina Young of Tech Raptor alleges that Phil Fish, a major figure in the Gamergate scandal, has “high level connections at Microsoft.”¹⁸ Person of interest Brianna Wu reported “working with Microsoft” two days before her involvement in Gamergate,¹⁹ visited “Microsoft HQ”,²⁰ and reported being “in the middle of a partnership with MS”²¹ at the time she first started claiming to be harassed. Her software product is not available for any Microsoft platform.

Microsoft Geopolitical Strategy director Kate Edwards met with the San Diego FBI to discuss actions that the FBI could take against the online harassment of women game developers in July 2014, one month before the Gamergate scandal.²² Edwards previously ran the consulting company Geogrify which told game developers how to avoid offending the Chinese government in order to sell their products in China.

Microsoft's Kate Edwards is also the head of the International Game Developers Association (IGDA). Ed Fries, who led the team that created the Xbox gaming console, is a board member of IGDA and was its treasurer until April 2015. Fries is an advisor to the Curse Network, owner of gaming site Siliconera. Siliconera fired a forum moderator at the direction of someone “even higher up the foodchain” than the site founder for arguing that the site should allow criticism of Feminist Frequency.²³

IGDA members Kate Edwards, Amanda Goldman D'Adesky of North Carolina, Heather M. Decker of Chicago, and Jacqueline Urich of Minneapolis were among the followers of the Twitter account of the Anonymous hacking operation OpGamerGate,²⁴ led by hackers “Laurelai” and “Commander X”, which was meant to target people discussing the Gamergate scandal.

After the Gamergate incident, the IGDA is believed to have commissioned Randi Harper to develop the program ggautoblocker to identify every Twitter user who follows two or more of several active commentators on the scandal. Microsoft's Bing search engine incorporated ggautoblocker in its search results.²⁵ The IGDA closed its Puerto Rico branch after finding its Puerto Rico chairman Roberto Rosario on the list.

18 Georgina Young, “Our Interview with Allistair Pinfof Part 2”, Tech Raptor, 4 February 2015, <http://techraptor.net/content/relationships-indie-gaming-interview-allistair-pinfof-part-2>

19 Brianna Wu, Twitter, 16 September 2014, <https://archive.is/AZuSH>

20 Brianna Wu, Twitter, 30 September 2014, <https://archive.is/Ph1X3>

21 Brianna Wu, Twitter, 9 October 2014, <https://archive.is/vrHhM>

22 Brian Crecente, “FBI working with game developer association to combat online harassment”, Polygon, 4 September 2014, <http://www.polygon.com/2014/9/4/6105185/fbi-game-developer-harassment>

23 “Eusis Landale”, “Dismissal”, <http://imgur.com/a/Zkcrf>

24 List of followers of @OpGamerGate, <http://postimg.org/image/pelrz80lf/>

25 <https://twitter.com/nomineeforfail/status/541968578300633088>

Microsoft - Speculation

Microsoft's control of the Xbox video gaming platform gives the company a great degree of leverage over the press and content producers. Microsoft's ID@Xbox program for independent developers includes several developers who have been accused of receiving disproportionate press coverage.

Microsoft and its general counsel Bradford Smith have been accused of manufacturing the perception of a shortage of technology workers in the United States, through the fwd.us advocacy group and the code.org training program, to promote the importation of more foreign workers through the H-1B program.²⁶ If the accusation is true, this would establish the willingness and ability of Microsoft to fabricate a crisis in the technology industry, the willingness to take such action to the detriment of the American people, and the presence of a public relations network to support such an effort.

Microsoft general deputy counsel Tom Robertson is a member of the board of directors of the National Bureau of Asian Research, a think tank that studies “strategic, political, economic, globalization, health, and energy issues affecting U.S. relations with Asia.”

The IGDA's ggautoblocker program is similar to the Atheism+ Block Bot, also known as the BBC Block Bot, in that it is promoted by news media as a tool to block harassment on Twitter; the persons blocked are often not harassers but are intellectuals who disagree with the politics of the blocker maintainers, many of whom are leaders in their field such as Richard Dawkins; and the politics of the maintainers are identical. After Twitter partnered with the activist group Women, Action, & the Media in November 2014 to address supposed harassment of women game developers, among the first accounts to be banned were British atheist commentators “Mykeru” and “Thunderf00t” who had heavily criticized the Atheism+ Block Bot when it was introduced in 2013. The Block Bot was until recently maintained by a team including “Vexorian” who is believed to be Victor Soliz of La Paz, Bolivia, a project manager for Chinese networking firm Huawei.

Sam Ramji and Brian Kirschner were senior figures in planning Microsoft's strategy regarding open-source software from 1999 to 2009. Open-source software products were Microsoft's major competitors in several markets at the time. In 2011, Ramji, Kirschner, and a woman named Shanley Kane worked for the company Apigee under Chet Kapoor. Shanley Kane, as co-founder of the magazine Model View Culture, would become another heavily promoted feminist in the technology community in the pattern of Anita Sarkeesian whose views are controversial on the ground but who is treated as a messianic figure and rarely criticized in commercial channels. Kane is a former girlfriend of Andrew Auernheimer of the GNAA. A person with the name Shanley Kane wrote an article about bagpipes that was published in the 2008/2009 edition of the magazine Akbar of Carnegie Mellon's Qatar campus, suggesting a possible link to the Middle East. Chet Kapoor currently runs Tenzing Global Investments, named for the famous Sherpa guide, with Richard Wang of Career Education Company (CECO) and Asher Qureshi, formerly of Evnine and Associates, which is believed to recruit all of its employees from Iris Financial Engineering & Systems. Richard Vaughn is believed to have an office in Dubai.

26 “Think Tanks: How a Bill [Gates Agenda] Becomes a Law”, Slashdot, 25 April 2015, <http://yro.slashdot.org/story/15/04/25/2219209/think-tanks-how-a-bill-gates-agenda-becomes-a-law>

Microsoft is at the end of two personnel recruitment pipelines, a researcher pipeline and a game developer pipeline, which have persons of questionable reputation at the entry points where they may be in a position to determine who proceeds and who does not. The researcher pipeline can be linked to businesses and organizations that have suppressed news of the scandal, while the game developer pipeline involves people directly involved in the Gamergate scandal.

Microsoft's Researcher Pipeline

A researcher pipeline begins with universities involved in the Digital Media and Learning initiative funded by the MacArthur Foundation; proceeds through Harvard University's Berkman Center; and continues to Microsoft Research. These universities include the USC Annenberg Center for Communication; the MIT Media Lab, led by Joi Ito; and the HASTAC and UCHRI programs at UC Irvine run by David Theo Goldberg, noted earlier as a person of troubling views. Joi Ito of the MIT Media Lab is the brother of Mizuko Ito of UC Irvine, previously mentioned as having a working relationship with Jonathan McIntosh.

At the university level, the research pipeline is directly connected to the Creative Commons organization, which is influential in the technology community, through the Startl company whose directors include Laurie Racine of the Norman Lear center at Annenburg; Creative Commons CEO Cathy Casserly; media consultant Betty Cohen; Joi Ito of the MIT Media Lab; and Jason Staffer of investor Maveron Ventures. Through the Center for the Public Domain, Laurie Racine is directly connected to the founders of Red Hat, Microsoft's chief competitor in server operating systems software. The Digital Media and Learning Initiative is supported by both Microsoft and Mozilla, which was Microsoft's chief competitor in web browser software from 2000-2010.

The magazine Fast Company observed Christopher Poole, founder of the website 4chan, talking to danah boyd (legal name is lower case), a researcher who went through this pipeline. Fast Company named Poole and boyd as part of "Generation Flux", business "pioneers" for a "chaotic" time. Poole is rumored to have fired 4chan's volunteer moderator staff and installed replacements with no knowledge of "chan culture" in July 2014 after 4chan users posted violent images and pornography to feminist hashtags on Tumblr. Several unusual actions then took place at 4chan during the Gamergate scandal. 4chan banned all discussion about Gamergate despite being notoriously open to all subjects; 4chan staff disrupted the /pol/ board, known for its extreme right-wing users; and Poole resigned from 4chan.

The Berkman Center has employed Feministing founder Jessica Valenti who co-authored the book "Yes Means Yes" with Jaclyn Friedman, founder of Women, Action, & the Media, mentioned earlier.

Mark Bernstein of Eastgate Systems has attempted to suppress the spread of information about the Gamergate scandal on Wikipedia. Bernstein has called for the European Pirat Partiet (Pirate Party) to support him in this effort.²⁷ Bernstein is known to J. Nathan Matias of the Berkman Center, who has conversed with Bernstein on Twitter.²⁸

²⁷ Mark Bernstein, "Infamous", 15 January 2015, <http://www.markbernstein.org/Jan15/Infamous.html>

²⁸ J. Nathan Matias, Twitter conversation with Mark Bernstein, 5 July 2014, <https://twitter.com/natematias/status/485606142857732097>

Microsoft's Video Game Development Pipeline

A video game development pipeline begins with community service organizations that teach novices how to create games; includes talent scouts who identify developers and artists; includes financiers to fund the development of new games; includes the production of movies and other promotional materials to make celebrities of the developers before they have produced anything of note; includes journalists who have agreed beforehand to promote games produced in the pipeline; may include the Independent Games Festival and Indiecade where the games receive prizes for further promotion; and continues to the Microsoft ID@Xbox program for deploying games to the Xbox platform.

There are inconclusive signs that there is a preference within this pipeline for community service organizations run by anarchists and communists; that talent scouts search for and promote persons based on this ideological test; that smear campaigns are run against competing leftist organizations that are not part of the pipeline, with the Fine Young Capitalists claiming to be a victim of such a smear campaign; that individuals resistant to left-wing ideology are actively blacklisted from the gaming industry, with Jennifer Dawe claiming to be a victim of such blacklisting; that the journalists attached to the pipeline, essentially every major journalist in the gaming industry, deliberately deny coverage to independent developers who are not part of the system; that the award shows are rigged, defrauding independent developers who had paid to submit their games; and that the financiers include persons at every step of the pipeline, creating conflicts of interest. The pipeline seems designed to financially reward people who will promote a desired political agenda and will follow orders and not act independently, with the production of games being a means of self-finance.

The Gamergate scandal exposed several elements of the pipeline at once: a financial and promotional network surrounding the Polytron corporation of Phil Fish, the Indie Fund, and the gaming conventions; a promotional network surrounding Chelsea van Valkenberg, Rami Ismail, and other celebrity “indie” developers; the fact that the gaming press is collectively under the control of a single authority and acting in unison; and the uniform political agenda of all parties within the pipeline.

Persons within the pipeline have repeatedly appeared as speakers at conferences across the country to advocate for their political agenda and promote other games within the pipeline. Similar speeches and activities advocating the same party line have taken place at conferences for niche communities such as music and science fiction for several years, both inside and outside the United States, suggesting the influence on conference organizers of an international power with a further breadth of interest than Microsoft alone.

Associations of the Microsoft video game developer pipeline

Based in Vancouver, Silverstring Media is the company of Lucas Johnson, Andrew Grant Wilson, Claris Cyarron, and Maya Felix Kramer. Danniele Livengood was formerly Silverstring's business manager and may no longer be with the company. Kramer is believed to have been involved in a denial-of-service attack on The Fine Young Capitalists,²⁹ a leftist group whose desire to train women in game development placed it in competition with the Microsoft pipeline. Silverstring promotes a number of people who seek careers as speakers and writers repeating the same party line.³⁰ Silverstring received \$270,115 from the Canada Media Fund in 2014.³¹ Johnson and Wilson spoke at the 2013 alternate reality gaming convention ARGfest-O-Con where other speakers included Alice Leung, senior scientist at Raytheon subdivision BBN, and IARPA TRUST and SHARP program manager Adam Russell.³²

The Code Liberation Foundation is a game development training group that uses communist rhetoric and iconography. The CLF has a tendency to appear at the same conferences as members of the pipeline, has its work promoted in the same places, and appears to be on good relations with them. The group was founded by Phoenix Perry, founder of the Devotion art gallery in Brooklyn and co-author of a book on programming for the Microsoft Kinect.

A panel at the New York Comic-Con on October 12, 2014 included Sam Maggs and Susana Polo of the website The Mary Sue, web developer Catt Small, Code Liberation Foundation member Fatima Villanueva, and then-unknown Brianna Wu.³³ Villanueva participated in a Hispanic Heritage Foundation briefing in October 2014 where those present included Congressmen Tony Cardenas and Ben Ray Lujan, Entertainment Software Association president Michael Gallagher, DHS Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources Cyber Operations Management department director Mike Echols, and Marco Davis of the White House Initiative on Education Excellence for Hispanics.³⁴

Constance Steinkuehler studied at the University of Wisconsin in a department funded by the Army's Advanced Distributed Learning project before serving from 2011-2012 White House Senior Policy Analyst on games and learning impact in the Office of Science and Technology Policy. Since that time, Steinkuehler has appeared as a political speaker at game development conferences alongside several persons associated with the pipeline.

29 Twitter messages of Maya Kramer and Chelsea van Valkenburg, reproduced in the ShortFatOtaku video "Indie-fensible! - The Maya 'Legobutts' Kramer Story!"

30 Persons promoted in one article include: Leigh Alexander, Anna Anthropy, Samantha Allen, Aevee Bee, Mattie Brice, Katherine Cross, Laura Kate Dale, Cara Ellison, Alison Fleming, Jenn Frank, Patricia Hernandez, Cha Holland, Merritt Kopas, Tracey Lien, Kris Ligman, Maddy Myers, Carolyn Petit, Lana Polansky, "Porpentine", Liz Ryerson, Danielle Riendeau, Anita Sarkeesian, Elizabeth Simins, Zolani Stewart, and Zoya Street. Andrew Grant Wilson, "Bombs, Silence, Building a Better Culture", July 4, 2014. <http://silverstringmedia.com/news/2014/7/4/bombs-silence-building-a-better-culture>

31 "Funded Projects Search" for fiscal year 2014-2015, Canada Media Fund, <http://www.cmf-fmc.ca/funded-projects/funded-projects-database/1/?program=Experimental&activity=Development&fiscalYear=2014-2015&selectionRound=2&displayCommitment=0&maxPerPage=10>

32 "Speakers and Presenters", ARGfest-o-con, 2013, <http://2013.argfesttocon.com/speakers/>

33 "The Mary Sue Presents – All on the Table", MapYourShow, <https://archive.today/SytE8>

34 "The Hispanic Heritage Foundation and the Entertainment Software Association – Briefing", 2 October 2014, <http://www.fednews.com/calendarEvent.php?cType=TW&eventdate=2014-10-02&eventid=575170>

Among numerous other organizations that Steinkuehler has favorably mentioned, one of possible significance is the Games For Change Foundation that grew out of the Web Lab and Serious Games Initiative programs of the Woodrow Wilson Center. Participants in an early Games For Change event in 2005 included Suzanne Seggerman and Eric Zimmerman, among nearly 40 others.³⁵ Seggerman is the wife of Michael Meyer, Europe editor of Newsweek and chief speechwriter to United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. The Seggermans are described by Crain's as "New York's first family of tax evasion".³⁶ As of 2012 the Games For Change foundation was led by Asaf Burak, an Israeli, and Michelle Byrd of the Independent Filmmaker Project.

Eric Zimmerman is currently employed by the Institute of Play, a group whose board of directors includes Tristan Louis, the former Chief Innovation Officer for HSBC.³⁷ HSBC has been accused of knowingly laundering the money of drug cartels and terrorists.³⁸ Zimmerman has a previous, long-standing working relationship with Naomi Clark, a founding member of the Movement Building Team of the Sylvia Rivera Law Project, the same organization of which Katherine Cross is a member.

Microsoft employee Sela Davis is the treasurer of the Seattle branch of IGDA and appeared on a panel at the 2015 Game Developers Conference with Brenda Romero, Leigh Alexander, Constance Steinkuehler, and Katherine Cross.

Thomas Buscaglia, "The Game Attorney", offers legal services to independent game developers. He is a longtime board member of the IGDA and is believed to have represented Phil Fish's company Polytron in a distribution agreement with Microsoft in 2009.

The website Model View Culture is promoted in the same ways as Feminist Frequency and appears to be backed by industry heavyweights as a mechanism to change the programmer culture of Silicon Valley away from meritocracy. Its co-founders include Shanley Kane, previously mentioned as a co-worker of two Microsoft executives responsible for plans regarding open-source software, and Amelia Greenhall, founder of the feminist hackerspace Double Union which split off from the already left-wing Noisebridge collective that was established by Tor developer Jacob Appelbaum, accusing Noisebridge of not being safe for women. Model View Culture began with a pre-existing national network of writers who had already been organized and shared the same political ideals and agenda.

Amelia Greenhall and IGDA ggaublocker programmer Randy Harper denounced feminist activist Vivek Wadwha, who was promoting a different group of women in technology, until Wadwha quit feminist activism. An edit war took place on Wikipedia in which two new editors "Dtunkelang" and "Vaqab" attempted to place Greenhall's criticism of Wadwha in the lede of Wadwha's biographical Wikipedia page against the objections of Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales. Dtunkelang and Vaqab had also worked together on the page for DJ Patil, Chief Data Scientist of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

35 "The following individuals participated in Serious Issues, Serious Games."

<http://web.archive.org/web/20070611162154/http://www.gamesforchange.org/conference/bios.html>

36 Aaron Elstein, "Meet New York's first family of tax evasion", Crain's New York Business, 22 September 2013, <http://www.craigslist.com/article/20130922/FINANCE/309229981/meet-new-yorks-first-family-of-tax-evasion>

37 "Board Of Directors", Institute of Play, accessed March 2015, <http://www.instituteofplay.org/about/board/>

38 Agustino Fontevicchia, "HSBC Helped Terrorists, Iran, Mexican Drug Cartels Launder Money, Senate Report Says"

Canadian connections

As previously mentioned, Silverstring Media of Vancouver, the company of Lucas Johnson and Andrew Grant Wilson, is partly funded by the Canada Media Fund.

Jennifer Jenson of York University in Toronto is involved with multiple game-related research programs and feminist activist groups. Jenson is believed to have been an academic adviser for Anita Sarkeesian of Feminist Frequency and has cooperated with Adbusters in creating game development programs for women.

Jennifer Jenson and Suzanne de Castelle chaired the 2005 conference of the Digital Games Research Association (DiGRA), titled “Changing Views - Worlds in Play”, hosted in Vancouver. This is believed to be the organization's second conference, showing that Jenson and de Castelle were influential figures in DiGRA at an early point.

DiGRA president Mia Consalvo of Concordia University of Montreal is believed to be an adviser of Gersande La Fleche, a student profiled favorably in a CBC news piece of November 13, 2014 that portrayed the Young Turks podcast and writers Chris Sullentrop and Andrew Sullivan as misogynist harassers attempting to bully women out of video gaming. La Fleche is believed to be an online associate of a con artist named Chloe Segal.

Jason Della Rocca was a significant figure in the IGDA until his appointment to the Canadian International Development Agency section on Information and Communication Technologies in 2013.

The Canadian Women's Foundation was involved in a multinational effort to ban the game Grand Theft Auto 5 in December 2014.³⁹ Other groups involved included the Norwegian Women's Front and undetermined activists in Australia and New Zealand.

The CBC is alleged to have sponsored a film festival in partnership with Women, Action, and the Media at which was shown the film “GTFO” featuring Gamergate figures Leigh Alexander, Brenda Romero, and Chelsea van Valkenburg, as well as Anita Sarkeesian of Feminist Frequency.

39 Canadian Women's Foundation, 10 December 2014, <https://twitter.com/cdnwomenfdn/status/542705311812182016>

Anonymous and the GNAA

On August 20, 2014, shortly after the Gamergate scandal, the throwaway Twitter account @joshallsussthis began posting the personal information, including social security numbers, of Twitter users discussing the story.⁴⁰ There were unconfirmed rumors that this was not the only harasser and that the harassment also included telephoned threats.

At the same time, the Internet troll group Gay Nigger Association of America (GNAA) encouraged members to send death threats to Chelsea van Valkenburg using the #gamergate hashtag that Twitter users were using to discuss the scandal. Members of the GNAA have repeatedly disrupted discussions of the Gamergate scandal by doxing and threatening people on all sides of the dispute with the effect and apparent intent of providing material to justify news reports of harassment of women game developers and suppressing all discussion of the Gamergate scandal.

Jepeczenka Svadakovic, known online as Hep Svadja or Hepkitten, is a member of Bantown, a trolling group linked to the GNAA through the mutual membership of Andrew Auernheimer. In a tweet on August 29, 2014 that has since been deleted, Svadakovic denounced Adam Baldwin as “encouraging the rape threat brigade” for linking to a Youtube video that discussed the Gamergate scandal.

GNAA member Teridax encouraged people to harass Chelsea van Valkenberg over Twitter.⁴¹ Teridax is believed to have previously used the names BLCKMSSH, Nigger Christ, and nc. Encyclopedia Dramatica describes a user named nc as “Bantown's youngest citizen” as of 2011. Teridax was manually whitelisted from Randi Harper's ggautoblocker blacklisting tool, suggesting that his harassment of Chelsea van Valkenberg was recognized and approved of by the very same forces who claimed to be against harassment. GNAA member Soulmech participated in a discussion of the ggautoblocker administrators.⁴²

Jared Goodwin, known online as Jay Allen or A Man In Black, claimed that Chelsea van Valkenberg is a member of Anonymous. He also named 420chan operator Aubrey Cottle, known online as Kirtaner, in this context. Aubrey Cottle was involved in reporting the Google Cloud account's Gamergate artwork to Casey Monroe⁴³ and in coercing Lionhead Studios to remove artwork of a bar wench.⁴⁴ Jared Goodwin was the first person to address the posting of the home address of actress Felicia Day on two of her blogs within minutes after Day wrote about being afraid of people discussing the Gamergate scandal, and Goodwin was able to immediately confirm that this was her home address and not that of her talent agency. This has led to suspicion that Goodwin posted the information himself in an attempt to discredit people discussing the scandal.

40 @joshallsussthis Twitter activity, <https://lolcow.farm/pt/src/1408671957443.jpg>

41 Tweet by Teridax, “first ten people to tweet “Drop dead @TheQuinnspiracy #GamerGate” get a #SSB4 code!”, Twitter, 13 Sep 2014, <https://archive.is/qhTNY>

42 The maintainers of ggautoblocker are believed to be: Randi Harper; Soulmech; Zander Hill, a Ruby programmer in the area of Langley and Newport News; Steve Lubitz of Boston, co-host of the Isometric podcast; Aaron Sofaer, believed to be a former employee of the Bitcoin trading platform Tradehill; Wayne J. Werner, a Python programmer; Dennis Vaccarro, not identified; Jeremy Yoder, possibly the pastor of Emmanuel Mennonite Church in La Junta, Colorado.

43 Kirtaner comments on Casey Monroe Twitter feed, 5 March 2015, <https://archive.is/tz6rk>

44 Kirtaner comments on Lionhead Studios Twitter feed, 27 March 2015, <https://archive.is/fC0eJ>

The Anonymous hackers Wesley Bailey and Christopher Doyon, known online as Laurelai and Commander X, announced the Anonymous operation OpGamergate to hack people who were discussing the scandal. A corresponding twitter account was quickly taken down after a different branch of Anonymous accused Bailey and Doyon of being federal informants. The followers of the account included numerous people connected to various branches of the scandal including IGDA chair Kate Edwards; Ben Doernberg of the Berkman center; Mia Consalvo of DiGRA; Casey Monroe of Google; Phil Fish associate Heather Kelley; GNAA members Soulmech and Synthovine; and several journalists.

Anonymous, unverified comments on 8chan claim that 4chan owner Christopher Poole is a friend of Wesley Bailey and that 4chan automatically bans all references to Bailey's nickname Laurelai.

Lizard Squad created a DDOS-for-payment tool called Lizard Stresser. According to a data file on Pastebin that was alleged to be a leaked list of Lizard Stresser targets, the most common targets by far were two IP addresses each hosting the two services 8chan and 2ch.⁴⁵ 8chan is believed to have been targeted because it hosts a forum allowing discussion of the Gamergate scandal.

An anonymously posted, unverified list of Lizard Squad members named Teridax as an IRL Harasser.⁴⁶

Twitter user Meowsticgoesnya posted a list of members of a private chat room discussing ways to disrupt the Gamergate discussion forum on 8chan. Among others, the list included users identified as 410chan owner Thorendal, 420chan owner Kirtaner, Baphomet moderator Vince, GNAA members Soulmech, Synthovine, and Teridax, and Israel Galvez who has been involved in activism to have 8chan shut down on false pretenses of carrying child pornography. Persons on the list have claimed it is fake. Neither side is considered reliable.

An anonymous post to the bodybuilding.com forum claims the existence of a group called antigops “that was created in the days following Gamergate to curtail any discussion regarding what happened.” The poster claims this group to be a small part of a large scale propaganda operation involving thousands of people who are encouraged to join and infiltrate online forums over a long period of time with the goal of eventually obtaining moderator powers. As “proof”, the poster gave information describing a user identified as one Moeez Siddiqui of Surrey, UK who could not be confirmed to have any relationship to any party involved in Gamergate.

45 <https://archive.is/9WAbV> The file lists 15,998 attacks to 3,906 distinct IP addresses, including 2,598 attacks to two 8chan IP addresses.

46 <http://pastebin.com/0db89ZMu>

Chinese connections

Microsoft general deputy counsel Tom Robertson is a member of the board of directors of the National Bureau of Asian Research, a think tank that studies business relationships with China. Microsoft director of geopolitical strategy Kate Edwards has studied China's censorship. Microsoft has partnered with Beijing Middle School 105 to design an experimental computerized classroom.

Valerie Chang of the MacArthur Foundation has worked for the US-China Business Council and was employed by Hefei Polytechnical University in Anhui, China.

United Business Media (UBM) runs the Game Developers' Conference (GDC) and the Black Hat security conference and owns media properties alleged to have run false stories in the Gamergate scandal. UBM employee Megan Scavio is the director of the GDC and a corresponding game developer's conference in China. Former UBM employee John Polson worked as a talent scout for the Indie Game Fund.

Jeffrey McIntosh, brother of Feminist Frequency founder Jonathan McIntosh, runs a company that imports goods from China.

Anne DeMarle of the Emergent Media Center at Champlain College in Vermont has appeared with Chelsea van Valkenberg at the 2014 Green Mountain Games Festival, worked on a UNFPA-funded project with Phil Fish associate Heather Kelley in 2009, and was reported to be at Champlain's sister campus in China during the week of April 19-25, 2015. Champlain has a partnership program with the Shanghai University of International Business and Economics.

Reddit user sarahbotts has been accused of leveraging a relationship with Reddit community manager Kristine Fasnacht to have Reddit users banned for discussing the relationship that Riot Games has with moderators of Reddit's League of Legends discussion forum. Sarahbotts has been identified as Merck employee Sarah Bottini who studied at Tsinghua University in China.

An anonymous, unverified internet post claimed that China paid Plug Marketing to have Rongxiang Xu of MEBO International nominated for the Nobel Prize in medicine. Plug Marketing is believed to be the company of one Zoe Platek who has previously worked with the Guerrilla PR group of Michael Leifer. Following this allegation, another anonymous, unverified internet comment accused the company of Eric Ayzenberg of similarly questionable conduct and noted that Ayzenberg has promoted the group A List Games whose advisory board includes Ed Fries of Microsoft.

Reddit

Reddit CEO Ellen Pao is the wife of Alphonse “Buddy” Fletcher of Fletcher Asset Management which has been accused of stealing \$144 million from the Louisiana state pension fund system.

Pao filed a sexual discrimination lawsuit against venture capital firm Kleiner Perkins that was widely reported in the news as a victory for women against discrimination after Pao lost the lawsuit. Brianna Wu was among the first users of the #ThankYouEllenPao hashtag. A small number of internet comments, making a large number of allegations of fact that could potentially be confirmed or refuted by analysis of the court transcript, claimed that the lawsuit was completely unfounded. Users making such comments were banned from Reddit and Ars Technica without any attempt to refute their points.

Pao was appointed CEO of Reddit with no apparent qualifications, presumably to raise her profile for the lawsuit and for political reasons. A Wall Street Journal report suggests that Pao has begun a policy at Reddit of only hiring workers who share the same political agenda. Reddit has become embroiled in multiple censorship controversies, occurring more frequently, since Pao's appointment as CEO.

Reddit co-founder Alexis Ohanian and general manager Erik Martin ran a marketing company called Antique Jetpack and advertised its services on the Stratfor mailing list.

Reddit community manager Kristine Fasnacht was formerly a company account executive, leading to a situation where the person in charge of doing favors for client businesses for a number of years is now in charge of deleting content from Reddit.

Riot Games is alleged to have an unusual relationship with the moderators of Reddit's League of Legends discussion forum. Riot Games developers Jeffrey Lin and Carl Kwoh, MIT Game Lab member Philip Tan, and Berkman Center member Justin Reich co-hosted an event in March 2013.

Reddit administrators have allowed several identified Internet marketers to place material on the site, while paid placement of material is normally against Reddit rules.

Reddit administrators have a longstanding working relationship with the activist group Shit Reddit Says (SRS) which holds moderator power over many of the most popular discussion forums, uses this power to ban users from all of these forums for political disagreements, is openly allowed to break sitewide Reddit rules, and is rumored to have working relationships with advertisers. Reddit administrators have been accused of banning users for reporting rule violations by SRS members and of banning idle moderators of popular discussion forums so that members of SRS could take over the top moderator position, expel the other moderators, and control the forum. Internet legend of unknown veracity tells that SRS was founded by users from the website Something Awful with the stated intent of destroying Reddit.

Andres Monroy-Hernandez of the Berkman Center and Microsoft Research wrote a study on SRS.

Mass propaganda hypotheses

The Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Agency (IARPA) has studied alternate-reality games, and IARPA manager Adam Russell appeared at Argofestcon where Silverstring Media also appeared. The DARPA Strategic Social Interaction Modules project has studied the use of games to train people in the desired behavior in social interactions. Other federal agencies are believed to have funded research into the persuasiveness of interactive video game environments.

Some critics of the Gamergate scandal have formed the presently unfounded hypothesis that the Army and CIA are planning to incorporate video game environments as part of their training programs; that the powers behind the Gamergate scandal are training and promoting certain people as celebrity developers of serious games so as to be fast-tracked into contracts to develop these environments; and that their ultimate goal is to insert subversive themes into Army and CIA training programs so that soldiers and analysts are easily influenced by hostile powers and convinced to stand down or switch sides in the face of hostile activity. While there is little evidence for this hypothesis, the potential consequences of having subversive material in military and CIA training materials are serious enough to call for a heightened level of alertness.

The activist group Agent of Change produced a 3D-rendered sexual harassment training video that has been criticized for suggesting that any discussion of sexual topics in the presence of a woman is harassment and is illegal. The video is believed to be in use by the US Air Force and some universities. Agent of Change is run by Jeffrey Bucholtz whose LinkedIn account lists an association with the JV Genius group of Muhammad Siddique of Suwanee, Georgia, whose registered agent is the law firm of Bijan Kasraie and Salmeh Fodor, who are also registered agents for the Pakistani-American Chamber of Commerce. Kasraie has been accused of falsely claiming to be a deputy ambassador to Moldova. There is presently no evidence connecting any of these people to the parties involved in Gamergate scandal, but the situation resembles the subversion hypothesis in that it involves an activist group with a possible foreign connection producing gamelike material with questionable content for a military training program. This may merit an investigation to determine whether the criticism of this content is justified and whether any of these people are known to US intelligence.

Another unfounded hypothesis, probably from the same people, claims that video games with social themes will be introduced into the Common Core curriculum for the purpose of building a database of psychological profiles of every American child from the data collected from the games. This data will then be abused by malicious parties and will be acquired by foreign intelligence agencies. This appears to be speculation derived from the prevalence of conspiracy theories about Common Core; the focus of existing federally-funded research in persuasive and social games; the fact that Gamergate figure Kyle Orland's father Martin Orland works for education company WestEd; and work done at Berkman and Microsoft Research in data collection.

To introduce further speculation, the extreme lengths to which somebody went to cover up the Gamergate scandal, exposing influence networks and continuing suppression of investigations to this day, would be justified by the high value of an operation targeting US education or military training.

Additional notes

Juju Chang of the Council on Foreign Relations produced a false report about Gamergate for ABC News. The ABC News website deleted comments by users noticing holes in the story.

An employee of General Dynamics who works as a BICES system administrator in Stuttgart, Germany, and who may have been active in Operation Just Cause in Panama, is believed to have been recruited into the disruptive organization by Sarah Stierch of Wikipedia.

Brianna Wu was present at the Massachusetts cybercrime convention of April 27, 2015 where the keynote speaker was Howard A. Schmidt of Ridge-Schmidt Cyber.

Reddit and Twitter were both being studied by the Berkman Center at the time that the administrators of these sites were accused of political bias on behalf of, or against, the organization being studied. This raises the question of whether the results of the studies were tainted by outside pressure on Reddit or Twitter to adjust administrative policy, or by the activity of an associated group on the website in order to create the results desired.

Mozilla is partnered with Microsoft Research and the Berkman Center in the Digital Media and Learning program. Mozilla's senior release manager Liz Henry is a contributor to Model View Culture and was better known for feminist activism than programming before she was hired. Mozilla has an unusual relationship with Google in which Google pays Mozilla a large amount of money while Google develops its own competing web browser. There is a rumor that the leadership of Mozilla was taken over by outsiders who pay themselves well above their worth and may be responsible for controversial decisions that are against engineering discipline and user feedback.