

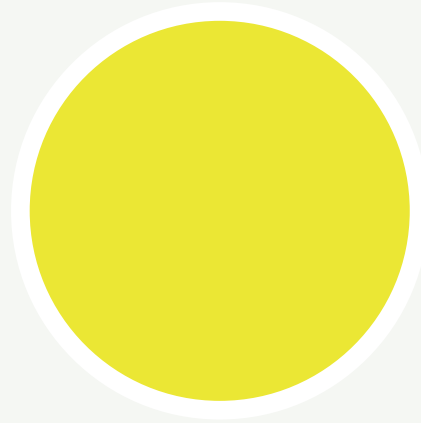
Bent Matter

Roots of digital (in)justice

JESSA AGILO

ArtsPond / Étang d'Arts

**Hiya
Aaniin**



**Bonjour
Atelihai**



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts
du Canada

Canada



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO
an Ontario government agency
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

Ontario



agiloarts

◆ Agenda

- What is digital justice?
- Why is digital justice important?
- How can we support digital justice in arts and culture?
- What does digital justice look like to you?



◆ What is digital justice?

- An emergent topic that defies simple definition
- Broadly, it is a social justice movement that seeks to inspire diverse individuals and communities to work together to cultivate alternative digital futures that are more sustainable, respectful, inclusive, equitable, and accessible for all
- Locally and globally, calls for digital justice seek to amplify solutions that protect against technologies of oppression and their harmful ripple effects in all realms of real, virtual and natural life
- At the same time, digital justice also seeks to elevate the positive contributions of caring digital technologies and infrastructure that have helped strengthen the connection and prosperity of marginalized communities who would have otherwise been excluded

◆ What is digital justice?



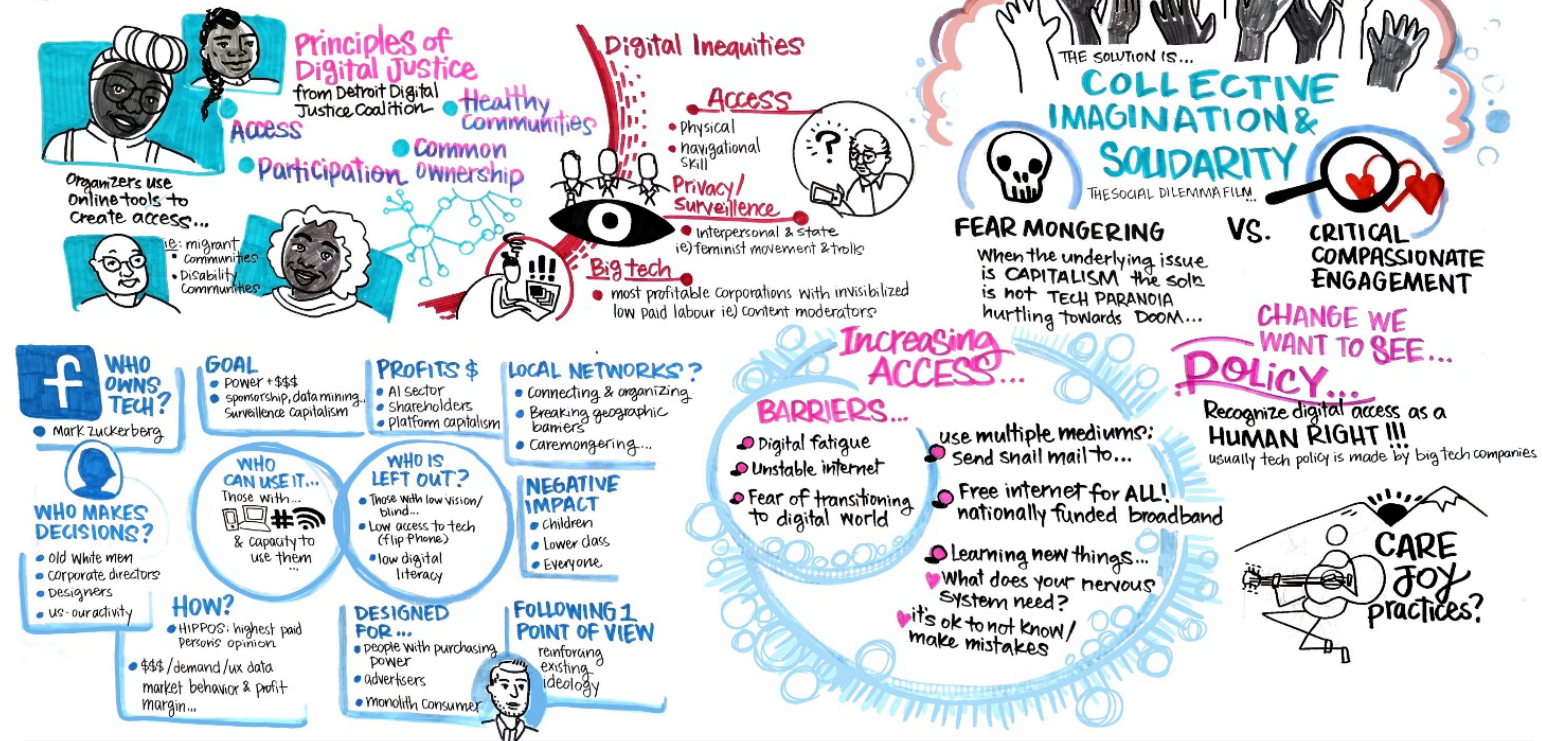
- Access
- Participation
- Common ownership
- Healthy communities

<https://www.detroitdjcc.org/principles/>

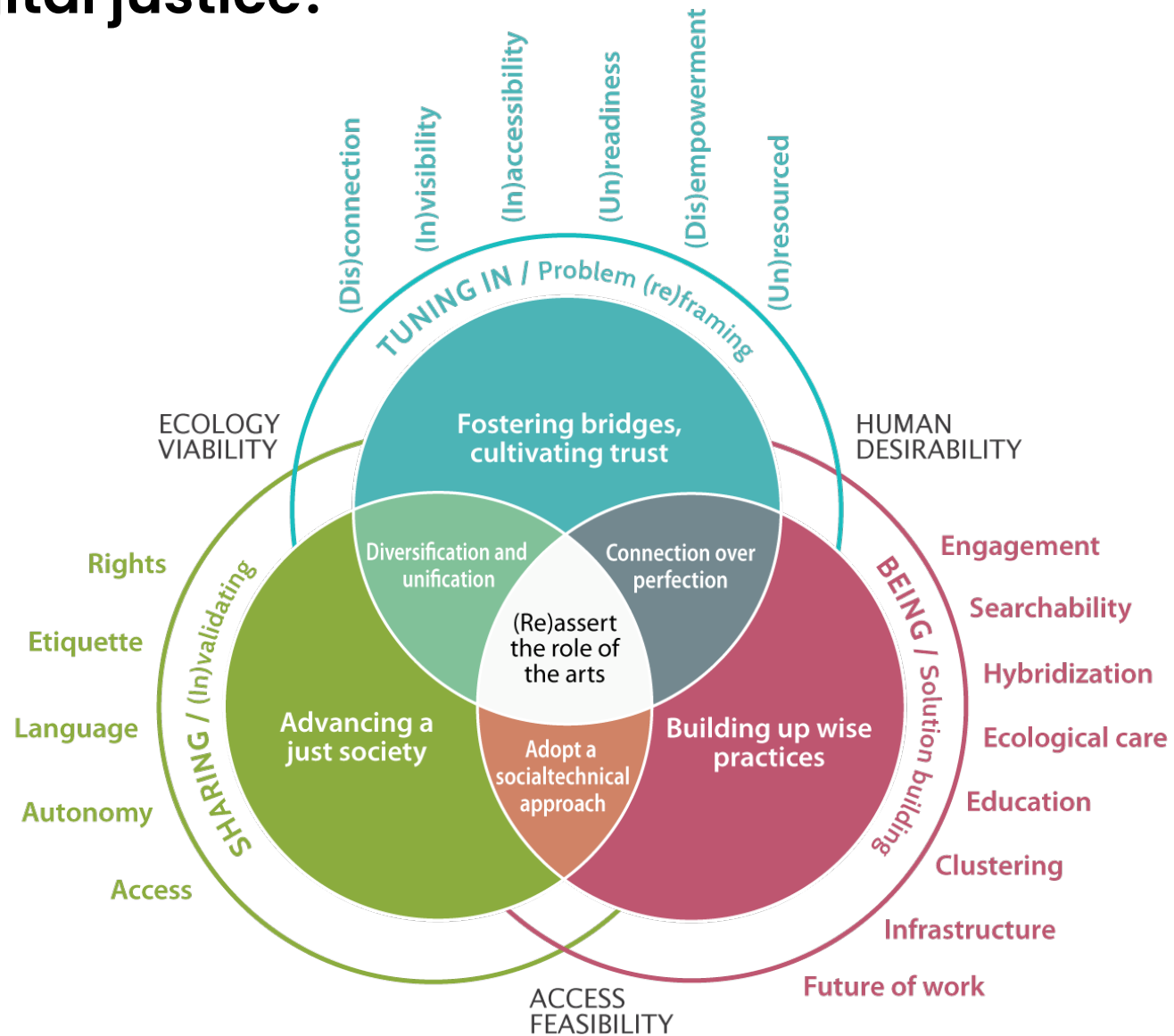
◆ What is digital justice?

WHAT IS DIGITAL JUSTICE?

for BLACK, INDIGENOUS, PEOPLE of COLOUR (BIPOC)
facilitated by Nasma Ahmed



◆ What is digital justice?



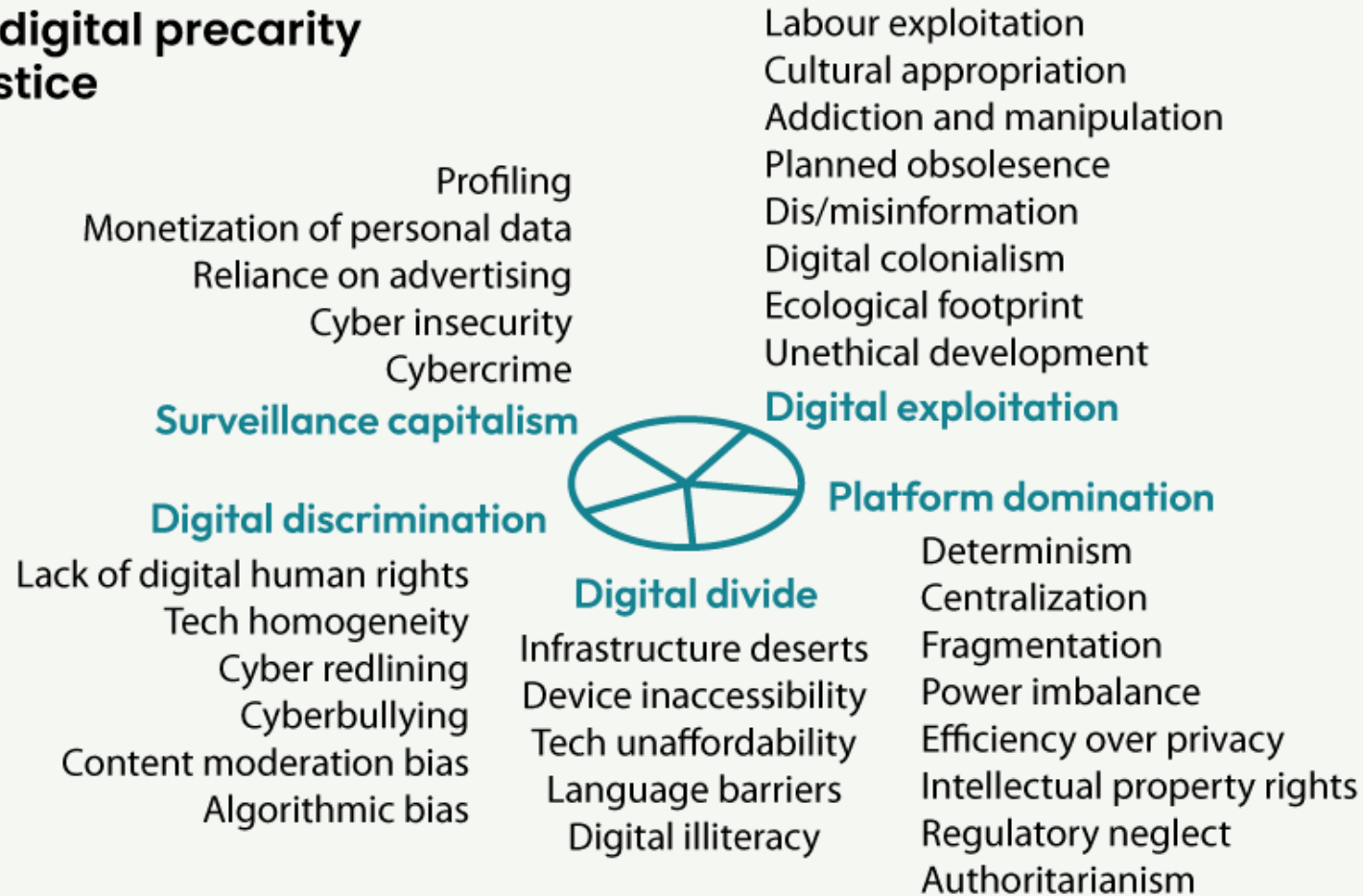
◆ What is digital justice?



<https://www.togetherthere.ca>

◆ Why is digital justice important?

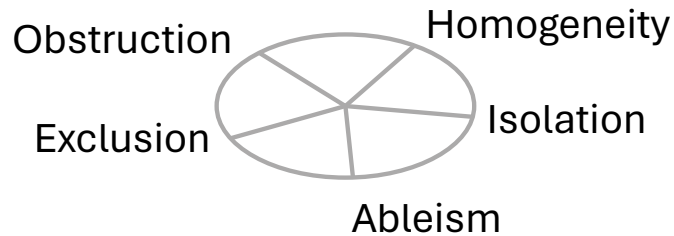
Roots of digital precarity and injustice



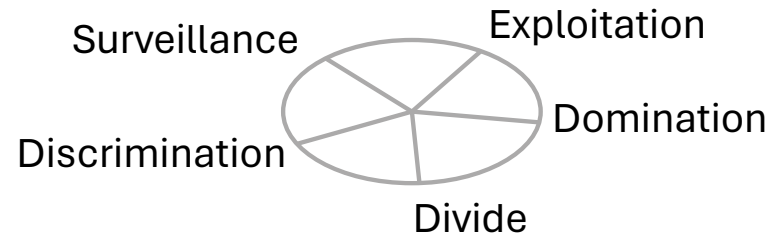
◆ Why is digital justice important?

Intersectional roots of precarity and injustice

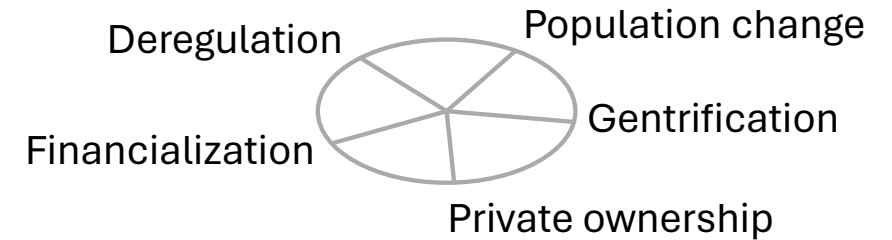
Accessibility



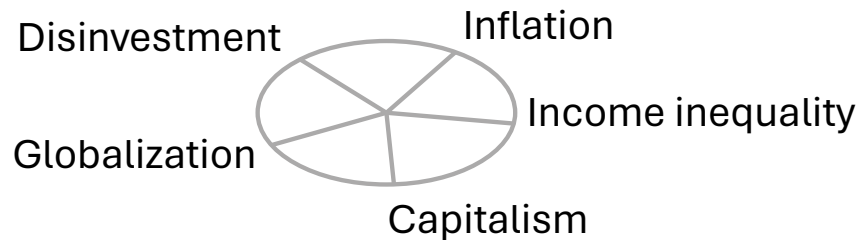
Digital



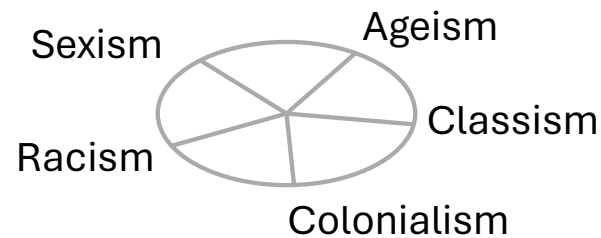
Spatial



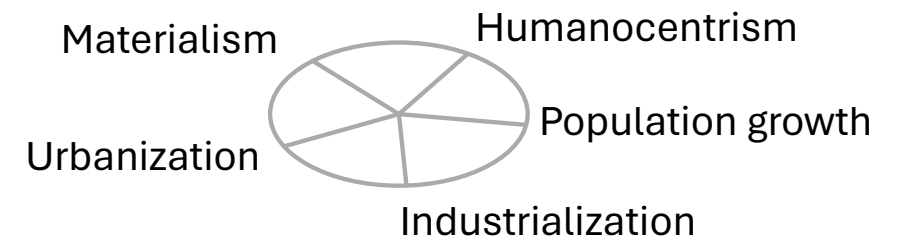
Fiscal



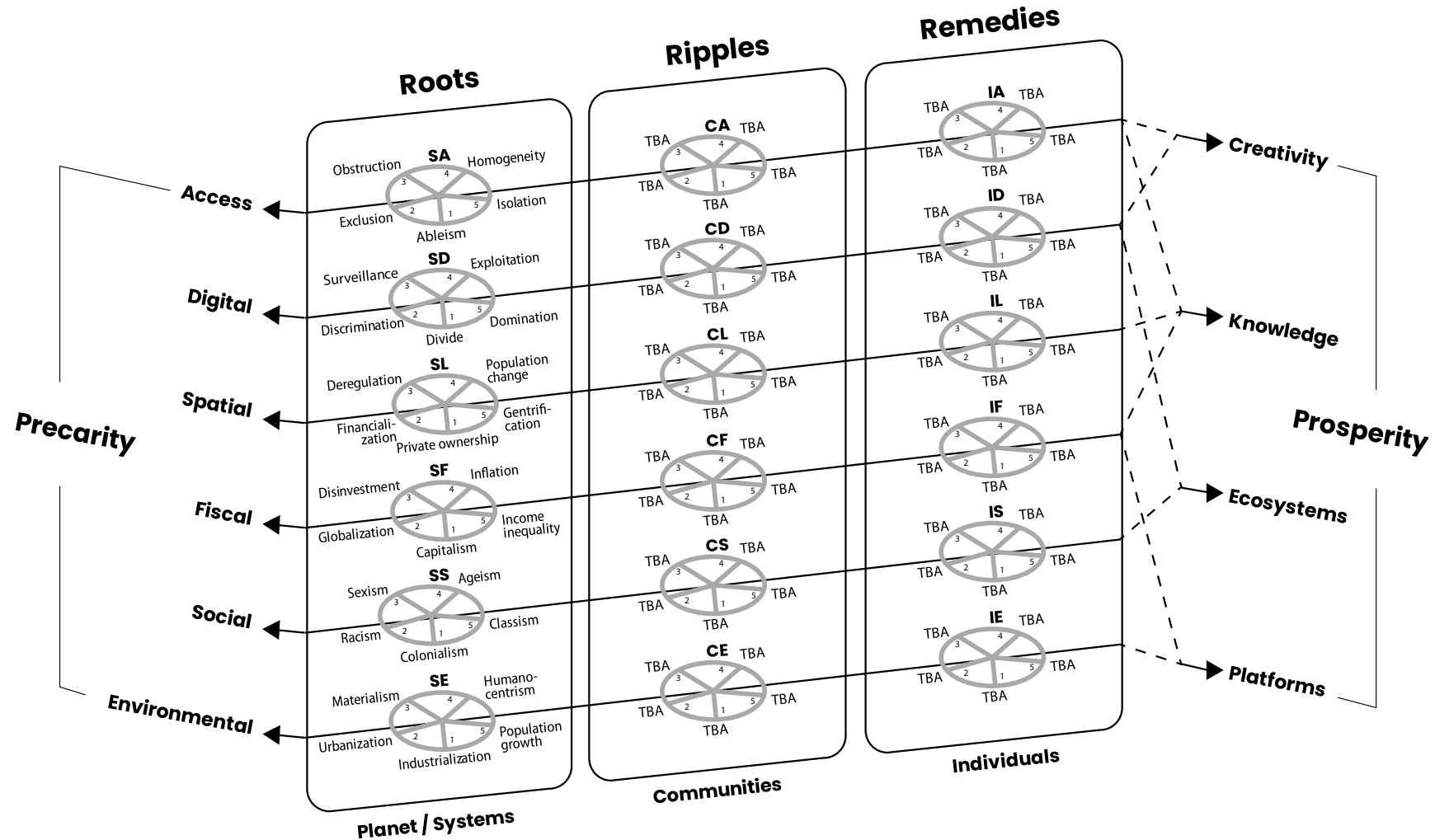
Social



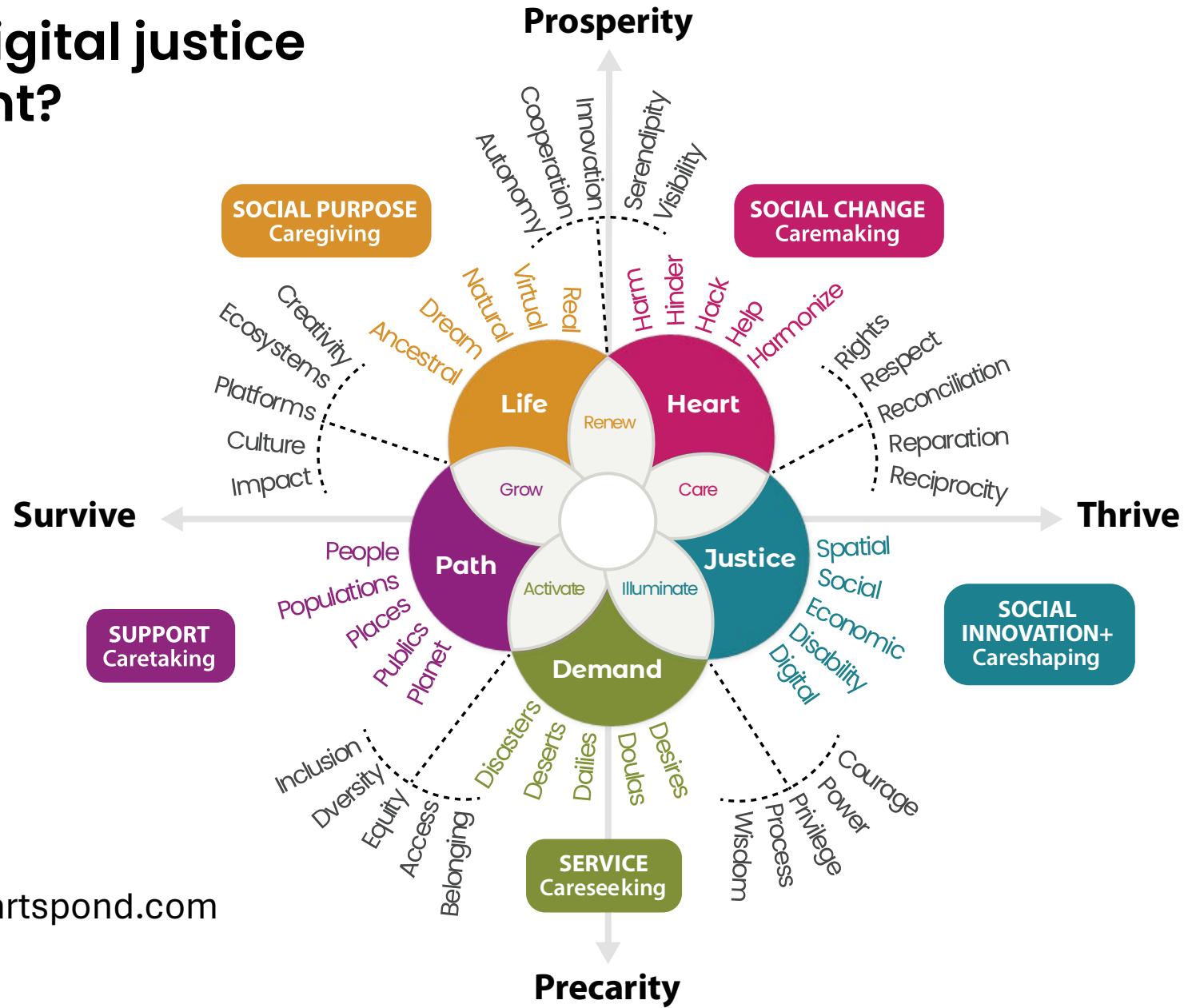
Environmental



◆ Why is digital justice important?



◆ Why is digital justice important?



<https://www.artspond.com>

◆ How can we support digital justice in arts and culture?

Collective ownership / Platform coops

Stocksy

<https://stocksy.com>

◀ ▶ resonate

<https://resonate.coop/>

FINELINE

<https://fineline.art/>

◆ **How can we support digital justice in arts and culture?**

Research-creation



<https://digitaljustice-rc.ca/>



<https://digitaljusticelab.com/>

◆ How can we support digital justice in arts and culture?

Advocacy / Networking



<https://digitaljusticelab.ca/>



<https://www.nten.org/>



<https://ccndr.ca/>



<https://mediajustice.org/>

◆ How can we support digital justice in arts and culture?

Knowledge seeking / Creation residencies



<https://virtualgrounds.zone/>



<https://plugin.org/exhibitions/magic-keystrokes-and-glitter-with-dr-syrus-marcus-ware-and-kamran-behrouz/>



<https://togetherthere.ca>

◆ How can we support digital justice in arts and culture?

Artmaking

Focus on the creation of original artistic works, models, sketches, excerpts, collections, memes, mind maps, or other creative formats. Adopt lo-fi, analog, digital, or other mixed mediums from any artistic, creative, or cultural discipline. Examples might include:

- Create an inventory of shoddy and inexplicable alt-text in arts and culture, inspired by Joseph Grigley's inventory of apologies which chronicles the lack of captions in online arts events
- Plan a creative performance or intervention on the land or in your city about the environmental impacts of blockchain, livestreaming, e-waste, or other digital issues and propose alternatives
- Write a poem for youth about the importance of digital rights as human rights and animate it with a lo-fi paper-based animation
- Produce an anti-surveillance manifesto as a viral meme stack or series of non-fungible tokens (NFTs)
- Develop a storyboard for a film or documentary about the adverse impacts of AI-generated deepfakes and other types of misinformation
- Explore the lives of artist-activists that are challenging inequalities in the gig economy and create visual, sound, radio art, or other types of portraits that help share their stories
- Explore disabled artists of colour who are making work about digital justice topics and propose a curatorial framework to produce, present, or support their work in the future
- Explore how different text and image generators powered by artificial intelligence change their perceptions of digital justice topics over time, "training" them with prompts and content that help generate more relevant and inclusive results

<https://togetherthere.ca>

◆ How can we support digital justice in arts and culture?

Sensemaking

Focus on the creation of original knowledge and community development research reports, strategies, or recommendations, works-in-progress, proposals, plans, excerpts, collections, mind maps, blogs, bibliographies, or other diverse formats. Examples might include:

- Review recent initiatives on Indigenous Data Sovereignty and imagine an expanded set of devices and systems that could work for a particular group of traditional knowledge-keepers in a First Nation
- Develop an analog and virtual outreach campaign to dissuade arts organizations from adopting accessibility overlays
- Review the adverse impacts algorithms of oppression and surveillance have had on racialized groups in arts and culture and propose education, funding or government policy changes to help support alternatives
- Develop case studies on the different ways arts and culture industries have both contributed adversely and responded positively to digital harms in their communities
- Review government strategies and plans for digital transformation and suggest changes to better reflect the needs of diverse communities in arts and culture
- Develop curriculum guidelines for youth educators to explore digital justice topics with their students through artmaking
- Explore ways to deepen allyships between digital justice and other social justice movements in arts and culture through a mind map that points to overlapping connections, gaps, and opportunities
- Research and draft a white paper on ways to promote inclusion and strengthen protections against abuse in the metaverse
- Develop a discussion guide to help organizations in arts and culture identify how they are supporting or hindering digital justice through their work and what they might do next to support Indigenous, rural-remote and other equity-seeking groups

<https://togetherthere.ca>

◆ How can we support digital justice in arts and culture?

Hybrid / Other

Other creative activities, expressions, interventions that explore alternative or hybrid modes of individual and collective expression and learning. Examples might include:

- Review the current use of Indigenous music in online apps that teach the recovery of Indigenous languages and curate or mix a set of contemporary Indigenous music for one of those languages
- Develop a piece of writing, using hyperlinks for citations, to honour and show the ways disabled thinkers and artists build on each other's work through the digital world
- Develop a workshop (and an approach to frame and share the wisdom and art gathered) where racialized youth and elders from rural and remote communities imagine together what a positive and just digital future looks like 250 years from now
- Develop the strategy and messaging for a national day of action to help coordinate the advocacy efforts of digital justice movements across Canada inside and outside the arts

<https://togetherthere.ca>

What does
digital justice
look like to you?