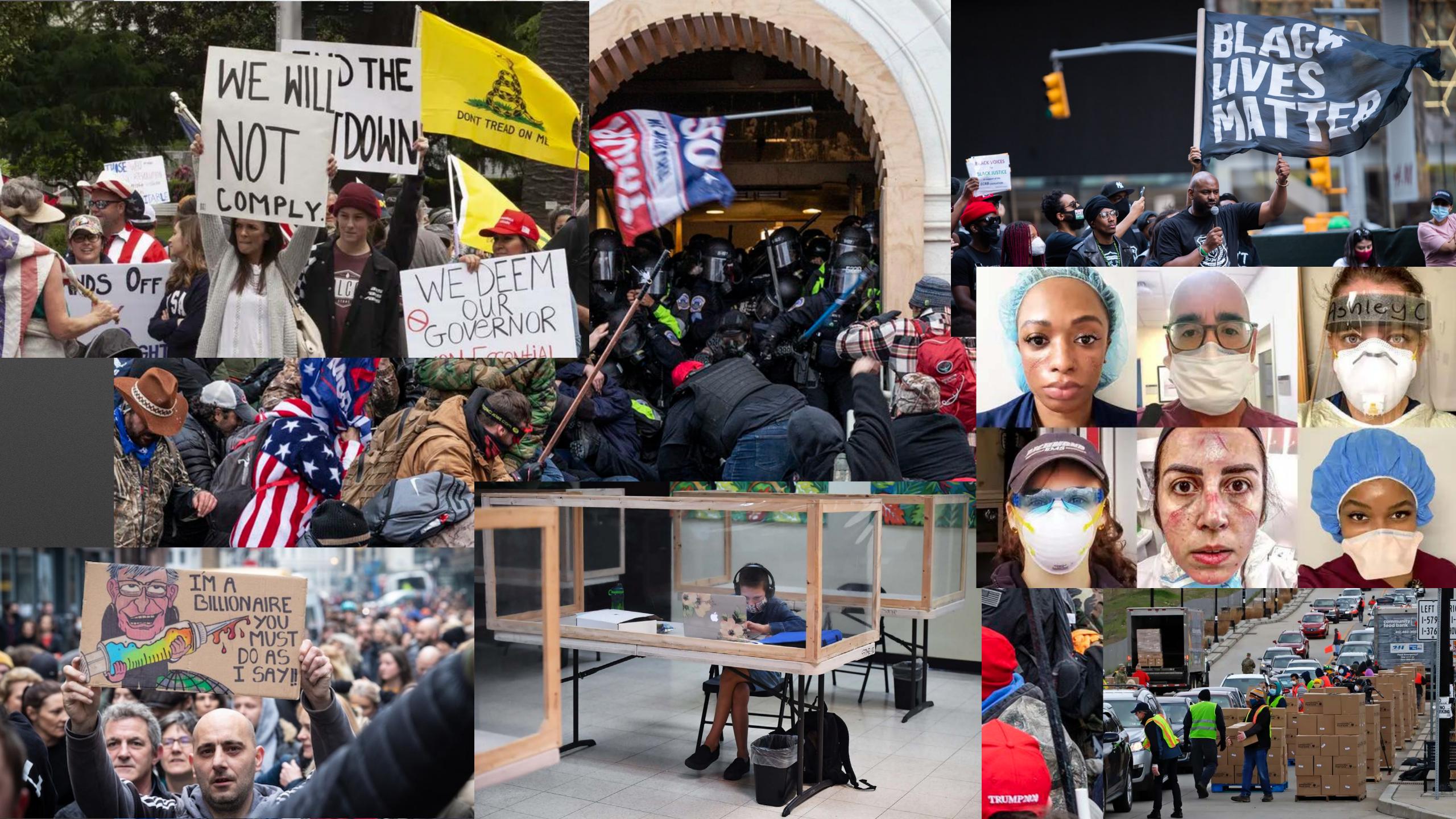
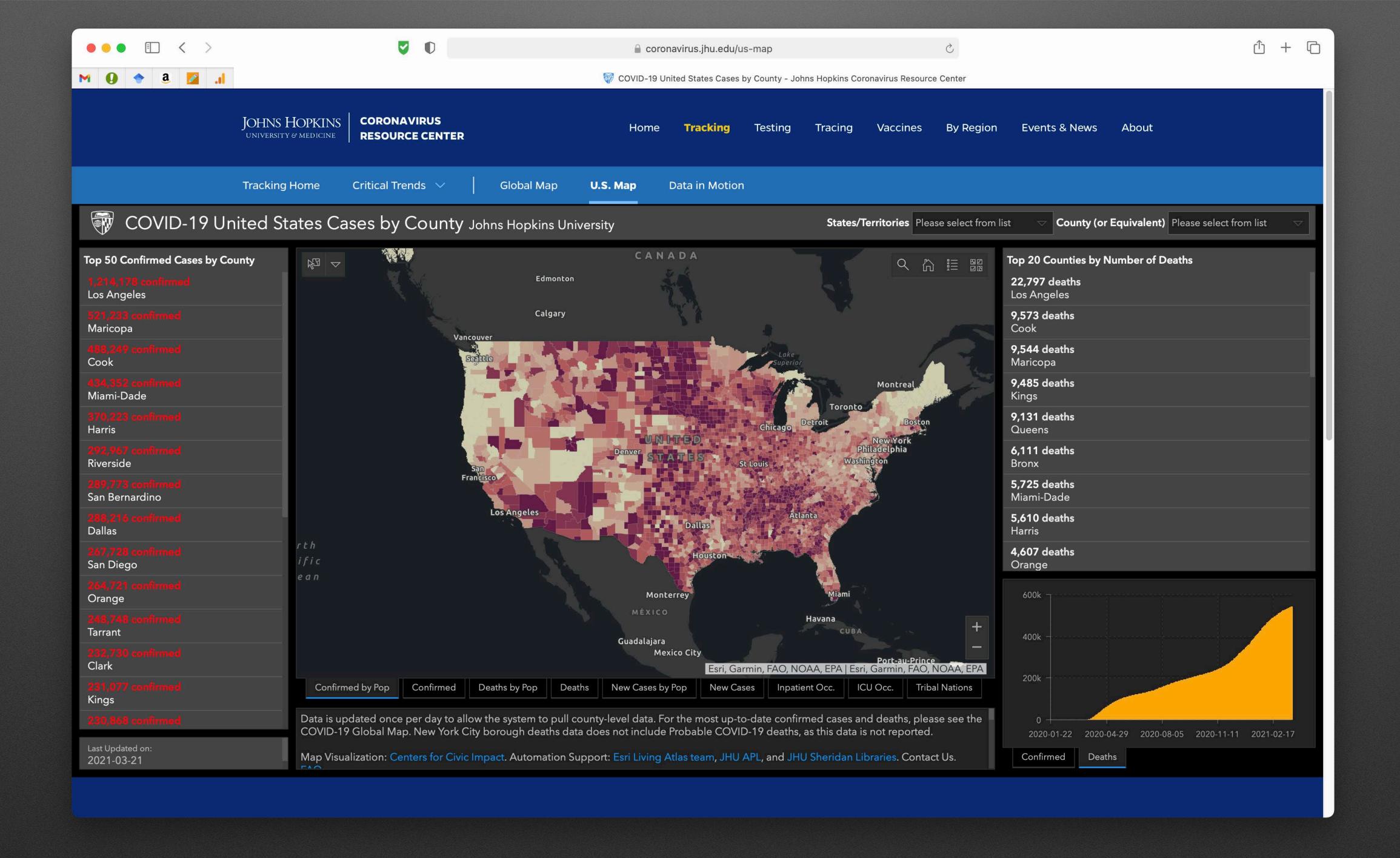


Libraries Leading the New Normal

R. David Lankes
University of South Carolina
https://DavidLankes.org









DEVELOPING

Multiple people dead, including police officer, in Colorado grocery store shooting: Officials



When will life return to normal? COVID experts consider what summer, fall might look like

Mass vaccinations this summer could give way to a 'new normal' by fall.

Old Normal

- Wealth, health, education gap in communities of color
- Digitally disconnected communities in rural and urban settings
- Increasing partisanship and xenophobia
- Rise in disinformation and social anxiety
- Attacks on science and sustainability

Failures of the Knowledge Infrastructure

- To be clear these problems are rooted in racism, classism, and economic disparities and we must tackle these as a society, but...
- We are key parts of the knowledge infrastructure of this country and it is failing

- Sources: Information and data storehouses
- People: Citizens, students, experts, neighbors that seek to make meaning
- Technologies: (Digital) tools used to produce, remix, access, distribute, and hold information and data
- Policies: The rules that define what is allowed from what is possible

Sources + People + Technologies + Policy = Worldview

Increasingly shaped by war and conflict since World War I

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- Increased digitization pushing toward Dataism
- False Sense of Transparency

- Death of credibility by authority
 - Long live reliability
 - The truth behind trust and neutrality
- Artificial divide between consumer and producer
 - The death of expertise

Sources

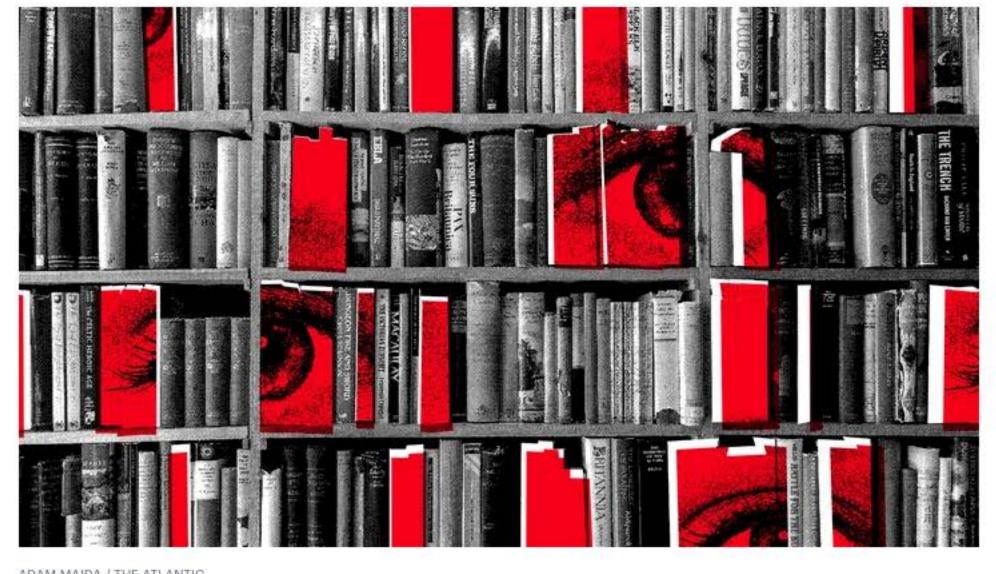
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TECHNOLOGY

The Librarian War Against QAnon

As "Do the research" becomes a rallying cry for conspiracy theorists, classical information literacy is not enough.

BARBARA FISTER FEBRUARY 18, 2021





RECOMMENDED READING

You Probably Don't

The death of expertise

- Death of credibility by authority
 - Long live reliability
 - The truth behind trust and neutrality
- Artificial divide between consumer and producer
 - The death of expertise

- The vital need for diversity: the richest learning comes from the richest sources
 - Rabbit holes and QAnon a problem of our own making?
 - Reduction of scientific voices in public health (from local to national)
- The vital need for compassion (not empathy)
 - We have now seen the every day lockdowns of too many of us

- Data of the Producers of the World Rise Up!
- It is Time for Self Sovereign Systems
- Ethical Al
 - Accountability | Value Alignment | Explainability | Fairness | User Data Rights

- It is time for universal broadband
- Revitalizing the public good
 - Copyright reform/rethinking
 - Future of the Big Deal? MIT Libraries and PLOS agreement

- The vital role of librarians and the libraries they manage in democracy
- Importance of the local
 - Leading difficult conversations
- Creating community-wide strategic plans
 - Taking on democracy explicitly

The Know

Sources + Peo

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Help create a strong and resilient economy.

Outcomes:

- Community leaders view us as a vital part of what makes our community more livable and attractive to business and economic development.
- Artists, designers and makers have access to the tools, resources and knowledge needed to turn their talents and passions into business opportunities.

Strengthen community cohesion.

Outcomes:

- Residents have access to safe spaces and trusted, competent facilitators that encourage courageous conversations.
- We support problem-solving at the local level, empowering residents with the knowledge and skills they need to advocate for themselves and fully participate in democracy.
- We are a part of what attracts, grows and retains talent in Columbia and Richland County, building partnerships with welcoming, vibrant community groups.

Transform educational outcomes for youth.

Outcomes:

- Beginning and struggling readers and their caregivers gain valuable support, knowledge and inspiration from the resources and expertise on our team.
- We support teens, helping them build confidence and skills as they achieve their personal, professional and educational goals.

Increase equity, inclusion and opportunity.

Outcomes:

- Regardless of a person's circumstance, neighborhood or background, the library is an
 accessible and supportive community anchor.
- We are part of an ecosystem of service providers and advocates for marginalized and underserved communities, eliminating barriers and strengthening support for those who need us most.

GOAL 2

GOAL 3

GOAL 4

- The vital role of librarians and the libraries they manage in democracy
- Importance of the local
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The "New Normal" Agenda for Librarianship

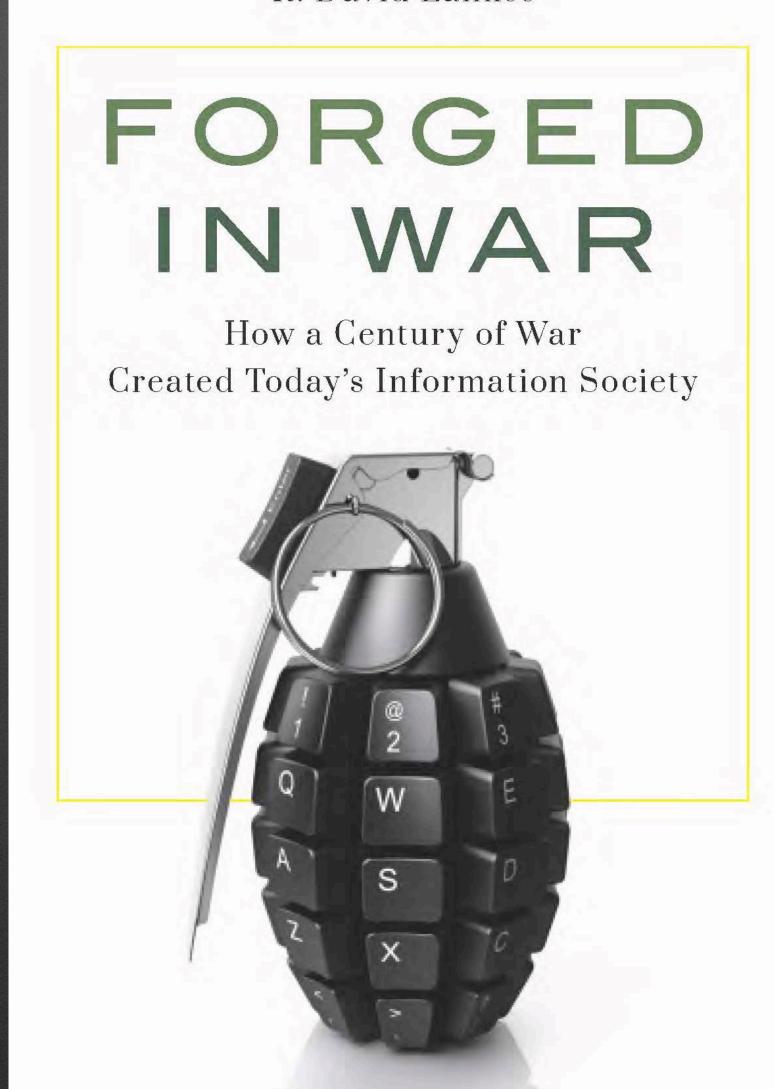
- Universal Broadband & Digital Equity
- Workforce Development and Training
- Expanding Voter Access to Democratic Participation
- Ensure the Health and Well Being of Our Communities
- Essential Crisis Response Capacity

It is Up to Us

- We must be weavers of communities and mighty platforms for the stories of our members
- We must be the vital social infrastructure that engenders trust through principles and transparency, not through the illusion of neutrality
- We must repair the knowledge infrastructure of the country and through it, the country itself

Coming in May

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