GIS &
The World
(the bad stuff)

- Exploitative natural resource extraction
- Power is in the hands of the few (still predominantly white men)
- Geosurveillance by police and private sector
- Data colonization
Maps help us conceptualize humans move across time and space.

Multnomah County (Portland), Ore.

- Population (2010): 820,034
- Population (2000): 794,884
- Inbound income per cap. (2000): $25,000
- Outbound income per cap. (2000): $23,000
- Non-migrant income per cap. (2000): $28,000

Source: Internal Revenue Service Tax Stats. The data presented here only include people represented as an exemption on an income tax return. Years represent filing seasons, which for most people end on April 15, but may include returns received as late as the end of September. For best results, please use Firefox, Chrome, Safari, or Internet Explorer 9.
Spatial Justice
Maps are essential to understanding social injustices.
Kennedy v. City of Zanesville

Image Credit clockwise from left:  http://odimpact.org, the New York Time, the Columbian Dispatch
Red-lining map: Los Angeles
Americans are taught from an early age to analyze and understand the meaning and manipulation of words, but they are rarely taught the same skills about maps.
Democratize and provide access
(Technology is a tool, but it can also be a barrier)
Moral compass: the geographer’s tool
Alternatives to the Dominant Paradigm

- Critical GIS
- Counter Cartography
- Participatory “bottom up” GIS
- Feminist GIS
- Citizen Science
- Critical Data Studies
- GIS Ethics
This is a Safe SPACE
Ground Rules

• Respect the thoughts of others and make space for dialogue
• Don’t be a time hog
• Level playing field
• Lose the jargon
• Don’t be a jerk.
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