

Policies and Practices of Inclusion and Exclusion in Technology

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Technology is not just an avenue for “making and doing things.” Access to and control over technology provides economic, social, political, and military power. Technology also serves as a form of cultural currency and can contribute to individual or group prestige. As a result, individuals and groups throughout history have sought to exclude others—based on gender, race or ethnicity, class, nationality, sexuality, etc.—from enjoying the benefits that often accompany access to certain technological skills and hardware.

The organizer proposes to present a paper titled “Jim Crow at Home and Yankee Imperialism Overseas: The ‘Unforgivable Blackness’ of African American Commercial Pilots, 1945-1964.” Two additional papers plus a commentator are sought to complete this panel. This session focuses on the theme of social justice and technology, specifically on policies and practices of inclusion and exclusion throughout history, which falls under the category “Normies and Others in technological history” among the list of topics and themes of special interest identified by the program committee.

Papers related to any form of technology, anywhere in the world, are welcome, with a preference for post-Industrial Revolution and 20th-century history.

Those interested in participating are asked to prepare a one-page abstract (250 words maximum) and one page CV (300 words maximum) with current contact information. Please send these materials to the organizer no later than December 13, 2023.