# HACKTIVISM & IT IN SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

# // CLASS 26

**FALL 2015 / SECTION 02 / HOLLY BUCK**

# TODAY'S CLASS

- Explain Ethical Analysis Worksheet grading
- Two examples of IT in social movements
- Discussion
- Course evaluations

# SOCIAL MEDIA FOR SOCIAL MOVEMENTS: CASE 1

Why would 25,000 foreigners from 80-90 countries, including 4,500 from Europe and the US, head to the desert to join ISIS?

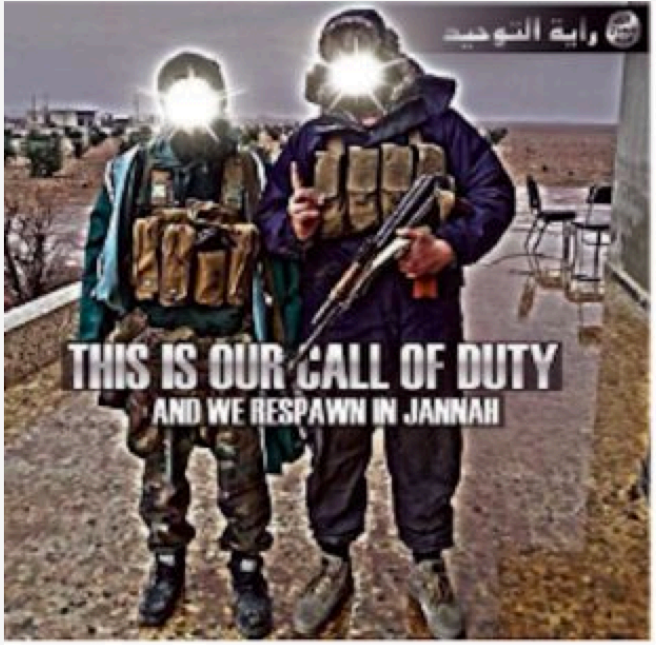
"The Islamic State is an Internet phenomenon as much as a military one. Counteracting it will require better tactics on the battlefield of social media."

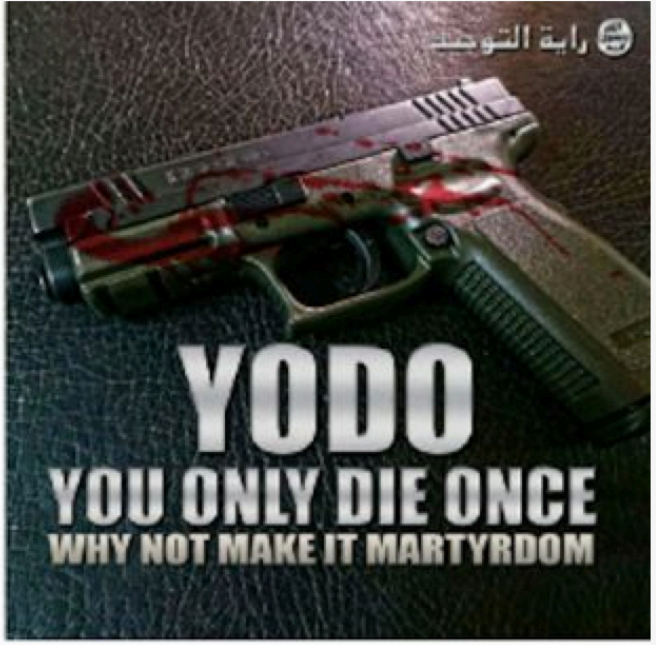
— David Talbot, MIT Technology Review
http://www.technologyreview.com/review/541801/fighting-isis-online/

FCC oversight hearing:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0YUNBNVxS6g

Hillary Clinton: "Social media companies can also do their part by swiftly shutting down terrorist accounts, so they're not used to plan, provoke or celebrate violence"

Yes, Facebook inadvertently suspended the account of a San Francisco engineer named Isis Anchalee this week. She wasn't thrilled.


راية التوحيد
THIS IS OUR CALL OF DUTY
AND WE RESPAWN IN JANNAH


راية التوحيد
YODO
YOU ONLY DIE ONCE
WHY NOT MAKE IT MARTYRDOM

FLAMES OF WAR
FIGHTING HAS JUST BEGUN
لهيب الحرب - الآن جاء القتال

**Abu Musab**
@taha_taha619

Follow

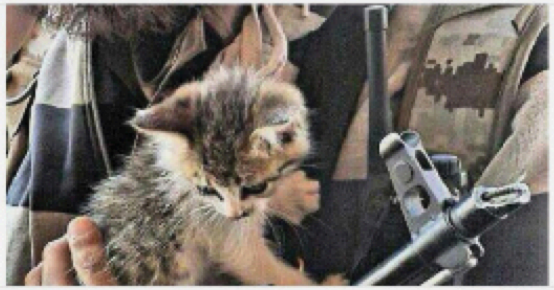
Look how Allah (swt) humiliates his enemies pic.twitter.com/2Zp3Hljfo2

Reply Retweet Favorite More

RETWEETS 9 FAVORITES 8

Islamic State of Cat @ISILCats · Jul 8

My Mewjahid protectz me



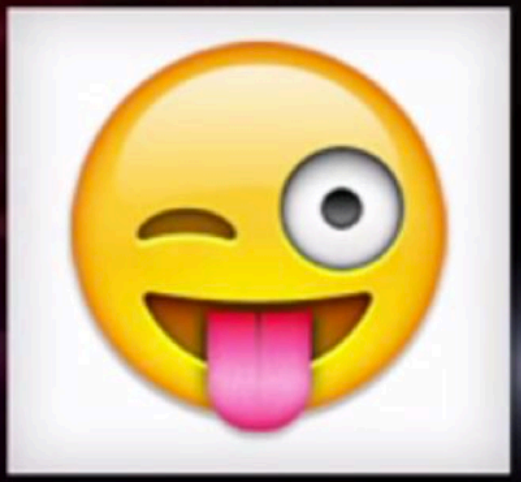
| Abū Sayf (Brit) | @Mujahid__24

Benghazi Mujahid

Abu Abdullah Britani @Abu_Abdullah_rt · 16h

Just cooked lunch for the ikhwah. Im actually starting to enjoy cooking.

# LURING RECRUITS TO ISIS



**TERROR RECRUITING**

## ISIS LURES WOMEN WITH KITTENS, NUTELLA

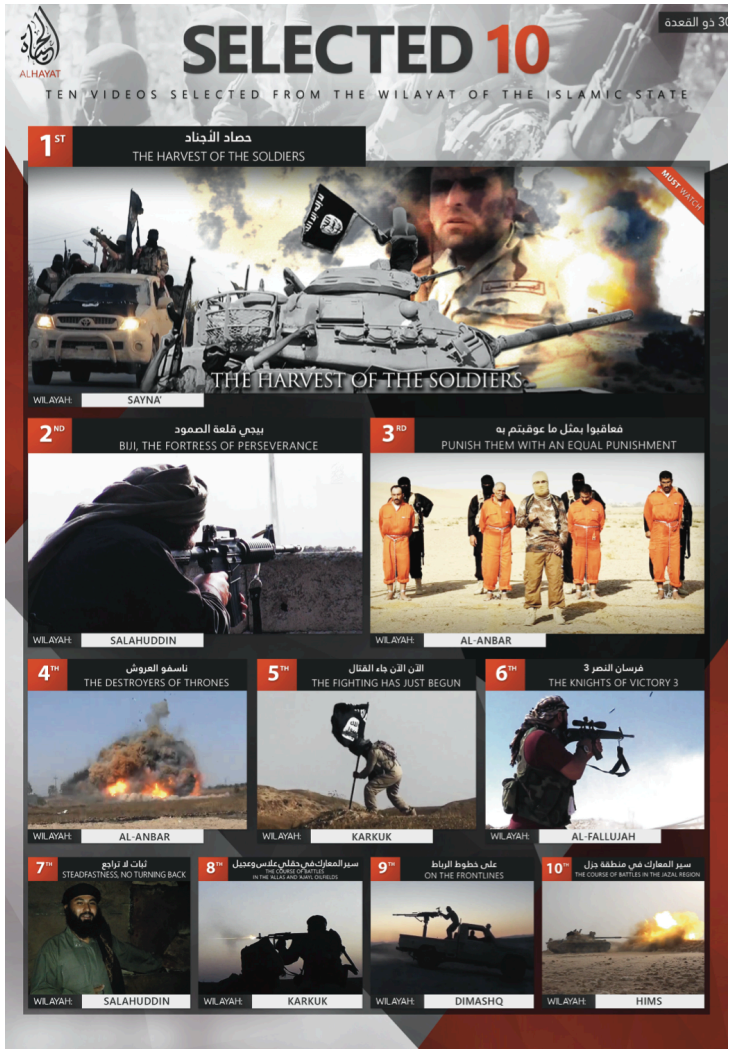
CNN
6:30 AM PT
NEWSROOM

# DABIQ

ISSUE 12

1437 SAFAR

# JUST TERROR



# TWO THREE OR FOUR

BY UMM SUMAYYAH AL-MUHĀJIRAH

In the Name of Allah, the Lord of all things, who permitted marriage and prohibited fornication, created us from a single soul, created from that soul its mate, and dispersed from the two of them many men and women. May blessings and peace be upon the Prophet and Messenger who disciplined and taught his companions, and upon those who are guided by his Sunnah and follow him with excellence until the Day of Judgment. As for what follows:

Indeed, when the Sharī'ah of our Lord was eliminated, the laws and rulings of the kuffār gained power in the lands of the Muslims, Islam was shamefully abandoned, and faces turned towards promiscuous Europe, the voice of falsehood rose and with it the voices of those hostile towards the people of the religion, and the cancer of those who legislate besides Allah ﷻ ate away at the Ummah's body. They prohibited what He permitted, and permitted what He prohibited, and one of the most manifest things that they ruined and defamed in defense of women and their rights – as they claimed – was polygyny. They utilized their podiums to that end, including the podiums of the kufrī parliaments and the secular TV channels, and placed on these podiums howling dogs, fools who do not perceive nor know their foolishness. Their poisoned words crept into the hearts of women from the lands of the Muslims, to the point that we almost couldn't find a single woman that is accepting of this issue, except for those whom Allah protected.

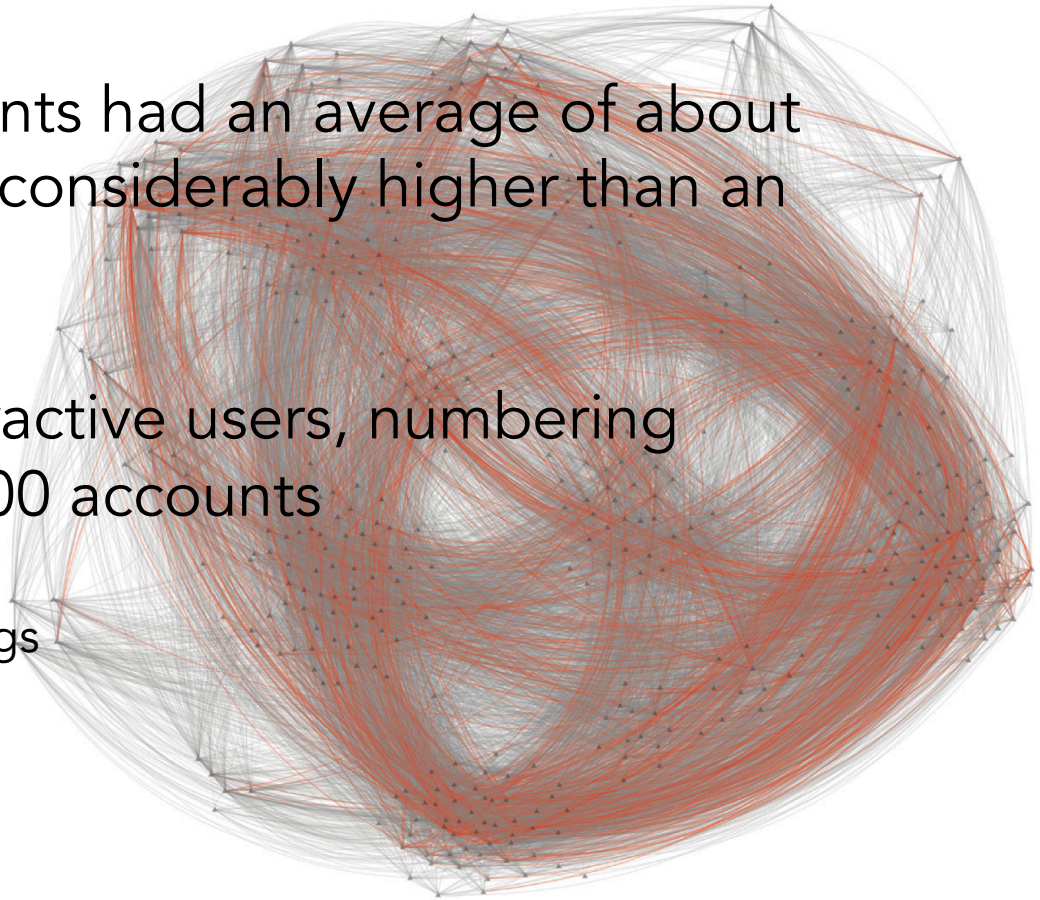
Allah ﷻ said in His clear-cut revelation, {And if you fear that you will not deal justly with the orphan girls, then marry those that please you of [other] women, two or three or four. But if you fear that you will not be just, then [marry only] one or those your right hand possesses. That is more suitable that you may not incline [to injustice]} [An-Nisā': 3]. This is a verse as clear as the sun that does not require extensive explanation or interpretation. Therefore, O slaves of Allah, you may marry two, three, or four women, unless you fear that you will have shortcomings in your fairness towards them or will fail to fulfill their rights, in which case you suffice with one wife. Ibn Kathīr ﷺ said, "His statement {two or three or four} [An-Nisā': 3] means marry any women you wish apart from the orphans. If one of you wishes he may marry two, and if he wishes, three, and if he wishes, four."

Indeed, Islam was not the first to introduce polygyny. Rather, it was present in the sharī'ah of those before us. Allah's Messenger ﷺ said, "Sulaymān Ibn Dāwūd ﷺ said, 'I will surely have intercourse with a hundred women tonight, or ninety nine, and every one of them will give birth to a knight who will wage jihād for the cause of Allah…'" [Reported from Abū Hurayrah by al-Bukhārī].

What's strange is that the Jews and the Christians taunt the Muslims with respect to polygyny, yet if they were to look into their own books they would've known that it was something present in their religions, for it is stated in their books that Ya'qūb ﷺ had two wives and two concubines, and that Dāwūd ﷺ had a number of wives and concubines, as mentioned in 2 Samuel [5: 13] and 1 Samuel [25: 42 –

- 46,000 – 70,000 Twitter users in 2014
- 1 in 5 in English; ¾ using Arabic
- ISIS-supporting accounts had an average of about 1,000 followers each, considerably higher than an ordinary Twitter user
- Ssmall group of hyperactive users, numbering between 500 and 2,000 accounts

*The ISIS Twitter Census*, Brookings



*Links among the top 500 Twitter accounts as sorted by the in-group metric used to identify ISIS supporters. Red lines indicate reciprocal relationships.*

Video, i.e. Mujatweets

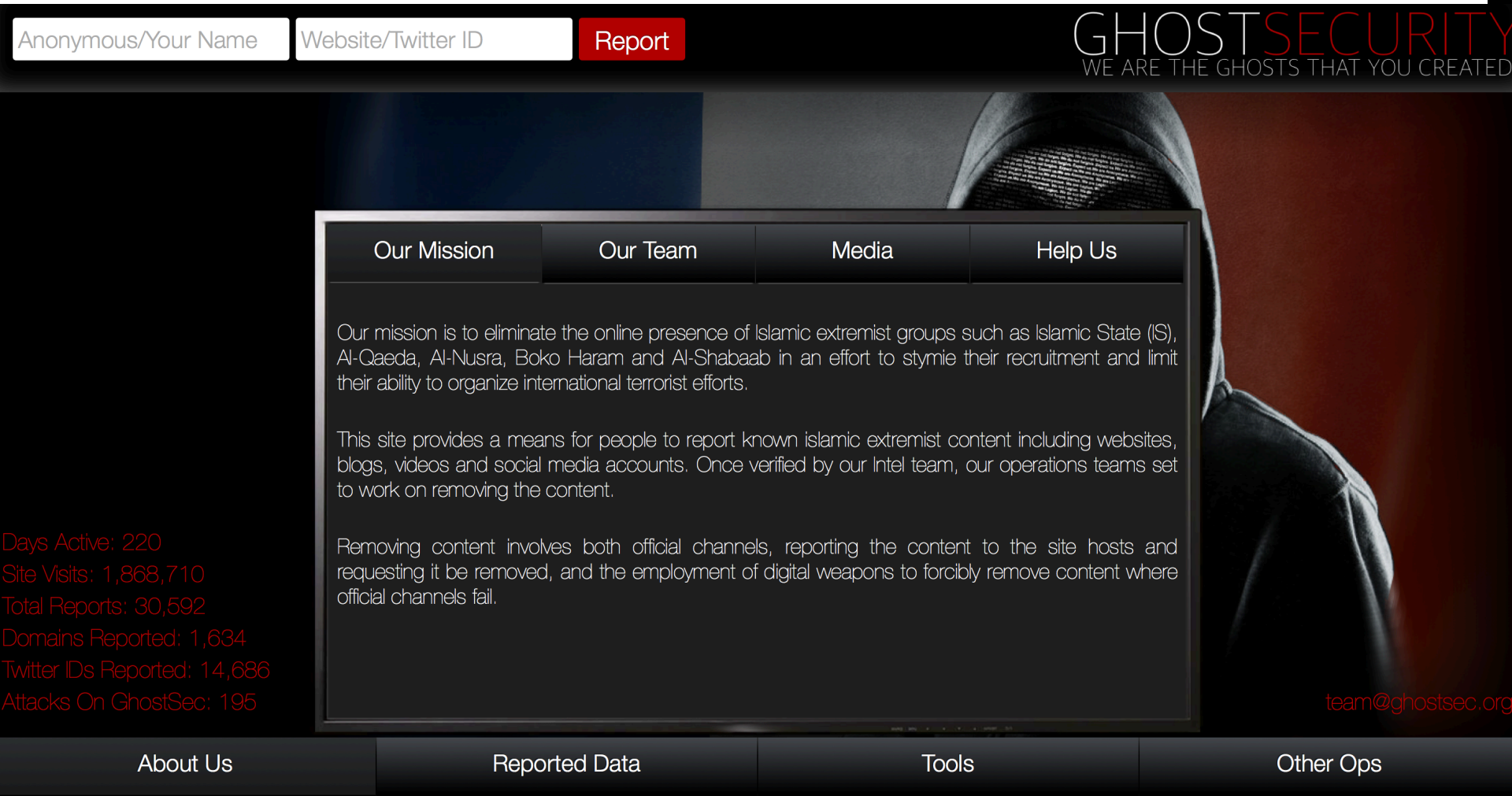
http://jihadology.net/2014/07/25/al-%E1%B8%A5ayat-media-center-presents-a-new-video-message-from-the-islamic-state-mujatweets-episode-8/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dXAnJ8jnLCI

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OppfKBQ8T1I

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gmSFbH8Y_w0

GhostSec – Ghost Security Group – uses Kronos Advisory as a buffer; claims to have created automated software that identifies ISIS social media accounts



# SOCIAL MEDIA FOR SOCIAL MOVEMENTS: CASE 2 / THE ARAB SPRING

During the week before Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak's resignation, the total rate of tweets about political change in Egypt ballooned from 2,300 a day to 230,000 a day

Top 23 videos about political change received nearly 5.5 million views

http://www.washington.edu/news/2011/09/12/new-study-quantifies-use-of-social-media-in-arab-spring/

Unrest in Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia, and Yemen

- Concern: increased use of blocking social media by authoritarian governments to repress opposition movements

# TELEGRAM

http://techcrunch.com/2015/09/21/telegram-now-seeing-12bn-daily-messages-up-from-1m-in-february/
-> 3:45

What's the business proposition for being so pro-privacy?

"Durov recounted a story of a friend back in Russia whose WhatsApp messages were intercepted and decrypted by the police. "She told me they tried to use it to blackmail her. So privacy is not something that is relevant only to business users but businesses are most affected because they could be blackmailed," he said. "Rich people could be blackmailed, and their information is more available and it could be compromised."

# TELEGRAM

Durov confirmed ISIS is using Telegram. “Does that concern you?” asked Butcher. “That’s a good question,” he responded.

“Do you sleep well at night knowing that terrorists use your platform?” pressed Butcher, leading to a pause as Durov considered his reply.

“That’s a very good question but I think that privacy, ultimately, and our right for privacy is more important than our fear of bad things happening, like terrorism,” he responded.

# TELEGRAM

"I propose banning words. There's evidence that they're being used by terrorists to communicate".

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2015/11/19/founder-of-app-used-by-isis-once-said-we-shouldnt-feel-guilty-on-wednesday-he-banned-their-accounts/

**Turn-around?**

"We were disturbed to learn that Telegram's public channels were being used by ISIS to spread their propaganda," it read. "… As a result, this week alone we blocked 78 ISIS-related channels across 12 languages."

# DISCUSSION

1. How should social media companies respond to extremists using their services? To protestors demanding regime change?

2. Are hacktivist actions against ISIS, e.g. reporting Twitter accounts, ethically defensible?

3. Imagine you're the head of a company like Telegram, and facing criticism for having a group of people use your service.

    - What do you do?
    - What kind of resources do you use to implement that solution?
    - What are the values, principles, and stakeholders in the situation?