Roles of media in peacebuilding & conflict generation

PEAC501, NCPACS
Sanjana Hattotuwa
What I study

2,400+ accounts on Facebook, daily
200,000 tweets a week on Sri Lanka
Two realities
"You will never be completely at home again, because part of your heart always will be elsewhere. That is the price you pay for the richness of loving and knowing people in more than one place."

— Miriam Adeney
Simultaneous potential

A long gestation
public pulse over social media

signatures, signals and signs

systems-level study
volume, vector, velocity

scale, scope and speed
weaponising affordances
democratic or damoclean
a video every second uploaded to youtube

cross-pollination

super-spreaders
complex media ecologies

divisions between mainstream, traditional & social media lost
Everything you can imagine is real.

- Pablo Picasso
How Facebook got addicted to spreading misinformation

by Karen Hao, Technology Review
Google Researcher Says She Was Fired Over Paper Highlighting Bias in A.I.

Timnit Gebru, one of the few Black women in her field, had voiced exasperation over the company's response to efforts to increase minority hiring.

Timnit Gebru, a respected researcher at Google, questioned biases built into artificial intelligence systems. Cody O'Leahin for The New York Times
social cohesion
human rights
thank you