

Perspectives, Current Practice, and Barriers to Technology Use as a Tool for Youth Agency and Liberation

What brought you to this work?

Cook: It's no secret that digital literacies are increasingly foundational skills and prerequisites of not only academic achievement but also economic and professional success. Those with the skills advance while those without remain locked out of opportunities. There's an urgency in the moment!

Booth: I care deeply about educational and digital equity (always, but especially in a COVID-19 era and its impact on distance/virtual learning), but as a white person I know I shouldn't be driving the research that informs learning decisions and innovations geared towards Black and Latinx youth. This Shifting Power initiative is everything I believe research should be.

Research questions

How are students leveraging technology as a tool of agency/liberation? What are students' existing strategies? What opportunities do students, parents, teachers, and community leaders identify? What are the structural and systemic barriers to these strategies?

Research plan

Qualitative interviews/focus groups will be conducted with students, teachers, community organizations and program leaders, and parents. In collaboration with these stakeholders, we are interested in producing an interactive Media output that would live online in the form of a podcast series or short documentary.



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