

# YUJIA GAO

email: yujia\_gao@brown.edu

## EDUCATION

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### Ph.D. Student in Computer Science, Brown University

Providence, RI

Advisor: Harini Suresh

Aug 2024 -

DISCO Lab, Center for Tech Responsibility (CNTR)

### B.S. in Computer Science, Georgia Institute of Technology

Atlanta, GA

Summa Cum Laude

Aug 2018 - May 2021

Concentration: Artificial Intelligence & Media | Major GPA: 4.0 / 4.0

## PUBLICATION

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- **Yujia Gao**, Wenna Qin, Aniruddha Murali, Christopher Eckart, Xuhui Zhou, Jacob Beel, Diyi Yang. "A Crisis of Civility? Modeling Incivility and Its Effects in Political Discourse Online" **ICWSM 2024**
- **Yujia Gao**, Jinu Jang, Diyi Yang. "Understanding the Usage of Online Media for Parenting from Infancy to Preschool at Scale" **CHI 2021**
  - **Best Paper Honorable Mention (top 5%)**

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### Data in Society Collective (DISCO Lab), Brown University

Providence, RI

Research Assistant / Graduate Fellow

Aug 2024 - Present

- Collaborate with Dr. Harini Suresh on creating participatory, grassroots, and inclusive ML-based sociotechnical systems that benefit marginalized communities
- Engage with journalists, editors and other stakeholders to critically evaluate and co-design AI-based systems that facilitate the ethical reporting of gender-related violence

### Information School, University of Washington

Seattle, WA

Research Assistant

June 2023 - Present

- Worked with Dr. Maria Antoniak and Dr. Melanie Walsh on creating a fine-grained taxonomy of book review categories. Experimented with augmenting sparse datasets with LLM-generated data. Conducted complex statistical analysis and visualizations on GoodReads users' value patterns

### Social and Language Technologies (SALT) Lab, Georgia Tech

Atlanta, GA

Research Assistant

Feb 2020 - Sept 2023

- Advised by Dr. Diyi Yang and worked on several computational social science research projects
  - Parenting Communities on Reddit: Employed a combination of qualitative (card-sorting) and quantitative methodologies (regression, survival analysis) to understand parents' behaviors, communities, engagement patterns, and needs using 10 million self-collected comments
  - Incivility and Political Discussions during Presidential Elections: Developed a 4-dimensional taxonomy that characterizes different aspects of incivility in Reddit Political Discussions. Experimented with BERT, RoBERTa, GPT3.5 to predict incivility, and employ correlational and causal framework to investigate the influence of incivility on individuals and communities

## SERVICE / OTHER

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- Co-organizer, Brown University CNTR Reading Group on Technology and Society, Spring 2025
- Co-organizer, Brown University LGBTQ+ Grad Student in Computer Science, Spring 2025

## POSTER AND PRESENTATION

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- Maria Antoniak, **Yujia Gao**, Melanie Walsh, David Mimno. "What Do Readers Value? Manually Tagging and Quantitatively Measuring 'Aspects' in Goodreads Reviews". TADA 2023, Poster