

Foresight Analysis

The Art & Science of Looking at the Future



Bay Area Community Council

Foresight Webinar #1

October 2, 2020

Facilitator

Garry Golden

BACC Journey



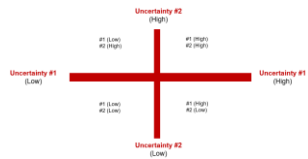
*Kickoff
Sept 18th*

*Foresight 101
Scanning*



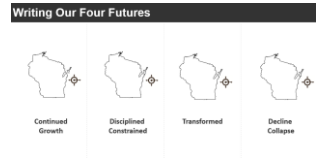
Webinar #1
Oct 2nd

*Signals Work
Futures Wheel*



Webinar #2
Oct 16th

*Era-transitions
Scenarios*



Webinar #3
Oct 30th

*Four Futures
Roadmaps*



Presentation
Nov 20th

Foresight Analysis

Foresight is the ability to anticipate and lead change

Foresight 101: Futurist Activities

Investigate Identifying & Monitoring Change

- Horizon Scanning
- Emerging Issues Analysis



Imagine Exploring Implications

- Forecasts
(Trend Extrapolation)
- Scenarios
(Alternative Assumptions)



Inspire Communicating the Need for Change

- Visioning & Planning
- Transformation Management



Foresight 101: Mechanisms of Change

Trends
(Continuities)



Plausible
Future

Forecasts

Events
(Discontinuities)



Possible
Futures

Scenarios

Choices
(Discontinuities)



Preferred
Future

Visions

Four Futures Thinking



**Continued
Growth**



**Disciplined
Constrained**



Transformed



**Decline
Collapse**

Bringing Foresight to Our Organizations

Value of Process

(Tools, Techniques, Behaviors)

Value of Content

(Domain expertise; Knowledge)



**The Foundation is
Scanning for Signals of Change**

Expand: Our Capacity for Horizon Scanning



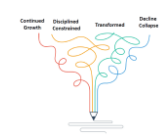
Defining
Scope of Change



Expanding
Signal Sources



Building an Archive
Library of Signals



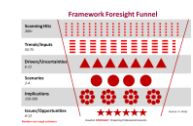
Four Futures



Trend Card
Decks



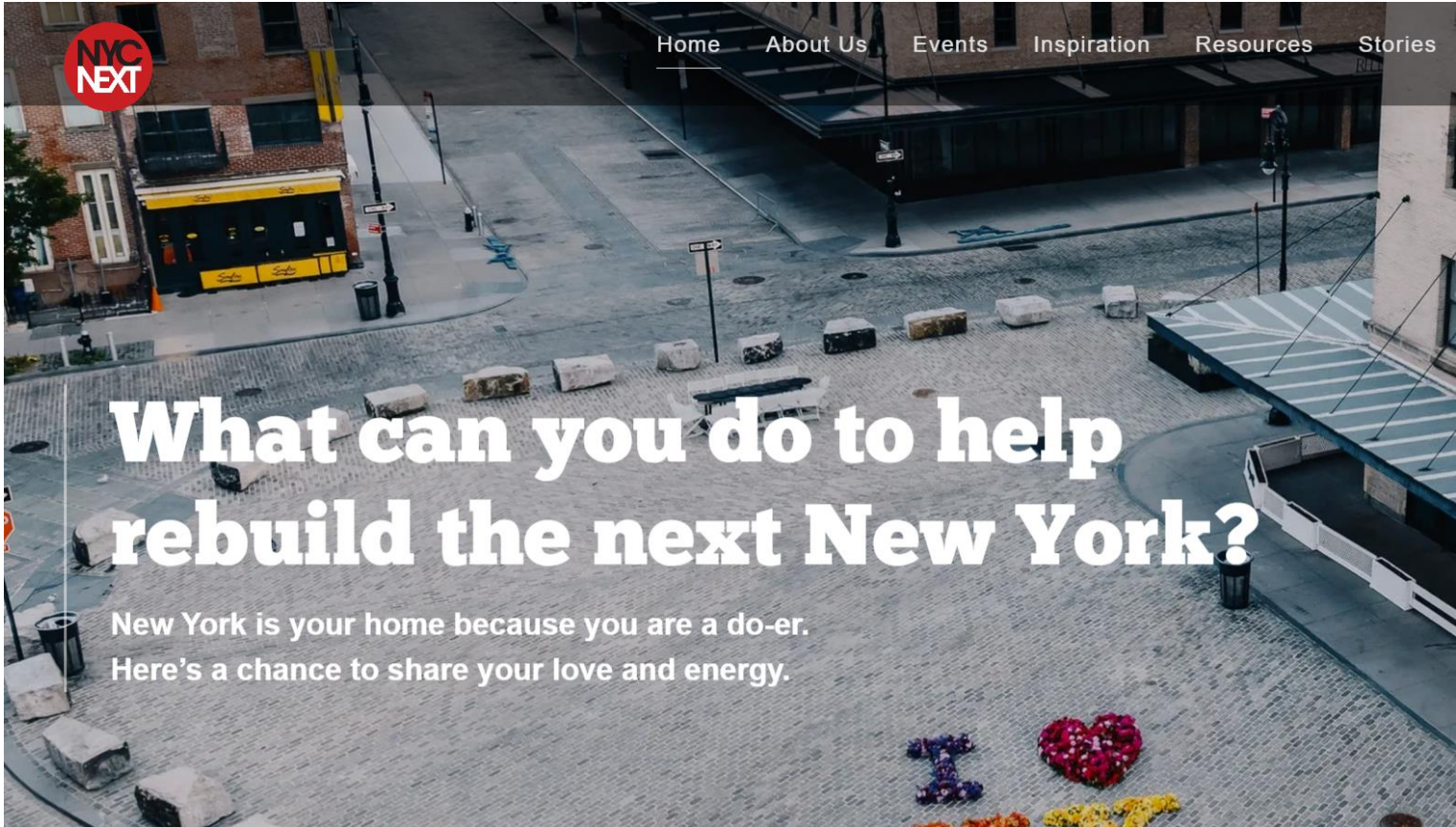
Futures Wheel



Framework
Forecast

Turning Signals
Into Stories

Signal: Foresight on the Rise



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What can you do to help rebuild the next New York?

New York is your home because you are a do-er.
Here's a chance to share your love and energy.

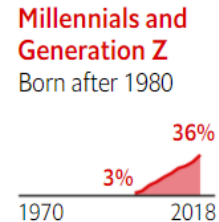
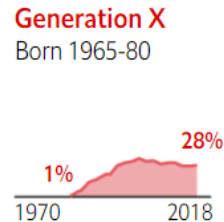
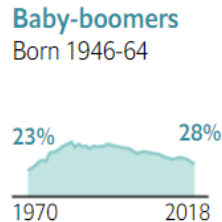
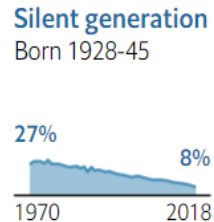
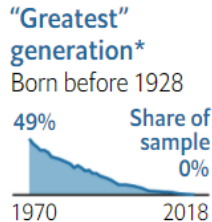
Signal: Demographics & Values

The
Economist

Talkin' 'bout my generation

Societies change their minds faster than people do

Generational replacement is what shifts public opinion



Signal: Teenagers from 1950s

What 1958 HS Students Felt Their Futures Would Be Like



Signal: Shareholders & Stakeholders

Coinbase is a mission focused company



Brian Armstrong Following

Sep 27 · 8 min read ★



There have been a lot of difficult events in the world this year: a global pandemic, shelter in place, social unrest, widespread protests and riots, and west coast wildfires. On top of that we have a contentious U.S. election on the horizon.

Everyone is asking the question about how companies should engage in broader societal issues during these difficult times, while keeping their teams united and focused on the mission. Coinbase has had its own challenges here, including employee walkouts. I decided to share publicly how I'm addressing this in case it helps others navigate a path through these challenging times.

We focus minimally on causes not directly related to the mission:

- **Policy decisions:** If there is a bill introduced around crypto, we may engage here, but we normally wouldn't engage in policy decisions around healthcare or education for example.
- **Non-profit work:** We will do some work here with our Pledge 1% program and GiveCrypto.org, but this is about 1% of our efforts. We are a for-profit business. When we make profit, we can use that to hire more great people, and build even more. We shouldn't ever shy away from making profit, because with more resources we can have a greater impact on the world.
- **Broader societal issues:** We don't engage here when issues are unrelated to our core mission, because we believe impact only comes with focus.
- **Political causes:** We don't advocate for any particular causes or candidates internally that are unrelated to our mission, because it is a distraction from our mission. Even if we all agree something is a problem, we may not all agree on the solution.



Top highlight

Charlie O'Donnell Retweeted



Colin McAuliffe @ColinJMcAuliffe · 9m

"Lets just make money and not worry about anything else" is the exact attitude that lead to facebook being used for crowdsourced mass killings and rapes in Myanmar



Palmer Luckey @PalmerLuckey · 2h

"We could use our work day debating what to do about various unrelated challenges in the world, but that would not be in service of the company or our own interests as employees and shareholders."

Great post from @brian_armstrong at @coinbase.

blog.coinbase.com/coinbase-is-a-...



Shayna K. [Follow](#)
Sep 27 · 1 min read



Imagine being a company that thinks that it can "enable belonging" without engaging with broader societal issues... What you're saying is that you & your employees (largely white/Asian + male) have the privilege to avoid thinking about the world & rights because it's "inconvenient" for you. Way to create an uninclusive workplace. Calling issues & matters of human rights that directly impact your employees + customers "irrelevant" shows exactly just how out-of-touch you are.

(now I'm wondering about the company diversity numbers... which, coincidentally, aren't publicly available online.)

Working for social justice isn't a 'distraction' for mission-focused companies



James Young
about 21 hours ago

Thank you Brian for the courage it took to write this post.

Most CEO's are cowtowing to the Marxist uprising in their companies and it's quite tragic to see a very small vocal minority force their preferences on everyone else.

Very similar to the Bolshevik strategy. Even though they were a small portion of Russia's population their organized tactics were enough to topple the monarchy and usher in a golden era of terror and bloodshed under Stalin.

Eileen Burbidge @elleentso / 1:34 pm EDT • October 1, 2020



Charlie O'Donnell @ceonyc · 2m

Being "apolitical" is a privilege.

It's also complete bullshit.

It just means your political position is to support a system that either benefits you directly or by leaving you alone, while standing by as people you depend on to survive have less rights, freedom, or mobility.



Charlie O'Donnell @ceonyc · 10m

If talent is your most important asset, you should care deeply about what affects their emotional health and well-being--not tell 'em to ignore problems and keep building your crypto brokerage so you can be a billionaire and they can *maybe* put a down payment on a house in SF.

Signal: Shareholders & Stakeholders

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○ Assumption

Polarization will continue to expand - absorbing more issues around social policy debates.

○ Discussion

How might our organizations navigate this landscape of bifurcating sentiment on *stakeholders*.

○ Imagine 2025-2030

What issues might your organization be expected to take a position on?

Signal: Algo Transparency & Literacy

Amsterdam and Helsinki launch algorithm registries to bring transparency to public deployments of AI

Khari Johnson @kharjohnson September 28, 2020 11:41 AM AI




Image Credit: redcharlie via unsplash

[Amsterdam](#) and [Helsinki](#) today launched AI registries to detail how each city government uses algorithms to deliver services, some of the first major cities in the world to do so. An AI Register for each city was introduced in beta today as part of the Next Generation Internet Policy Summit, organized in part by the European Commission and the city of Amsterdam. The Amsterdam registry currently features a handful of algorithms, but it will be extended to include all algorithms following the collection of feedback at the virtual conference to lay out a European vision of the future of the internet, according to a [city official](#).

Each algorithm cited in the registry lists datasets used to train a model, a description of how an algorithm is used, how humans utilize the prediction, and how algorithms were assessed for potential bias or risks. The registry also provides citizens a way to give feedback on algorithms their local government uses and the name, city department, and contact information for the person responsible for the responsible deployment of a particular algorithm. A complete algorithmic registry can empower citizens and give them a way to evaluate, examine, or question governments' applications of AI.

Signal: Algo Transparency & Literacy

 Gemeente Amsterdam
City of Amsterdam Algorithm Register **Beta**

[Algorithm Register](#) [More information](#) [Participate in a survey](#)

What is the Algorithm Register?

The Algorithm Register is an overview of the artificial intelligence systems and algorithms used by the City of Amsterdam. Through the register, you can get acquainted with the quick overviews of the city's algorithmic systems or examine their more detailed information based on your own interests. You can also give feedback and thus participate in building human-centered algorithms in Amsterdam. The register is still under development.

[More information](#)

Algorithmic systems of Amsterdam

Learn about the use cases where we currently utilise algorithmic systems as part of our city services.



[Economic Services Departments](#)

Automated parking control

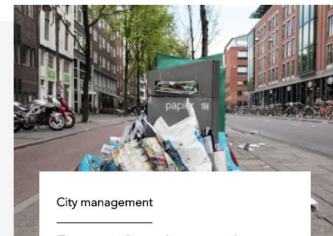
In Amsterdam, the number of cars allowed to park in the city is limited, keeping the city liveable and accessible. The municipality checks whether a parked car has the right to be parked, for example, because parking fees have been paid via a parking meter or app, or because the owner has...



[Economic Services](#)

Holiday rental housing fraud...

Amsterdam has limited living space; both for citizens and visitors. If a citizen wants to rent out their home or houseboat to tourists, they need to meet certain requirements. For example, they can do so for a maximum of 30 nights per year and a maximum of 4 people at a time. They must...



[City management](#)

Reporting issues in public...

When someone encounters rubbish or a maintenance issue on the street or in a park, they can report this to the municipality via an online reporting system. A dangerous traffic situation or disturbance from people or cafe's can also be reported. This system used to be a collection of...

REPORT · SEPTEMBER 15 2020

POVERTY LAWGORITHMS

A Poverty Lawyer's Guide
to Fighting Automated
Decision-Making Harms
on Low-Income
Communities



Michele Gilman

“Poverty Lawgorithms” is a guide for poverty lawyers that explains automated decision-making systems so they can better identify the source of their clients' problems and advocate on their behalf.

Automated decision-making systems make decisions about our lives, and those with low-socioeconomic status often bear the brunt of the harms these systems cause. *Poverty Lawgorithms: A Poverty Lawyers Guide to Fighting Automated Decision-Making Harms on Low-Income Communities* is a guide by Data & Society Faculty Fellow Michele Gilman to familiarize fellow **poverty and civil legal services lawyers** with the ins and outs of **data-centric and automated-decision making systems**, so that they can clearly understand the **sources of the problems** their clients are facing and **effectively advocate** on their behalf.

Signal: Algo Transparency & Literacy

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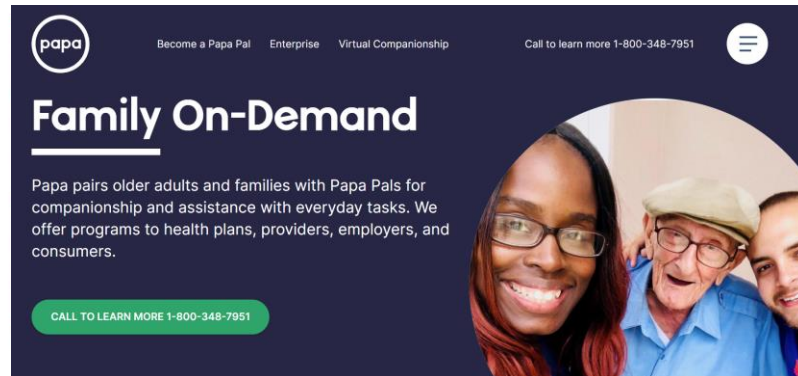
- **Assumption:**
Orgs will expand use of algorithms + datasets in everyday operations and long-term strategic planning.
- How might our organizations address
- **2025-2030**
Where might algos be applied

Signal: Caregiving Economy

Papa raises \$18 million to expand its business connecting older adults with virtual and in-person companions

Jonathan Shieber @jshieber / 5:45 pm EDT • September 22, 2020

 Comment



The Miami-based startup [Papa](#) has raised an additional \$18 million as it looks to expand its business connecting elderly Americans and families with physical and virtual companions, which the company calls “pals.”

“We have about 20,000 potential Papa pals apply a month,” said Parker. In the company’s early days it only accepted college students to work as pals, but now the company is accepting a broader range of potential employees, with assistants ranging from 18 to 45 years old. The average age, Parker said, is 29.

Papa monitors and manages all virtual interactions between the company’s employees and their charges, flagging issues that may be raised in discussions, like depression and potential problems getting access to food or medications. The monitoring is designed to ensure that meal plans, therapists or medication can be made available to the company’s charges, said Parker.

Signal:

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

TECH | PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY: JOANNA STERN

You Can Go Back to the Office—You Just Need a Virtual-Reality Headset

Meeting up with holographic versions of distant colleagues is a great change from flat, boring video calls



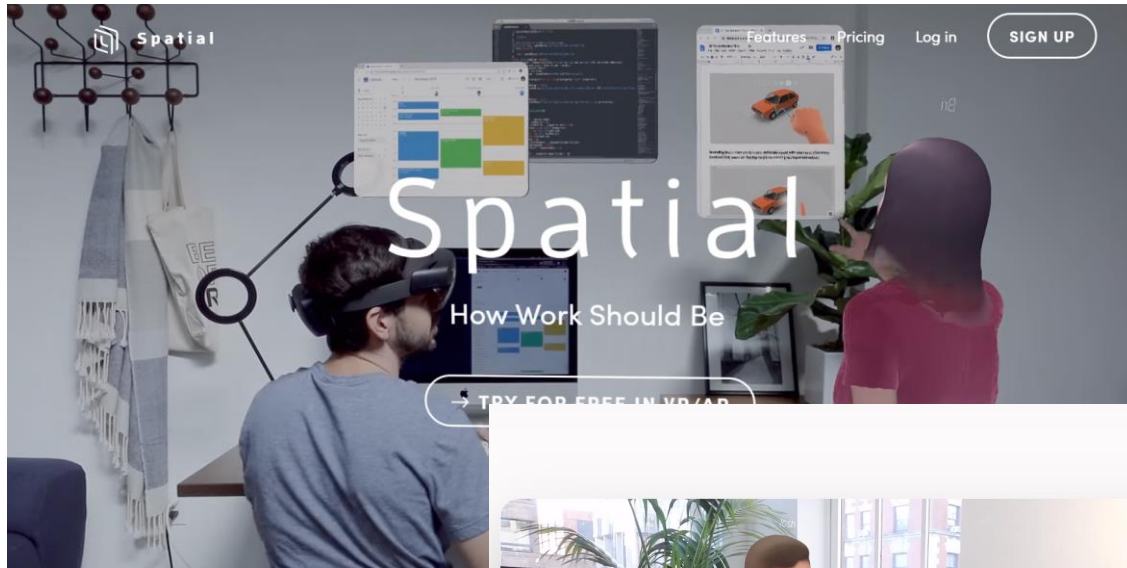
With a virtual-reality headset and a virtual meeting platform like Spatial, you can meet up and collaborate with your colleagues as if you were in a real office space. WSJ's Joanna



Pfizer uses Spatial's virtual meeting rooms and 3-D tools for employee training.

PHOTO: PFIZER

Signal:



**Sit next to
each other
from across
the world**

→ WATCH DEMO

Signal:

[Facebook](#)

Announcing Project Aria: A Research Project on the Future of Wearable AR

September 16, 2020



[Facebook](#)

Privacy Matters: Project Aria

We built the Project Aria research device with privacy in mind and we put provisions in place around where and how we'll collect data, as well as how it will be processed, used and stored.

September 16, 2020



Signal:

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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You Can Go Back to the Office—You Just Need a Virtual-Reality Headset

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- **Assumption:**
Big Tech will continue to evolve immersive telepresence.
- How might our services and experiences be enhanced or challenged in this new digital scenario?
- **2025-2030**
Where might we imagine immersive spatial experiences within our organization?

Signal: Democratization of Micro Drones



Ring's newest security camera is a \$249 autonomous indoor drone shipping in 2021

Darrell Etherington @etherington / 1:34 pm EDT • September 24, 2020

 Comment



Signal:

The Atlantic

IDEAS

The Supply of Disinformation Will Soon Be Infinite

Disinformation campaigns used to require a lot of human effort, but artificial intelligence will take them to a whole new level.

SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

Renée DiResta

Technical research manager at the Stanford
Internet Observatory

SLATE

future @ tense

Language-Generating A.I. Is a Free Speech Nightmare

By CHAND RAJENDRA-NICOLUCCI

SEPT 30, 2020 • 9:37 AM



Signal:

🕒 SEPTEMBER 22, 2020

Monitoring river health using a robotic water sampler

by Kim Fulton-Bennett, Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute



Researchers from MBARI and the US Geological Survey (USGS) recently published a paper showing several ways that MBARI's Environmental Sample Processors (ESPs) can be used to monitor the health of rivers. The ESPs, which are essentially robotic laboratories, were used to collect and preserve samples of water from the Yellowstone and Snake Rivers. By analyzing "environmental DNA" in the river water, the researchers were able to detect introduced and invasive animals as well as microbes that can cause disease in humans and fish.

In 2018, an Environmental Sample Processor was installed at a US Geological...


Signal:

INDIGENOUS AI



Indigenous Protocol and Artificial Intelligence Working Group

Title: **Indigenous Protocol and Artificial Intelligence Position Paper**

Jason Edward , Abdilla, Angie, Arista, Noelani, Baker, Kaipulaumakaniolono, Benesiinaabandan, Scott, Brown, Michelle, Cheung, anie, Coleman, Meredith, Cordes, Ashley, Davison, Joel, Duncan, Kūpono, Garzon, Sergio, Harrell, D. Fox, Jones, Peter-Lucas, akaoleohaililani, Kekuhi, Kelleher, Megan, Kite, Suzanne, Lagon, Olin, Leigh, Jason, Levesque, Maroussia, Mahelona, Keoni, Moses, uewai, Isaac ('Ika'aka), Noe, Kari, Olson, Danielle, Parker Jones, 'Ōiwi, Running Wolf, Caroline, Running Wolf, Michael, Silva, Marlee, Skawennati and Whaanga, Hēmi (2020) *Indigenous Protocol and Artificial Intelligence Position Paper*. Project Report. Indigenous Protocol and Artificial Intelligence Working Group and the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, Honolulu, HI. (Submitted)

Signal:

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INDIGENOUS AI

US Geological Survey
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