Your Name

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Date

PI

The movements and activism are based on the strength of the connection between the influencer and the masses. The platform used for the propagation is very essential in determining the strength of a connection. According to this article, the activism originated from student dorms and militancy movements for social reforms and rights are considered as strong connections. For example, the movement of the black community started with four students in downtown Greensboro, North Carolina and the number reached thousands(Gladwell). On the other hand, activism and movements based on social media and digital platforms are built around weak connections or ties. Although these connections are not very powerful as in many cases, the parties had not even met face to face but the platform and cause of movement can unite people from all over the globe.

Hierarchy is a kind of activism in which decisions are made based on a single entity while networks are shared and decisions are based on consensus. The networks include events created on Facebook or a shared idea that has been propagated on Twitter while examples of hierarchies are the left-wing terrorists in Germany in nineteen-seventies and also al-Qaida.

Sasha was a girl who found a smartphone and an expensive sidekick from the back seat of a taxi. She was e-mailed by Ivan, who’s friend had forgotten these things, to return the smartphone and sidekick but she refused. Ivan made a webpage with her picture and description of what had happened. He started sharing the page with his friends and also attached the home address and the video to make it viral. Due to the immense sharing of this web page, N.Y.P.D declared the items as ‘stolen’ which was previously declared ‘lost’. Sasha was arrested and things were recovered. Shirky supports the step taken by Ivan and believes that it was not possible for Ivan to recover things in pre-internet times and he is very right. Gladwell is of the opinion that such kind of activities is responsible for shifting the law and order from dedicated organizations to the individual entities which can promote resilience and adaptability. I agree with the idea of Gladwell that there must be some check and balance so that the victim of such kind of activism may not be exploited by the uncontrolled social media.

Works Cited:

Gladwell, Malcolm. *Small Change*. Sept. 2010. *www.newyorker.com*, https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2010/10/04/small-change-malcolm-gladwell.