

Trust Issues | Data & Society

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Public discussions of trust often frame it as a social good that can simply exist, increase, or deplete. But as institutions built to protect public health, education, and dignity rupture — and networks and social relationships fray — it is clear that trust is complicated, and that it is deeply relational. Meanwhile, the stakes of the relationship between trust and technology whittle to a sharper point with every passing day.

The essays in this anthology collectively reframe the question of trust and technology away from whether a particular technology is trustworthy and toward how trust reframes institutions, bodies, and knowledge. We offer four interconnected definitions of trust, tools for meeting this moment, and ways of finding agency and meaning within it.

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