

# Social media as a crisis discipline | Institute for Rebooting Social Media

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How can the science of catastrophic collective behavior provide insight into the woes of social media platforms?

On Thursday, November 4, the Berkman Klein Center's [Institute for Rebooting Social Media](#) hosted an invited workshop to collaboratively explore this question. The inspiration for the workshop came from the paper "[Stewardship of global collective behavior](#)" spearheaded by [Dr. Joseph Bak-Coleman](#) and co-written with authors from the physical, biological, and social sciences. The paper uses examples from climate change and conservation biology to illuminate critical questions about social media, including: What does it mean to treat social media like a crisis discipline, or [a discipline that lacks the luxury of time](#)? How does network structure, and the types of interactions allowed via that structure, affect the spread of information in a group?

[...]

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