Hacktivism

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Hacktivism, from the words hack and activism, is the act of misusing technology to expose, or disrupt activities, where there is a perceived injustice.

The hacker collective, Cult of the Dead Cow, is credited with coining the term hacktivism in 1996.

Politically motivated hacktivism seeks to promote or upheave a political agenda.

Socially motivated hacktivism sets out to expose social injustices, ranging from government censorship to environmental concerns, and human and animal rights.

Religiously motivated hacktivism acts in the name of a religious ideology and may seek to discredit or encourage the belief or incite violence in the name of that belief.

Hacktivist may deface websites, DDoS targeted systems, dox individuals, or leak information.

- Website defacement is when a website is compromised, and the electronic equivalent of graffiti tags and messages placed on it.
- DDoS is bombarding a server with requests so the service cannot function.
- Doxing is the act of making public sensitive personal identity information about a person without their consent.