Brooke Lever Professor Graybill Senior Thesis Paper GSS Symposium Submission

The internet has been nothing short of essential for the vast majority of people during the pandemic. Without it, there would have been no viable way for many people to safely return to work, for students to continue school, and for friends and family to see each other. Thinking of the internet as a digital landscape allows for a framing of digital forums as separate and distinct spaces of sociological development.

This paper is structured as a Deleuzian assemblage, which allows for a recontextualization of some of these digital spaces, like 4chan, and digital social roles/ communities, such as Anonymous and the internet "anon", with the work of Jasbir Puar, Donna Haraway, and Berlant and Warner. This work builds upon and expands my own work of "alien theory" as a means to trouble these digital spaces, roles, and communities that are perceived as anti-queer spaces, and in doing so we can see just how queer these spaces actually are, and how this framing adds to the archive of queer theoretical practices and frameworks.

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¹. While there are important and necessary critiques of resource accessibility and accommodation when it comes to race, class, safety, and digital/ electronic tools; such discussion is mostly beyond the scope of this paper (but still discussions I and I hope others will be having/ will continue to have).