

# South Korea digital rights advocacy case studies

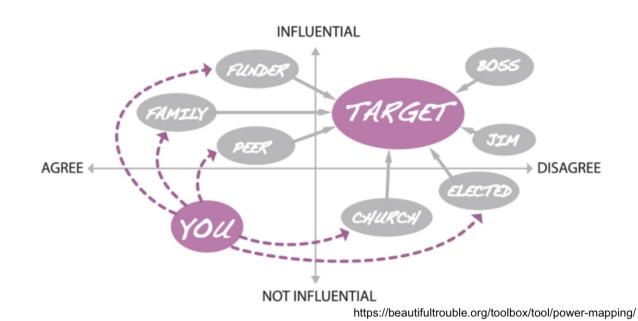
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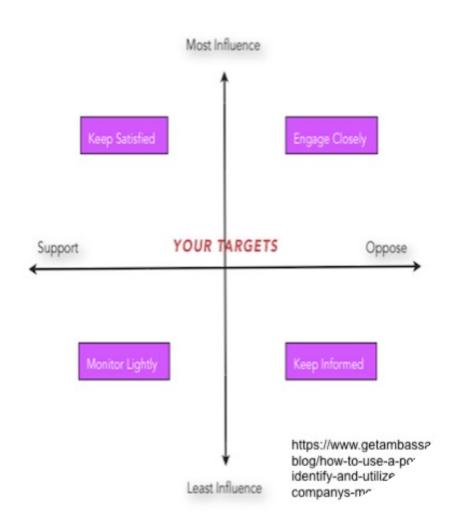
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#### Cases

- "network usage fee" bills financial impediment to free speech 2.0
- Press Arbitration Act amendment bills (press punitive damages bill) civil damages impediment to free speech

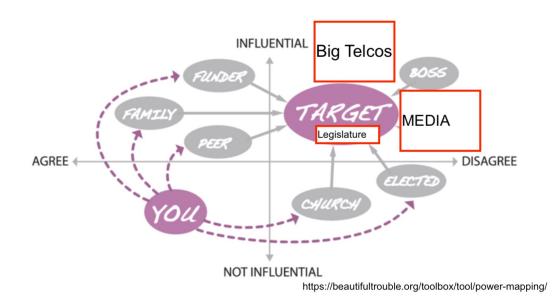
## **Power mapping**



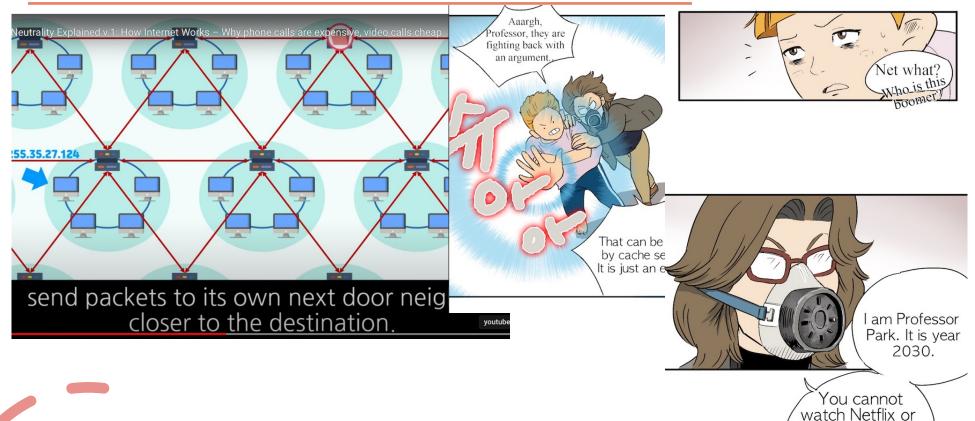


### "Network usage fee" bills

- Power map
  - Lobbying by 3 Big telcos
  - Almost all media in favor
  - Technically difficult to understand
- Solution Occupy!
  - Public education first (2 years)
    - Webtoons
    - Videos
  - 7 bills up for deliberation
    - Targeted testimony at public hearing
    - Public petition



#### **Educational video and webtoons**

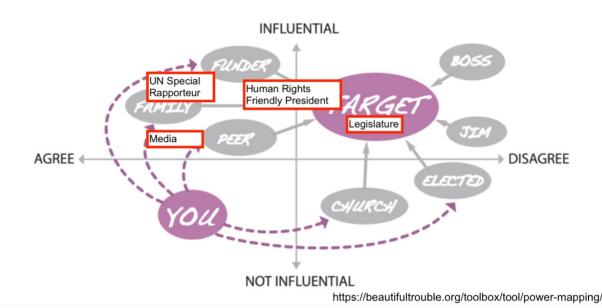


Facebook in Korea

anymore

#### Press punitive damages bill

- Power map
  - All media against it
  - All political parties for it
  - Human Rights friendly president
- Solution High-wire act
  - Educate president on human rights implications
  - How? have him talk to the human rights officer of UN, Irene Khan.
  - Official communication from Khan – "counsel moderation"



#### **Strategic Litigation**

- Different strategies for different litigation no general theory
- Ultimate limiting factor independence of judiciary (assuming that there is budding independence. . .)
- Identification of lawsuits maybe a theory possible
- Three constitutional lawsuits needed in Indo-Pacific area
  - Administrative censorship
  - Registration requirement
  - Criminal defamation

# Spread of NetzDG in Broader Contents Scope

- 2019 Philippines Anti False Content Act mentions NetzDG
- 2018 Malaysia Anti Fake News Act mentions NetzDG
- 2018 Vietnam Cybersecurity law "propaganda against Vietman", etc., similar to NetzDG, e.g., 24 hours
- 2019 Singapore Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act -false statement of facts - mentions NetzDG
- 2021 Indonesia MR5 "prohibited content", e.g., 4 hours, 24 hours of <u>flagging by Ministry</u> - similar to NetzDG
- 2022 Myanmar Cybersecurity Bill must remove "timely" all prohibited content <u>after flagging by the department</u> including "complained of stmts damaging another's social standing and livelihood"

#### France Avia Law struck down-Constitutional Conseil (June 2020)

- Part I: Terrorist content, child pornography AS notified by administrative authority within 1 hr
- Part II: Other "manifestly illegal" content within 24 hours of notice
- Unconstitutional b/c time too short, extrajudicial  $\rightarrow$  criminal penalty not proportionate
- Probably considered impact on free speech "false positives"
- Conseil national du numerique (French Digital Commission), la Commission nationale consultative des droits de l'homme (French Human Rights Commission) opposed the law.
- Notice that Part I is not even a liability law but direct administrative censorship.
- 2022 October Spanish Supreme Court on blocking order on womenonweb.org administrative censorship unconstitutional!
- 2009 June French Supreme Court on HADOPI law administrative cut-off of internet access unconstitutional
- 2014 Philippines Supreme Court administrative censorship unconstitutional

#### Registration Requirement

- SIM card registration
- MR5 platform registration requirement
- Commonality?
- Korea periodicals registration requirement, Internet real name law - all struck down
- Strategies: anonymity restriction + prior restraint

#### Criminal defamation laws

- Lesotho, Kenya struck down as unconstitutional
- UK abolished by legislation and spreading through former UK colonies
- US almost outlawed
- Reasons: 1. room for abuse Criminalization gives the executive branch the power to attack by law dissidents
- 2. Theoretical: What is reputation but people's thoughts about others?
- 3. Excessive