

Workers' rights, Silicon Valley-Style

In the technology industry, labor organizing can get tricky

When Eric started at Google a few years ago, he thought it would be different from other tech companies—more careful about its impact on people around the world. Google, after all, was the firm that had ([until recently](#)) put “Don’t be evil” in its official code of conduct. But his idealized vision of the company has clouded recently.

Earlier in 2018, around a dozen Google [employees resigned](#) in protest after learning of their company’s involvement in the U.S. military’s [Project Maven](#), which integrates artificial intelligence into existing drone warfare technology. After pushback, Google [did not renew](#) its contract with the Pentagon. The company [has been hit with charges](#) that its search algorithms regularly highlight false and politically motivated sources of information. And in August, *The Intercept* reported that Google has [been developing](#) a censored version of its search engine for the Chinese government, internally called Project Dragonfly. According to the *New York Times*, a letter with [around 1,400 employee signatures](#) circulated on internal forums at Google, demanding more transparency and discussion around the ethical consequences of the company’s decisions...

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