Hacktivism task : Corporate responses vs activist understandings of hacktivism

Orientating questions
- ·   Think about the kinds of activity that might be described as hacktivism. Is hacktivism a crime?
- ·   What makes hacktivism unique from 'off-line' forms of political activism?
- ·   What kinds of protest that can only take place on the Internet? Does this automatically mean the web has increased democracy?
- ·   What effect might surveillance on the web have on the future of political protest?

Work in two groups – one group will be given a corporate view of hacktivism and responses to this phenomena, the other will have an article written from an activist/social protestors viewpoint.

Group 1: How Hacktivism Affects Us All
http://www.edshare.soton.ac.uk/8762/1/howhacktivismaffectsusall.pdf

Group 2: What is Hacktivism?
http://www.edshare.soton.ac.uk/8762/2/whatishacktivism.pdf

Work through the documents you have been given and develop a list of counter arguments /objections/ problems with the viewpoint presented. At the end of the session present your outputs to the other group and finally swap the original resources so that you can consolidate your learning across the three preceding blocks of activity (political participation, cybercrime and hacktivism).