Living Memorial for Open Data
Activist Aaron Swartz Dead at 26

Aaron H. Swartz (November 8, 1986 – January 11, 2013) Most of us face legal trauma alone never truly knowing who stands with us or what our peers think. Aaron took the pain as he campaigned against corruption and for OPEN DATA. He faced indictment and litigation. He pleaded not guilty, litigation is isolating and devastating. The facts of the ‘indictment ‘ are here http://unhandled.com/2013/01/12/the-truth-about-aaron-swartzs-crime/ He surrendered his life to suicide January 11, 2013 at only 26 years old. We can multiply his influence by supporting Open Trials Now. Sign with us to support open trials data. You can offer a donation but mostly we need your voice to stand in solidarity. United we are strong.

Aaron Swartz, we will miss you!

Aaron Swartz was the founder of Demand Progress, which launched the campaign against the Internet censorship bills (SOPA/PIPA) and now has over a million members. He was a Contributing Editor to The Baffler and on the Council of Advisors to The Rules. Read the post by his friend http://boingboing.net/2013/01/12/rip-aaron-swartz.html

Watch the movie about Aaron here.
He was a frequent television commentator and the author of numerous articles on a variety of topics, especially the corrupting influence of big money on institutions including nonprofits, the media, politics, and public opinion. From 2010-11, he researched these topics as a Fellow at the Harvard Ethics Center Lab on Institutional Corruption. He also served on the board of Change Congress, a good government nonprofit.

Aaron was an American programmer, writer, political organizer, and Internet activist. Swartz co-authored the first specification of RSS. He co-founded Reddit and the online activism group Demand Progress. He also was a member of Harvard University Ethics Center Lab. On July 19, 2011, he was arrested for harvesting academic journal articles from JSTOR. Aaron took the time to share what he did to get to where he was going here https://aaronsw.jottit.com/howtoget. It was easy to see how brutal litigation could take its toll. On January 11, 2013 Aaron lost the fight for life.

On July 12 we rally to support his contributions to life and well being. If people truly knew they would be totally shocked at the suppression and distortion of research findings by sponsors who don’t like the results. We have been campaigning for years to prevent this publication bias and also to reduce the barriers of access to information by ensuring research findings are not hidden behind paywalls.

In fact, after years of campaigning the issue has finally been drawn to the attention of the UK Parliament who are taking it very seriously. To ensure that they continue to do so, Sense about Science, the British Medical Journal and others launched a petition yesterday to request that legislation be considered to ensure all trials are published. You may care to sign this petition http://tiny.cc/m7srqw or, even better, tweet it.


