

DEFEND YOURSELF AGAINST FAKE NEWS

Tips and tricks to ensure you're reading objective articles

WHERE TO FIND NEWS

According to the Pew Research Center, these are some of America's most trusted news sites.

This survey was conducted using participants of all political ideologies

The Economist **BBC** **ABC News**
The Wall Street Journal **NPR**
CNN **USA TODAY** **CBS News**
NBC News **The New York Times**
PBS **Google News** **The Washington Post**

WHERE TO NOT FIND NEWS

According to the Pew Research Center, these are some of America's most distrusted sites.

Brietbart **The Colbert Report**
The Huffington Post **Buzzfeed**

FACTS VS. OPINIONS

FACT: A statement that that can be proven true.

OPINION: Expresses someone's belief, feeling, view or idea

Are these headlines factual or opinionated?

1. March for More Than Science
2. Pope compares Refugee Centers to Concentration Camps
3. Paris Aims to Be a Start-Up Hub
4. Women's Rights are Human Rights
5. Opening the Door for Medical Innovation

ANSWERS:

1. Opinionated 2. Factual 3. Factual 4. Opinionated 5. Opinionated

KNOW YOUR BIAS

1. Anchoring bias.

People are **over-reliant** on the first piece of information they hear. In a salary negotiation, whoever makes the first offer establishes a range of reasonable possibilities in each person's mind.



2. Availability heuristic.

People **overestimate the importance** of information that is available to them. A person might argue that smoking is not unhealthy because they know someone who lived to 100 and smoked three packs a day.



3. Bandwagon effect.

The probability of one person adopting a belief increases based on the number of people who hold that belief. This is a powerful form of **groupthink** and is reason why meetings are often unproductive.



4. Blind-spot bias.

Failing to recognize your own cognitive biases is a bias in itself. People notice cognitive and motivational biases much more in others than in themselves.



5. Choice-supportive bias.

When you choose something, you tend to feel positive about it, even if that **choice has flaws**. Like how you think your dog is awesome – even if it bites people every once in a while.



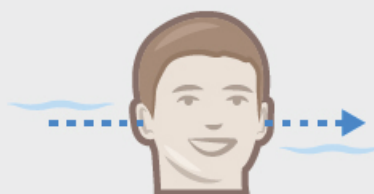
6. Clustering illusion.

This is the tendency to **see patterns in random events**. It is key to various gambling fallacies, like the idea that red is more or less likely to turn up on a roulette table after a string of reds.



7. Confirmation bias.

We tend to listen only to information that confirms our **preconceptions** – one of the many reasons it's so hard to have an intelligent conversation about climate change.



8. Conservatism bias.

Where people favor prior evidence over new evidence or information that has emerged. People were **slow to accept** that the Earth was round because they maintained their earlier understanding that the planet was flat.

