Fake News



MADNESS

A SAPIENT Being's Guide to Spotting Fake News Media and How to Fight and Eliminate It

Corey Lee Wilson

A SAPIENT Being's Guide to Spotting Fake News Media and How to Help Fight and Eliminate It

Ву

Corey Lee Wilson

Fake News Madness

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Acknowledgements

I owe a debt of gratitude to the following for "heavily" borrowing at times pieces of their and/or outright sections. I do this unashamedly to use the sapient phrase, "if it ain't broke—don't try to fix it." Most of the borrowed works and research cannot be improved upon—so why try? It's better to assemble these meaningful parts, profound messages, and eloquent arguments into a cohesive whole, told with high school and college students in mind, and that's what I've done and where my talent lies.

Below in alphabetical order are the major contributors to *The SAPIENT Being* that I borrowed verbatim, quoted, and conceptualized much of their content from a little to a lot. Wherever this happened, I did my best to acknowledge my source. If I didn't at times within the 15 chapters, I did so intentionally because doing so would have distracted from their message. Nonetheless, they are more than acknowledged in the References and Index sections of this textbook.

Bozell III, L. Brent: As the founder and president of the Media Research Center (MRC), Bozell runs the largest media watchdog organization in America and MRC and its news, research and reporting bureaus critique the bias in the national media and how they undermine American democracy. Bozell and Tim Graham are co-authors of *Unmasked: Big Media's War Against Trump* and a significant portion of the content from their 2019 book was used for *Fake News Madness* particularly Chapter 1 and more contributions to Chapters 2, 8, 14 and 15. Bozell's MRC organization contributed as well to Chapters 1, 4, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15.

Dice, Mark: Is the author of *The True Story of Fake News: How Mainstream Media Manipulates Millions* and he contributed heavily to Chapters 6, 7 and 14.

Noyes, Rich: As the Research Director at the Media Research Center (MRC) and senior editor of the MRC's blog, NewsBusters.org., Noyes has authored or co-authored a significant portion of MRC's authoritative Special Reports and articles and many of them were very relevant to *Fake News Madness* and used in Chapters 4, 10 and 14.

Pew Research Center: Pew surveys and reports provide the backbone of various media statistics and they were used throughout *Fake News Madness* in Chapters 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11 and 15.

Prager U: Prager University is an American nonprofit organization that creates videos on various political, economic, and philosophical topics from a conservative perspective. The university was created by conservative Dennis Prager, an American syndicated talk show host, to teach fundamental concepts. Its content is sapient and relevant, and they educate millions of

Americans and young people about the values that make America great. Prager U's contribution to Chapter 7 was significant and they also contributed to Chapter 14.

As the author of *Fake News Madness*, I also have a confession to make concerning my war against fake news journalism going all the way back to my college days. I say up front, "most likely," because I cannot prove that my campus newspaper *The Poly Post* didn't intentionally post an article in the Cal Poly Pomona campus newspaper titled: "Thefts, Vandalism, and High-Speed Pursuit Keep Campus Cops Busy!" that featured my arrest for reckless driving on campus thirty-five years ago to get back at me for correcting their newspaper articles time and again on fake news about current events.

The Poly Post continued their fake news choosing "high speed pursuit" when there were no speed limits broken—the only laws broken, which I readily admit to breaking, were failure to pull-over for a smog ticket which I choose to avoid until off campus knowing I had an expired driver license and I didn't want to get in trouble again on campus, and earn a third strike against me considering I was already on double-secret probation and there would likely be an expulsion from college for a third offense!

And yet, through some miracle, I was not expelled from college and instead placed on triple secret probation. Yes! Triple secret probation! I'm not making this up and if you're a fan of the comedy classic "Animal House," you know what double secret probation is. Triple secret? Never heard of it you're saying.

Neither did I, until I was first placed on disciplinary probation for a fraternity kidnap gone wrong, then placed on disciplinary probation a second time two months later for being the unlucky fraternity officer whose signature was on an unsanctioned toga party event form, and my third offense was failure to pull over (but not in excess of speeding limit) on campus after I borrowed a friend's un-smogged truck to tow our fraternity chariot to campus where I dropped it off and headed back to the frat house reasoning that campus cops can't pursue you off campus. Wrong!

Regardless, I became the only college student in the USA to graduate in 1985 on triple-secret probation and did so with a 3.26 GPA in Economics, recognized for my outstanding academics, leadership, and extra-curricular activities by *Who's Who of American College Students*, became President of my Delta Tau Chapter of The Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity winning Cal Poly Pomona's first ever Poly Gold Award, and topped it off by being selected as my fraternity's Shideler Award winner for being the most outstanding graduating senior in the USA.

Nonetheless, my first bitter experience with fake news journalism didn't stop me from fighting and helping to eliminate it as the subtitle of this book states: A SAPIENT Being's Guide to Spotting Fake News Media and How to Help Fight and Eliminate It. This is a primary reason why I choose the fake news topic as the first one to be published in the 50 MADNESS series of books—and the one I most highly recommend reading first before reading any of the others—because until you first learn to spot fake news and its media—you won't be able to help fight and eliminate it as well as identify the hundreds of other issues in the MADNESS series of books.

A SAPIENT Being's Preface

Millions of today's youth, college students, and young adults have been brainwashed over the decades by fake news coming from mainstream media (MSM), social media, and leftist academia to the point where they lack the open mindedness, objectivity, and critical thinking skills to recognize it and its harmful effects.

Fake News Madness offers an opportunity to be part of the solution to this problem. By spotting fake news media using ethical journalistic standards we can take action to fight and eliminate fake news with practical logic, facts, truth, and sapience—and together counter the biased and unethical journalism, mainstream news, and social media on and off campus.

For some of you this *MADNESS* book will be a revelation, an epiphany, a sapient being moment. For others, it will be a triggering event, denial of truth, and a painful intervention.

As the time-tested saying goes, "Everyone is entitled to their own opinions—but they're not entitled to their own facts." Facts are facts, the truth is the truth, but they can be skewed and manipulated for disingenuous methods and false narratives. Mainstream news, social media, and academia have perfected and promoted their liberal and leftist agenda without recourse. They are in many ways the media arm of the Democratic Party and many are infected with Trump Derangement Syndrome (TDS).

Only seven percent of American journalists identify as Republican and the rest claim that despite the fact they're all Democrats, they can be objective. It just ain't so! Psychologists and the Heterodox Academy have shown that when people associate almost exclusively with those who agree with them, they suffer from groupthink, viewpoint orthodoxy, and confirmation bias—and lose their ability to see events clearly and objectively.

In 2016 the fake news media narrative was more an unequivocal declaration: Donald Trump must not win. As well all know, he did, and the overwhelming pro-Clinton MSM predicted he would lose. And lose big! How could they get it so wrong? And how could one man be the number one obsession and enemy of fake news?

The primary focus of this book is an analysis of the depth and breadth of fake and false news in mainstream and social media, journalism academic institutions, data/fact checking resources, about Trump derangement syndrome, election predictions, application of journalistic code of ethics, practical logic, and more.

By using sapience as the foundation for addressing these issues facing America and the world today, together—left, right, and center—we can achieve common sense solutions that support the public trust, promote good will, and serve the common good. Sapience, also known as wisdom, trumps all other ideologies.

Sapience is the ability to think and act using knowledge, experience, understanding, common sense and insight. Sapience is associated with attributes such as intelligence, enlightenment, and unbiased judgement and also recognizes the humanistic concepts of Western European culture, American exceptionalism, and conservative values.

Are you interested in spotting fake news media and helping to fight and eliminate it? If yes, please read on and if you also believe in the message of this book and willing to fight for it—please considering joining one of these two programs below sponsored by the SAPIENT Being.

Make Free Speech Again On Campus (MFSAOC) Program

Provide high school and college students the opportunity to start SAPIENT Being campus clubs, chapters, and alliances where independent, liberal, and conservative minded students can meet, discuss, and debate important issues and develop sapience in the process. Learn more about the process of practicing, protecting, and promoting viewpoint diversity, freedom of speech, and intellectual humility as part of the Make Free Speech Again On Campus (MFSAOC) program for on or off site campus groups at https://www.sapientbeing.org/programs.

World Of Writing Warriors (WOWW) Program

Return free speech, open dialogue and civil discourse to high school and college students and journalists without the cancel culture against those with differences in opinion, ideologies, and practices. Encourage open debate, dialogue, and the free expression of alternative and non- orthodox viewpoints with the goal of creating a World Of Writing Warriors (WOWW) program at https://www.sapientbeing.org/programs that upholds journalistic standards throughout all types of campus journalism and media.

Sapient Conservative Textbooks (SCT) Program

Relevant and current events textbooks program to help return conservative values, viewpoint diversity, and sapience to high school and college students and enlighten them on the many blessings to humankind that are the direct result of American exceptionalism, Western European culture, and Judeo-Christian values. The ethos for every textbook in the Sapient Conservative Textbooks (SCT) program is truth without bias and for more information on the 50 titles please visit the program website at https://www.fratirepublishing.com/madnessbooks.

Are You a Sapient Being or Want to Be One?

Sapience, also known as wisdom, is the ability to think and act using knowledge, experience, understanding, common sense and insight. Sapience is associated with attributes such as intelligence, enlightenment, unbiased judgment, compassion, experiential self-knowledge, self-actualization, and virtues such as ethics and benevolence.

Being a sapient being is not about identity politics, it's about doing what is right and borrows many of the essential qualities of Centrism that supports strength, tradition, open mindedness, and policy based on evidence not ideology.

Sapient beings are independent minded thinkers that achieve common sense solutions that appropriately address America's and the world's most pressing issues. They gauge situations based on context and reason, consideration, and probability. They are open minded and exercise conviction and willing to fight for it on the intellectual battlefield. Sapient beings don't blindly and recklessly follow their feelings or emotions.

Their unifying ideology is based on the truth, reason, logic, scientific method, and pragmatism—and not necessarily defined by compromise, moderation, or any particular faith—but is considerate of them.

Most importantly, per a letter written by Princeton professor Robert George in 2017 and endorsed by 28 professors from three Ivy League universities for incoming freshmen being sapient means, "Think for yourself!"

George's letter continues:

Thinking for yourself means questioning dominant ideas even when others insist on their being treated as unquestionable. It means deciding what one believes not by conforming to fashionable opinions, but by taking the trouble to learn and honestly consider the strongest arguments to be advanced on both or all sides of questions—including arguments for positions that others revile and want to stigmatize and against positions others seek to immunize from critical scrutiny.

The love of truth and the desire to attain it should motivate you to think for yourself. The central point of a college education is to seek truth and to learn the skills and acquire the virtues necessary to be a lifelong truth-seeker. Open-mindedness, critical thinking, and debate are essential to discovering the truth. Moreover, they are our best antidotes to bigotry.

Merriam-Webster's first definition of the word "bigot" is a person "who is obstinately or intolerantly devoted to his or her own opinions and prejudices." The only people who need fear

open-minded inquiry and robust debate are the actual bigots, including those on campuses or in the broader society who seek to protect the hegemony of their opinions by claiming that to question those opinions is itself bigotry.

So, don't be tyrannized by public opinion. Don't get trapped in an echo chamber. Whether you in the end reject or embrace a view, make sure you decide where you stand by critically assessing the arguments for the competing positions. Think for yourself. Good luck to you in college!

Now, that might sound easy. But you will find—as you may have discovered already in high school—that thinking for yourself can be a challenge. It always demands self-discipline, and these days can require courage.

In today's climate, it's all-too easy to allow your views and outlook to be shaped by dominant opinion on your campus or in the broader academic culture. The danger any student—or faculty member—faces today is falling into the vice of conformism, yielding to groupthink, the orthodoxy.

At many colleges and universities, they instill what John Stuart Mill called "the tyranny of public opinion" does more than merely discourage students from dissenting from prevailing views on moral, political, and other types of questions. It leads them to suppose that dominant views are so obviously correct that only a bigot or a crank could question them.

Since no one wants to be, or be thought of as, a bigot or a crank, the easy, lazy way to proceed is simply by falling into line with campus orthodoxies. Don't do it!

To be sure, our overly politicized culture has a hard time viewing any "verbal cacophony" as a sign of strength and vibrancy. And perhaps nowhere is this truer than on many college campuses where political correctness is rampant, groupthink is common, and social media "mobs" arise in a flash to intimidate anyone who openly strays from the prevailing orthodoxy.

At the SAPIENT Being we're not intimidated—and our primary purpose is to seek the truth by enhancing viewpoint diversity, promoting intellectual humility, protecting freedom of speech and expression while developing sapience in the process—no matter what the cost on the intellectual battlefield, campus classroom, and marketplace of ideas. This is our ethos! Is it yours?

Best regards and sapiently yours,

Corey Lee Wilson

S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being

1 – The Fake News Orgy of the 2016 Presidential Election



Credit: NBC

The reason Fake News Madness was selected as the first book of the 50 MADNESS book titles to be published is because it sets the precedence for spotting fake news which affects every other book topic. If we cannot call attention to, analyze, and eliminate the presence of fake news and its negative impact, we cannot fully understand the topics and meanings of the 50 book titles in a sapient manner.

Many in America are unaware of the fake news phenomena and the liberal and leftist bias within it. Many are the victims of it—trapped in a viewpoint orthodox echo chamber or so tyrannized by public opinion, they're afraid to think for themselves. When truth and non-fake news once again assert their rightful place throughout America in mainstream media (MSM), journalism, and academia—freedom of speech, viewpoint diversity, and intellectual humility will prevail.

The search for truth and investigating and verifying what a bona fide fact is, and what makes it different from a belief or an opinion has been an age-old philosophical quest known as Epistemology. What is knowledge? What is truth? How do we "know" something? "While Socrates and Plato were searching for answers to these important questions over two thousand years ago, it's a strange situation we find ourselves in when the 'information age' has helped to cause millions of people to drown in misinformation.

Media Liberal Bias Confirmed

As well documented by the Media Research Center (MRC), only the liberal media denies that there is a liberal bias problem in the media, but decades of studies and polls (not to mention

common sense) have proven an overwhelming bias in their coverage of just about everything. A Harvard study analyzing the media coverage of President Trump's first 100 days in office found that 80% of it was negative. Of course, that was obvious to anyone old enough to pay attention during the election, but it was surprising that Harvard, a very liberal university, would actually investigate the matter.

The study analyzed reports from *The New York Times, The Washington Post*, and *The Wall Street Journal*; as well as CNN, CBS, NBC, ABC, Fox News, and even the BBC, and found the average coverage was 80% negative. Also, not surprising was that CNN's coverage was 93% negative. Fox News, on the other hand, was shown to be 52% negative and 48 % positive, which fits in almost perfectly with their trademarked slogan "Fair & Balanced."

This kind of slanted coverage is certainly nothing new. A famous study of liberal bias in the American media was conducted in 1986 and found that most journalists working for the major national news outlets were Democrats with liberal views on issues like gay rights, abortion, affirmative action, and welfare programs. The study, later published in a book called *The Media Elite*, gathered its data by conducting surveys of journalists at the Big Three broadcast news networks (ABC, CBS, NBC), along with print outlets including *The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, Time*, and *Newsweek*.

It concluded that because liberals dominated most news organizations, their coverage reflected their political attitudes both consciously and unconsciously; even if they didn't think they were being biased because they unconsciously believed that their views were 'correct,' so in their minds they didn't see their coverage as biased at all.

A decade later in 1997, another major study of journalists was conducted by the American Society of Newspaper Editors and that found that 61% of reporters leaned Democrat, but only 15% leaned Republican with 24% of those surveyed appeared to be independent.

In 2002 a professor at Dartmouth College published his research on media bias in his book *Press Bias and Politics: How the Media Frame Controversial Issues*, which also showed that most mainstream media in America present liberal views in a more favorable light.

Another study in 2005 by researchers at UCLA found a "strong liberal bias" at most mainstream media outlets with the exception of Fox News and *The Washington Times*. A 2007 study at Harvard University also confirmed a liberal bias in television news.

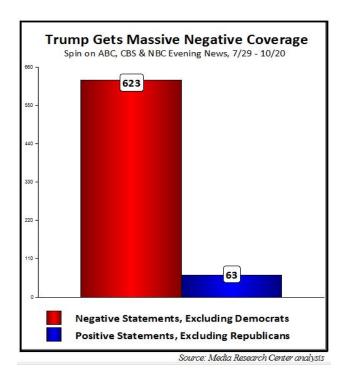
Documenting TV's Twelve Weeks of Trump Bashing in 2016

In the twelve weeks since the party conventions concluded in late July 2016, Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump received significantly more broadcast network news coverage than his Democratic rival, Hillary Clinton, but nearly all of that coverage (91%) was hostile, according to a study by the Media Research Center (MRC).

In addition, the networks spent far more airtime focusing on the personal controversies involving Trump (440 minutes) than about similar controversies involving Clinton (185 minutes).

Donald Trump's treatment of women was given 102 minutes of evening news airtime, more than that allocated to discussing Clinton's e-mail scandal (53 minutes) and the Clinton Foundation pay-for-play scandals (40 minutes) combined.

For this study, the MRC analyzed all 588 evening news stories that either discussed or mentioned the presidential campaign on the ABC, CBS and NBC evening newscasts from July 29 through October 20, 2016 (including weekends). The networks devoted 1,191 minutes to the presidential campaign during this period, or nearly 29 percent of all news coverage.



MRC's measure of campaign spin was designed to isolate the networks' own slant, not the back-and-forth of the campaign trail. Thus, their analysts ignored soundbites which merely showcased the traditional party line (Republicans supporting Trump and bashing Clinton, and vice versa), and instead tallied evaluative statements which imparted a clear *positive* or *negative* tone to the story. Such statements may have been presented as quotes from non-partisan talking heads such as experts or voters, quotes from partisans who broke ranks (Republicans attacking Trump or Democrats criticizing Clinton), or opinionated statements from the reporter themselves.

Additionally, MRC separated personal evaluations of each candidate from statements about their prospects in the campaign horse race (i.e., standings in the polls, chances to win, etc.). While such comments can have an effect on voters (creating a bandwagon effect for those seen as winning or demoralizing the supports of those portrayed as losing), they are not "good press"

or "bad press" as understood by media scholars as far back as Michael Robinson's groundbreaking research on the 1980 presidential campaign.

The results show neither candidate was celebrated by the media (as Obama was in 2008), but network reporters went out of their way to hammer Trump day after day, while Clinton was largely out of their line of fire. MRC's analysts found 184 opinionated statements about Hillary Clinton, split between 39 positive statements (21%) vs. 145 negatives (79%). Those same broadcasts included more than three times as many opinionated statements about Trump, 91 percent of which (623) were negative vs. just nine percent positive (63).

Even when they were critical of Hillary Clinton—for concealing her pneumonia, for example, or mischaracterizing the FBI investigation of her e-mail server—network reporters always maintained a respectful tone in their coverage.

Media Zeroed In On Trump's Controversies	, Not Clinton's
(Minutes of airtime on ABC, CBS & NBC evening news, 7/29 - 10/20)	
Trump: Sexist rhetoric/Mistreating women	102 minutes
Clinton: Questions about age/health	53 minutes
Clinton: Personal e-mail server	40 minutes
Trump: Won't release tax returns/Didn't pay?	33 minutes
Trump: Flip-flop on immigration?	32 minutes
Trump: Claiming Nov. election is "rigged"	27 minutes
Clinton: Clinton Foundation scandals	24 minutes
Trump: Feud w/Khan family	23 minutes
Trump: Too close to Putin/Russia	22 minutes
Trump: Flirting w/racism/Insensitive rhetoric	20 minutes
Trump: Questions about age/health	19 minutes
Trump: Promoting Obama birther theories	19 minutes
Trump: Lacks temperament/qualifications	18 minutes
Trump: Questions about Trump Foundation	14 minutes
Trump: Voicing 2nd Amendment threat to Hillary?	14 minutes

Source: Media Research Center.

This was not the case with Trump, who was slammed as embodying "the politics of fear," or a "dangerous" and "vulgar" "misogynistic bully" who had insulted vast swaths of the American electorate. Reporters also bluntly called out Trump for lying in his public remarks in a way they never did with Clinton, despite her own robust record of false statements.

As for those "horse race" assessments that were excluded from the Media Research Center's "good press/bad press" measure, those were decidedly anti-Trump as well. Out of 569 such statements about the health or prospects of Trump's campaign, 85% (486) were negative, vs.

15% (83) that were positive. For Clinton, the spin was reversed: out of 432 assessments of her status in the race, 62% (268) were positive, vs. just 38% (164) that were negative.

By far, the top topic since the 2016 party conventions had been the issue of Donald Trump's treatment of women, especially the 2005 *Access Hollywood* tape (which received nearly 50 minutes of evening news coverage) and the unproven allegations from several women that he engaged in inappropriate conduct in the past (26 minutes).

Add it all up, and Trump's alleged sexist behavior or rhetoric totaled 102 minutes of news coverage since the conventions. In contrast, references to Bill Clinton's past treatment of women, and Hillary Clinton's role in covering up her husband's wrongdoing, amounted to less than seven minutes of coverage during this same period, a roughly 15-to-1 disparity.

Other Trump controversies were given robust coverage: the issue of his tax returns (33 minutes), his concern that the November election could be "rigged" (27 minutes), and suggestions that Trump and his aides are too close to Putin's Russia (22 minutes).

In contrast, controversies involving Hillary Clinton received far less attention. Her "basket of deplorables" comment received just seven minutes of total coverage, while barely two minutes (134 seconds) was spent talking about her handling of the 2012 attack in Benghazi when she was Secretary of State.

Bill Clinton's crack that Obamacare was a "crazy system" was limited to just 140 seconds of evening news coverage, even though it signaled the kind of intra-party split that would surely have received far more coverage if it had been a Republican vs. a Republican.

A Quinnipiac poll found that more than half of all voters (55%) thought the media's coverage had been biased against Trump. With coverage like this, the question is, what are the other 45 percent thinking?

Mainstream Media (MSM) Missed the Revolution

Pundits looked at the gravitas and experience, the fund-raising process and endless endorsements, and the brand names of candidates such as Jeb Bush and Hillary Clinton and expected them to land the two nominations for those reasons. Indeed, these were foregone conclusions for most reporters. The "experts" were about to be exposed as dinosaurs, thoroughly out of touch with the American electorate as Bozell and Graham demonstrate.

The smartest people in the room believe their thumbs are pressed firmly on the pulse of the American public, but in reality their world extends only across a tract of land along the Manhattan—Washington, D.C., corridor, along with some prime coastal real estate in California. They were clueless as to the mood of an electorate in the real America that has lost its patience with the elites both in and out of government. This necessarily included them.

To understand the electorate in 2016 it is essential that one read Angelo Codevilla's article "America's Ruling Class—And the Perils of Revolution," published by *The American Spectator* six

years before in 2010. The 12,000-word essay was a masterpiece that presented an existential struggle for the future of America between what he dubbed the "ruling class" and the "country class." It was prescient. Codevilla had perfectly described the opposing forces in the 2016 presidential campaign.

The ruling class is a fraternity/sorority whose membership includes those in a position of power over a population it views as less able—if not wholly unable—to handle its own affairs. "For our ruling class, America is a work in progress, just like the rest of the world, and they are the engineers."

The ruling class has no party affiliation.

"Differences between Bushes, Clintons, and Obamas are of degrees, not kind," the author wrote. "No prominent Republican challenges the ruling class's claim of superior insight, nor its denigration of the American people as irritable children who must learn their place. The Republican Party does not disparage the ruling class, because most of its officials are or would like to be part of it."

On the other side of the coin is the country class, with its "desire to get rid of rulers it regards inept and haughty.... The country class is convinced that big business, big government, and big finance are linked as never before, and that ordinary people are more unequal than ever.... The country class actually believes that America's ways are superior to the rest of the world's, and regards most of mankind as less free, less prosperous, and less virtuous."

As dumb was Trump was made to look by MSM, he got it—and fundamentally understood the divide—and the billionaire chose to champion the country class. That choice would necessarily pit him against virtually all levels of power in America today: against the establishment elite of both political parties, against the Chamber of Commerce oligarchy, against the unions, against academia, against Hollywood, and of course against the national news and social media.

Interestingly enough as Bozell and Graham point out, the country class uprising Codevilla had identified wasn't limited to the United States. The same phenomenon was emerging in other nations like Israel, France, Britain, Italy, Poland, Brazil, Netherlands and the Philippines. Many of the same issues, including unfair trade practices, uncontrolled illegal immigration, and Islamic terrorism, were triggering populist uprisings, and just as with the Trump phenomenon, the American and world news media chose sides.

Trump, the Race-Baiting, Clinically Insane, Neo-Fascist Sociopath

All of these predicators as Bozell and Graham point out was an early indicator of how badly the elites were going to misjudge Trump:

They dismissed him as an unsavory character. They missed the uprising he was leading. In the infamous Republican debate on CNBC in the fall of 2015, lead moderator John Harwood began by asking Trump: "Let's be honest. Is this a comic book version of a presidential campaign?"

But Harwood wasn't alone. The other CNBC "moderators" got into the act and proceeded to ridicule one GOP candidate after the next, until Senator Ted Cruz reached the end of his tether over their nonstop insults: "The questions asked so far in this debate illustrate why the American people don't trust the media.... You look at the questions. Donald Trump, are you a comic book villain? Ben Carson, can you do math? John Kasich, can you insult those two people over here? Marco Rubio, will you resign? Jeb Bush, why have your numbers fallen? How about talking about the substantive issues people care about?"

The audience roared its approval. The CNBC crew returned to Washington, D.C., and New York thoroughly humiliated, a case study on how to completely screw up a national debate.

CBS's Face the Nation brought on Slate writer Jamelle Bouie to smear Trump voters as racist: "Trump's supporters show all the hallmarks of people with high levels of racial resentment. They are—you know, they seem—a good number believe that President Obama is un-American or maybe even a Muslim and connected to terrorists. A good number referred to him as arrogant and elitist which, for myself, reads very much like 'uppity' as an old insult towards African Americans who have achieved some sort of stature in mainstream society."

PBS host Tavis Smiley threw the race card with more velocity on ABC's This Week: "Trump is still, to my mind at least, an unrepentant, irascible, religious, and racial arsonist," he screamed. "And so, when we talk about how Trump is rising in the polls, you can't do that absent the kind of campaign he's running, the issues he's raising."

As Trump's chances of winning the nomination grew, the historical analogies grew more ridiculous—and offensive. On February 26, 2016, the *Washington Post* editorial board decided to compare Trump's proposed crackdown on illegal immigration to murderers of millions: "He would round up and deport 11 million people, a forced movement on a scale not attempted since Stalin or perhaps Pol Pot. ... He routinely trades in wild falsehoods and doubles down when his lies are exposed."

The Angry Aftermath of Trump's Win: A 'Moral 9/11'

The New York Times had a headline asking, "Can The Media Recover from This Election?" Fortune magazine asked, "How much will Cable News' Record Ratings Drop Post-Election?" Then a survey conducted by CBS and Vanity Fair magazine found that Americans now saw mainstream media as the most unethical business, more so than the pharmaceutical companies, and the banking industry. Another survey from Monmouth University in New Jersey found that 6 out of 10 Americans believe that the mainstream media regularly reports fake news.

As Bozell and Graham summarize the fake news frenzy prior to the 2016 election: Trump was now a racist, a xenophobe, a misogynist, an ignoramus, a neo-fascist, and a sociopath, all rolled into one, clearly a menace and a threat to the future of the United States, if not humankind itself. But one thing was also for certain. It wasn't going to happen in 2016. The media, like virtually everyone else on the left, were still utterly convinced Hillary had this one in the bag.

As the campaign entered the final days, the media's overconfidence in a Clinton victory was everywhere. On MSNBC, Chris Matthews was gleefully reading from one of those anonymously sourced fake news *Washington Post* reports: "A wave of apprehension and anguish swept the Republican Party on Thursday, with many GOP leaders concluding it is probably too late to salvage his flailing presidential campaign. Republicans privately acknowledge it could be a landslide victory for Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton."

A few days later, CBS Evening News anchor Scott Pelley proclaimed, "Time is running out for Donald Trump.... No candidate down this far, this late has ever recovered (more fake news because Truman did in 1948 to beat Dewey)." Two days later, ABC's Jon Karl warned, "Donald Trump is down 17 points among women. You do not get elected president of the United States if you are down 17 points among women." On MSNBC's The Last Word with Lawrence O'Donnell, Washington Post columnist Eugene Robinson gushed over a Florida poll that claimed that 28 percent of Republicans were voting for Clinton and declared that "if it's anywhere near that then this election, not only that Florida fall to Hillary Clinton, but this election overall could, you know—we could be talking landslide." (Trump won Florida.)

With six days to go, former Bush and McCain staffer Nicolle Wallace insisted she was bringing the "cold hard truth" to the table on NBC: "The best-case scenario, if Trump and Co. do everything right? They lose with 266 electoral votes."

On the Sunday before the election, ABC political analyst Matthew Dowd (another former Bushie) called it for Hillary. "She's got about a 95 percent chance in this election, and I think she's going to have a higher margin than Barack Obama in 2012."

The Huffington Post proclaimed that Hillary Clinton was 98 percent likely to defeat Trump.

Ryan Grim of HuffPost argued, "It's not easy to sit here and tell you that Clinton has a 98 percent chance of winning. Everything inside us screams out that life is too full of uncertainty, that being so sure is just a fantasy. But that's what the numbers say." Grim later repeated, "If you want to put your faith in the numbers, you can relax. She's got this."

On the morning of Election Day, Eleanor Clift was measuring the drapes for a woman president in the Daily Beast: "There are likely to be more than 20 women in the Senate after Tuesday, and together with Clinton in the White House, they will send a strong signal to women and girls that nothing is holding them back, that the future is there for them."

As Bozell and Graham so correctly note: This arrogant, elitist overconfidence is precisely what made election night so enjoyable for Trump voters. On the CBS Evening News shortly before the polls began to close, reporter Nancy Cordes claimed that after being "dogged by her e-mail troubles, a restless electorate, and an unorthodox opponent," Clinton aides insisted Hillary's "perseverance through all of it, Scott, shows she's prepared for the nation's toughest job."

As ABC's prime-time election night coverage began, they turned to former evening-news anchor Charles Gibson, who promptly whacked Trump for not being as classy as his opponent, referring

to Hillary Clinton's 2014 memoir *Hard Choices*: 'The chapter about when you should apologize, I think Donald Trump missed that chapter somewhere along the line."

Every single major news outlet picked Hillary Clinton to win a month before the election. Ironically, one of the worst prognosticators was Fox News. On the October 21 edition of Special Report, Bret Baier proclaimed that Hillary was going to trounce The Donald. The FNC electoral map had her winning the Electoral College 307- 181, with 50 toss-up votes.

But on Election Night—Things Were Not Going According to the Script

As Bozell and Graham noted: Hillary was supposed to pick up some red states while sweeping the battleground states. She was supposed to win Florida early, which would seal the deal—but she lost. She was supposed to capture North Carolina—but she lost. "As Ohio goes, so goes the nation," and she was going to pick up that state—but she lost that one too. A shell-shocked national media saw impossible developing! And then the roof caved in when blue states considered impregnable by the pundits started to fall. First Pennsylvania, then Wisconsin, and then, sealing the deal, Michigan.

Donald J. Trump had been elected the forty-fifth President of the United States.

Liberals found themselves talking to themselves. They tried being temporarily apologetic on NBC, with Chuck Todd admitting that "we have overlooked rural America a bit too much." Former anchor Tom Brokaw backhanded Trump 's voters as miscreants who "have to pull a pin on a grenade and roll it across the country, whatever it takes. 'We want change, and we want big change!"

Leftist journalism professor Jeff Jarvis at New York University hyperventilated, choosing to blame the media for not being harsh enough: "I fear that journalism is irredeemably broken, a failure. My profession failed to inform the public about the fascist they are electing." Just as New York University fails to teach journalism when it employs the likes of Jeff Jarvis.

It was the same thing with comedians on election night. What was supposed to be a knee-slapping funfest became no laughing matter. Expecting a Hillary Clinton victory, CBS late-night host Stephen Colbert was given an hour on CBS-owned Showtime for a we-won trash-talk special. They titled it Stephen Colbert's Live Election Night Democracy's Series Finale: Who's Going to Clean Up This Shit?

As the real possibility of a Trump upset began to unfold, panic hit the set. Comedy Central Daily Show host Trevor Noah was in full hysteria, telling Colbert: "I don't know if you've come to the right place for jokes tonight. Because this is the first time throughout this entire race where I'm officially shitting my pants! I genuinely do not understand how America can be this disorganized or this hateful!"

MSNBC hosts Mark Halperin and John Heilemann (who also had a Showtime election series called The Circus) were on scene to add expert analysis to the comedy. Halperin clearly lost control as he wildly proclaimed, "Outside of the Civil War and World War II, and including 9/11,

this may be the most cataclysmic event the country's ever seen!" Colbert cooed his appreciation, "I'm so glad you guys are here. I wouldn't want to be alone right now."

This Was a 'White-Lash' Against a Changing Country

In the midnight hour, CNN analyst (and former Obama White House aide) Van Jones took to crying racism in defeat: "It's hard to be a parent, tonight, for a lot of us. You tell your kids, 'Don't be a bully.' You tell your kids, 'Don't be a bigot. ...' And then, you have this outcome...

How do I explain this to my children? This was a 'white-lash.' This was a 'white-lash' against a changing country. It was a 'white-lash' against a black president."

National Public Radio (NPR) was still in anger mode after the election on Wednesday's Morning Edition news program, bringing on black author Attica Locke (who also writes for the Fox drama Empire), who rudely implied that each and every Trump supporter is a racist. NPR anchor David Greene politely suggested that it was not every one of them, but Locke refused to concede that there was a single nonracist: "I'm out with that. There's a part of me that honestly feels like that level of politeness, where we're not calling things what they are, is how we will never get forward."

Locke then went on Twitter to promote her taxpayer-funded radio rant: "Me on the election on NPR. The 'R' word is the new 'N' word, I guess. Why are folks afraid to say racist?" NBC Nightly News correspondent Richard Engel chronicled a global panic on the Wednesday night after Trump won: "There were gasps around the world. Headlines, 'Trumpocalypse' and 'Disunited States.' And echoes of the Brexit vote too, against the European Union establishment. But there are deeper concerns tonight that the world's shining light of democracy has gone dark."

New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman echoed Halperin's 9/11 metaphor on Friday night on HBO's Real Time with Bill Maher: "This is a moral 9/11! Only 9/11 was done to us from the outside and we did this to ourselves." Hillary losing was now the moral equivalent of losing 3,000 Americans in a terrorist attack.

That verdict came after Maher's own angry rant against Trump voters, who he believed had sealed their own doom: "Enjoy your victory, Trump voters. Because when you're dying because you don't have health insurance to treat the infection you got for a back-alley abortion you had to get because of fetal lead poisoning, you can say to yourself, at least I didn't vote for someone with a private e-mail server."

When Democrats win, it's a victory for hope and change and national unity. When Republicans win, it is a sad day, a victory for dark forces, their vicious lies, and flagrant fouls, manipulating the unruly throng. As Peter Jennings infamously said after the 1994 Republican wave election, it was "a nation full of uncontrolled two-year-old rage," a stomping, screaming temper tantrum, not a serious verdict on the future of America. These voters would need to see the error of their ways and know the damage they had committed.

They saw Trump's voters just as the Clinton campaign saw them: a basket of deplorables. All season long the pro-Hillary press treated Trump's followers with utter contempt. This was the country class showing its utter temerity in challenging the ruling class. These were extrachromosomed rednecks in Make America Great Again (MAGA) hats. As Hillary put it, they were "irredeemable, but thankfully they are not America."

But those deplorables carried the day and they are America.

The pundits got it all wrong. They had accepted the comforting prophecies of the national media, not just regarding the coronation of Hillary Clinton, but on America's repudiation of Donald Trump. It was a resounding rejection of the ruling class—themselves (and this is the true reason Hillary lost not the idiotic conspiracy theories that followed Trump's historic win).

But these elites were not going silently into the night. The media would only double down, and triple down, and quadruple down as Trump made his way to the White House. All the rules learned at journalism school were tossed aside. If the news was harmful to this man, it was to be magnified; if it was favorable to him, it was to be ignored; and if needed, the "news" was faked.

The ruling class was not about to concede an inch of turf to the peasants.

15 - Which Media Sources Can We Trust and Not Trust?



Credit: The Epoch Times

In July 2016, the Pew Research Center's Pathway to News report by Amy Mitchell, Jeffrey Gottfried, Michael Barthel and Elisa Shearer, observed that Americans express a clear preference for getting their news on a screen—though which screen that is varies. TV remains the dominant screen, followed by digital. Still, TV news use is dramatically lower among younger adults, suggesting further shake-ups to come.

About four-in-ten Americans often get news online and as of early 2016, just two-in-ten U.S. adults often get news from print newspapers. This has fallen from 27% in 2013. This decrease occurred across all age groups, though the age differences are still stark: Only 5% of 18- to 29-year-olds often get news from a print newspaper, whereas about half (48%) of those 65 and older do.

TV continues to be the most widely used news platform; 57% of U.S. adults often get TV-based news, either from local TV (46%), cable (31%), network (30%) or some combination of the three. This same pattern emerges when people are asked which platform they prefer—TV sits at the top, followed by the web, with radio and print trailing behind.

TV's staying power over print is buttressed by the fact that Americans who prefer to watch news still choose TV, while most of those who prefer to read the news have migrated online. News watchers overwhelmingly prefer television, while readers prefer the web and the greatest portion of U.S. adults, 46%, prefer to watch news rather than read it (35%) or listen to it (17%).

When paired with the platforms people prefer, the data reveal that as of now, the web has largely pulled in "readers" rather than "watchers." While those who prefer watching news predominantly opt for TV and listeners turn to radio, most of those who prefer reading news now opt to get news online rather than in print (59%, compared with 26% of news readers who opt for print).

Beware of Fake News Organizations Trying to Discredit Their Non-Fake News Rivals

When primarily fake news *The New York Times* parrots Chinese propaganda in a failed takedown of a rising star and non-fake news organization the *Epoch Times*, readers beware. The Libby Emmons article in The Post Millennial in October 2020 titled "*The New York Times* parrots Chinese propaganda in failed takedown of *Epoch Times*" shows us why.

As Emmons explains: *The New York Times*' hit piece on *The Epoch Times* focused on Epoch's critique of China, and their founding as an outlet that called out the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) treatment of the Falun Gong religious movement. They use *The Epoch Times* opposition to human rights abuses and extensive inquiries into the origin of the coronavirus as a reason to bash them.

The *Epoch Times* was founded, in large part, to call out the atrocities committed by the CCP against the Falun Gong religious minority, but for *The New York Times*, this religious group is the subject of scorn, and so is the paper that documents the crimes committed against them.

The New York Times wrote: "The Epoch Times] is a remarkable success story for Falun Gong, which has long struggled to establish its bona fides against Beijing's efforts to demonize it as an 'evil cult,' partly because its strident accounts of persecution in China can sometimes be difficult to substantiate or veer into exaggeration." For this statement, The New York Times provides no substantiation.

As regards *The New York Times* portrayal of Falun Gong, and their use of the movement as a means to discredit *The Epoch Times*, Senior Editor Jan Jekielek said that, "Any of such pieces that come out painting Falun Gong in a negative light, they're used by the CCP, they get translated into Chinese, and then they get used by the CCP to target Falun Gong, to justify the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners, as they do the Uighurs and Tibetans."

The *New York Times*, however, which has recently published in support of China's intentions toward annexation of Hong Kong, does not appear concerned with China's human rights violations against Falun Gong, and portrays the movement as suspect. Regardless of one's feelings on a religion, there can be no condoning of the persecution of its members for their beliefs.

It doesn't appear that the *New York Times* dug into these claims at all, despite the fact that, as Jekielek said, "The *New York Times* has such massive resources at their disposal, and there are so many highly newsworthy things they don't cover."

So, what of the *New York Times*' claims? Jekielek said of *Epoch Times*' founding that "*The Epoch Times* was founded to counter Chinese influence operations, with the knowledge that what journalists were doing in the west, with few exceptions, was repeating Chinese Communist Party-approved narratives." That sounds like what the *New York Times* is doing to a "T."

Of *The Epoch Times*' reporting on the coronavirus, *The New York Times* said that it has "promoted the unfounded theory that the coronavirus—which the publication calls the 'CCP Virus,' in an attempt to link it to the Chinese Communist Party—was created as a bioweapon in a Chinese military lab." The truth and investigative reporting will tell.

The New York Times, as well as other mainstream media outlets, have consistently refused to dig into the origins of the virus. Earlier in the pandemic it was somehow believed to be racist to blame the Chinese government for the virus that they perhaps unwittingly let spread around the world. It is as though editorial outlets just couldn't believe that the CCP would either do this intentionally, intentionally cover it up, or alter a virus for research purposes, as virology labs so often do.

It is this "oh, that couldn't be true," approach that has led mainstream media outlets to ignore and pass over stories that do not conform with their world view. So, too, it appears that is the case with *The New York Times* reporting on *The Epoch Times*.

Jekielek said that "The New York Times published a piece that is low on facts and high on bias. It rehashes a whole bunch of inaccurate stuff from an NBC story, that we've responded to repeatedly."

But as with the origins of the coronavirus, or the Steele dossier, or the recent allegations with regard to the Biden family, *The New York Times* is content to spread their own version of the truth, not because it is researched and well-reasoned, but because it just feels right to them and their editorial board.

The Epoch Times' Stephen Gregory responded to more false claims and narratives by NBC and MSNBC with their August 27, 2019 response titled "The Epoch Times' Stephen Gregory Responds to NBC & MSNBC's Gross Misrepresentations of Our Media" and like the NYT hit piece, both reports from NBC and MSNBC were discredited. Per Gregory, "The Epoch Times seeks to restore traditional journalism, seeks to restore honest journalism. Our motto is 'truth and tradition.' We want to provide readers with honest, truthful reporting about the important events of the day."

Three Prime Examples of the Good, Bad & Ugly of Media Organizations

Here we highlight three prominent examples of media organizations that the SAPIENT Being chose because they are outstanding, significant, and noteworthy examples of non-fake news, illiberal resources, and an unholy Trinity of fake news journalism. The good, the bad, and the ugly!

These examples, amongst the ones covered in *Fake News Madness*, can be the inspiration for the world of writing warriors to fight back and reverse the prevalent fake news bias in mainstream journalism, social media, and illiberal establishments that in principle and practice are antithetical to an intellectually vibrant and viewpoint diverse sapient being mindset.

Good: Newsmax Cable News Beats Out Fox News For Election 2020 Coverage

A new August 2020 poll by Public Policy Polling confirms Fox News is now the most trusted television news network in America.

However, four months later in December 2020, a Reuters' article titled "Newsmax plans expansion to capitalize on Trump support, anger at Fox News" by Lisa Richwine and Helen Coster, notes how Newsmax, a conservative cable news channel aided by shout-outs from Trump on Twitter, saw their weekly primetime viewership jump 68% since the U.S. presidential election as the channel refused to declare Joe Biden the winner and aired controversial theories about voter fraud.

The network plans to hire more staff in the United States and London, debut a new primetime host and add more weekend programming to capitalize on post-election gains and some viewers' discontent with Rupert Murdoch's longtime ratings king Fox News.

During the 2020 presidential election, *Newsmax* early evening host Greg Kelly averaged 229,000 viewers ages 25 to 54, the group most coveted by cable news advertisers, for the first-time beating Fox's Martha MacCallum, who brought in 203,000 viewers in that age range at that hour. The network had its highest-rated November in history, drawing 3.9 million primetime viewers, beating all cable networks, not just cable news.

Newsmax sees the 40 million viewers not on cable as the next battleground for growth. In addition to cable news, the network streams for free on platforms including YouTube and a Newsmax app, which roughly doubles their nighttime audience. "People are really tired of Fox News," Chief Executive Chris Ruddy told Reuters in a recent interview. "There is a perception that they really tried to torpedo the president."

Trump has complained many times about Fox's coverage of his presidency. The network further irked the president and some viewers on election night with a projection that Biden had won Arizona — nine days before most major news organizations confirmed that win.

"Newsmax, I think, has been gaining ground against Fox News because it's been able to convince some fraction of Fox's audience that it is more loyal to the president than Fox is," said Matt Gertz, a senior fellow at liberal media watchdog Media Matters for America.

Fox's more recent challengers on the right remain independent networks like *Newsmax*, *The Epoch Times*, and One America News Network (OAN), rather than major media conglomerates, because large players view the conservative media business as too risky, said Christopher Balfe, partner at media firm Red Seat Ventures, which advises on new media startups.

"None of (the independents) have deep enough pockets from a resource perspective to be truly competitive," Balfe said. Fox spent \$1 billion before Fox News became profitable, per Fox Corp Chief Financial Officer Steve Tomsic. "It's not a small undertaking to try to compete at that level," Tomsic said at a UBS conference. "When people think about competition, their knee-jerk reaction is to think 'Well, all we need is two or three talking heads to go head-to-head with ours.' The business is much bigger than that."

Overall, using a more recent confirmation of this analysis, in August 2020, Media Research Center (MRC) President Brent Bozell responded to the new nationwide survey confirming that Americans overwhelmingly trust the Fox News Channel more than any other network per his report as follows:

"The proof is in the pudding. Americans want balanced news, not liberal advocacy." Fox offered them 'fair and balanced' journalism, and America has embraced them. "In terms of quantity, Fox has been pulling the highest numbers for quite some time."

"Now comes the quality meter, the new polling data showing that Fox News is also the most trusted name in news," states Bozell. "In fact, no one comes close. Fox is trusted a staggering 10 percentage points above any other network. And it is the only network to earn more trust (49%) than distrust (37%) among those polled.

"Liberal politicians and liberal journalists who regularly bash Fox News need to realize it is *they* who are completely out of touch with the American people. The bottom line is that Americans now trust Fox far more than any other network. Liberal bias has come back to bite the networks where it hurts.

The poll was conducted by the Public Policy Polling between January 18—19, 2020, and found that among the 1,151 registered voters they surveyed, Fox crushed the other networks in trust as follows:

- 49% trusted the Fox News Channel, 10 percentage points more than any other network.
- 39% said they trusted CNN.
- 35% said they trusted NBC and sister cable network MSNBC.
- 32% said they trusted CBS.
- 31% said they trusted ABC.

Fox News is also the only network to be trusted more than distrusted:

- Both ABC and CBS were not trusted by 46% of those surveyed.
- And NBC/MSNBC was not trusted by 44%.
- Only 37% did not trust Fox, the lowest level of distrust among all the networks recorded.

In an August 2020, Fox News report by Brian Flood with contribution by Paul Steinhauser, "A whopping 9.2 million people tuned in to Fox News from 10 p.m. to 11:45 p.m. to watch

President Trump accept his party's renomination for president to close the Republican National Convention."

By contrast, no other network garnered more than 2.6 million viewers. More people tuned into Fox News Thursday night than did CNN, MSNBC, ABC, NBC and CBS combined. The viewing figures more than double the combined viewership of the two liberal cable news networks, with CNN averaging 2.2 million viewers and MSNBC pulling in 1.9 million viewers.

Bret Baier and Martha MacCallum co-anchored Fox News' record-breaking coverage, helping the network finish with an average primetime viewership of 7.8 million during the fourth night of the Republican National Convention (RNC). That figure is the highest primetime total viewership average for any political party convention in cable news history.

In addition, "Hannity" averaged 7.8 million viewers and "Tucker Carlson Tonight" averaged 6.3 million viewers on Thursday, as both programs garnered the highest ratings in network history for their respective timeslots. Fox News averaged 7.9 million total viewers during the four-day RNC, keeping its title of cable's most-watched television network.

Fox News also thrived among the key demographic of adults age 25-54, averaging 2.2 million demo viewers during Trump's speech compared to only 757,000 for CNN and 391,000 for MSNBC. Fox News also topped CNN, MSNBC, ABC, CBS and NBC combined among the key demographic. Fox News had 2.6 million interactions across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram on the final day of the RNC, according to Socialbakers.

Bad: Wikipedia is Riddled With Liberal Bias

Wikipedia was launched in 2001 as an online encyclopedia that "crowdsourced" its articles by allowing anyone to write and edit them, which has surprisingly led to them becoming the fifth most popular website in the world.

Unlike traditional encyclopedias written and edited by experts in their field, pretty much anyone can add almost anything to Wikipedia articles, making it the most popular online "encyclopedia" and one of the most visited websites online. Therefore, we must take a serious look at articles published on the site and how they are fact checked, edited, and censored.

Per Mark Dice, and in his own words: Editors at most newspapers and traditional encyclopedia companies have names and titles, not to mention bosses and company policies they must abide by, but much of what happens on Wikipedia is a mystery, and most of the editors and writers are anonymous or only referred to by their online handles which rarely reveal any information about who they actually are or what credentials they have.

Wikipedia has been involved in several lawsuits over defamation, and a substantial amount of their money has been spent defending them. Comedian Stephen Colbert once sarcastically praised Wikipedia for their 'quality' by pointing out that the article on Lightsabers (the handheld weapon from Star Wars) was longer than the article about the printing press. Since its editorial

policies and oversight are so flawed, the site has been called "the abomination that causes misinformation."

Pages of popular conservatives often have large "Controversies" sections which contain long lists of every little thing they've said that liberals find objectionable or want to amplify. Pages for Ann Coulter, Sean Hannity, Rush Limbaugh, and Michael Savage all have the "Controversy" section or equivalent which nitpick things they've said or done.

Conversely, there are relatively few liberal journalists or talk show hosts who have a 'Controversy' section in their articles or have much negative information about them even mentioned at all. For example:

Liberal political figures also appear to get special treatment on Wikipedia by editors who carefully guard their pages, trying to keep them portrayed in a positive light. One investigation revealed that a single Wikipedia editor made 2,269 changes to Hillary Clinton's page over a tenyear period from 2006 up until the time she announced she was running for president in 2016 in order to keep as much criticism off it as possible.

Sometimes Wikipedia editors will even create an entire article about a topic or an issue hoping to shine a spotlight on it to further promote their political leanings. For example, there was a lengthy article titled "Criticism of George W. Bush," but the "Criticism of Barack Obama" page had been deleted four different times by Wikipedia editors who kept claiming the article "has no meaningful, substantive content," and called it an, "Attack page" that was "unsourced" (which it wasn't)

After the edit wars continued, the site finally allowed the "Criticism of Barack Obama" page to stay but renamed it to "The Public Image of..." and of course Obama's main page is mostly praise. The edit summary for the decision to rename and redirect the 'Criticism' section of Obama's page reads, "so the conservatards [conservative retards] won't get their knickers in a twist."

Dice compared the pages of several prominent conservative political commentators like Ann Coulter to popular liberals like Michael Moore and found that the negative bias was overwhelming. At the time of his search, the "Controversies and Criticism" section of Ann Coulter's page was over 35% of the article, where Michael Moore's was under 5% in terms of the word count.

Editors also guard the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) which is the organization dedicated to painting conservatives as racists, homophobic, xenophobic, and anti-government extremists.

Ugly: Columbia University's Trinity of Fake News Journalism, Leftist Pulitzer Prize Choices & Soros Foundation Funding Connections

Why the extreme ugly categorization? The ratings below are from the Media Research Center (MRC) and show the enormous, and "enormous" is no exaggeration, influence this Ivy League university has on the mainstream, social, and journalistic mediums in the United States.

In America there is NO other concentration of power, influence, and bias—from one overarching organization as Columbia University. In the past century, the Columbia University School of Journalism was considered America's most respected liberal journalism programs along with their *Columbia Journalism Review (CJR)* and Pulitzer Prize choices. However, their ideology and focus has shifted ever more leftward over the course of the last two decades to a dangerous and unacceptable leftist bias with many negative consequences (covered below)—that qualifies them with the worst fake news madness rating.

Combine their past liberal and now leftist influence from the Columbia University School of Journalism and its *CJR*, their past liberal and now leftist Pulitzer Prize winner choices, and their immense financial backing from the leftist and anarchist George Soros Foundation—they're a fake news leftist behemoth without equal!

Exhibit A: Columbia University School of Journalism

Columbia University helps define the news business. Its School of Journalism is perhaps the foremost institution of its kind in the United States, and its alumni fill the ranks of fake news organizations. It is also home to the Pulitzer Prize—the top award in the industry. Each May, it graduates a new class and sends a fresh crop of young editors, writers, and producers into the field.

The "About" page of the Columbia University School of Journalism website says that the school provides its students with the opportunity "not only to succeed, but to shape the future of journalism." By merit of their job placement alone, they definitely are shaping that future, but not in a positive way.

Unfortunately, Columbia's journalism program is not committed to honest journalism. Instead, it delivers a one-sided education that celebrates left-wing policies and is overwhelmingly run by liberal journalists, most of whom work for liberal news outlets in addition to their jobs at the school. Sixty-eight percent of the full-time faculty at Columbia University School of Journalism write for explicitly left-wing news outlets. Many of the adjunct faculty and guest lecturers also work for these operations.

With its substantial influence, Columbia has become a force to shape the future of journalism. Alumni have gone on too many prominent news organizations but have often retained a bias that mirrors that of the faculty and donors of the school.

The faculty list of the Columbia University School of Journalism reads like a Who's Who of leftwing organizations. Of the 40 full-time members of the faculty, 27 work at explicitly left-wing outlets including The Huffington Post, Slate, *The American Prospect, Mother Jones*, Salon, *The Nation* and Greenpeace.

Many of these professors not only write for these liberal outlets, but actually work full-time for them as well. A few (Thomas B. Edsall with the Huffington Post, Todd Gitlin with Greenpeace and Victor Navasky with *The Nation*) have actually sat on the boards of these outlets.

Alumni have secured jobs at such prominent media outlets as *The New York Times*, Bloomberg, ABC News, NBC News, CBS News, CNN, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post* and *USA Today*. Alumni have also worked at a number of left-wing outlets including *Mother Jones*, The Huffington Post, NPR and *The Nation*—the same operations their former professors staff.

The Media Research Center's Business and Media Institute (BMI) has extensively researched Columbia University School of Journalism, including its faculty, alumni, student publications, funding, guest lecturers, endorsements and awards. BMI found that there was a significant leftwing bias prevalent at the school—a bias that then migrates with its graduates to permeate the daily operations of news organizations across the United States.

Columbia has received \$9.7 million from left-wing billionaire George Soros, more support than he has given to all but three other schools. Soros is also connected to the newly appointed dean of Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, Steve Coll, is currently the head of the New America Foundation, a progressive public policy organization that has received \$4.2 million from Soros since 2000.

The Media Consortium, to which many of these outlets belong, is a Soros liberal echo chamber where blogs and news operations like The Nation, *The American Prospect* and *Mother Jones* can share ideas. The Media Consortium (\$675,000), *The Nation* (\$77,000), *The American Prospect* (\$1,280,000), *Mother Jones* (\$485,000), and National Public Radio (\$1,800,000) all receive funding from George Soros's Open Society Foundations.

At least seven Columbia professors have strong ties to Soros. Nina Berman, Howard French, Todd Gitlin, Victor Navasky, as well as full-time professors June Cross, Rhoda Lipton and James Stewart, have also directly received awards or funding from Soros's Open Society Foundations. Navasky is also the chairman of the Soros-funded *Columbia Journalism Review (CJR)*, a publication affiliated with Columbia University School of Journalism.

These professors have also been treated as experts by major news outlets, such as *The New York Times*, ABC, CBS, NBC, *The Washington Post* and *USA Today*, thanks to their status as Columbia faculty. Professor Edsall is a respected political commentator for *The New York Times*, using his position to publish attacks against the Republican Party's "ideological rigidity, its preference for the rich over workers, its alienation of minorities, its reactionary social policies and its institutionalized repression of dissent and innovation."

Nearly half (47 percent) of Columbia's journalism faculty work for liberal publications. These publications are not just liberal leaning like the *New York Times* and MSNBC, but outspokenly websites and magazines like Alternet, *Mother Jones* and the Huffington Post. Columbia even hired the former president of a violent radical group as a full-time professor. These professors are instilling a liberal worldview in their students, who then go on to have jobs at respected news organizations.

Forty Percent (51 out of 127) of the adjunct faculty also work at left-wing news outlets and organizations. The Business and Media Institute contacted the school to try to attain numbers of how many alumni went on to work at each of these organizations. CUSJ officials told BMI that no such records exist at this time. Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism has graduated 12,642 students since its founding in 1912.

Exhibit B: Columbia Journalism Review (CJR) and Pulitzer Prize Choices

Once upon a time, it meant something for a reporter to be called a "Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist." The prestige of this designation is quickly eroding. The 2020 Pulitzer Prizes looked less like an excellence-in-media competition and more like an exercise in leftist self-affirmation and Trump Derangement Syndrome.

From the Washington Secrets Columnist April 2019 article, "Pulitzer judges: 'Not one anywhere close to a conservative'" by Paul Bedard:

The 19-member Pulitzer Prize Board convenes semi-annually in the Joseph Pulitzer World Room at Columbia University's Pulitzer Hall. It comprises major editors, columnists and media executives in addition to six members drawn from academia and the arts, including the president of Columbia University, the dean of the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism and the administrator of the Prizes, who serves as the Board's secretary.

The judging process leans heavily liberal and the history of winners in the Trump era favors his critics, including those who got the collusion story wrong.

The number of Pulitzer Prize winners with heavy criticism of Trump over the last four years have led in many of the awards categories. Here are but a few examples:

- The New York Times won the explanatory prize for "an exhaustive 18-month investigation of President Donald Trump's finances that debunked his claims of selfmade wealth and revealed a business empire riddled with tax dodges."
- The national reporting prize went to the *Wall Street Journal* "for uncovering President Trump's secret payoffs to two women during his campaign who claimed to have had affairs with him, and the web of supporters who facilitated the transactions, triggering criminal inquiries and calls for impeachment."

The distinguished reporting award went to the Washington Post and New York Times,
 "For deeply sourced, relentlessly reported coverage in the public interest that
 dramatically furthered the nation's understanding of Russian interference in the 2016
 presidential election and its connections to the Trump campaign, the president-elect's
 transition team and his eventual administration."

And of the 18 members on the board, sometimes dubbed "the deciders," there are no notable conservatives, but several famous liberals and many Trump critics abound. In an ideology review, the conservative media watchdog Media Research Center (MRC) found nobody from the center-right. "If this isn't the ultimate evidence of the left—and far left—dominance of the so-called 'news media,' what is?" asked L. Brent Bozell, president of MRC.

"Eighteen judges and not one—let this sink in—not one anywhere close to a conservative. The Pulitzer Prizes have always been liberal, but this is now not just leftist, it is a mockery of itself. And then they wonder why they're not trusted to tell the truth," he added.

Exhibit C: Soros Foundation Funding and Its Liberal Media Echo Chamber

George Soros is arguably the most influential liberal financier in the United States, donating more than \$8 billion just to his Open Society Foundations. In 2004, he spent more than \$27 million to defeat President George W. Bush and has given away millions more since to promote the left-wing agenda. But what goes almost without notice is Soros' extensive influence on and involvement with the media.

Since 2003, Soros has donated more than \$52 million to all kinds of media outlets—liberal news organizations, investigative reporting, and even smaller blogs. He has also been involved in funding the infrastructure of supposedly "neutral" news, from education to even the industry ombudsman association. Many other operations Soros supports also have a media component to what they do.

His media funding has helped create a liberal "echo chamber," in the words of one group he backs, "in which a message pushes the larger public or the mainstream media to acknowledge, respond, and give airtime to progressive ideas because it is repeated many times." The goal is "Taking Down Fox News," as the Soros-supported "*Mother Jones*" described it.

Despite his denials, Soros has extensive reach into the media. The Media Research Center's Business & Media Institute conducted a detailed analysis of George Soros and his influence on the media. It found:

Breach of Ethics: Prominent journalists like ABC's Christiane Amanpour, New York Times
 Executive Editor Jill Abramson and former Post editor and now Vice President Len
 Downie serve on boards of operations that take Soros cash. But according to the Society
 of Professional Journalists' ethical code, journalists should 'avoid all conflicts real or
 perceived.' Reporters and editors serving on boards of groups funded by Soros openly
 violate both aspects of this guideline.

- Reaching More Than U.S. Population: Every month, reporters, writers and bloggers at
 the many outlets Soros funds—from big players like NPR to the little-known Project
 Syndicate and Public News Service, both of which claim to reach millions of readers—
 easily reach more than 332 million people around the globe. FYI: For comparison of
 reach, the population of the entire United States was approximately 331 million in 2020.
- Fox News is Target No. 1: Nearly 30 groups funded by the liberal billionaire have attacked Fox News in the six months since the beginning of December 2010. Sorosfunded media operations claim Fox News has a "history of inciting Islamophobia and racial and ethnic animosity" and that it tries to "race bait its viewers."

MRC's recommendations for addressing these issues are as follows and supported by the SAPIENT Being:

The Business & Media Institute has some recommendations for the media to better handle their obvious conflicts of interest when it comes to Soros:

- Just Say No to Soros Cash: No purportedly "objective" journalist should serve on a board or advise any outlet that is financed by Soros. If academics do so, they should be open about their affiliations. But working journalists like Downie, Amanpour and Abramson should divorce themselves from the conflict.
- Question Motivations of News Sources: Reporters and editors should be aware when a story is being deliberately hyped by a web of linked organizations. Such times should always have reporters questioning not just the motives, but the facts of the case whether it's on the right or the left.
- Spend Time Investigating the Left: Journalists have no trouble finding incentive to do detailed analysis of conservatives, but spend little time questioning the motives or funding of liberal organizations. Reporters should do a more detailed investigation into the Open Society Foundations and their influence throughout the media.

Some Final Thoughts and Words to Live By

Don't trust anything you read, view, or hear—especially from academia, mainstream, and social media.

When in doubt about the viewpoint orthodoxy, confirmation bias, and hidden agenda from all media sources, refer back to Chapter 11 WOWW's Journalism Code of Ethics, Practical Logic & Sapience for advice and direction on the essentials of spotting, correcting, and fighting fake news, false agendas, and fallacies of logic.

Former London Mayor Ken Livingstone was suspended for a month after comparing a reporter to a concentration camp guard and once stated, "The world is run by monsters and you have to deal with them. Some of them run countries, some of them run banks, some of them run news

corporations. And as you will see, those are often the real monsters we need to be concerned about."

English writer, philosopher, and lay theologian Gilbert Keith Chesterton noted a century ago, "Journalism possesses in itself the potentiality of becoming one of the most frightful monstrosities and delusions that have ever cursed mankind. This horrible transformation will occur at the exact instant at which journalists realize that they can become an aristocracy."

And my favorite from the young journalist Samuel Langhorne Clemons, better known by his pen name Mark Twain, an American humorist, essayist, novelist, and lecturer who found satire to his liking because of his early experience and success with it. He came to the conclusion that "a lie can travel halfway around the world—while the truth is putting on its shoes."

Hopefully, this book was a breath of fresh air and enlightening and your journey from chapter to chapter has made you more sapient and aware of the preponderance of fake news issues facing us. If it has, your journey towards becoming a sapient being is only beginning. If it hasn't, you're still our future and here's the onramp!

Appendix

1619 Project: Frederick Douglass vs. the 1619 Project: https://youtu.be/ajJlu3eoRlk

50 MADNESS Book Titles: https://www.fratirepublishing.com/madnessbooks

AllSides: "Form the Left" and "From the Center" and "From the Right" News Comparison:

https://www.allsides.com/unbiased-balanced-news

Fact Check Review Methodology—RealClearPolitics:

https://www.realclearpolitics.com/fact_check_review_methodology.html

MEDIA RESEARCH CENTER (MRC) NEWS BUREAUS & REPORTS:

Bureaus:

- CNSNews: https://www.cnsnews.com/
- NewsBusters: https://www.newsbusters.org/
- MRC Business: https://www.newsbusters.org/business
- MRC Culture: https://www.newsbusters.org/culture
- MRC Latino: https://www.newsbusters.org/latino
- MRCTV: https://www.mrctv.org/
- MRC Action: https://www.mrc.org/action

Reports:

- Special Report: Columbia University: https://www.mrc.org/special-reports/special-report-columbia-university
- Journalists Denying Liberal Bias—Parts One, Two & Three:
 - https://www.mrc.org/media-bias-101/journalists-denying-liberal-bias-part-one https://www.mrc.org/media-bias-101/journalists-denying-liberal-bias-part-two https://www.mrc.org/media-bias-101/journalists-denying-liberal-bias-part-three
- CENSORED! How Online Media Companies Are Suppressing Conservative Speech: https://cdn.mrc.org/static/censored/mrc-censorship-report.pdf

PEW RESEARCH CENTER REPORTS LIST:

- How Americans Get Their News: https://www.journalism.org/2016/07/07/pathways-to-news/
- How We Evaluated Americans' Trust in 30 News Sources: https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/01/24/qa-how-pew-research-center-evaluated-americans-trust-in-30-news-sources/
- The Modern News Consumer: https://www.journalism.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2016/07/PJ 2016.07.07 Modern-News-Consumer FINAL.pdf

PRAGER U & VIDEOS:

- Website: https://www.prageru.com/
- Prager U Five-Minute Videos Library: https://www.prageru.com/series/5-minute-videos/

- Prager U Takes Legal Action Against Google and YouTube for Discrimination:
 https://www.prageru.com/press-release/prageru-takes-legal-action-against-google-and-youtube-for-discrimination/
- What is Fake News? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FOZ0irgLwxU&app=desktop
- Watch the 21 Prager U Videos That YouTube Is Censoring:
 https://www.dailysignal.com/2016/10/14/watch-the-21-prageru-videos-that-youtube-is-censoring/

SAPIENT BEING PROGRAMS:

- Make Free Speech Again On Campus (MFSAOC) Program: https://www.sapientbeing.org/programs
- Sapient Conservative Textbooks (SCT) Program: https://www.sapientbeing.org/programs
- World Of Writing Warriors (WOWW) Program: https://www.sapientbeing.org/programs
- World Of Writing Warriors (WOWW) Journalism Code of Ethics, Practical Logic & Sapience
 Guidelines: https://www.sapientbeing.org/resources

The S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being: https://www.fratirepublishing.com/books

Glossary

Academy – Is an institution of secondary education, higher learning, research, or honorary membership. Academia is the worldwide group composed of professors and researchers at institutes of higher learning.

Confirmation Bias – Happens when a person gives more weight to evidence that confirms their beliefs and undervalues evidence that could disprove it.

Conspiracy Theory – The idea that many important political events or economic and social trends are the products of deceptive plots that are largely unknown to the general public:

Constructive Disagreement – Occurs when people who don't see eye-to-eye are committed to exploring an issue together, alive to their own fallibility and the limits of their knowledge—and open to learning something from others who see things differently than they do.

Critical Theory – Is a social theory oriented toward critiquing and changing society as a whole. It differs from traditional theory, which focuses only on understanding or explaining society. Critical theories aim to dig beneath the surface of social life and uncover the assumptions that keep human beings from a full and true understanding of how the world works.

Cultural Relativism – Cultural relativism is the idea that a person's beliefs, values, and practices should be understood based on that person's own culture, rather than be judged against the criteria of another.

Deplatforming – Also known as no-platforming, is a form of political activism or prior restraint by an individual, group, or organization with the goal of shutting down controversial speakers or speech or denying them access to a venue in which to express their opinion.

Emoluments Clause – Also called the foreign emoluments clause, is a provision of the U.S. Constitution (Article I, Section 9, Paragraph 8) that generally prohibits federal officeholders from receiving any gift, payment, or other thing of value from a foreign state or its rulers, officers, or representatives.

Fake News – A broad term that collectively includes media bias manifested in many different ways in mainstream journalism, social media, and illiberal establishments that in principle and practice are antithetical to an intellectually vibrant and viewpoint diverse sapient being mindset. Per Andrew Klavan's edited definition at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FOZ0irgLwxU.

False Equivalency – A phenomenon that once a candidate 's rhetoric ventures beyond the accepted mainstream paradigm and proves offensive to the sensibilities of elite gatekeepers (i.e., the media), that balance, objectivity, and fairness become moot.

Frankfurt School – The Frankfurt School's biggest intellectual creation was Critical Theory, an approach to cultural analysis that focuses on criticizing existing social structures. It's founding members included Max Horkheimer, Theodor Adorno, Erich Fromm, Walter Benjamin, Jürgen Habermas, and Herbert Marcuse.

Groupthink – A phenomenon that occurs when a group of individuals reaches a consensus without critical reasoning or evaluation of the consequences or alternatives. Groupthink is based on a common desire not to upset the balance of a group of people.

Hypersensitivity – Symptoms of hypersensitivity include being highly sensitive to physical (via sound, sigh, touch, or smell) and or emotional stimuli and the tendency to be easily overwhelmed by too much information.

Hypothetics – A form of fake news where (rather than tracking down facts), the press indulged in endless "connect the dots" exercises.

Idiocracy – An idiocracy is a disparaging term for a society run by or made up of idiots (or people perceived as such). Idiocracy is also the title of 2006 satirical film that depicts a future in which humanity has become dumb.

Illiberalism – In popular usage, the word is used to describe an attitude that is close-minded, intolerant, and bigoted.

Intellectual Humility – A mindset that encompasses empathy, trust, and curiosity, viewpoint diversity gives rise to engaged and civil debate, constructive disagreement, and shared progress towards truth.

Intersectionality – A theoretical framework for understanding how aspects of one's social and political identities might combine to create unique modes of discrimination.

Liberating Tolerance – Herbert Marcuse propounded this Orwellian and illiberal oxymoron in the 1960s that would involve "the withdrawal of toleration of speech and assembly from groups and movements" on the Right, as opposed to the aggressive partisan promotion of speech, groups, and progressive movements on the Left.

Locke, John – An English philosopher and physician, widely regarded as one of the most influential of Enlightenment thinkers and commonly known as the "Father of Liberalism." Considered one of the first of the British empiricists, following the tradition of Sir Francis Bacon, Locke is equally important to social contract theory. His work greatly affected the development of epistemology and political philosophy. His writings influenced Voltaire and Jean-Jacques Rousseau, and many Scottish Enlightenment thinkers, as well as the American Revolutionaries. His contributions to classical republicanism and liberal theory are reflected in the United States Declaration of Independence.

Mainstream Media (MSM) – Traditional forms of mass media, as television, radio, magazines, and newspapers, as opposed to online means of mass communication.

Marcuse, Herbert – A German-American philosopher, sociologist, and political theorist, associated with the Frankfurt School of Critical Theory. Author of the *One-Dimensional Man: Studies in the Ideology of Advanced Industrial Society*, a 1964 best seller primarily known by the "power of negative thinking" became the standard for revolutionary speech in the movement he called the "Great Refusal." Marcuse distinguished between repressive tolerance, a form of tolerance that favors the already powerful and suppresses the less powerful, and a liberating tolerance, a form of tolerance that discriminates in favor of the weak and restrains the strong.

Marxism – The political, economic, and social principles and policies advocated by Marx and a theory and practice of socialism including the labor theory of value, dialectical materialism, the class struggle, and dictatorship of the proletariat until the establishment of a classless society.

Media Bubble – An environment in which one's exposure to news, entertainment, social media, etc., represents only one ideological or cultural perspective and excludes or misrepresents other points of view.

Mediacrats – A term to mean that the media and Democrats are closely aligned in their philosophical views and association with each other.

Multiculturalism – The view that cultures, races, and ethnicities, particularly those of minority groups, deserve special acknowledgement of their differences within a dominant political culture.

Occam's Razor – Is the problem-solving principle that "entities should not be multiplied without necessity", or more simply, the simplest explanation is usually the right one.

Open Inquiry – Is the ability to ask questions and share ideas without risk of censure.

Political Correctness – A term used to describe language, policies, or measures that are intended to avoid offense or disadvantage to members of particular groups in society.

Postmodernism – Is an intellectual stance or a mode of discourse that rejects the possibility of reliable knowledge, denies the existence of a universal, stable reality, and frames aesthetics and beauty as arbitrary and subjective.

Progressivism – A political philosophy in support of social reform based on the idea of progress in which advancements in science, technology, economic development, and social organization are vital to improve the human condition.

Replication Crisis – An ongoing methodological crisis in which it has been found that many scientific studies are difficult or impossible to replicate or reproduce.

Sapience – Also known as wisdom, is the ability to think and act using knowledge, experience, understanding, common sense and insight. Sapience is associated with attributes such as intelligence, enlightenment, and unbiased judgement and also recognizes the humanistic concepts of Western European culture, American exceptionalism, and conservative values.

Scientific Method – A way of investigating a phenomenon that's based on the collective analysis and into interpretation of evidence to determine the most probable explanation. The five basic steps in scientific method: 1) statement of the problem, 2) collection of facts, 3) formulating a hypothesis, 4) making further inferences, and 5) verifying the inferences.

Social Justice – A political and philosophical theory which asserts that there are dimensions to the concept of justice beyond those embodied in the principles of civil or criminal law, economic supply and demand, or traditional moral frameworks.

Social Media – Websites and other online means of communication that are used by large groups of people to share information and to develop social and professional contacts.

Tyranny of Public Opinion – Discourages students and others from dissenting from prevailing views on moral, political, and other types of questions.

Viewpoint Diversity – Viewpoint diversity occurs when members of a group or community approach problems or questions from a range of perspectives.

Woke – Having or marked by an active awareness of systemic injustices and prejudices, especially those related to civil and human rights.

Words Are Violence – An illiberal notion meant to stifle free speech and viewpoint diversity. Popularized by Millennial aged college students affected by the tyranny of feelings, it now guides the editorial pages of major newspapers.

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Author Bio



Author: Corey Lee Wilson.

Corey Lee Wilson was raised an atheist by his liberal *Playboy* Bunny mother, has three Anglo-Hispanic siblings, a brother who died of AIDS, baptized a Protestant by his conservative grandparents, attended temple with his Jewish foster parents, baptized again as a Catholic for his first Filipina wife, attends Buddhist ceremonies with his second Thai wife, became an agnostic on his own free will for most of his life, and is a lifetime independent voter.

Corey felt the sting of intellectual humility by repeating the 4th grade and attended eighteen different schools before putting himself through college at Mt. San Antonio College and Cal Poly Pomona University (while on triple secrete probation). Named Who's Who of American College Students in 1984, he received a BS in Economics and won his fraternity's most prestigious undergraduate honor, the Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity's Shideler Award, both in 1985. In 2020, he became a member of the Heterodox Academy and in 2021 a member of the National Association of Scholars and 1776 Unites.

As a satirist and fraternity man, Corey started Fratire Publishing in 2012 and transformed the fiction "fratire" genre to a respectable and viewpoint diverse non-fiction genre promoting practical knowledge and wisdom to help everyday people navigate safely through the many hazards of life. In 2018, he founded the SAPIENT Being to help promote freedom of speech, viewpoint diversity, intellectual humility and most importantly advance sapience in America's students and campuses.

The SAPIENT Being has three programs: Make Free Speech Again On Campus (MFSAOC), World of Writing Warriors (WOWW) and the Sapient Conservative Textbooks (SCT) all working together to promote its mission and vision of sapience. The WOWW program plans to self-publish 50 *MADNESS* non-fiction

textbooks in partnership with Fratire Publishing over the span of the 2020 decade in alliance with the MFSAOC program to start 50 chapters on America's high school and college campuses by 2030.

If you're interested in the MFSAOC Program and starting a S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being club, chapter, or alliance please got to https://www.SapientBeing.org/start-a-chapter, e-mail SapientBeing@att.net, or call (951) 638-5562 for more information.

If you're interested as an author or journalist in the WOWW Program and their 50 MADNESS series of textbooks from the S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being, please check them out at

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Hopefully, this book was enlightening and your journey through it—along with mine—made you aware of the issues and challenges ahead of us. If it has, your quest and mine towards becoming a sapient being has begun. If it hasn't, there's no better time to start than now. Come join us in creating a society advancing personal intelligence and enlightenment now together (S.A.P.I.E.N.T.) and become a sapient being.

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Fake News Madness offers an opportunity to be part of the solution to this problem. By spotting fake news media using ethical journalistic standards we can take action to fight and eliminate fake news with practical logic, facts, truth, and sapience—and together counter the biased and unethical journalism, mainstream news, and social media on and off campus.

For some of you this MADNESS book will be a revelation, an epiphany, a sapient being moment. For others, it will be a triggering event, denial of truth, and a painful intervention.

As the time-tested saying goes, "Everyone is entitled to their own opinions—but they're not entitled to their own facts." Facts are facts, the truth is the truth, but they can be skewed and manipulated for disingenuous methods and false narratives. Mainstream news, social media, and academia have perfected and promoted their liberal and leftist agenda without recourse. They are in many ways the media arm of the Democratic Party and many are infected with Trump Derangement Syndrome (TDS).

Only seven percent of American journalists identify as Republican and the rest claim that despite the fact they're all Democrats, they can be objective. It just ain't so! Psychologists and the Heterodox Academy have shown that when people associate almost exclusively with those who agree with them, they suffer from groupthink, viewpoint orthodoxy, and confirmation bias—and lose their ability to see events clearly and objectively.

In 2016 the fake news media narrative was more an unequivocal declaration: Donald Trump must not win. As well all know, he did, and the overwhelming pro-Clinton MSM predicted he would lose. And lose big! How could they get it so wrong? And how could one man be the number one obsession and enemy of fake news?