

# How journalists are fighting misinformation ... and accusations of misinformation

Laura Helmuth

Health, Science & Environment Editor

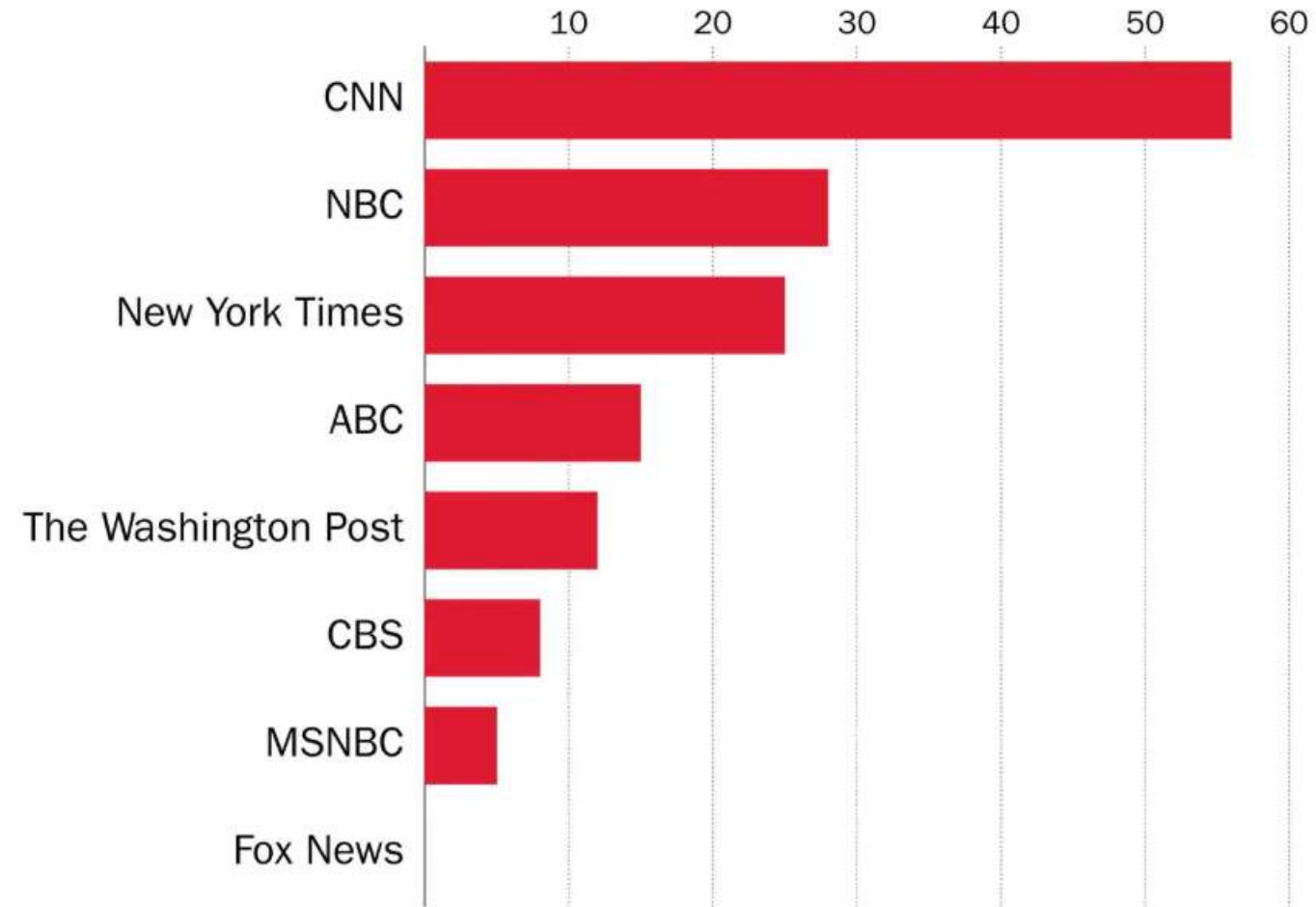
The Washington Post

Twitter: @LauraHelmuth

- How the real news tries to show we're not fake news
- How we try to compete with fake news
- How we try to equip readers to understand the popularity of fake news

# Trump references to outlets as “fake news” on Twitter

Analysis by The Washington Post.



(Philip Bump/The Washington Post)

Style • Perspective

# How do you use an anonymous source? The mysteries of journalism everyone should know.

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Health & Science • Perspective

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good

**Perspective** Discussion of news topics with a point of view, including narratives by individuals regarding their own experiences

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safe for y  
brand?

We can

FIRST OPINION

# I'm the ideal person to support right to try. But I can't — it's a disaster in the making

By MICHAEL D. BECKER / FEBRUARY 1, 2018



APRIL 2, 2019

# INTERNATIONAL FACT-CHECKING DAY

In honor of International Fact-Checking Day, we asked fact-checkers around the world to introduce themselves. And to tell us some examples of the work they've done.





# Fact-checking President Trump's claims on the Paris climate change deal

By Glenn Kessler and Michelle Ye Hee Lee June 1

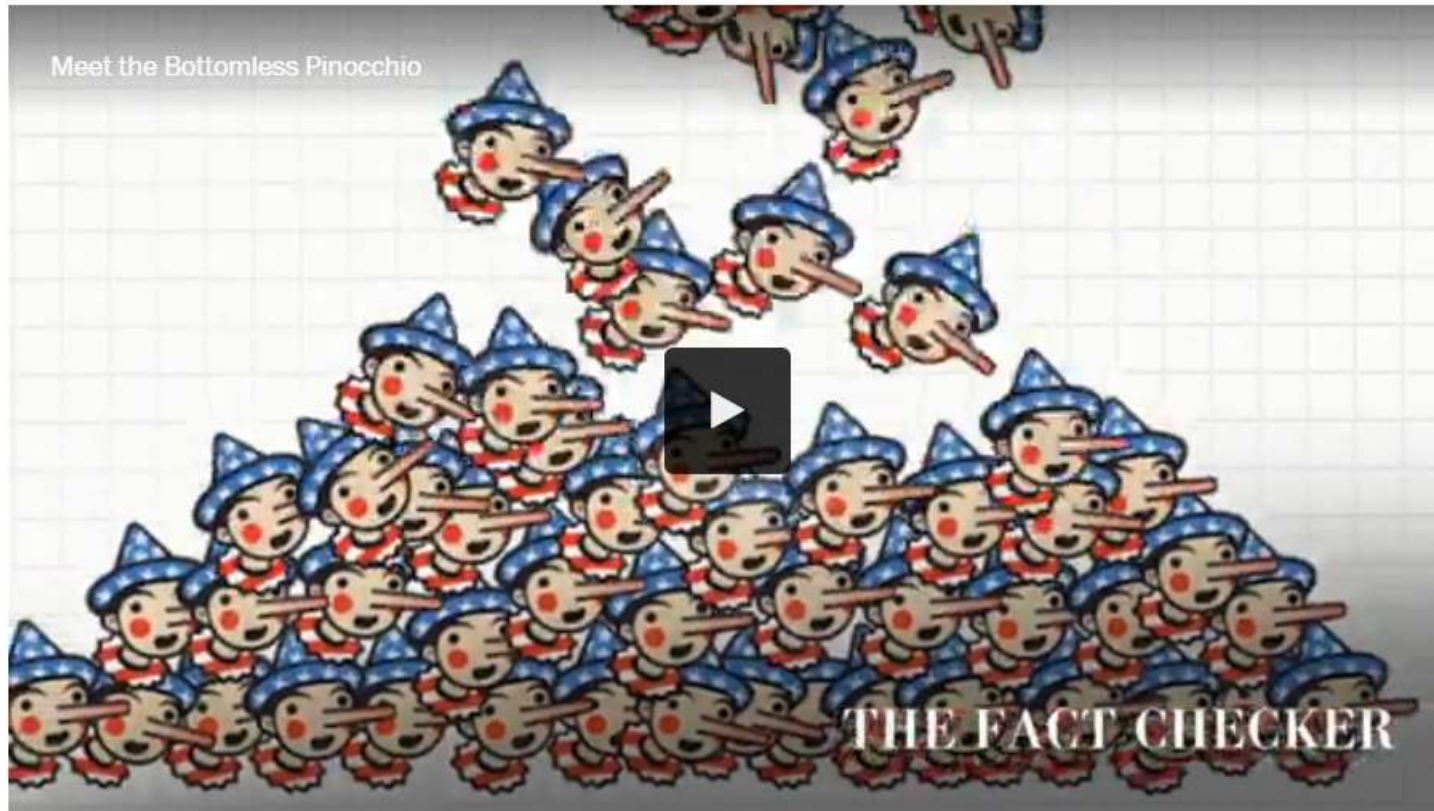


Fact Checkers Glenn Kessler and Michelle Lee examine several of President Trump's claims from his speech announcing the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris climate accord on Thursday. (Video: Meg Kelly/Photo: Jabin Botsford/The Washington Post)

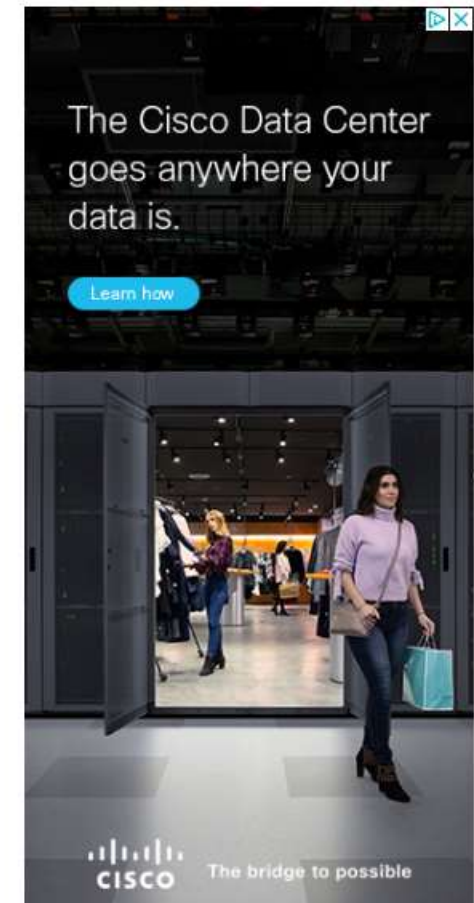
In his speech announcing his decision to withdraw from the Paris Accord on climate change, President Trump frequently relied on dubious facts and unbalanced claims to make his case that the agreement would hurt the U.S. economy. Notably, he only looked at one side of the scale — claiming the agreement left the United States at a competitive disadvantage, harming U.S. industries. But he often ignored the benefits that



# Meet the Bottomless Pinocchio, a new rating for a false claim repeated over and over again



President Trump's false and misleading claims that have been repeated more than 20 times led us to create a new Pinocchio rating. (Meg Kelly/The Washington Post)



# Miracle cures or modern quackery? Stem cell clinics multiply, with heartbreaking results for some patients.



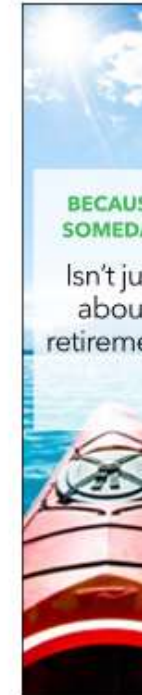
Doris Tyler, 77, went blind in 2016 after receiving unapproved stem cell injections in her eyes. Now she's suing. (Video: Monica Akhtar, Lisa Mills/Photo: Zack Wittman/The Washington Post)

By [Laurie McGinley](#) and [William Wan](#)  
April 29

Doris Tyler lay on the examining table as the doctor stuck a long, thin tube into her belly. The doctor pulled back a plunger, and the syringe quickly filled with yellow blobs tinged with pink.

“Look at that beautiful fat coming out. Liquid gold!” one of the clinic’s staff exclaimed in a video of the procedure provided to The Washington Post.

Hidden in that fat were stem cells with the amazing power to heal, the Stem Cell Center of Georgia had told Tyler. The clinic is one of hundreds that have popped up across the country, many offering treatments for conditions from Parkinson’s disease to autism to multiple sclerosis.





MEDICAL EXAMINER

# Athletes, Stop Taking Supplements

They're expensive, they don't improve performance, and they might make you test positive for dope.

By CHRISTIE ASCHWANDEN

JULY 26, 2012 • 6:15 AM





Wellness • Perspective

# The fat-burning heart-rate zone is a myth: How exercise and weight loss really work

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Our vision is to see more scientists engage effectively in the public discourse about the environment. Through communication trainings, coaching and real-world connections, we empower researchers to build the communication skills, networks, and relationships they need to realize this vision. We are a non-profit, non-advocacy organization.



# Himalayan Bath Salts Will Not Save Your Life

Why are so many Facebook friends sharing preposterous stories from *Natural News*?

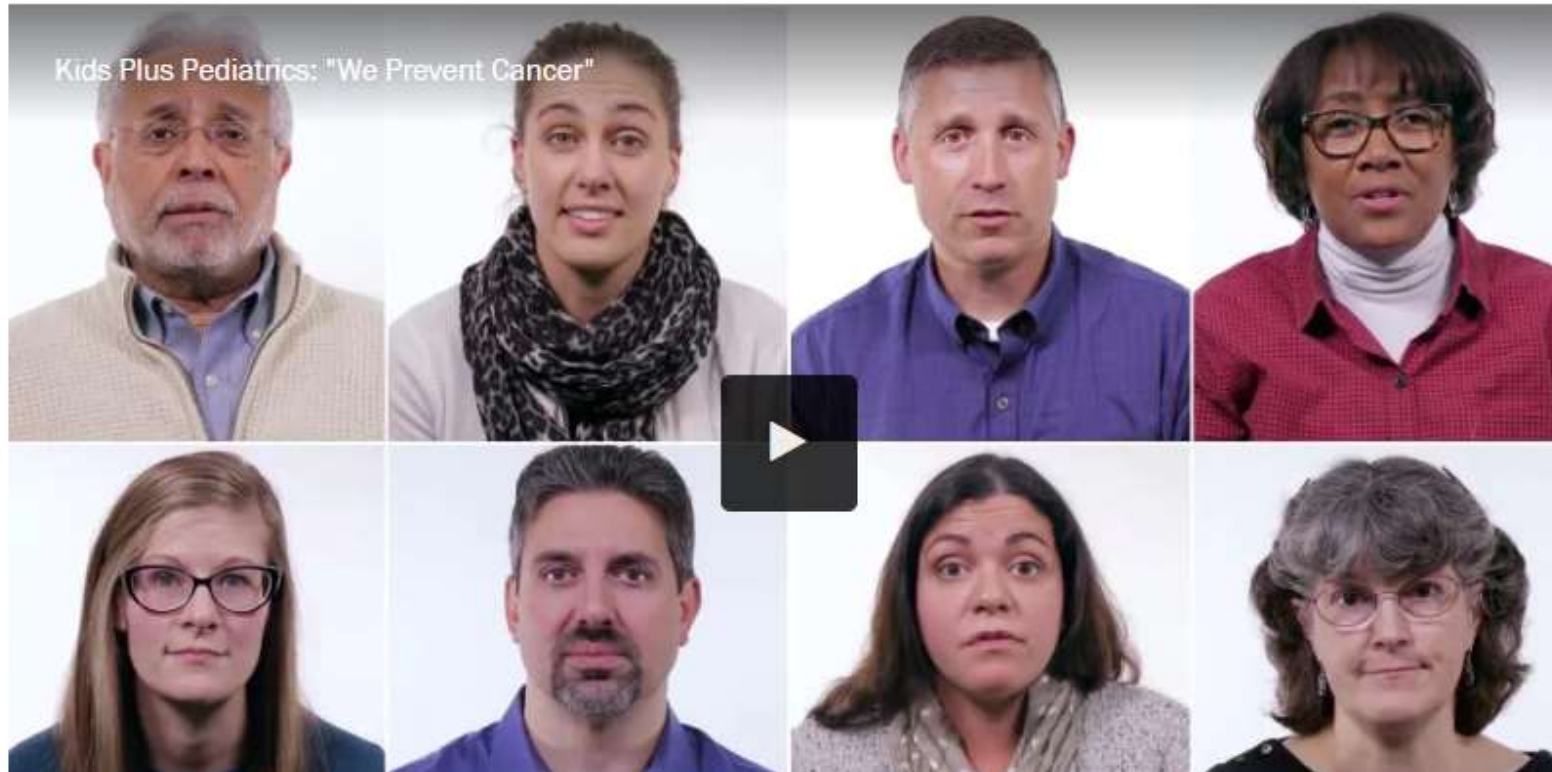


By *Brian Palmer*



Health

# Anti-vaxxers trolled a doctor's office. Here's what scientists learned from the attack.



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# How to declare war on coal's emissions without declaring war on coal communities

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Smoke and steam billow from cooling towers and smokestacks at the Bruce Mansfield coal-fired power plant near Shippingport, Pa. (Joby Warrick/The Washington Post)

**By Maria T. Zuber** February 24

*Maria T. Zuber is the vice president for research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Chair of the National Science Board.*



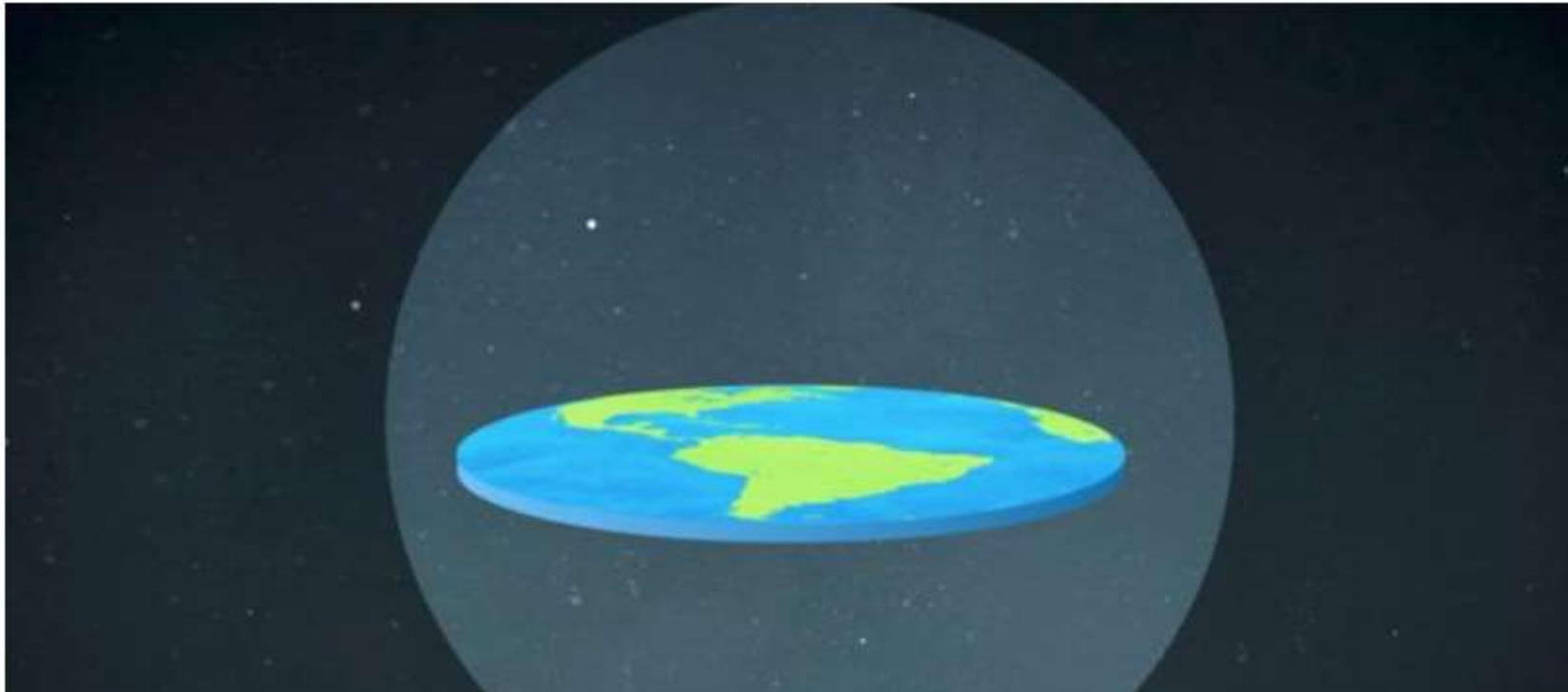
Technology

# YouTube aids flat earth conspiracy theorists, research suggests

🕒 18 February 2019



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**Ben Rosen**

@ben\_rosen

Following



90s scientists: we cloned a sheep! we landed a robot on mars!

scientists today: for the last time, the earth is \*round\*

12:47 PM - 29 Mar 2019

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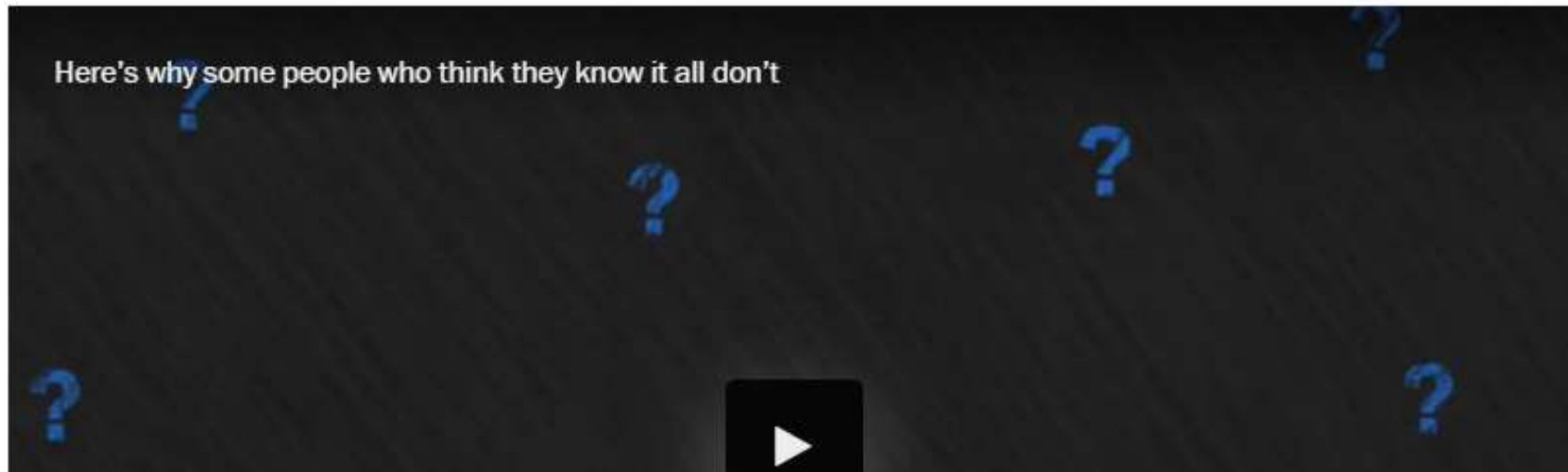
*YouTube Moves to Make  
Conspiracy Videos Harder to Find*



Science

# What's behind the confidence of the incompetent? This suddenly popular psychological phenomenon.

The Dunning-Kruger effect explains why unskilled people think they know it all and tend to be overconfident.



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Speaking of Science

# Fake news spreads ‘farther, faster, deeper’ than truth, study finds

By **Ben Guarino** March 8  Email the author

Science

# Older, right-leaning Twitter users spread the most fake news in 2016, study finds



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- 2** 'I cut people,' a megachurch pastor threatened as she preached. Her target: The local newspaper.
- 3** Trump hits out at 'corrupt and incompetent' Puerto Rican leaders after

- It's up to all of us
- Especially on social media
- Share real news
- Call out fake news, especially with people who know you as a real person



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@laurahelmuth





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## Trump basks in triumph

BY JIM RUTENBERG

When the country's most venerable paper found itself in President Trump's crosshairs, new considerations ensued – and instinct kicked in. *New York Times* media columnist Jim Rutenberg offers this exclusive, behind-the-scenes look.

# Resources science journalists use to evaluate claims and identify expert sources

- PubMed
- Google Scholar
- NSF's FastLane grants database
- SciLine
- ORCID
- The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering & Medicine's membership database

Health & Science

# Athletes love icing sore muscles, but that cold therapy might make things worse



Today, ice packs have become as ubiquitous as aspirin — they're a fixture in every athletic training facility and sold in drugstores throughout the country. But do they really help with injuries? (iStock)

By **Christie Aschwanden**  
February 5

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