

Watch/Discussion Party
Crash Course: Navigating Digital Information

Episode 6: Evaluating Evidence



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EVALUATING

EVIDENCE



League of Women Voters Mission

- Established 1902
- Empowering Voters.
Defending Democracy
- LWV of Kittitas County since 1968
- Nonpartisan educational & political
grassroots organization

Katherine Murphy

- League member since 2017
- Trained since high school in research, journalism, debate, technical writing,
- BA: Anthropology
MS: Human-Centered Design & Engineering
- 40+ years of patient advocacy

Center for an Informed Public

The Center for an Informed Public (CIP) is a multidisciplinary research center at the University of Washington (UW) in Seattle that has a mission to “resist strategic misinformation, promote an informed society and strengthen democratic discourse.” The center’s work revolves around four pillars: research; education; engagement; and law and policy.

CIP Collaborators

- Information School (iSchool)
- School of Law
- Human Centered Design & Engineering Department

CIP Funding

- John S. & James L Knight Foundation
- William & Flora Hewlett Foundation
- Microsoft
- National Science Foundation

Brandolini's Bullshit Principle

“The amount of energy needed to refute bullshit is an order of magnitude bigger than [that needed] to produce it.”

Spurious Correlations

Spurious correlations



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Now a ridiculous book!

Spurious charts

Fascinating factoids

Commentary in the footnotes

[Amazon](#) | [Barnes & Noble](#) | [Indie Bound](#)

What We Practice, We Become

- How frequently do you check on evidence before reposting an article?
- What clues you to check?
- What is the most outrageous thing you have caught?

Thank You

- To view again, visit our YouTube channel, [LWV Kittitas Channel](#)
- For slides/links, visit our blog at <https://kittitasleague.org>
- To continue the discussion, visit our League of Women Voters of Kittitas County on Facebook, @Kittitas LWV on Twitter, or @kittitas_league on Instagram

EVALUATING EVIDENCE TAKE-AWAYS

What is the
evidence for
the claim?

Is evidence
relevant to
the claim?

Not all
evidence is
created
equal

Does
evidence
support the
claim?

Correlation
is not
causation

Quality of
evidence
affects
quality of
decisions

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EVALUATING

PHOTOS & VIDEOS