The Truth

New York Tim[es]

ew York Tim

CRITICAL. 1938, BY THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY.

NEW YORK, MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1938.

Radio Listeners in Panic,
Taking War Drama as Fact

to Escape 'Gas Raid From
Swamp Police at

OUST
RE

The cover photo and photo below features

Orson Welles, a famous American actor, director, writer, and producer.

The cover photo shows Welles performing a famous Halloween radio episode at 8pm, Eastern Standard Time, on Sunday, **October 30, 1938** on CBS radio in New York. While the program increased Welles' fame, the program also created panic among radio listeners who believed

the world was being invaded by Martians.

Welles' program interrupted a radio program of dance music to report a series of odd explosions had been spotted on Mars. Shortly thereafter, Welles reported that an unusual object had fallen from space onto a farm in New Jersey. Wells told listeners **Martians** then emerged from the object and began a series of attacks using a heat ray. Wells later interrupted the dance program again to describe a devastating, full blown, alien invasion taking place across the United States and the world. *The broadcast seemed TRUTHFUL*. Many listeners accepted Wells commentary as FACT.

The photo above shows Orson Welles (center), on October 31, 1938, being questioned by the press following his CBS radio program that frightened listeners all over the country. Welles' got the idea for his radio program from H.G. Wells' famous science fiction novel, *"War of the Worlds"*. Orson Welles claimed he never thought the radio program would create a panic. *"It was just a radio show!"* he said.

Critical Thinking:
best practices
for finding
'*the Truth*'!

GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS

PERSPECTIVE

INTERPRETATION AND OPINION

This text is not fact, rather the view of one author; consequently, it should not be automatically accepted as "truth." Two-time Pulitzer Prize winning historian and author, **Barbara Tuchman**, stated, *"there is no such thing as a neutral or purely objective historian...without an opinion, a historian would simply be a ticking clock."*

Your mission should be to determine the "truth."

Your challenge will be to explain why anyone should believe you.

CREDIBILITY

BELIEVABILITY

It's not a given, we acquiesce too quickly. Be respectfully skeptical. Do your homework; check the record and the resume. Ask the question,

"should I trust this person as a credible source for the truth?"

Make it a prerequisite before embracing the claims of anyone who professes to have the "answers."

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"Ye shall ==know the truth, and the truth shall set you free!=="

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The Bible: John, 8th Chapter, Verse 32.

"Humanity exists to perceive, to know, to uncover ideas;
to uncover the FACTS.
This is what gives us our purpose."

Amir Husain. *"The Sentient Machine".* Chapter 10: The Pursuit of Knowledge, page 173

"==The mission== of the men and women we entrust for our well-being
should be

==*find and then expose*==
==*the absolute, indisputable truth*==
AND NEVER
purport
bias or opinion
as the 'truth'
only to serve their selfish or partisan purpose."

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moi

"There is nothing to fear
EXCEPT
a persistent refusal to look for 'the truth'.
Be fearful
of a persistent refusal
to look for and then analyze
diverse perspectives and opinions
before deciding upon
the true cause of happenings!"

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Dorothy Thompson, famous American journalist and historian, and moi.

INTRODUCTION:

Whether it's finding the right college to bring out your best and maximizing your opportunities for lifetime success **or** deciding on a car to buy **or** even determining the right partner to be with, your ability to gather and then correctly analyze data will determine how successful you will be.

==*This book focuses on data*== **we see, hear, and feel each day**

which we then **organize** and *analyze* to decide

==*what data are truthful*==.

Let's begin with the word 'data'.

==*What is data?*==

There are multiple definitions of data. For the sake of this conversation, we are focusing on the term "***raw data***". 'Raw data' is a

collection of 'stuff'

- words, statements, descriptions, numbers, pictures, experiences, etc **before** it has been "*checked*" against reliable sources. For data to be determined truthful and thus have real value for making decisions,

==*data needs to be "checked, corrected or authenticated to remove outliers, bias, misinformation*==, *and/or propaganda",*

according to Wikipedia. "*Data, information, and knowledge are sometimes and mistakenly used interchangeably. Each term - data, information and knowledge - represents a progression of steps to be taken before the data are determined to be fact or the truth. Each term has its own role in relation to the other, and each term has its own meaning. A decision making process for determining 'truth' or 'fact' is this - data are collected and must be analyzed using trusted, reliable sources. Data only become information suitable for making decisions after it has been analyzed in some fashion to determine its truth.*

==*Once data are determined to be truthful or factual, 'data' then becomes 'information' and can then be used for making decisions*==

giving us the '*knowledge'* to become a wiser person.

This ad above is a 1950s magazine ad for Camel Cigarettes. The *ad created the impression that Doctors believed cigarette smoking is "ok"* and, as an extension of this claim, that smoking would not harm a person's health.

Kellogg's Rice Krispies cereal was accused of misleading consumers about its 'immunity boosting' properties' in 2010. The Federal Trade *Commission ordered Kellogg's to stop advertising their claim that RICE CRISPIES cereal improved a child's immunity.* It was *NOT TRUE*! " *Kellogg's claims were dubious.*" The Kellogg Rice Krispies advertising campaign **ALSO claimed** their cereal improved kids' attentiveness and concentration abilities. The advertisement inferred most kids would improve their attentiveness. Clinical studies showed that was NOT THE CASE. Only 1-in-9 kids, NOT MOST KIDS, had that kind of improvement.

Naked Juice **was in the news in 2013 after being forced to retract their claims that their juice was "100% fruit" and "all natural."** The juice company, owned by Pepsi, actually included ascorbic acid and synthetic sources of fiber in their beverages — once again proving that "*all natural" was not completely true.*

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California Senator *Kamala Harris* in 2017 announced that President Trump's claim of giving Americans a decrease on their taxes was untrue. Instead, Senator Harris claimed, that on average, middle class families earning less than $86,000 would see **a tax increase not a tax decrease** as the Republican 'tax reform' plan" presented by President Trump said. The **Washington Post** newspaper investigated Senator Harris' claim, did the math, analyzed the numbers on President Trump's new tax policy and found that Ms Harris' claims were *NOT COMPLETELY TRUE!* In fact, the Washington Post confirmed President's Trump statement that more than 97 million (80 percent) would receive a tax cut.

Each day we encounter an overwhelming amount of data. Snap Chat, Instagram, magazines, television, Twitter, YouTube, newspapers, e-mails and text messages bombard us with a massive amount of data. Our challenge is determining what's truthful and what's only someone's opinion or bias meant to influence the way we think. It's not easy, especially when the data we encounter is from someone we respect or trust.

Brian Williams was the respected news anchor for NBC's nightly newscast. In February of 2015, *Williams was suspended and eventually dismissed from his job as news anchor* for the Nightly News program for *"misrepresenting events* which occurred while *he was covering the Iraq War in 2003."* In other words, **he knew** the news he presented about a specific event on his newscast was NOT TRUE.

1880 newspaper ad promoting the heath benefits of smoking this brand of cigarettes: **Cigarettes De Joy.**

In order to make good decisions,

we must first question -
'is this true?'
Then
'fact check' the data
we analyze.

Having said this, let me ask **you** if

it's <u>prudent</u> to
be <u>skeptical</u>
of all data
before
determining what is
'truth' or 'fact'?

Noted social activist, playwright and historian, Howard Zinn says

"YES!!!!
ALWAYS FACT CHECK
DATA!!!

*There is **no such thing as pure fact.** Everything presented as 'fact' is just someone's judgement."* In other words, many who present something as 'fact' have often made a judgement to dismiss or omit other data that could inject doubt or is contrary to their statement of 'fact'. According to Zinn, the

reason someone
dismisses or omits
other information is
"to give a distorted view",

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Unfortunately, the truth is not always easy to find.

Many things
presented as
'fact',
are not!

The data we sometimes encounter
that is presented to us
as 'fact',
is often
'opinion',
purposeful 'misinformation',
or propaganda

to make us accept something as 'truth' when it really is 'bias' or a 'lie' whose purpose

selfishly serves
someone else's mission.

Just as misleading statements
persuade people
to buy products
that aren't good for them,
misleading statements
have caused
wars!

propaganda,
misinformation,
even lies
are sometimes presented
to serve
tellers, the sources
or their partners
for selfish interests.

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When we analyze data, our objective should be to determine if it's the truth, fact! The dictionary definition of

'fact' is
"something that actually
exists or happened;
reality; the truth;

a truth known by actual experience or observation; something known to be true."

For example, as violence was escalating in Cuba in the 1890s between the Cuban people and their colonial masters, the empire of Spain, American

MAINE NEW YORK JOURNAL **MAINE**

EXTRA No. 9   EXTRA No. 9

CRISIS IS AT HAND   253 KNOWN TO BE LOST

CABINET IN SESSION; GROWING BELIEF IN

DE LOME, IN PANIC, FLEES **SPANISH TREACHERY.**

Maine Destroyed by an Outside Attack, Naval Officers Believe.

Censored Dispatches from Havana Say a Shot Was Heard Before the Ship's Magazines Blew Up.

EXTRA NIGHT EXTRA.

M'KINLEY SUSPICIOUS OF SPANISH PLOTS

**newspaper reporters
went to Cuba looking for
sensational stories
to increase the <u>circulation</u>
and readership
of their newspapers.**

At one point, **William Randolf Hearst,** the owner of the *New York Journal* newspaper, purportedly said to one of his illustrators covering the war in Cuba

*"You furnish the pictures
and
I'll furnish the war!"*

A reason to go to war was furnished on the evening of February 15th, 1898 when the *USS Maine* battleship, anchored in the harbor of Havana to protect Americans living in Cuba, suddenly, without warning, exploded and quickly sank killing nearly three quarters of her crew. Hearst and other American newspaper publishers had the sensational story they were looking for. Furthermore, to incite anger and greater interest in America, Hearst and other publishers, like Joseph Pulitzer of the *New York World* newspaper, claimed the country of Spain was responsible for sinking the USS Maine. The reason -

**many Americans wanted
Cuba to become part
of the United States.**

In fact, American President James

Polk offered Spain $100 million to 'buy' the island of Cuba in 1848, a sum of money equal to $2.83 billion in present-day dollars. Cuba was close to the United States, only 90 miles from Florida, and allowed slavery. While many American politicians and plantation owners in southern states like North Carolina and Alabama liked the idea of taking over Cuba, many Northern politicians from states like Massachusetts and Rhode Island did not. And, Spain did not want to give up Cuba. Spain was making millions of dollars growing Cuban 'cane' and tobacco selling sugar, molasses, rum, and cigars. As a result, the Spanish rejected Polk's $100 million offer.

Then, in 1898, with the sinking of the USS Maine, many Americans hoped this would be the legitimate reason for America to invade Cuba and take the Cuban island that Spain once refused to sell.

An investigation found no evidence of Spanish involvement. But, this didn't stop Hearst and Pulitzer from writing sensational headlines and creating exaggerated cartoons about the war to sell their newspapers. Popular opinion in the U.S., created by inflammatory articles and cartoons printed in the "*yellow press*" of Hearst and Pulitzer's newspapers, blamed Spain. The phrase,

"Remember the Maine! To hell with Spain!"

became a rallying cry to start an invasion of Cuba.

And, war did follow.

The invasion of Cuba by American soldiers

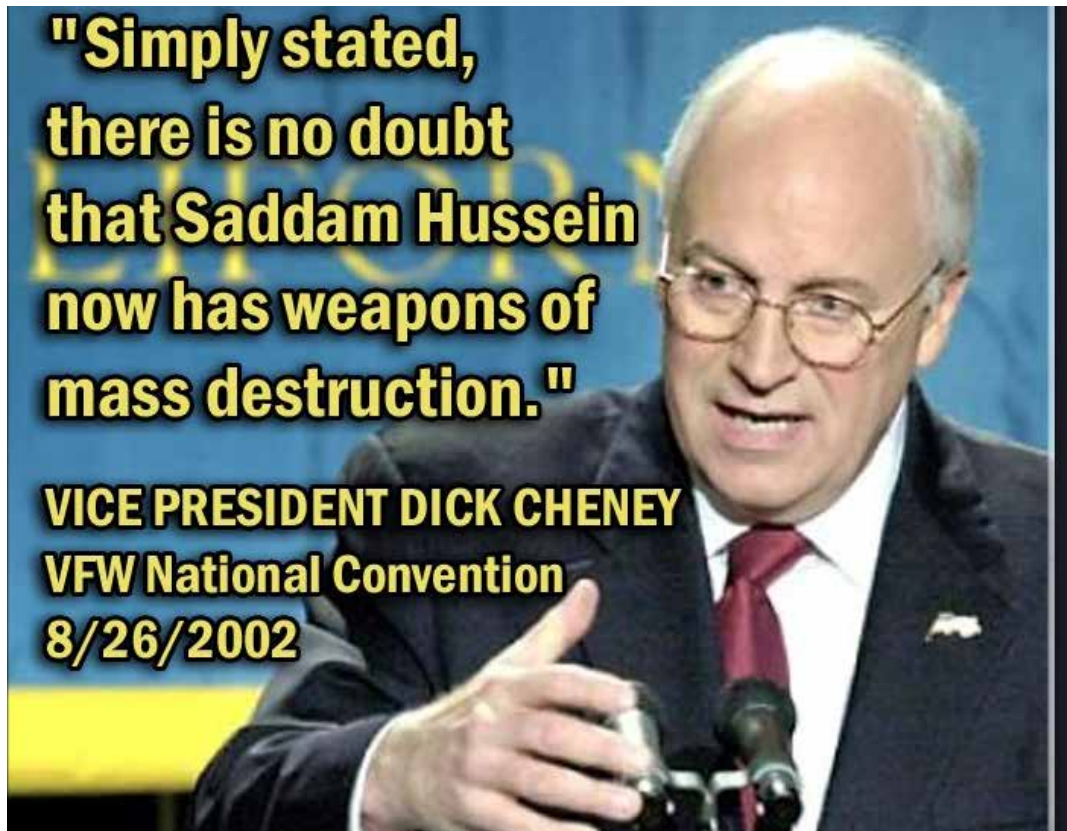on **April 21, 1898 was the beginning of the Spanish American War.**

Similar circumstances occurred in 2003.

Believing Iraq's **President Saddam Hussein** was hiding weapons of mass destruction (**WMD**) which would be used against the United States and its allies,

the United States military attacked the oil and natural gas rich country of Iraq on **March 20th, 2003**

Photo shows US Marines attacking the mansion of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein during the war. More than **4,000** American soldiers died in the war. More than **100,000** Iraqi soldiers and civilians died. America has spent more than **$1 trillion dollars** fighting the war and maintain the peace in Iraq.

"Simply stated, there is no doubt that Saddam Hussein now has weapons of mass destruction."

VICE PRESIDENT DICK CHENEY
VFW National Convention
8/26/2002

The New York Times

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

VOL. CLII . No. 52,386

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2003

ONE DOLLAR

NASA NOW DOUBTS TANK FOAM DEBRIS DOOMED COLUMBIA

A SHIFT IN INQUIRY | MYSTERY DEEPENS

HIRING IN NATION HITS WORST SLUMP IN NEARLY 20 YEARS

LAYOFFS DESPITE GROWTH

Surge in Number of Workers Who Have Stopped Looking for Jobs Since Summer

By DAVID LEONHARDT

POWELL, IN U.N. SPEECH, PRESENTS CASE TO SHOW IRAQ HAS NOT DISARMED

A TONE OF URGENCY

Concealment Is Charged by U.S. — Evidence for Possible War

By STEVEN R. WEISMAN

In 2002, United States *Vice President, Dick Cheney,* declared the United States' plan to invade Iraq was based on the fear that Iraqi President, *Saddam Hussein, had weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). WMDs would threaten the United States and its allies*. As a result, Vice President Cheney suggested the United States would be justified attacking Iraq. ONCE AMERICAN FORCES INVADED IRAQ, *NO WMDs WERE FOUND*. Photo below shows United States Secretary of State, Colin Powell, arguing before the United Nations that the United States suspected Iraqi President, Saddam Hussein, had WMDs in the form of poison anthrax to purposely use against Americans.

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theguardian

Defector who triggered war on Iraq admits: 'I lied about WMD'

Former chemical engineer tells Guardian he fabricated key 'eyewitness' testimony

> Our source was an eyewitness ... he was present during biological agent production runs'
>
> Colin Powell, February 2003

> I had the chance to fabricate something to topple the regime
>
> Rafid Ahmed Alwan al-Janabi, February 2011

NY Times Makes Shocking Admission

- "Newspaper of record" says initial Iraq war reporting driven by "outside agendas"
- Public editor admits readers should be "wary" about what appears in pages of *Times*

By Michael Collins Piper

> The lead-up to the war in Iraq in 2003 was not The *Times's* finest hour. Some of the news reporting was flawed, driven by outside agendas and lacking in needed skepticism.

NY Times public editor Margaret Sullivan has made an admission that should be applauded. She says that what appears in one of the most influential newspapers in the world is many times biased, based on flawed reporting and lacking in needed skepticism.

In the bottom photo, Margaret Sullivan, former editor of The Buffalo News, rose to national attention in 2012 when she became the first female **public editor** of the New York Times, charged THE NEW YORK TIMES WAS RESPONSIBLE for its reporting inaccuracies and void of expected ethics in its reporting. She moved to The Washington Post in 2016. The New York Times eliminated her position of "public editor" in 2107.

The **public editor's job** was to supervise the newspaper's reporting by looking for errors or omissions or bias. Margaret, the public editor for the New York Times during the second Iraq war, expressed some criticism about the paper's coverage of the war. She claimed some of the **coverage in 2003 was "flawed, driven by outside agendas and lacking in needed skepticism."** In other words, the reporting was not objective but rather had bias and prejudice.

The United States and its allies (Great Britain, Canada, Australia, and many more countries) invaded Iraq in 2003 on the premise Iraq had **weapons of mass destruction (wmd)** that jeopardized the safety of America and its allies.
IT WAS LATER PROVEN IRAQ HAD NO WMDS.

The *Titanic* was reportedly the super ship said to be "*unsinkable*"!

But, IT DID,

after hitting an iceberg in the north Atlantic Ocean on its maiden voyage, its first voyage, at sea in the early morning hours of April, 15th, 1912. It was

the world's biggest ship and one of the fastest.

There were an estimated 2,224 passengers and crew aboard the ship, among whom were some of the world's richest and most famous.

More than 1,500 died,

making it one of the deadliest peacetime, maritime disasters in modern history. Although the *Titanic* had advanced safety features such as watertight compartments and remotely activated watertight doors, there were not enough lifeboats to accommodate all of those aboard. Titanic only carried enough lifeboats for 1,178 people— slightly more than half of the number on board.

HOW THE SHIP WAS DESIGNED TO BE UNSINKABLE

Transverse bulkheads

Watertight compartments

Transverse bulkheads

Double skin bottom

The Titanic's hull was divided by 15 transverse bulkheads extending well above the water line, making 16 water-tight compartments.

She was designed to float with any two, or all of the first four, of these compartments flooded
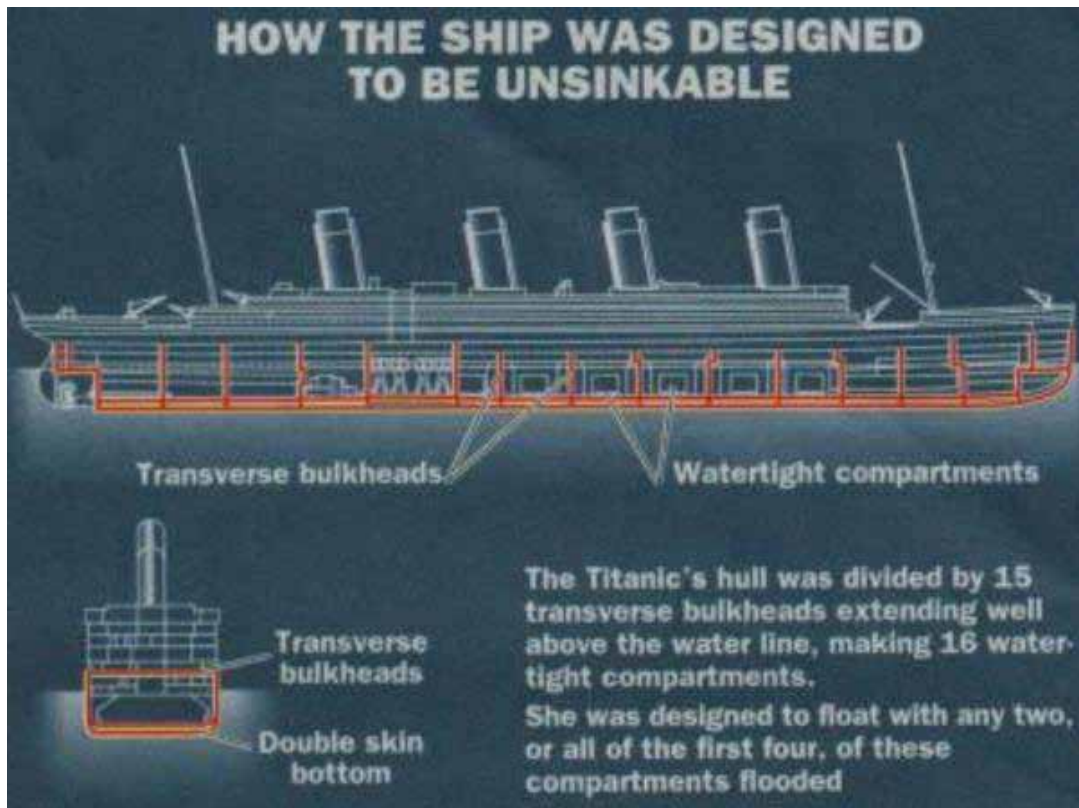
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"All the News That's Fit to Print."

The New York Times.

THE WEATHER.

VOL. LXI...NO. 19,806.   NEW YORK, TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 1912—TWENTY-FOUR PAGES.   ONE CENT

1500 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD NEVER CALL A SHIP "UNSINKABLE"

Col. Astor and Bride, Isidor Straus and Wife, and Maj. Butt Aboard.

"RULE OF SEA" FOLLOWED

Women and Children Put Over in Lifeboats and Are Supposed to be Safe on Carpathia.

PICKED UP AFTER 8 HOURS

Vincent Astor Calls at White Star Office for News of His Father and Leaves Weeping.

FRANKLIN HOPEFUL ALL DAY

Manager of the Line Insisted Titanic Was Unsinkable Even After She Had Gone Down.

HEAD OF THE LINE ABOARD

J. Bruce Ismay Making First Trip to

Biggest Liner Plunges to the Bottom at 2:20 A. M.

RESCUERS THERE TOO LATE

Except to Pick Up the Few Hundreds Who Took to the Lifeboats.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN FIRST

Cunarder Carpathia Rushing to New York with the Survivors.

SEA SEARCH FOR OTHERS

The California Stands By on Chance of Picking Up Other Boats or Rafts.

OLYMPIC SENDS THE NEWS

Only Ship to Flash Wireless Mes-

The photo above shows Titanic being led out of the harbor in Southampton, England on its voyage to New York City. The photo at the top of the previous page shows newsboy, Ned Parfett, selling the latest newspaper edition highlighting of the sinking of the Titanic on the streets of London. About 710 people survived and were picked up by another ship, the Carpathia, who then took the survivors to New York. At least 1,500 people lost their lives when the unsinkable Titanic sunk.

The Dearborn Independent news-paper, established in 1901, was pur-chased by **Henry Ford** in 1919.

**Henry Ford,
the founder and
President of
the Ford Motor Company,
published the paper
until 1927.**

The paper reached a circulation of 900,000 by 1925, second only in the United States to the *New York Daily News*!

**Ford used the paper
to influence his readers
with his anti-semitic, hatred
of Jewish people.**

The stories written for the *Dearborn Independent*, while condemning vio-lence against Jews, clearly blamed Jews for many problems in the world including provoking wars of mass violence and even problems in Ma-jor League Baseball.   For example, Pulitzer Prize winning reporter, Ira Berkow, claimed Ford wrote, on May 22, 1920, *"If fans wish to know the trouble with American baseball they have it in three words—too much Jew."* Ford also allegedly said *"I know who caused World War 1: German-Jewish bankers."* Ford insisted anyone who worked for any of his companies ac-cept his views, and he made sure not

The article that signaled the beginning of Henry Ford's seven-year hate campaign against the Jews. (COLLECTIONS OF THE HENRY FORD MUSEUM, GREENFIELD VILLAGE)

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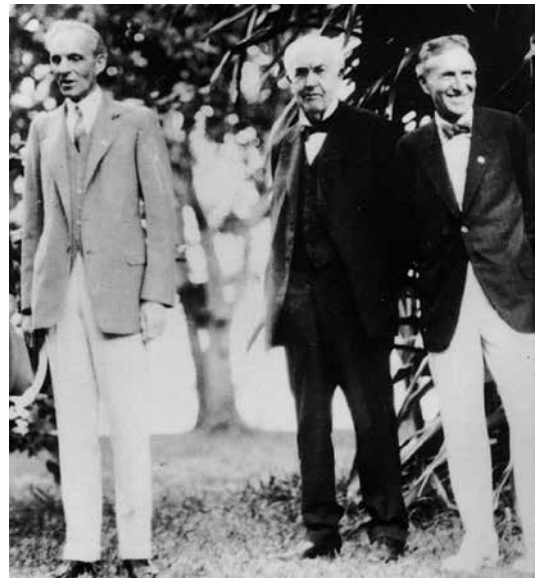
3 of the world's most influential and rich people of the early 20th century. Left to right in this 1929 photo - **Henry Ford**, Thomas Edison and Harvey Firestone.

to hire a single Jewish person in office jobs. **Adolf Hitler**, the Germany leader who started World War II and was responsible for the **genocide** of millions of Jewish men, women and children in his Nazi concentration camps, admired Henry Ford. Hitler is claimed to have said *"I shall do my best to put Henry Ford's theories into practice in Germany"*. Adolf Hitler even modeled a German built car, the **Volkswagen**, on Ford's Model T.

After years of escalating criticism towards Ford that jeopardized the success of his automobile company, Ford **capitulated**. He claimed he never wrote any of anti-semitic articles in the paper yet he did acknowledge allowing his name to be used as author.

Time Magazine - January 14, 1935.

In December 1927, Ford ended the paper. Ford also wrote a public letter to the Anti-Defamation League recanting his anti-Semitic views.

Ford's 1927 apology was well received.

"*Four-Fifths of hundreds of letters addressed to Ford in July 1927 were from Jews, and almost without exception they praised the Industrialist, Ford*" according to a statement in Wikipedia.

The challenge of

getting the 'truth' is more difficult when we trust the veracity of the data because of the perceived brand integrity of the source.

 The 1993 NBC News network program, "*Dateline*", featured a report claiming a series of GM trucks were unsafe because of a "*side saddle gas tank design*". NBC reported these GM trucks were unsafe because they were susceptible to explosions in collisions. NBC put explosive devices under the trucks to make the trucks explode in a staged crash to prove their claims. But, NBC did not tell their television viewers about the the explosive devices that made the

trucks explode. NBC was **NOT interested in the facts, only in proving their accusation** that the GM trucks were unsafe. NBC essentially lied. General Motors Corporation later sued NBC for not telling the truth.

Today is a very interesting time in history in terms of "**the truth**". In fact, the Oxford English Dictionary's "_**word of the year**_" in 2016 was _**"post truth"**_, a condition where

_**real facts
are
LESS influential
in shaping personal decisions**_
**than biased data
which appeals to emotion
and
personal prejudice.**

In other words, an increasing number of people are making their decisions based on '**opinion**' and '**ingrained bias**' rather than '**facts**'.

British Academic and Philosopher, **A.C. Grayling**, has called this time in history a

_**"'post truth' world that
over-values opinion
and
personal preference
rather than
proof and fact"!!!**_

_So,_ to **ensure** you **make the best decisions** for yourself and the people you care about in this "_post truth_" world, here are

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An Instragam photo from a person boasting about their large dog. What do you think?

a few suggestions to consider:

1. *Question the source;* *in other words, ask where the data comes from!! Then, make your evaluation of the source's brand and the credibility of their data. Check different sources reporting the same data! Is there a difference? Is the source of the data you're analyzing* **CONSISTENTLY** *objective, non-biased, and honest?*

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2. *Once the source is identified, decide if the specific data you're examining is reliable.* *Is the data biased or opinionated?* *Could it be 'purposeful misinformation' to influence people to think or act in a certain way?* *Ask, what is the source's agenda? Does anyone benefit from the dissemination of biased*

and prejudicial data? Did the source or anyone associated with the source have anything to gain from others believing biased data? Check the date. *If the data is old, the data may be* **irrelevant** *because it happened too long ago.*

3. *Check your own bias.* *Ask yourself if you can be objective. Do you have a personal bias, opinion, prejudice or belief which prevents you from judging the data you are analyzing OBJECTIVELY?*

4. *Do your research. Don't automatically accept the headlines, your friends' comments, tweets, Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, other social media, including cable news, as automatically truthful.* *Find different sources with different opinions on the same data. Bring a level of skepticism to your analysis. Then, choose the data you believe is trustworthy and objective.*

Snopes is one of the first online fact-checking websites. It has been termed a *"well-regarded source for sorting out myths and rumors" on the internet". (per wikipedia)*

This is the logo of **ProPublica** (pro-publica.org), a nonprofit newsroom whose mission is investigative journalism for the public interest. In 2017, ProPublica launched the *Documenting Hate Project* for systematic tracking of hate crimes and bias incidents. Propublica has won 4 Pulitzer Prizes.

**If social media is
one of
your trusted sources,
here's a sobering thought.**

In March of 2013, Science Magazine published findings of research done by The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) examining the reliability of news posted on TWITTER. MIT Professor Souoush Vosoughi and colleagues "*examined every tweet between 2006 and 2017. The researchers used statistical models to classify these tweets as either 'true' or 'false'".* Their findings were **astonishing!**

*'False information'
was re-tweeted
more often than
'true information'.*

The researchers also found something else in the data; i.e. the reason '**why**'. **'Untrue' stories** were more likely to **create** raw emotions like **fear,** disgust and surprise, while '**true' stories** generated emotions like anticipation, sadness, **joy,** and trust, leading one to believe, people prefer to share sto-

ries which generate the most intense, negative reactions. Furthermore, a 2018 Marist College Poll revealed 92% of Facebook users **knew** that much of the information they encountered on the social media site was **untrue**. **92%!**

So, after you collect your data, analyze it, check different sources on the same data points, and you ask yourself if your own bias is in any way affecting your analysis and judgement, you're ready to make a decision. Trust your instincts.

**Listen to your intuition.
Use common sense!
Ask questions!
Do your research!**

Finally, throughout our lives,

**many of us look to
friends
to listen**

to what we're thinking about during our analysis of data. Sometimes we

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ask their opinions on choices we're considering for the truth.   I encourage you to

choose your 'friends', your network, your mentors, carefully.

Ask yourself - *'is this person truly interested my well being?   Do the friends I am listening to, my sources for truth, really know what they're talking about?'*

Are they really interested in what's *'best for me'*? Do they really know

what's *'best for me'*?

Sometimes, when it comes to deciding what's best for you, who you should trust, and who you should listen to, it's **YOU**!   No one is more interested in what's best for you, than you.

Trust your instincts.

When you're evaluating friends and associates, force yourself to be objective.

Ask yourself -

*'is this a person I can **trust** for 'the truth'?*

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Who do you listen to when you're trying to determine what is best for you? Choose your sources of the truth carefully.

Los Angeles Times | CALIFORNIA & LOCAL | ENTERTAINMENT | 10 Feb 1993

NBC Admits It Rigged Crash, Settles GM Suit

February 10, 1993 | MICHAEL PARRISH and DONALD W. NAUSS | TIMES STAFF WRITERS

In an extraordinary public apology, NBC said Tuesday night that it erred in staging a fiery test crash of a General Motors pickup truck for its "Dateline NBC" news program and agreed to settle a defamation suit filed by the auto maker.

"We deeply regret we included the inappropriate demonstration in our 'Dateline' report," said a statement read by NBC News co-anchors Jane Pauley and Stone Phillips Tuesday night. "We apologize to our viewers and to General Motors. We have also concluded that unscientific demonstrations should have no place in hard news stories at NBC. That's our new policy."

The apology, still being negotiated within five minutes of air time, was part of a settlement of a lawsuit GM filed Monday over film used in a Nov. 17 segment of "Dateline."

In its apology, NBC admitted that it had used incendiary devices to ensure that a fire would erupt if gasoline leaked from the truck being hit by a test car. The 15-minute segment was addressing critics' charges that GM's full-size pickup trucks built between 1973 and 1987 are unsafe because their gasoline tanks are on the sides of the trucks, outside the frame.

GM has staunchly denied that the trucks have safety problems.

NBC's public apology, which completely reversed statements the network made Monday defending the program, is yet another in a long series of setbacks to the financially troubled network. It is already reeling from the collapse of its prime-time entertainment lineup and the embarrassing loss of late-night talk show host David Letterman to rival CBS. Once the dominant TV network, NBC's ratings are down sharply from last season, and it has slipped to third place overall among the major networks.

Just as important, disclosures of the rigged demonstration has already damaged the credibility of NBC News. Many of the network's reporters and producers privately professed embarrassment over the incident, and media experts were roundly criticizing NBC's tactics as highly questionable and unethical.

"It's a classic case of damage-control public relations on the heels of a devastating lawsuit," Everette E. Dennis, director of the Freedom Foundation for Media Studies at Columbia University, told the Associated Press.

"Whether or not NBC did anything improper," he said, "they did not inform the public of the somewhat artificial nature of the test that they ran."

That failure damaged NBC's credibility in an otherwise fair, well-documented report, Dennis said.

But, although NBC's apology is a victory for GM as it seeks to battle a potentially huge liability problem, it will not end the auto maker's legal and public-relations woes.

http://articles.latimes.com/1993-02-10/news/mn-1335_1_gm-pickup

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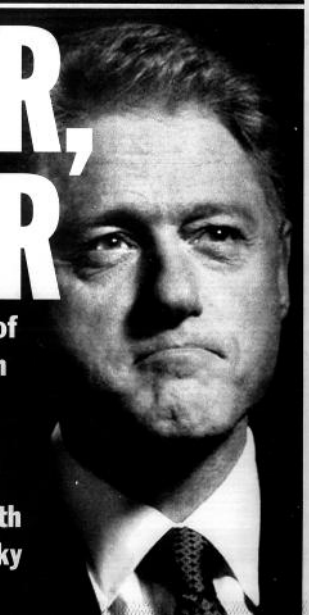
LIAR, LIAR

After months of denials, Clinton tells nation, grand jury of 'inappropriate' relationship with Monica Lewinsky

COVERAGE BEGINS ON PAGES 2 & 3

McCarthy's hearings

- Between 1950 and 1954, Senator Joseph McCarthy terrorised many people in the US with his public "investigations" and unsubstantiated accusations of Communist activity.

- McCarthy called people from all walks of life to his hearings, including officials from the US State Department and the US Army.

- Officials, workers, teachers, professors, actors, writers and many more were forced to resign in the face of Cold War public opinion.

- In 1954, The US Senate finally censured McCarthy for his unscrupulous methods of inquiry.
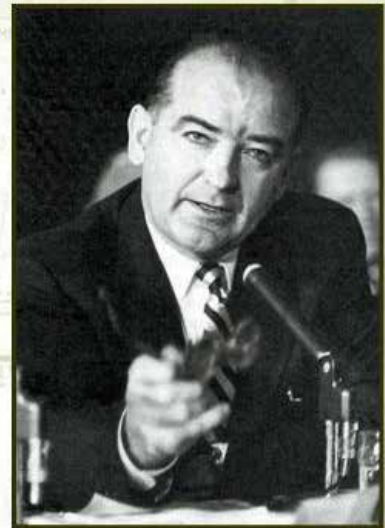
Top right photo - New York Daily News headline states that **President Bill Clinton lied under oath** when he claimed he did not have an intimate affair with one of his aides, Monica Lewinsky. The lower photo depicts the infamous US Senator Joseph McCarthy. In the early **1950s, United States Senator Joseph McCarthy claimed that Russian Communist spies had infiltrated America's most influential positions in the U.S. government and Hollywood**. McCarthy called people he suspected of being spies to federal hearings in Washington, D.C., essentially putting them on trial, forcing them to prove their innocence. Many innocent people were embarrassed, their well earned brands unfairly damaged, and some lost their jobs and careers. Senator McCarthy was eventually criticized and his own brand damaged in what proved to be his biased, personal witch hunt trying to ruin the lives of innocent people he did not like.

This is the **true story** of one man's challenge to prevent a catastrophic, international event by gathering vast amounts of data, a thorough **analysis of the data as well as the sources of that data, determining what and who was biased and prejudiced** and **what and who was factual** before deciding on a course of action to save the world from destruction.

This is a story about

the most dangerous time in the history of the United States of America.

It's a period of time when there was no artificial intelligence,

no code, no algorithms to analyze data to offer a highly probable prediction or solution to the problem.

This is a story of one man, John F. Kennedy,

President of the United States of America from 1961 to 1963,

his analysis of vast amounts of data

and then his critical decision that would

affect the lives of the United States, its 180,000,000 people

(2018 population 328,000,000), hundreds of millions of other people in Russia and Cuba, and, most probably, the rest of the world.

President of the United States, John F. Kennedy

This frightful story

begins on October 16, 1962

when President Kennedy was given photographs taken by United States independent country located just 90 miles south of the American state of Florida. Cuba's government was then and remains today communist. Cuba's economy is socialist and its President in 1962 was Fidel Castro. The communist country of Russia was a close

map showing the island of Cuba. Please notice how close the American state of Florida is to Cuba, only 90 miles away.

spy planes flying over the island of Cuba showing missile launch sites under construction. American **CIA** (Central Intelligence Agency) agents became convinced that the Russian military was placing missiles with nuclear bombs in Cuba to be **aimed at the United States**.

Cuba was, in 1962 and still today, an

ally of Cuba.

Upon learning of Russia's **stealth** deployment of nuclear missiles in Cuba, President

Kennedy was both surprised and angry;

angry because

Photo of Cuban President Fidel Castro (left) and Soviet Union Chairman Nikita Khrushchev in Moscow in 1963

President Kennedy (right) meeting with Russian President Nikita Khrushchev in 1961.

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Russian President Nikita Khrushchev lied.

Just 35 days before, Kennedy received an unsolicited letter from Russian President Khrushchev assuring the American President that under no circumstances would Russia be sending offensive *"surface to surface missiles"* to Cuba.

President

Kennedy was also disappointed in his own United States intelligence (spy) agents.

On September 19th, less than 30 days before the CIA photographs confirming the construction of nuclear missiles sites in Cuba, the United States

Intelligence Committee assured President Kennedy that the Soviet Union (Russia) would not make Cuba a base to launch missiles against the United States. Soon after,

Kennedy became a <u>skeptic</u> of any data presented as 'fact' by supposed 'experts'.

President Kennedy reacted quickly. He called together a group of **men** from a number of different government agencies to review the data on Russia's secret mission in Cuba and then quickly and decisively collaborated for a response to Russia's nefarious action. Kennedy's advisory group came to be known as "*ExComm*", the Executive Committee of the National Security Council. The ExComm group included Secretary of State **Dean Rusk,** Secretary of Defense **Robert McNamara**, Director of the CIA **John McCone**, Kennedy's personal advisor on National Security **McGeorge Bundy,** Presidential attorney **Ted Sorenson,** Chairman of the Joint Chiefs General **Maxwell Taylor,** and maybe most importantly, United States Attorney General and brother of President Kennedy, **Robert Kennedy.**

President Kennedy wanted debate,

entertaining different opinions on the missile crisis in Cuba. Debate the

President got! The ExComm collaboration was intense, often confrontational, as different opinions from different perspectives were presented to the President.

The Joint Chiefs, especially General **Curtis LeMay**, encouraged an aggressive military response.

"*Fry it! (Cuba) and send in American troops!... We should invade today!*" was essentially General LeMay's advice.

"*As long as Russia is supporting Cuba, there isn't any solution to the Cuban*

President Kennedy (seated) with his brother Robert (Bobby) standing behind him (right)

1962: A P-2 Neptune US patrol plane flies over a Soviet freighter during the Cuban missile crisis

32 *problem except a military solution...*" Lemay told President Kennedy. LeMay also assured President Kennedy the Russians would not retaliate if the United States invaded Cuba.

Kennedy was not impressed and quite skeptical of LeMay's assurance. To Kennedy's dismay, many US Congressmen supported the Joint Chiefs' aggressive military response.

On the other hand, Secretary of Defense

Robert McNamara, advocated a less hostile response; McNamara suggested a naval blockade of Cuba

to stop and inspect any ship

approaching Cuba suspected of carrying military equipment and weapons.

Following the ExComm meeting, President Kennedy continued to solicit feedback from trusted advisors. One of the MOST trusted was the Attorney General, his brother, Robert "Bobby" Kennedy.

The President asked his brother to secretly meet with the Russian ambassador to the United States, Anatoly Dobryin,

who was living in the Washington, D.C. area to discuss the issues.

**The President wanted
the Russians to know
America wanted peace.**

At the same time, the President wanted the Russians to know that Russian nuclear missiles aimed at America only 90 miles from Florida was unacceptable.

**President Kennedy also
asked Bobby Kennedy
to find out
if the Russians were interested
in a deal**

whereby the United States would take its missiles out of the country of Turkey near the Russian border IF Russia would take its missiles out of Cuba.

By October 22nd, there were almost

daily communications
**between
President Kennedy
and
Russian Chairman Krushchev.**

Kennedy always responded with his own letters.

On October 26th, President Kennedy received an emotional letter from Chairman Krushchev exhorting the importance of finding a peaceful solution to this crisis. "*We want not to destroy your country... but to compete peacefully not by military means*" the Chairman wrote.

On October 27th, Kennedy received another letter from Krushchev. But the tone of this letter was different, leading Kennedy to assume the letter was not written by Chairman Krushchev. The language and tone of this letter made it seem there might be tension and confusion in the Russian government.

Kennedy's intuition

led him to believe that Krushchev's control of the Russian government

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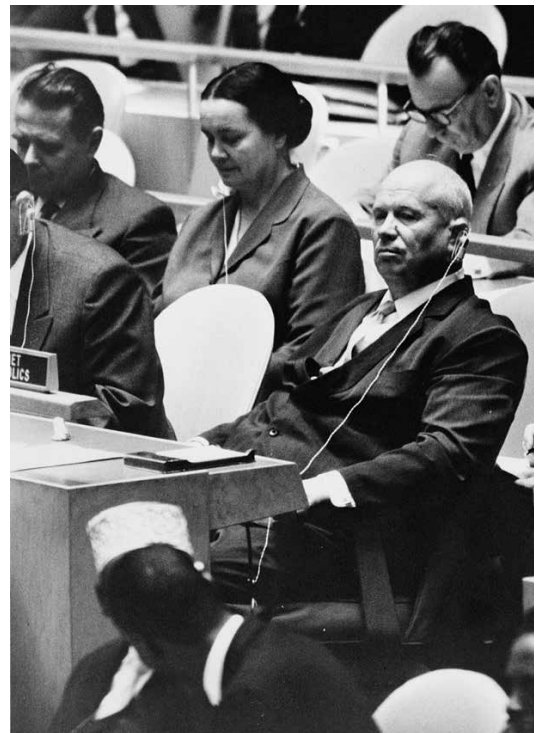
Russian Chairman Krushchev at a 1960 United Nations meeting in New York

President Kennedy meeting with ExComm advisors on October 29th.

34   might be in jeopardy.

Kennedy urged
empathy
among his advisors.

He asked them to try to understand what it's like to be in Krushchev's shoes. He urged them to ask themselves '*why were missiles in Cuba so important to Krushchev?*' As a result, President Kennedy did not pursue any aggressive military action toward Cuba that would force Krushchev to make a hasty, overly aggressive, military response. Kennedy wanted to give Krushchev more time to work through his issues in Russia. He understood Chairman Krushchev was dealing with Russian generals simi-

lar to the belicose American General Curtis Lemay.

This 'wait and see', inquisitive strategy was especially important on October 27th when a

United States
reconnaissance plane
flying over a Russian ship
heading toward Cuba
was shot down
by a Russian missile.

ExComm and Congressional reaction was instant; the United States should bomb Cuba the next day.

**President Kennedy,
on the other hand,
encouraged pause,
for time,
to get the truth,**

and, in this case, for verification that the Russians did, in fact, shoot down the United States plane. Then, President Kennedy would make a decision on how to respond to the American plane downing.

**President Kennedy
continually thought about
the consequences of
his decisions
on the
men, women and children**

of America, Russia, Cuba and the rest of mankind. A nuclear war would potentially mean the end of the world as man currently knew it.

On Sunday, October 28, 1962, Robert Kennedy received a phone call asking him to meet **Russian Ambassador Dobryin** at his White House office at 11am. At the meeting, Ambassador Dobryin told Robert Kennedy that Chairman Khrushchev had agreed to his previously proposed secret deal.

**A COMPROMISE was
reached**

by Kennedy and Khrushchev.

WIN- WIN was achieved

as the United States agreed to take AMERICAN missiles they installed in Turkey near the Russian - Turkey border that threatened Russian security while the Russians agreed to take RUSSIAN missiles they installed in Cuba, only 90 miles off the coast of the United States, that threatened America. Both leaders used their WINS to promote their LEADERSHIP BRANDS to the citizens of their respective countries.

The Russian ambassador Dobryin contacted Robert Kennedy to tell him Chairman Khrushchev sends his best wishes to President Kennedy.

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The crisis that put the safety of the world in jeopardy was over.

The Cuban Missile Crisis has been one of the most analyzed events in history. President John F. Kennedy's leadership, according to many historians, was exemplary. In this author's view,

**a previous 'mistake'
prepared Kennedy
for
the Cuban Missile Crisis.**

This 'mistake' centered on his management of people, his 'advisors', the data he naively accepted as 'fact', and the people he trusted who claimed to be expert during the failed ***Bay of Pigs Invasion*** of Cuba in 1961. Kennedy learned valuable lessons from his Bay of Pigs mistakes which made him a better leader during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

President Kennedy had 3 primary options to consider for responding to the Russian stealth deployment of missiles in Cuba:

1. "***Fry Cuba!!!!!***", as General LeMay suggested, by bombing and invading Cuba and then waiting for the Russian military response. Thermonuclear war!

2. Establish **a blockade** of the island of Cuba, as Secretary of Defense McNamara recommended, preventing the Russians from placing more military supplies on the island.

3. **Trust his instincts, i.e. his intuition**. For Kennedy, this meant separating the bias and prejudice from the data to get the truth, the FACTS, be**fore making a decision**. He learned so-called mili-

tary 'experts' were biased; his military experts could not objectively consider a non-military solution to the crisis. Kennedy also realized he needed to find someone to trust within the ExComm group. He did. "*Thank God for Bobby",* Dave Powers, Assistant to the President, overheard President Kennedy say of his brother, Bobby, as he walked into another meeting with the Chiefs.

Years after the Cuban Missile Crisis,

**in 1992,
the world learned
many new things
about these 13 days
in October of 1962**

when many of the Americans and Russians involved in the Missile Crisis convened at a conference in Havana, Cuba to reflect upon the events of the

crisis. Even Cuban President Castro was in attendance. Here's what was uncovered:

- While the CIA told President Kennedy there were only 10,000 Russian troops in Cuba, there were actually 43,000 Russian troops in Cuba ready to defend the island from an American military invasion in October of 1962.
- The CIA never knew the missiles the Russians placed in Cuba had nuclear warheads. According to Dr Eric Swedin, history professor at Weber State University and author of "*When Angels Wept: A What If History of the Cuban Missile Crisis*",

"*the Russian military commanders stationed in Cuba had launch authority*",

which means the Russians could have fired missiles at the United States in response to any attack by America.

- Because Russian commanders were authorized to use nuclear missiles against America if the United States invaded the island. Dr Swedin speculates that if the United States invaded Cuba,

"a city in the United States

would have been hit by a Russian nuclear bomb **killing tens of thousands of Americans."**

One possible scenario, according to Dr Swedin, was

"*Russian bombers could have dropped* *bombs on the city of New Orleans in Louisiana* *where American troops were poised for a possible invasion of Cuba".*

- A year after the Cuban Missile Crisis, President Kennedy was exploring the possibility of normalizing relations with Fidel Castro and Cuba. President Kennedy was assassinated several months later.
- Two years before the Cuban Missile Crisis, Arthur Schlesinger Jr, who helped UN Ambassador Adlai Stevenson draft his presentation of the Cubn Missile crisis to the UN Security Council,

claimed President Eisenhower hired members of the Mafia

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to assassinate Fidel Castro.

- Fidel Castro did not request missiles from Khrushchev. Chairman Khrushchev pushed Castro to accept the missiles on the island.
- All the Havana Conference participants learned that on October 27, 1962, the USS Beale, a Naval Destroyer, tracked and dropped depth charges (the size of hand grenades) on a Soviet submarine. Unknown to the US, the Russian submarine was armed with a nuclear torpedo. Running out of air, the Soviet submarine was surrounded by American warships and desperately needed to surface. An argument broke out among three Russian officers on the submarine, including sub-marine captain Valentin Savitsky, and Deputy commander Vasili Arkhipov. An exhausted Savitsky became furious and ordered that the nuclear torpedo on board be made combat ready. Accounts differ about whether Arkhipov convinced Savitsky not to make the attack or whether Savitsky himself finally concluded that the only reasonable choice left open to him was to come to the surface. During the conference, Robert McNamara stated that nuclear war had come much closer than people had thought. Thomas Blanton, director of the National Security Archive, said,

"a guy called Vasili Arkhipov saved the world."

USS Beale served on the Cuban missile crisis "blockade" from 25 October to 5 November 1962. It was later revealed from Soviet sources that the depth-charging by the Beale had caused the commander of the Soviet submarine, Savitsky unable to establish radio contact with base, to consider firing a **15-kiloton nuclear torpedo**, and had asked two other senior officers to vote, with the dissenting vote of Vasili Arkhipov preventing the launch.

This is a fictitious story about three, make-believe, separate places. Two of the places are separate neighborhoods within the same state and same country. The third neighborhood is in a completely different country. There are remarkable differences and similarities among the neighborhoods. You are asked to analyze the data carefully. Then, **I will ask you to do something very difficult, i.e. acknowledge your own bias** before making an analysis of the data and form your opinion.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO if.................

Please,

imagine.

You are the head of a family with a spouse and children, living in a nice house in

'YOUR' neighborhood

that is part of a successful town in a successful state and country. Your safe neighborhood is filled with good schools, well kept parks and streets, and affordable, on-time-all-the-time public transportation! You might ask

'how do '*they*' pay for this**?**'

Here's how - there are many **privately** owned, successful businesses in your neighborhood to shop, dine and browse. Almost everyone in your neighborhood lives in a nice home and has a good job with good pay. Local, state, and national governments all charge

'fees'
to businesses and people
called
"taxes".

The governments charge tax fees on the money business make, the money people and families earn and the property they all own. The government then uses tax money to pay for teachers, police, firemen and women, to clean and maintain school build-

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ings and playgrounds, keep highways safe, snow plowed, keep parks clean, and the country's army, navy and cyber security to name a few things.

While people and businesses in some other countries pay as much as **75%** of what they earn in taxes, people in your neighborhood, state and country only pay **a third (40%) of their income in taxes** to provide the good schools and safe lifestyles they want. The bigger and fancier a person's house, the more they pay in *property taxes* to support local schools, fire, parks and police departments. Companies also **pay taxes to both the state and country.** Your state and country gives a small part of the taxes they collect to neighborhoods for parks, police, street and highway maintenance and especially the schools, as well as supporting local festivals and the arts.

To maintain the quality of life, for national health care and especially for the national army, navy and other defense departments, your country

**borrows
lots of money
from other countries**

when there are NOT enough tax dollars to pay their bills. The country's government would rather borrow money than having a '**balanced budget'.** A '**balanced budget**' forces governments to live with the money they raise in taxes. They can't spend more than they have. If the government needs more money, they would have to increase citizens' taxes OR spend less! A balanced budget would prevent government from continually borrowing money.

You have choices for your elected officials, i.e. there are candidates from at least 2 and sometimes 3 different political parties to choose from.

You and your neighbors like living in 'your' neighborhood. Everyone seemingly feels safe and fulfilled.   There is hardly any crime in your neighborhood. The only crime is driving under the influence and cyber theft.

**Some people attribute the
neighborhood's well being
to the good jobs
and
wealth of its people,
not
the work of the government.**

The schools in 'your neighborhood' have some of the highest test and attendance scores in the state and country. Your neighborhood high school has a daily absence rate of only 2% and the tardiness rate is less than 3%. Most students go to school on time every day. The graduation rate is 97% and 85% of the students go on to college or technical school. Most adults in this neighborhood are college graduates.

There are

many personal freedoms in 'your' neighborhood, state and country.

The government **does not** control what people post on social media nor the opinions newspapers, television, radio and streaming services express.

You were elected a 'leader' on the community council in 'your neighborhood'.

Your brand is strong. It projects a person of intelligence, trust, empathy, good education, and leadership with a strong network of successful people.

People in 'your neighborhood' and country are worried about a few critical issues which threaten its safety and quality of life. The

first concern is the number of people living in your neighborhood, state and country, i.e.

the population is shrinking!

Fewer people!! Fewer babies being born!! Couples are having less children in 'your neighborhood' and country. At the same time, your country has decided to cut back on the number of immigrants it allows into your country. Consequently, the total population of your neighborhood and country is decreasing. A shrinking population means companies will eventually not be able to find enough people to fill jobs. Fewer people working

means fewer people to pay taxes

which pay for great schools, enough police and firemen and well kept parks and roads. Your country will not be able to afford a strong military to fight terrorism and cyber crimes. Fewer

people means **fewer smart people** to come up with great ideas to start new companies, create new medicines, write great books and music, travel to new planets, and lead our country. Your country is not the only country experiencing a decreasing population. France, China, Germany, Russia, Spain, South Korea, Lithuania, and Japan are also facing this same problem.

The other issue is

**people in 'your' neighborhood
are worried about the
'OTHER' neighborhood
next to them**

Your neighbors feel people in this **'other'** neighborhood will jeopardize their success and safety. Your neighbors **perceive** the people in **the 'other' neighborhood as not having** the same **values** as people in 'your' neighborhood'. The people in 'your' neighborhood' feel the people in the 'other neighborhood' do not value safety,

education, clean streets and buildings without graffiti like your neighbors do.

Despite being in the same state and country as YOUR neighborhood,

**the people in this
*'OTHER' neighborhood
next to yours*
have a
*different brand.***

Your neighbors feel it's not a good brand. This '*OTHER' neighborhood* next to your's

**DOES *NOT have
the same
living, education and
working conditions
as 'your' neighborhood.***

People in the 'OTHER neighborhood' **pay lower taxes** than 'your neighbor-

hood' **because its citizens earn less money** and the **homes in the 'other neighborhood' cost less money** than your neighborhood. Lower tax revenues collected means less money to spend on parks, streets, and especially schools.

The unemployment rate in this 'other neighborhood' is high, at 15%, unlike the 2% unemployment rate in your neighborhood. There are a lot of people in the OTHER neighborhood who don't have a regular job. And, people in this 'other neighborhood' don't make as much money as people in 'your neighborhood'. Their annual median income is low, only $30,000 a year, while the median income in your neighborhood is $90,000 a year. **Lower personal incomes and less expensive homes mean less taxes collected.**

This 'OTHER' neighborhood is NOT considered "SUCCESSFUL" like yours.

Many of the parks are often filled with debris. The 'other neighborhood' streets are littered and buildings are marked by gang graffiti. Downtown buildings are empty. The crime rate in this 'other' neighborhood is high with lots of violence. Crimes include vandalism, murder, and drug distribution. The 'OTHER neighborhood', however, does not have the population problem

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like 'your neighborhood' has.

The '**other neighborhood' population is increasing**.

Families in this neighborhood have more children and there is a continuous flow of immigrants, albeit some illegal, moving into the 'other neighborhood'.

The two neighborhoods have one thing in common.

Many people in both neighborhoods,
YOUR's' and the 'OTHER', blame the government for some of their problems.
Some claim

the police are too easy on **nefarious** criminals. Other critics say the police are prejudiced and harass only poor people. But, **most people**, in **both neighborhoods,** agree

their state and country government is ineffective, corrupt, and partisan; nothing gets done!

Their *government leaders 'never*

compromise' to get things done for the people of every neighborhood and the country. They constantly criticize each other while issues and problems go unresolved.

The schools in the 'other neighborhood' have poor test scores and low attendance. The 'other neighborhood's' high school has a daily absence rate of 25% and the tardiness rate is 40%! The school claims the graduation rate is 65% but no one believes the number because so many students are socially promoted because they don't want them back in the school. The facilities at the schools are not well maintained like the school facilities in 'your neighborhood'.

'Your neighborhood' is worried about the impact the 'other,' "***not successful",*** neighborhood will have on 'your' "***successful***" neighborhood because the neighborhoods border each other.

At the same time,

people
in the 'other' neighborhood
feel
people in 'your' neighborhood
are 'smart' and privileged
but
condescending, arrogant, and
lacking empathy.

The contrast
between
your neighborhood
and
the "other" neighborhood
is stark,
troubling
and
unfortunate.

'
Why' is the big question.

'Why'
is there such
social and economic
disparity
between
'your' neighborhood and
the 'other' neighborhood
despite being located
in the same state,
same country
and
<u>contiguous</u> to each other?

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Each neighborhood has very different living conditions. Why are two neighborhoods, located right next to each other, in the same state and same country, so different? What do you think?

Separated only by a narrow river, there is a

THIRD neighborhood in a *different* state and different country.

This neighborhood in another

country is run differently

than 'your' neighborhood **and** country. The **third neighborhood government** has **more authority** than 'your' and the 'other' neighborhoods to make sure all parks and streets in the THIRD neighborhood are clean and well maintained. Public transportation is clean, always on time, and inexpensive to take. The airports are world class, recently acknowledged in *The Economist* Magazine, *The Wall Street Journal* and the *BBC* as "*the best in the world*". WiFi is FREE and accessible by all citizens. There is FREE Health Care and FREE, WORLD CLASS education for all citizens too.

Taxes on people and businesses are low

Photo of the "*Lightening Train*" in a different neighborhood, in a different country, called the **THIRD Neighborhood**. This train travels 125 miles per hour and the tickets are very **inexpensive!** The trains are always clean and they are ON TIME ALL THE TIME.

in the *THIRD NEIGHBOR-HOOD*.

The country does not borrow money

from foreign countries. The citizens in the THIRD NEIGHBORHOOD save lots of the money they earn.

Most THIRD NEIGHBORHOOD companies are very successful. Foreign companies also invest lots of their money in THIRD NEIGHBORHOOD companies because they are so successful. Many foreign companies have offices there. The THIRD NEIGHBORHOOD is a good place to invest, work, and live.

Every person in the neighborhoods of the THIRD neighborhood has a job.

THERE IS NO UNEMPLOYMENT.

The

median income of Third Neighborhood citizens is the highest in the world.

To encourage people to use public transportation, taxes on cars are twice the value of the cost of an automobile.

All schools in every neighborhood in this country are safe with the latest technology and well maintained facilities. And, they're free to attend! These schools consistently have some of the highest test scores IN THE WORLD on the international PISA test. The daily absenteeism rate is less than .25%!!! In other words, hardly anyone misses a school day. The graduation rate is 99.5%!!! *One month after high school graduation, all students go into a community service corp* either in the military (army, navy, air force or coast guard) or in a community service corp helping the elderly and the most needy in the country. After serving a year in community service, 100% of students go to college or technical school or remain in the military.

Everyone has a home or apartment **in a safe neighborhood with beautiful parks, well paved streets and** *high achieving schools.*

Much of the success in the THIRD neighborhood is due to the success of its many international companies and LOCAL businesses. The THIRD neighborhood has more international investment banks than any other country in the world. The country's 3 largest banks are ranked as the world's 1st, 5th, 6th "***strongest banks in the world***" respectively in a **Bloomberg Business** survey. The THIRD neighborhood is recognized as having the best ship building and ship repair companies in the world. It has the two largest casinos in the world and there are major oil refineries there too. The THIRD neighborhood is also a major manufacturer of computer chips, integrated circuits and computers. Most of the manufacturing facilities are staffed by robots. The THIRD neighborhood has the highest ratio of robot to human employees at 3 to 1. Yet, everyone has a job. The world class

schools
of the THIRD neighborhood
do a great job
preparing students
for 21st century jobs.

Successful companies mean jobs and consistent tax revenues for the government to provide safe neighbor-

hoods, **great schools**, free health care, good hospitals, great airports, beautiful parks, clean streets, modern trains and autonomous, electric vehicles that don't pollute the environment. Despite continually inviting immigrants into its country, the THIRD neighborhood government has strict controls on immigration. When

immigrants
apply for admittance
to this country,
they must prove
they possess
skills
that will
help the country.

For instance, a person from the European country of Albania was recently granted admittance to the country because he had exceptional coding skills and was quickly hired. Another person from the Asian country of Mongolia was recently granted admittance because of her farming and herding skills. *People found in the country illegally are either deported or incarcerated* in one of the country's notorious prisons. DESPITE BEING A VERY DIVERSE COUNTRY of MANY DIFFERENT RACES and ETHNIC GROUPS,

there is
little to
no crime

in every state of the THIRD neighborhood. It's perceived to be the most safe and honest country in the world.

Security
is a primary concern

of the country. Keeping the peace and making sure the country's citizens always feel safe is a high priority. From city streets and schools to all internet activity, **every citizen knows**

the government monitors
most things
its citizens do.
Citizens seem to accept
their government's
indiscriminate
surveillance

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because of the economic and educational opportunities as well as the safe and well maintained neighborhoods afforded to everyone in the country.

The government
watches and records
everything
you do.

When you walk or take the bus to school or work, government cameras record your actions and store the images in their data base. Drive out of your neighborhood and cameras track and record the driver's face and your

security cameras mounted on buildings

car's location. Your smartphone emits a constant message which government surveillance systems track and store. Visit the internet in the privacy of your home and the sites you visit and your social media comments are logged and analyzed.

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Artificial intelligence (AI) examines the data about you, then predicts your future actions.

Inside the 'data' room of a neighborhood security room monitoring cameras located throughout the neighborhood. This room also monitors internet activity. Algorithms are written to alert security officials of any threatening social media posting or access to any banned web sites.

If government **AI** predicts the possibility of **a crime**, police intervene before a crime is committed.

People in the

**THIRD neighborhood believe
your neighborhood
will
eventually increase
their surveillance
of all people
because of its impact
on crime.**

Ubiquitous surveillance and tough penalties means less crime.

*Any person
convicted of drug distribution is executed.*

Possession of any drug means deportation from the country. Any person convicted of murder is publicly executed. Violent crimes result in lifetime incarceration. Graffiti and littering results in large fines and, in extreme cases, flogging and caning with a minimum of 15 lashes.

*Anyone
who says anything
racially or ethnically
hurtful or demeaning
on social media*

or
in public
is *fined and*
sometimes incarcerated.

The government does everything it can to make their diverse population of many racial groups live peacefully together. The THIRD neighborhood has a national holiday celebrating the racial diversity of its citizens.

The 'THIRD' neighborhood wants everyone to get along.

people die within the harsh conditions of their prisons.

The *life expectancy*, in other words, how long a citizen of this THIRD neighborhood can expect to live, is the *highest in the world*. Very low crime, safe neighborhoods, clean, well kept parks and streets, free health care for all citizens, low pollution, full employment, good wages, guaranteed housing and FREE education at great schools and universities create a healthy living environment.

The prisons incarcerate people who break the strict laws of the THIRD neighborhood. The prisons have the highest mortality rates in the world;

Their government
is different.

People in the third neighborhood and country

**do not have
as many political choices**

you have in your neighborhood in your state in your country. Most candidates for government positions like neighborhood council, mayor, state and country congress, and President belong to one party,

the NATIONAL PARTY.

It's really the only political party that has any influence and support in the country. However, most

citizens feel

their country's leaders are honest and effective;

they get things done! People also feel **there is less corruption and stealing in their THIRD neighborhood government than other countries in the world.** Government leaders are paid very high salaries. The President is paid almost $2 million dollars a year. And, **any government official found guilty of corruption is sentenced to life in prison**.

This government strongly supports privately owned businesses with low taxes and investment incentives. The THIRD neighborhood realizes successful businesses means jobs for their

citizens and consistent tax revenues. There are some companies owned and run by the government. This essentially means

**all businesses
are influenced,
is some way,
by the government.**

There is little public criticism of the government. While I believe most people in the THIRD neighborhood feel their government is good, many feel there are dire consequences for criticizing the government. Not surprising,

*the government
has very strict control
of
what is
said in public
and
published
on social media.*

If someone publishes or posts something on the internet that is inappropriate or criticizes the NATIONAL PARTY, the person responsible can be fined or imprisoned.

*You now have
stories of
three different places
to live.*

*Two
are located close
to each other,
in the same country;
the third
is located
in a different country
in the world.*

Two are neighborhoods in the same country and state located right next to each other. One of these neighborhoods, **your neighborhood**, is described as '**nice**' and "*successful*"; the *'other' neighborhood* is considered not to be. A **THIRD neighborhood** is located in a foreign country.

In summary,

**here are three different places,
three neighborhoods,
with striking differences
and many similarities:**

1. '*your*' neighborhood

2. the '*other*' neighborhood

3. the '*third*' neighborhood

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Activity One

Please identify your ***most trusted source for the TRUTH***, the FACTS, objective, non biased data.

1._____

Activity Two

Please answer the following questions after reading **pages 28 to 39** in the Exhibit A section of this book.

1. Do you agree with President John Kennedy's approach/actions to re solve the Cuban Missile Crisis?   Yes OR No

2. If you agree with President Kennedy's approach/actions, please explain why you are in agreement. **Please be specific**.   Identify specific actions President Kennedy took to solve the crisis that you especially LIKE.

3. If you disagree with President Kennedy's approach/actions, please explain why you are in disagreement. **Please be specific.** Identify specific actions President Kennedy took to solve the crisis that you especially DISLIKE.

55

Activity Three –
Analyzing Data: the Excel Spread Sheet

1. Please read pages 40 through 53 in this book. These pages contain profiles of three imaginary neighborhoods.   I am asking you to collect, organize/segment, and then analyze data from each of these neighborhoods by creating an ***Excel*** Spread sheet to assist you in this data collection and analysis.   ***Excel*** is an excellent tool for organizing, segmenting, and then analyzing data. **Many companies and organizations expect their employees and interns to be proficient in EXCEL**.

Please begin by creating **segments** within in your Excel spread sheet for each neighborhood. Then, list the following qualities on the side of your Excel spreadsheet:

1. **safety**: i.e. *how safe people feel living in their neighborhood*
2. **schools/ education**: *a high quality of education ALL people have access to*
3. **social services**: *health care, child care, unemployment pay, retirement programs like social security for ALL community members*
4. **life expectancy**: *how many years a person can expect to live*
5. **crime**: *level of crimes, violent and non-violent, committed*
6. **employment/jobs:** *availability of 'good' jobs in their neighborhood*
7. **personal income levels,** i.e. *how much the average person earns*
8. f**reedom of speech**: *the right to express what a person believes. However, the limits on free speech include not allowing community members to express things that harm others; community members are not allowed to use to speech for force, fraud, or defamation.*
9. **immigration policy**: *an systematic plan which evaluates each immigrant's skill set and character (whether they have a criminal record) to determine if an immigrant will benefit the country before deciding on how which immigrants to admit into the country, The plan also determines if the immigrant is seeking asylum from physical danger and oppression*
10. **taxes:** *a progressive system;, i.e. the more money a person or company makes, the more taxes they pay.   Taxation is a delicate balance of making sure there is always enough tax revenue to support social and defense programs but making sure taxes are not too high causing WEALTHY PEOPLE AND COMPANIES to move to another neighborhood.*
11. **population growth:** *making sure population continues to increase to make sure there are always enough people to fill open jobs and pay enough taxes to support government services.*
12. **personal privacy**: *protection from unauthorized spying by the neighborhood*

government, company, or other community members on a person's private matters especially within the confines of one's home; protection from theft or spying on a person's private information.

13. **election choice:** *always having more than one political party with differentiated governing ideas for the most important government positions for community members to choose.*

14. **government effectiveness:** *a functioning government where politicians embrace their responsibility of representing the entire community not just members of their political party and, as a result, continuously and respectfully collaborate and then compromise to do what is best for all citizens of the community; politicians unite all citizens not divide them along political and ideological lines.*

15. **racial harmony**- *how well different ethnic and racial groups get along*

Here is a sample of the spreadsheet I am asking you to create.

		Neighborhood Analysis		
	Your Neighborhood	Other Neighborhood	Third Neighborhood
safety	4	2	5
education	4	2	5
privacy	4	3	1

Please note the numbers on the Excel form. The numbers represent YOUR rating of each neighborhood service or right on a scale from '**5**' to '**1**', i.e. '**5**' being the highest quality of service and '**1**' the lowest quality of service. FOR example, if '*safety*', and '*education'* are 2 qualities the THIRD NEIGHBORHOOD provides its citizens at the highest level of quality, then indicate your rating of '**5**' for each, '*safety'* and '*education'*, in the THIRD NEIGHBORHOOD column. This means you believe the THIRD NEIGHBORHOOD is a **safe** place to live and offers **great schools** for a great **education** to all its citizens. If you feel the THIRD NEIGHBORHOOD does a poor job protecting its citizens '*privacy*' from government surveillance and spying on personal matters that do not harm other citizens living in the THIRD NEIGHBORHOOD, then you would give the THIRD NEIGHBORHOOD a poor rating of '*1'* for '*personal privacy'* from the list of 15 neighborhood living qualities. **NEXT,** prioritize. In other words, I am asking you to indicate which qualities are most important to you as well as other qualities that are less in importance. Start, by identifying **3 qualities**

that are most important to your lifestyle. **Then, identify 5 other qualities that are slightly less important** than your top 3. **The remaining 7 qualities, while still important, are not as important as the top 8 you've indicated in the top and second groups.**

THEN, *there is an additional step* in your analysis of the neighborhood data, i.e. PRIORITIZATION!!!   We will be establishing a value for each of the 15 qualities.   Since you already have identified 3 qualities which are most important and 5 other qualities which are slightly less important, we will recognize the 3 and 5 qualities you prioritize with a higher value than the remaining 7 qualities. For your **3** MOST IMPORTANT QUALITIES in each neighborhood, *MULTIPLY EACH RATING of this quality in each neighborhood by 3*. For example, if you indicated '*taxes*' as one of your 3 most important qualities AND you gave **YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD** a rating for its '*taxes*' of **5**, its final score for 'taxes' in YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD is **15 (5 x 3)**.   *NEXT*, for **the next 5** neighborhood qualities that you indicated are slightly less important than top 3 important qualities, *MULTIPLY this next tier of 5 SLIGHTLY LESS IMPORTANT qualities* **by 2**.   For example, if one of the qualities in this second group of your next 5 important qualities is '*immigration*' and you gave YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD a rating of 4 for '*immigration*', the final score for '*immigration*' in YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD is 8 (4 x 2). *All other neighborhood qualities* after the first two tiers (the MOST important group of 3 and the second slightly less important group of 5) *do not have a multiplier in your analysis.*

FINALLY, COMPUTE *A FINAL SCORE FOR EACH NEIGHBORHOOD.*

If you have any questions, please ask me for help or the mentor who understands EXCEL you have a relationship with.

Activity Four- *Please answer the following questions after reading pages 36 to 47 in the Exhibit B section of this book.*

- **Name the 3 MOST IMPORTANT QUALITIES you identified in your Neighborhood Analysis.**

    1. _____

    2. _____

    3. _____

- **Name the 5 NEXT SLIGHTLY LESS IMPORTANT QUALITIES you identified in your Neighborhood Analysis.**

    1. _____

    2. _____

    3. _____

    4. _____

    5. _____

- Please list the neighorhood name and the final rating score you gave each after your analysis-

    1. _____

    2. _____

    3. _____

- **Please identify the neighborhood you would choose to live in based on your NEIGHBORHOOD ANALYSIS:**

    - Name of the Neighborhood - _____

- Please list reasons why the neighborhood called '*YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD*' has better schools, less violence, and low unemployment than the neighborhood called the 'OTHER NEIGHBORHOOD' if both neighborhoods are in the same state and same country'- _____

  _____

  _____

  _____

  _____

- *'Your neighborhood'* in your country has a **population problem** which, **if not solved,** will seriously **damage the quality of life** in 'Your Neighborhood', state, and country: businesses will close because they can't find enough workers to fill their jobs; tax revenues will dramatically decline if business close and people don't have jobs; the quality of education will diminish if tax revenues decrease and 'Your Neighborhood' and country will not be able to defend itself without tax money to adequately support the numbers of soldiers, pilots and naval personnel to fight terrorism and cyber attacks.   Please offer 3 suggestions to solve your country's population problem.

  1. _____

  2. _____

  3. _____

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- One *politician offers a solution* **to the declining population problem** - "*USE ROBOTS! ANDROIDS! AI!*"   Your opinion is valued. Please think about this proposal. **Please list TWO ADVANTAGES and TWO DISADVANTAGES** to the use of robots and AI to address the problems created by a declining population IN' YOUR COUNTRY'. Thank you.
  - ADVANTAGES:
    - _____
      _____
    - _____
      _____
  - DISADVANTAGES:
    - _____
      _____
    - _____
      _____

Activity Five

Context clues.
Readers often encounter words they may not initially understand when reading a text. Rather than interrupting your read to check the dictionary, there may be other words, nearby, which provide "clues" to the meaning of the unknown, new word you've encountered. For instance, check out the word "*intuition*" on page 23 in this text. Read the sentences PRECEDING and FOLLOWING the sentence which contains the word, *"intuition"*. The word "*instincts'* in the previous sentence and the words "*common sense*" may give you enough clues to speculate that the word "*intuition*" might mean " a *hunch*", or "*gut feeling*". If you assumed this, you're correct.

Here is a list of words, all in <u>**red and underlined,**</u> found in this text. **Please don't use a dictionary**. Please use the words in the preceding or following sentences to speculate what each word means. Don't be anxious about this activity. This is a learned skill good readers have. Now is a good time for you to start. Trust your instincts. Use your intuition. Listen to your gut to come up with your hunch for the meaning of the word.

- ubiquitous (page 50): _____ _____ _____

- nefarious (page 44): _____ _____ _____

- capitulated (page 22): _____ _____ _____

- Surveillance - (page 50) - _____ _____ _____

- contiguous - (page 50) _____ _____ _____

- genocide (page 22) _____ _____ _____

- skeptic (page 31) _____ _____

Activity Six: <mark>*Analyze each statement*</mark>*. Then determine whether the statement is a*
Fact or Opinion or "Just Wrong!"

1. ***Zachary Taylor succeeded Millard Fillmore as President*** of the United States in 1849.
Fact or Opinion or "Just Wrong!"

2. ***Mt Everest,*** located on the border of the countries of Nepal and China***, is the highest mountain peak in the world.*** *Fact or Opinion or "Just Wrong!"*

3. ***President James Garfield was the third American President to be assassinated in office*** in September 19, 1881 following the assassinations of President Abraham Lincoln and President William McKinley. *Fact or Opinion or "Just Wrong!"*

4. ***President Harry S Truman*** had one of the lowest approval ratings in the history of the American Presidency at only 22% and, as a result, ***today is considered one of the worst President's in American history by most historians.*** *Fact or Opinion or "Just Wrong!"*

5. ***Thomas Sowell,*** an American economist and social theorist who grew up in Harlem, New York, attended predominantly black-American Howard University in Virginia before receiving a scholarship to Harvard University, and now a Senior Fellow at the prestigious Hoover Institute at Stanford University, ***has called President Barack Obama one of America's worst Presidents.*** *Fact or Opinion or "Just Wrong!"*

6. ***President Trump,*** in his February 2019 meetings in Hanoi, Viet Nam, with North Korea's leader Kim Jong-un, ***was not able to convince Kim Jong-un to stop testing and harboring nuclear weapons in North Korea.*** *Fact or Opinion or "Just Wrong!"*

7. ***President Trump's negotiations with North Korea's leader Kim Jong-un in Hanoi, Viet Nam in February of 2019 were not successful.*** *Fact or Opinion or "Just Wrong!"*

8.   ***While United States President Trump ordered tariffs (a tax) on Chinese imports to make Chinese manufactured products more expensive than American manufactured products, tariffs on Chinese manufactured products has not helped the economy*** of the United States of America***.*** *Fact or Opinion or "Just Wrong!"*

9.   ***Ronald Cotton was a rapist*** who spent 10 years in prison for his attack on Jennifer Thompson by identifying Cotton as the man who raped her when she was in her college dorm in July of 1984. *Fact or Opinion or "Just Wrong!"*

10. ***Christopher Columbus believed the world was flat*** in 1492 when he sailed west from Europe and accidently landed on islands in the Caribbean Sea near Cuba and south of the present day country of the United States. *Fact or Opinion or "Just Wrong!"*

11. ***President Abraham Lincoln went to war against the American states of Confederacy in 1861 to end slavery in the United States of America.*** *Fact or Opinion or "Just Wrong!"*

12.   ***Xi Jinping is the President of the People's Republic of China.*** *Fact or Opinion or "Just Wrong!"*

Bibliography

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6. "*The Assault on Intelligence: American National Security in an Age of Lies*", Michael Hayden, Penguin Press

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8. "*The Sentient Machine: The Coming Age of Artificial Intelligence*", Amir Husain, Scribner.

9. *The Economist Magazine*:. "*Perfected in China, a Threat in the West*", June 2, 2018. p.11

10. "*What If: A Book of Alternative History*", Second Edition. Richmond House. Interview with Dr Edwin Swedin "*What If The Cuban Missile Crisis Had Escalated?*"

Please think about this.

While always being respectful, ask questions.

If something doesn't sound or feel right, if you doubt something that someone has said,
seek different sources of information on the subject in question.

Listen to different voices, opinions, ideas, and perspectives on the subject you question
before you make your final decision.

Gather and Analyze data from disparate sources.
You will be better for it.

"The truth shall set you free."

*(*John, 8th Chapter, Verse 32, the BIBLE.)

For more information, check the program web site:
Para obtener más información, consulte el sitio web del programa:
Para mais informações, consulte o programa de web site:
Fun alaye siwaju sii, ṣayẹwo awọn eto ayelujara ojula:
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