

# **Kritisch denken voor artsen**

**9 maart 2021**

**Johan Braeckman**

**Universiteit Gent**

Wetenschap: verlies aan  
“autoriteit” door aantasting  
allerlei vormen van gezag; door  
postmodernisme & relativisme;  
door schandalen (fraude etc., zie  
bv. *retraction watch*) en  
inkapseling kapitalisme,  
militarisme etc.



*“These smug pilots have lost touch with regular passengers like us.  
Who thinks I should fly the plane?”*



**We should be concerned about medical errors, not the kind when a doctor leaves a scissors in you, or cuts off the wrong arm, but nurses not washing their hands and spreading infections, prescriptions not filled out accurately. Medical errors are attributed to causing as many of a 100,000 deaths a year in North America,.**

**David Ropeik**

# Cognitive Errors and Diagnostic Mistakes

A Case-Based Guide to  
Critical Thinking in Medicine

Jonathan Howard

 Springer

## ONS FEILBARE DENKEN

*Thinking, fast and slow*

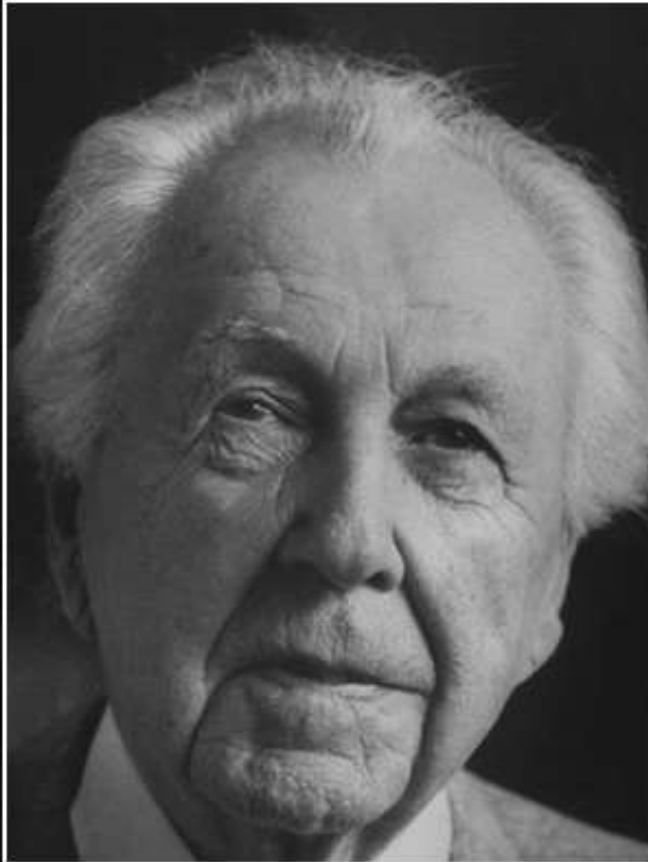


DANIEL  
KAHNEMAN

NOBELPRIJSWINNAAR

'Een verbaasgeekend >ik boek, helder, diepgaand,  
met verrassende inzichten en aanpakkele zps.' NY TIMES

'Een toegankelijk, list als een trein.' DE VOLKSKRANT



Doctors bury their mistakes,  
Architects cover them with ivy

— *Frank Lloyd Wright* —

AZ QUOTES

# Category:Bridge disasters caused by engineering error

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

## Pages in category "Bridge disasters caused by engineering error"

The following 22 pages are in this category, out of 22 total. This list may not reflect recent changes ([learn more](#)).

### A

- Angers Bridge
- Ashtabula River railroad disaster

### B

- Broadmeadow viaduct

### D

- De la Concorde overpass collapse
- Dee Bridge disaster
- Dixon Bridge Disaster

### F

- Forest Hills disaster

### H

- Hoan Bridge
- Honeymoon Bridge (Niagara Falls)

### I

- I-35W Mississippi River bridge
- Ironworkers Memorial Second Narrows Crossing

### K

- King Street Bridge (Melbourne)

### M

- Maccabiah bridge collapse
- Miamitown bridge collapse
- Münchenstein rail disaster

### N

- Norwood Junction rail accident

### Q

- Quebec Bridge

### S

- Schoharie Creek Bridge collapse
- Silver Bridge

### T

- Tacoma Narrows Bridge (1940)
- Tay Bridge disaster

### W

- West Gate Bridge collapse*






## Study Suggests Medical Errors Now Third Leading Cause of Death in the U.S.

Physicians advocate for changes in how deaths are reported to better reflect reality

Release Date: May 3, 2016

### SHARE FAST FACTS

-  10 percent of all U.S. deaths are now due to medical error. - [Click to Tweet](#)
-  Third highest cause of death in the U.S. is medical error.- [Click to Tweet](#)
-  Medical errors are an under-recognized cause of death. - [Click to Tweet](#)

Analyzing medical death rate data over an eight-year period, Johns Hopkins patient safety experts have calculated that more than 250,000 deaths per year are due to medical error in the U.S. Their figure, published May 3 in *The BMJ*, surpasses the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) third leading cause of death — [respiratory disease](#), which kills close to 150,000 people per year.

### FOR THE MEDIA

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WORLD VIEW · 27 APRIL 2020

# Pseudoscience and COVID-19 – we've had enough already



The scientific community must take up cudgels in the battle against bunk.

Timothy Caulfield 



Cow urine, bleach and cocaine have all been recommended as COVID-19 cures – all guff. The pandemic has been cast as a leaked bioweapon, a byproduct of 5G wireless technology and a political hoax – all poppycock. And countless wellness gurus and alternative-medicine practitioners have pushed unproven potions, pills and practices as ways to 'boost' the immune system.

## RELATED ARTICLES

**Social media companies must flatten the curve of misinformation**

**Fighting the coronavirus**

online symposium

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zondag 20 december 2020

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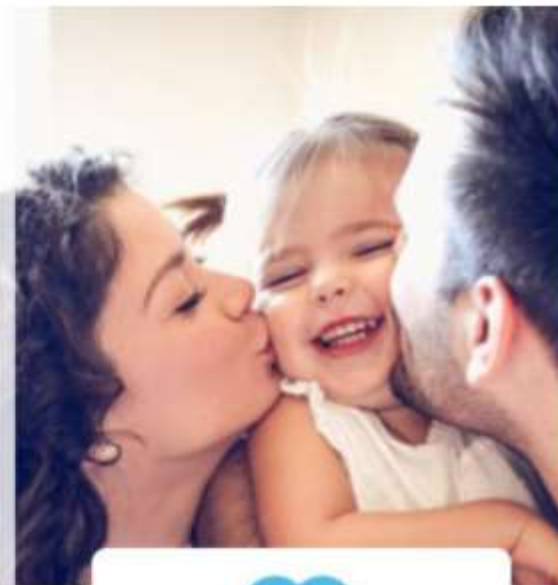


Dokter  
Vanderlinden



Dokter  
Faché

presentatie Paul Codde



**Artsen Voor  
Vrijheid**.be

Samen tegen Corona

**Artsen Voor Vrijheid** is een neutrale, onafhankelijke organisatie die getuigenissen verzamelt van artsen en specialisten, zorgpersoneel en verpleegkundigen, wetenschappers en laboranten, patiënten en hun familie, zelfstandigen, werknemers en ouders.

Hoe kunnen we verklaren dat ook  
experten blunderen, vallen voor  
pseudowetenschappelijke  
opvattingen, enz.?

# Is – een deel – van de mensheid onvermijdelijk “dom”?





## *Unskilled and unaware of it: How difficulties in recognizing one's own incompetence lead to inflated self-assessments.*

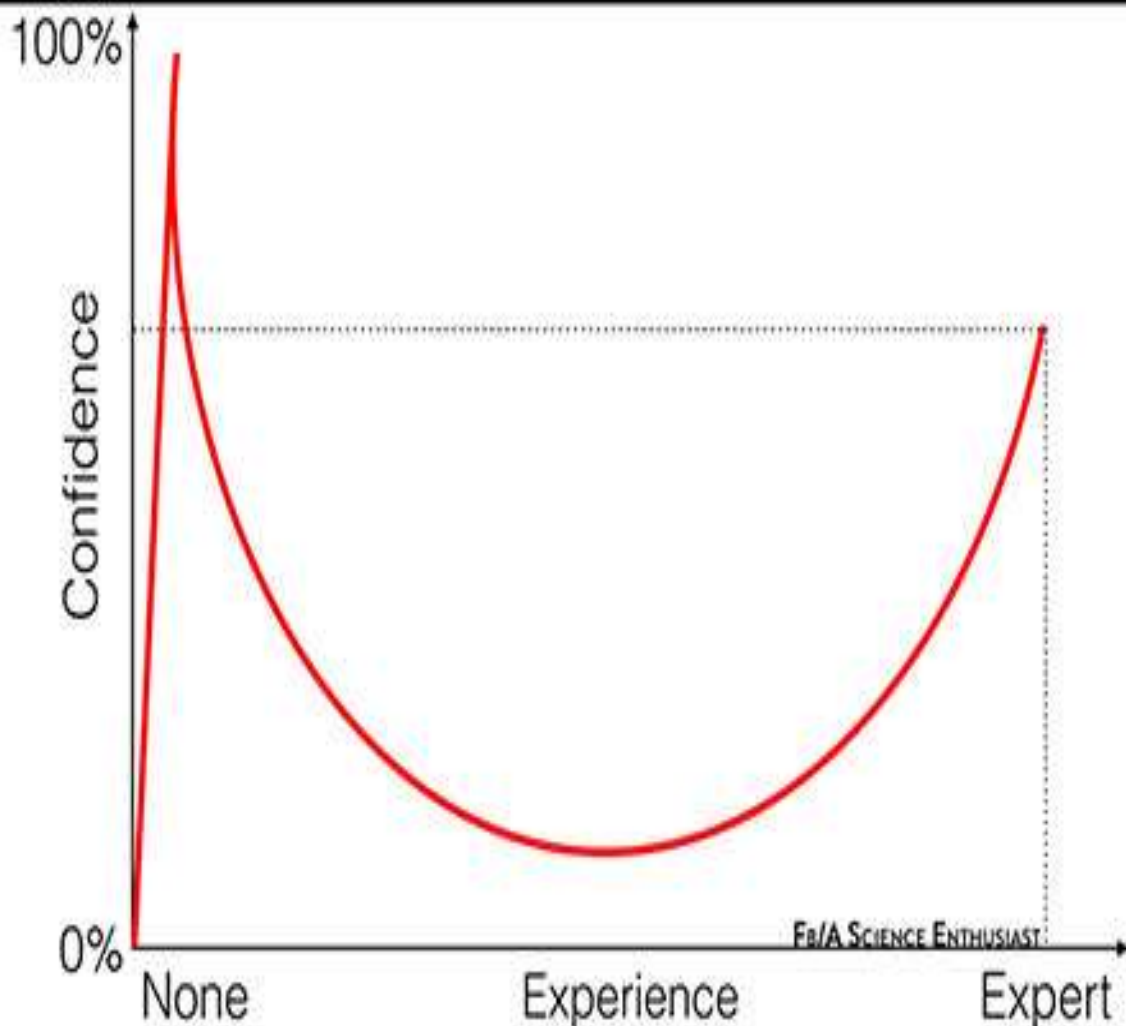
By Kruger, Justin, Dunning, David

Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, Vol 77(6), Dec 1999, 1121-1134

### **Abstract**

People tend to hold overly favorable views of their abilities in many social and intellectual domains. The authors suggest that this overestimation occurs, in part, because people who are unskilled in these domains suffer a dual burden: Not only do these people reach erroneous conclusions and make unfortunate choices, but their incompetence robs them of the metacognitive ability to realize it. Across 4 studies, the authors found that participants scoring in the bottom quartile on tests of humor, grammar, and logic grossly overestimated their test performance and ability. Although their test scores put them in the 12th percentile, they estimated themselves to be in the 62nd. Several analyses linked this miscalibration to deficits in metacognitive skill, or the capacity to distinguish accuracy from error. Paradoxically, improving the skills of the participants, and thus increasing their metacognitive competence, helped them recognize the limitations of their abilities. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2016 APA, all rights reserved)

# THE FIRST RULE OF DUNNING-KRUGER CLUB IS



**YOU DO NOT KNOW YOU'RE IN  
DUNNING-KRUGER CLUB**



# Intelligent people are stupid

BY ROB FERNALL

I've observed a lot of user behaviour in a lot of user studies over the last 20 years, and I routinely recommend to stakeholders that they observe in real-time the user's frustration or elation with their device. Seeing is believing and, to date, no client or stakeholder has been disappointed with their decision to observe – although of course they are sometimes surprised with what they see.

This also means that I've seen a lot of reactions from those observing users for the first-time. And the most striking reaction I repeatedly hear is: "Wow, people are stupid!" But the irony is that it is often the user's intelligence, not lack of it, that trips them up. So what is

intelligence and why does it trip people up? Firstly, let's start with what intelligence is not. Intelligence is not memory, it is not (declarative) knowledge and it's not an ability to follow procedures. Computers have no intelligence. They have great memories, processing power and perfect(ish) accuracy, and they also follow procedures brilliantly, but computers have no intelligence.

Instead, intelligence is about integrating what we already know with new things we see, hear and read. Intelligence is about making quick judgements with imperfect information, and about making generalisations, spotting patterns and applying rules. But sometimes the information around us leads us to spot

unhelpful patterns and pick inappropriate rules. And that's when we trip up.

Imagine, for example, the door that we automatically pull to open when it should be pushed. When we are presented with a physical object (like a door, a chair, a pen or a medical device) we use our intelligence to quickly make sensible guesses about what it is, how it works, and how to use it based mainly on familiar visual and tactile cues. When we interact with the object we will check that it responds as we expect. If the door doesn't move when we pull the handle we may re-evaluate our assumptions and think "Ah, I assumed that I needed to pull it, but I'll try pushing it instead".

---

*"we use our intelligence to quickly make sensible guesses about what it is, how it works, and how to use it"*

- Intelligente/hoger opgeleide mensen vallen voor meer gesofisticeerde misvattingen.
- Ze zijn beter in het rationaliseren van diverse vormen van irrationalisme.



GIANT GRASSHOPPER SHOT  
NEAR MEDORA NORTH DAKOTA



KRIS VERBURGH

# DE VOEDSELZANDLOPER

OVER AFVALLEN EN LANGER JONG BLIJVEN



afbeelding: Bert Bakker

Merkwaardig gebrek aan  
feitenkennis, ook bij hoger  
opgeleiden & experts



Hoeveel mensen – in de juiste  
leeftijdscategorie – per honderd  
zijn werkloos?

















Q. Out of every 100 people of working age about how many do you think are unemployed and looking for work?

**Unemployment levels are hugely overestimated in every country**

% POINT DIFFERENCE

TOO HIGH

	Italy	+37
	South Korea	+28
	Hungary	+28
	US	+26
	Poland	+25
	Belgium	+23
	Spain	+21
	France	+20
	Australia	+17
	Great Britain	+17
	Sweden	+16
	Canada	+16
	Japan	+15
	Germany	+14

AVG. GUESS

ACTUAL

49	12
32	4
39	11
32	6
34	9
31	8
46	25
29	9
23	6
24	7
24	8
23	7
19	4
20	6

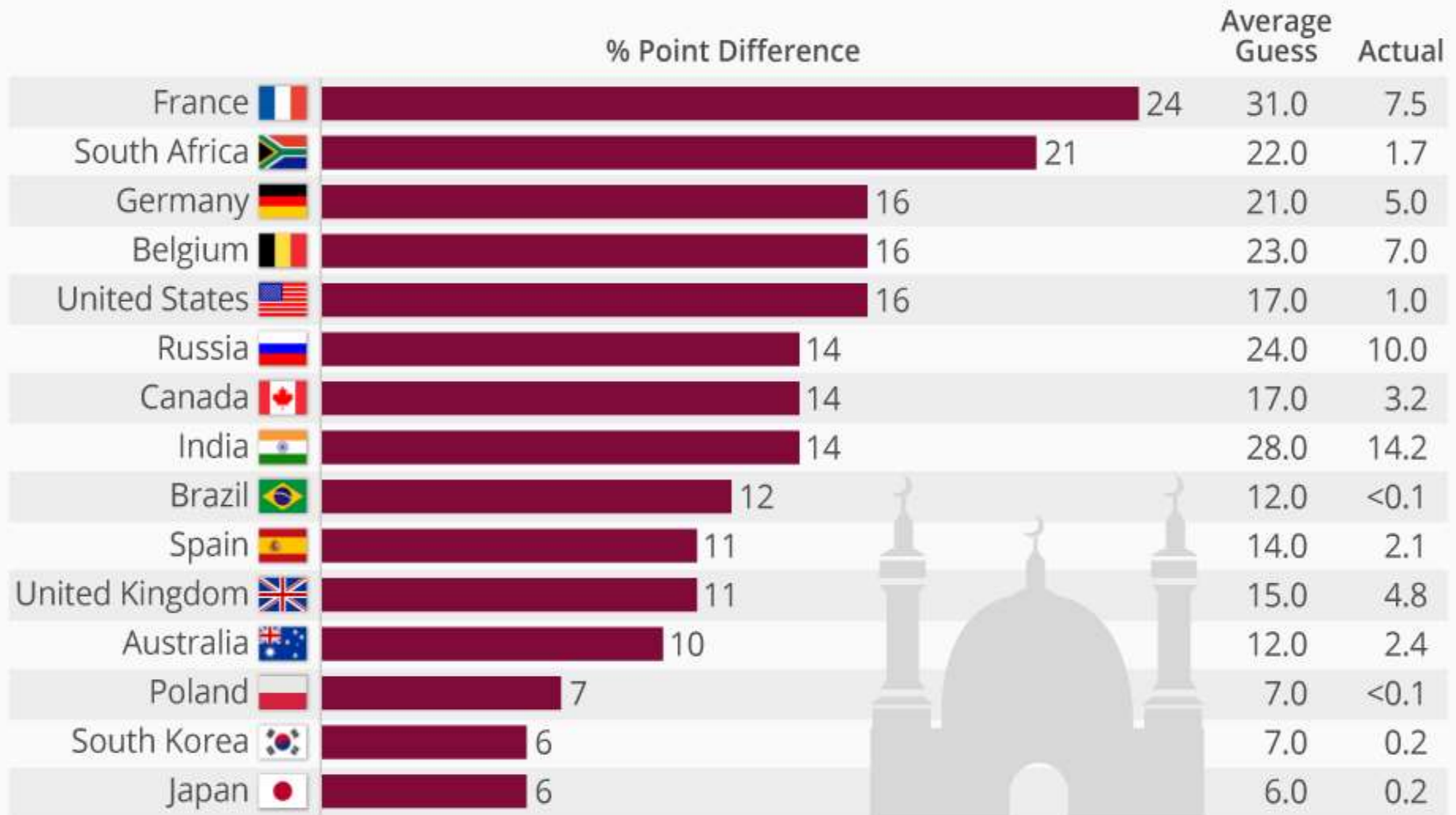


Per honderd Belgen, hoeveel %  
is moslim?



# Most Countries Overestimate Their Muslim Population

"Out of every 100 people in your country, how many do you think are Muslim?"



**FEI  
TEN  
KEN  
NIS**

**10 REDENEN  
WAAROM  
WE EEN**

**VERKEERD  
BEELD VAN  
DE WERELD**

**HEBBEN EN  
WAAROM  
HET BETER**

**GAAT DAN  
JE DENKT**

**HANS ROSLING**

**MET OLA ROSLING & ANNA ROSLING  
RÖNNLUND**

**SPECTRUM**

A portrait of Hans Rosling, a Swedish statistician and public health expert. He is shown from the chest up, wearing glasses and a dark sweater over a light-colored collared shirt. He has a slight smile and is looking towards the camera. The background is a light gray with a pattern of overlapping, semi-transparent circles in various colors: blue, red, orange, and green. The circles vary in size, with a large blue circle on the left side. The top and bottom edges of the image have a yellow, textured border.

**HANS ROSLING**  
(1948-2017)

2. Where does the majority of the world population live?

- A. Low income countries
- B. Middle income countries
- C. High income countries?

3. In the last 20 years the proportion of the world population living in extreme poverty has?

- A. almost doubled
- B. remained more or less the same
- C. almost halved

4. What is the life expectancy of the world today?

- A. 50 years
- B. 60 years
- C. 70 years

9. How many of the world's 1 year old children today have been vaccinated against some diseases?

- A. 20%
- B. 50%
- C. 80%

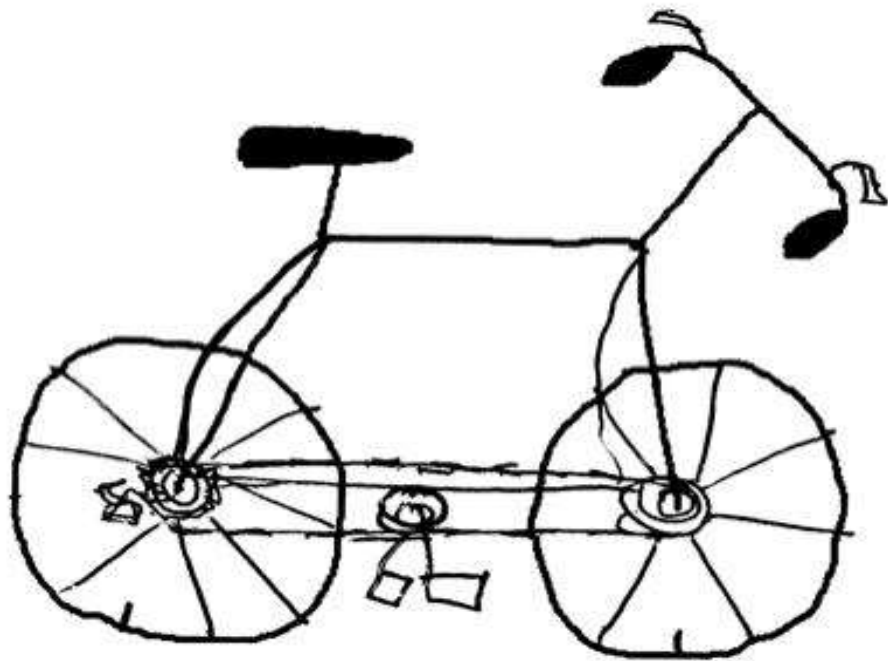
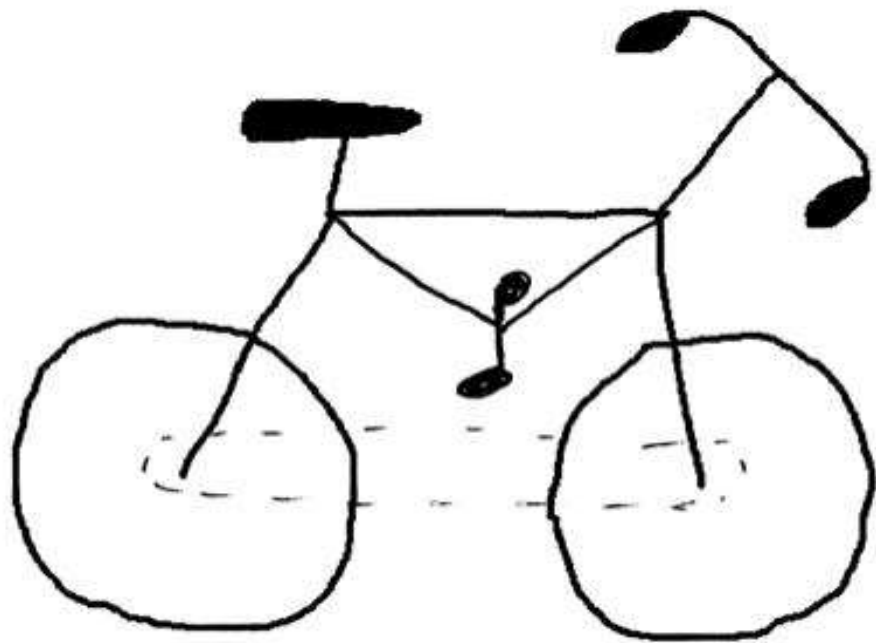
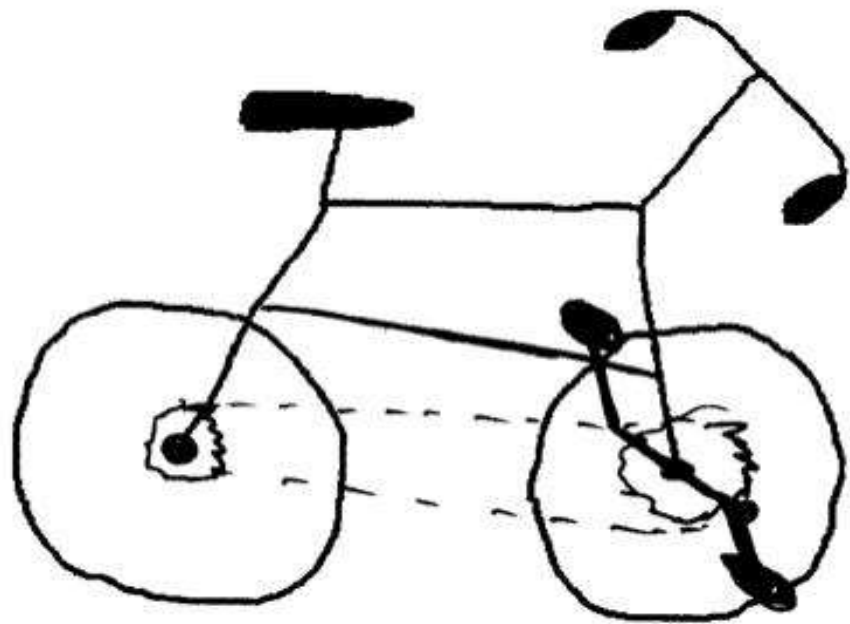
12. How many people in the world have some access to electricity?

- A. 20%
- B. 50%
- C. 80%



**THE  
ILLUSION  
OF  
EXPLANATORY  
DEPTH**









Menselijke lichtgelovigheid lijkt niet te verminderen.....

POPULAR MECHANICS ADVERTISING SECTION

63

# New Kind of Hat

## Worn 10 Minutes a Day

# Grows Hair

## in 30 Days

# —or No Cost

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By *ALOIS MERKE*

*Founder of Famous Merke Institute, Fifth Ave., N. Y.*

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Safety  
First!**









**Wie een put graaft voor zichzelf, geraakt er moeilijk uit...**



**Han Van Meegeren, 1889-1947)**



**De Leerlingen  
van Emmaüs,  
1936**

## A NEW VERMEER BY ABRAHAM BREDIUS

**I**T is a wonderful moment in the life of a lover of art when he finds himself suddenly confronted with a hitherto unknown painting by a great master, untouched, on the original canvas, and without any restoration, just as it left the painter's studio! And what a picture! Neither the beautiful signature "I. V. Meer" (I.V.M. in monogram) nor the *pointillé* on the bread which Christ is blessing, is necessary to convince us that we have here a—I am inclined to say—the masterpiece of Johannes Vermeer of Delft, and, moreover, one of his largest works (1.29 m. by 1.17 m.), quite different from all his other paintings and yet every inch a Vermeer. The subject is *Christ and the Disciples at Emmaus* and the colours are magnificent—and characteristic: Christ in a splendid blue; the disciple on the left, whose face is barely visible, in a fine grey; the other disciple on the left in yellow—the yellow of the famous Vermeer at Dresden, but subdued so that it remains in perfect harmony with the other colours. The servant is clad in dark brown and dark grey; her expression is wonderful. Expression, indeed, is the most marvellous quality of this unique picture. Outstanding is the head of Christ, serene and sad, as He thinks of all the suffering which He, the Son of God, had to pass through in His life on earth, yet full of goodness. There is something in this head which reminds me

of the well-known study in the Brera Gallery at Milan, formerly held to be a sketch by Leonardo for the Christ of the *Last Supper*. Jesus is just about to break the bread at that moment when, as related in the New Testament, the eyes of the Disciples were opened and they recognized Christ risen from the dead and seated before them. The Disciple on the left seen in profile shows his silent adoration, mingled with astonishment, as he stares at Christ.

In no other picture by the great Master of Delft do we find such sentiment, such a profound understanding of the Bible story—a sentiment so nobly human expressed through the medium of the highest art.

As to the period in which Vermeer painted this masterpiece, I believe it belongs to his earlier phase—about the same time (perhaps a little later) as the well-known *Christ in the House of Martha and Mary* at Edinburgh (formerly in the Coats collection). He had given up painting large compositions because they were difficult to sell, and painters like Dou and Mieris were already getting big prices for their smaller works.

The reproduction [PLATE] can only give a very inadequate idea of the splendid luminous effect of the rare combination of colours of this magnificent painting by one of the greatest artists of the Dutch school.

Portfolio's Tech 25

Plus: Apple After Jobs, p.28

Am I Poor Yet?

by LEE EISENBERG, p.100

Condé Nast  
**Portfolio**

**GOOGLE:  
IT'S  
ELECTRIC**  
p.104

BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE

MARCH 2009



# Trust.

We had it. He stole it. Learning to believe again in a post-MADOFF world

BY Scott Turow · Amy Wallace · Gary Weiss

**Slimed Online**

by DAVID MARGOLICK, p.80

**Iceland Meltdown**  
The President and the Party Girl

by JOSHUA HAMMER, p.88

BERNARD MADOFF  
Founder, Bernard L. Madoff  
Investment Securities

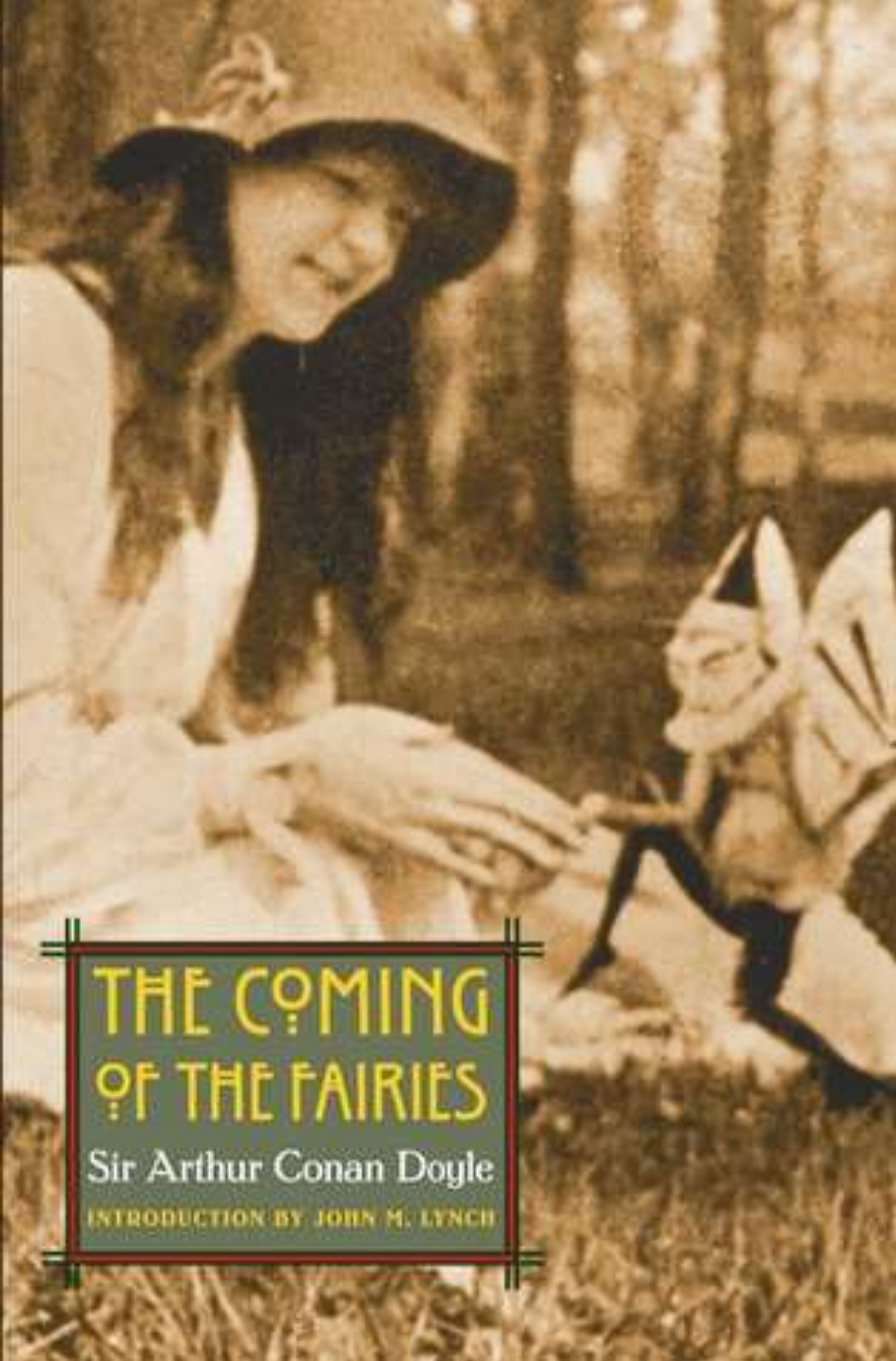
WWW.PORTEFOLIO.COM

Bernard  
Madoff



SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE  
1859 – 1930

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# THE LANCET

The Lancet, [Volume 351](#), [Issue 9103](#), Pages 637 - 641, 28 February 1998  
doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(97)11096-0

This article was retracted

## RETRACTED: Ileal-lymphoid-nodular hyperplasia, non-specific colitis, and pervasive developmental disorder in children

Dr [AJ Wakefield](#) FRCS <sup>a</sup> , [SH Murch](#) MB <sup>b</sup>, [A Anthony](#) MB <sup>a</sup>, [J Linnell](#) PhD <sup>a</sup>, [DM Casson](#) MRCP <sup>b</sup>, [M Malik](#) MRCP <sup>b</sup>, [M Berelowitz](#) FRCPsych <sup>c</sup>, [AP Dhillon](#) MRCPath <sup>a</sup>, [MA Thomson](#) FRCP <sup>b</sup>, [P Harvey](#) FRCP <sup>d</sup>, [A Valentine](#) FRCR <sup>e</sup>, [SE Davies](#) MRCPath <sup>a</sup>, [JA Walker-Smith](#) FRCP <sup>a</sup>

### Summary

#### Background

We investigated a consecutive series of children with chronic enterocolitis and regressive developmental disorder.

#### Methods

12 children (mean age 6 years [range 3–10], 11 boys) were referred to a paediatric gastroenterology unit with a history of normal development followed by loss of acquired skills, including language, together with diarrhoea and abdominal pain. Children underwent gastroenterological, neurological, and developmental assessment and review of developmental records. Ileocolonoscopy and biopsy sampling, magnetic-resonance imaging (MRI), electroencephalography (EEG), and lumbar puncture were done under sedation. Barium follow-through radiography was done where possible. Biochemical, haematological, and immunological profiles were examined.



# The Andrew Wakefield Controversy

- In 1998, Andrew Wakefield and a team of researchers discovered a link between Autism and the MMR vaccine.
- This finding caused mass uproar over whether vaccines are a public health risk.
- However, the findings were deemed false after further investigation pinning Wakefield to false lab findings in exchange for £400,000
- Andrew Wakefield's findings are still used by the Anti-vaccine movement as evidence.





**Dr. Johan Denis**

Medical Doctor and  
Homeopath from Belgium

DR. JOHAN DENIS: 'CORONAVIRUS VACCINE MIGHT ALTER YOUR DNA; ALL ORCHESTRATED TO MAKE YOU FEARFUL ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU TAKE THE VACCINE'

Geschorste huisarts Johan Denis tijdens zijn passage in TruNews, een website die bekend staat voor het verspreiden van samenzweringstheorieën. © TruNews

## **Geschorste huisarts waarschuwde voor kleine robots in coronavaccins: “Ze maken een controleerbare marionet van je”**

**EMBLEM** “Er zit nanotechnologie in het vaccin. Er zijn sterke aanwijzingen dat deze van je een controleerbare marionet maakt. Informeer jezelf alsjeblieft voor je beslist.” Dat bedenkelijke advies gaf Johan Denis, een dokter en homeopaat uit Emblem, op 22 december de kijkers van de Amerikaanse website TruNews. In ons land werd de man enkele weken eerder door de Provinciale Geneeskundige Commissie van Antwerpen geschorst voor het niet naleven van de coronamaatregelen.

Toont dit alles aan dat blunderende experts geen “echte”, of geen goede experts zijn?

# kernredenen die onze kwetsbaarheid voor irrationalisme verklaren

- **De kracht van anekdotische informatie**
- **Intuitieve benadering van de werkelijkheid**
- **Rationalisaties en drogredenen (*fallacies*)**
- **Zelfbedrog (en geheugenconstructie en -reconstructie)**
- **Cognitieve dissonantie**

- **In group/out group psychologie**
- **Immunisatiestrategieën**
- **Statistische ongeletterdheid**
- **Compulsief zoeken naar orde, betekenis en patronen**
- **Het natuurlijke = het goede**

# Anecdotal evidence reliable? One man says “yes”.

**A STUDY CONDUCTED YESTERDAY** by a man on himself concluded that self-reported anecdotal evidence is, in fact, both reliable and relevant.

The landmark study, conducted by Mark Mattingly of Virginia Beach in his apartment, concluded with 100% accuracy that data collected from personal experience can disprove other data conducted by reputable scientific institutions, thereby proving once and for all that “statistics can’t be trusted”.

In a press release Mr. Mattingly took aim at his detractors saying that “...this study shows what I’ve been telling people on the internet for years: all your fancy evidence and statistics don’t mean nothing in the real world.”.

A frequenter of internet forums, comment sections, and social media, Mr. Mattingly recounts that he was inspired to undertake the study when someone reportedly kept insisting that he provide evidence for his claims. “I think everyone’s entitled to an opinion, and that my opinion is worth just as much as anyone else’s” Mr. Mattingly said.

Academic types have criticised the study, and papers who are publishing it, saying that it lacks everything and makes no sense. When shown the study, Emeritus Professor James Albrecht of Carnegie Mellon University looked all confused and hopeless before making pining, guttural sounds.



*Mr. Mattingly in his apartment looking all smug.*

Mr. Mattingly has responded saying that this is just the first of many studies he intends to conduct, and that a meta-analysis of people who have opinions and anecdotal experiences independent of controls, methodological rigor, blinding and peer review are soon to be published, adding further weight to his initial findings.

**DAN!**  
Defeat Autism Now!

...TREAT/ ...

My Son IS  
**EVIDENCE**



**OF HARM**

MERCURY  
IN VACCINES





# Vaccinatie: ook contra-intuïtieve elementen



**DO NOT VACCINATE!!**



Onze cognitieve vermogens gaan vaak de mist in – “denkputten”.

Het brein is niet geëvolueerd “om” objectieve kennis te genereren, maar in functie van overleving & voortplanting.

Steven Pinker:  
“Humans today rely on cognitive faculties that worked well enough in traditional societies, but which we now see are infested with bugs”.

*(Enlightenment Now, 2018)*





Er zijn 64 vakjes. Na bv. acht vakjes  
liggen er op het schaakbord:  $1 + 2 + 4 + 8$   
 $+ 16 + 32 + 64 + 128 = 255$  graankorrels.

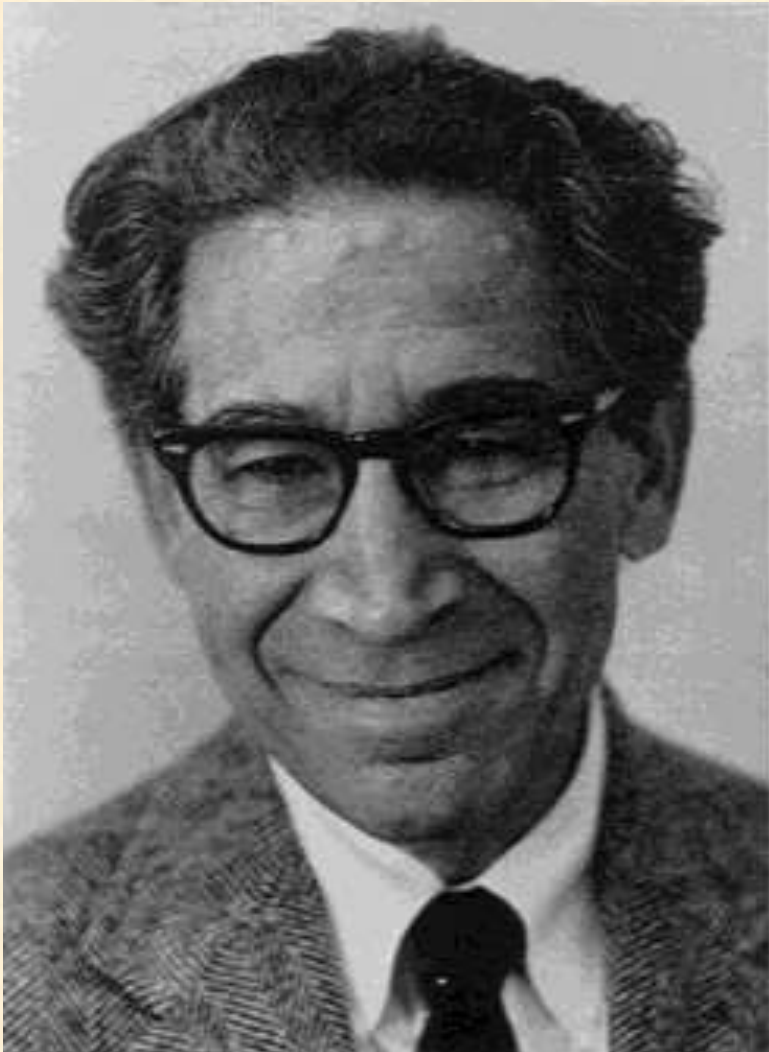
Hoeveel in totaal, na 64 vakjes?

18,446,744,073,709,551,615 = 18 triljoen.  
(miljoen, miljard, biljoen, biljard, triljoen...)



# Leon Festinger & cognitive dissonance

## *When Prophecy Fails* , 1956



# In group/out group



# Statistische ongeletterdheid, drogredenen & denkfouten

Een van onze grootste cognitieve hinderpalen:  
we zijn slecht in waarschijnlijkheidsrekening.

We redeneren niet in termen van toeval (= de  
nulhypothese), statistische significantie (bv.: vijf  
procent) etc. We volgen ons buikgevoel.

- Buikgevoel volgen is soms ok – bv. ervaren artsen: pluis of niet pluis.
- Gerucht in het struikgewas, lifter meenemen of niet, enz.



- Maar bij het Linda-probleem (Kahneman en Tversky) loopt het snel fout.



YOUR INTUITION  
IS CALLING -

*Are you  
listening?*

[www.life108.net](http://www.life108.net)

## *The Linda Problem*

- Linda is 31 years old, single, outspoken, and very bright. She majored in philosophy. As a student, she was deeply concerned with issues of discrimination and social justice, and also participated in anti-nuclear demonstrations.

*Which is more probable?*

*(A) Linda is a bank teller.*

*(B) Linda is a bank teller and is active in the feminist movement.*

# Ander vb. Tversky & Kahneman studies: gedachte-experiment met chirurgen

Je bent chirurg. Voor longkankerpatiënten kan je ofwel een operatie uitvoeren, ofwel kiezen voor bestraling.

Bestraling: betere overlevingskans op korte termijn.

Operatie: betere overlevingskans op lange termijn.

De overlevingskans binnen een maand is 90%.

*Wat doe je?*

Andere groep kreeg hetzelfde probleem voorgelegd,  
maar met deze wijziging:

10% sterfte in de eerste maand.

*Wat doe je?*



# resultaat

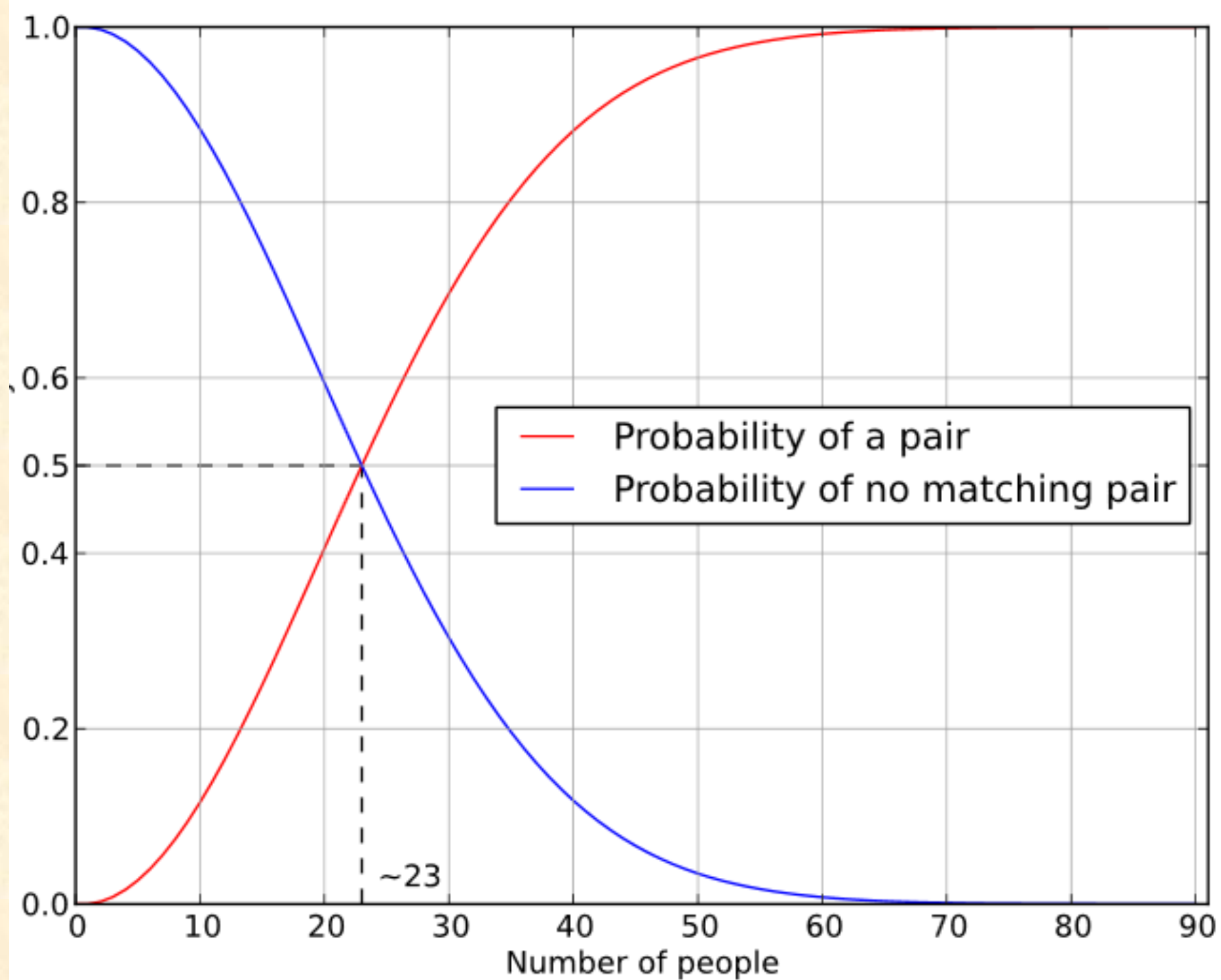
- De eerste groep koos overwegend voor een operatie: 84%
- Tweede groep slechts 50%
- Twee versies zijn nochtans logisch equivalent. 90% overleving impliceert 10% sterfte, en omgekeerd.
- Verschil in voorkeur wordt verklaard door “framing”: *overleving* klinkt beter dan *sterfte*.



TEDEd

# CHECK YOUR INTUITION: THE BIRTHDAY PROBLEM





# Météorite : Elle s'écrase sur la maison de Mme Comette à Paris



Écrit par Chloé M.

Mise à jour le 10 oct. 2011 16:16:34

# “Compulsive pattern seeking”

(patterns= meaning, causality, order...)



Humans are, by nature,  
pattern-seeking, storytelling  
animals, and we are quite adept at  
telling stories about patterns  
whether they exist or not.

— *Michael Shermer* —

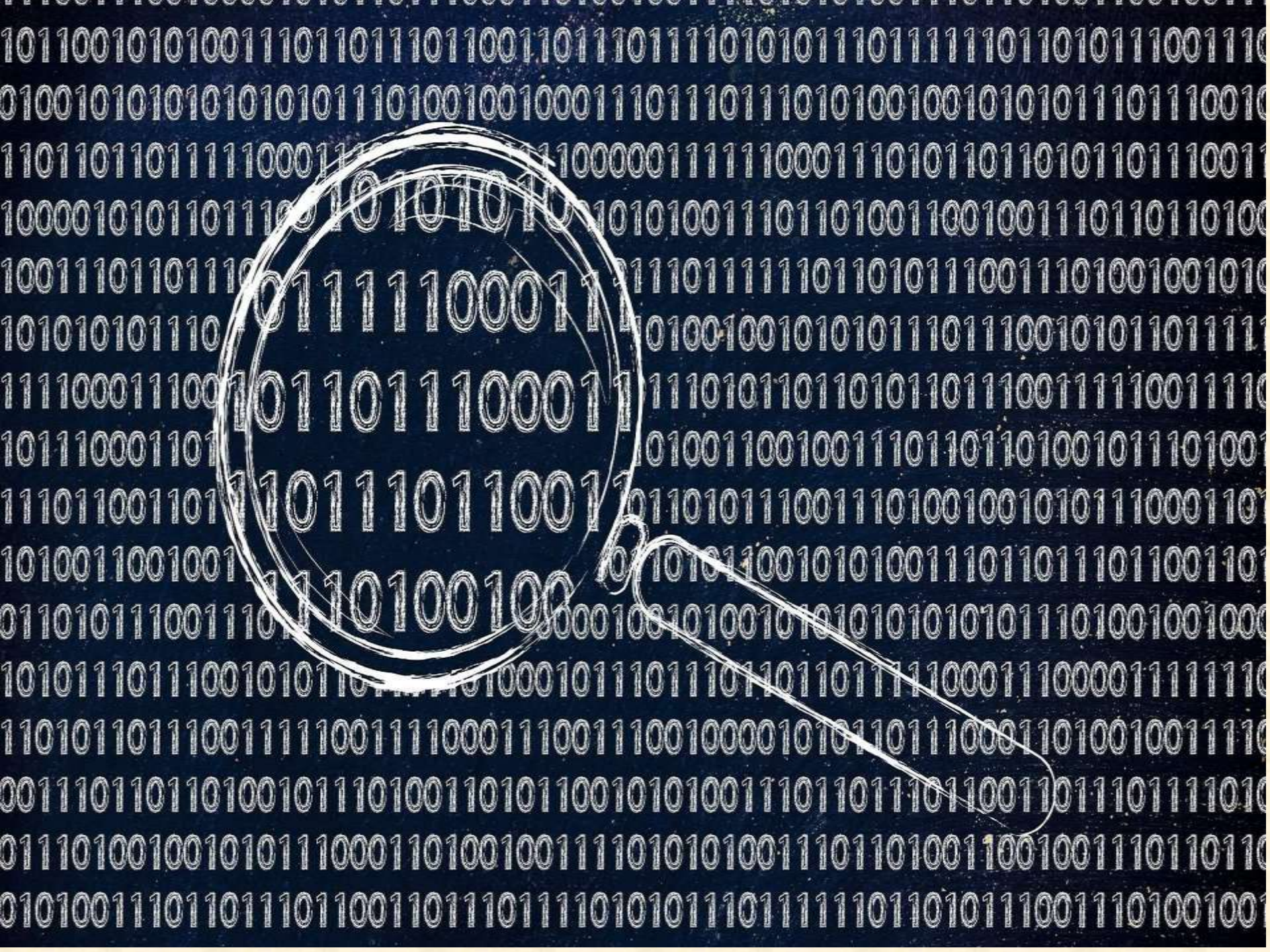


Marcel Mariën:

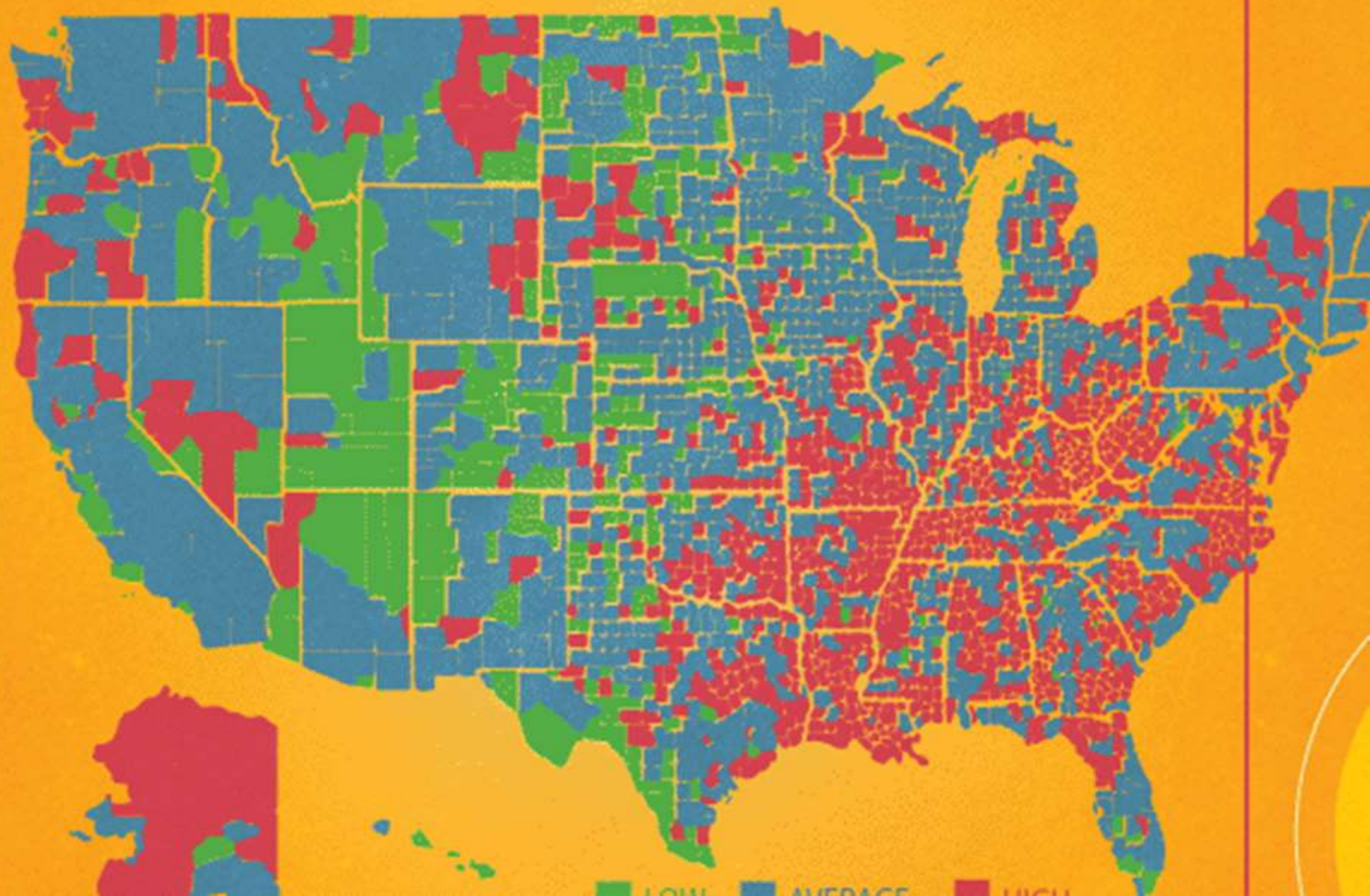
*La danseuse étoile.*







# THE CANCER HOTSPOTS





The confidence people have in their beliefs is not a measure of the quality of evidence but of the coherence of the story the mind has managed to construct.

— *Daniel Kahneman* —

AZ QUOTES







**IT'S THE END**

**IT'S FINALLY OVER**