SOURCE-RY

The Magic of Extemp Sources Or Defense Against Alternative Facts



Kristi Hodgkiss North Lamar High School kdhodgkiss@gmail.com Having a large number of people in a society who are misinformed is absolutely devastating and extremely difficult to cope with – Stephan Lewandowsky, University of Bristol

Long, long ago...

Back when Moses was on my extemp team...

We had tiny budgets and subscriptions to the "big three".

Gorbachey's Darkest Hour (So Far,

Yes, Bart, even you made the list





...or if we were really lucky...



ing the reflacy facts was Continued in Page Art. Column 1 Ballion

Flag at Reichstag Marks Start of a New Era at

Program for Marrow Donors

Ci Long

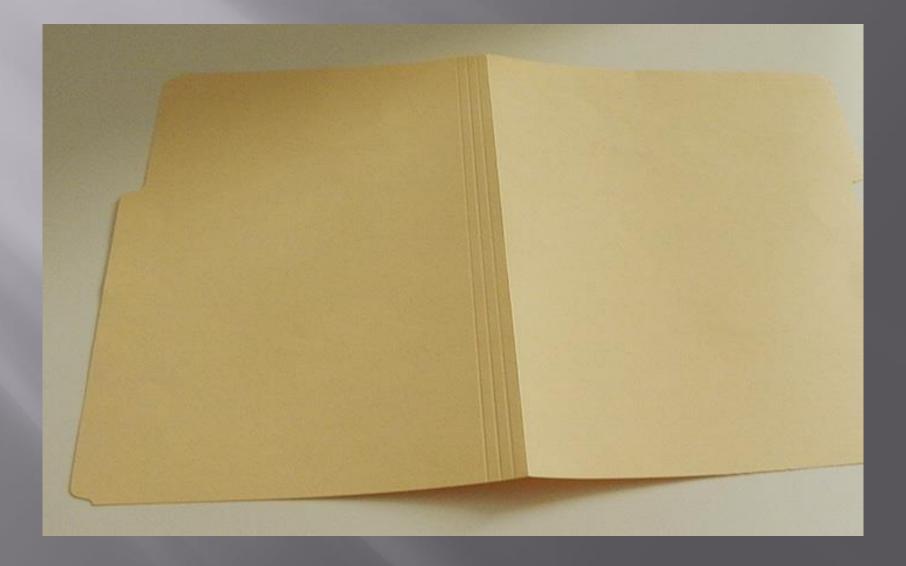








And even then...sometimes...



And then Al Gore invented the internet.





And then, finally...





Now the sky's the limit on sources!

- Lots of free newspapers and magazines online.Cheap computers.
- But that can also cause problems.
 - Ease in finding sources can lead us to use the wrong kinds of sources.
 - Wire reports
 - Opinion articles with no warrants
 - Blogs written by non-credible sources
 - Magazines or newspapers that are highly biased

Our goals today

Discuss most commonly used sources
 Discover less commonly used sources
 Decipher the difference
 Determine the best sources to use in a variety of situations

Discuss how to recognize and avoid bias and "alternative facts."

Two small caveats:

I am not an expert. Do what works best for your team.

This is not an all-inclusive list. Do your own research and find out what sources work best for you and your team.

Why do we source?

- add credibility
- clear up confusion
- provide empirical data



Sources do NOT...

... provide all of your analysis.
 ... provide a list of theories from experts.
 ... substitute for your own analysis.

Your goal is to

- integrate the ideas of the experts into your own analysis.
- read bits and pieces of analysis from the experts and synthesize these theories into your own.
- add your own personality.
- allow your own theories to guide your speech

The mental file cabinet

- Practice...Practice...Practice!!!
- Many topics, many topic areas
- Build a "mental file cabinet" with drawers for topic areas
- Draw a topic, assemble points from the drawers
- Open your files to get the most recent evidence



But to do that, you need GOOD sources!



The rise of viral fake news



Story: pedophile ring including members of the Democratic National Party was operating out of a the basement of a popular pizza restaurant in Washington DC.Response: man opens fire with an assault rifle.Note: The pizza place does not have a basement.

Pope Francis shocks world, endorses Trump for President. (WTOE Channel 5)



Trump Removes MLK Bust from White House (Time Magazine)



Trump sent his own plane to rescue stranded Marines. (Sean Hannity)



The State Department's Entire Administrative Team Just Resigned (Washington Post)



So what is "fake news?"

PolitiFact:

"Fake news is made-up stuff, masterfully manipulated to look like credible journalistic reports that are easily spread online to large audiences willing to believe the fictions and spread the word."

Fake News

- NewsWhip 10% of the 200 most engaged stories on social media about the two French presidential candidates in the two months before the election were from fake news sites.
- More than 30 % of the top 200 stories about the two U.S. presidential candidates were from fake news sites during the two months before the election.

BREAKING NEWS CONSUMER'S HANDBOOK

FAKE NEWS EDITION

- 1. Big red flags for fake news: ALL CAPS, or obviously photoshopped pics.
- 2. A glut of pop-ups and banner ads? Good sign the story is pure clickbait.
- 3. Check the domain! Fake sites often add ".co" to trusted brands to steal their luster. (Think: "abcnews.com.co")
- 4. If you land on an unknown site, check its "About" page. Then, Google it with the word "fake" and see what comes up.
- 5. If a story offers links, follow them. (Garbage leads to worse garbage.) No links, quotes, or references? Another telltale sign.
- 6. Verify an unlikely story by finding a reputable outlet reporting the same thing.
- 7. Check the date. Social media often resurrects outdated stories.
- 8. Read past headlines. Often they bear no resemblance to what lies beneath.
- 9. Photos may be misidentified and dated. Use a reverse image search engine like TinEye to see where an image *really* comes from.
- 10. Gut check. If a story makes you angry, it's probably designed that way.
- 11. Finally, if you're not sure it's true, don't share it! Don't. Share. It.



But there's a bigger problem for extempers

Media Bias

Wikipedia: the bias or perceived bias of journalists and news producers within the mass media in the selection of events and stories that are reported and how they are covered.

The term "media bias" implies a pervasive or widespread bias contravening the standards of journalism, rather than the perspective of an individual journalist or article.

Kinds of media bias

Coverage bias – issues or actors are more or less visible in the news

Agenda bias – coverage of issues or actors based on their ideology

Statement bias – framing of stories slanted toward a particular viewpoint

Kinds of media bias

Advertising bias – selecting stories to please advertisers

Concision bias – selecting stories that are easy to explain

Corporate bias – selecting stories to please owners

Mainstream bias – selecting stories that everyone else is reporting

Kinds of media bias

Sensationalism – favoring the exceptional – gives the impression that rare events are more frequent than common ones

Coverage of Immigration





The left: 1,500 children separated from parents at the border, lost
 Right: It's not like he's doing this to the people of Idaho or Texas.

Chyrons during Comey testimony

Comey: "Those were lies, plain and simple."

MSNBC	CNN	FOX
COMEY: TRUMP LIED ABOUT REASONS FOR FIRING	COMEY: TRUMP ADMIN LIED ABOUT ME & FBI	COMEY: CONCERNED PRES MIGHT LIE ABOUT MEETING

Comey discussing FBI role

MSNBCCNNCOMEY: WROTE MEETING
NOTES BECAUSE I
"KNEW" I MIGHT NEED
RECORD TO DEFEND
MYSELF, FBICOMEY: TRUMP ADMIN
"CHOSE TO DEFAME ME"
AND FBI

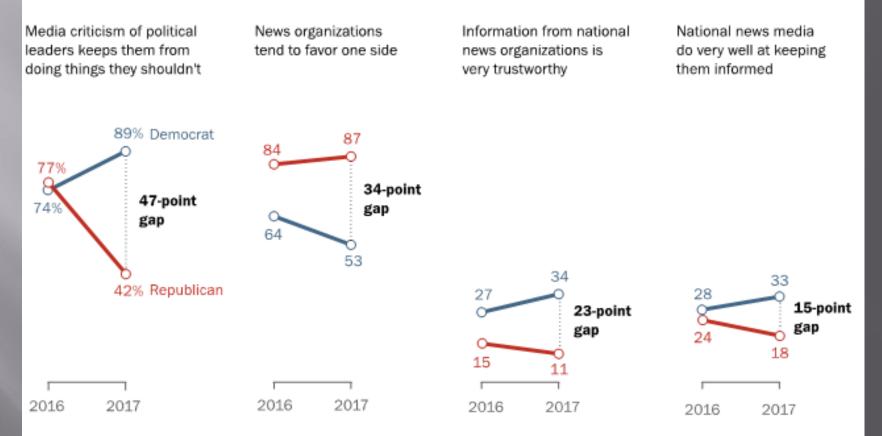
FOX

COMEY: THE PRESIDENT ONLY EVER ASKED ABOUT ONE FBI INVESTIGATION

Pew Research Report

Parties show more disagreement on attitudes about news media

% of U.S. adults who say ...



Note: Independents not shown.

Source: Surveys conducted March 13-27, 2017, and Jan. 12-Feb. 8, 2016. "Americans' Attitudes About the News Media Deeply Divided Along Partisan Lines"

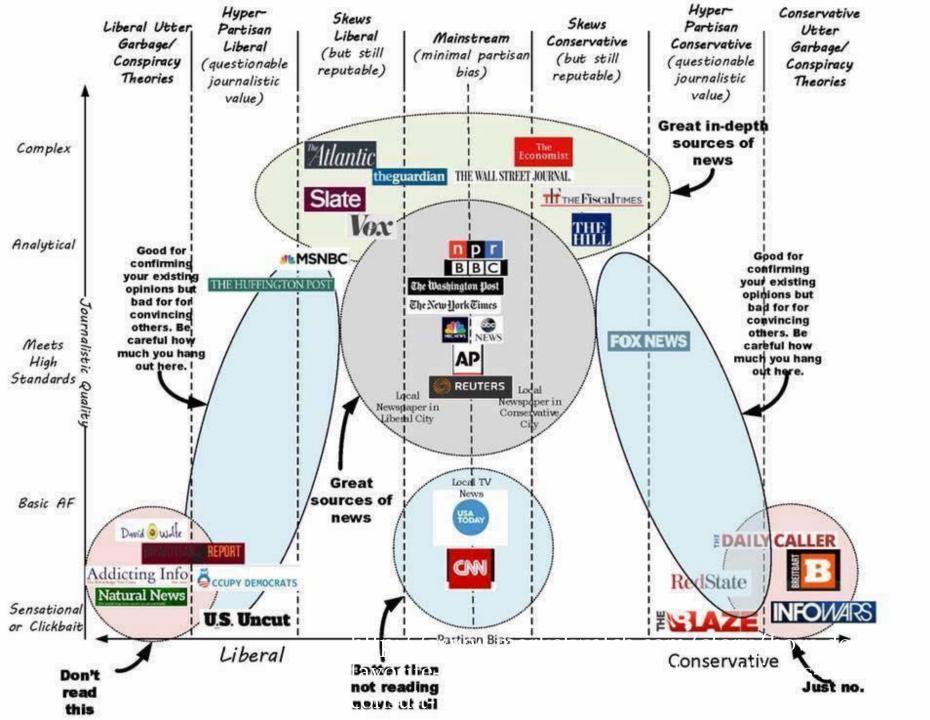
PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Recognizing and Avoiding Media Bias

- Be aware of sources Overuse of "official" sources Look for a more broad spectrum of sources Look for racial and gender diversity Look at the point of view Are those affected by the issue given a voice in coverage? ■ Is there a double standard?
- Do stereotypes skew coverage?

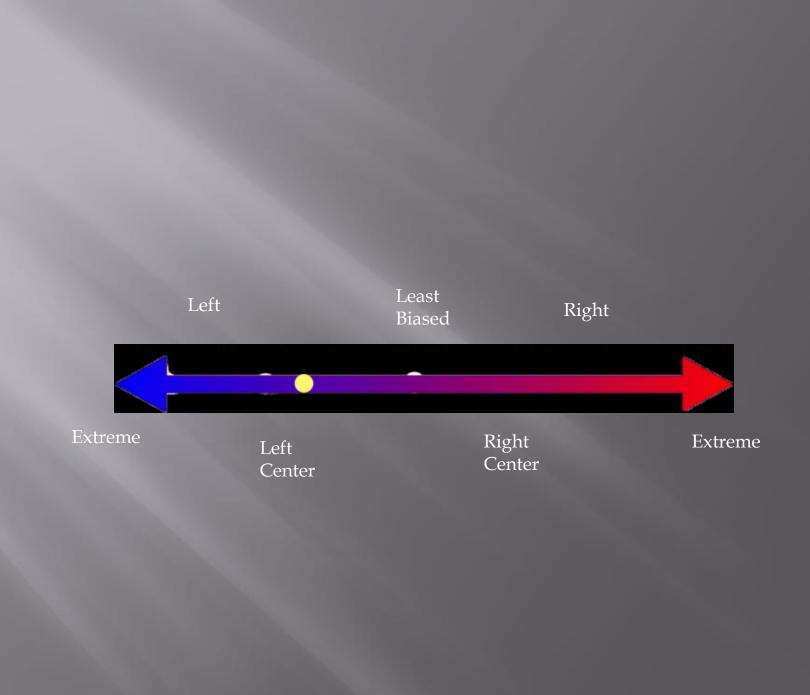
Recognizing and Avoiding Media Bias

- Unchallenged assumptions (ex: coverage of a woman's sexual history during a rape trial)
- Loaded language ("heart-wrenching tales" versus "stories)
- Lack of context
- Headlines and stories that don't match
- Prominent coverage of important issues



Mediabias fact check.com

Independent, online media outlet Methodology **Biased Wording** Factual/Sourcing (providing evidence and sources) **Story Choices** Political Affiliation (examination of ideology through content and wording)



Least Biased

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Right-Center

Extreme

Right

Left

Left-Center

Extreme

Foreign-policy think tank
 "dedicated to advancing cooperation between nations and promoting active international engagement by the United States"

Least Biased

China Daily



Daily Chinese newspaper with balanced coverage of US news

Center for Strategic and International Studies

Least Biased

Right-Center

Right

Extreme

Extreme

Left

Left-Center

 Factual reporting: Very High
 bipartisan, nonprofit policy research organization dedicated to providing strategic insights and policy solutions to help decisionmakers chart a course toward a better world.

Christian Science Monitor Extreme Left Left-Center Least Biased Right-Center Right Extreme

- Factual reporting: high
- international news organization that delivers global coverage
- very slight left leaning bias in reporting, but is always factual



Right-Center

Right

Extreme

Least Biased

Extreme

Left

center to left-center.

Left-Center

international daily newspaper with a special emphasis on business and economic news
 Reports news with minimal bias
 Has an editorial stance that ranges from right-



American journal of international relations and U.S. foreign policy
 Factual reporting: high
 published bimonthly by the Council on Foreign Relations, a nonprofit, 4,900-member organization, think tank and publisher that specializes in U.S. foreign policy and international effective

international affairs.

Extreme Left Left-Center Least Biased Right-Center Right Extreme

- Factual reporting: high
- American news publication focused on global affairs, current events, and domestic and international policy.



- Factual reporting: very high
- American research-based, global performancemanagement consulting company known for public opinion polls conducted worldwide
 provides research and strategic consulting to large organizations in many countries

International Business Times

Right-Center

Right

Extreme

Least Biased

Factual reporting: high

Left

Left-Center

Extreme

- online global business newspaper, sometimes called IBTimes or IBT
- news, analysis and editorial commentary on business and business-related stories

Peterson Institute for International Economics

- private and non-profit think tank focused on international economics
- According to the 2015 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report (Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania), Peterson is number 20 (of 150) in the "Top Think Tanks Worldwide" and number 13 (of 60) in the "Top Think Tanks in the United States."



Factual reporting: Very high

Extreme

- nonpartisan American think tank
- provides information on social issues, public opinion, and demographic trends shaping the United States and the world
- conducts public opinion polling, demographic research, media content analysis, and other empirical social science research



solid "just the facts" news source
Factual reporting: very high
Editorials: slight left



- Factual reporting: high
- nonprofit media organization
- alternative news source for Texas, with a goal of supplementing mainstream media sources



Extreme

Factual reporting: highStaffed with economists

Extreme



Factual reporting: very high
Biased toward Israel
Centrist in global affairs



Factual reporting: highUS and international news



- national American daily middle-market newspaper
- 3rd largest distribution rate in the United States
 simple to read format for general audiences.
- very slight left leaning editorial bias

Left Center

- Al Jazeera
- Atlantic
- Brookings Institute
- Chicago Tribune
- FiveThirtyEight
- Houston Chronicle
- Los Angeles Times
- Newsday
- Newsweek
- New York Times
- Politico
- The Guardian
- The Hill
- Time
- US News and World Report
- Washington Post

Right Center

- Boston Herald
- Cato Institute
- Council on Foreign Relations
- Dallas Morning News
- Forbes
- Hoover Institution
- Mises Daily
- Real Clear Politics
- Wall Street Journal
- Washington Times

Left Bias

- Center for American Progress
- Center for Media and Democracy
- CNN
- Current Affairs
- Daily Beast
- Daily Mirror
- MSNBC
- New Republic
- New Yorker
- Salon
- Slate
- Talking Points Memo
- The Nation
- Vox

Right Bias

- American Spectator
- American Thinker
- Breitbart
- Fox News
- Heritage Foundation
- Independent Journal Review
- National Review
- Newsmax
- □ The Blaze

Wall Street Journal

- Largest circulation newspaper in the US
- Factual Reporting: high
- Editorial page: conservative (must-read for Republicans in Washington)



 Global standard bearer for excellence in broadcast radio and TV journalism
 Factual reporting: very high
 Always impeccably sourced

The "big three"

- □ Time <u>www.time.com</u>
- Newsweek www.newsweek.com
- US News and World Report www.usnews.com
 - Cover the main issues
 - Enjoyable reads
 - Standard for beginners and moderately successful extempers
 - Weak analysis
 - No longer considered really reputable sources for extemp
 - Bottom line: these sources do not go into the depth of analysis necessary for a successful advanced extemp speech. Spend your valuable time on more substantial sources.

What to consider when selecting sources

- Look for sound information and depth of analysis
- Look for sources that demonstrate a specialty in a field or region
- Look for sources with expertise not found anywhere else
- Cite sources from both sides of the political spectrum

- a similar tool is used to mailer and without a lot. Treus to believe that someone is noest and means on har
- Consider the credentials of the authors
- Avoid sources that use their own reporters as evidence

The foundation of your tubs

- New York Times
- Christian Science Monitor
- Washington Post
 Wall Street Journal
 Los Angeles Times
 Foreign Affairs
 The Economist
 Foreign Policy



The New York Times

- A "newspaper of record" for the United States
- Respected source for national and international news
- Good regional coverage
- Sometimes accused of liberal bias
- www.nytimes.com
- 10 articles per month without a subscription.
- □ Hint: go incognito, clear cookies



Christian Science Monitor

- Don't let the name fool you!
- Daily newspaper out of Boston perhaps the most objective in the world
- Covers both domestic and foreign issues
- Great depth of analysis well-rounded approach
- Great at spotting trends in politics, business, industry, and culture

www.csmonitor.com



Washington Post

- Washington "insider"
- Covers politics and national news
- Thorough coverage of international affairs 16 foreign bureaus
- Investigative journalism looks into government policies and actions on The Hill.
- Tends to have a liberal slant
- www.washingtonpost.com



Wall Street Journal

- New York based newspaper
- The definitive publication dealing with the stock market and economic issues
- Useful for the grasping difficult economic issues
- Articles written by experts in the field
- Deep and accurate analysis
- Requires subscription but some articles are available without one
- online.wsj.com



Los Angeles Times

- One of the most respected national papers in the US
- Covers domestic and foreign issues reliably
- Slightly liberal influence
- Reliable source that can be used on almost every issue
 Cos Angeles Times

www.latimes.com



Foreign Affairs

- True journal of Foreign issues
- Covers US foreign policy goals and interests
- Covers trends in world politics
- Articles written by some of the most influential political scientists and international affairs experts in the world.
- Many articles remain relevant for years after their publication and can influence world events by themselves.



www.foreignaffairs.com

The Economist

- The Bible of foreign and domestic issues.
- Covers politics, world affairs, cultural issues as well as economics.
- Every article could be an extemp question
- Tournament Directors look to Economist to write questions.
- May require subscription

www.economist.com

How to feed the world The Economist NOVEMBER 2557-2704 2009

Obama's timid trip to Asia Peter Drucker, still king of the gurus Remote control for your car The scientist who saw Nessie

Dealing with America's fiscal hole



Other sources to consider

Consider using region-specific sources

For foreign topics, you should include sources from the region or country in question.



Middle East Times

www.mideast-times.com

- Based in Egypt
- Excellent for MEPP
- Some bias but still helpful





Financial Times

www.ft.com

Based in London
 THE international economic source
 Covers both European and US economic issues
 May require subscription



South China Morning Post

www.scmp.com

Asian



	Based in Hong Kong
	Fairly objective Asiar
	news source
	In-depth coverage
	Some problems with press freedom in
	China

CRASH



The Statesman

www.thestatesman.net

 Based in India
 Excellent coverage of India, Pakistan, and the relations between the two

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All Africa

www.allafrica.com

Sources more than 40 newspapers from all the countries on the continent



Sydney Morning Herald

- www.smhu.com.au
- Australia and New Zealand

smh.com.au The Sydney Morning Herald

The Guardian

<u>http://www.theguardian.com/us</u>

Fairly reliable source for British news
Some liberal bias



For before an works, we do sume the functional factors, A says work there will be view that were will a safe of such and we same data gradient to the free before view that watch a beat and that A pert 2011. The fore same that the sum of the gradient to an advect the exception gradient will be exceeding the table of the beat and the same of the same that the same of the same



BBC News

www.bbc.com/news/
 Good reporting from all over the world
 Country Profiles
 Backgrounders





Look for sources specific to your topic

Politics

- Roll Call Insider's source on the workings of congress provides excellent facts and figures. -<u>http://www.rollcall.com/</u>
- Political Science Quarterly nonpartisan journal with indepth approach to political issues and trends -<u>www.psqonline.org</u>
- Congressional Research Service component of the Library of Congress that does research for Congress on a wide variety of topics of national policy <u>–</u> <u>http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/</u>
 Politico <u>http://www.politico.com/</u>



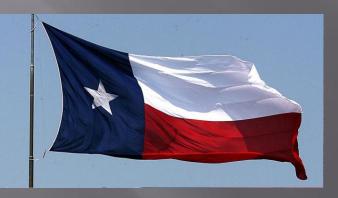
Business Week

- Offers unique insight on how important issues will influence the economy and affect business in the United States as well as abroad.
- Editorials in every issue that explore and analyze a wide variety of issues.
- www.businessweek.com





- Houston Chronicle <u>www.chron.com</u>
- Dallas Morning News <u>www.dallasnews.com</u>
- Texas Tribune <u>www.texastribune.org</u>
- Austin American Statesman -<u>www.statesman.com</u>



Education Next

- <u>http://educationnext.org/</u>
- Journal of opinion and research on education
- Education policy

School Reform



Straddling the Gap Democratic Party schism may challenge Obama



IN THIS ISSUE: Co-op Schools, Custom Teacher Training, History of KIPP, For-Profit Advantage in Philadelphia, Teachers Retirement, Massachusetts Tosses Ed Reforms

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Think Tanks

- Definition: a body of experts providing advice and ideas on specific political or economic problems.
- Can be funded by donors with specific agendas
 can be biased
- Almost 7,000 think tanks available
- Watch for credibility of authors



Why use think tanks?

- Well-researched
- Depth of analysis
- Even if biased, reports are legitimate

Top Think Tanks (determined by public foreign policy experts)

- 1. Brookings Institution (United States)
 - 2. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (United States) 3. Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) (United States)

 - 4. Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) (United States)
 - 5. RAND Corporation (United States)
 - 6. Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (United States)
 - 7. American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (AEI) (United States)
 - 8. Pew Research Center (United States)
 - 9. Heritage Foundation (United States)
 - 10. Cato Institute (United States)

 - Center for American Progress (CAP) (United States)
 Peterson Institute for International Economics (United States)
 - 13. National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) (United States)

Brookings Institute

- American think tank based in Washington, D.C.
- Conducts research and education in the social sciences, primarily in economics, metropolitan policy, governance, foreign policy, and global economy and development.
- Also does work in Middle Eastern and defense studies
- Media describe Brookings as "liberal-centrist" or "centrist." but also cited frequently by conservative politicians – considered middle of the road by most studies
- The most frequently cited think tank by the U.S. media and politicians.
- Funded by corporations like ExxonMobil and by several governments (US, Japan, UK)
- www.brookings.edu

Cato Institute

- Based in Washington, D.C.
- Established to have a focus on public advocacy, media exposure and societal influence
- Foreign policy, economy, constitutional issues, environment
- Largely libertarian in outlook
- Cited in opposition to things like affirmative action, minimum wage
- Support for smaller government and highly individualistic interpretations of the constitution

www.cato.org

Heritage Foundation

- Conservative in nature
- Works with Wall Street Journal
- Publishes studies on economic freedom in countries
 - Defined as property rights and freedom from government regulation
- Insurance mandate originally the idea of Heritage

American Enterprise Institute

- American think tank in Washington DC
- Stated mission is "to defend the principles and improve the institutions of American freedom and democratic capitalism — limited government, private enterprise, individual liberty and responsibility, vigilant and effective defense and foreign policies, political accountability, and open debate".
- www.aei.org

American Foreign Policy Council

- Conservative non-profit U.S. foreign policy think tank
- Foreign and defense policy specialists provide information to members of US Congress, the Executive Branch, and the US policymaking community and world leaders
- Publishes strategic reports and other reports monitoring the policy progress of other countries from a conservative standpoint (particularly Russia, China, countries in the Middle East and in Asia). Common topics include security (missile defense, arms control, energy security, espionage) as well as the ongoing status of democracy and market economies in countries of interest.
- www.afpc.org

Science and Technology

- CNET
- Science Daily
- Wired
- Scientific American
- Journal of the American Medical Association
- American Journal of Public Health
- New England Journal of Medicine

Supreme Court / Law / Legislative

Congressional Quarterly
Harvard Journal on Legislation
SCOTUSblog
The Hill
Roll Call

Military / Law

- Center for Strategic and International Studies
- Armed Forces Journal
- Army Times
- Congressional Research Service
- International Institute for Strategic Studies
- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

Environment

Energy PolicyWorld Resources Institute

Education

- Chronicle of Higher Education
- Education Weekly
- Journal of Higher Education
- American Educational Research Council
- National Education Policy Center

Others

- Congressional Budget Office
- Economic Policy Institute
- American Institute for Economic Research

Questionable

- National Review –considered too far right wing by many judges to be sourced (good investigative articles)
- The New Republic liberally biased political magazine
- The Weekly Standard highly opinionated and biased conservative journal
- The Week we do use this one
- Op-Ed articles depending on author
- Blogs check credentials

Mostly avoid

Television media

- CNN
- Fox News
- MSNBC
- Wire sources
 - Reuters
 - AP



These sources are good for building your knowledge of news but do not provide the in-depth analysis of the news that you need – they report, not analyze.

Appropriate uses of sources

Avoid using the same source twice in a speech

- Unless it's to show a contradiction
- Or unless both articles are so compelling it's unavoidable
- Makes speech seem one-sided
- Use sources that are native to the topic area
- Use a source in the intro for justification
- Use two sources per topic area
- 1st source to provide the data (newspaper)
 2nd source to aid in analysis (think tank)
 Total of 7-10 points per speech



Questions?

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