

# FAKE NEWS + MEDIA BIAS



## HOW DO WE GET THE POLITICS OUT OF JOURNALISM?

### KEY IDEA

The key to bridging our political divide is the willingness to set aside pre-existing beliefs and integrate new facts into a shared understanding of the world; **consilience**.

### KEY FACTS

Reasoning is about being right.

We're **motivated reasoners**: we have “my-side bias”.

We become **critical thinkers** through deliberation with ourselves and others.

**Confirmation bias** is the tendency to search for, interpret, and remember information in a way that confirms one's pre-existing beliefs.

**Viewpoint diversity** is the only way to counteract it.

People experience and process different worlds. This is primarily due to **neurobiology** — how minds produce behavior. Understanding this is the key to effective engagement.

People come equipped with **moral intuitions**: a set of innate psychological mechanisms that automatically trigger emotionally based moral responses to the situations we encounter in our social environment; moral “tastebuds”.

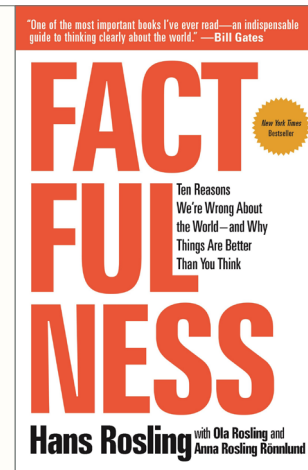
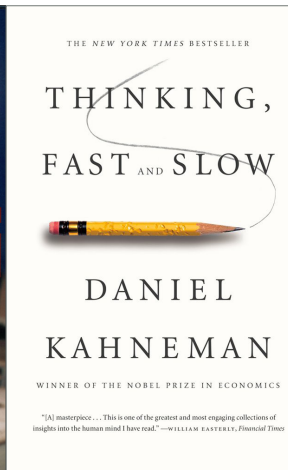
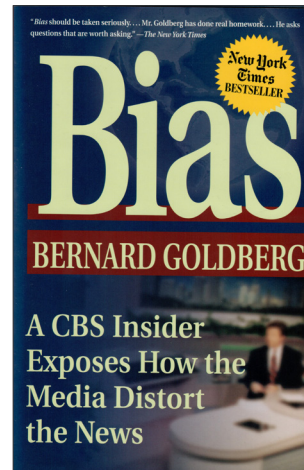
**Availability bias** is the tendency to make inferences based on the ease with which things come to mind; “what we remember”.

**Framing bias** is the tendency for people react to information in different ways depending on how it's presented to them; “point of view”.

If I'm not changing my mind regularly, then I know I'm not thinking.



# RECOMMENDED READING



**Marla Estes** founded School of the Examined Life to foster personal growth by teaching human psychology using film. She created **BRIDGING THE DIVIDE** to address the political polarization in our country.

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**Rob Schläpfer** is a former Evangelical pastor, professor, and publisher. He uses the **science** of human nature to point the way toward a more realistic, knowledge-based way of seeing and understanding the world.

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## BRIDGING THE DIVIDE

We teach **psychology** for **democracy** and promote **viewpoint** diversity — giving people exposure to the best ideas on both sides.

