

1: Against conventional wisdom: when the public, the media, and medical practice collide

For the past twenty-five years, the United States has undergone a retrogression in its socioeconomic policies—facilitated and supported by most economists—thanks to the steady drumbeat of arguments by entrepreneurs and politicians who celebrate the free market for anything and everything and who.

One of the first steps required to move out of The Herd is to see the world from a slightly different vantage point. This often requires rejecting what is conveniently termed: Herd Inertia The Herd, by its very nature, moves in the same direction long beyond the point when it makes sense to continue to do so. In the start-up world, the popular press encourages this Herd behavior by initially overselling new technologies and then prematurely trashing them when they fail to meet the overly optimistic, unrealistic expectations that are initially set. For expediency, journalists often characterize the world in black-and-white terms. As such, entrepreneurs on The Fringe cannot rely on the popular press to determine the merit of new opportunities. Business journalists are much like Hollywood gossip reporters who quickly build up a new celebrity and then immediately accentuate flaws in order to destroy the idol they helped to create. Controversy sells, so the angle of many business articles is: In each case, popular press journalists over-estimated the customer adoption rate and under-estimated the technological challenges that remained unresolved. Thus, a good rule of thumb for assessing whether or not a particular technology is ready for prime time is if it has shown up on the cover of a major business magazine, heralded as the next big thing. If so, it may be too early. Conversely, if the popular press declares a new technology as dead, it may be the right time to enter the market and explore the opportunity. The graph below depicts the usual manner in which high tech trends are treasured and then trashed by the media. Once the dust settles and a technology evolves into a value-added solution, journalists often rediscover the technology often under a new acronym or name and again herald its benefits. In *The Black Swan*, Nassim Taleb does an excellent job of highlighting numerous real-world examples in which actual events run counter to what Conventional Wisdom predicted. His premise is that conventional wisdom does a poor job of anticipating exceedingly rare events. Radio and Baseball The first radio broadcast of a professional baseball game was on August 15, 1920. Why the year delay? Most major league owners initially believed that radio broadcasts would negatively impact ballpark attendance. Why would someone pay to attend a game when they can sit in the comfort of their home and listen to it for free? What these owners did not realize is that radio immersed fans in the games in ways that were previously not possible. It also allowed fans to establish personal rapport with players which was previously not possible by sporadically attending a few games each season. Conventional Wisdom dictated that the proliferation of bootlegs would supplant the market for concert tickets and commercial recordings. Even through the ganja haze, the Dead knew better. Some fans began to collect show recordings. Others began following the band on tour. It seems everyone knows someone who substantiates their Deadhead status by proclaiming the dozens of Dead shows they have attended. This lack of insight is one of the reasons they are still with The Herd. Conventional Wisdom dictates that more employees, more office space, and more locations are better. This could not be further from the truth. In most Western Cultures, Conventional Wisdom dictates that bigger is better. In business, this truism is based on the belief that Big Dumb Companies BDCs are effective competitors because of their size and access to resources. In nature, it is true that the big often eat the small. However, it is also true that in many instances, the fast eats the slow. A frayed tail generates less propulsion and thus significantly slows down the larger fish. This effectively results in a living, breathing, future source of fresh food. In a contained environment, like an aquarium, the Triggerfish can then dine on the larger fish at its leisure. Just as the quick eat the slow in nature, so is it true in business. Despite this reality, too many companies focus on getting big as fast as possible. In many cases, the wrong metrics are emphasized. Yes, getting bigger is an appropriate goal, as long as size is defined by the appropriate metrics. As you lead your company, keep it nimble by growing the right metrics, such as profit per employee, profit per location, profit per square foot leased do you sense a pattern here? Still think bigger is really better? The Doom brand i. It sold less than 30, copies. The game was as bloated as the company — too many worlds, too many characters, too much of everything. He went on to start a new

company, Monkeystone Games. This time, he maintained a lean staff of a few talented engineers. Get on The Fringe and question Conventional Wisdom. The Herd slowly recognizes and accepts the truth, while entrepreneurs with the proper frame of reference quickly understand and adapt to new frontiers as they evolve rather than once they are self-evident. You cannot control the frontiers which avail themselves, but you can make the most of them by understanding that Conventional Wisdom is often not wise. John Greathouse John Greathouse is a Partner at Rincon Venture Partners , a venture capital firm investing in early stage, web-based businesses. John is a CPA and holds an M. All of my advice in this blog is that of a layman. I am not a lawyer and I never played one on TV. You should always assess the veracity of any third-party advice that might have far-reaching implications be it legal, accounting, personnel, tax or otherwise with your trusted professional of choice.

2: Contrarian investors can bet against conventional wisdom and win big!

Conventional wisdom definition is - the generally accepted belief, opinion, judgment, or prediction about a particular matter. How to use conventional wisdom in a sentence. the generally accepted belief, opinion, judgment, or prediction about a particular matter.

The Supplement Editors declare that they have no competing interests. This article has been cited by other articles in PMC. Abstract Background In , the U. Preventive Services Task Force released new mammography screening guidelines that sparked a torrent of criticism. The subsequent conflict was significant and pitted the Task Force against other health organizations, advocacy groups, the media, and the public at large. We argue that this controversy was driven by the systematic removal of uncertainty from science communication. To increase comprehension and adherence, health information communicators remove caveats, limitations, and hedging so science appears simple and more certain. This streamlining process is, in many instances, initiated by researchers as they engage in dissemination of their findings, and it is facilitated by public relations professionals, journalists, public health practitioners, and others whose tasks involve using the results from research for specific purposes. Uncertainty management theory posits that people can find meaning and value in uncertainty. We define key terms relevant to uncertainty management, describe research on the processing of uncertainty, identify directions for future research, and offer recommendations for scientists, practitioners, and media professionals confronted with uncertain findings. Conclusions Science is routinely simplified as it is prepared for public consumption. In line with the model of information overload, this practice may increase short-term adherence to recommendations at the expense of long-term message consistency and trust in science. Introduction In , the U. In , the USPSTF altered their recommendations such that biennial screening for women from age 50 to 74 received a B grade and biennial screening for women from age 40 to 49 was downgraded to a C grade. The new recommendation of the USPSTF was challenged by other organizations and patient advocacy groups as it was in direct conflict with the guidelines that had been communicated“by those groups and the USPSTF“for years [2]. One interpretation of this controversy is that the USPSTF encountered problems not because their message was perceived as unsubstantiated or inaccurate, but rather that it deviated from recommendations of the past in a fairly significant manner. Past communication about mammography had focused on a simple message: Women should have an annual mammogram starting at age 40 because screening saves lives. This message was a central component of health education efforts devoted to cancer, and advocacy groups were mobilized across the United States in support of retaining annual mammographic screening as recommended practice. However, the uncertainties of the benefits and harms associated with annual mammography were rarely included in these advocacy efforts. The USPSTF had acknowledged these uncertainties in its own reports, but changing the resulting recommendation based on these uncertainties created the appearance of a discrepant message or a flip-flop [3]. Changing the recommendation for women aged 40“49 from a B grade to a C grade suggested that the USPSTF had incorrectly categorized the certainty of the mammography in the past i. It is clear in hindsight that the USPSTF members did not fully appreciate how contradictory their recommendation was or the potential backlash it would invoke at the time that the recommendation was published [4]. The researchers and research-oriented practitioners who comprised the USPSTF believed that there were significant uncertainties concerning the value of mammography screening. Those uncertainties were known within the research community, and results from simulation research were starting to suggest the need for alterations in the screening guidelines [1]. Unfortunately, the USPSTF members and other contributors to the effort did not appreciate how the new recommendation would be received by members of the public e. Nor did they appreciate how the public would perceive a downgrade in their recommendation. The controversy over mammography guidelines raises significant questions about the communication of health recommendations, including: What went wrong in this situation? Who had responsibility for the significant misjudgment concerning the public reaction? How could it have been avoided? Based on these questions, we argue that this controversy is a predictable response to the systematic removal of uncertainty from the public communication

of scientific content; a problem that undermines the credibility of science and confuses the public [5 - 10]. In other words, the mammography controversy was symptomatic of larger structural problems undermining the public dissemination of science rather than an isolated incident. The goal of this article is to articulate how conflicts of this type arise and to review possible means of redress. Background The public learns about research primarily through media—television, the Internet, and newspapers. These channels are used to convey recommendations from official entities e. This approach is necessary because few people have direct access to the research enterprise. Thus, the media disseminate research findings—a somewhat uncomfortable situation that often places media-focused enterprises and outlets at the center of scientific debates [12]. To understand the tension of this dissemination process, it is pivotal to know that scientists and journalists have distinct professional norms that often conflict [7]. Scientists value uncertainty, and this leads them to favor hedged discourse and longer, denser prose [13 , 14]. Journalists value concise narratives that represent myriad perspectives to achieve balanced coverage [15 , 16]. One can easily see this tension by comparing an academic journal article to its subsequent news coverage. Such comparisons reveal that news coverage of research often maximizes conflict by providing space to divergent voices—which are routinely manufactured or magnified to maximize conflict—and frequently omits the caveats, limitations, and uncertainties presented in the original journal reports [7 , 9 , 10 , 12 , 17 - 20]. Conflicting professional norms have led scientists to go through periods of media engagement and withdrawal. In the early s, scientists embarked on a period of media engagement driven largely by the efforts of the Progressives—a term used to describe groups involved in a massive reform movement in the United States from approximately to —who viewed research as the guiding force of reform [22]. During the Progressive Era, scientists were trained to streamline their messages when communicating with the public to ensure that science was the voice of authority in matters of policy [14 , 15]. This period of media engagement was followed by a significant withdrawal near the middle of the 20th century. Moreover, concerns about the relationship between science and the media ultimately led others to eschew publication of research that was prematurely disseminated to the public. Thus, Ingelfinger advocated a divide between scientists and media professionals to protect scientific inquiry from the negative influences of hasty public dissemination. Both Popper and Ingelfinger seemed to appreciate that media professionals value a definitive claim, and that once that claim is made it could undermine or jeopardize scientific credibility. More recently, science seems to be moving back toward engagement. Scientists are once again seeking training in how to interact with media professionals [25 , 26]. Not surprisingly, this training often focuses on simplifying scientific statements so they appear more certain and presumably more lucid for nonscientists. The Progressives supported this approach to solidify scientists as key decision makers, but modern advocates of simplification are interested in increasing comprehension and adherence among members of larger audiences, including the general public. The health literacy and plain language movements, for example, both posit that crafting scientific information for public consumption is primarily a process of simplification [27]. As science returns to media engagement, some have cautioned that effective communication of scientific information should be guided by the philosophy of science e. The basic assumption of this approach is that conflict among scientists, the media, and the public will occur, but the emergence of such conflict should be a secondary concern among those charged with the communication of scientific information. Their primary concern should be to foster a conversation that includes uncertainty, rather than streamlining messages to achieve what are often short-term objectives in conveying a specific point. In the analysis section, the logic, evidence, and future directions of this alternative strategy are outlined. Analysis Streamlining and uncertainty Two key terms need to be defined for this discussion: Streamlining is the process of removing information as a message moves through communication channels. In science, Star [28] argued that streamlining often begins with researchers as they omit countless details from their research reports. Of course, streamlining is necessary as it is impossible to include all details in a message. For example, researchers might note that the temperature of their laboratory was kept at 72 F during the study but fail to mention relative humidity as they view that as irrelevant. The streamlining process continues as research is moved forward by researchers positioning their work for publication and after publication as public relations professionals craft shorter press releases to drive media coverage. Journalists further streamline the material to fit the space requirements of their publication,

and additional streamlining may occur when news coverage is reappropriated by bloggers, social media, or even in interpersonal conversation. What information is streamlined in science communication? Two factors are systematically removed during the streamlining process: Scientific discourse is more lexically complex than other forms of communication [29], and the removal of jargon or multisyllabic terms is standard practice when preparing a document for public consumption [27]. This practice often lowers the reading level of the message, which may benefit audiences with lower literacy [30], although the costs and benefits of reducing lexical complexity have yet to be fully investigated [27]. In an effort to reduce lexical complexity, communicators frequently cut uncertainty from the message as well. Uncertainty is both a perception and a message feature. A person can feel uncertain and a message can convey uncertainty. As a message feature, uncertainty is cut to reduce lexical complexity and because many communicators believe that audiences want to reduce or avoid uncertainty [32 - 34]. Uncertainty management theory, on the other hand, posits that people sometimes prefer uncertainty [31]. Identifying when and why people prefer uncertainty is the primary objective of uncertainty management research. Uncertainty in science comes in at least two forms: Lexical uncertainty occurs when a communicator uses hedging e. Discourse-based uncertainty occurs when a communicator provides a reason that a claim is uncertain. For instance, if researchers note that a study used tomato powder instead of tomatoes, and thus the impact of tomatoes is still unknown, that would be an example of discourse-based uncertainty. Streamlining, uncertainty, and the public communication of science Public communication of science moves fast, perhaps faster than scientists recognize. The desire for definitive information on pressing issues of the day can foster a culture of short, overly certain messages that seem to change over time. An infamous example of this tendency is news coverage of margarine and butter. For several decades, researchers have examined the relative health benefits of margarine and butter. Individual studies have yielded data supporting one or the other and sometimes neither , which has led to a series of stories touting margarine over butter, then butter over margarine, then margarine over butter, and so on [36 , 37]. Research on this topic is relatively uncertain, yet news coverage has often presented the issue as certain and in line with the findings of each new study. The margarine-versus-butter storyline is typical of news coverage in that science is often presented in brief stories that seem to flip-flop over time [38]. This flip-flopping is driven by journalistic norms that cut lexical and discourse-based uncertainty and favor conflict and newsworthiness [39]. Despite a renewed interest in simplification, the reality is that public communication of science typically is simple in the short term , and this fact can produce confusion in the long term. For example, the controversy about the USPSTF mammography guidelines was predicated by decades of simple, adherence-focused communication. Simple messages advocating annual mammography increased adherence among U. Streamlining communication may maximize behavioral response, but that same simplicity potentially triggers backlash if the recommendation needs to be changed. In other words, the controversy about the USPSTF mammography guidelines was, in many respects, a classic margarine-versus-butter situation. Uncertainty and the public Research suggests that many adults have limited health and science literacy [27]. In light of these skill deficiencies, communicating scientific uncertainty to the public may sound like a misguided idea. However, lexical complexity and uncertainty are distinct message features. That is, there is nothing about uncertainty that requires lexical complexity. Mice and people are not the same. We do not know if it will work in people.

3: About Turnout and Margins: Against the Conventional Wisdom | HuffPost

Conventional wisdom is the body of ideas or explanations generally accepted as true by the public and/or by experts in a field.

Contrarian investors can bet against conventional wisdom to win. Consensus thinking and conventional wisdom both have an emotional characteristic that can persuade even the most disciplined skeptic to do the wrong thing at the wrong time. It has been my experience that contrarian investors can bet against conventional wisdom and win. Sometimes, consensus thinking or conventional wisdom is correct. For instance, all safe drivers would agree that heeding a stop sign prevents accidents. In that case, their conventional wisdom is logical and based on sound reason. Stop signs can prevent potential accidents at intersections. In some cases, stop signs can even save lives. Without the sound foundation of logic and reason, consensus thinking and conventional wisdom can be swept away by emotions. Misguided, emotional groupthink and consensus thinking can cause market manias and bubbles. In the world of investing, we can all think of times when widely accepted conventional wisdom and groupthink indicated a major inflection point in the markets. Recent examples of major inflection points exacerbated by emotional groupthink and faulty conventional wisdom: I remember paying a visit to my discount stock brokerage firm in early 2000, and all the brokers and their customers were talking about Enron. Everybody was excited about buying Enron. The consensus wisdom said that this stock would make investors rich! It was easy for me to see that Enron had too much debt and would have difficulty surviving if energy prices declined. I am thankful that my logical evaluation of Enron and sound reasoning kept me from being swept into the emotionally charged and bullish consensus thinking surrounding that debt-ridden oil and gas company. This was one time that my detached, unemotional evaluation saved me lots of money. Other investors were not so lucky. Thousands of Enron employees put everything they could into Enron stock. Some even mortgaged their homes to buy Enron stock. They were sure they would become wealthy. Instead, they lost their retirement, their jobs, and any hopes for a worry-free retirement. Dot-com tech stock bubble to In 2000, I bought a tech stock. The stock I bought had no debt and even paid a dividend. Despite being cheap, the conventional wisdom was that technology stocks would continue to do poorly because of slow growth in China. In fact, the convention wisdom was correct. After I bought the stock, it continued going down. Despite having lost equity in my tech stock position, I bought more. At that low point, no investors wanted to own technology stocks. However, I was a contrarian investor and was happy with my purchases. The stock was a bargain. A year passed, and slowly technology stocks recovered. Conventional wisdom urges investors to pay up for tech stocks. By the end of 2000, I saw the price of technology stocks make exponential gains. At that point, the consensus thinking and conventional wisdom had changed. Now, after the stocks prices of technology stocks had dramatically gone up in price, everybody wanted to own them, and they were willing to pay any price to participate. Only 2 years after my initial purchase, my once unloved tech stock had gone up 6-fold. Now, people who usually did not pay attention to the stock market were getting excited about tech stocks. They loaded up on technology in their retirement accounts. As I observed so much bullish groupthink, I became very nervous. That was the point I sold. That was the top, however, and technology stocks crashed. The overall stock market indexes had also sold off. I was glad I sold. As usual, the maddening, conventional thinking crowd was wrong. Real estate mania then the bubble burst, to Easy financing and high consumer demand fueled a housing mania and bubble at the beginning of the new millennium. Unfortunately for me, this is one mania and bubble that swept me into its buying frenzy. Back then, the conventional wisdom was that land was a finite resource and would always go up. The consensus thinking was that houses always increased in value. Except for the Great Depression, that was mostly true. Flip this house People made a business out of flipping houses. They would speculatively buy an undervalued house with lots of potential, do a little work, and flip it for a handsome profit. Each year, flipping houses became more profitable. While not a flipper myself, I did buy and sell houses frequently during that time. Each new transaction yielded me a nice capital gain. Then, in 2008, just as the Great Recession was beginning to slow down the U.S. However, I still had not sold my previous home. For some reason, it did

not sell as quickly as I had imagined. Now, I had two big mortgages, and each month my anxiety increased while the balance of my checking account decreased. I almost lost everything. By late , I had finally sold both houses at a big loss. I almost lost everything I had worked for during my entire adult life. Many other people did lose everything – they, like me, were swept up into the emotional mania. Ironically, no one knew it was a mania that would eventually burst. After all, I considered myself a contrarian investor. I guess I let my emotions get the better of me. Market manias, triggered by faulty consensus thinking, are so difficult to identify when you are right in the middle of it all. In addition, the bubble mentality is reinforced by rising prices. What is the cure for consensus thinking, faulty conventional wisdom, and market manias? As an investor and consumer, it is important for each of us to evaluate each economic decision we make within a logical framework and a non-emotional state of mind. That can be difficult to do sometimes – believe me, I know. I let my logical thinking get stifled by the consensus view that real estate always goes up in value. While it is true that the stock market usually does go up, there are times when the stock market takes a violent crash. So far in , it has been over 8 years since we have had a correction or bear market. I remember when past bubbles burst I have made it through the long and terrible stock market crash of into early . Of course, I also remember the dotcom technology stock market crash in . I also remember the bad correction in , and the terrible Black Monday crash on October 19, . On that one October day, the stock market lost . It has been about 10 years since we have experienced a serious stock market correction. In prosperous times like these, it is important to not be swept up into manias of market enthusiasm. Instead, the prudent contrarian investor should use these times of lofty stock prices to raise cash. Be conservative and rational. However, they are risky – if the stock market keeps rising they will lose lots of value. Be a contrarian investor and bet against conventional wisdom. Then, when the next bubble bursts, you will have cash to take advantage of low prices. I have learned my lesson the hard way – for the rest of my life I will be a devoted contrarian investor. By Doug Martin, Opportunity Muse. Ray Dalio, a great investor and unconventional thinker Related posts:

4: Conventional wisdom | Define Conventional wisdom at www.enganchecubano.com

4. Being interesting comes from being www.enganchecubano.com a fascinating, charismatic person is a result of being fascinated by the humans, history, and objects outside of yourself. © Jamie Beckland 5.

By Rob Schwarzwalder Many young people are leaving Evangelical churches. Statistics vary, but there is general consensus that large numbers of post-high school age Evangelical youth shed the faith of their fathers and mothers upon beginning their college years. The reasons given are multiple. First, the idea that younger Evangelicals are jettisoning their youthful faith could well be overstated. Evangelicalism increased among all age groups from through the early s, and it has decreased in all groups since then. I propose several other reasons why some young people are leaving their Evangelical heritage. Evangelical churches try so hard to be palatable and relevant that we become distasteful and irrelevant. Desperate contemporaneity has become the coin of the age as Evangelicals make gasping efforts to draw in the disaffected. We preach on methods of achieving various kinds of success with one or two Bible verses thrown in instead of the books and themes of Scripture. This theological weakness is augmented by something we find decidedly uncomfortable raising: A lot of people come up to me at conferences, to which, as a very successful hipster-progressive post-evangelical blogger, I have been invited to speak, asking me how they, too, can make a name for themselves as a voice for the disaffected semi-faithful © The trick of post-evangelical blogging is to take the issue du jour, be it gay marriage, birth control, gun control, abortion, or assisted suicide, and re-interpret it as a fundamental and authentic challenge to the assumptions of the suburban evangelicalism which for you represents the sum total of Christian belief and experience. This result must be unacceptable to those born of the Spirit. Many people sitting in the pews of theologically orthodox Protestant churches would have difficulty offering a simple explanation of the Trinity and why understanding the Triune nature of God is important. They have neither been taught these things nor had explained to them why they are critical to Christian living. We first make Him solely a teacher © all great moralists are sent by God , not to inform men, but to remind them, to restate the primeval moral platitudes. If the Gospel means so little to the Church, if it changes so little, why then should unbelievers believe it? Wells and others have written extensively on these themes and their observations and exhortations are compelling. The same kind of preaching that brought about the great awakenings of the past is needed today: Neither Packer nor Piper could say it better. How could we not? When we chose leaders based upon their ability to draw and lead rather than to accurately teach the faith? Evangelicalism has failed to articulate and advance the biblical view of human sexuality. Too often, we have proclaimed only what we are against and failed to explain the goodness of sexual expression and sexual chastity as designed by God. Being gay is icky, and the people who are gay are the worst kind of sinner you can be. Period, done, amen, pass the casserole. When you have membership with no theological or doctrinal depth that you have neglected to equip with the tools to wrestle with hard issues, the moment ickiness no longer rings true with young believers, their faith is destroyed. How eloquent, how correct, and how sad. To many ears these assertions sound immediately anachronistic, and many of those who make or should be making the case for them are themselves too untaught or un-thoughtful to articulate them well. The implication of this truth is significant indeed, for this means that humans are not free to renegotiate or redefine marriage and the family in any way they choose but that they are called to preserve and respect what has been divinely instituted. In many youth-focused churches, Jesus is portrayed as more like a sympathetic friend than a holy and transforming Redeemer. This is understandable, given how many young people come from broken homes and need a foundation of reassurance, security, and love before their walks with God can deepen. Yet as understandable as it might be, such a presentation of Jesus, at least if sustained, is too one-dimensional to meet the needs of the spiritually emaciated and intellectually curious. If a parishioner has a son is addicted to drugs, what she needs immediate help, sound counsel from the Word of God and the application of biblical truth to her situation. A harried pastor might find little time for deep study and reflection in an era of moral collapse. Additionally, many pastors and Christian teachers have been too schooled in Rogerian counseling to be able to bring a healing, if sometimes hard, word from God to such situations, and, these leaders often lack

grounding in biblical moral philosophy and Scriptural teachings about such issues as substance abuse and human sexuality. To paraphrase Lincoln, the assumptions of the quiet past e. Pizza parties for our youth are fun and healthy, but must be seen not as ends in themselves but as a means to draw students into grace-and-truth filled discussions about what they believe, what the Bible says, and why. Feet Planted Firmly in Mid-Air, pp. But this is the paeon of a false freedom that pays misdirected tribute to a deeply flawed notion of individual autonomy. Our society is embracing an anti-human trinity of pragmatism, subjectivism, and cultural relativism that denies the existence of a moral sense or a moral law. When younger Evangelicals are told that such things as pre-marital sex and recreational use of mild hallucinogenic drugs are wrong, many bridle: It sound pretentious to say something is wrong and unfairly limiting to their efforts toward self-discovery translation: Brittany, a year-old veterinary technician, is an example of the newly disaffected Evangelical youth. In high school, she attended a conservative Episcopal church in northern Virginia. She enrolled in college thinking of herself as a conservative and not wanting to have sex until she was married. Her views changed when she met her boyfriend. She began to question the theology of her home church on a number of social issues. Research indicates that most young Christians are as sexually active as their non-Christian peers, even though they are more conservative in their attitudes about sexuality. Co-workers, friends, and family members who cohabit, are openly homosexual, and avow atheism or agnosticism are real people with the same hopes and enjoyments and struggles as any sexually pure young Evangelical. Upon getting to know them, a lot of younger believers are a bit shaken "how can I oppose someone I have come to love? This is where, as noted above, the necessity of the foundation of truth becomes indispensable. Truth teaches that is ungracious to be personally insulting, but unloving to affirm a behavior or a habit that is wrong and destructive. Unemboldened by such conviction and themselves often deeply wounded, many young people find it much more appealing and often easier simply to affirm that which does not immediately harm them or self-apparently harm those engaged in it. This is discomfiting, but unavoidable. If a friend you love rejects you because you take a moral stand contrary to her beliefs or behavior, that hurts. No one ever wants to damage or lose a cherished relationship. But Jesus, the most gracious Man and truest Friend Who ever lived, was rejected and crucified. We are called to be like Him, even at the cost of relationships. Finally, broken marriages that fail to model Christ to their children. While data are mixed on the percentage of divorce within professing Evangelical families are mixed, it is beyond dispute that millions of young people raised as Evangelicals have also been raised in homes without one of their biological or adoptive parents. It is not difficult to imagine how such wounds are deepened when a child is told that there is a God Who loves him and cares tenderly for him and then witnesses his parents rejecting each other. Little wonder that jaded young people looking for love and acceptance will seek them in such troubling places as the back seat of a car or a deserted classroom. As Evangelical leaders pray about and discuss ways of winning younger men and women to Christ and also ways of keeping many who have come to know Him in fellowship with Him and His church.

5: The Case Against Conventional Wisdom | Jason Falls

Conventional real estate wisdom, for example, holds that maximizing available mortgage debt allows firms to conserve their own scarce capital for the times when a new investment opportunity comes along.

I shall refer to these ideas henceforth as the conventional wisdom. He repeatedly referred to it throughout the text of *The Affluent Society*, invoking it to explain the high degree of resistance in academic economics to new ideas. For these reasons, he is usually credited with the invention and popularization of the phrase in modern usage. This section needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. January Learn how and when to remove this template message

Conventional wisdom is not necessarily true. It is additionally often seen as an obstacle to the acceptance of newly acquired information, to introducing new theories and explanations, and therefore operates as an obstacle that must be overcome by legitimate revisionism. This is to say, that despite new information to the contrary, conventional wisdom has a property analogous to inertia that opposes the introduction of contrary belief, sometimes to the point of absurd denial of the new information set by persons strongly holding an outdated conventional view. This inertia is due to conventional wisdom being made of ideas that are convenient, appealing and deeply assumed by the public, which hangs on to them even as they grow outdated. This inertia can last even after the paradigm has shifted between competing conventional idea sets. The concept of conventional wisdom may also be applied or implied in a political sense, being closely related to the phenomenon of talking points. It is used pejoratively to refer to the idea that statements which are repeated over and over become conventional wisdom regardless of whether or not they are true. In a more general sense, it is used to refer to the accepted truth about something which nearly no one would argue about, and so is used as a gauge or well-spring of normative behavior or belief, even within a professional context. It might be used in this manner discussing a technical matter such as the conventional wisdom was that a man would suffer fatal injuries if he experienced more than eighteen g-forces in an aerospace vehicle. John Stapp shattered that myth by repeatedly withstanding far more in his research, peaking above 46 Gs. Sometimes, people in society form conventional ideas about what other people in the past considered to be conventional wisdom. For example, take the following sentence: However, if enough people read and believe the above sentence, the above sentence will eventually supplant the old belief the old belief in past belief in a flat earth. The above sentence would become the new conventional wisdom. Evidence-based medicine acknowledges that expert opinion is "evidence" and plays a role to fill the "gap between the kind of knowledge generated by clinical research studies and the kind of knowledge necessary to make the best decision for individual patients.

6: 9 Bits of Conventional Wisdom You Should Ignore - CBS News

Against the Conventional Wisdom is a rallying cry against this stampede. It seeks to provide an analytical counterattack, showing that what has become "common sense" is not good sense economically or socially; is neither necessary nor desirable; and will deepen existing troubles, not resolve them.

Contributor About Turnout and Margins: Against the Conventional Wisdom Throughout the summer and through the major party conventions, the prevailing view was that the presidential election would be a high-turnout, extremely close contest. There is increasing reason to question these assumptions. Early voting starts today in Iowa where in the election 36 percent of voters cast an early ballot. There is increasing reason to question each of these assumptions. The case for high turnout rested, in essence, on three factors: Historically, almost every recent election that was held coincident with high unemployment and perceptions of recession e. Polarization and polarization-plus in the unique and perceived transformative candidacy of Barack Obama produced the highest turnouts since and respectively. And summer polls by the Pew Center and Gallup showed potential voter interest running at about the same level around 27 percent of the electorate paying close attention to the race as at a similar time during the two previous presidential elections. But there are contrary indicators. Viewership for both major party conventions was more than 10 percent less than in Turnout in the primaries tumbled to a record low. Recent polls on voter interest, particularly by Pew, show a post-convention decline in voter interest of about 10 percent when compared to the same time in Emotional connection among Republicans with their nominee has been weak and among Democrats diminished, at least compared to Many centrist Republicans are appalled at what their party has become. Youth no longer see in both politics and the president the change that drew them to the political barricades in Hope for something better in the next four years is in short supply. The visible campaign is dominated by a deluge of attack ads, often on the lowest level of content, surely reducing the impulse to vote. There are also long-term factors -- the erosion of the religion of civic duty, the diminution of attention to the development of citizens in the educational system, the decline of the commons called the newspaper, the atomization and fragmentation caused by each succeeding development in communications technology, the reduction of hope as a major byproduct of progressive income inequality and lack of trust in political leadership, to name but a few. Despite the mobilization efforts of both parties and the reality that this is an election of substantial consequence with respect to the role and reach of government, it would be surprising if the election was a high-turnout election. If there is a 10 percent decline in turnout compared to , there would be 95 million eligible citizens who would not vote. If turnout declined to the level of the election of , as many as million citizens might eschew the ballot box. It should be noted that low turnout per se has no partisan effect. The central question with respect to result is not how many turn out to vote but rather who does. Similarly, there are some early indications that the race may not be as close as previously predicted. But it also might not go the way polls have been trending at any given time. There are pollsters and academics who argue that most of those who call themselves independents are really supporters of one of the major parties and that the percentage of the electorate that is truly undecided is between six and seven percent. Thus according to them, there will not be much movement. But the nominal partisan support of the majority of independents is soft support, very much capable of change, and there are weak partisans within both parties. After the first debate, the relative standing between the candidates shifted a full 12 percentage points in the most recent Pew poll. On the other hand, if in the ensuing weeks, Romney is again seen as a person who will advocate anything to be elected, if he continues to refuse to reveal the details of his program on the economy and taxes, if his very real weaknesses and lack of experience in foreign policy is highlighted and if he makes missteps between now and the election that once again undermine his potential bond with average citizens, the pendulum could swing again strongly in favor of Obama. The election could be as close as it was in when Harry Truman slipped back into office in the second lowest turnout contest since women were given the vote in The situation is volatile and many things could happen that would determine both winner and margin. Do you have information you want to share with HuffPost?

7: Against the Conventional Wisdom: Why Firms Choose Secured Debt During Turbulent Times

But the rap against conventional wisdom isn't that it's boring, which it often is; it's that it's wrong. And it's not just his analyses—Gergen's moral impulses are also impeccable.

8: Against conventional wisdom: when the public, the media, and medical practice collide.

However, the direction of correlation was the opposite of the conventional judicial wisdom. Longer briefs by appellants were associated with a greater probability of achieving reversal, while exceptionally short briefs were much more likely to be filed in losing appeals.

9: Conventional Wisdom | Definition of Conventional Wisdom by Merriam-Webster

*A widely held belief on which most people act. For example, According to conventional wisdom, an incumbent nearly always wins more votes than a new candidate. This term was invented by John Kenneth Galbraith, who used it in *The Affluent Society* () to describe economic ideas that are familiar.*

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