

**Knowledge question:** How do we decide what we believe is true?

**Read and annotate:** “Weird Science: Why do we believe fake news?”

**Once done:** To what extent do you agree with the author’s explanations about why people believe fake news?

- Valuing identity over accuracy causes fake news to be a problem
- Connected our personal egos
- Things that are popular, ideas that are popular, attract attention and following
- Value is allocated based on what matters to us, not what is “objectively true.”
- We don’t *necessarily* agree with everything our parties say. That’s a stretch.
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What are the implications of this article? (Implications are consequences, conclusions, inferences, importance)

- People are afraid to leave their identities and sometimes people don’t change their minds. Nothing gets done.
- Sometimes “being wrong” can hurt. It feels bad to be wrong. People want to avoid feeling pain and embarrassment. As a result, people believe in false things, fall for fake news.
- People generally will believe in this article because that is what’s in front of them. Lack of comparison. “availability bias”
- Categorizing ourselves, strong identities allows us to be susceptible to fake news.