

Refuting Bullshit

Week 8: Calling Bullshit

Thoughts on last week's reading?

- Eric Weiskott. [Before 'Fake News' Came False Prophecy](#) *The Atlantic Monthly*, Dec. 27, 2016
- Adrian Chen. [The Agency](#). *New York Times Magazine*, June 2, 2015
- [Believe](#), *The Oatmeal*, published week of May 8, 2017
- [Inside a fake news sausage-factory: 'This is all about income'](#) *New York Times* Nov. 25, 2016

Myth Debunking Recipe

Refuting bullshit requires different approaches for different audiences.

What works for a quantitatively-skilled professional scientist won't always convince your casually racist uncle on Facebook, and vice versa.

Pick an issue and hone a dialogue using the myth debunking recipe to best address a person's mistaken belief:

- Global warming
- Vaccines cause autism
- A full moon affect behavior
- Sugar makes children hyperactive

Assigned Reading

- John Cook and Stephan Lewandowsky, [The Debunking Handbook](#), 2012.
- David McRaney, [The Backfire Effect](#) , June 11, 2011.

Thank you for participating in Butte
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course!
