

Immigration, Safety and Security

Framing Data to Tell a Better Story

The Immigrant Learning Center

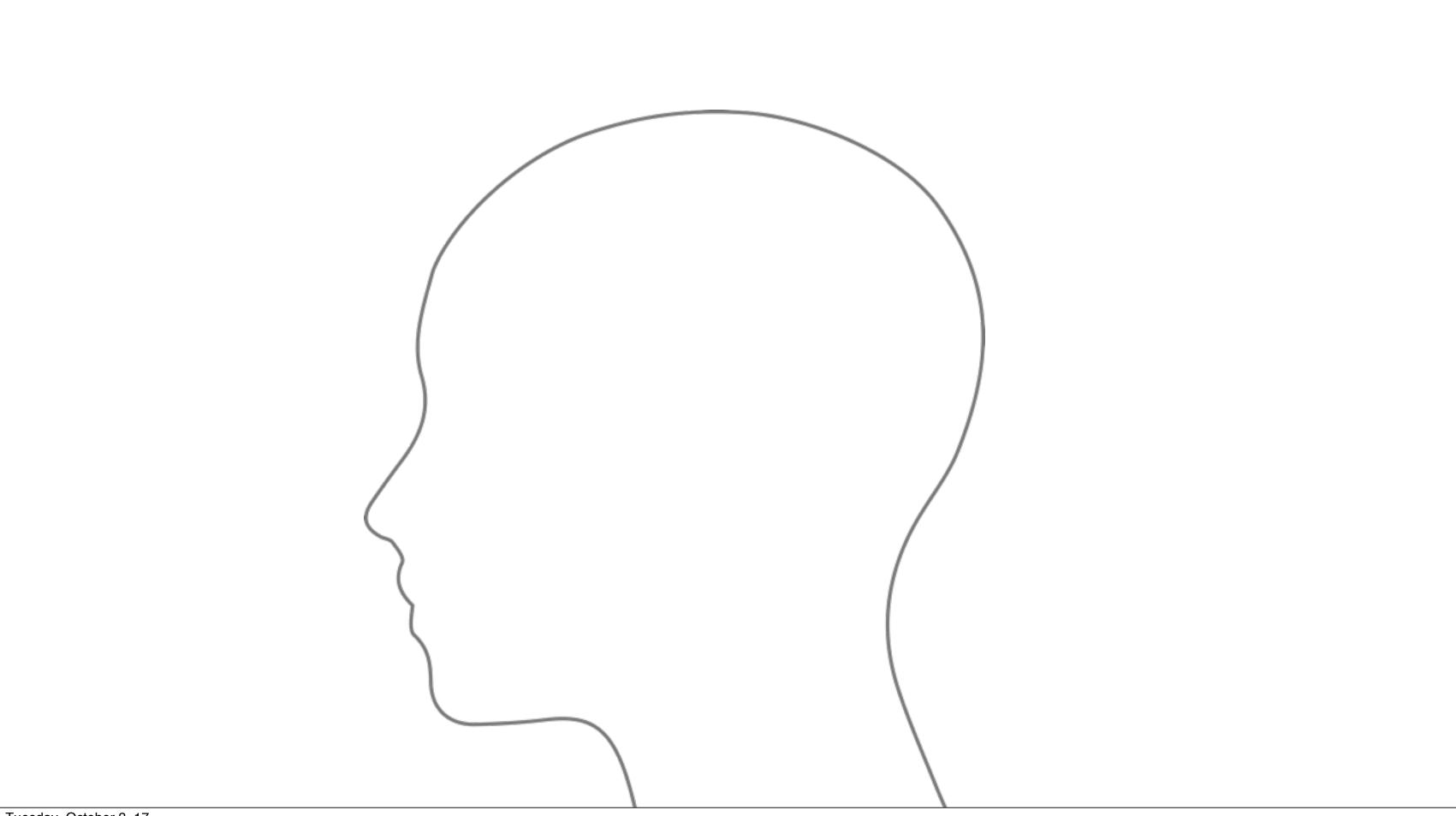
October 4, 2017

Marisa Gerstein Pineau, PhD, Researcher

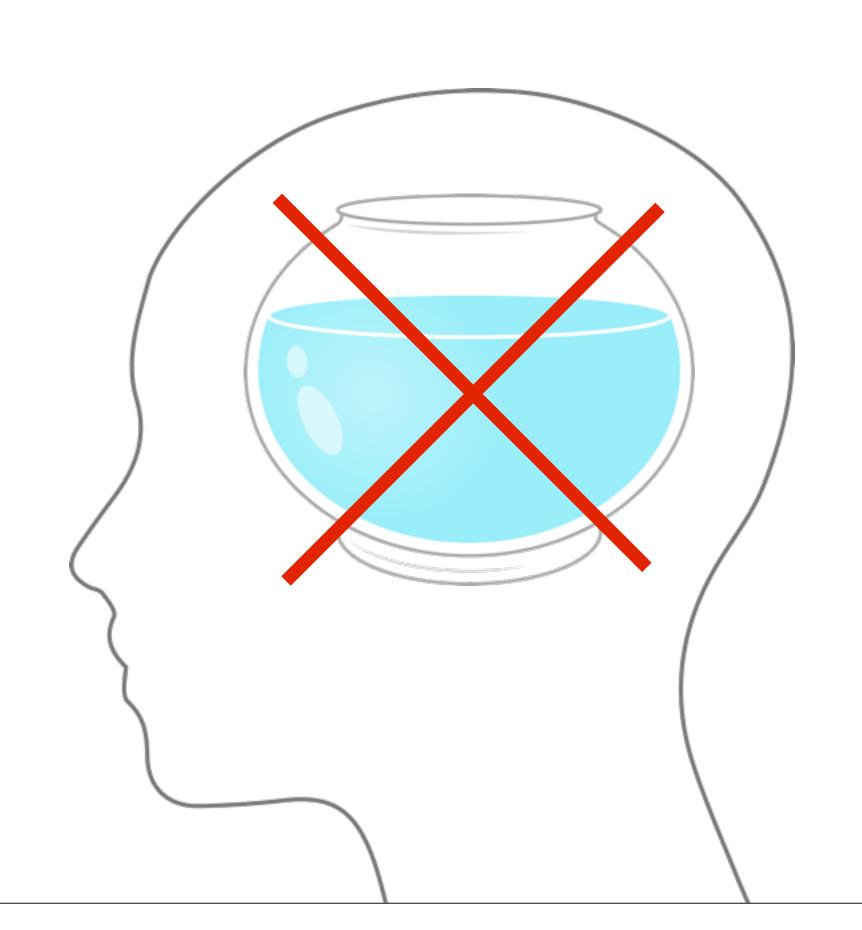
What is a Frame?

Frames are sets of choices about how information is presented:

What to emphasize, how to explain it, and what to leave unsaid.









Tuesday, October 3, 17

"Them"

- Law Breakers
- Illegal Mexican/Highly-Skilled Asian
- Takers
- Immigration Nostalgia
- Security and Control

Zero Sum

- Job Competition
- Drain on the System

Punitive

- Secure the Border
- Set an Example–Rational Actor

What's in the Swamp of... Immigration

Black Box

Fatalism

- Immigration Surge
- Money Talks
- Politics as Usual
- System Too Big and Screwed Up

"Us"

- Humanist–People are People
- Nation of Immigrants
- Celebrate Diversity

Pragmatism

- Economic Fit
- Make it Work

How do we use data in our arguments? Range of options... Some Good, Some NOT

The Good

The Good

OVER 3 MILLION PEOPLE STRUGGLE TO FEED & CLOTHE THEIR CHILDREN

THIS IS EQUIVALENT TO



22 Glastonbury Festivals



33 Wembley Stadiums



The population of Jamaica

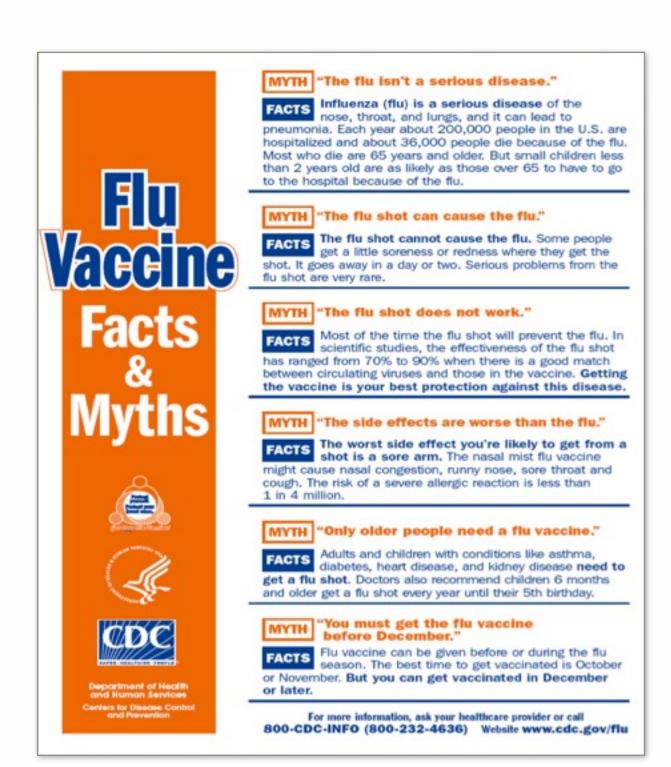


What does this mean?

In 2011, over three million people in the UK experienced severe material deprivation. This is 5% of the population.

The Bad: Mythbusting

The Bad: Mythbusting



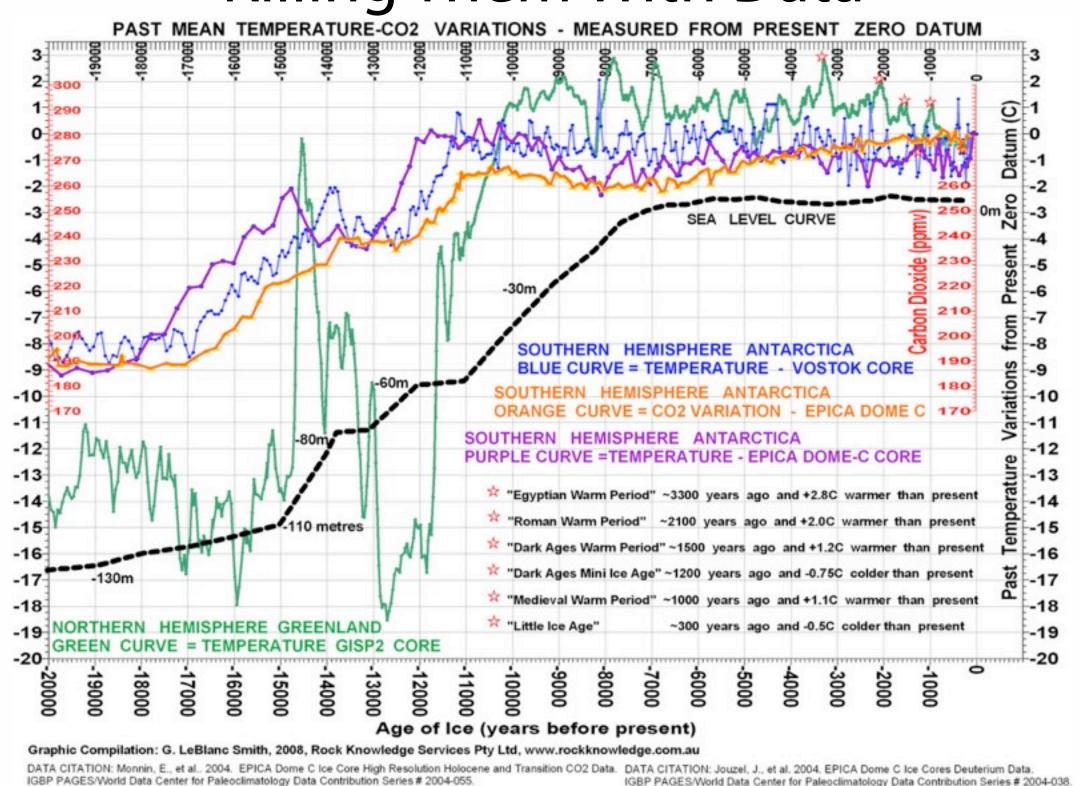
In a study of the effects of myth-fact communications:

- People misremembered the myths as true.
- Got worse over time.
- Both older and younger readers made mistakes.
- Attributed false information to the CDC.

Vedantam, Shankar. 2010. The Hidden Brain. New York: Spiegel & Grau.

The Bad: Killing Them With Data

The Bad: Killing Them With Data



NOAA/NGDC Paleoclimatology Program, Boulder CO, USA.

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The Bad: Unframed Data Gets Framed



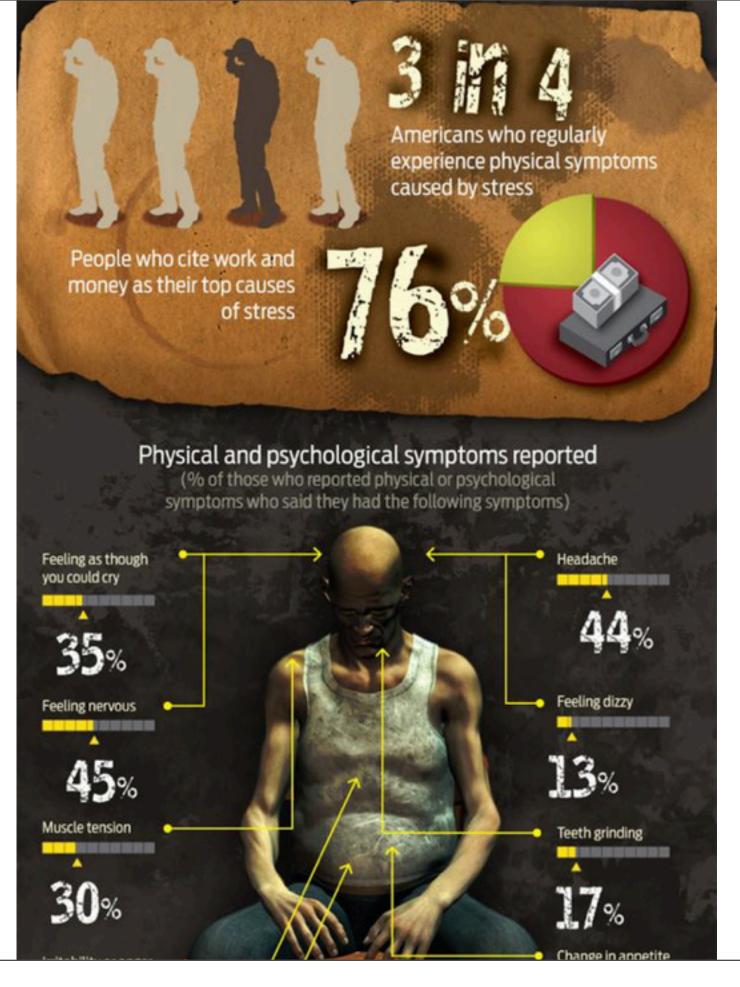
The Bad: Unframed Data Gets Framed



The Ugly: Crisis Framing

The Ugly: Crisis Framing





The Ugly: Framing for Fatalism

The Ugly: Framing for Fatalism

Obama makes broken promises for a broken immigration ...



www.patriottalon.com/.../article_836a182a-42ac-11e4-... Sep 23, 2014

Instead, Latinos are being shown nothing but broken promises and they ... Obama has made a promise to fix ...

How to Fix Our Broken Immigration System: U.S. ... - YouTube



www.youtube.com/watch?v=RXFiHxHo5cE Jun 17, 2014 - Uploaded by The Book Archive

"Immigration reform" in the United States of America is widely

> 8:49 used to describe proposals to increase legal ...

Obama: Everyone knows immigration system broken - Video



video.cnbc.com/gallery/?video=3000332047

Obama: Everyone knows immigration system broken. Thursd
20 Nov 2014 | 8:00 PM ET. President Barack ...

Is the US immigration system broken? - Fox Business Video

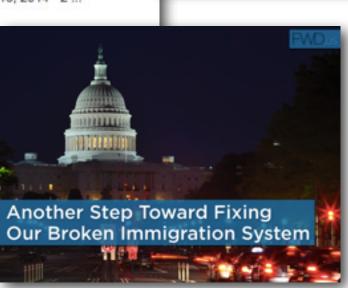


video.foxbusiness.com/.../is-the-us-immigration-syst...
FBN's Lou Dobbs on U.S. immigration policy. ... Is the U.S. immigration system broken? Feb. 10, 2014 - 2 ...

How to Fix Our Broken Immigration System



www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4hV May 29, 2014 - Uploaded by Listen U





The Ugly: Framing for Fatalism



Use Pragmatism value when faced with opposition

FrameWorks researchers found that in contentious communications situations, appealing to a *Pragmatism* value worked to undo the damage of an opposing message and regain people's support for reform.

1.

Exposed to a *Moral Argument* appeal, people's support for immigration reform went up.

2.

But when that message was countered with an opposing message, support dropped.

An appeal to *Pragmatism* showed the strongest ability to regain some of the lost support.

Pragmatism



- Appeal to common sense and practical measures: "We need a common-sense, practical approach. Solutions should come from carefully considering all possible ideas, and then moving forward with the ones that have the best chance of improving our country."
- Point out how alternative proposals are not practical: "It wouldn't make sense to send all the people that are in the country without documentation back to their country of origin this is impractical, and wouldn't help the situation."
- Highlight feasibility of reform: "We need to focus on taking reasonable steps toward solutions, rather than adopting impractical measures that don't have the potential to work."

Recently, public figures have claimed that immigrants are "killers" and "rapists," bringing crime to the U.S. Study after study has shown, however, that immigrants—regardless of where they are from, what immigration status they hold, and how much education they have completed—are less likely than native-born citizens to commit crimes or become incarcerated. According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, while the overall percentage of immigrants and the number of undocumented immigrants in the U.S. both increased sharply between 1990 and 2010, the violent crime rate in the U.S. at that time plummeted 45 percent and the property crime rate dropped by 42 percent. Studies have consistently found that immigrants are less likely to be incarcerated than native-born Americans and that there was no correlation between crime rates and levels of immigration. Other studies have in fact found that crime rates are lowest in states with the highest immigration growth rates.

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AFTER

Immigrants are the key to this country's economic vitality and new studies suggest they even make our communities safer. According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, while the overall percentage of immigrants and the number of undocumented immigrants in the U.S. both increased sharply between 1990 and 2010, the violent crime rate in the U.S. during that time plummeted 45 percent and the property crime rate dropped by 42 percent. Studies have consistently found that there was no correlation between crime rates and levels of immigration, and that in fact, crime rates are lowest in states with the highest immigration growth rates. Immigration makes our communities safer, which is why we need to take a common-sense, practical approach to immigration reform that makes our immigration system more welcoming, not more punitive.

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Avoid these swampy frames:

Getting out of the shadows

Worthy, deserving immigrants

Broken immigration system

These data speak for themselves

This is about immigrants' rights

This is a problem for population x

Solution?

And substitute these instead:

An outdated immigration system

Creating an immigration system that optimally utilizes the energy and contributions of us all

Change is possible, feasible, practical

These data suggest immigration reform will move us forward

This is about our shared humanity

We all need a solution to this problem

problem SOLUTION! SOLUTION!

http://frameworksinstitute.org/toolkits/immigration/

Thank you!



www.frameworksinstitute.org



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