Uni Studies 3: How to lie with Infographics

Assoc. Professor Donald J. Patterson Uni Stu 3 Fall 2012



- Last time
 - Sample Bias
 - Self-report bias
 - Mean, median and mode
 - The importance of looking at variation also
 - The importance of sample size
 - The importance of labeling graphs
 - Making sure that the statistics are important
 - "Much Ado About Nothing"
 - The importance of thinking about motivations
 - The importance of paying close attention to the words



- Energy policy
- Job creation

- Romney: "As a matter of fact, oil production is down 14 percent this year on federal land, and gas production was down 9 percent. Why? Because the president cut in half the number of licenses and permits for drilling on federal lands and in federal waters."
- Obama: "Very little of what Governor Romney just said is true. We've opened up public lands. We're actually drilling more on public lands than in the previous administration and my — the previous president was an oilman."

- Romney: "As a matter of fact, oil production is down 14 percent this year on federal land, and gas production was down 9 percent. Why? Because the president cut in half the number of licenses and permits for drilling on federal lands and in federal waters."
- Facts are correct
 - oil sales are down 14% from 2010 to 2011
- Context is ignored
 - Obama temporarily halted offshore drilling after the BP oil spill which accounts for the loss in production

• Romney: "As a matter of fact, oil production is down 14 percent this year on federal land, and gas production was down 9 percent. Why? Because the president cut in half the number of licenses and permits for drilling on federal lands and in federal waters."

- Facts are correct
 - gas production on federal land is down
- Context is wrong
 - It is now much cheaper to drill on private land

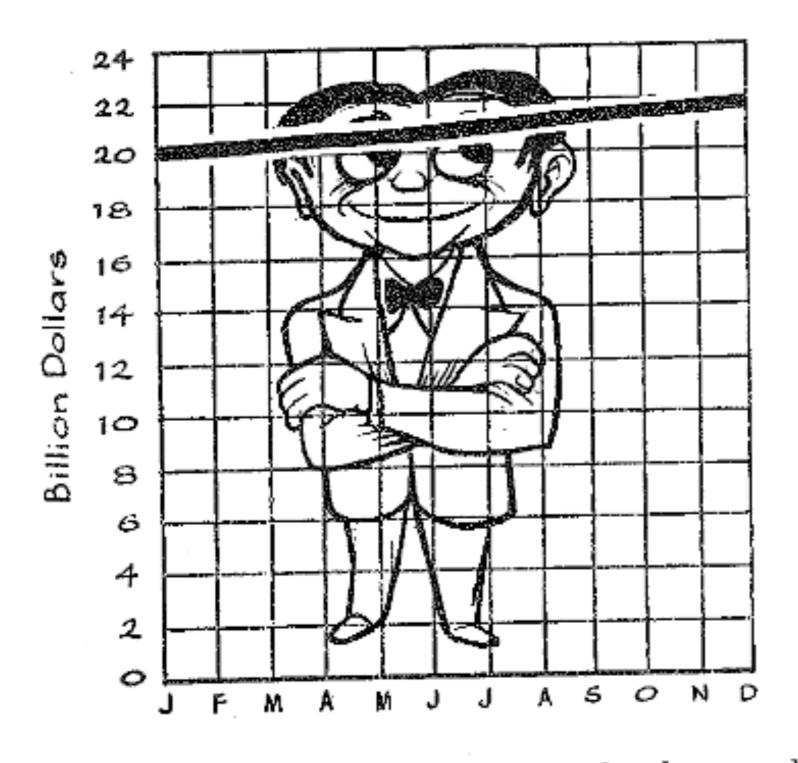


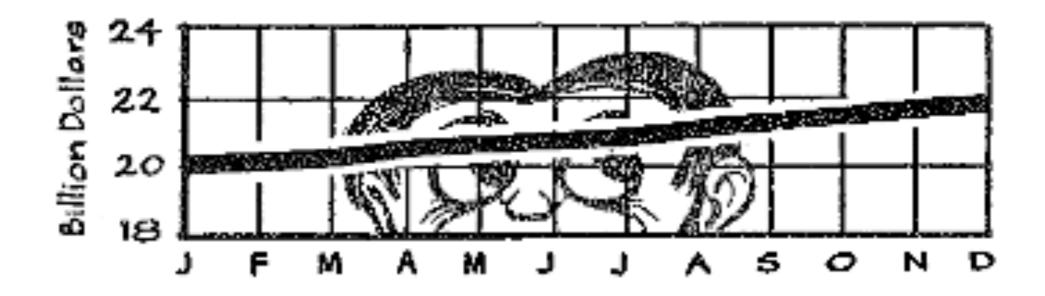
- Energy policy
- Job creation

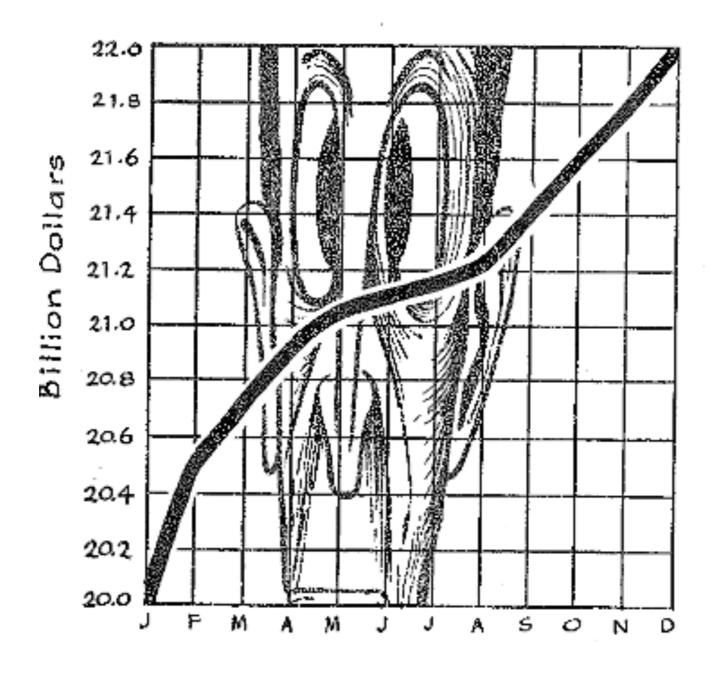
• Obama: "And what I want to do is build on the 5 million jobs that we've created over the last 30 months in the private sector alone."

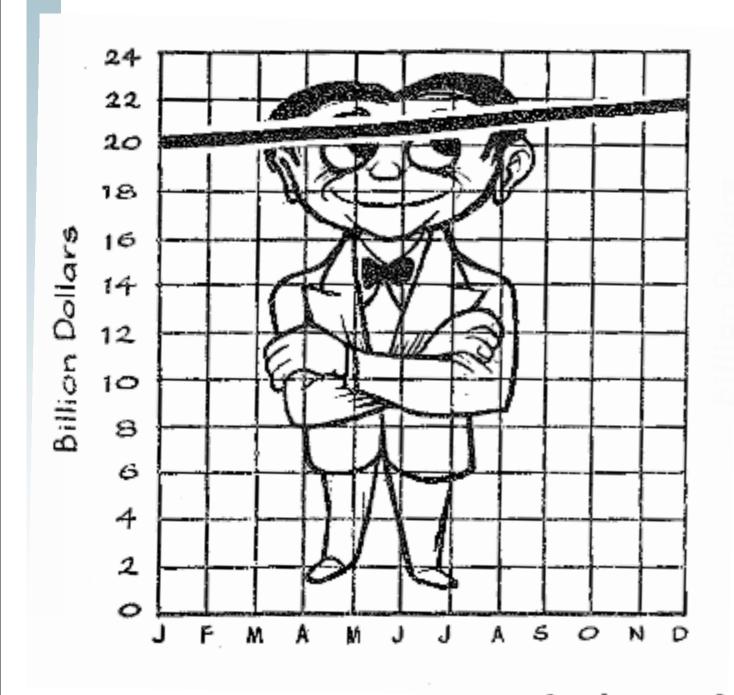
- Obama: "And what I want to do is build on the 5 million jobs that we've created over the last 30 months in the private sector alone."
- "the last 30 months" That ignores job losses during his presidency up until that point. According to the Labor Department, about 4.5 million total jobs have been created over the past 30 months. But some 4.3 million jobs were lost during the earlier months of his administration. At this point, Obama is a net job creator, but only marginally.

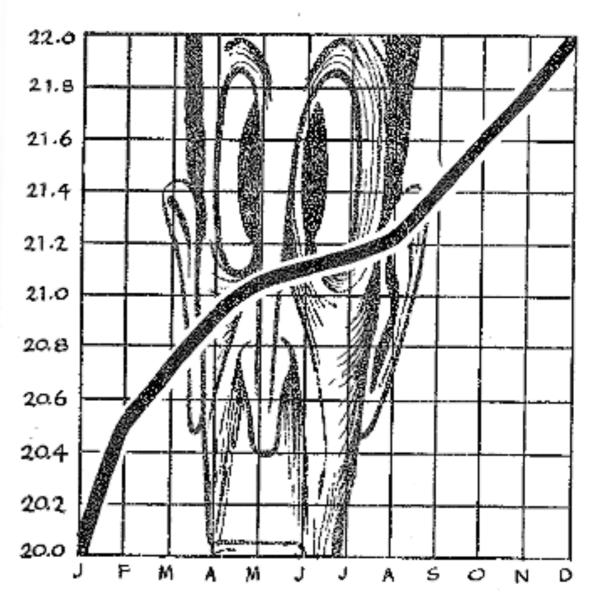
- The Gee-Whiz Graph
- The One-Dimensional Picture
- The Semiattached Figure

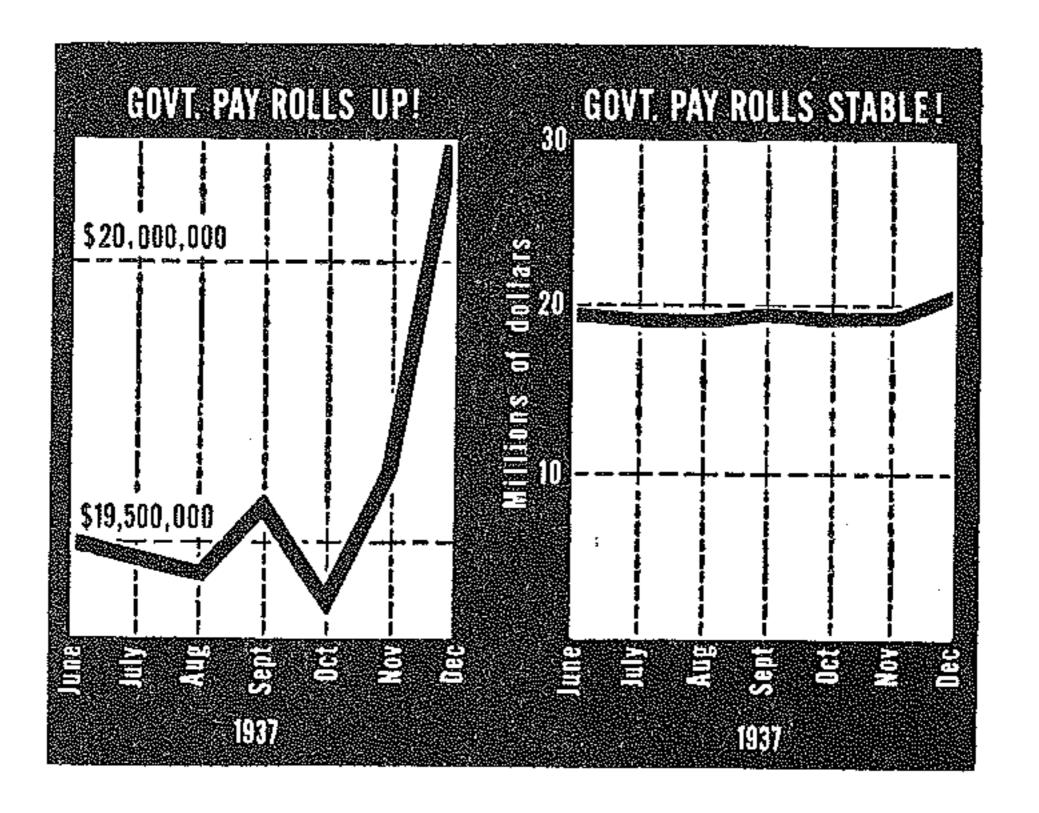


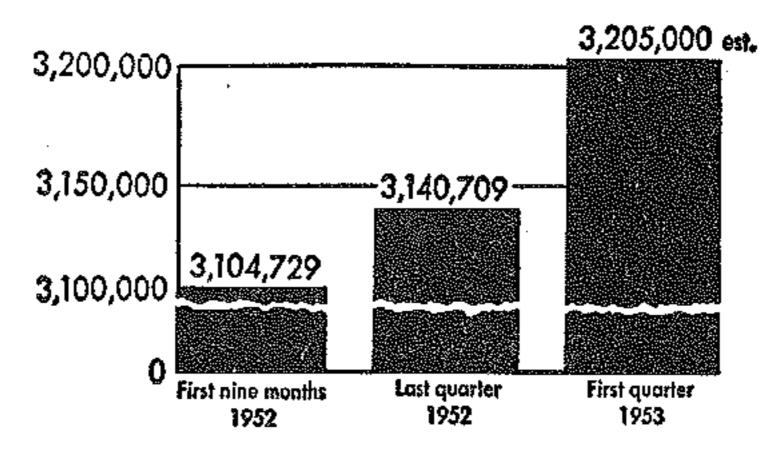






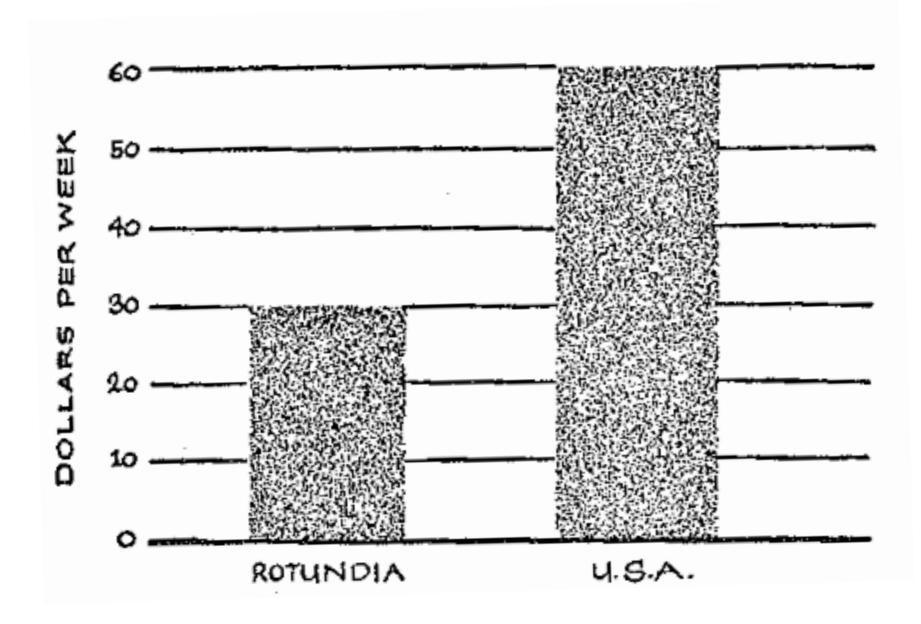


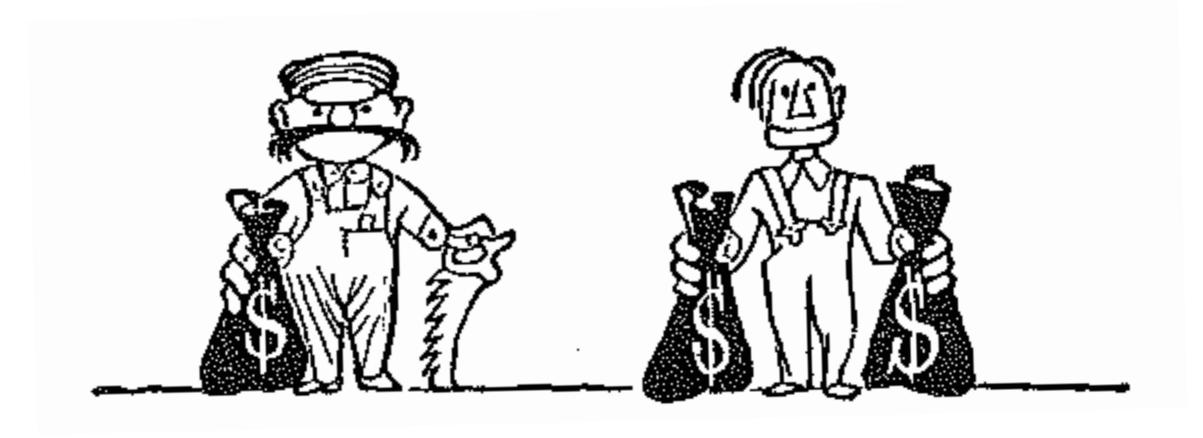




From an April 24, 1953, newspaper advertisement for Collier's

- The Gee-Whiz Graph
- The One-Dimensional Picture
- The Semiattached Figure

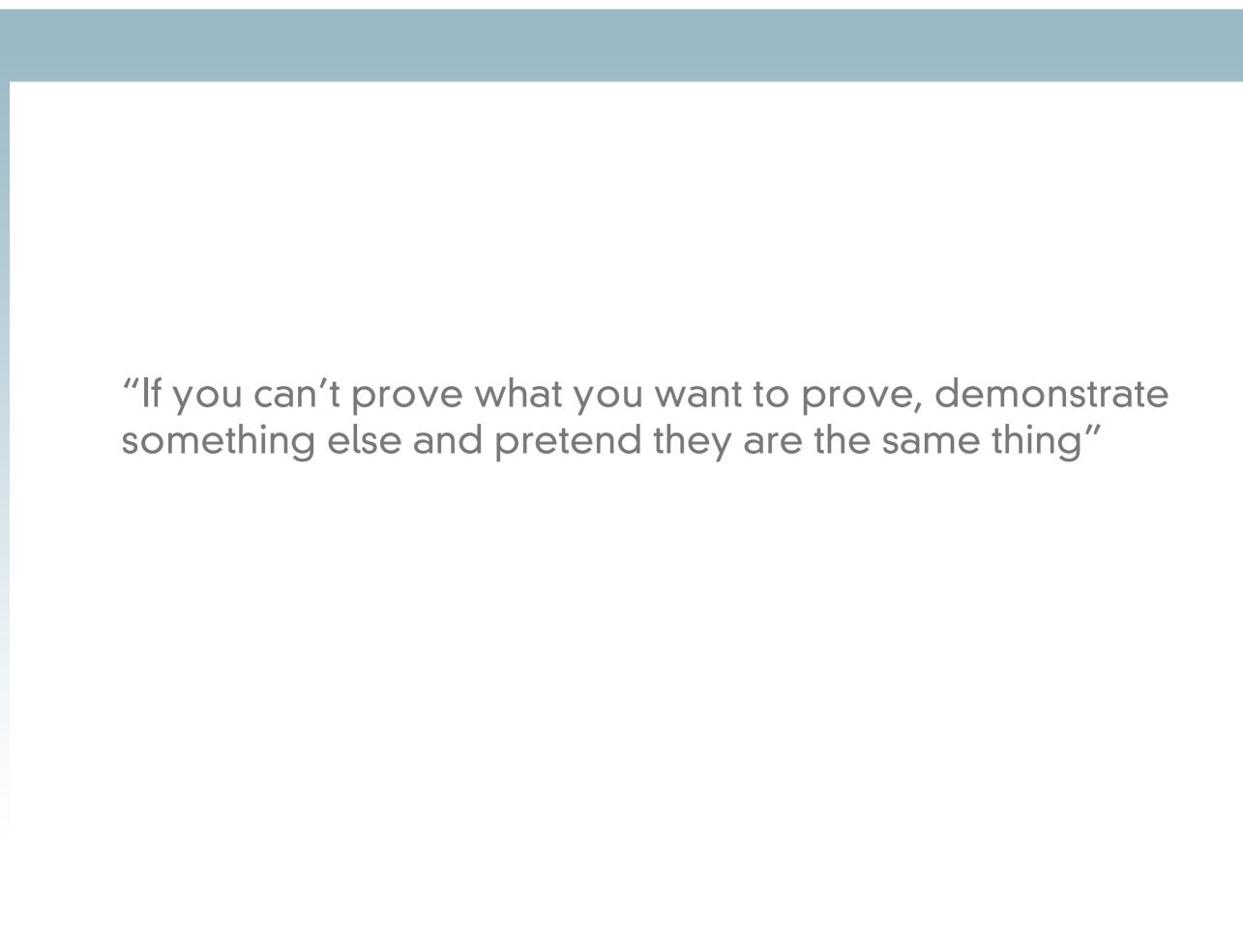








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"If you can't prove what you want to prove, demonstrate something else and pretend they are the same thing"

- Romney: "As a matter of fact, oil production is down 14 percent this year on federal land, and gas production was down 9 percent. Why? Because the president cut in half the number of licenses and permits for drilling on federal lands and in federal waters."
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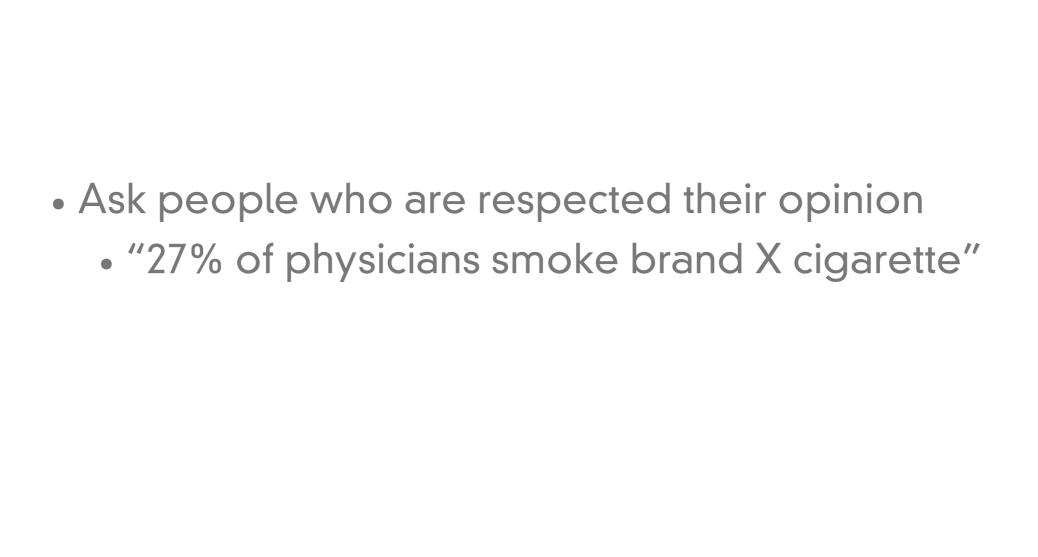
• Conduct a poll

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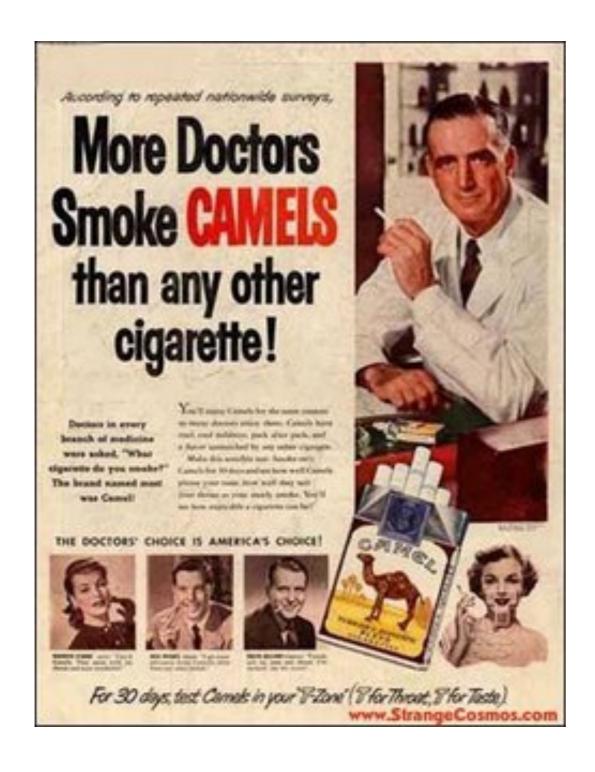
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 - Why?







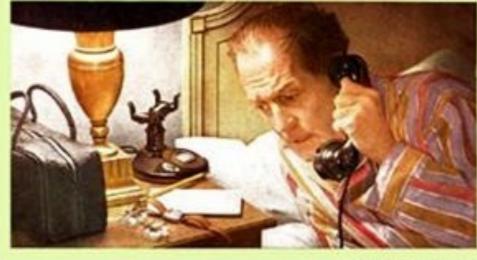


"I'll Be Right Over!"

. . . 24 hours a day your doctor is "on duty" . . . guarding health . . . presecting and prolonging life . .

 Plays words receive planting the based integligation wind based, short being worden about the based over its state? and he deceases to appeal or old. Taken there's a job to diety. But it his slidy receive he die, he does it. A few winds of sleep Average trains and displays more fire-state to the math he has taken.

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THE

"1-ZONE"

TEST

WILL THE

to a recent Nationwielde BEIDO!

More Doctors smoke camels THAN ANY OTHER CIGARETTE!

Trace of America's leading independent meanly representation asked \$13,707 docters or some the eigenstic they themselves professor to emoke.

The average came in by the thousands... from the tors to big cities, in real toward. from gowest objections, dispositions, nongeneral specialists observes in story branch of medicase! Results.! Moveducans runsell from f as their mode than any other electricity

We, a deeper, non sending for pleasure. Fell. forer, cistions, and enhance more just to small to him to they do by new other analog Smoke Cartols and see for yourself.









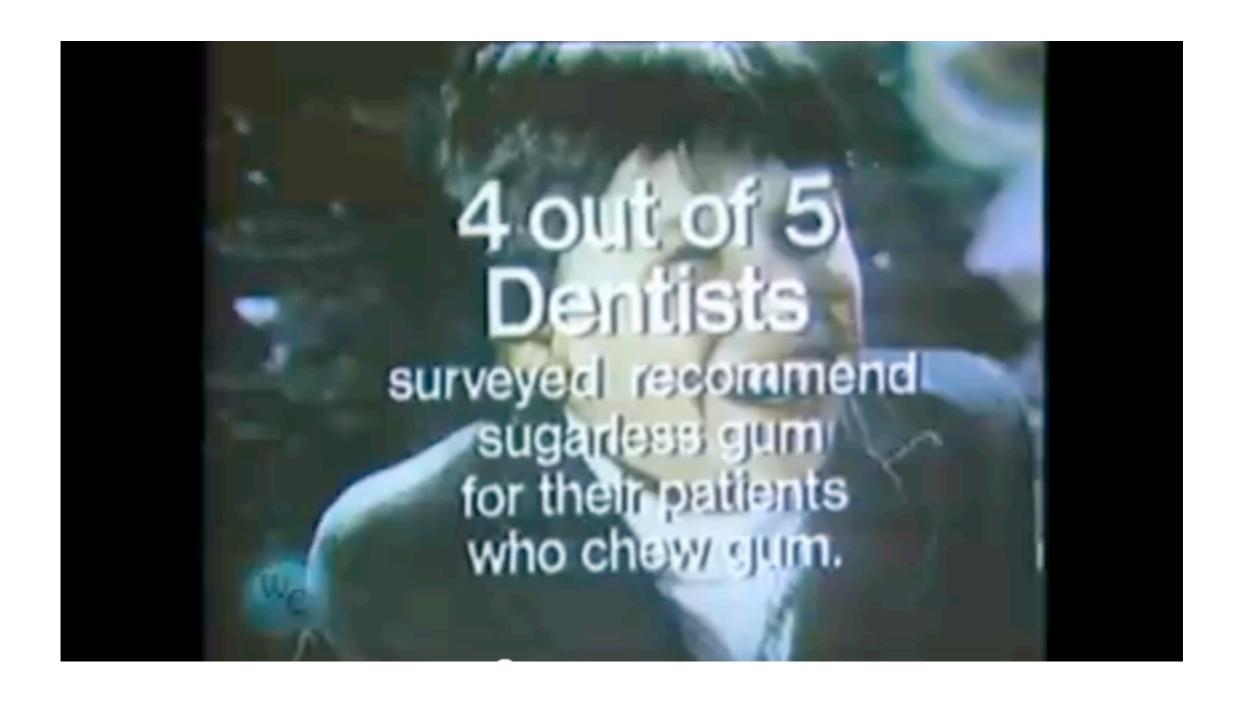






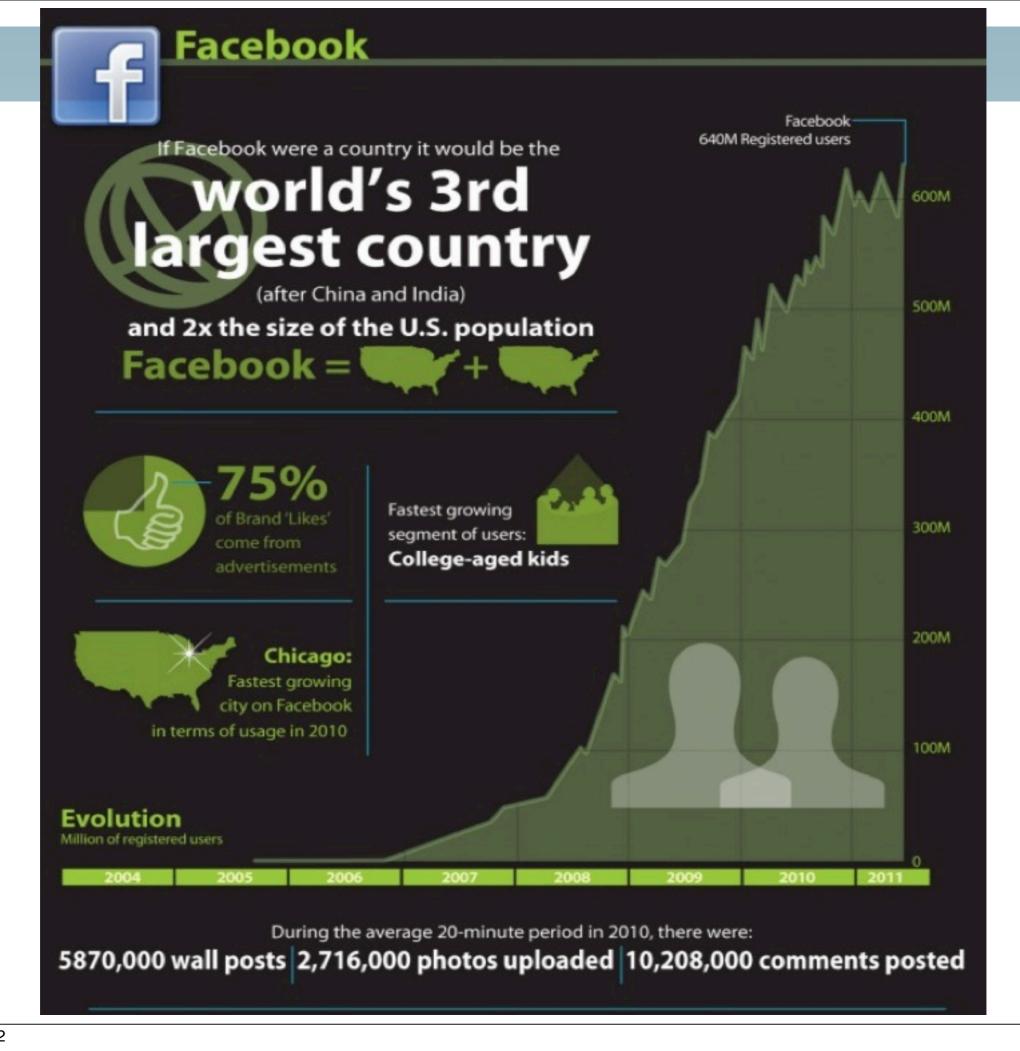


http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gf Jk1zLisg



- Many ways of expressing a figure
 - 1% return on sales
 - 15% return on investment
 - 10 million dollar profit
 - increase of 40% (compared with last decade)
 - decrease of 60% (compared with last year)

- Not considering rates, just absolute numbers
 - Four times more fatalities occur on the highways at 7pm than at 7am.
 - During the Spanish-American war
 - 9 out of 1000 people died in the Navy
 - 16 out of 1000 people died in NYC
 - Join the Navy!

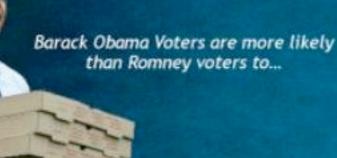




Determine your friends political leaning based on pizza preference

To celebrate National Pizza Month, California Pizza Kitchen surveyed 1000 Americans about their pizza preference and political leanings.

Results showed that likely voters for both candidates - Barack Obama or Mitt Romney - have unique pizza habits and preferences.





Mitt Romney voters are more likely than Obama voters to...





Eating pizza for either lunch or dinner

What America likes...



Enjoy pizza for dinner

Order take-out or delivery

Enjoy pizza for lunch



Eating pizza at home



Make home-made pizza

Warm those slices up



Eating left-over pizza



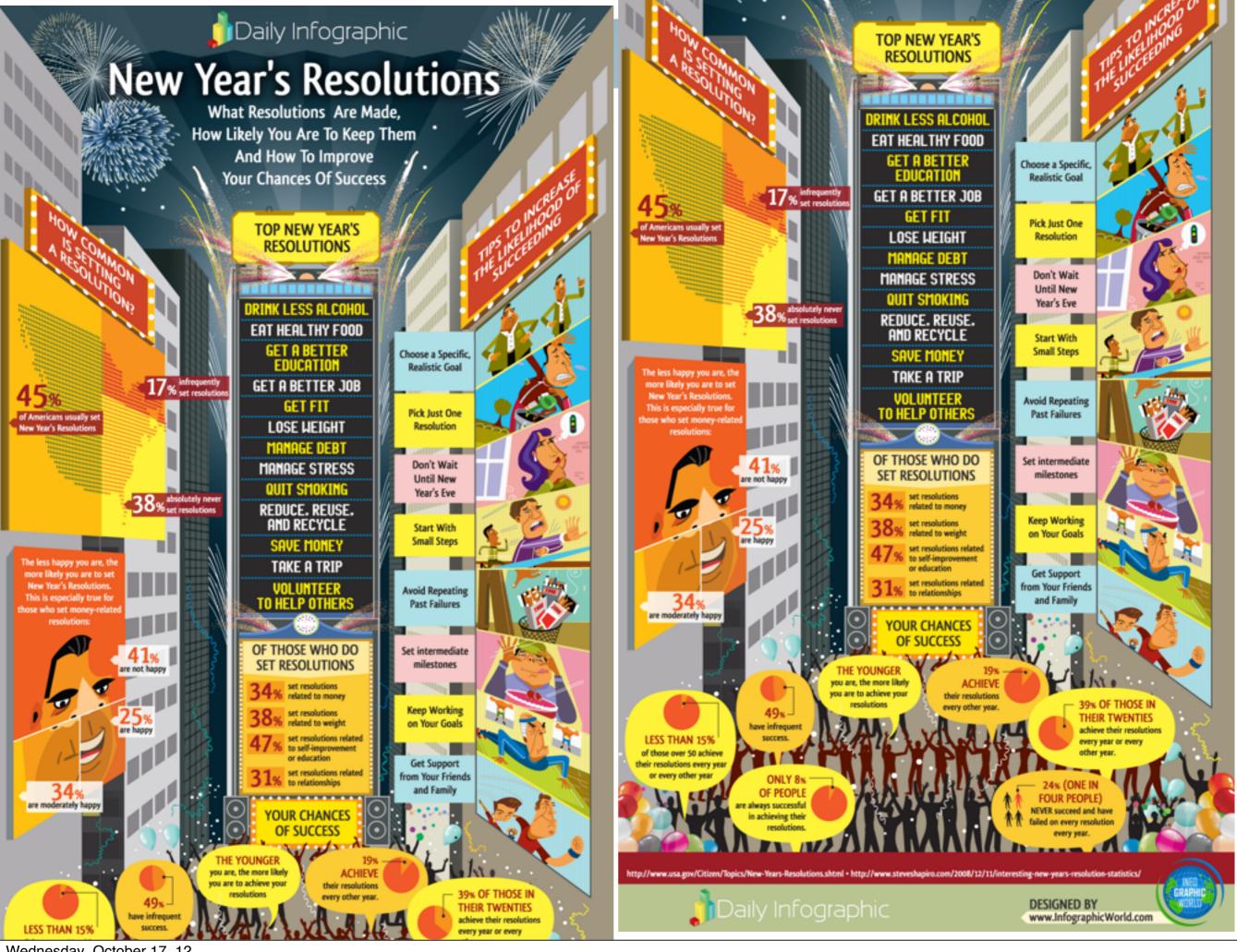
Enjoy the pizza cold, right out of the refrigerator

Drink soda with their pizza



Washing their pizza down with a cold beverage

Enjoy a pint of beer or glass or wine with your pizza?
You are equally likely to vote for either
Mitt Romney or Barack Obama.



Average Wireless Speeds Coast to Coast

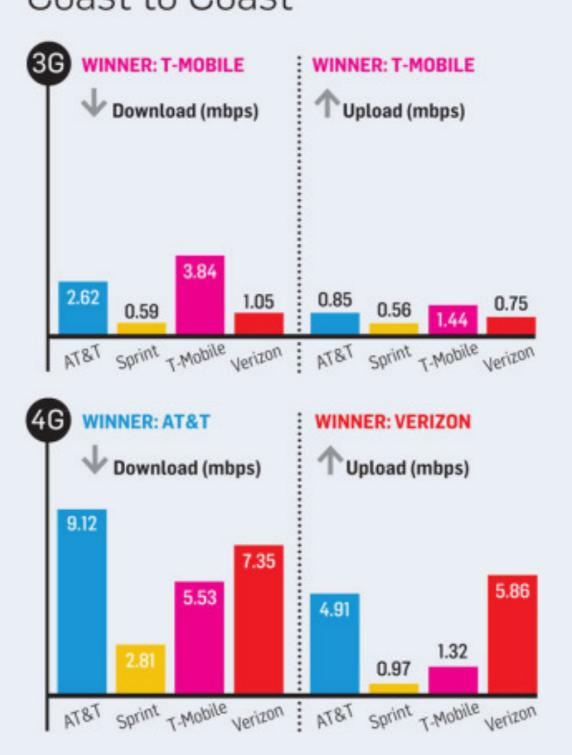


CHART NOTES: mbps = megabits per second; higher is better. AT&T doesn't offer 4G service in Denver or Seattle, so its 4G numbers reflect data from 11 cities, rather than 13. Also, Sprint does not offer 4G WiMax service in New Orleans, so its 4G numbers

http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2012/10/15/us/politics/swing-

