Kevin Leahy

SENIOR DIRECTOR, CONTENT AND BRAND STRATEGY

4:20 - 4:50 PM

Place Your Bets: The Possibilities and Probabilities of a Lower-Resolution Future

Kevin Leahy

SENIOR DIRECTOR OF CONTENT & BRAND STRATEGY, ONE NORTH





Is this the twilight of the Internet?

INTERNET DELENDA EST

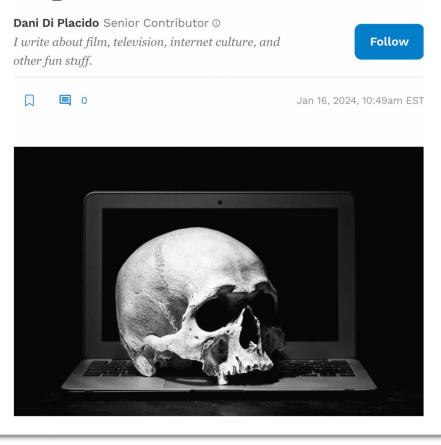
According to some people, yes.

"The Dead Internet Theory is the belief that the vast majority of internet traffic, posts and users have been replaced by bots and Al-generated content, and that people no longer shape the direction of the internet."

- Dani Di Placido, Forbes, January 2024.

Forbes

The Dead Internet Theory, Explained



INTERNET DELENDA EST

"The internet is filling up with 'zombie content' designed to game algorithms and scam humans. It's becoming a place where bots talk to bots, and search engines crawl a lonely expanse of pages written by artificial intelligence."

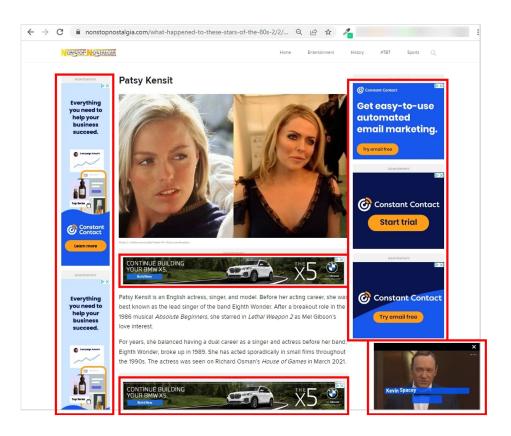
Technology reporter, James Purtill, on the accelerating degradation of the Web.



HISTORIC SURFER MAGAZINE RETURNS AS DYSTOPIAN ZOMBIE SITE, "TRAIN THE AI ON OLD SURFER STORIES AND GENERATE FRESH, TRENDING NEWS. NO MATTER HOW LOW-QUALITY THEY'LL GET THE VIP TREATMENT FROM SEARCH ENGINES DUE TO THE SITE'S STATUS AS AN EXPERT SOURCE"

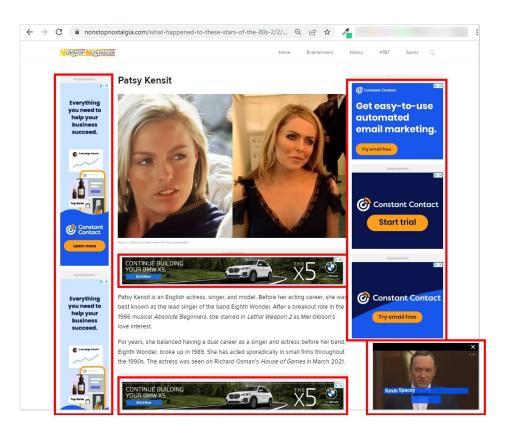
Made-for-advertising's "design" and "content"

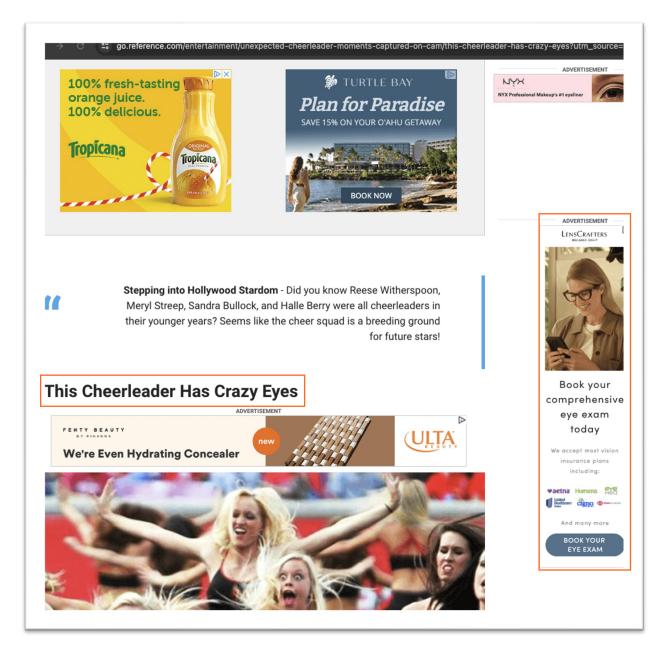




They did this **on purpose**.







EYE DON'T THINK SO

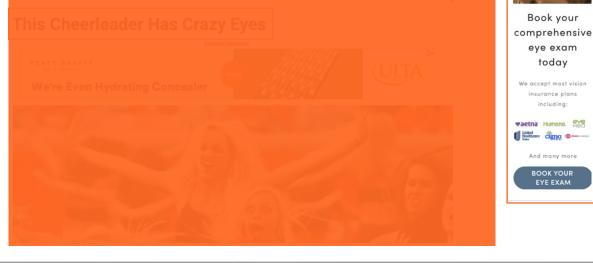
Brand safety is still a critical issue.

No one wants their eye exam ad on a made-for-advertising / made-for-arbitrage website.

Especially not next to an article about "crazy eyes."

Next to a story about **"crazy eyes**"

Where **don't** you want your eye exam ad?



EYE DON'T THINK SO

razy-eyes?utm_sourc

Makeup's #1 eveliner

ADVERTISEMENT

ADVERTISEMENT LENSCRAFTERS

Brand safety is still a critical issue.

No one wants their eye exam ad on a made-for-advertising / made-for-arbitrage website.

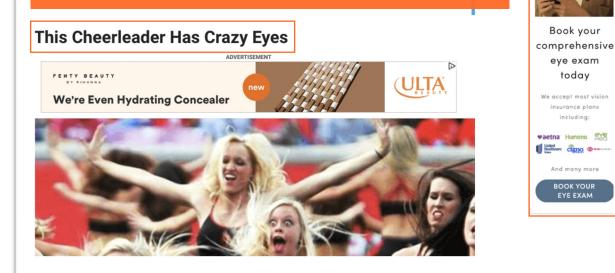
Especially not next to an article about "crazy eyes." 100% fresh-tasting or orange juice. 100% delicious. TURTLE BAY Plan for Paradis SAVE 15% ON YOUR O'AHU GETAW -crazy-eyes?utm_sourc

ADVERTISEMENT

ADVERTISEMENT LENSCRAFTERS

Next to a story about **"crazy eyes"**

Stepping into Hollywood Stardom - Did you know Reese Witherspoon, Meryl Streep, Sandra Bullock, and Halle Berry were all cheerleaders in their younger years? Seems like the cheer squad is a breeding ground for future stars!

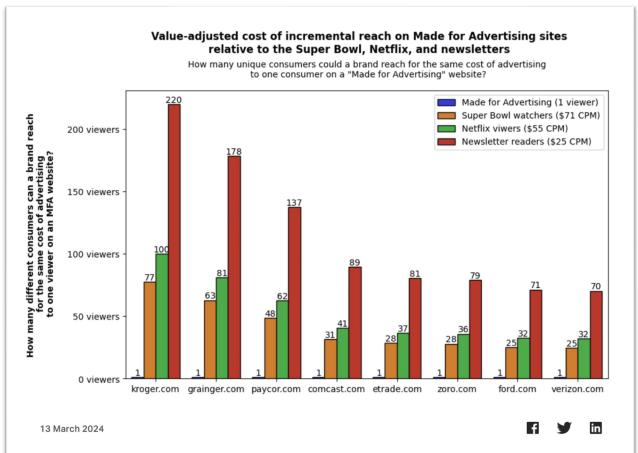


EYE DON'T THINK SO

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Especially not next to an article about "crazy eyes."



How bad is the 'Made for Advertising' problem?

#Onlineadfraud #Digitalmediaplanning&buying #Programmaticbuying

Very bad, according to a new Adalytics report that appeared this week, finding that major brands including P&G, Unilever, Mondelez, Mars, Ford, Disney, Google, Pfizer, and Reckitt, among many others, are being placed on such low value inventory, potentially wasting millions of their ad budgets.

EYE CHART

Programmatic ad wastage is soaring.

"It's a situation that's gotten so bad that there are some advertisers who could be spending as much as \$40 million per year on such inventory. It's another one of advertising's inconvenient truths a reality that gnaws at media budgets, often at the expense of more lauded publishers."

- Adalytics report, March 2024

NO DESSERT FOR YOU

The "cookie-pocalypse" is finally at hand.

"Marketers, via their ad tech solutions, will lose the ability to place a cookie on environments other than their own. This limits their understanding of what audiences are doing outside their website.

They will not be able to retarget, nor have effective frequency caps, or be able to attribute seamlessly across the overall online ecosystem."

- Ranga Somanathan, WARC



SUBTLE METAPHOR



MUCH MORE SUBTLE METAPHOR

The ROI of "cheap reach"



"Everything is bad now," says middle-aged man.

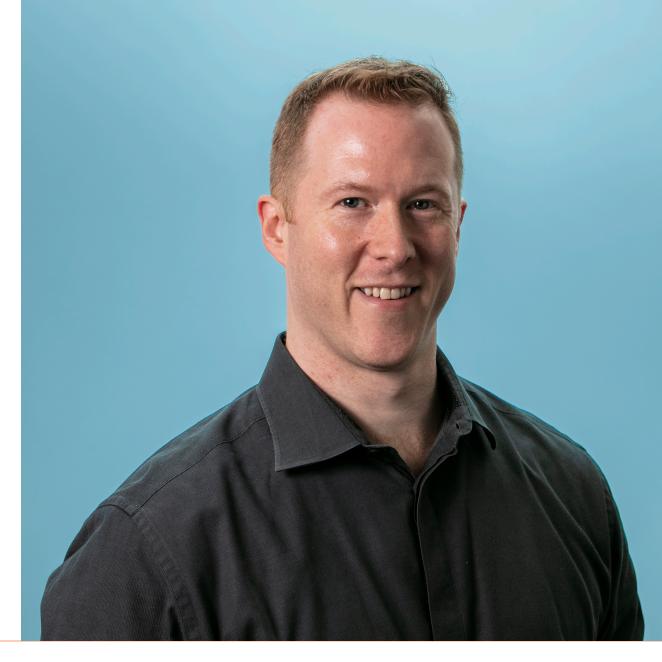


SELF-AGGRANDIZING INTERLUDE

"It's easy to mistake a higher-resolution view for a better one, but that isn't necessarily the case."

Kevin Leahy

SENIOR DIRECTOR, CONTENT & BRAND STRATEGY ONE NORTH

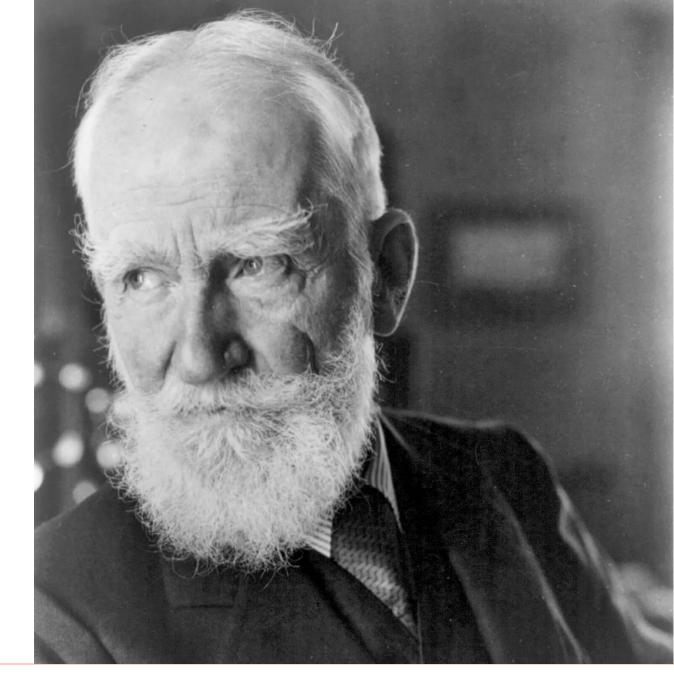


SELF-AGGRANDIZING INTERLUDE

"I often quote myself. It adds spice to my conversation."

George Bernard Shaw

PLAYWRIGHT, GADABOUT



SET PHASERS TO FUZZ

Home > TV > TV Features

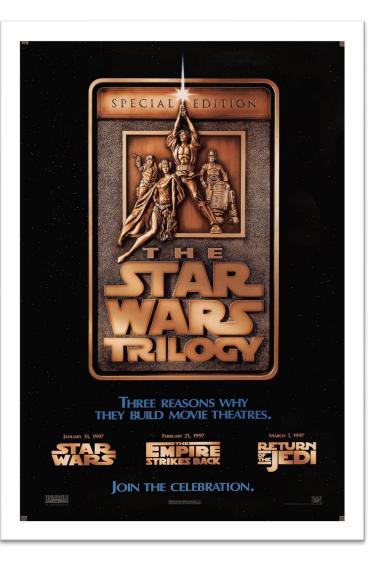
Star Trek's Remastered Effects Aren't as Good as The Original Series'

CBS remastered Star Trek: The Original Series' effects back in 2006, but the mid-oughts CGI upgrades don't hold up as well as the show's originals.

BY JOSHUA M. PATTON PUBLISHED MAY 18, 2023



When <u>Star Trek: The Original Series</u> debuted in 1966 on television, viewers saw innovative visual effects they



CHAT CGI

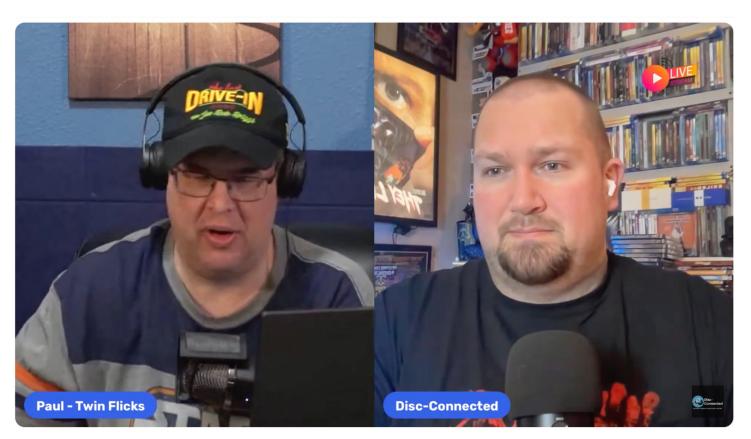


A.I. Made These Movies Sharper. Critics Say It Ruined Them.

Machine-learning technologies are being used in film restoration for new home video releases. But some viewers strongly dislike the results.

A Share full article





Did James Cameron Ruin His Movies in 4K??? W/Guest Disc-Connect

WHEN THE STAKES ARE HIGHEST

 \equiv

Artificial

Intelligence >



The New Hork Times

Using A.I. to Detect Breast Cancer

Harvesting Data for A.I. A.I. Data Race, Explained

\equiv the**bmj**

News

-

What Is

Breast cancer is overdiagnosed in one in six or seven cases, finds large US study *BMJ* 2022 ; 376 doi: https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.o581 (Published 04 March 2022) Cite this as: *BMJ* 2022;376:o581

Article Related Metrics Responses

Janice Hopkins Tanne

Author affiliations ¥

A US study of 35 986 women aged 50 to 74 who had had their first screening mammogram showed that 15.4% of cancers detected were indolent precancers or progressive cancers in women who would have died from other causes during their lifetime before a clinical diagnosis of cancer.¹ ²

OVERDIAGNOSIS IS POISED TO GO MAINSTREAM





INFO OVERLOAD

Consumers suffer from information overload.

"Consumers today face a seemingly endless number of choices, messages, ads and claims. Recommendations from friends, family, influencers, algorithms and apps only add to the noise, and this information overload is impacting people's confidence in their purchase decisions....choosing small items like moisturizer can be as challenging as selecting big ticket items like a washing machine."

- The Empowered Consumer, Accenture, 2024

INFO OVERLOAD

The info overload "U-curve"



INFO OVERLOAD

Businesses suffer from info overload, too.

38% of employees say they receive an "excessive" volume of communications at their organization.

Further, only 6% of those who feel overloaded by information report they are highly likely to stay with their current company.

- Gartner via Harvard Business Review, 2023



Harvard Business Review

Sign In

Internal Communication

Reducing Information Overload in Your Organization

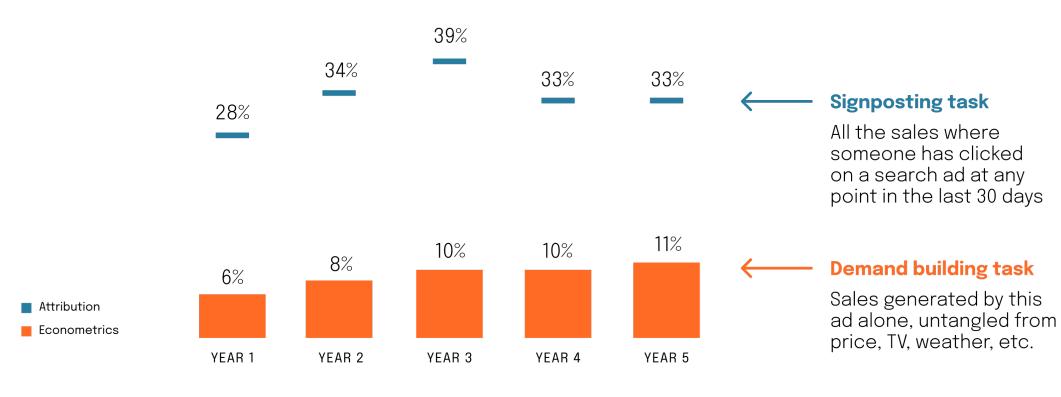
by LK Klein, Emily Earl, and Dorian Cundick

May 01, 2023



False confidence in numbers

Contribution of search to sales (%)



The salty smell of success



Award-winning strategist | Founder | Consultant

Many seem to love this smelly campaign. But I think it smells like a scam.

McDonald's just created a billboard that smells like French Fries....

Can you someone tell me:

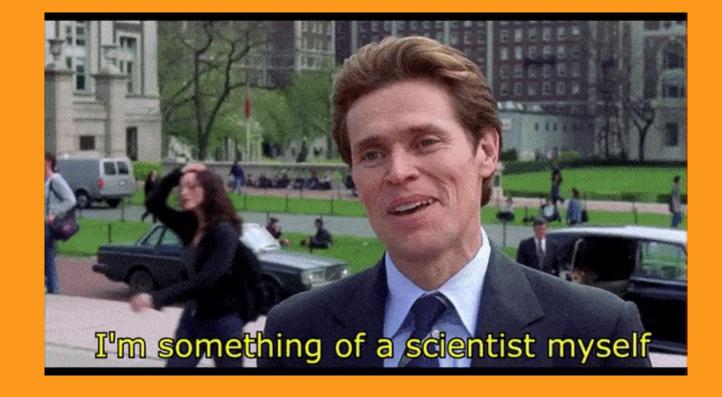
- -What business KPI this is driving?
- -Who is it targeting?
- -How expensive it was to make vs ROI?

Honestly, IMO, this is a piece of work to win a Cannes award.

Do you agree? Let me know in the comments. 9

Repost if you found this useful.

Do we all need to be scientists now?



Or can we make judgment calls?

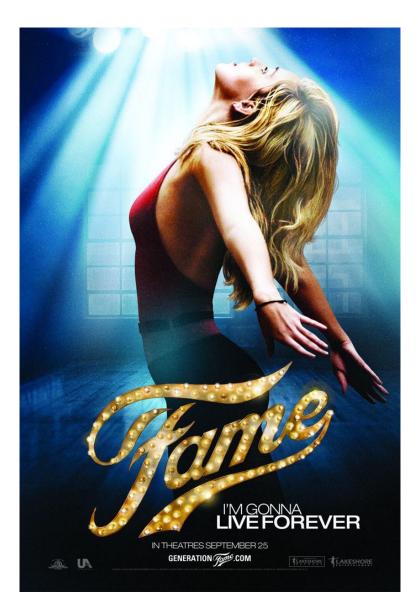


BACK OFF MAN, I'M A SCIENTIST

"What business KPI is this driving?"

If a brand comes readily to mind, it's a good choice (**Fame**). If a brand feels good, it's a good choice (**Feeling**). If a brand is recognizable, it's a good choice (**Fluency**).

- Orlando Wood, System1

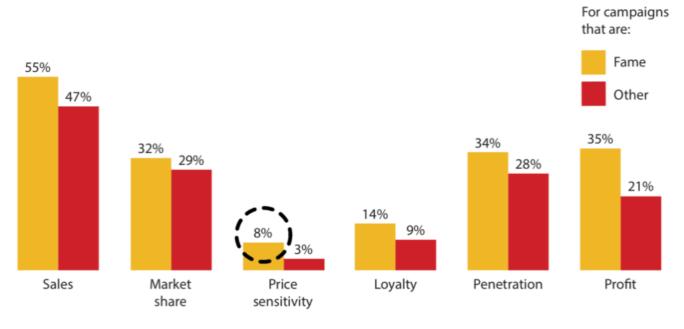


BACK OFF MAN, I'M A SCIENTIST

Fame helps brands live forever.

Fame-driving campaigns out-perform others on all business metrics

% reporting very large improvements in each metric



Source: Les Binet and Peter Field, The Long and the Short of It, IPA, (Figure 60)



Four Facets of Fame

23

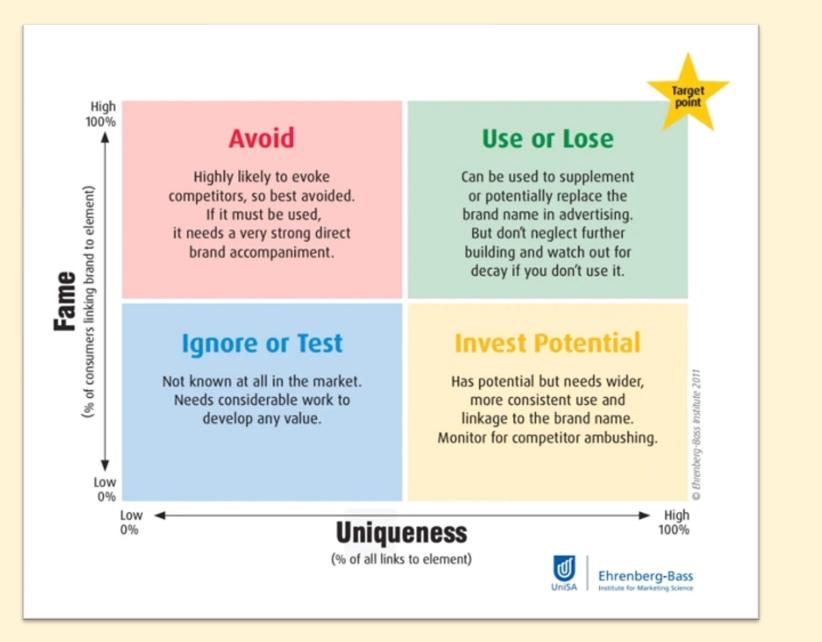
Originally Published by WARC¹

WORD OF THE DAY: HEURISTICS

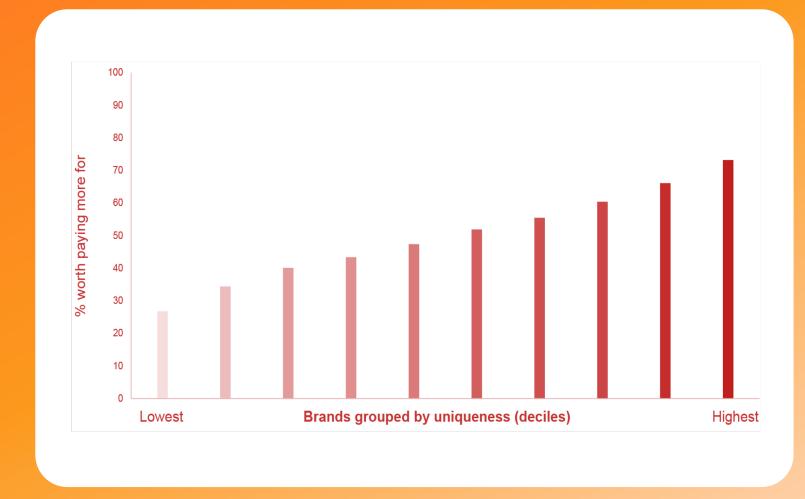
Fame: a low-resolution, probabilistic success measure

"Fame generates all sorts of wonderful benefits for companies and employees alike—more sales, more jobs, and more opportunities. We see the financial value of fame in LinkedIn data everyday: famous brands hire more talent more quickly (rejoice HR), get more meetings more quickly (rejoice Sales), and win more customers more quickly (rejoice Marketing)."

- LinkedIn B2B Marketing Institute



People pay more for brands they think are different.



Source: Kantar https://www.kantar.com/north-america/inspiration/inflation/is-branddifferentiation-an-effective-way-to-reduce-customer-price-sensitivity

BACK OFF MAN, I'M A SCIENTIST

"Who is it targeting?"

Do we need to segment "people who like fries" into smaller tranches?

"Fry dads? Chip moms?"

"Exurban Ketchupers?"

"Urban Vinegarians?"

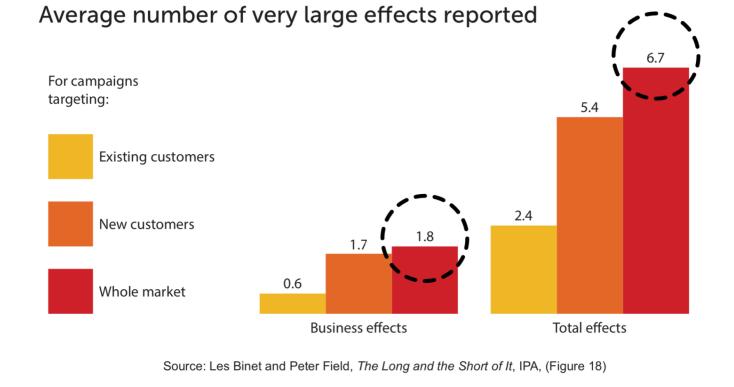
"Mayonnaise Mavens?" (heretics)



BACK OFF MAN, I'M A SCIENTIST

Try to reach everyone in your market.

The broader the reach, the broader the effects



WORD OF THE DAY: HEURISTICS

Reach: a low-resolution, probabilistic success measure

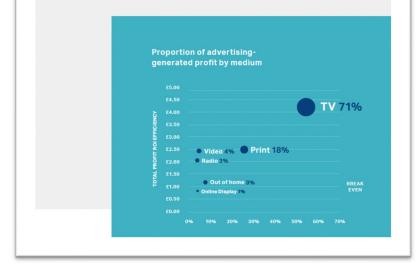
"Campaigns that used TV, outdoor, radio and press were far more likely to report very large business effects than those which did not. The results showed a strong correlation with reach."

- Anatomy of Effectiveness white paper, WARC

What does the evidence say? Reach is the foundation of media effectiveness

The work of Professor Byron Sharp and the Ehrenberg-Bass Institute put the focus of media strategy squarely on reach. Les Binet and Peter Field, in their analysis of the IPA database, have also argued for the benefits of media that can reach as many people in a brand's category as possible as often. This, in turn, suggests that scale is likely to be an important influence on media effectiveness. They found that campaigns that used TV, outdoor, radio and press were far more likely to report very large business effects than those which did not. The results showed a strong correlation with reach.

The 'Profit Ability' study by Ebiquity, Gain Theory and Thinkbox reports that TV drives the most profit because its scale and popularity enable it to deliver efficient profit return at high volumes of spend. Currently, TV accounts for 54% of advertising spend among Ebiquity's database, yet it is responsible for 71% of total advertisinggenerated profit. The report also shows online video, print and radio provide good profit returns. Additionally businesses can increase investment in TV to a higher level than other media and it will continue to generate a profitable return before diminishing returns kick in. Reach in these terms will almost always be paid reach: it is extremely rare for owned and earned media to generate comparable levels of reach.



BACK OFF MAN, I'M A SCIENTIST

"How expensive to make versus ROI?"

Maybe we can treat a small portion of our business activity as a bet. Some bets will lose, others will have asymmetric upside.

But ROI isn't the be-all end-all.



FAST@MPANY

04-12-2024 | CO.DESIGN

McDonald's scented billboard is a stroke of marketing genius

Who needs to see french fries when you can smell them?



[Photo: McDonald's]

 \equiv FOOD&WINE

SUBSCRIBE

NEWS

McDonald's Just Debuted the World's First Scented Billboard – Here's Where to Find It

It's our kind of Pavlovian prank.

By **Emily Price** Published on April 12, 2024

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QUICK POLL

A brief show of hands...

1

Did anyone not know that people like popular things?

2

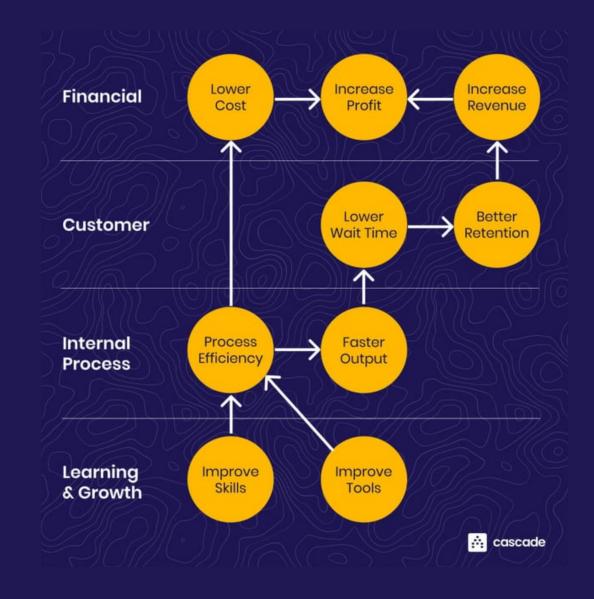
Anyone shocked that you should sell to the whole market? 3

Did anyone not know people like fries, in particular?

PINBALL WIZARDRY

The subordination of judgment to data and "flowchart thinking"

A deterministic view of the world as a static process with simple causes and effects.



A growing realization—

💄 Lo	ogin Ab	out/Buy	MarketingWeek		
Ne	Insig	Opini	Knowledge B	Festival of Market	Marketing Week A

OPINION

More data does not always mean more effective marketing

Media buying is trending towards hyper-personalisation, but sometimes broader targeting through high-quality media will reach more potential customers.

By Jerry Daykin | 1 Mar 2024

Share this article

X **f** in



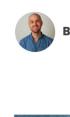


Q | ≡

Mark Ritson: Segmentation is not the prerequisite for success

MW

At the opening session of the Festival of Marketing 2023 Mark Ritson broke down the state of the industry in 2023 – with a particular focus on what it is doing wrong.



By Chris Sutcliffe | 5 Oct 2023

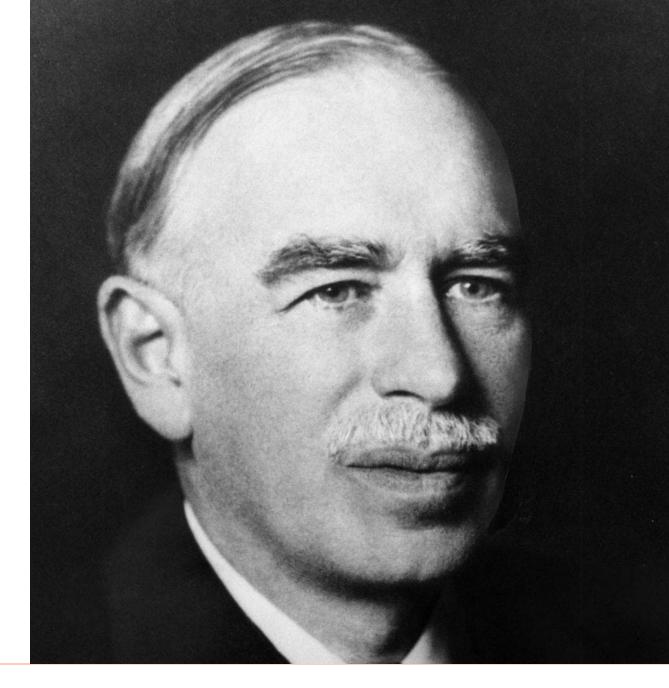


APPEAL TO HISTORICAL AUTHORITY

"It is better to be roughly right than precisely wrong."

John Maynard Keynes

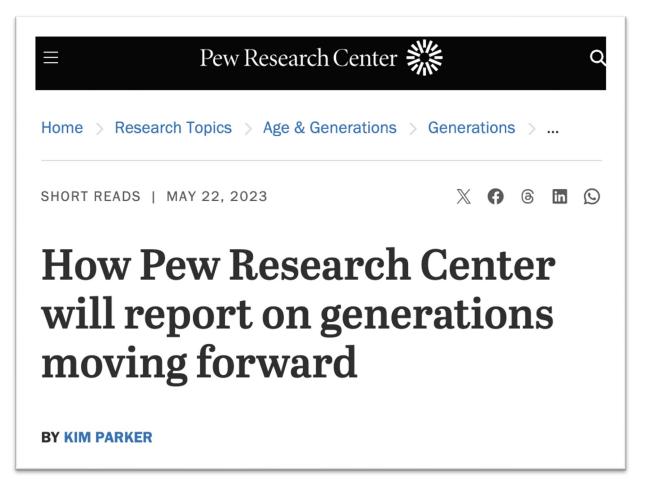
ECONOMIST

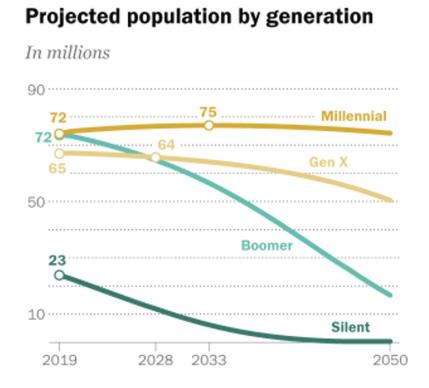


Aggregate data can provide a "low-resolution" but actionable view that better fits the chaos of the real world.

So what happens if we start subtracting?

Pew is getting rid of generational cohorts.





Note: Millennials refer to the population ages 23 to 38 as of 2019.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of U.S. Census Bureau population estimates released April 2020 and population projections released December 2017.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

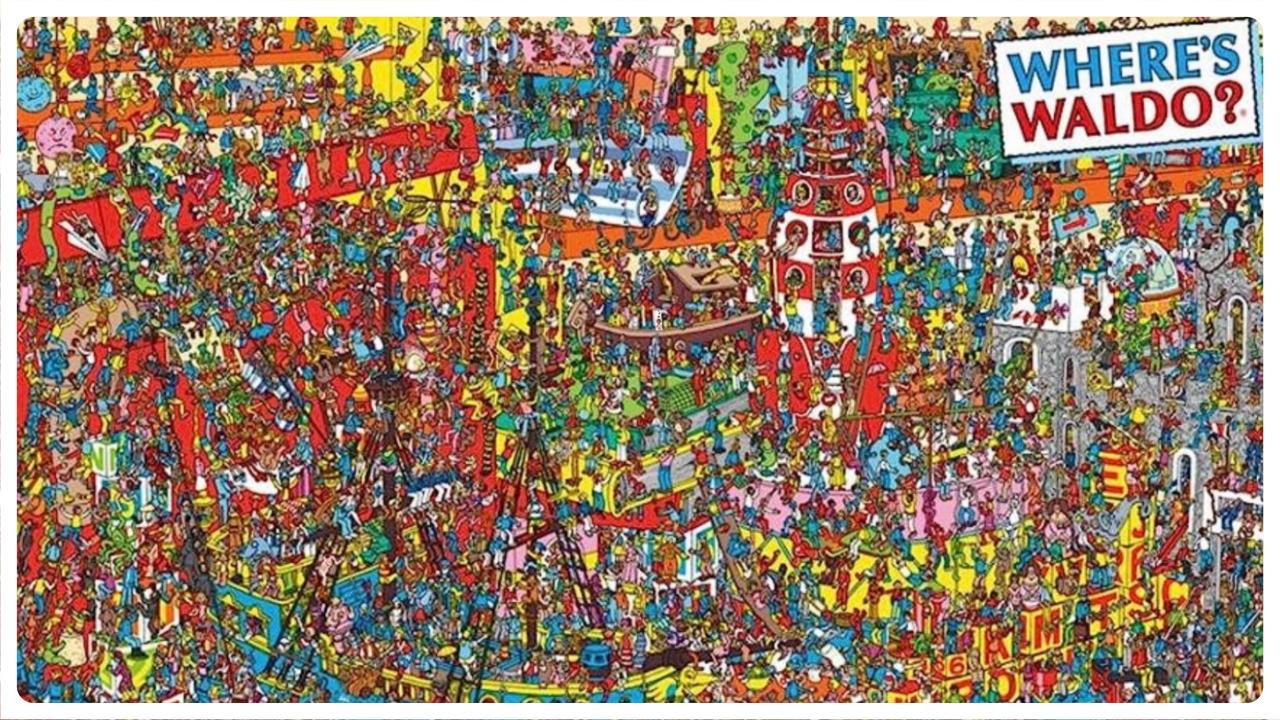
GENERATIONAL CHANGE

Pew's new approach

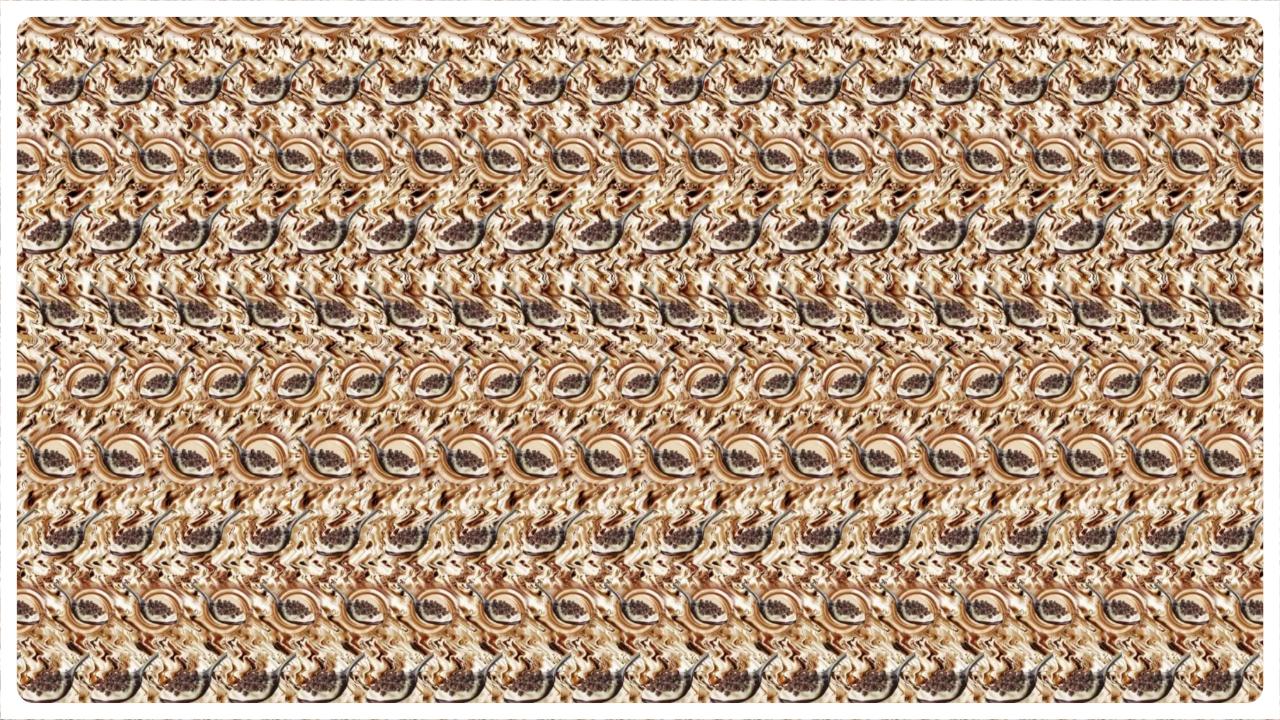
We'll only do generational analysis when we have historical data that allows us to compare generations at similar stages of life. When comparing generations, it's crucial to control for age. In other words, researchers need to look at each generation or age cohort at a similar point in the life cycle. ("Age cohort" is a fancy way of referring to a group of people who were born around the same time.)

Google: Post-Its over notebooks





What happens if we relax into the problem?



BEWARE THE TROPICANA PROBLEM

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BEWARE THE TROPICANA PROBLEM

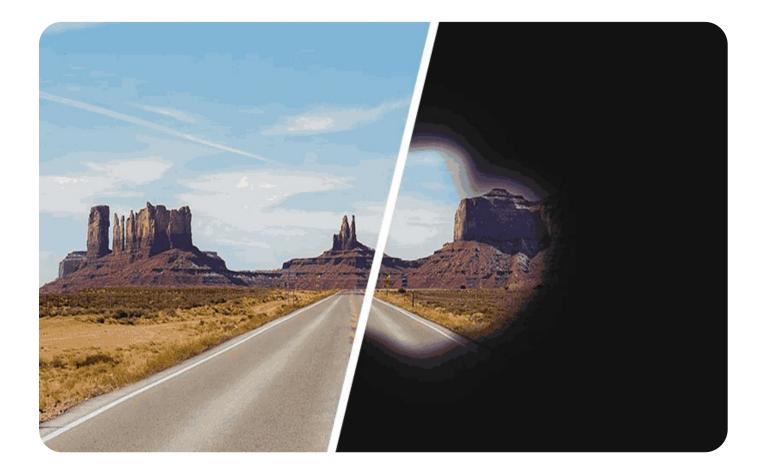
Failing the "blur test"

The new design is not effectively perceived in peripheral vision.

Phil Barden, "The Science of Effectiveness," *Eat Your Greens*, Troubadour Publishing, 2018.



Consumers have a low-res view of the world.



Toward a probabilistic understanding of the future

CHANGING PERSPECTIVES

The vital shift: from pinball to poker





Do you need to stalk your audience?

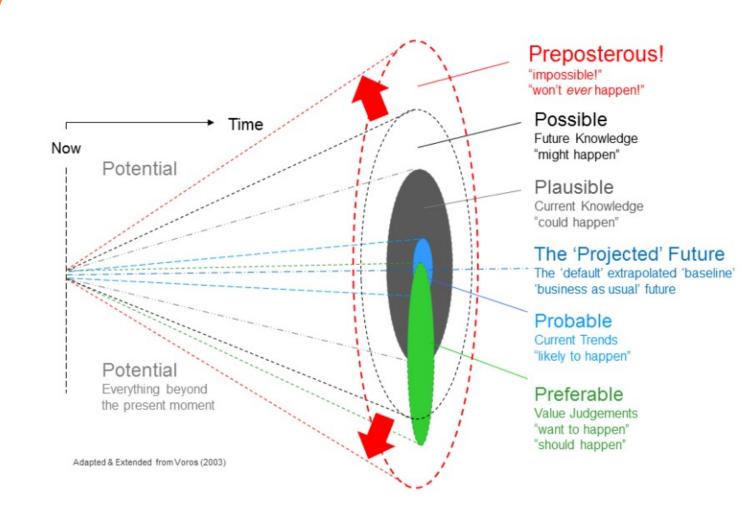
Or can you just talk to them?

Do you need granular data for every decision?

Or can you rely on probabilistic case studies?



Envision what's probable—not just what's possible.



din.

----strike a balance

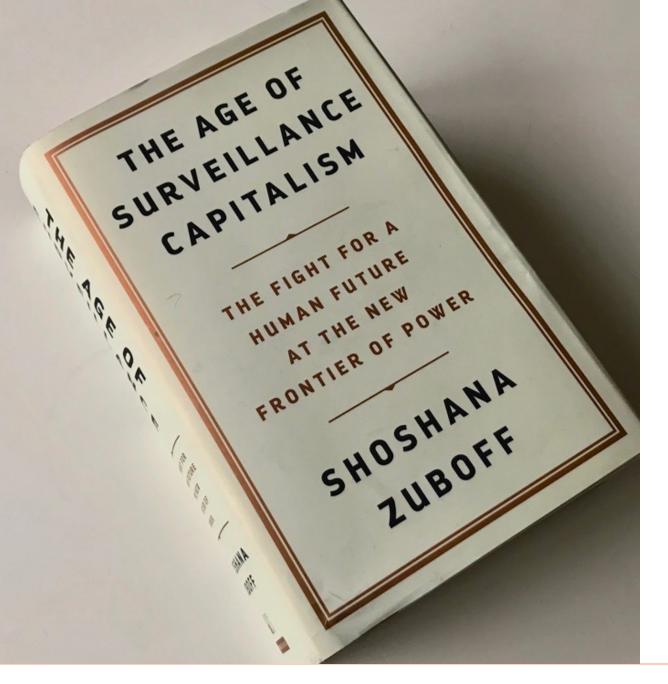


What's to be lost and gained?

QUIT FOLLOWING ME

Less ad stalking





ALL WATCHED OVER BY MACHINES OF LOVING GRACE

The "cookie-pocalypse" is good, actually.

"A 2015 study showed that, by visiting the 100 most popular websites, your computer would collect over 6,000 cookies. The study also found that 83 percent of the cookies came from third parties—not the websites that were actually visited."

— Shoshana Zuboff, *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism* The Atlantic

Everything We Know About Facebook's Secret Mood-Manipulation Experiment

It was probably legal. But was it ethical?

By Robinson Meyer



GIVE THE TIMES

2

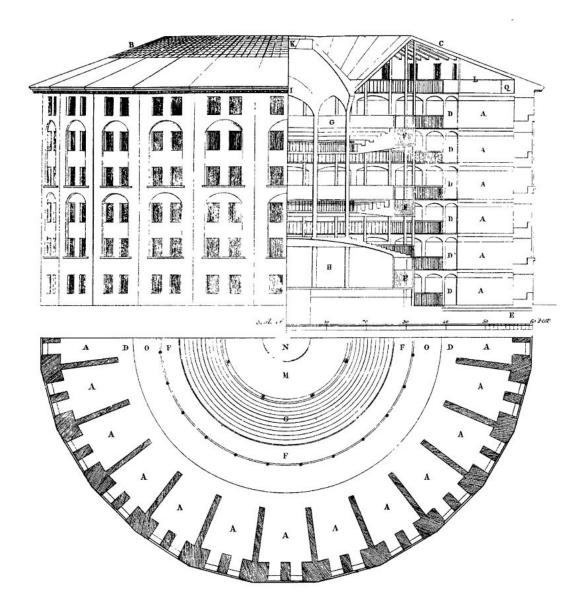
Cambridge Analytica and Facebook: The Scandal and the Fallout So Far

Revelations that digital consultants to the Trump campaign misused the data of millions of Facebook users set off a furor on both sides of the Atlantic. This is how The Times covered it.

Share full article









The data doesn't speak.

It won't decide for you.

In the end, it's up to you.

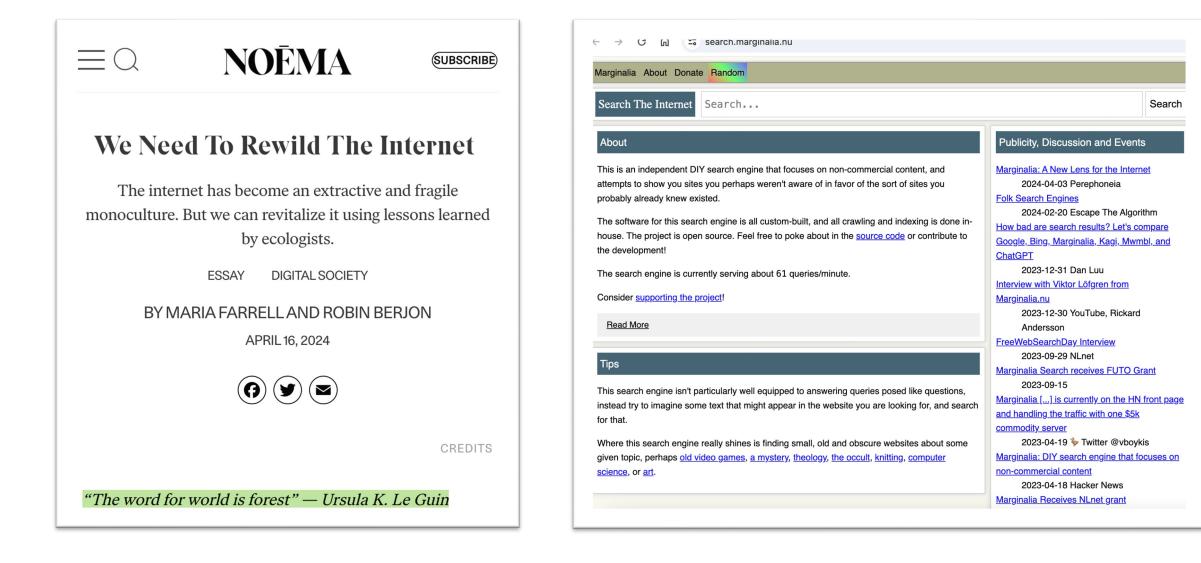


TRUST YOUR JUDGMENT

Turn off your targeting computer.

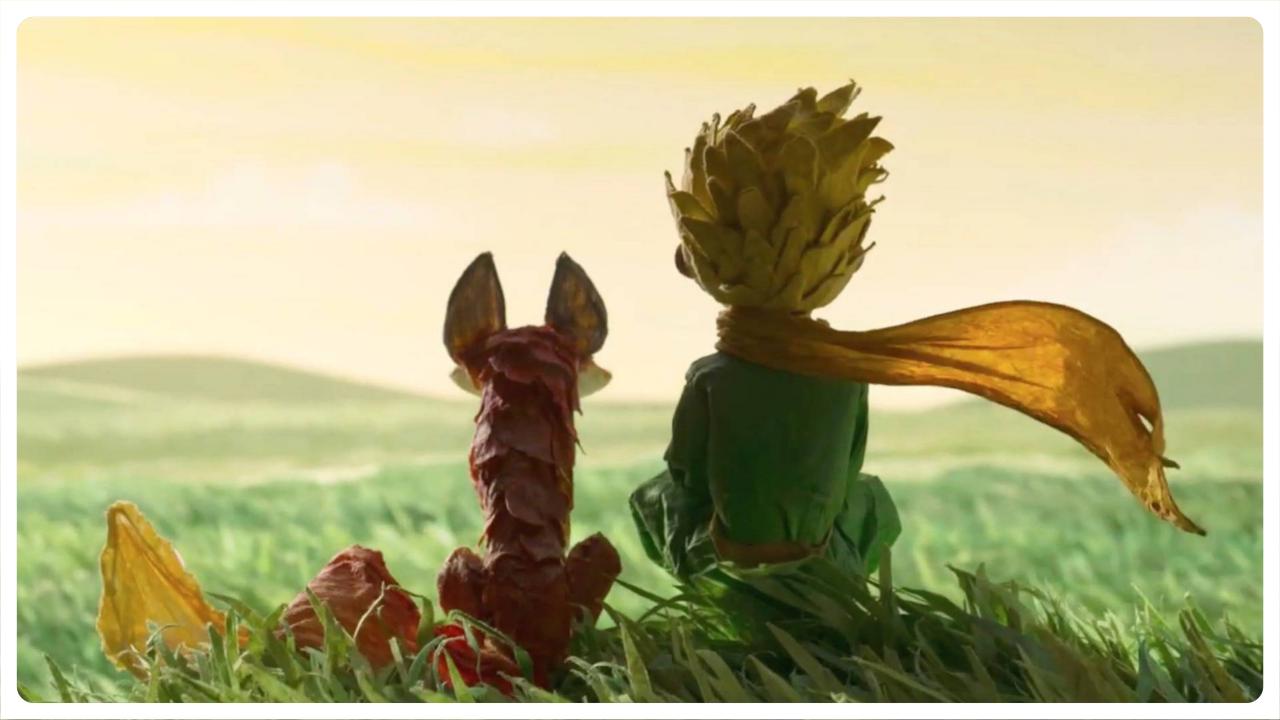


AN ALTERNATIVE VISION OF THE INTERNET



LAST METAPHOR, PROMISE





"And now here is my secret, a very simple secret: It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye."

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

AUTHOR



Thank You



