

CRITICALLY ANALYZING PRINT AND ONLINE NEWS ARTICLES

Learning Outcomes

LO2b: Understand the underpinnings of democracy and the workings of democratic institutions

LO2c: Develop skills to assess societal issues from multiple perspectives

QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE

As you know, not all resources are reliable or credible. Conversely, most resources have some sort of bias embedded in it. As critical thinkers, it is your job to wade through the research and/or reporting and assess whether the conclusions are based in evidence, or whether the author/researchers are making a leap.

The website linked below illustrates the variable bias in our media. As information consumers, it is our obligation to read from multiple sources, do not dismiss or accept anything based on one article, one viewpoint, or a social media post. Rather, read with a critical eye, assess the methods the author used and the data the author relied upon.

- Ad Fontes Media. (n.d.). *Interactive Media Bias Chart*.
<https://app.adfontesmedia.com/chart/interactive>

ASSIGNMENT:

Identify and analyze news articles on your project topic (or one aspect of your project) from a few different news sources. The **articles must be from a similar time frame**.

Using the link above, confirm that you have identified an article from a media outlet that leans “left” and a media outlet that leans “right.” NOTE: you should be reviewing newspaper articles, not peer reviewed journal articles for this assignment.

Read the articles and write one-two paragraphs on any differences you see in the evidence/data the author presents and in the conclusions of the author. Might there be truth in both articles? Which do you find more credible and why?