



Daniel Horowitz ▸ Public

Apr 03, 2016



WITH ADDED PARAGRAPHS

I am deeply concerned by the lack of real science education and the utter lack of sophistication with respect to scientific method and critical thinking in our general population.

[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3879211/](#) is a link to a study that shows that 82% of those surveyed favored mandatory food labels to identify the presence of DNA in food.

The willingness of people to pay more for "natural" or "organic" foods for "health" reasons is beyond a knee jerk explosive screed. Try to explain that "organic" foods often have a higher level of chemicals than "inorganic" foods and people don't think or reason, they explode with ill reasoned platitudes like, "well natural chemicals are safer because our bodies have evolved to tolerate them better. Well, if that's true, why do we die from arsenic ? Or put differently, if we evolve so do the plant pests that are repelled or killed by the self created pesticides from "organic" foods. Nonsense - logically nonsense gets repeated and paid for by consumers who are buying words and emotion, not science. BUT, if you present real science in response, you are vilified as a corporate apologist, "conservative" or some other emotion laden word that again, conveys not analytic content but simply is meant to disparage you.

More on this later.

Another example is the widespread belief in "homeopathic remedies". There is no such thing. Homeopathy is a STUPID identifier. If you really believe that you should pay \$ 10 for an ounce of water then please send me \$ 10.00 and I will send you TWO ounces - what a bargain. Homeopathic "remedies" are water which may have had a molecule or two of some potentially poisonous or other ingredient. Anything in large enough quantities is a poison. Anything sufficiently diluted is not poisonous. Homeopathic remedies are so dilute that there is NOTHING in them except water. There are so many dilutions and so few molecules of the initial substance that you are buying water. In fact, if you drink rain water, it has many more molecules of all sorts of things than Homeopathic water.

On another interesting note, water tends not to be destroyed but to be recycled. This means that the water you drink has molecules that the Romans drank, that dinosaurs drank and maybe even some from outer space. In fact, I can sell "Roman" water or "Dinosaur" water with more honesty than the homeopathic