

The Gadfly

Unreliable Narrators Since 470 BCE

Issue #1

September, 2025

Five Cents

Weather:

Varies based on the mood, location, and disposition of the reader; generally sunny

Satirical [adjective] - /sə'trɪkəl/

"Exposing human folly to ridicule"

Example:

The Gadfly is a satirical newspaper



The Gadfly's Comprehensive Tasting Guide to Store-Bought 'Deluxe-Luxury' Water

By: Mateo Grgic

Deluxe Water. The proletarians scoff at such a notion, dismissing 'deluxe water' as an oxymoron; a scam to part rich fools from their money. This is a logical conclusion, but they're missing the trained palate that only a lifetime of luxury could provide, a palate that allows a discerning Aquamelier to pick out various subtle hints and flavours from any aqua they encounter.

Whilst finding even a single Aquamelier who possesses a palate so refined as to be able to discern between these 'waters' isn't common, we here at The Gadfly have assembled a rare triumvirate of Aquameliers for this monumental occasion. May I introduce you to: Mateo (myself), Lianne, and Hassan. Together, we will embark on a spiritual journey, a quest to circumnavigate and categorize the best waters from the worst. A trial of the magnitude has not been attempted in many a decade, but The Gadfly is prepared, and our palates are ready. This analysis will be nothing short of rigorous.

Before we start the tasting, I should like to introduce you to our lineup. This highly varied and exotic lineup would make even the most experienced hydronaut tremble with anticipation. Today, we shall be sampling from the houses of Voss, Fiji, and Flow. We will be sampling Evian originating from both glass and plastic bottles. We will explore the icy peaks of Icelandic Glacial, and the humble Smart Water. The aggressive effervescence of San Pellegrino will be contrasted to the common alluvial PC Natural Spring Water. Given this vast range of deluxe waters to be sampled, our comprehensive tasting is shaping up to be the definitive reference on luxury water.

However, a full writeup that fully expresses our thoughts would be hundreds of pages long, so to spare our dear readers the tedium of a full exegesis for each sample, we've condensed the results into the following official tasting table. The verdicts are final:

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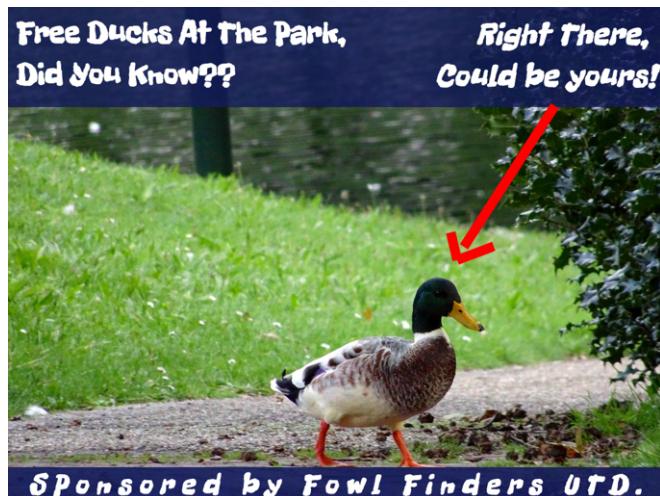
"To attract a mate, a shower might be in order"

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Water:	Palate & Finish	Official Edict	Ranking
Evian (plastic)	Unremarkable, yet comforting in its familiarity	Excellent averageness	1st
PC Natural Spring Water	A bizarrely nostalgic profile of "hot water, served cold."	Hauntingly suburban	2nd
Icelandic Glacial	Character is entirely dependent on temperature. Devoid of substance	Deceptive character	3rd
Evian (glass)	Earthy, alluvial notes. Lacks the expected Alpine crispness	Good, but disappointing taste from water of this calibre	4th
Flow	A hollow, characterless void. Profoundly mediocre	To be avoided	5th
Voss	A clean, crystalline entry that collapses into a plastic finish	Initially pleasant, practically terrible	6th
Fiji	Exotic promises betrayed by a synthetic body and a terrible finish	A marketing triumph	7th
San Pellegrino	Violently effervescent. A declaration of war on the tongue	Mixed: Some like it, some hate it	8th
Smart Water	Aggressive polyethylene nose with a bitter, chemical finish, and prolonged plastic aftertaste	In insult to water drinking itself	9th
Unholy Mix of All 9 Waters	A chaotic, horrifying blend. An affront to God and man	A crime against nature. Do not consume	10th

In the end, our spiritual journey through the world's finest waters ends with a humbling conclusion: familiarity & nostalgia trumps all. For some of our panel, that was the Evian, for others, tap water, and for others still, PC Natural Spring water. It is a lonely burden, this palette of ours, but one we must bear silently for the good of the uninitiated, lest the world crumble without us.

Ads:

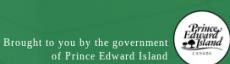


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The Harsh Reality of Today's Youth

By Lianne Elkadri

There is a chance that you were once a young child. Those wonderful years, full of wonder and joy, but most importantly, learning about the world you lived in. Unfortunately, there has been a noticeable shift in the intelligence of people born in the 80s to early 2000s and people born after 2020. Studies were conducted, in fear that the COVID pandemic has changed the genetic structure of children, and the results were shocking. The information in this article was generously donated to us by an unknown supporter, but was deemed reliable, as the grammar and punctuation was pretty good, and the handwriting on the envelope was very fancy.

Disclaimer: The Gadfly editorial and journalism departments respect the privacy and anonymity of any individual, living or dead. If this respect is tarnished or unratified, the head office (National Parks Conservation Association of Yellowstone National Park) is to be held accountable.

Subjects:

Patient no1

DOB: 05/17/1982

Fully developed frontal lobe, average coordination, structurally sound brain anatomy

Medical History:

07/05/1994 - Patient suffered from a minor concussion, recovered in normal time, experienced mild myopia, prescription of -1.0D was administered

12/10/1999 - Patient experienced anaphylaxis, was given 0.3mL epinephrine

03/04/2002 - Patient fractured distal radius, healed in 8 weeks, patient recovered with physiotherapy after 6 months

01/15/2006 - Patient states recurring headaches, nausea, dizziness, blood test indicates low levels of hemoglobin, prescribed 300mg ferrous sulfate to be taken once per day

Patient no2

DOB: 08/03/2024

Frontal lobe not fully developed, minimal coordination, very soft and moldable skull

Medical History:

03/14/2025 - Patient had foreign object lodged approximately 2cm deep in nasal cavity, removed with tweezers, was discovered to be a lego

Trial 1: Fine Motor Skills

Subjects were given a 100 piece puzzle. Each given 60 minutes to complete to the best of their abilities. Results determine efficiency at which the cerebellum functions, as well as the processing capability of the cortical columns located within the neocortex.

The Gadfly

Unreliable Narrators Since 470 BCE

"The way of the Lord is strength to the upright: but destruction shall be to the workers of iniquity"

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Patient no1 Results:

The subject was able to complete the task, keeping a seemingly consistent pace, and finished the task with 17 minutes 42 seconds remaining.

No errors were reported

Patient no2 Results:

The subject spent about 24 minutes with fingers in nose, spent the remaining time staring at the one way mirror, no attempt was made to complete the task.

Reported errors included an attempt to eat four puzzle pieces, successfully eating two and a half, and chewing the leg of the table.

Trial 2: Memory

Subjects were told a list of 15 items, and were then asked to recite as many as they could remember initially, and after 20 minutes. Results determine strength of the hippocampus, along with the functionality of the amygdala, thalamus, and prefrontal cortex.

Patient no1 Results:

The subject was able to list 11 out of the 15 items when initially asked. When asked after the predetermined period of time, the Subject was able to recite 13 items.

Errors reported included the subject misremembering an item that was not initially on the list.

Patient no2 Results:

Inconclusive results, as the test was not able to be carried out, as the subject bit the researcher listing the items. The researcher officially resigned after, and a replacement was not found, ending this trial.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, these trials were not able to continue, as we have to save paper because the aforementioned researcher sued us. Fortunately, we were able to conclude that those born in the 80s to early 2000s currently have much stronger and more mature brains than those born after 2020. We are still unsure as to why this is, but we still accept the hypothesis that the COVID pandemic was a large factor in this.

As you can see from this research paper, there truly is an issue here that needs to be solved.

Did You Know: In-House, High-Quality 'Peer Reviewed' Research Shows That "The Gadfly" Is Objectively The Best Newspaper



How Many Rocks Should You Eat?

By Mateo Grgic

It is a common question that I think we all find ourselves asking: How many rocks should you eat in a day? If you conduct a search with a commonly used search engine, you will find that the answer from 'medical professionals' seems to overwhelmingly point towards a disappointing answer: zero. However, if you look beyond surface-level 'expert opinions', you will find exactly zero formal research papers, studies, or otherwise to back up the claims of 'you should eat no rocks per day'. Clearly, Big Pharma has something to hide.

Seeing as I wasn't going to get a good answer from any official source, I decided to conduct my own research. I started small with my ingestion; I figured that since my body isn't accustomed to eating rocks, I should ease into it. The following are some excerpts from my rock-eating journal:

Day One: I started with three rather smooth pebbles I found at a riverside (sedimentary), with a mean weight of 3.5 grams each. The initial crunch was jarring, a sign that my jaw might've been weakened by a lifetime of soft, highly processed foods. I experienced a tooth fracture on my upper-left second molar, which I choose to interpret as my body shedding its weak, inferior teeth for stronger teeth able to process rocks, as God intended.

Day Three: I've progressed to a more serious rock, a large piece of granite (igneous) I dug up in my backyard, weighing ~1 kg. The stomach pains I'm experiencing have been described by so-called 'doctors' as 'probably a symptom of greater internal damage', but I choose to interpret these pains as my body awakening its latent ability to process rocks. I believe at this point that there must be a reason why medical professionals suggest we don't eat rocks, but I've yet to understand why. Perhaps clarity comes later?

Day Seven: Today I ate a moderate chunk of quartz, weighing approximately 500 grams. I feel a profound sense of clarity and groundedness. My thoughts are clearer, more solid. My dentist expressed 'alarm', but this is precisely the reaction I would expect from someone whose entire profession relies on weak teeth and Big Pharma.

After analysing my strong evidence, I decided that my research was conclusive. Whilst the number of rocks that is optimal evades me, it's certainly not zero, contrary to what 'medical professionals', 'dentists', and 'concerned co-workers' might want you to believe.

One thing that still lingered in the back of my mind was: Why the deception? A few answers became apparent (weaker teeth = more money, sicker people = more people to cure, etc.), but they all seemed too obvious. It was at this point when I decided to investigate further not only into the benefits of rock eating but also into the reason why humans decided to stop eating rocks entirely.

It was at this point in my journey when I discovered a reclusive online community consisting of fellow 'lithic' researchers, dedicated to revealing the truth and promoting rock eating, by the name of the Geovore Collective. User 'BoYah5923' confirmed my findings almost immediately. "Big Pharma has been suppressing rock eating for hundreds of years," they wrote. "Eating rocks cures everything from gingivitis to cancer to anxiety. It would make their entire scam business obsolete instantly."

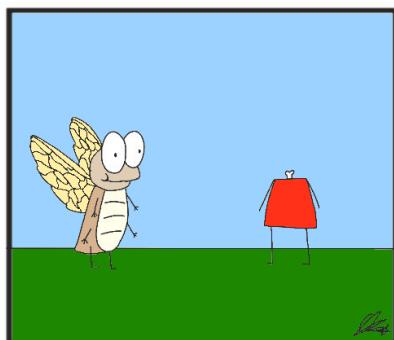
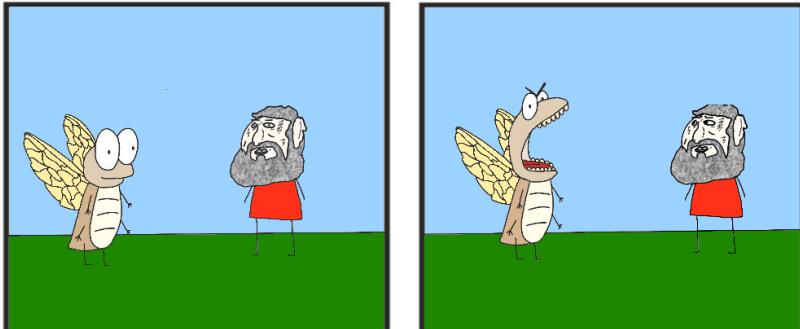
These ideas, however, simply confirmed what I already knew, but it was a late-night post from "DoctorTime" that revealed the final piece of the puzzle. The suppression of rock eating wasn't just for money; it was for control.

Eating rocks isn't just healthy for you; rocks also contain trace minerals that have a positive spin, which counters negative spin used by the government to control the minds of the populace. The largest concentration of these trace minerals was found in rocks at the former site of Mount St Helens, which conveniently erupted. It then becomes trivially obvious to deduce that Mount St Helens was an inside job performed by the government to make mind control easier.

It finally all made sense! The suppression of rock eating—it's all in the name of control! They have us eating soft food to weaken our jaws so we can't eat rocks anymore. They have systematically hidden from us the most vital nutrient that should be in our diets, one that our ancestors used to eat every day. This whole investigation only goes to show you that you should always do your own research. So, how many rocks should you be eating in a day? As many as you can stomach, and then some more.

Section of Fun

The Gadfly V.S. Ancient Greek Guy By Lianne Elkadri



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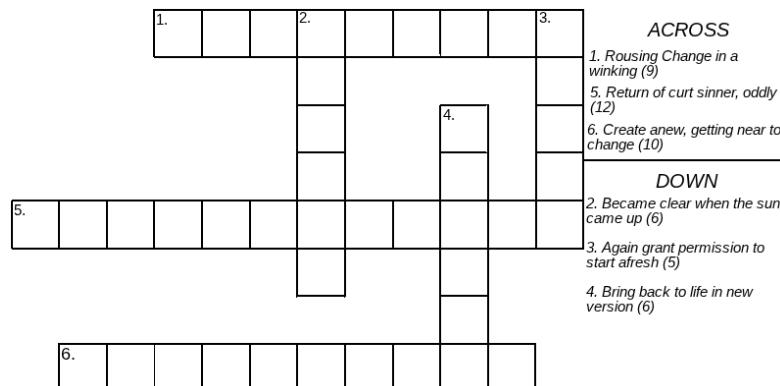
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Crossword Puzzle



Ask Harper with Hassan Ahmed

Dear Harper, I've been such a mess lately. I've been really overwhelmed with school starting back up, and I'm having relationship problems, and my room is such a mess that I couldn't even find my wallet this morning. I feel burnt out. How do I get out of this funk? - Apathetic Reader

Dear Apathetic Reader, I can see why you have relationship problems; your priorities are all messed up. Forget 'burnout' or 'mental health'. You've lost your wallet? Cancel your cards, replace your ID, and pray that no one is using your cash to pay for their groceries. Once all that's sorted, you can start thinking about 'self-care'. Yours, Harper Artichoke

Dear Harper, I've been thinking of getting a tattoo, what do you think? I'm still on the fence. - Undecided reader

Dear Undecided Reader, Tattoos are a permanent announcement to lovers & employers that you make bad decisions on purpose. If that is your intention, by all means. Yours, Harper Artichoke

Dear Harper, I'm thinking of changing up my look. Any suggestions for a good haircut? - Fashion-Conscious Reader

Dear Fashion-Conscious Reader, The best haircut is the one that makes people think you have your life together. Anything else is a gamble. Yours, Harper Artichoke

Dear Harper, Should I surgically remove my nose? - Deranged Reader

Dear Deranged Reader, ...What? Sincerely, Harper Artichoke

Dear Harper, Where could one purchase a hand grenade? - Peaceful Reader

I don't think I can answer this one, buddy.

Dear Harper, What's your favourite colour? - Flirty Reader

Dear flirty reader, Whichever you think looks best on me, darling 😊😊

The UK's Online Safety Act: An Excellent First Step

By Mateo Grgic

On 1 August 2025, the civilised world witnessed a wonderful and monumental first step towards building a better future for our children, and, by extension, ourselves and generations to come.

This monumental first step came in the form of the UK's precedent-setting Online Safety Act finally coming into full legal effect; this Act is a truly groundbreaking piece of bipartisan, well-supported lawmaking. This highly effective Act aims to protect our children from the exploitative, unregulated Wild West they are forced to navigate each and every day: the internet.

The first part of this Act that we wish to cover is the courageous, government-mandated removal of content that is not child-safe. Video-sharing platforms, search engines, and other similar websites will be mandated to remove content that is non-compliant with the government's strict child-safe guidelines. This policy ensures that no child will ever come into contact with something that could damage their young and fragile mind. This is enforced with either a £18m fine or 10% of global revenue, five years of prison time, and/or blocking of the site in the UK. This will also incentivise the mass removal of content that does not strictly break the UK's guidelines but could be potentially misconstrued as doing so, which is an unintended yet excellent side effect.

Now, despite all these positives, at The Gadfly we feel that this is not nearly enough. This flawed 'innocent-until-proven-guilty' model does not work. The only logical endpoint of the government's harm-reduction strategy is a government-controlled whitelist that disallows not only content that might be harmful but also content that is simply unhelpful. This ensures that every digital step a child takes online will fall only on morally correct and helpful ground. We also suggest making the fine larger (Perhaps £500m/50% global revenue, whichever is higher) to incentivise even stricter enforcement of government rules by companies. These proposed changes should produce a drastic improvement in child safety in the coming years. Together, with our suggestions, we can build a better world for everyone.

The UK government also plans to utilise age-verification technology backed by photo-based government IDs for anyone who wishes to visit a site that is not completely curated for young children. Again, while this is a good first step, it will largely be ineffective; this system is riddled with childishly simple (not a good thing when you are blocking children) loopholes. A determined child can easily borrow their parent's phone; they could take their mother's ID, or be brainwashed and misled by foreign agents into purchasing a VPN in the name of 'privacy' (Privacy: a selfish indulgence that directly enables predators and puts our children at risk). No, these initial plans are not nearly enough to protect the children fully.

All these loopholes are rendered obsolete with a simple and elegant solution. The internet must be treated not like a town square but like a secure primary school, with keycards to get in and out of the building so as to protect our children. As such, we suggest implementing the digital equivalent: a 'digital passport' system (the logical next step, already being discussed around the world) where, to log in to the internet, you must provide a government-issued digital passport that identifies you to your internet service provider, the government, and any website you wish to visit. Not only will this prevent children from being harmed, but it also means you will no longer need to fear anonymity on the internet. Undesirables who are disruptive in the eyes of the government will be blocked from the internet as a whole, cleaning up the digital square and ensuring safety for all. The children will only ever be safe from predators and exploitative practices when each citizen has a mandatory digital ID and everyone is accounted for.

Most courageously, this Act confronts the vile technology of end-to-end encryption. For too long, we have tolerated the absurd myth that privacy is a fundamental human right.

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What, after all, does an honest, child-loving citizen have to hide from the UK's benevolent government? However, we see a disappointing level of hypocrisy. While the state rightly demands a master key to every citizen's life, it intends to leave its own communications securely locked. This is totally unacceptable; privacy is deserved by no one. Just as your average citizen could easily be communicating CSAM, so could a government employee.

This perhaps explains the UK government's childlike analogy of 'sniffing' end-to-end encrypted communications: a commendable idea, but fundamentally at odds with how encryption actually works. It is an understandable and common mistake to make, as technology is rather difficult to understand. Reading Wikipedia (especially after we make it an unviable platform—good riddance) is rather hard. More importantly, this analogy lacks the imagination required to protect our children properly. A sniffer tool would be for finding hidden secrets shared between individuals, but why stop there? A predator could have downloaded exploitative materials for later use and offline sharing.

The only possible logical endpoint is a system where we scan each and every file regularly. This 'digital check-up' would run every time a file is modified, downloaded, or otherwise interacted with. This would mandate that a device functions only while online, but in our increasingly connected world, this should pose no problem. This system would protect our children like no other. The government would be able to scan not only for illicit CSAM but also for illegal content, terrorist propaganda, unhelpful misinformation, or simply undesirable material, which could then be reported to the proper authorities, actioned, and removed permanently. Implementation of this system should be viable with minimal resources and is truly the best way to ensure our children are safe from all angles. If you object to this new rule, you have already told us everything we need to know. A perfect, idealistic society would never tolerate secrets. A true citizen would never object to the protection of children. You either share everything the government wants to know, or you support the predators. It is as simple as that.

Finally, the UK's new Act ensures that anyone who "causes psychological harm amounting to at least serious distress" can be imprisoned for up to two years, which is a wonderful idea to silence those who dare to harm our children, even verbally. However, another fascinating potential use case of this law—one that excites me even more than protecting our children—is to silence undesirables. Using this law, one could foreseeably imprison anyone with whom the government disagrees, an excellent, unplanned side effect that we could all stand to benefit from; a side effect that will support our ideals of building a better, more stable, safer society for children and adults alike.

However, once again, the UK government is being too weak with its policies. We at The Gadfly look towards—and praise—Canada's proposed strong-arm approach: pre-emptively placing citizens under house arrest for things they might say, and imposing up to life imprisonment for things they did say. This is a wonderful part of a wonderful policy that will put away people who harm, or could potentially harm, children forever. All this is necessary in our quest to save children not only from our modern internet but from our modern world itself.

Let us be clear about the ultimate goal that this Act and our suggestions set into motion: the state must rightfully take its place as the ultimate parent. For too long we have left the important role of parenting and raising children to amateurs—busy, unreliable, ignorant, and very fallible parents. This might sound like outsourcing parenting to the government—and it is—but who better than the government? The logical endpoint, of course, is to ensure children are raised with proper, government-approved ideals from the very beginning. If you disagree, you must hate children and their futures.\

And what a paradise this new Act will bring. No longer will children be subject to the mental abuse of an unregulated internet. No longer will they be able to access the depravity of Pornhub and Reddit, the lyrical freedom of Spotify, or the rampant, unregulated "truth" of Wikipedia. No longer will they be scarred by ideas that differ from the official narrative. No longer. Yet, despite all the positives we have clearly presented here, there have been some complaints of 'censorship', 'tyranny', or 'building a global dystopian hellscape', but to those people, we must simply ask: what is the weight of a single child's tear compared to your so-called 'freedom'?

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Freedom is a barrier to protecting our children, a guardrail that leads only to the complete destruction of ordered society.

And to finish, let no one speak to us of other solutions: of “teaching digital literacy”, or “educating children to think critically”, of “having difficult conversations within the family”, or of “parenting”. These are fantasies of the naïve, a foolish reliance on the very individuals who have already failed. Why teach a child to navigate a minefield when we can simply pave it over? This enlightened consensus is already spreading to Canada, the USA, and Australia, as it rightfully should. We hope that it will eventually spread globally. The solutions we have outlined are simple, total, and, most importantly, effective.

We have the opportunity to build a perfect, idealistic, globally regulated society, and all it will cost us, is everything.

Minimalism

Minimalism: It's Getting to Be Too Much

By Lianne Elkadri

Of all the stupid ideas forged by Gen Z, minimalism is arguably something that exists. Minimalism is the idea that having less is more, and is commonly used in regard to interior decoration. Truthfully, it is simply a term to make people who don't know how to decorate feel better, yet people still believe it to be stylish.

A common argument used to support minimalism is that it is better for the environment. This is a ridiculous argument, as the stuff is inside your house and the environment is outside. In fact, the term “Minimalism” actively contradicts this lifestyle. A word containing ten letters is rather excessive, and having a shorter word would reduce the amount of space it takes up. Another contradiction of this lifestyle is the saying “less is more”. This is a phrase commonly associated with minimalists but ultimately creates a paradox.

If the intention is to have more and they are achieving that by having less, eventually they would have more and no longer have less, and therefore no longer have more. Pictured above is a textbook example of minimalism. As you can see, the person is walking through this area very confused, as they do not support minimalism. This person likely has many good opinions due to this.

This person likely wakes up early in order to make the most of their day. After waking up, they make coffee and read The Gadfly while listening to Mozart, which is the best way to experience The Gadfly. They also think that littering is bad and enjoy reading feminist literature. Clearly, this image speaks a lot about the type of person who is confused by minimalism and paints a picture of a better future.

It is estimated that by 2027, this person will be two years older, which gives hope for the next generation.

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Opinion: Imperative That World Leaders Agree to Raise Global Temperatures in Response to Titanic Foundering

By Hassan Ahmed

This month in history, 113 years ago, The Gadfly wrote an opinion piece following one of history's most infamous tragedies. How does it shape up today?

ON MONDAY LAST, in the second year of his majesty's King George V's reign, the unsinkable RMS Titanic foundered and sank beneath the waves. Aboard were near one-hundred-and-thirty passengers departing our fair country of Canada, of which forty-eight escaped certain peril as the Fiume-bound RMS Carpathia diverted course to conserve the welfare of our brothers & sisters stranded in the grand Atlantic.

To blame for the wicked deed is Jakob the Murderous Dane; a gigantic mass of frozen water (referred to as 'icebergs' by plebians) that formed the year previous in one-thousand-nine-hundred-and-eleven, brought into being within the Kingdom of Denmark's northern colony. Though many have called for the abolition of Denmark, The Gadfly seeks to introduce a completely different proposal to the public discourse; a most ingenious bout of wisdom honouring the greatest scientific minds, heretofore dismissed by timid men, a process we have labeled climate warming.

Certain gasses have been proven to trap heat on-to the earth vis-a-vis a greenhouse effect, rapidly warming the planet in a process nigh-on uncontrollable without divine providence. A rapid increase in the productional capacity of factories, the large displacement of millenia-aged gasses condemned by the epochs underground, and the breeding of bovines all serve the final aim. Such an initiative, bold and uncompromising at its core, requires efforts from the entire globe. The European concert and her dominions, the Ottoman Empire, the independent states of Iberian America, the United States, and the kingdoms of the far east such as Cathay and Nippon, all must work in an organised movement to raise the excretion of dirty fuels into the atmosphere.

The benefits of such an ambitious effort are self-evident. The foremost change we will see is moral retribution for the crime that occurred against the victims of the Titanic. Jakob the Murderous Dane and his entire entourage have long terrorised that grand Atlantic, Arctic, and Antarctic waves. Ice, notorious for its intolerance to heat, choosing instead to turn to water, is much more amicable for shipliners who would have no choice but to sail freely without worry. The execution of Jakob the Murderous Dane and all other icebergs would be fulfilling the Lord's will, delivering divine justice and correcting the moral imbalance brought about by the brutal murder of the first-class passengers, as well as the accidental cessation of life to the third class.

On the topic of the poor and down-trodden, a radical warming of the planet would aid the serf class beyond any other. Through the warmth this new world would bring, the winter would be abolished. Idle peasants will no longer be excused to slumber through the dreaded wintertime as though they were in hibernation, giving them little choice but to work for their rulers. Gaining months of labour would enrich the state and the king, who would naturally give basic amenities to the poor; a process we have labeled 'trickle-down economics'. Children too will not waste their formative years making snow-men and skating on the lake, for they will now have more opportunities to gain experience in the mines.

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Of course, the Titanic tragedy was in part caused by the working class, for had they not stampeded into the third class cabins like bodacious breeding bovines into a pen, the ship would have been more nimble and able to dodge the ruthless and atrocious iceberg. Indeed, providing the poor with such benefits would reflect the incredible generosity of our society.

Indeed, the summer would also increase in heat, which the children would bemoan as their vacation time becomes unbearable. This too is a benefit. Increased discomfort creates a stronger character, which ultimately serves the nation more than anything else. It builds discipline, moral worth, and a deep love for the nation and king that has given you everything. The man who has luxuries such as food and health is weak. Weak men serve the rival nation, ne'er have they been of use to their own people.

Such warming would entail greater prosperity in some regions however. The vast tundra in Canada and Russia would be free for the businessman to fund agricultural projects, giving the poor work, and expelling the native peoples from the land. Thus far, we have let them stay in those lands for they have no use to us, but with the cold receding from the north, the spoils would be ours to take. The reveal of coal and oil reserves would be exploited, generating great wealth and greater emissions for the planet. The aforementioned bodacious breeding of bovines could be accelerated with so much empty land for the taking. Poverty itself shall melt alongside the ice. It would benefit the king greatly and the Empire as a whole.

Already discussed is the massacre of the iceberg and the benefits it shall have for the civilian, yet it too should be of great interest to the military. With limited distractions and obstacles in the ocean, travel would be more secure, allowing for a great increase in arms production. Without icebergs to sink German ships, the British navy would be obliged to employ men in creating new menaces that affect only the wicked German. The German Hun would then have to develop technology that would make them immune to such menaces; a virtuous cycle. The trade, industry, and arms production would save Europe from war. Already the European race is too civilised to be enthralled in any 'Great War', especially by the 20th century. The trade would be too prosperous to risk, and there could never again be a war on the European continent.

It is as clear as the midnight sky that a mass warming of the climate is the only path forward for a civilised society that wishes to leave the tragedies of The RMS Titanic firmly in the yesteryear. Fulfilling the Lord's promise, increasing the productivity of the serfs and the indentured servile, a greater level of fortitude in our young kin, expansion of business in-to the north, the impossibility of a Great War ever occurring in Europe, and of course, the brilliant bodacious breeding of bovines. Climate Warming is man's next step towards brilliance.



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Open Letter To The CBC

By Hassan Ahmed

To the executives of the CBC (Canadian Broadcasting Corporation),

We, The Gadfly, are concerned. As a fellow news broadcaster, one would hope you see the problems plaguing the modern news landscape as an existential threat; just as The Gadfly does. The simple fact is that newspapers publishing with fake stories and statistics are ruining the reputation of serious publications everywhere, and the CBC has been a serial abuser of these unholy methods for years. It is time that you answer for your sins and put in the effort to mend them before it is too late.

Before we get into the mess of misinformation, we think it would be worthwhile to address plagiarism. Your name is hardly original, being directly ripped from the just as unimaginative BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation). This is unconscionable. It blatantly violates copyright law and is such an overt theft that it sends a clear message to all small creators; if not even the BBC is safe, what chance do you have? Simply by writing this letter, The Gadfly has placed itself in great danger. Still, someone has to stand up to your practices. Ultimately though, intentionally obvious plagiarism is one of the lesser crimes of the CBC.

100% of the people who agreed with us that were surveyed admitted that they can no longer tell the difference between fact and fiction. Who else is to blame for this than the state-sanctioned broadcasting corporation? The CBC simply has no regard for the truth, and its omission of certain stories speaks volumes. In 2025, our MPs will have spent only 3 months working. From January to April? Break. July to August? Break. As the do-nothing government was wasting time and money, you wrote an article about how 'skibidi' was added to the dictionary. By hiding the truth from the people and giving them useless information to bicker over, you ruin journalism as a profession*. The reason for ignoring the government's inaction is quite simple, isn't it? 1.5 billion dollars. To report skibidi dictionaries. Why doesn't the government give The Gadfly one and a half billion dollars? Because The Gadfly reports the truth and you report lies. The government would much rather The Gadfly go away, and it won't be long until they try and get rid of us.

The people see through you, CBC. It won't be long until your readership collapses and you're forced to throw in the towel. That or the government will just give you another billion. We want to stress that we don't have to be competitors; we want to help you. There are ways to solve this problem and reclaim the once coveted reputation of serious journalism.

First order of business: try being original. You steal the names of other news companies, and you 'report' on the exact same set of news with the same bland commentary as everyone else. The name is an easy fix, there are plenty of options. We hear 'Backcast' is free for the taking, maybe give that a shot? As for your actual news, we all know you're a shill for the government; lean into that more. Give people a reason to seek you out. All the normies who listen to whatever the government tells them will eat it up, and by the end you'll have an obedient populace that won't bat an eye whenever the government does anything wrong! With more than a billion dollars at your disposal, you could polish any turd into a beautiful story.

Ultimately, Mr. Executives, the choice lies with you. Will the CBC continue to butcher sincere journalism until the people lose their faith in news as a whole, or will you chart a new path, The Gadfly by your side, as we share the billions of dollars to create a new media environment.

The Warmest Regards We Can Give,

The Gadfly

* Granted, we never wrote an article about the long breaks that the government takes, but we were on vacation.

Socks? They Reveal All

By Mateo Grgic

The great divides of history have been well documented; the theological, the political, the ideological. Yet, beneath the surface level 'motivations' to the causes of all this strife, there lies a deeper, more intimate dichotomy that defines the very make-up of a man's character. It is a choice made silently, in solitude, unspoken, but meaningful. It is a breakdown of a person's entire world view: which sock do they put on first?

For the case of putting on your left sock first: It is a tradition steeped in nuance; putting your left sock on first. The adherents amongst us will confirm as much. Passed down through the quiet observations of our forebears, the left-sock-firsts find solace in the familiar rhythm of left-then-right. It is a stable anchor in a chaotic world. In a place where everything changes every day, a place where one day you could wake up to find your closest confidant selling you out, one thing remains the same: Left-sock-first, day-in, day-out. Why shirk tradition? Why disrupt the one stable thing in an ever-changing world?

For the case of putting on your right sock first: The case for putting on your right sock first is not rooted in tradition, rather one of unassailable reason fueling peak efficiency and optimization. For the vast majority of the human populace, the right side of your body is the side of dominance. Is it so ingrained in our culture that the word for 'right' fundamentally means 'correct'. Coincidence? No. The word left comes from the old English 'lyft', meaning 'weak'. Morally speaking, to begin the day with putting on your right sock first is to fundamentally value correctness over petty traditionalism. It is an action that realigns your body with your preferred, naturally stronger neuromuscular pathways. To dull that is to dull what makes your hand dominant, weakening your optimal handedness. Of course, this is an argument for the majority. If you're left-handed, put your left sock on first. We provide more compassion and understanding than left-sock-on-first-ers ever will.

Let us be unequivocal, there is but one camp to be a part of: the right-sock-first camp. They provide the strongest arguments, systematically debunk left-sock-first-ers, and provide sympathy and understanding to those who are simply unable to switch for medical reasons. It is clear that what we witnessed today will go down in the history books, and be taught in philosophy classes for generations to come.



Do You Know Your Colours? Unpacking The Government's New Aptitude Test

By Hassan Ahmed

The Provincial legislature has recently approved a new aptitude test for grade 09 students to complete as part of their graduation requirements: the "The Comprehensive Hue-Subject Categorisation Assessment for Use in Secondary Schools" (the TCH-SCAUSS). Students are expected to complete the TCH-SCA over 2 separate days; The 15th and 17th* of September.

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Students will be given 7 subjects: Mathematics, history, science, art, technology, english, and lunchematics. They will also be given access to only 16,777,215 hex code combinations**. Their tests will then be graded by methods mysterious even to the government, and handed back within 4-5 months. When asked what the test will be graded out of, the government spokesperson shrugged and scratched his head. The Progressive Conservatives, in line with their 200% cut in education spending last year, have said that computers will not be used to complete the assessment (citing electrical costs). Instead, students will be given a chisel and stone tablet. Premier Doug Ford had the following to say:

"Y'know, the students who fail will be automatically assigned college level courses for the rest of their high school career. We've decided that it'll also be best if they're also assigned a college/university according to their score. Hell, we might just force them all to work low paying jobs if they can't manage this! Someone needs to work those nasty jobs, and it won't be my kids; they're rich! Now, you know my heart breaks for the stupid ones but it's their own fault at the end of the day! The students that pass will be transferred to the honour program, where we'll slowly break their ambitions and spirits. As my brother Bob used to say, 'until the kids are depressed, don't divest!'"

Last year's answer key is available below. Students should be expecting a radically different set of colours for the 2025 TCH-SCAUSS:

Math - Aquamarine - 52, 164, 235

History - Sepia - 166, 84, 51 * 0.65

Science - Green, duh - 40, 191, 55

Art - N/A - -0, -0, -0

Tech - Drab Grey - 196, 194, 194

English - Yellowish-purple - (212, 212, 91 + 159, 63, 191)

Lunchematics - various answers

*Reports say that the reason for skipping a day was due to MPP Catherine Fife's infamous fear of Tuesday the Sixteenth

**MPPs agreed that including all 16,777,216 colours would be overburdening. As such, (186, 138, 141) was disincluded, much to the Liberals dismay

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Mateo Grgic - Layout, Editor, Writer, Steering Committee, Co-Founder

Mateo Grgic is a grade 11 student at Laurel Heights Secondary School. He was born & raised in Waterloo, Ontario in an upper-middle class household. He co-founded 'The Backcast', a failed school newspaper with his friend Hassan Ahmed, which eventually got shut down for being too funny. Never ones to give up, they then started a new, legally distinct newspaper: The Gadfly. Mateo is an avid cyclist & computer enthusiast. His favourite colour is neon green. He is also a corporate shill for the following things: Kagi Search, uBlock Origin, LibreWolf Browser, Fedora Linux, Framework computer, Giant Bikes, and many more!



Hassan Ahmed - Secretary, Ads. Writer, Steering Committee, Co-Founder

Hassan Ahmed is a co-founder of The Gadfly, and an aspiring New York Times Bestselling Author. Born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, he was deported for being too funny. He moved to the land that provided the most promise and opportunity for a young journalist; suburban Waterloo. With only 3 incidents involving the police, Hassan discovered one day that anyone can start a news publication if they tried hard enough, and here we are.



Lianne Elkadri - Unpaid Artist, Writer, Steering Committee, Co-Founder, Holder of the Secret Knowledge

Lianne Elkadri is a journalist for the Gadfly, while also dedicating a significant amount of her time to thinking about what to do with her free time. She also never knows what to put in "about the author" sections, despite this being the first time she has had to write one. She enjoys music, collecting vinyl records, the colour red, space, turtles, physics, and geometry.

