

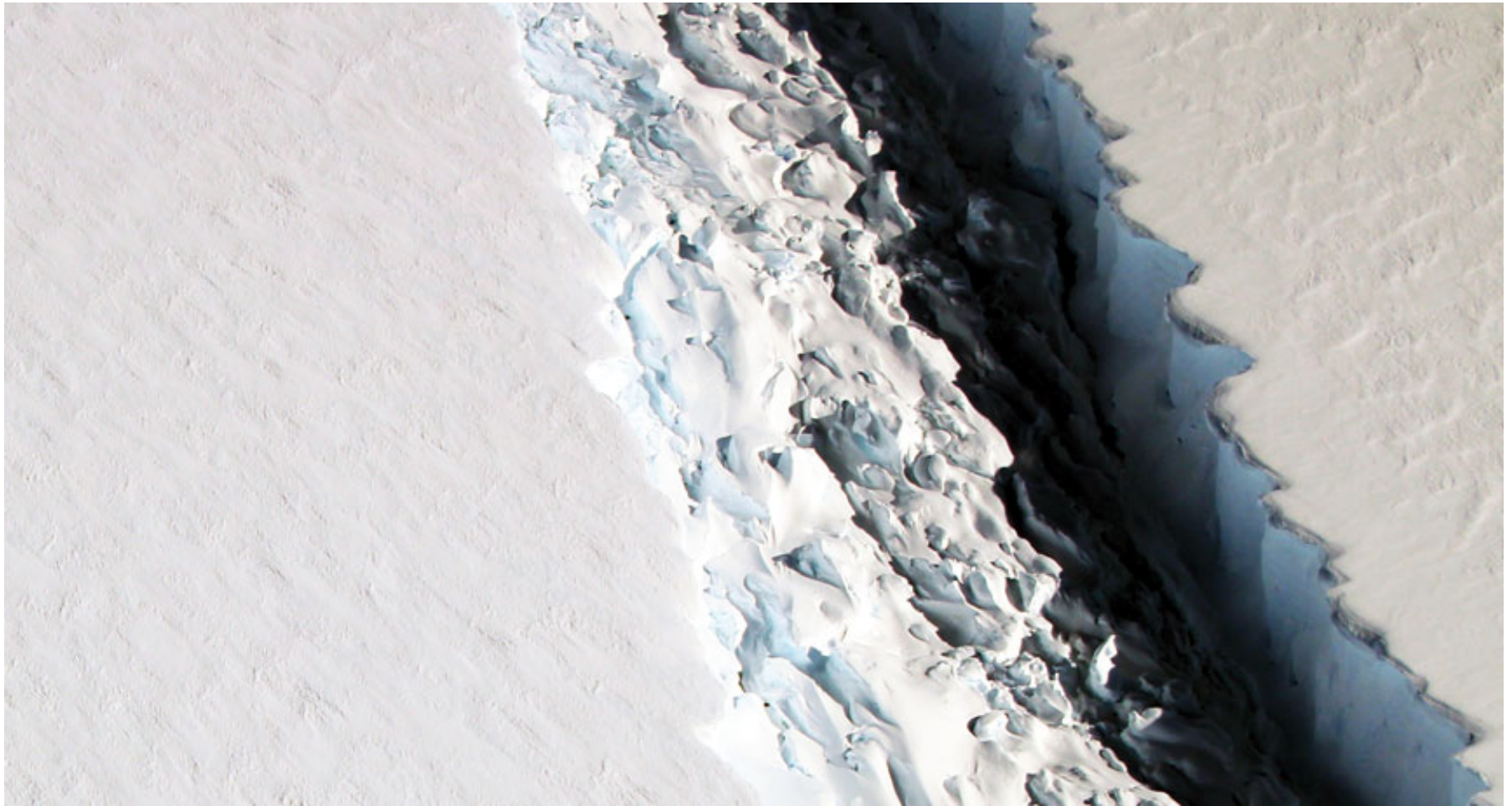
Science and Politics

Erika Hamden

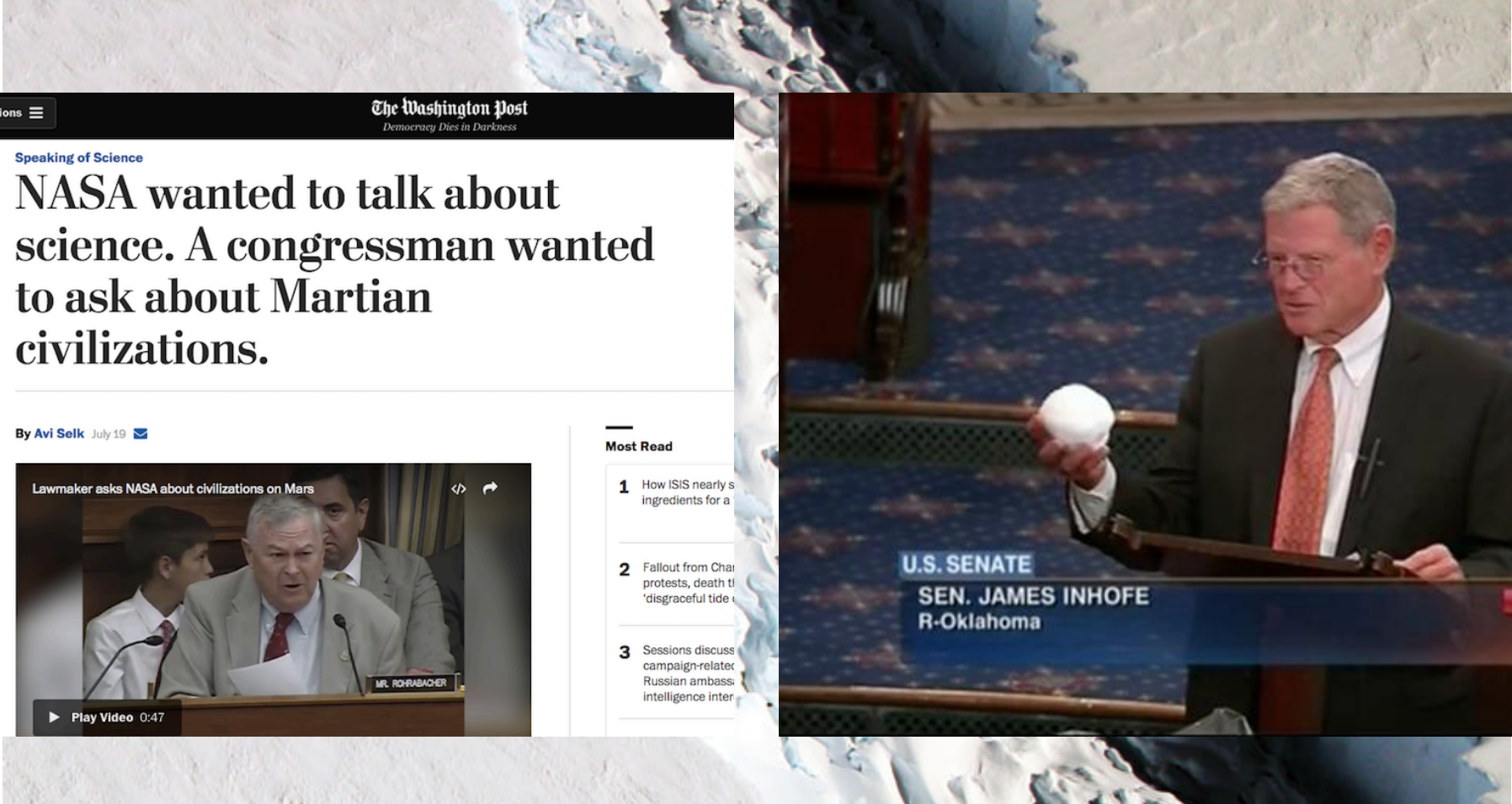
July 24th, 2017


Carnegie Observatories

Why does any of this matter?




Why does any of this matter?






Sections  **The Washington Post**
Democracy Dies in Darkness

Speaking of Science

NASA wanted to talk about science. A congressman wanted to ask about Martian civilizations.

By **Avi Selk** July 19 

Lawmaker asks NASA about civilizations on Mars  

 **MR. ROHRBACHER**
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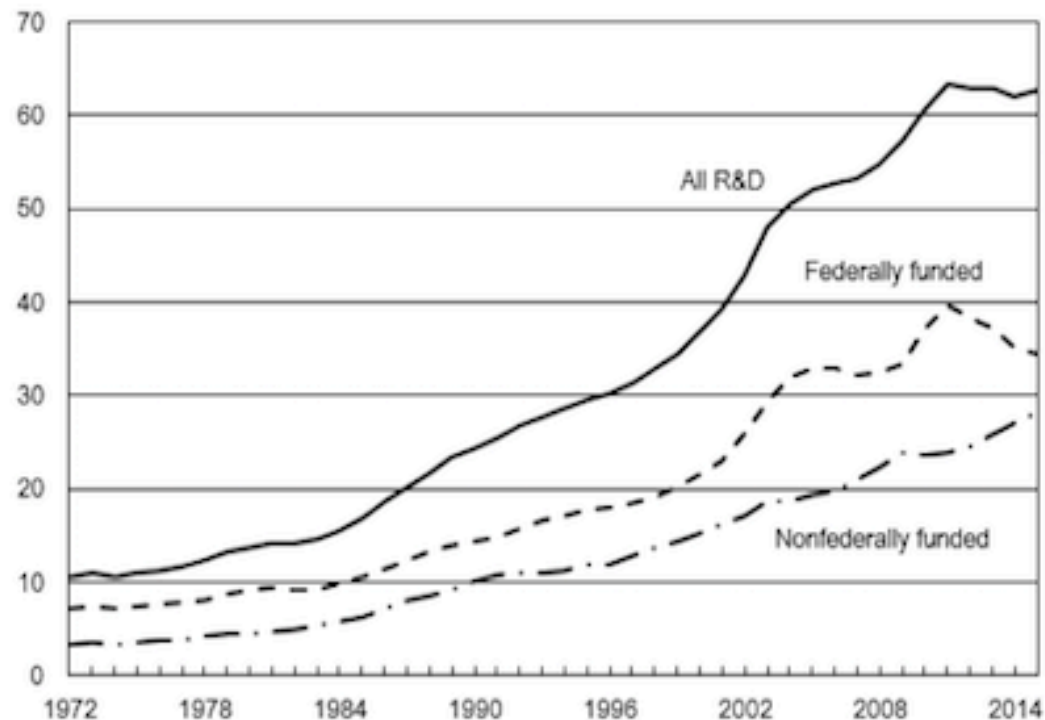
U.S. SENATE
SEN. JAMES INHOFE
R-Oklahoma

LIVE
3:42 pm ET

C-SPAN2
c-span.org

Why does any of this matter?

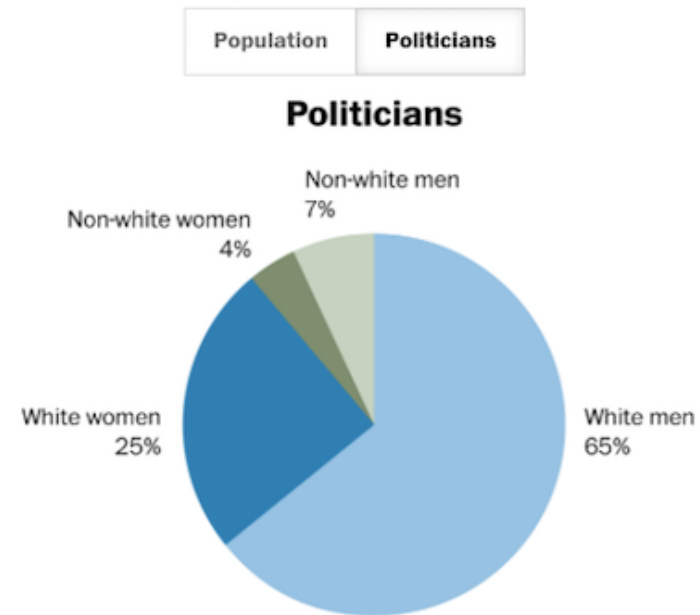
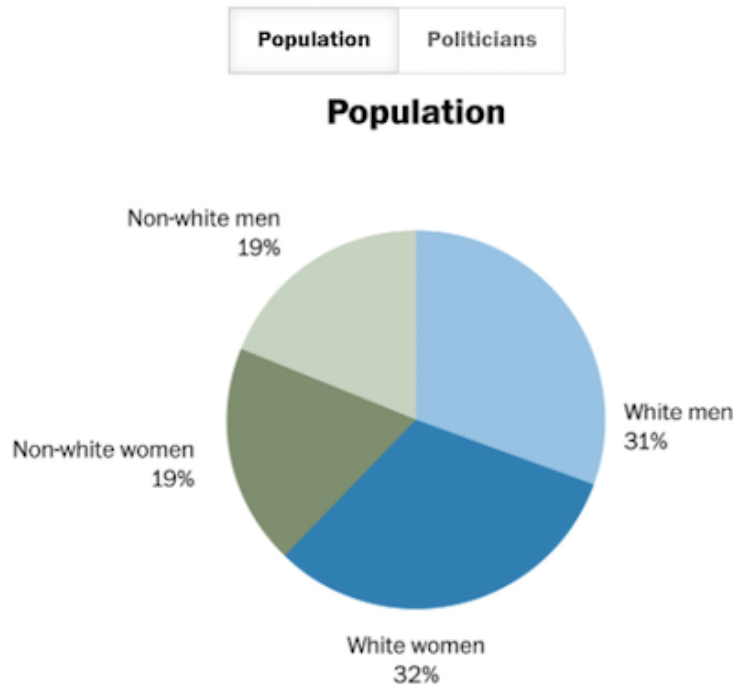
Billions of constant 2009 dollars



NOTE: Because of rounding, detail may not add to total. Includes all institutions reporting at least \$150,000 in R&D expenditures in the fiscal years shown. Prior to FY 2003, totals did not include R&D expenditures in non-science and engineering fields.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Higher Education Research and Development Survey.

Why does any of this matter?



Washington Post

Education [\[edit \]](#)

The [Congressional Research Service](#) notes that the vast majority of Members (95 percent) had an [academic degree](#):

- 168 Representatives and 57 Senators had a [law degree](#). Of these, five (three Representative and two Senators) also hold a [Master of Laws \(LL.M.\)](#) degree.
- 83 Representatives and 16 Senators earned a master's degree – often a [Master of Business Administration \(M.B.A.\)](#) – as their highest educational degree
- 27 Representatives and one Senator ([Mark Begich](#)) have no educational degree beyond a high school diploma.
- 23 Representatives (but no Senators) have a PhD
- 17 Representatives and three Senators have a [medical degree](#) (this number includes one Senator with a veterinary medicine degree and one Representative with a dental degree).
- Five Representatives (but no Senators) have an [associate's degree](#) as their highest degree. One House Member has a [licensed practical nurse \(L.P.N.\)](#) degree.

Pop Quiz!

1. Are you registered to vote?

Pop Quiz!

1. Are you registered to vote?
2. Who is your congressperson? What district do you vote in?

Pop Quiz!

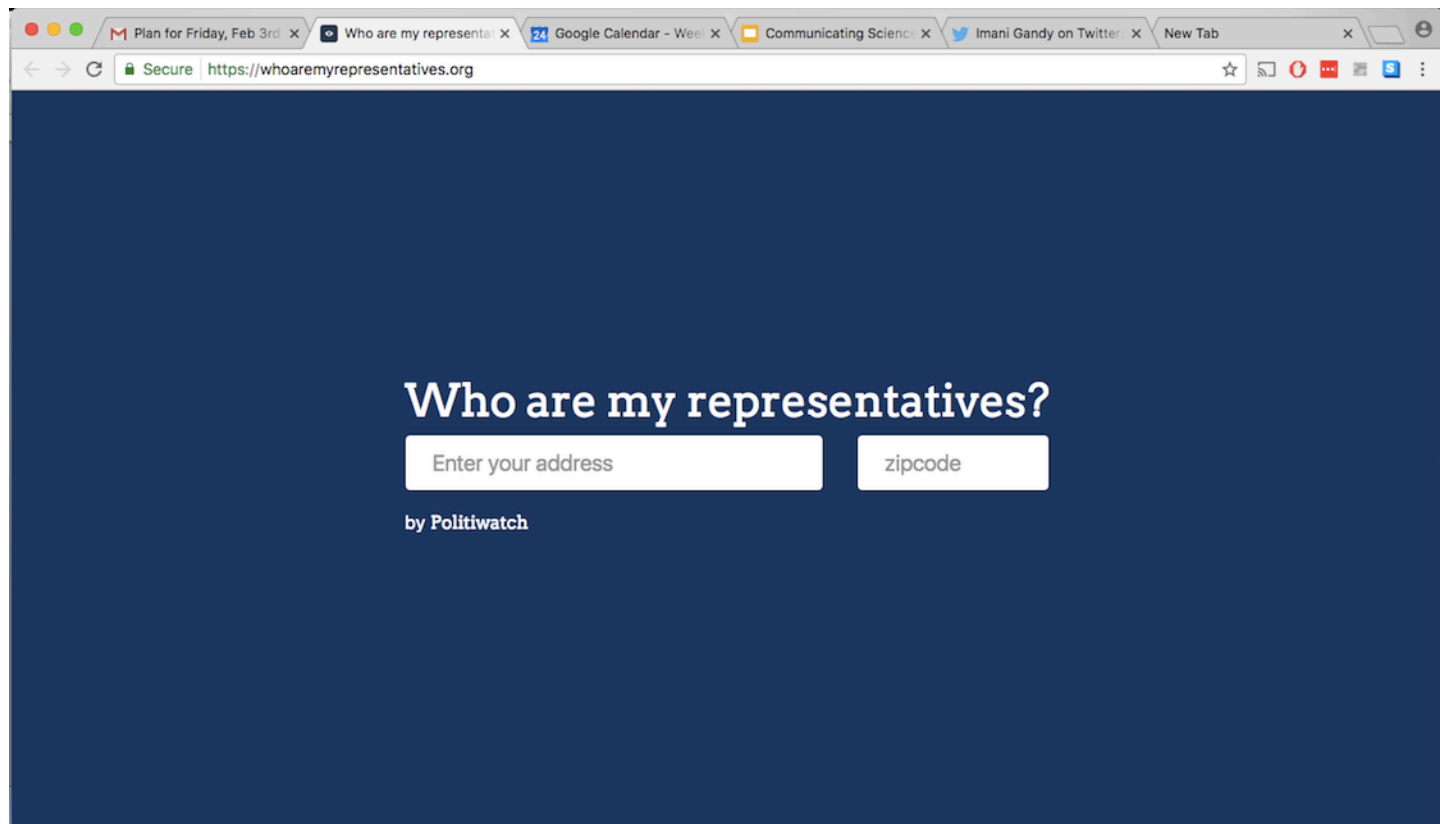
1. Are you registered to vote?
2. Who is your congressperson? What district do you vote in?
3. Who are your senators?

Pop Quiz!

1. Are you registered to vote?
2. Who is your congressperson? What district do you vote in?
3. Who are your senators?
4. Who represents you at the state level? On your town council?

Political action for citizens

- Know who your reps are and contact them on a regular basis. Every day, every week.
- <https://whoaremyrepresentatives.org/>



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Plan for Friday, Feb 3rd x Government officials re: x 24 Google Calendar - Wee x Communicating Science x Imani Gandy on Twitter: x New Tab x

Secure https://whoaremyrepresentatives.org/representatives?address=159+W+Green+St%2C+Apt+410&zip=91105

24 government officials found

159 West Green Street Pasadena CA 91105

Donald J. Trump	President of the United States	+
Mike Pence	Vice-President of the United States	+
Dianne Feinstein	United States Senate	+
Kamala D. Harris	United States Senate	+
Judy Chu	United States House of Representatives CA-27	+
Edmund G. Brown Jr.	Governor	+
Gavin Newsom	Lieutenant Governor	+
Anthony J. Portantino	CA State Senate District 25	+
Chris R. Holden	CA State Assembly District 41	+
Jim McDonnell	Sheriff	+
Jeffrey Prang	Assessor	+
Jackie Lacey	District Attorney	+
Kim I. Nguyen	Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge	+

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123456

Judy ChuUnited States House of Representatives CA-27•+

Edmund G. Brown Jr. Governor•+

Gavin NewsomLieutenant Governor•+

Anthony J. PortantinoCA State Senate District 25•-

Party: Democratic

(916) 651-4025

senator.portantino@

Twitter

Website

Address

Wikipedia

Submit Correction or Addition

Chris R. HoldenCA State Assembly District 41•+

Jim McDonnellSheriff•+

Jeffrey PrangAssessor•+

Jackie LaceyDistrict Attorney•+

Kim L. NguyenLos Angeles County Superior Court Judge•+

Efrain Matthew AcevesLos Angeles County Superior Court Judge•+

Stephen James TownsendLos Angeles County Superior Court Judge•+

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Today Pane

Contacting elected officials

- YOUR OPINION MATTERS! You have a voice.
- You can visit the office too!!
- Call about 1 issue at a time.
- Make a request, ask for an action.
- Calls are tallied and provided to the Member
- Local and state offices get hardly any calls!
- Call even if your representative agrees with you!
- How to know what request to make?

What to ask about

- You don't have to have an answer.
- Organizations like: <https://5calls.org/>
- Or <https://www.ourstates.org/>
- Provide scripts based on issue
- But think of your own issues! What do you care about and want to see made better?
- AIP has a weekly newsletter called FYI, about science policy, which is very informative.
- You can also provide comments to departments and agencies during their public comment period

Being a scientist in the world

- You have a responsibility to speak out- either through outreach events, writing articles/letters to the editor, interacting with regular people.
- The rise of “fake news”, denial-ism of various kinds, a retreat from fact driven policy, is a crisis that scientists can fight against.
- Know the rhetorical devices used to derail a conversation: The Gish Gallop, gaslighting, whataboutism, and others
- As with many things, Carl Sagan wrote about this in “The Demon Haunted World”, in a chapter called “The Fine Art of Baloney Detection”

Tell a story

Public Narrative

- Developed by Marshall Ganz- organizer for United Farm Workers, now at Harvard.
- Appeals to action via emotion, not necessarily facts.
- Summarized as: Story of self, story of us, story of now.

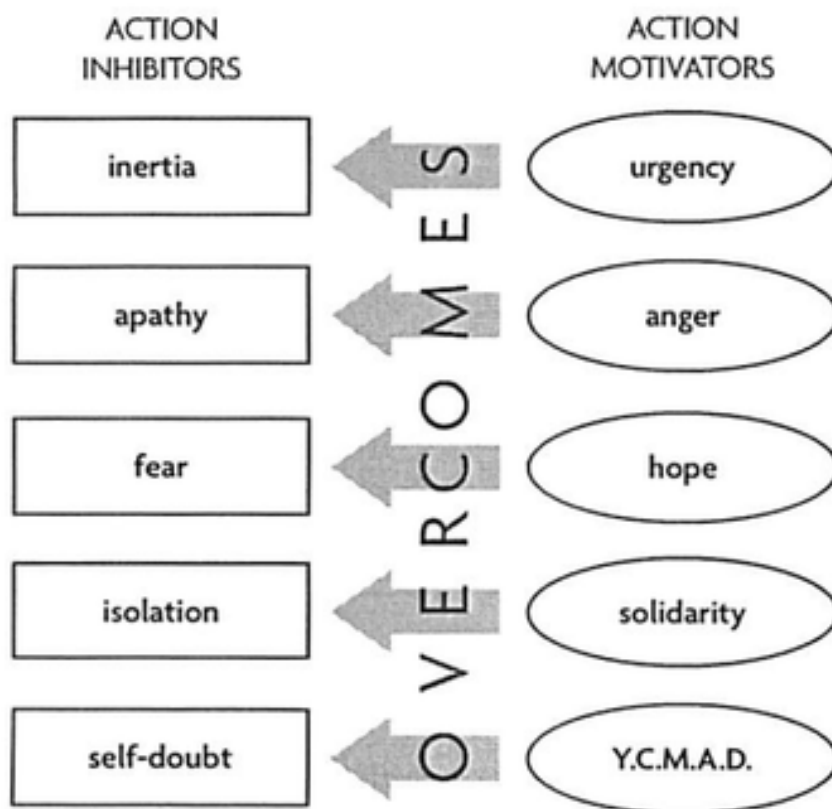
Public Narrative: Creating a story of self

- What is the change you want to make in the world: your story of now?
- Why are you called to make that change: What specific experiences have shaped your story of self?
- What personal story can you tell that will help others understand why you want to make that change? Structure it with Challenge, Choice, Outcome.

Public Narrative: Expand to story of us

- “I stand here knowing that my story is part of the larger American story.” –Barack Obama, 2004 DNC speech
- “If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am for myself alone, what am I? If not now, when?” –Rabbi Hillel, quoted by Marshall Ganz

Public Narrative: Story of now



Stand on the shoulders of giants

- There are many successful movements you can learn from- study what others have done and use their lessons to craft your own message.
- Join up with groups that already exist or are newly formed.
- Take up space in the world- be as loud as the people who would oppose you.

No one wants to be against Science

- Pick a topic you care about and focus on it
- Sign up for AAS congressional visit days and other congressional visit opportunities
- Invite staffers to visit your campus and labs, develop professional relationships with them if possible.
- Contact your office of Government Relations and see how you can work with them for better results
- Personal stories are more persuasive than facts alone!

Run for office!

- Every person in this room should consider running for public office.
- There are a bunch of groups that exist to help you!

