

The background is a blue-toned abstract composition. On the left side, there is a computer monitor on a stand, with several wavy, ribbon-like lines extending from it. The right side of the image is dominated by a large, bright, curved light source that creates a strong lens flare effect, illuminating the scene from the right. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern, typical of a professional presentation.

# **Navigating the Media: Filtering Sources**

**Steven Edwards**  
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# Media is Changing

- Speed of updates
- Accuracy
- Number of available sources
- Information overload (Garcia 2010)

presented at the TES SMU August 19, 2010



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# Too Much Information?

- 500 Channels or 5?
- Channel Repertoire*
- Limiting Exposure



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# Confirmation Biases

## President Obama

- Doing a good job
- Not doing a good job
  
- FOX News
- MSNBC



# Arizona Immigration Law

- Please consider your opinion
  - *Attitude polarization*
  
- Have you read the law?



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# Media is Changing

- Speed of updates
- Accuracy
- Number of available sources
  - Information overload
- People are not:
  - Limit exposure with media
  - Confirm our biases
  - Attitudes become polarized
  - Limit processing for media



# Encouraging Information Literates

- ❑ Recognize Biases
- ❑ Evaluating Information Quality

**Certainty to Ambiguity...**

**Ambiguity to Curiosity...**

**Curiosity into Hypotheses**

**Dennis Simon**

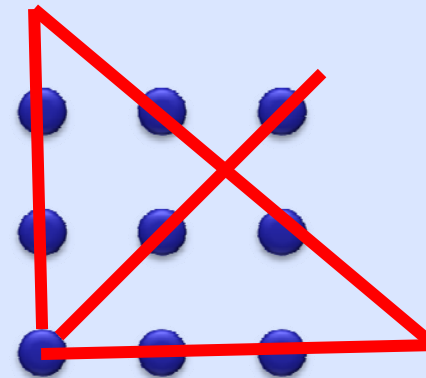


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# Encouraging Information Literates

- Recognize Biases
  - Write down assumptions
  - Triangulation



Draw a line through all dots using four straight lines.  
You may not lift your pencil.



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# Encouraging Information Literates

- Recognize Biases
- Evaluating Information Quality
  - Is the information complete?
    - ◆ *A study found that the rate of teenage pregnancy in a conservative religious group was higher than the national average.*
    - ◆ *They frequently marry at 17 years old*



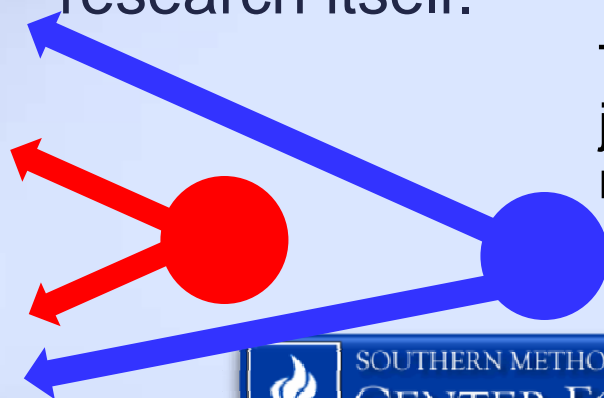
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# Encouraging Information Literates

- ❑ Recognize Biases
- ❑ Evaluating Information Quality
  - Is the information complete?
  - How far removed from original source?
  - Look for biases in media outlet or research itself.

January	\$.76
February	\$.54
March	\$.51
April	\$.63
May	\$.80
June	\$.91
July	\$.76



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# Encouraging Information Literates

- ❑ Recognize Biases
- ❑ Evaluating Information Quality
  - Is the information complete?
  - How far removed from original source?
  - Look for biases in media outlet or research itself.
  - Evaluate information relative to weight of other supporting or conflicting facts





# Swim in a flood of information and pseudo-information

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