

WILKINSON

SCIENCE UNDER SIEGE

The Politicians' War on Nature and Truth

SCIENCE

The Politicians' War on Nature and Truth

UNDER

Foreword by David Brower

SIEGE

Introduction by Jim Baca

Todd Wilkinson

Science Under Siege

Chris Mooney



Science Under Siege:

Science Under Siege Michael E. Mann, Peter J. Hotez, 2025-09-09 In this well researched guide two of the world's most respected scientists reveal the forces behind the dangerous anti science movement and offer powerful ideas about how to fight back Bill McKibben author of *Here Comes the Sun* Science is indeed under siege and that's not good for any of us Here Peter Hotez and Michael Mann name names It's not too late to do something it's time to get things done Read on Bill Nye science educator From pandemics to the climate crisis humanity faces tougher challenges than ever Whether it's the health of our people or the health of our planet we know we are on an unsustainable path But our efforts to effectively tackle these existential crises are now hampered by a common threat politically and ideologically motivated opposition to science Michael E Mann and Peter J Hotez are two of the most respected and well known scientists in the world and have spent the last twenty years on the front lines of the battle to convey accurate reliable and trustworthy information about science in the face of determined and nihilistic opposition In this powerful manifesto they reveal the five main forces threatening science plutocrats pros petrostates phonies and the press It is a call to arms and a road map for dismantling the forces of anti science Armed with the information in this book we can be empowered to promote scientific truths shine light on channels of dark money dismantle the corporations poisoning the planet and ultimately avert disaster Science under siege Peter Banks, Daniel Lunney, Chris Dickman, 2012-11-01 On Saturday 29 November 2008 the Royal Zoological Society of NSW held a forum with the theme of Science under siege As the RZS is a zoological society zoology under threat became the secondary theme and the basis for selecting speakers This book records that forum with the papers developed for this book as the written word from the spoken presentations Papers that were presented as posters are included as are the edited plenary sessions which featured questions from the floor with answers and comments encouraged from anyone in the forum We were delighted that Mark Horstman from ABC Catalyst was willing to replace his peripatetic colleague Paul Willis who was nonetheless very happy to write the foreword There is a place for such skilled science communicators we need more of them and scientists at the lab bench or in the field or exploring computer models or those that have now taken a job in the policy world need to stay in touch with them Some might say that the title Science under siege seems a bit extreme but we invite you to examine the evidence as presented in this book What follows is an edited version of the introductory material that advertised the forum The title looks dramatic but if you ask yourself is anything killing the science in your area of interest you might be surprised that you come up with a point or two Then ask a wider set of questions such as are there any pressures that preclude people from doing good zoology do either political budgetary constraints impact on your field is science in the media a subject that influences the outcome of your work are there economic impediments to careers in zoology is the education mix in Australia right for this new century are the best researchers becoming full time administrators or the converse the poor researchers becoming the administrators can you place the Australian situation in an

international context are there reduced opportunities for human interactions with the natural world is the virtual world killing reality and what are your predictions of the future To deal with such issues the Royal Zoological Society of NSW has structured the day to emphasize a range of themes beginning with identifying the issues including those that are persistent and those that are emerging and encompassing palpable hits to science Direct and indirect hits to science include such matters as the withdrawal of funding subversion of science death by 1000 cuts redirection of funding to fashion issues and using the name of science to justify things that are really not justifiable The name of science is being dragged down We need to confront the ever present problem of ignoring the scientifically accurate for the politically correct This raises such questions as to whether basic skills in biology are not being acquired because of public concern based on extreme animal rights propaganda Good science is not optional but what can be done if you are under siege The answers include understanding the philosophy of science the legal perspective and asking what scientists are or should be doing Audience participation will be a central part of this forum The plenary sessions will address questions raised by the speakers and the posters and debate issues and consider options for future directions It is widely known that it is hard to pull a major paper together on this theme but so many scientists know of at least one matter that they would like to draw to public attention So short contributions are included Listen to the speakers present some overarching themes or compelling case studies contribute to the debate on the day then examine your stance on a variety of these subjects to see whether the day changes your view of this often cryptic aspect of zoology As editors we wish to acknowledge the skills of the referees all papers were refereed by two peers and the patience of the authors for what has been a long gap between the date of the forum and this publication By the end of 2008 the Royal Zoological Society of NSW along with everyone else was caught by the GFC Global Financial Crisis and we simply had to extend the length of the queue for publication We also reassessed our mode of publication The Council of the Society voted to publish this production as an ebook as well as a short print run for formal library deposit and other essential matters The ebook is open access to enhance the reach of the papers and the ideas At the same time the Royal Zoological Society of NSW signed a contract for a more international mode of access of the publications of the Society and papers are now available via Metapress <http://rzsnsw.metapress.com> Science remains under siege in our view and now we have been alerted to the range of issues it becomes easier to spot the small irritating closing of options that collectively amount to a denial of science and its relegation to an optional way of looking at the world During production of this book this matter became obvious on a number of fronts which led us to invite the paper by Rosie Cooney and colleagues to defend their science of kangaroo conservation and commercial harvesting from an attack on the science We also saw that this issue of science under siege needs more airing and the Royal Zoological Society of NSW is planning its forum for the end of 2012 to take up another strand of this theme by capitalizing on the lifelong insights of scientists under the rubric of grumpy scientists an ecological conscience of a nation This idea in fact derives directly from the suggestions in the plenary

sessions by Nick Holmes and Charley Krebs We are also concerned for young scientists with science under siege manifesting often in a failure to create permanent careers for science graduates that advance science itself and zoology in particular from flourishing and identifying problems and finding solutions If we want to conserve the native fauna of Australia then Australian zoologists will have to be key team members We contend that to put science under siege and zoology under threat we not only further imperil our native wildlife but also the careers of the small band of specialists that can see the issues find the problems implement solutions and evaluate the outcomes In short science under siege is not a light matter and no one in this forum thought so Read on form an opinion and speak up and publish your thoughts your examples and your solutions

Science Under Siege Michael Fumento,1996 Fumento a conservative science journalist explodes the media hype surrounding such perceived threats as Alar Agent Orange dioxin and food irradiation in this provocative hard hitting defense of modern technology He exposes political intrigues and agendas that have led to the media s one sided coverage of Love Canal fallout from video display terminals electromagnetic fields and other issues *Forensic Science Under Siege* Kelly Pyrek,2010-07-27 Forensic science laboratories reputations have increasingly come under fire Incidents of tainted evidence false reports allegations of negligence scientifically flawed testimony or worse yet perjury in in court testimony have all served to cast a shadow over the forensic sciences Instances of each are just a few of the quality related charges made in the last few years Forensic Science Under Siege is the first book to integrate and explain these problematic trends in forensic science The issues are timely and are approached from an investigatory yet scholarly and research driven perspective Leading experts are consulted and interviewed including directors of highly visible forensic laboratories as well as medical examiners and coroners who are commandeering the discussions related to these issues Interviewees include Henry Lee Richard Saferstein Cyril Wecht and many others The ultimate consequences of all these pressures as well as the future of forensic science has yet to be determined This book examines these challenges while also exploring possible solutions such as the formation of a forensic science consortium to address specific legislative issues It is a must read for all forensic scientists Provides insight on the current state of forensic science demands and future direction as provided by leading experts in the field Consolidates the current state of standards and best practices of labs across disciplines Discusses a controversial topic that must be addressed for political support and financial funding of forensic science to improve

Science Under Siege Kendrick Frazier, Science Under Siege is a welcome antidote to the profound science illiteracy that today permeates American pop culture and the press NEIL deGRASSE TYSON Astrophysicist and author of The Sky Is Not the Limit and The Pluto FilesAn entertaining and eye opening collection of essays that advance the battle against ignorance and superstition STEVEN PINKER Harvard College Professor of Psychology Harvard University Author of How the Mind Works and The Stuff of ThoughtFor more than thirty years The Skeptical Inquirer has steadfastly championed science and reason and been the leading voice for reliable scientific examination of the paranormal and other questionable claims

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Science Under Siege Todd Wilkinson,1998 Exposes how entrenched political interests beholden to industry lobbyists are waging an all out war to weaken key environmental laws and gut regulatory agencies and how deals are made giving private industry a profit at the public s expense Jacket Science Under Siege Michael Fumento,1993 **Science Under Siege?** Leon E. Trachtman,Robert Perrucci,2000 The combative metaphor of Oscience warsO has taken on a predominant position within the collective conscious from being featured on the programs of scientific meetings to being splashed across the pages of leading national magazines and newspapers Some in the scientific community perceive their profession to be under siege by members of the academic left radical environmentalists religious fundamentalists eco feminists and others This book based on in depth interviews with sixty members of groups with alleged Oanti scienceO attitudes examines how pervasive and uniform these critiques are The research is designed to examine two conflicting hypotheses 1 that anti science attitudes reflect a general cynicism about all major social institutions and 2 that anti science views are not broadly based but are reflective instead of the particular interests of a given social grouping In the final analysis Perrucci and Trachtman dig at the root of the so called Oscience warsO by presenting evidence that the wars are not the product of an overarching suspicion of the institutions at the core of our society but are instead the product of organized interest groups which shape the attitudes and beliefs of their respective members

Under Siege (Science Fiction) Janice Greene,2009-09-01 Even struggling readers will find it hard to resist our exciting series of eBooks in a variety of popular genres These stories deal with mature themes involving culturally diverse characters Written specifically for the struggling reader these fast paced books maintain student interest until the last page Questions at the end of each title test students strategy skills vocabulary and

comprehension All of the vehicles on Cole s Island seem to have minds of their own and they want to kill The class clown and the town punk make an unlikely team Can they stop fighting long enough to outwit the alien invaders **The Republican War on Science** Chris Mooney,2007-03-16 Science has never been more crucial to deciding the political issues facing the country Yet science and scientists have less influence with the federal government than at any time since the Eisenhower administration In the White House and Congress today findings are reported in a politicized manner spun or distorted to fit the speaker s agenda or when they re too inconvenient ignored entirely On a broad array of issues stem cell research climate change missile defense abstinence education product safety environmental regulation and many others the Bush administration s positions fly in the face of overwhelming scientific consensus Federal science agencies once fiercely independent under both Republican and Democratic presidents are increasingly staffed by political appointees and fringe theorists who know industry lobbyists and evangelical activists far better than they know the science This is not unique to the Bush administration but it is largely a Republican phenomenon born of a conservative dislike of environmental health and safety regulation and at the extremes of evolution and legalized abortion In *The Republican War on Science* Chris Mooney ties together the disparate strands of the attack on science into a compelling and frightening account of our government s increasing unwillingness to distinguish between legitimate research and ideologically driven pseudoscience *Value-free Science?* Robert Proctor,1991 Proctor lucidly demonstrates how value neutrality is a reaction to larger political developments including the use of science by government and industry the specialization of professional disciplines and the efforts to stifle intellectual freedoms or to politicize the world of the academy *Science Under Siege* Hugh G. Gauch,2001-02-01 In this text the author asserts that there exist general principles of scientific method pervading all science but excessive specialization has caused scientists to forget their significance These principles include deductive and inductive logic parsimony and hypothesis testing The author explains that neither specialized techniques nor general principles can substitute for each other but rather the winning combination for scientists is the mastery of both *Science Wars through the Stargate* Steven Gil,2015-10-08 The story of an elite team of scientists and soldiers who travel to other worlds through an alien built portal Stargate SG 1 gave its viewers a weekly dose of spectacle and high adventure Over its ten season run 1997 2007 the series explored the interactions of the scientific and military cultures represented by its characters as well as the place of science in society The initial airing of Stargate SG 1 coincided with the Science Wars a highly public clash among scholars and public intellectuals over the nature and value of scientific knowledge Critics of science argued that it was merely one form of knowledge among many subject to biases and blind spots imposed by the culture in which it was created Defenders of science mostly scientists themselves contended that it possessed a unique ability to uncover universal truths and thus was uniquely valuable to society In *Science Wars through the Stargate Explorations of Science and Society in Stargate SG 1* Steven Gil offers the first in depth analysis of the series and places it in the context of contemporary debates

about the nature of scientific thought Gil contends that representations of science within SG 1 can be more fully understood through the prism of the Science Wars Scientific ideas put forth in SG 1 demonstrate how such complex intellectual exchanges and debates have a place in popular culture and can be further understood through these fictional articulations Although SG 1 serves as the principal case study the analysis also casts light on the role and position of science in science fiction television more generally The long form narrative of Stargate SG 1 enabled it to engage in sophisticated ways with many of the questions at issue in the Science Wars As the author illustrates the show presented a complex sophisticated portrait of science and scientists at a time when the scientific enterprise was under intense public scrutiny Science Wars through the Stargate will be of interest to science fiction scholars and fans of the series but also to those interested in the public's evolving understanding of science and its role in society

Beyond the Science Wars Ullica

Segerstrale, 2000-08-03 Beyond the Science Wars offers a broad contextualization of the Science Wars an ongoing debate between scientists and social scientists over the nature and meaning of science from interdisciplinary sociological historical scientific political and cultural perspectives Beyond providing an understanding of the conflict itself this book presents the comments of two science and technology studies STS founding fathers Bernard Barber and John Ziman a scientist's protest that STS has abandoned its original mission a historian's view of the fluctuating social support for science and a sociologist's analysis of the motives of anti-science warriors In addition an STS statesman discusses ongoing structural changes in science a sociologist sorts out different views of objectivity and an STS veteran from the Science Wars brings us tales from the front and evaluates the meaning of recent events Contributors include Bernard Barber Henry H Bauer Valery Cholakov Stephan Fuchs Steve Fuller Ullica Segerstrale and John Ziman

Understanding Popular Science Broks, Peter, 2006-06-01

Science is a defining feature of the modern world and popular science is where most of us make sense of that fact Understanding Popular Science provides a framework to help understand the development of popular science and current debates about it In a lively and accessible style Peter Broks shows how popular science has been invented redefined and fought over From early nineteenth century radical science to twenty first century government initiatives he examines popular science as an arena where the authority of science and the authority of the state are legitimized and challenged The book includes clear accounts of the public perception of scientists visions of the future fears of an anti-science movement and concerns about scientific literacy The final chapter proposes a new model for understanding the interaction between lay and expert knowledge This book is essential reading in cultural studies science studies history of science and science communication

Bending Science Thomas O. McGarity, Wendy E. Wagner, 2012-03-15 What do we know about the possible poisons that industrial technologies leave in our air and water How reliable is the science that federal regulators and legislators use to protect the public from dangerous products As this disturbing book shows ideological or economic attacks on research are part of an extensive pattern of abuse Thomas O McGarity and Wendy E Wagner reveal the range of

sophisticated legal and financial tactics political and corporate advocates use to discredit or suppress research on potential human health hazards Scientists can find their research blocked or find themselves threatened with financial ruin Corporations plaintiff attorneys think tanks even government agencies have been caught suppressing or distorting research on the safety of chemical products With alarming stories drawn from the public record McGarity and Wagner describe how advocates attempt to bend science or spin findings They reveal an immense range of tools available to shrewd partisans determined to manipulate research Bending Science exposes an astonishing pattern of corruption and makes a compelling case for reforms to safeguard both the integrity of science and the public health *Ensuring Open Science at EPA* United States. Congress. House. Committee on Science, Space, and Technology (2011). Subcommittee on Environment, 2014

Science Talk Daniel Patrick Thurs, 2007 Science news is met by the public with a mixture of fascination and disengagement On the one hand Americans are inflamed by topics ranging from the question of whether or not Pluto is a planet to the ethics of stem cell research But the complexity of scientific research can also be confusing and overwhelming causing many to divert their attentions elsewhere and leave science to the experts Whether they follow science news closely or not Americans take for granted that discoveries in the sciences are occurring constantly Few however stop to consider how these advances and the debates they sometimes lead to contribute to the changing definition of the term science itself Going beyond the issue centered debates Daniel Patrick Thurs examines what these controversies say about how we understand science now and in the future Drawing on his analysis of magazines newspapers journals and other forms of public discourse Thurs describes how science originally used as a synonym for general knowledge became a term to distinguish particular subjects as elite forms of study accessible only to the highly educated *General Forensic Science* Archana Singh, 2024-05-03 Welcome to General Forensic Science A Comprehensive Book meticulously curated to be your ultimate exam preparation companion Crafted with precision by seasoned practitioner advocate and forensic book writer Archana Singh this guide is tailored to cover the essentials of basic forensic science Designed with the exam taker in mind this book encompasses a diverse range of content offering a comprehensive overview of various forensic disciplines From fundamental principles to advanced techniques each chapter is meticulously structured to aid in your exam preparation journey Whether you re a student venturing into the world of forensic science or a seasoned professional seeking to brush up on the basics this book is your definitive resource for mastering the essentials of forensic science Additionally rest assured that this book has been meticulously prepared according to the syllabus of FACT FACT Plus Section A ensuring alignment with your exam preparation needs **How We Teach Science** John L. Rudolph, 2019-06-01 A former Wisconsin high school science teacher makes the case that how and why we teach science matters especially now that its legitimacy is under attack Why teach science The answer to that question will determine how it is taught Yet despite the enduring belief in this country that science should be taught there has been no enduring consensus about how or why This is especially true when it comes

to teaching scientific process Nearly all of the basic knowledge we have about the world is rock solid The science we teach in high schools in particular laws of motion the structure of the atom cell division DNA replication the universal speed limit of light is accepted as the way nature works Everyone also agrees that students and the public more generally should understand the methods used to gain this knowledge But what exactly is the scientific method Ever since the late 1800s scientists and science educators have grappled with that question Through the years they've advanced an assortment of strategies ranging from the laboratory method to the five step method to science as inquiry to no method at all How We Teach Science reveals that each strategy was influenced by the intellectual cultural and political circumstances of the time In some eras learning about experimentation and scientific inquiry was seen to contribute to an individual's intellectual and moral improvement while in others it was viewed as a way to minimize public interference in institutional science John Rudolph shows that how we think about and teach science will either sustain or thwart future innovation and ultimately determine how science is perceived and received by the public

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