

BLUF

BOTTOM LINE UP FRONT



Groupthink

The **BLUF** highlights what we at **The Threat Lab** are watching, listening to, reading, and thinking about. In this issue, we feature three artifacts that discuss what evidence exists to prove groupthink is responsible for bad decisions.



VIDEO

From Jeffrey Walsh's video, **Conformity and groupthink**, "Social psychology is the study of how individuals, think, feel, and behave in social interactions. You probably know intuitively that when individuals are in groups, they may act very differently than when they are alone. And if you ever wondered why, let's talk about some group processes and some of the ways that people change their behavior in social situations."

Watch the video

<https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/mcat/behavior/social-psychology/v/conformity-and-groupthink>



ARTICLE

From Colin Fisher's article, **Groupthink: what it is and how to avoid it**, "Group-think is a popular explanation for how groups of knowledgeable people can make flawed decisions. The essence of group-think is that groups create psychological pressure on individuals to conform to the views of leaders and other members... How can smart people get together and come to seemingly inexplicable conclusions? There are three main reasons groups create pressure that leads to flawed decisions."

Read the article

<https://theconversation.com/amp/group-think-what-it-is-and-how-to-avoid-it-161697>



ARTICLE

From Ramon J. Aldag's article, **Groupthink – a monument to truthiness?**, "Psychological concepts often seep into the public consciousness. Through salient examples, powerful metaphors, or compelling arguments, some gain general – if tentative – acceptance. Others are widely embraced but remain subject to continued critical inspection. Relatively few gain the status of received wisdom – the enshrined. Groupthink has become one of the most remarkably successful of the enshrined. But is its respect deserved?"

Read the article

<https://thepsychologist.bps.org.uk/volume-35/march-2022/groupthink-monument-truthiness>

The Defense Personnel and Security Research Center (PERSEREC) founded The Threat Lab in 2018 to incorporate the social and behavioral sciences into the mission space. The BLUF is made possible by the support of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center's National Insider Threat Task Force. To be added to our distribution list, please email dodhra.ThreatLab@mail.mil.

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