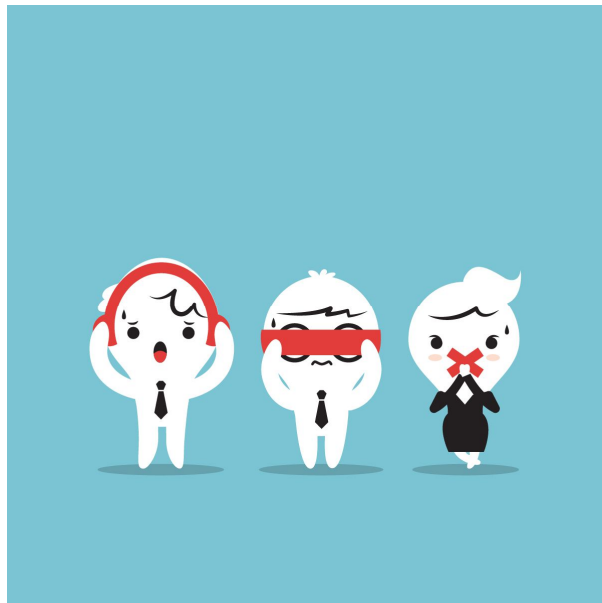


HOW NOT TO BE IGNORANT ABOUT THE WORLD BY HANS AND OLA ROSLING

WARM-UP

1. Discuss:

- Are people more ignorant nowadays than they were in the past?
- Do you find yourself ignorant about the world?
- Is there any issue that you are not interested in? For example, politics.



VOCABULARY

2. What's the meaning of the underlined words/phrases? Write definitions.

a) A popular misconception is that men prefer slim women.

a wrong belief or opinion as a result of not understanding something

b) The salary structure was biased against women returning to work later in life.

preferring one person, thing, or idea to another in a way that is unfair

c) They only show figures which are skewed, that is inaccurate and affected by their bosses.

facts, information, or results that are skewed are not accurate because they have been affected by something

d) A good rule of thumb is to start painting the wall that's nearest the window.

a rule that you use for doing or explaining things, that is based on experience

e) I think a lot of people have a very preconceived idea about who I am, which is quite unfair.

a preconceived idea or opinion is formed before you have a lot of information, experience, or evidence and is therefore probably wrong

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3. Choose one word from Ex. 2 which can be used appropriately with all three words from groups given below.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. biased report | 3. useful rule of thumb |
| 1. biased media | 3. simple rule of thumb |
| 1. biased opinion | 3. widely adopted rule of thumb |
| 2. skewed notion | 4. create misconceptions |
| 2. skewed idea | 4. challenge misconceptions |
| 2 skewed belief | 4. break down misconceptions |

VIDEO & DISCUSSION

4. Watch the TED talk and discuss these quotations by the speakers.

- *You see, the problem is not that people don't read and listen to the media. The problem is that the media doesn't know themselves.*
- *Well, I like schools, but teachers tend to teach outdated worldviews, because they learned something when they went to school, and now they describe this world to the students without any bad intentions, and those books, of course, that are printed are outdated in a world that changes.*
- *If you have a fact-based worldview of today, you might have a chance to understand what's coming next in the future.*

5. Answer questions:

- Are you surprised with the level of knowledge emerging from the research they conducted?
- Do you think we should have a list of the most important facts to learn?
- Should there be the Ignorance Project in your country? How would it go?