

Ethics of Safety and Health Professionals

**Bruce Lippy, Ph.D., CIH, CSP, FAIHA
August 26, 2020**

Special thanks for use of slides to:

**Jan Wachter, Jeff Throckmorton, David
Roskelley, Barbara Weeks, Pam Greenley,
and Steve Rucker**

**Bruce Lippy, Ph.D., CIH, CSP, FAIHA
Director of Safety Research, CPWR
President, The Lippy Group LLC**



Photo courtesy JS
Holdings, UK

My 3 objectives

1. Quickly review pertinent ethical issues
2. Review key elements in the ABIH code
3. Apply lessons learned to the Corona virus pandemic

Obj 1: Quickly review pertinent ethical issues

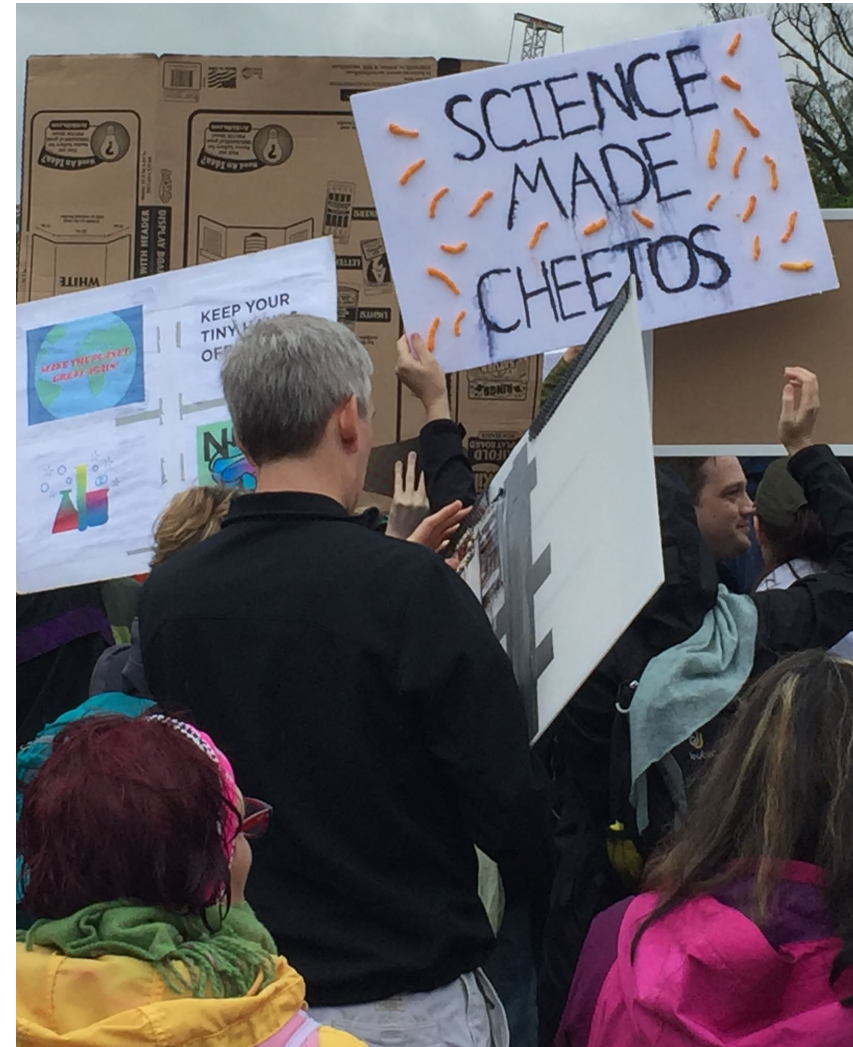
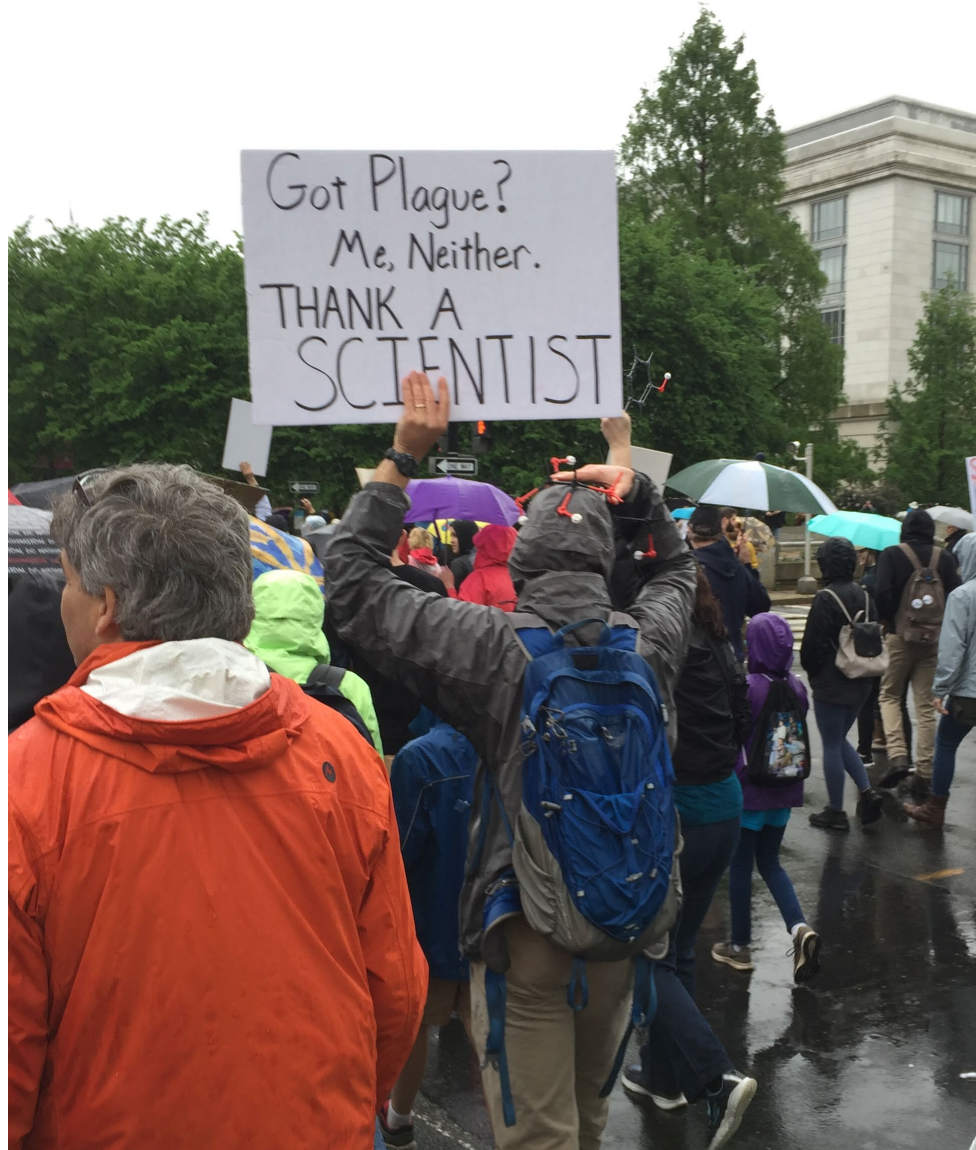


Stating my biases as recommended by Dr. Alan Lyles*

- I am liberal in my politics
- I consider myself a humanist
- I don't believe ethics have to be rooted in religious principles
- This is pro bono

*Professor and Senior Fellow,
Hoffberger Center of Professional Ethics,
U of Baltimore

They also trust science and have determined

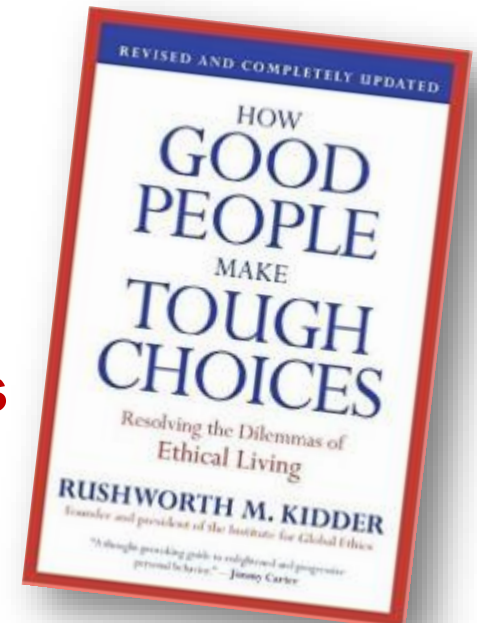


Our first challenge is recognizing ethical issues

Right versus Wrong (moral temptation)

Right versus Right (ethical dilemmas)

**Rushworth Kidder,
How Good People Make Tough Choices**

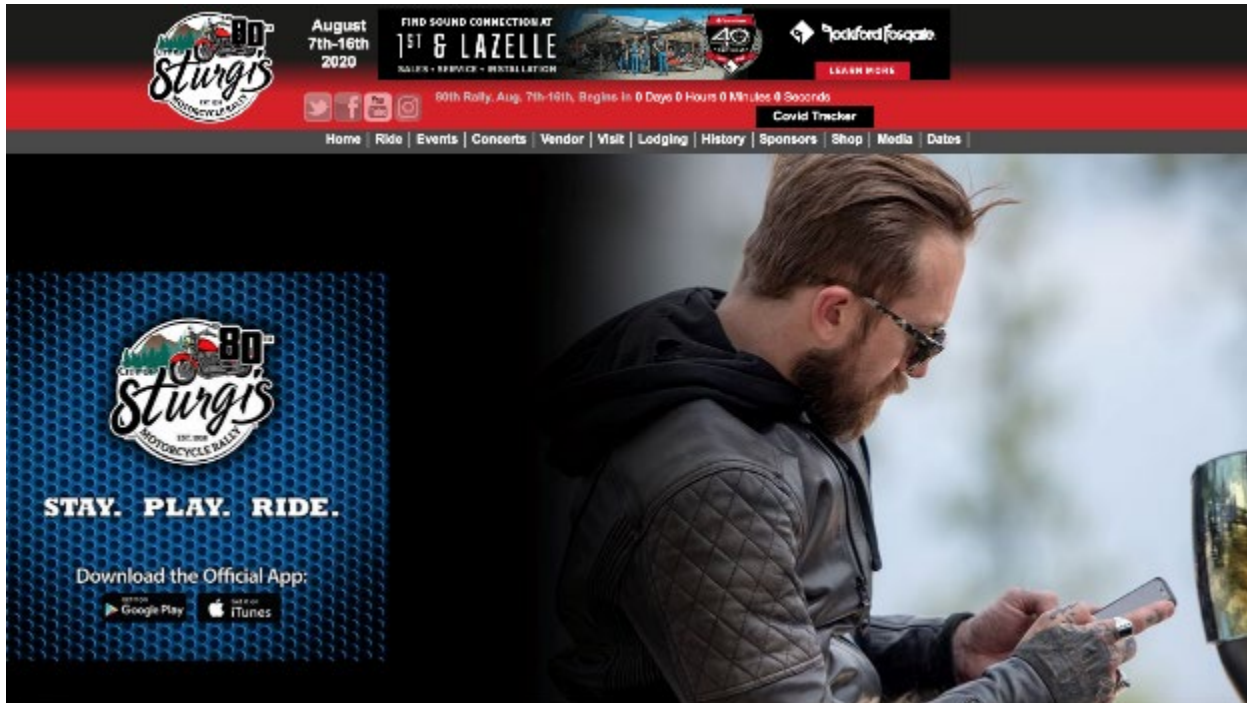


Al Capone was not known for facing ethical dilemmas



What are the most pertinent right vs. right dilemmas?

- **Truth vs. Loyalty**
- **Individual vs. Community**



The image is a screenshot of the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally website. The top navigation bar includes the event logo, dates (August 7th-16th, 2020), and a featured event: "FIRE SOUND CONNECTION AT 1ST & LAZELLE" with a "LEARN MORE" button. A "Covid Tracker" button is also visible. A secondary navigation menu lists: Home | Ride | Events | Concerts | Vendor | Visit | Lodging | History | Sponsors | Shop | Media | Dates. The main content area features a large background image of a man in a leather jacket looking at his phone. On the left, there is a blue textured banner with the Sturgis logo and the text "STAY. PLAY. RIDE." Below this, it says "Download the Official App:" and provides links to Google Play and iTunes.

“The centre of ethics must be occupied by things we can *reasonably* demand of each other.” Simon Blackburn

“Anything more stringent might be saintly or admirable, but it is not demanded of us. It is above and beyond the call of duty.”

Obj 2: Review the key elements in the ABIH code



“First and foremost, ABIH certificants and candidates give priority to health and safety interests related to the protection of people...”



What are responsibilities to **clients,** **employers,** **employees** and the **public?**

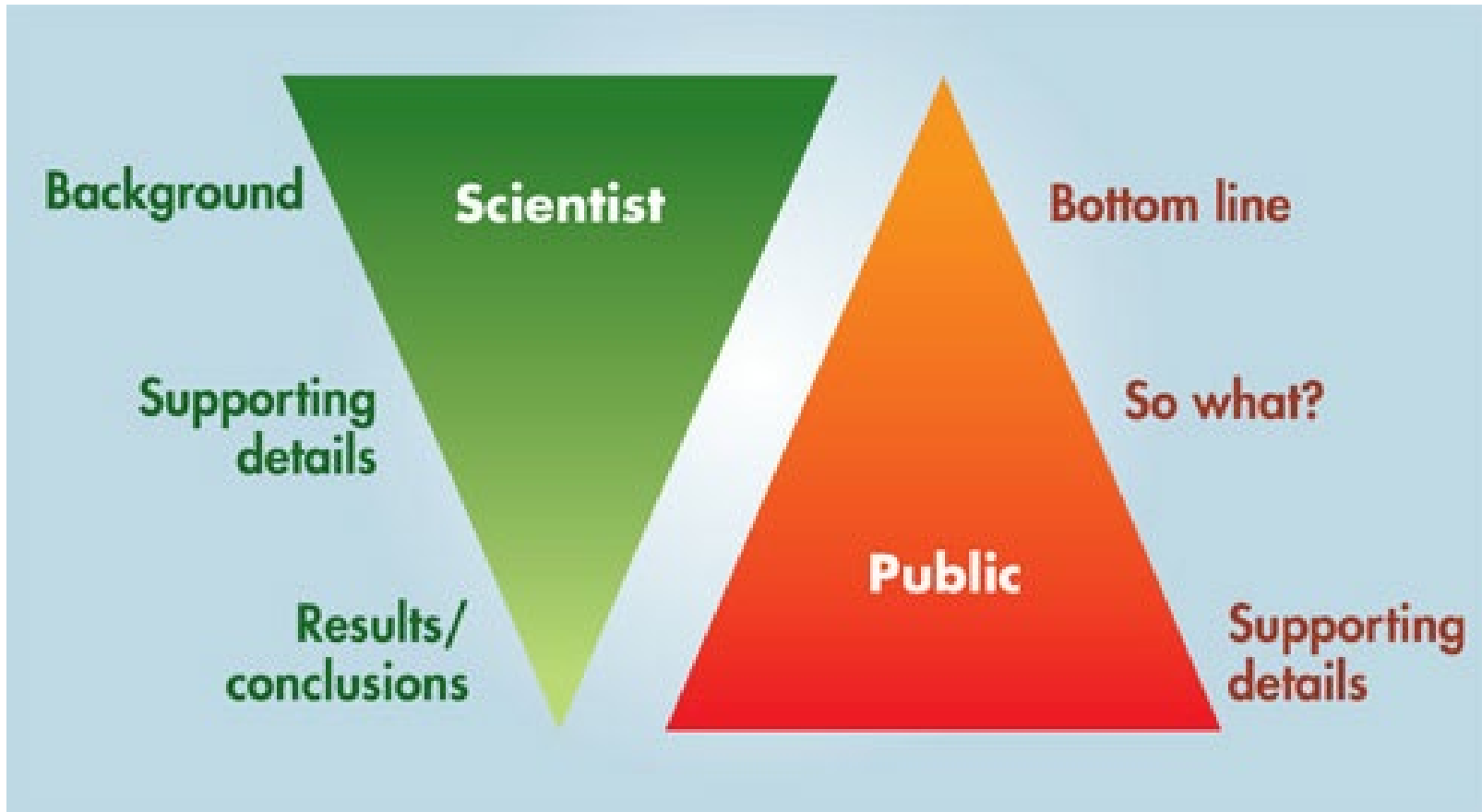
1. Deliver **competent** services with objective and independent professional judgment in decision-making.
2. Recognize the **limitations** of one's professional ability and provide services only when qualified.
3. Provide **truthful and accurate** representations to the public

Obj 3: Apply lessons learned to the Corona virus pandemic



**First lesson: we should
always strive to be honest
about what we know and
what we don't know**

Second: We should strive to make our communications to workers (and the public) more direct and effective



Richard Somerville and Susan Hassol (Oct. 2011) Communicating the science of climate change. Physics Today

Third: We should call-out falsehoods, particularly around COVID-19

Fact Checker  • Analysis

In 1,267 days, President Trump has made **20,055** false or misleading claims

The Fact Checker's ongoing database of the false or misleading claims made by President Trump since assuming office.

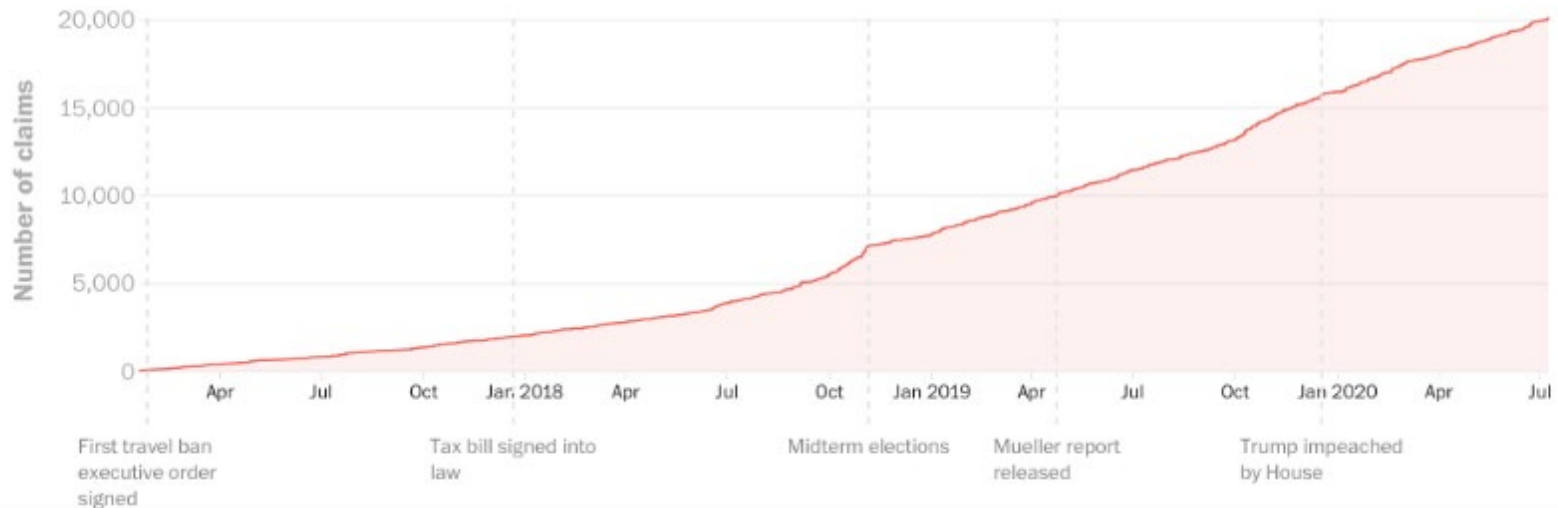
Updated July 9, 2020

Show claims about

Cumulative

Daily

Monthly



The WHO uses the term “**Infodemic**”

- So much information it becomes difficult to sort out legitimate sources
- “Doomsurfing” is a mental health issue
- One posting pushed the idea that the new 5G network and corona virus were linked (300,000 views)

Dr. Judy Mikovits, Ph.D. virologist, anti-vaxxer and star of *Plandemic*, has accused Dr. Fauci of creating the corona virus and sending it to China

- 9 million views on YouTube
- 16 million Facebook engagements
- Mandatory vaccines will “kill millions.”
- “Wearing the mask literally activates your own virus”



Source: Media Matters

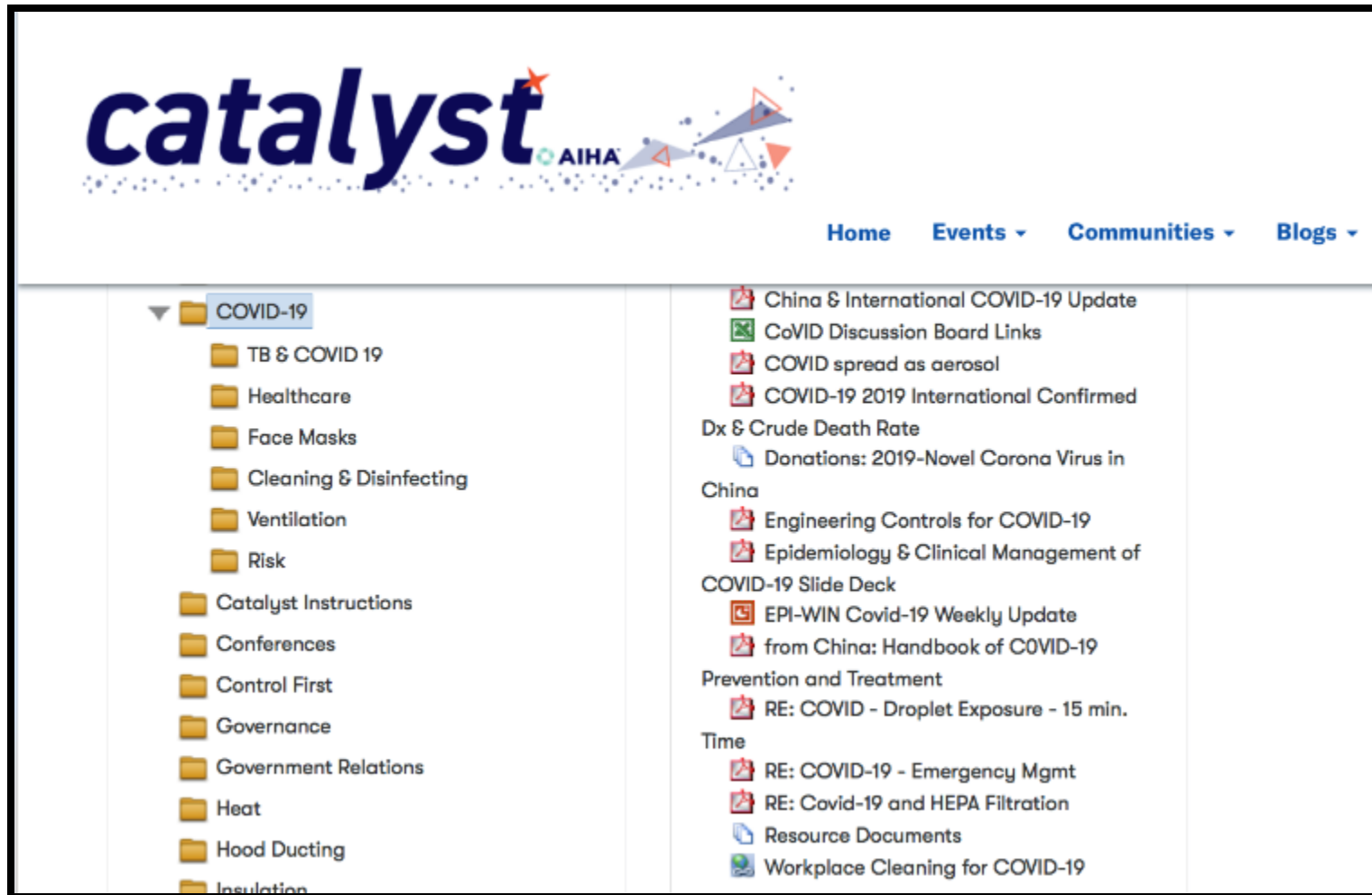
Fourth: we should defend credible organizations and information sources*

The screenshot shows the NIOSH website's "Special Topics: COVID-19 Information for Workers" page. The NIOSH logo is in the top right corner with the tagline "Promoting productive workplaces through safety and health research". The page is organized into several sections:

- Keep Up-to-Date about PPE**: A vertical list of four items:
 - Workplace Resources**: Resources for the protection of workers during COVID-19.
 - Supply of PPE**: Healthcare Supply of Personal Protective Equipment.
 - International Respirator Assessments**: Results of assessments of respirators represented as certified by an International certification authority, other than NIOSH.
 - Crisis Strategy: Decontamination and Reuse**: Decontamination and reuse of Filtering Facepiece Respirators as a crisis strategy in times of critical shortages.
- 2019 Novel Coronavirus Agriculture Workers and Employers**: A featured article with a sunset over a field background.
- Additional Health and Safety Guidance**: A list of three links:
 - [Guidance for preparing workplaces for COVID-19](#)
 - [Employees: How to cope with job stress and build resilience](#)
 - [General business FAQs](#)
- Footer**: Three navigation buttons for "Research Programs", "Data and Statistics", and "Publications & Products", along with an "Subscribe to eNews" form.

* There is no deep state

The AIHA's Catalyst site can help IHs stay current




The image shows a screenshot of the AIHA Catalyst website. The header features the "catalyst" logo in a large, bold, blue font, with "AIHA" in a smaller font to its right. To the right of the logo is a graphic of a stylized aircraft or arrow pointing upwards and to the right, composed of various geometric shapes and colors. Below the logo is a navigation menu with the following items: Home, Events, Communities, and Blogs.

The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains a sidebar menu with a "COVID-19" folder expanded, showing a list of sub-topics: TB & COVID 19, Healthcare, Face Masks, Cleaning & Disinfecting, Ventilation, Risk, Catalyst Instructions, Conferences, Control First, Governance, Government Relations, Heat, Hood Ducting, and Insulation.

The right column displays a list of articles and resources related to COVID-19, each with a small icon and a title:

- China & International COVID-19 Update
- CoVID Discussion Board Links
- COVID spread as aerosol
- COVID-19 2019 International Confirmed Dx & Crude Death Rate
- Donations: 2019-Novel Corona Virus in China
- Engineering Controls for COVID-19
- Epidemiology & Clinical Management of COVID-19 Slide Deck
- EPI-WIN Covid-19 Weekly Update
- from China: Handbook of COVID-19
- Prevention and Treatment
- RE: COVID - Droplet Exposure - 15 min.
- Time
- RE: COVID-19 - Emergency Mgmt
- RE: Covid-19 and HEPA Filtration
- Resource Documents
- Workplace Cleaning for COVID-19


CPWR's Clearinghouse is focused on COVID response in construction (cpwr.com)



CPWR
COVID-19
Construction Clearinghouse

☰ Resource Categories 📡 News/Info ▶ About 🏠 elcosh Home

The scientific community's understanding of how the **coronavirus disease (COVID-19)** spreads is evolving. This **COVID-19 Clearinghouse** was established as a central resource for construction employers and workers to find the latest research, guidance documents, training and other resources to help prevent the spread of the disease as construction work continues in some markets and starts up in others. The information posted is accurate as of the date posted. Every effort will be made to include only the latest information, however, since the situation is evolving, please let us know if more timely information is available.

Resource Categories

- About the Virus (22)
- Guidance on Workplace Practices (96)
- Safety in Action (32)
- Training Resources (21)
- Employer Recommendations & Requirements (37)
- State & Local Requirements (83)

COVID-19 Webinar Series: Safety in Action – An Example from the Job Site

This webinar focused on the steps taken by the Oregon COVID-19 Joint Construction Task Force, which includes labor, management (union and non-union), and government, and BAC Local 1 Oregon/Washington/Idaho/Montana and its signatory contractors to identify risks and implement interventions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on

Featured Resource

Virginia Emergency Temporary Standard §16 VAC 25-220


"This emergency temporary standard is designed to establish requirements for employers to control, prevent, and mitigate the spread of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) to and among employees and employers... [and] shall apply to every employer, employee, and place of employment in the Commonwealth of Virginia..."

Featured Resource

NEWS & RELATED INFORMATION

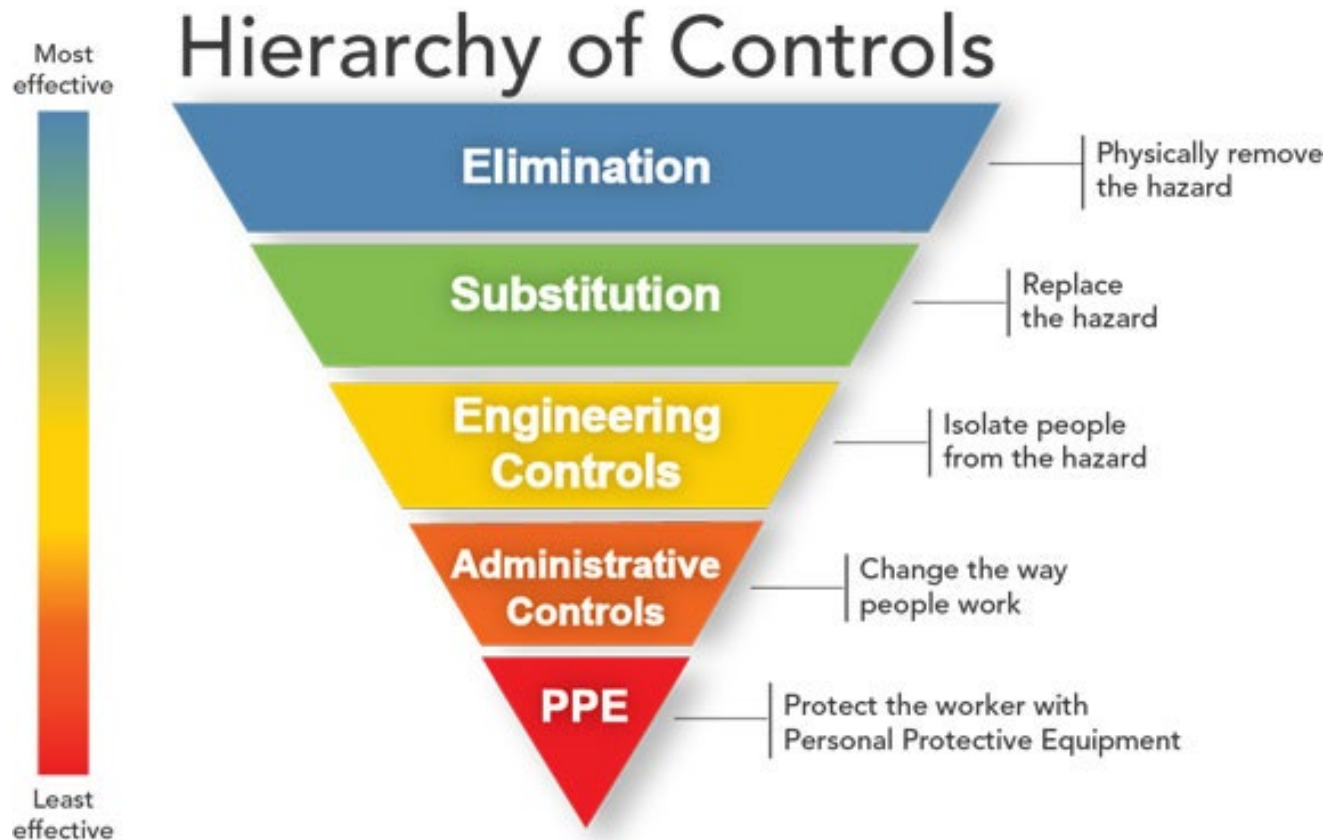
- Virginia becomes first state to mandate COVID-19 precautions in all workplaces**
Discusses the new Emergency Temporary Standard to protect workers in the state, including requirements for jobs identified as "medium, high, or very high risk." (July 15, 2020)
- FDA advises consumers not use hand sanitizer products manufactured by Eskbiochem**
- Johns Hopkins News & Events**
Important information and updates from the experts and researchers at Johns Hopkins.

Resource Categories | News/Info | About | Disclaimer | elcosh Home
Copyright © 2020. CPWR - The Center for Construction Research and Training



THE CENTER FOR CONSTRUCTION
RESEARCH AND TRAINING

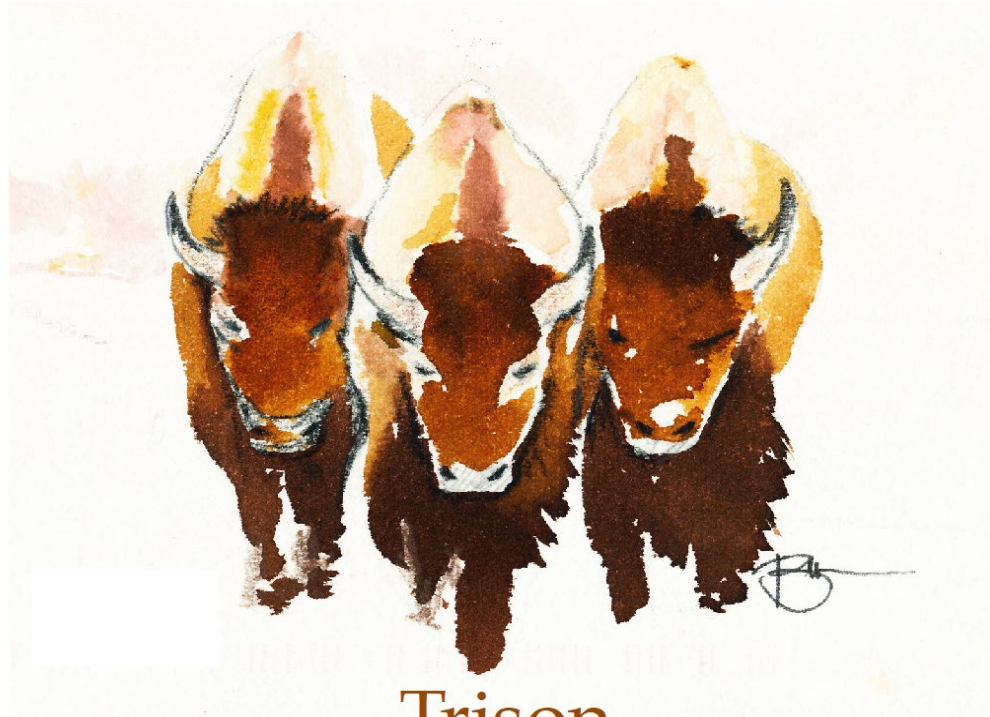
Fifth: We should apply the hierarchy as much as possible



Sources and Further Ethics Reading

- How Good People Make Tough Choices, Rushworth M. Kidder, 1995
- “Ethical Issues for Industrial Hygienists: Survey Results and Suggestions”, Laura A. Goldberg & Michael R. Greenberg, March 1993 AIHA Journal
- “Observations of Ethical Misconduct Among Industrial Hygienists in England”, Burgess G. L., Mullen, D., AIHA Journal (63) March/April 2002
- Defining Moments: When Managers Must Choose Between Right and Right, Joseph Badaracco, Jr. 1997
- Ethics for the Safety and Health Professional: Approaches and Case Studies, Jan K. Wachter, 2014.

Thank you for your time!



Trison

Bruce Lippy, Ph.D., CIH, CSP, FAIHA

410-916-0359 cell

blippy@cpwr.com