HERE BE DRAGONS
The Intersection of Science and Policy in the Transparency Revolution
A Killer-Diller: GMO Science Affect our Gut

Study: Romantic Candlelit Dinners Could Cause Cancer

Too much thinking 'can make you fat'

Too

Study: Abstaining from alcohol significantly shortens life

New research shows that those who imbibe are less likely to die those who stay dry.

New study says staring at breasts is good for men’s hearts

LIVE LONGER
IS THERE A REPRODUCIBILITY CRISIS?

- 7% Don’t know
- 52% Yes, a significant crisis
- 3% No, there is no crisis
- 38% Yes, a slight crisis

1,576 researchers surveyed
The proposed solution: Transparency

- Vary area to area
- General consensus on the concept, but interpreted differently

Bipartisan: seen as “pan-ideological good”

Simple solution to complex problems

Nulls the role of scandals, gossip, and conspiracy theories

Taken as technical, rather than political

Feeds the Western culture that favors confession and disclosure over secrecy as a general *modus operandi*
The goal to initiate transparency is not a sudden conversion, but one created by the specific conditions of competition for political power.

Tom Blanton (Freedom-of-Information campaigner)

Neo-liberal, state-society relationship

- Moral rightness of openness
- Follows rational choice theory

“Because it’s the right thing to do.”

Radical Opportunist

- Use transparency as a weapon to be used against neo-liberal ideas to reverse assumptions of who is being open to whom

“Look at what we found, that they have been hiding from you!”

“Lack of what we found, that they have the specific conditions of competition for political power”

Freedom-of-Information campaign
H.R.1430 - HONEST Act
115th Congress (2017-2018) | Get alerts

**Sponsor:** Rep. Smith, Lamar [R-TX-21] (Introduced 03/08/2017)

**Committees:** House - Science, Space, and Technology | Senate - Environment and Public Works

**Latest Action:** Senate - 03/30/2017 Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. ([All Actions](index.html))

**Roll Call Votes:** There have been 2 roll call votes

**Tracker:** Introduced → Passed House → Passed Senate → To President → Became Law
Transparency requires explicating one’s own assumptions, providing critical tools to unravel complex claims, and engaging critically.
Solution: Bring back an independent group of impartial researchers and policy specialists like the Office of Technology Assessment
Solution: Provide context with transparency and hold your leaders accountable.
Questions?