

Promoting an evidence-based approach to scientific issues

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Sense About Science

Challenges for science

Scientific evidence should be central in debates about science, medicine and technology. It is vital for clear public deliberation, scientific development and good policy.

Often, though, evidence is ignored or even misrepresented. From scares about the contraceptive pill, fluoride and the MMR vaccine to controversies about genetic modification, stem cell research and radiation, society has paid with unfounded anxiety, poor decisions, and lost opportunities for research and development.

Sense About Science responds to the misrepresentation of science and scientific evidence on issues that matter to society. We do this by promoting respect for evidence and by urging scientists to engage actively with a wide range of groups, particularly when debates are controversial or difficult.

We also work proactively for a wider understanding of the nature of evidence and recognition of the value of scientific enquiry.

We promote:

- the principle of independent peer review
- scientific inquiry free from stigma and intimidation
- constructive discussion

Become a part of what we do

Sense About Science is an independent charitable trust funded by donations from foundations, science bodies, industry and individuals. Our activities are coordinated by a small office team and supported by a wide network of organisations and volunteers from all areas of science.

We depend on the goodwill of our supporters

to help us to ensure that evidence is central when scientific matters are discussed - among opinion formers, across different media, in policy and official bodies and within civic groups.

We:

- **work with scientists to respond to inaccuracies and attacks on science**
- **work with scientific bodies to promote the benefits of scientific research**
- **explain to stakeholders how and why science is different from opinion**
- **bring scientists into direct contact with interested groups and opinion formers**
- **provide a facility for every kind of organisation to contact scientists about controversial or worrying issues**
- **arrange briefings on scientific developments for non-specialists**

If you would like to indicate your support for our aims, be involved in any aspect of our work, promote what we do, make a donation or would like more information, please fill out the tear-off strip opposite and send it to:

Leonor Sierra, Scientific Liaison,
Sense About Science,
25 Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1D 7EG

Or you can email Leonor at: Lsierra@senseaboutscience.org

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