

(2025 January 15) Unknown Knowns, Reality-based Community, fact-checking, Truth and Post-truth - Welcome to the Maga-Meta-X Social Media Ministry of Truth.

<https://www.axios.com/2025/01/07/meta-ends-fact-checking-zuckerberg-trump>

"Beauty is truth, truth beauty"
- John Keats (1819)

"Lectures on the True, the Good and the Beautiful"
- Victor Cousin (2853)

"There are no facts, only interpretations"
- Friedrich Nietzsche (1887)

"The true' ... is only the expedient in the way of our thinking"
- William James (1898)

"It was when I said, / 'There is no such thing as the truth,' / That the grapes seemed fatter, / The fox ran out of his hole"
- Wallace Stevens, "On the Road Home" (1938)

"Whatever the Party holds to be the truth, is the truth. It is impossible to see reality except by looking through the eyes of the Party."
- George Orwell, 1984 (1949)

"This is the West, Sir. When the legend becomes fact, print the legend." Newspaper editor in John Ford's *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance* (1962).

"To say that truth is not out there is simply to say that where there are no sentences there is no truth. . . . Truth cannot exist independently of the human mind"
- Richard Rorty (1989)

"It depends on what the meaning of the word 'is' is".
- Bill Clinton (1998)

"as we know, there are known knowns; there are things we know we know. We also know there are known unknowns; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also unknown unknowns"
- Donald Rumsfeld (2002)

"The aide said that guys like me were 'in what we call the reality-based community,' which he defined as people who 'believe that solutions emerge from your judicious study of discernible

reality.' [...] 'That's not the way the world really works anymore,' he continued. 'We're an empire now, and when we act, we create our own reality.x

- Ron Suskind, quoting George Bush aide, widely assumed to be Karl Rove (2004)

"Flood the zone with shit." Steve Bannon (2018)

"The truth is whatever makes you click. . . whatever clicks"

- Ron Winjberg (2022)