

Review of: "Categories of Wrong Beliefs—A Proposal"

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This short and elusive piece is an 'unachieved symphony'. It distinguishes between the empty, mistaken and distorted beliefs embodied in 'alternative facts' without drawing the implications of such a classification for policy making. In particular, it does not relate the topic it addresses to the current domination of social media in the current operating environment. Nor does it draw on a vast evaluation literature that probes the use of evidence in policy making. Yet, evaluators have put together a rich analytical toolbox adapted to the operating context. This is necessary given the diverse availability and quality of information embedded in the 'alternative facts' phenomenon. As next step, the author should draw on the literature to complete the journey it has embarked on. As things currently stand, unlike Saliery's comment about Mozart's music ('too many notes'!) this document strikes a single and tentative note.