



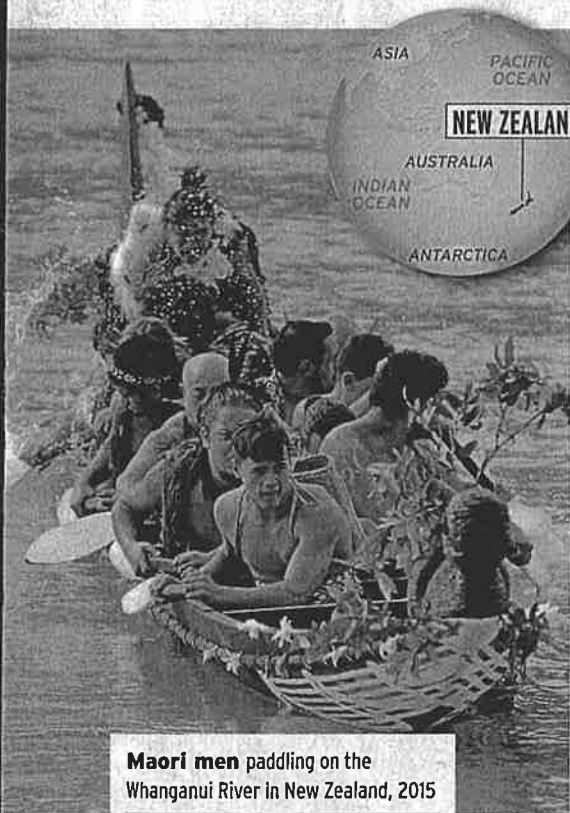
SCIENCE

Dog Democracy

The principle of majority rule is nothing to sneeze at—unless you're a wild dog. New research shows that when African wild dogs are deciding whether to hunt as a pack, they cast their "votes" by sneezing. According to researchers at the Botswana Predator Conservation Trust, one dog starts things off by gearing up to move and sneezing one or more times; if a majority of other dogs fall in line and achoo too, the pack goes on its way. However, researchers found that the dogs haven't created a true democracy: A dominant male or female needs to sneeze fewer times to get the pack to move than dogs lower on the totem pole do. Although gorillas grunt to reach consensus and capuchin monkeys trill, this marks the first time an animal has been shown to vote by sneezing. "We discovered how amazingly complex this social behavior is," says researcher Reena Walker, "and opened a new door into our understanding of different ways animals may communicate." •

LAW

This River Could Sue You



Maori men paddling on the Whanganui River in New Zealand, 2015

If you're ever in New Zealand, be careful how you treat the Whanganui River—it has the same legal rights you have. A court recently gave the river the status of a living being, a first for a natural resource. It's a victory for the indigenous Maori people, who have long considered the Whanganui a living ancestor. Now, if someone abuses the river, the New Zealand law would treat that person as if he or she harmed a human. Other countries have recently taken similar steps without specifying particular resources: Ecuador's constitution recognized the right of nature to exist in 2008, and Bolivia passed a law in 2011 granting nature equal rights with humans. Environmentalists are applauding the trend as a way to protect nature from pollution and overdevelopment. So does this mean a river or mountain near you could be the next "person"? Experts say it's a long shot in the U.S., where activists have been unsuccessful in gaining full legal rights for animals. "It would be an even further stretch to confer standing directly on rivers, mountains, and forests," says Jody Freeman, director of the environmental law program at Harvard Law School in Massachusetts. •

News & Trends was reported by Julie Turkewitz of *The New York Times*; and Carl Stoffers, Lucia De Stefani, Greg Gottfried, and Monique LeBrun.

NUMBERS IN THE NEWS

\$200,000

VALUE of artwork accidentally destroyed by a woman at a Los Angeles gallery. The woman lost her balance while taking a selfie, sending several sculptures toppling over.

SOURCE: UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

20

NUMBER of seconds early a train left a station outside of Tokyo, Japan, in November, sparking an apology from the railroad company. Japan's railway is one of the most modern and precise in the world.

SOURCE: BBC

40%

PERCENTAGE of Arizona state lawmakers who are women, the highest female representation of any legislature in the U.S. Nationally, only a quarter of state legislative seats are held by women.

SOURCE: THE HILL

30,000

NUMBER of infrared dots projected on a face by the iPhone X's new facial ID recognition feature.

SOURCE: BLOOMBERG



CHRIS STEVENS/GETTY IMAGES; JIM NEWMAN/GETTY IMAGES; HAGEN HOPKINS/GETTY IMAGES; MAORI; SPENCER/ISTOCK.COM (PHOTO); GLOBE PHOTOS/ISTOCK.COM (PHOTO)

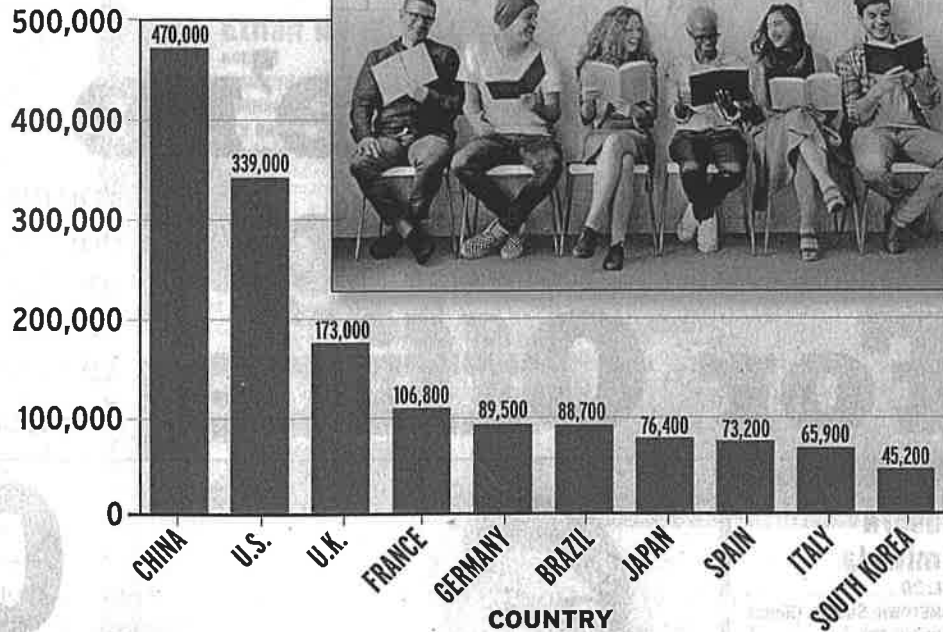
CULTURE

Book Loving Nations

This chart shows the countries that published the most new books in 2015, the most recent year for which stats are available. Why might China be at the top of the list? What do you notice about the other countries? Does anything about this chart surprise you?

SOURCE: INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

NUMBER OF NEW TITLES PUBLISHED



Actual size →
of an RFID chip, shown
being implanted into a hand.



TECH

Cash, Card, or Body Chip?

Is it the ultimate in convenience, or a terrifying glimpse into the future? Three Square Market (32M), a Wisconsin company, has become the first business in the U.S. to implant microchips into its employees' bodies. The rice-sized chips, called RFIDs (Radio Frequency Identification), are inserted under the skin of the hand. Employees who get the optional implants can enter the building, buy from the company's cafeteria, and use machinery with a wave of the hand, eliminating the need for ID cards or money. 32M's CEO thinks people will eventually use RFID chips to pay for everything from groceries to bus fares. But not everyone's convinced. Privacy advocates worry the chips could be used to track our movements and could harm our health. Says Matthew Feeny, a privacy expert at the Cato Institute in Washington, D.C., a think tank that pushes for individual rights: "This is people sacrificing their privacy on the altar of convenience." •

RFID CHIPS: GETTY IMAGES; RFID CHIP: GREGORY HEISE; PHOTO: GUY WITTE/ISTOCK.COM (GROOMING); VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS (CHIP); NIEL TREBEL/ISTOCK (CHIP); ANTI PIRES/ISTOCK/GETTY IMAGES (PIZZA)

Ethical Dilemma BY RANDY COHEN

Pizza Profiteer?

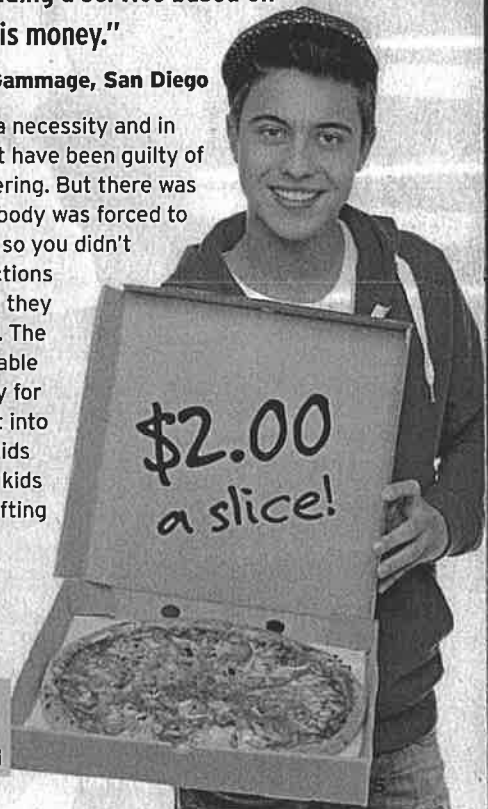
My school has a monthly sale where parents buy pizzas from a pizzeria and sell them to students for \$1 a slice. I bought a whole pie at the pizzeria and offered slices for \$2 to kids at the end of the long line, but a school counselor said that it was unethical. I thought I was providing a service based on the idea that "time is money."

Who's right? —Ben Gammage, San Diego

ANSWER: Were pizza a necessity and in short supply, you might have been guilty of what some call profiteering. But there was plenty of pizza, and nobody was forced to buy your pricier slices, so you didn't exploit anyone. Your actions were not unethical, but they were poor social policy. The \$1 deal made an affordable school-wide pizza party for everyone. You turned it into a two-tiered system—kids with money don't wait; kids without money do—shifting it to something less community-oriented.

—Adapted from 'The Ethicist' in *The New York Times*

Comment on this ethical dilemma at UPFRONTMAGAZINE.COM



News & Trends (REG)

Objective: Use all information in the News & Trends section on pages 4 and 5 of the January issue of Upfront to identify Main Idea, Too Narrow, and Too Broad statements and to better understand the numbers and stats used.

Directions: After reading the sub-sections of News & Trends, complete the following tasks and questions below.

Science--Dog Democracy:

1. Label the following statements as M (Main Idea), N (Too Narrow), or B (Too Broad).

_____ Different animals communicate in different ways to “vote”.

_____ African wild dogs will sneeze to show agreement for hunting in packs.

_____ Dominant male and female dogs need to sneeze less than other dogs lower on the totem pole to get the pack to move.

Law--This River Could Sue You:

2. What is the main idea of this section?
- Rivers and mountains need to have the same protective rights as people.
 - Countries have made laws to grant nature equal rights with humans with New Zealand becoming the first country to give a natural resource the status of a living being.
 - Be careful how you treat the Whanganui River—it has the same legal rights you have.
 - It’s a long shot that nature will be granted equal rights with humans in the United States.
3. Provide a “statement too narrow” from the section. Is it a supporting detail? Explain.

Tech—Cash, Card, or Body Chip?:

4. What is the authors’ main purpose of the paragraph?
- convince the reader to implant RFID chips to purchase items.
 - explain why people are against RFID chips.
 - explain how a company is using RFID chips with its employees
 - describe an event where someone purchased an item with an RFID chip.

5. Analyze Matthew Feeney's quote. Which statement best describes Matthew Feeney's bias on this issue?
- Matthew feels everyone should try the RFID chip, because it's worth the sacrifice of privacy for a short period of time.
 - If it's more convenient, it should be done.
 - Matthew disagrees with prioritizing convenience over personal privacy.
 - Matthew is indifferent and feels everyone should be allowed to make up their own mind.

Ethical Dilemma—*Pizza Profiteer?*:

6. Provide a supporting detail to the author's main idea: *The actions were not unethical, but they were poor social policy.*

Numbers In The News:

7. Beyond the obvious reason, explain why the authors used each number and stat by telling what the numbers and stats suggest.

a) \$200,000:

b) 20:

c) 40%

d) 30,000: