The Mathematics of Real Life

**Awareness of mathematics in practice happens through intentional focus. By investigating headlines, connections to real life can be made.**

In this assignment, you will select a news story, identify the use of mathematical findings within the story, uncover potential author bias, and relate bias to reader interpretation.

* Create a 3- to 5-page paper (not including the title and references pages) in a Word document for your response.
* Use APA format for the paper, the title page, the references page, and the in-text citations.
* Develop an introduction and conclusion for your paper.
* Follow the steps to complete the assignment.

Part 1: The Story

**Step 1. Watch or Read**Watch or read a real news story, past or present.

**Step 2. Identify**Identify the use of mathematical findings in the information presented. What did the numbers tell you?

Part 2: Potential Bias

**Step 3. Uncover Bias**Behind every story is an author. What potential bias could be found with the interpretation of the data presented by the source-author or group?

**Step 4. Address These Questions**

* What potential bias guides interpretation?
* How do you make an informed decision which factors into the mathematical data and the emotional response?
* What role do bias and extraneous variables play in decision making?

**Step 5. Conclude**In your conclusion, provide an example of a personal bias which influences your professional choices.