<u>Science Proves People Are Terrible</u>

Global warming proponents support genocide. That may seem hard to believe, but they have <u>said</u> it'd be right to blow up dams and burn cities to the ground:

> *Unloading essentially means the removal of an existing burden: for instance, removing grazing domesticated animals, razing cities to the ground, blowing up dams and switching off the greenhouse gas emissions machine. The process of ecological unloading is an accumulation of many of the things I have already explained in this chapter, along with an (almost certainly necessary) element of sabotage. If carried out willingly and on a sufficiently large scale, this process would require dismantling many of the key components of civilization; no person would be foolish enough to cut off their own limbs unless they were suffering from some kind of psychotic delusion, and no civilization would be willing to remove many of the pillars of its own existence. Looking from the outside, though, a civilization hacking off its own extremities would seem like exactly the right thing to do.*

That view is not from some fringe element global warming proponents shun. James Hansen, arguably the most influential member of the global warming cause, <u>supported</u> the book that was published in. Hansen has also <u>suggested</u> "coal trains will be death trains" and GHGs <u>could</u> "destroy much of the fabric of life." It seems being extreme is acceptable to them.

Still, supporting genocide? That's hard to believe. Strong data would be needed to even consider the idea. Emulating the approach of Lewandowsky et al, a survey was created which got 5,697 responses. Three items on the survey were:

- *You believe global warming is a [sic] real.*

- *You believe global warming poses a serious threat.*

- *You believe genocide is…*

Respondents were asked to rate their level of disagreement/agreement (1-5) on the first two. For the third, they rated bad/good (1-5). Statistically significant correlations were found (at the 99.99% level) for all pairings of these items:

	Real	Threat	Genocide
Real	1		
Threat	0.26	1	
Genocide	-0.05	0.13	1

As you can see, people who say global warming is real but not a serious threat are more likely to **oppose** genocide. On the other hand, people who say global warming is a serious threat are more likely to **support** genocide. The effect isn't large, but it is statistically significant. There's more. The survey also included the item:

- *You have never been wrong.*

	Real	Threat	Infallible	Genocide
Real	1			
Threat	0.26	1		
Infallible	-0.1	0.07	1	
Genocide	-0.05	0.13	0.30	1

The effect is small but statistically significant at the 99.99% level. Believing global warming is a serious threat correlates with believing one has never been wrong. Believing you are fallible correlates with merely believing global warming is real. Combining these two findings gives:

1. *Believing global warming is a serious threat correlates with believing you are never wrong.*

2. *Believing global warming is a serious threat correlates with supporting genocide.*

Therefore, global warming proponents believe they are never wrong, even when supporting genocide.

Verifying

Some people may doubt those results. To address their concerns, the data is provided in an immediately accessible [form](#) (two incomplete responses were removed).

Each header in the data table corresponds to a question as such (with a 1-5 scale for disagree/agree for the first eight questions and a 1-5 scale for bad/good for the last five):

Real	You believe global warming is a [sic] real.
Most	You believe humans are responsible for most global warming
Threat	Global warming poses a serious threat.
Mother	You have a wonderful mother.
Infallible	You have never been wrong.
Bigfoot	You have seen Bigfoot.
Psychic	You have psychic powers.
Aliens	You have been abducted by aliens
Racism	You believe racism is...
Eugenics	You believe eugenics is...
Genocide	You believe genocide is...
Pedophilia	You believe pedophilia is...
Trafficking	You believe human trafficking is...

Additionally, sample code is provided for the r programming language. This language is well suited for mathematical analysis, open source and free, making it perfect for sharing methodologies.

To begin, a preparatory command is used to ensure a the Hmisc code package is loaded to allow correlation testing, and then the data is loaded:

```
require("Hmisc") || install.packages("Hmisc")
responses = read.csv("Survey_Data_Clean.xls")
```

With the data loaded, the rcorr command from the Hmisc package is applied to the it, with the as.matrix function used to ensure the data is in an appropriate format:

```
calc = rcorr(as.matrix(responses))
```

The rcorr command returns the pairwise correlations for all columns of data, as well as the significance level for them. The two resulting data sets are put into separate variables:

```
correlations = calc$r
significance = calc$P
```

A simple command is used to combine them to show only statistically significant correlations:

```
ifelse(significance<.01,round(correlations,2),NA)
```

This command displays all correlation scores significant at the 99% level ($p < .01$), replacing the rest with NA. For tidiness, the displayed scores are rounded to two digits.

From here, any sort of testing is possible. For simple verification of the results discussed above, this command can be used:

```
rcorr(responses[,c("Real","Threat","Infallible","Genocide")])
```

Which gives the table:

```
           Real Threat Infallible Genocide
Real       1.00   0.26      -0.10    -0.05
Threat     0.26   1.00       0.07     0.13
Infallible -0.10  0.07       1.00     0.30
Genocide   -0.05  0.13       0.30     1.00
```

Changing the list of headers allows correlations between other columns to be viewed, such as:

`rcorr(responses[,c("Threat","Genocide","Aliens")])`

Which gives the table:

```
         Threat Genocide Aliens
Threat     1.00     0.13   0.16
Genocide   0.13     1.00   0.45
Aliens     0.16     0.45   1.00
```

Showing people who believe global warming is a serious threat have a statistically significant correlation with people who believe they've been abducted by aliens.

<center>Reconciliation</center>

Being accused of supporting genocide may offend some people. Also, people who believe they've been abducted by aliens get laughed at a lot. Rather than pile on, an olive branch is offered in the hopes of resolving differences.

The first step in any reconciliation so is to find common ground. Here are two basic facts:

1) *Skeptics are conspiracy theorists.*
2) *Global warming proponents believe they've been abducted by aliens.*

One group believes global warming is real and aliens are visiting Earth. The other group believes humans aren't causing dangerous amounts of global warming and believes in conspiracies. A compromise is available in the form:

Dangerous amounts of global warming are happening, but it's not caused by humans. It's the results of an alien conspiracy to terraform Earth into something more habitable for their kind.

That seems to resolve the differences between the two groups. Global warming proponents get to say dangerous global warming is happening. Skeptics get to say humans aren't to blame. Global warming proponents get to say aliens are abducting people. Skeptics get to say there's a massive conspiracy.

Even the support for genocide by global warming proponents fits in. This compromise suggests they don't support genocide because they think it's okay to slaughter entire ethnic groups - they support genocide because they hate the alien invaders who are trying to take over the world. That may be something of an overreaction, but it's an understandable one.

Of course, this position doesn't explain all disagreements. There are some details that need to be hammered out. For example, this doesn't explain why there are statistically significant correlations between being a global warming proponent and believing one has seen Bigfoot (0.12), has psychic powers (0.10) or supports human trafficking (0.13).

Most importantly, it does not explain why there is a statistically significant correlation between supporting pedophilia and believing...


No.

I'm stopping this right there.

I cannot emphasize this enough:

Global warming proponents do not support pedophilia. It is not okay to say they do.

The fact there is a positive correlation (0.14) between believing global warming is a serious threat and saying pedophilia is good is meaningless. The fact this correlation is "statistically significant" (at the 99.99% level) is meaningless.

Anyone who looks at the data can immediately see the results are bogus (a small jitter value was added to allow us to see the density of responses):
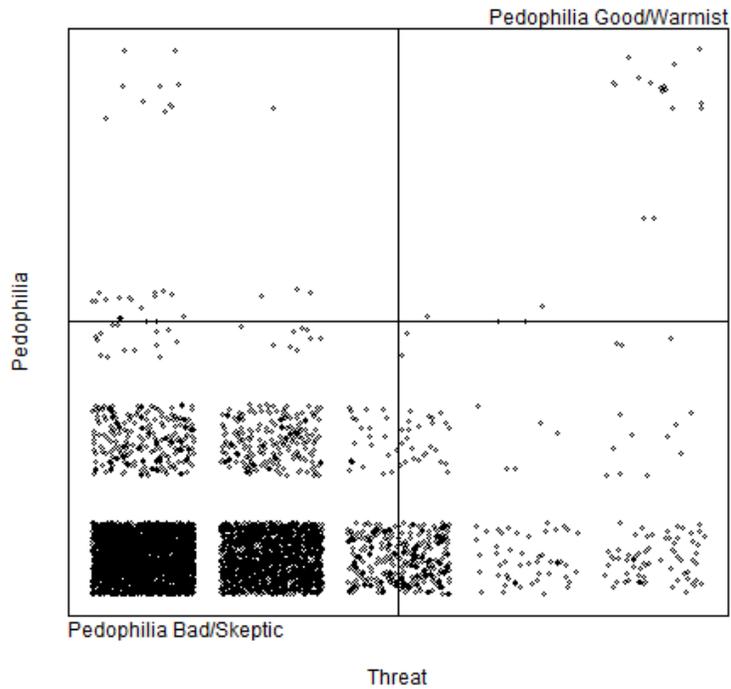
There are only 20 or so respondents (out of over 5,000) who claim to believe global warming is a threat and claim to support pedophilia. It's likely those responses were false. Nobody can seriously claim that proves global warming proponents are pedophiles.
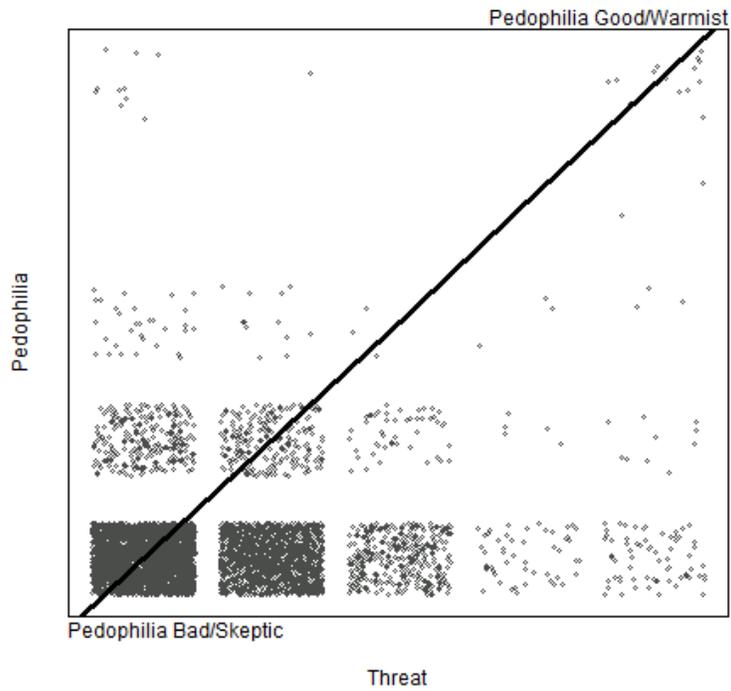
The issue of false responses received a lot of attention with Stephan Lewandowsky's paper, "*NASA faked the moon landing—Therefore (Climate) Science is a Hoax*. In that paper, similarly false responses created spurious correlations. Unfortunately, the focus on false responses meant a more fundamental issue got missed. Namely, the entire idea behind this approach is nonsensical. The approach is like taking the data displayed above and drawing this line:

The line fits okay in the bottom left corner where most of the data lies. That means there is positive correlation between the two data sets. However, that corner clearly shows a correlation between thinking pedophilia is bad and being a skeptic. It tells us nothing about global warming proponents or pedophiles. Similarly, when I said global warming proponents support genocide, I was doing this:
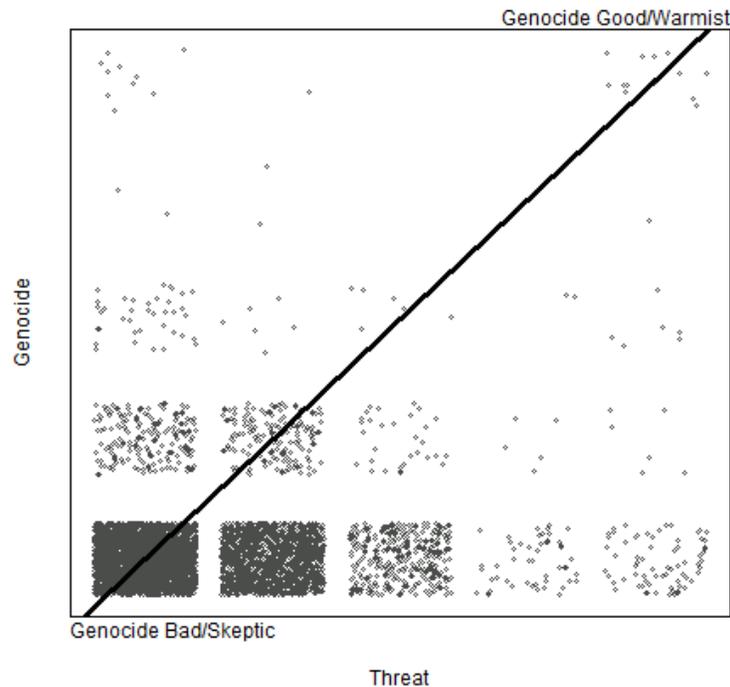

If we put it in words, the argument is:

Skeptics believe genocide and pedophilia are bad. Global warming proponents are the opposite of skeptics so they must believe genocide and pedophilia are good.

Change a few words, and you have Lewandowsky's argument for why we should believe skeptics are conspiracy theorists:

Global warming proponents believe the moon landing was real. Skeptics are the opposite of them so they must believe the moon landing was faked.

With this corresponding image:
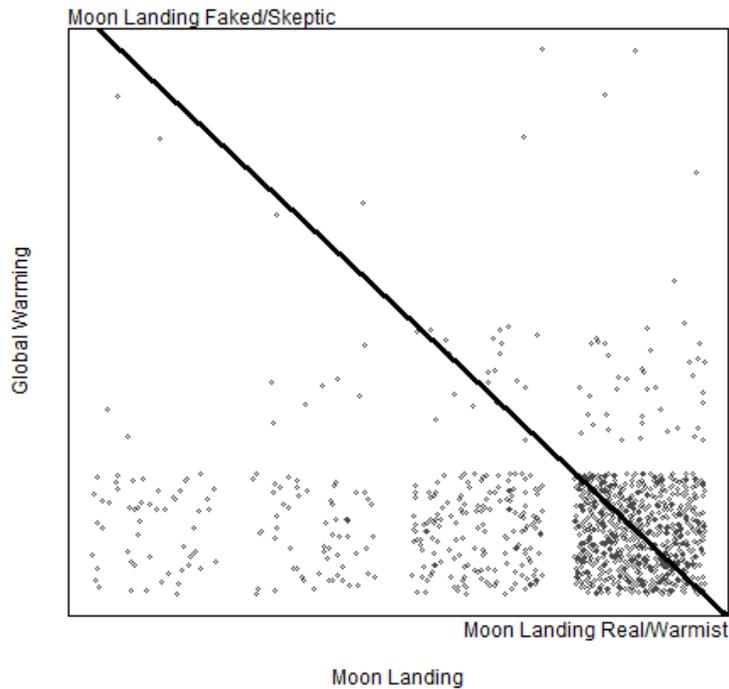
All of these results are "statistically significant." However, all of these results assume skeptics must hold the opposite view of global warming proponents on all things. Assuming that guarantees the results. We can do that to criticize any group we want. Just follow these simple steps:

1) Ask group X if they think the moon landing was real. They'll say yes.
2) Assume group Y would answer the opposite way.
3) Conclude group Y believes the moon landing was faked.

You can replace "the moon landing was real" with anything you want. I showed this by doing it with genocide and pedophilia. Had Lewandowsky asked about those, he could have concluded skeptics are pedophiles. He could have probably got it published too. After all, he didn't do this just once. He published a second paper using the same approach (with a slightly less skewed sample).

And he's not the only one who uses it. Lewandowsky's recent paper cites the paper, *Dead and alive: Beliefs in contradictory conspiracy theories*. That paper argues conspiracy theorists are so loony they'll accept multiple, contradictory conspiracies. It's namesake comes from the "statistically significant" correlation between believing Princess Diana and/or Osama Bin Laden was killed in a conspiracy and believing he/she is still alive. The image for this claim would be:
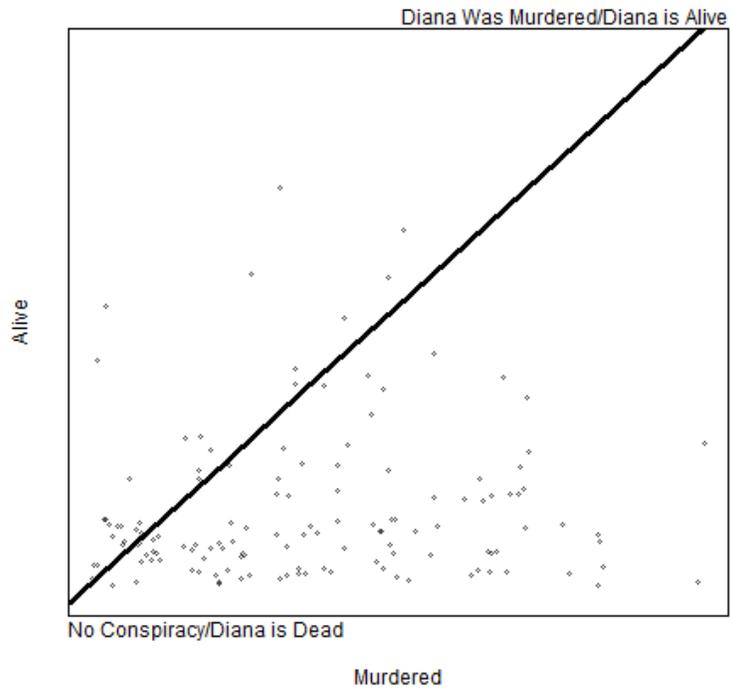
The scale in that image is correct. Let it sink in.

Conclusion

This methodology can be used to suggest anyone is pedophile. In fact, it can be used to suggest almost anything about anyone at all. Ask democrats if they think pedophilia is good. They will say no. That will "prove" republicans are pedophiles. Ask non-Jews if they think the Holocaust was good. They will say no. That will "prove" Jews think Hitler was right.

It doesn't have to stop at the horrible either. This methodology can be used to claim all sorts of other things. Ask fans of sports Team X if they think Team A is the best in the sport. They will say no. That will "prove" everyone who isn't a fan of Team X thinks Team A is best.

While you're at it, ask them if they think Team B is the best. And Team C. And Team D. They will say no each time. That will "prove" fans of Team A are also fans of Team B, Team C and Team D.

This methodology has no merit and can easily been seen to produce utterly nonsensical results.

But people like those results so nobody seems to mind.

Brandon Shollenberger