

## **Chapter A.3 When the wind blows the other way – Observations of the behaviours of Leaders and Scientists when their belief systems crumble**

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My analysis in this section differs substantially from the thinking of others who have written about the D-cubed whims of the scientific community and the resulting "junk science". Typically the "blame" is allocated to:

- interactions between scientific funding, government policy, and environmental lobbies,
- the media, who tend to vastly over-emphasise the disaster scenarios, and both lead and follow the dominant politically-correct fashions-cum-cults-cum-religions of their readership;
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Similarly, scientists themselves, if they reflect on their own junk science at all, typically blame:

- laboratory management
- publish or perish, cost recovery, or other funding mechanisms
- the evil influence of oil companies, pharmaceutical companies, and in general any companies, and their employees, who are all crooks
- more recently - the science-policy link, which in application really means using science to churn out politically-compliant results
- the desperate need to do ANYTHING before disaster hits, according to the "Precautionary Principle" (which as I showed in the last section, no scientists that I've talked to has shown an understanding of the first simple implications and limitations of its application).

(Obviously that last bit is pure satire, but not totally unrepresentative of comments that I've often heard.)

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