

Science Denial

1. There has been a lot of talk and research about such things as vaccines, vitamins, genetically modified foods, and global warming, to name a few.

Which of these topics are you most interested in and why?

2. The National Geographic magazine, March 2015, issued an article called, "War on Science." In it, the author examines why people refuse to believe what science has proven.

Why do you think people debate scientific findings?

3. Journalist Michael Spector says that, "Science isn't a company, it's not a country, it's not even an idea. It's a process (of trying something out, seeing if it works, and changing when it doesn't.) The idea that we should not allow science to do its job because we're afraid, is really very deadening, and it's preventing millions of people from prospering."

How could refusing what science has proven be harmful? Give an example.

4. Galileo suffered arrest and imprisonment when his scientific studies were published in 1632 because the religious authorities did not agree with his views concerning the structure of the universe. Only 350 years later, were his findings accepted at large.

Why do you think it took so long?

What kind of evidence do you look for before accepting a new finding?

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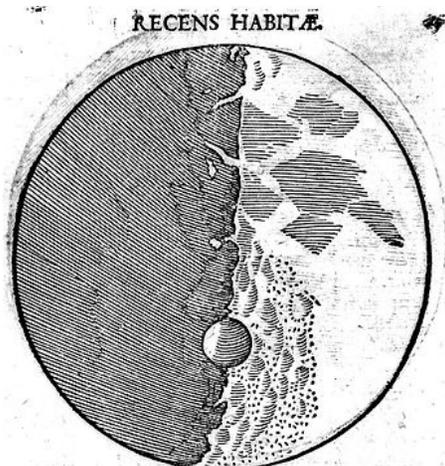
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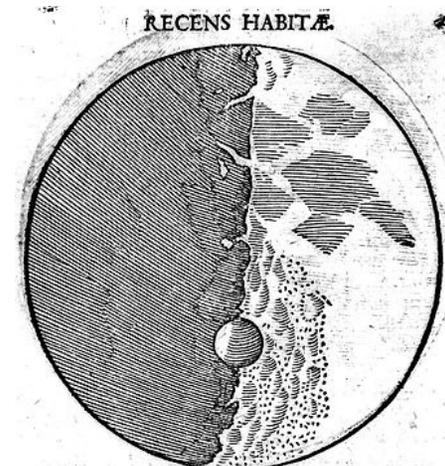
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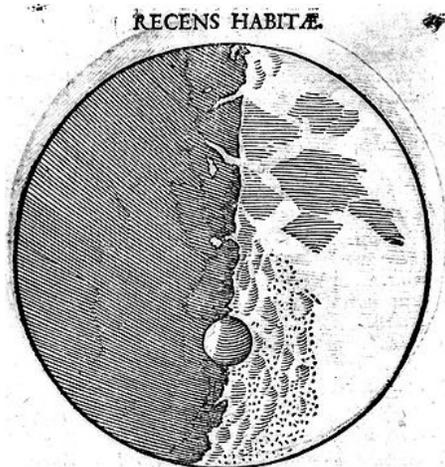
Hæc eadē macula ante secundam quadraturam nigrioribus quibusdam terminis circumuallata conspicitur, qui tanquam altissima montium iuga ex parte Soli auctra obcuriores apparent, qua vero Solem respiciunt, lucidiores exsūt, cuius oppositum in cauitibus accidit, quarum pars Soli auctra splēdens apparet, obscura vero ac umbrosa, quæ ex parte Solis sita est. Imminuta deinde luminosa superficie, cum primū tota ferme dicta macula tenebris est obducta, clariora montium dorsa eminenter tenebras scandunt. Hanc duplicem apparentiam sequentes figuræ demonstrant.

Image of the moon from Galileo's presentation copy of the Sidereus nuncius, 1610. Courtesy History of Science Collections, University of Oklahoma Libraries



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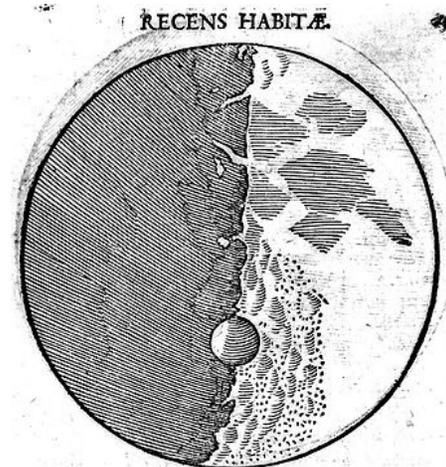
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