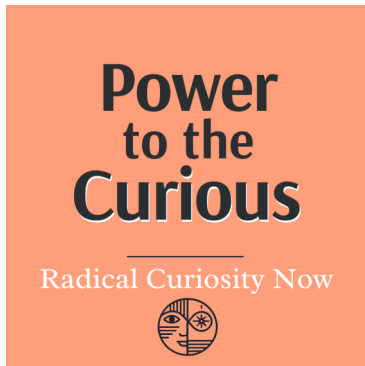




Radical Curiosity  
NOW

# Research and Resources

Get Curious! Books, Research, Links, Organizations. . .



## **Resistant Curiosity as Political Activism**

*“It is the courage to throw off familiar ways, to radically shift perspective, to believe change is possible, and to populate collective visions with the still unthinkable— it is this courage that fuels such movements. This is the structure of politically resistant curiosity.”*

Dr. Perry Zurn in his book [Curiosity and Power](#), p. 146). [Dr. Zurn Website](#)

## **Contact Hypothesis**

Claims that repeated one-on-one interactions and conversations with people from different social or cultural groups builds acceptance and reduces prejudices.

Vallone, D., Hawkins, S., Malvar, N., Oshinski, P., Raghuram, T., & Yudkin, D. (2021, May). *Two stories of distrust*. More in Common. [PDF file at:

<https://www.moreincommon.com> ]

## **Orgs Doing The Work**

[All Sides](#)

[Braver Angels](#)

[The Bridge Alliance](#)

[Builders Movement](#)

[Citizen Connect](#)

[Citizen University](#)

[Common Ground Committee](#)

[The Fulcrum](#)

[Hidden Tribes Polarization Research](#)

[Listen First Project](#)

[Living Room Conversations](#)

[More in Common](#)

[National Conversation Project](#)

[National Institute for Civil Disclosure](#)

[One Small Step](#)

[The Peoples Supper](#)

[Starts With Us](#)

## **Perception & Information Gaps, Stereotyping, and Curiosity**

“The failure to perceive a gap in one’s information, because one has filled in the gap automatically with a social stereotype, is likely to reduce or negate the amount of curiosity one experiences about the individual’s actual status. Lack of curiosity about others as a result of the failure to recognize information gaps may be a contributing factor to the well-documented resistance of stereotypes to change.”

George Loewenstein, “The Psychology of Curiosity” (1994, p. 94).

Two of the many perception gap causes: “The ‘echo chamber’ effect of social and traditional media, which groups people into enclaves in which they are exposed to less diversity of viewpoints and are less likely to have their own views challenged. . . The ‘group polarization’ effect found in many studies, in which people who engage only with like-minded people about an issue come to believe a more extreme version of what they did before.”

Yudkin, D., Hawkins, S., & Dixon, T. (2019). *The perception gap: How false impressions are pulling Americans apart*.

More in Common. <https://www.moreincommon.com>  
<https://perceptiongap.us/media/zaslaroc/perception-gap-report-1-0-3.pdf>

## **Frequent Blocks to Curiosity: Google these and get curious**

- Cognitive Dissonance Theory
- Confirmation Bias
- Social Identity Theory
- The Backfire Effect
- Reframing
- Perspective-Taking Exercises
- Cognitive Flexibility
- Mirroring or Reflective Listening