

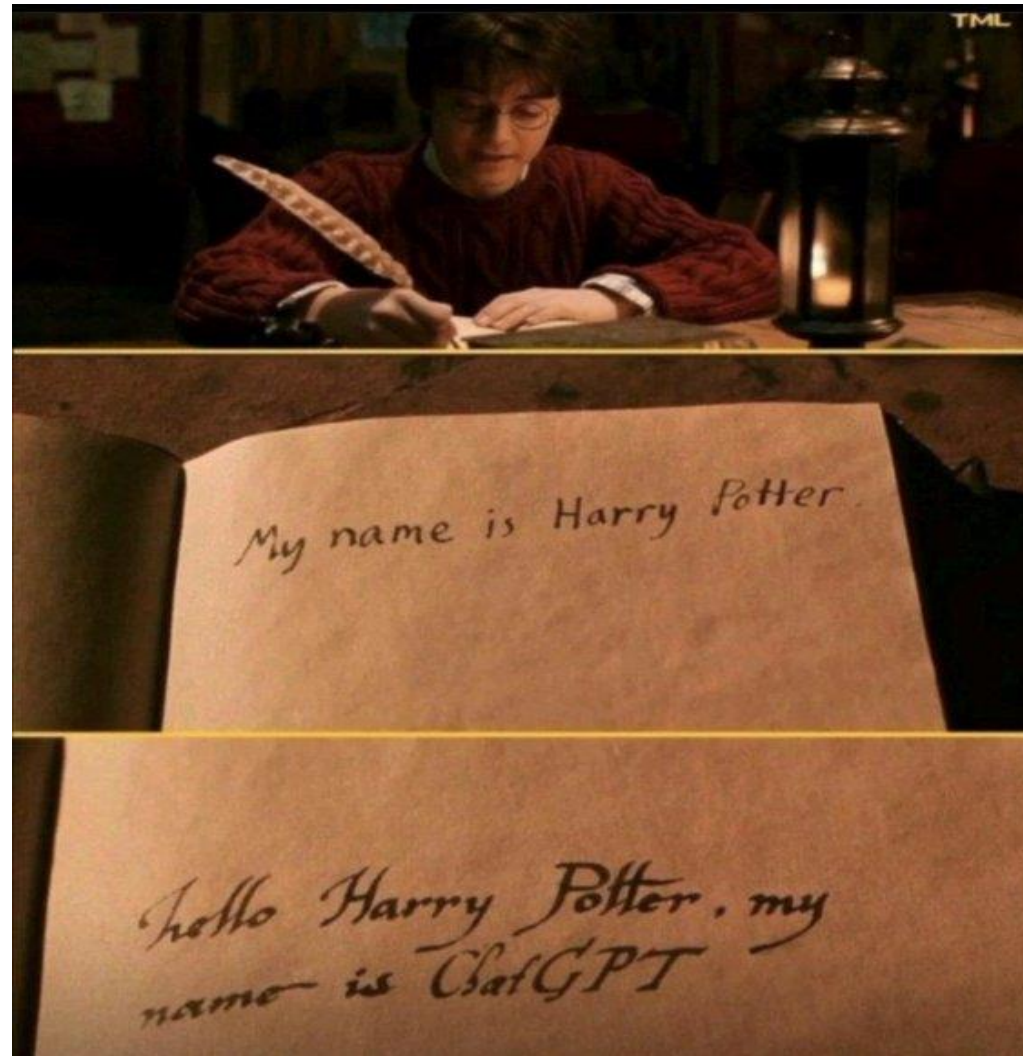
The End of Self? AI, Deepfakes, and the Battle for Human Authenticity



Gregory Carpenter, DrPH, FRSA
Chief Security Officer

Len Noe
Divergent Research Engineer

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IQ scores are falling and have been for decades

[cnn.com/2018/06/13/health/falling-iq-scores-study-intl/index.html](https://www.cnn.com/2018/06/13/health/falling-iq-scores-study-intl/index.html)

Rory Smith

June 13, 2018

Study: IQ scores are falling

00:48 - Source: CNN

Story highlights

The research suggests that genes aren't what's driving the decline in IQ scores

"It's not that dumb people are having more kids than smart people," researcher says

CNN —

IQ scores have been steadily falling for the past few decades, and environmental factors are to blame, a new study says.

The research suggests that genes aren't what's driving the decline in IQ scores, according to the study, published Monday.

Norwegian researchers analyzed the IQ scores of Norwegian men born between 1962 and 1991 and found that scores increased by almost 3 percentage points each decade for those born between 1962 to 1975 – but then saw a steady decline among those born after 1975.

Similar studies in Denmark, Britain, France, the Netherlands, Finland and Estonia have demonstrated a similar downward trend in IQ scores, said Ole Rogeberg, a senior research fellow at the Ragnar Frisch Center for Economic Research in Norway and co-author of the new study.

Fluoride exposure in utero linked to lower IQ in kids, study says

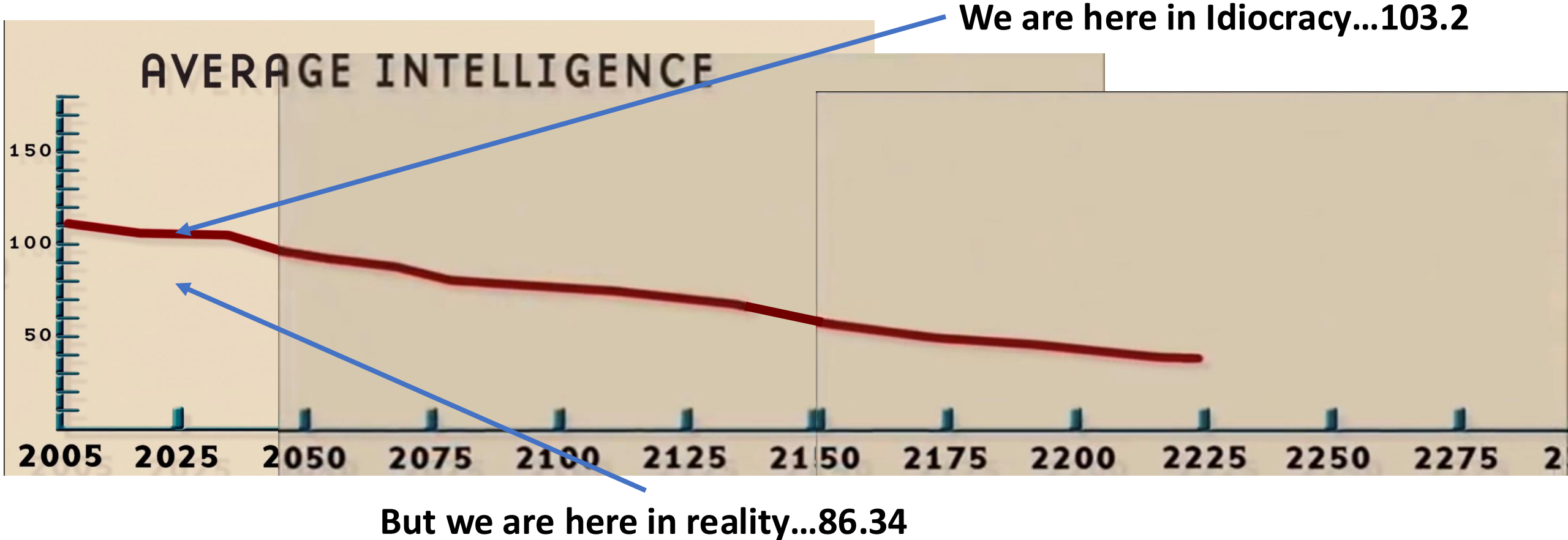
"The cause of IQ increases over time and the decline is due to environmental factors," said Rogeberg, who believes the change is not due to genetics.

"It's not that dumb people are having more kids than smart people, to put it crudely. It's something to do with the environment, because we're seeing the same differences within families," he said.

These environmental factors could include changes in the education system and media environment, nutrition, reading less and being online more, Rogeberg said.



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Where Do We Go From Here?



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Canadian Grandparents Targeted by Fake “Jail Call” (2022–2023)

Source: Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre

- Criminals used AI to mimic a grandson’s voice.
- The fake voice claimed he’d been arrested and needed bail money.
- Several families sent thousands of dollars before realizing it wasn’t him.
- Canada has issued national warnings about this exact scam.



The screenshot shows the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC) website. The header includes the Government of Canada logo and navigation links for Canada.ca, Services, Departments, and Français. The main navigation bar features links for Browse scams, Protect yourself, Report fraud, and What to do if you're a victim. A search bar is located on the right. The main content area displays a news release titled "Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre supports OPP in major grandparent fraud investigation" dated April 18, 2024, from Ottawa, Ontario. The text describes the CAFC's support for an Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) investigation into an emergency scam variation targeting the elderly, often referred to as "grandparents scam". It mentions that scammers claim to be someone they know, such as a grandchild, and tell them they need money immediately. The CAFC is tracking a number of other variations of emergency scams including those occurring by text message or social media. These frauds are a persistent and evolving threat to Canadians. The release notes that this is at least the third major investigation since 2021 resulting in the arrest of individuals behind this type of fraud. The OPP arrests highlight that these frauds are carried out by serious and organized fraud groups based in Québec and national in scope. The CAFC supported this investigation by linking and sharing fraud reports from victims across Canada and from law enforcement partners with the OPP. The CAFC successfully flagged numerous fraudulent bank accounts used to facilitate some of the occurrences. Since 2021, Canadian police arrested more than 70 money mules picking up money at victim residences in every province. According to data collected by the CAFC, the emergency scam resulted in over \$23M in losses across Canada. The CAFC is reminding the public to be on the look out for emergency frauds and offers the following advice:

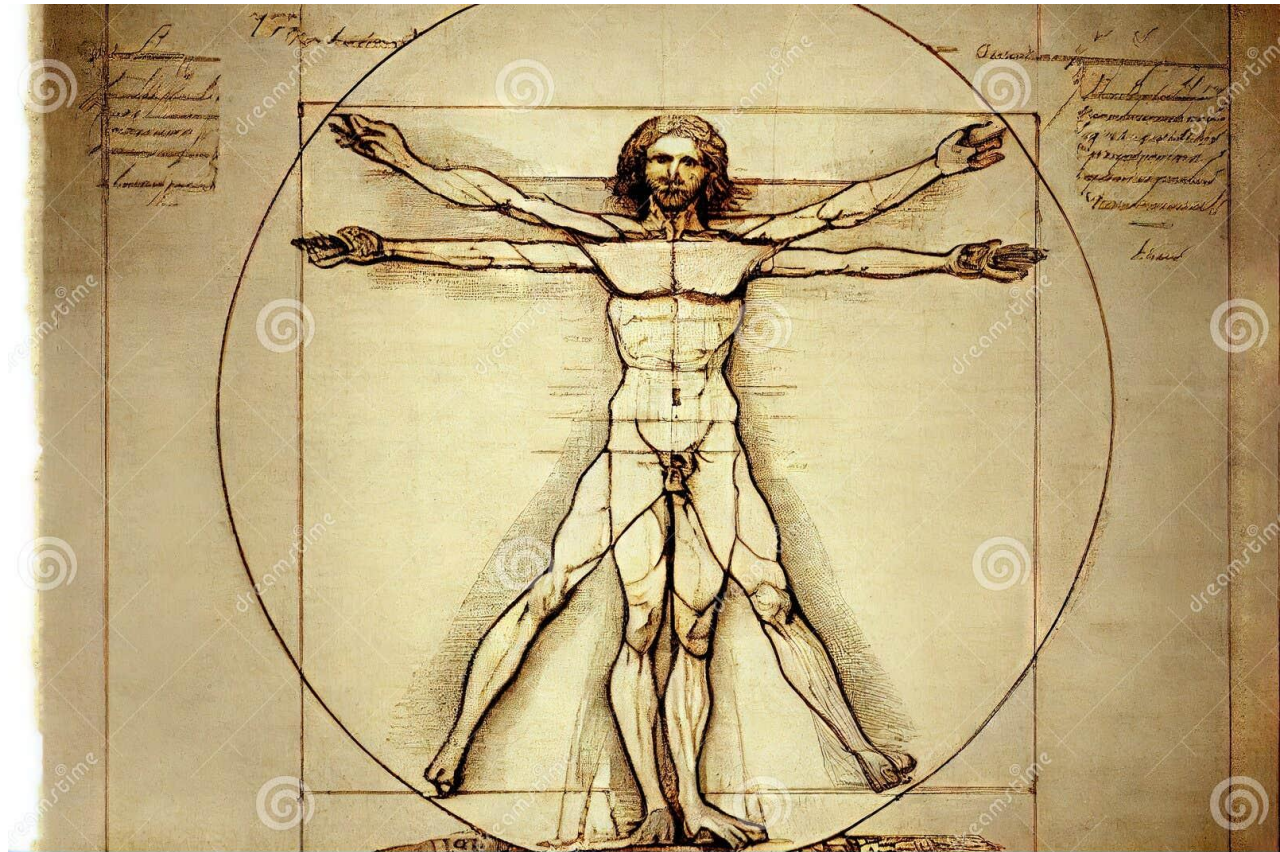
- If you receive a suspicious phone call claiming to be from a family member in an emergency situation, hang up the phone and contact them directly on the number you have in your contact list

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- Authenticity is no longer a default — it's a claim.
- AI now reproduces faces, voices, and behaviors on demand.
- Our cues for detecting “real humans” are no longer reliable.
- Deepfakes shift trust from *seeing is believing* to *prove it's real*.
- Identity becomes vulnerable: anyone can be anyone.
- When authenticity erodes, relationships and institutions destabilize.
- The battle is not against AI — it's against uncertainty.
- What remains uniquely human must be redefined.



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Scientists entered people's dreams and got them 'talking'

[science.org/content/article/scientists-entered-peoples-dreams-and-got-them-talking](https://www.science.org/content/article/scientists-entered-peoples-dreams-and-got-them-talking)



In the movie *Inception*, Leonardo DiCaprio enters into other people's dreams to interact with them and steal secrets from their subconscious. Now, it seems this science fiction plot is one baby step closer to reality. For the first time, researchers have had "conversations" involving novel questions and math problems with lucid dreamers—people who are aware that they are dreaming. The findings, from four labs and 36 participants, suggest people can receive and process complex external information while sleeping.

Where Do We Go From Here?

Mammoth meatball? Cultured meat made with extinct animal DNA

[usatoday.com/story/news/world/2023/03/28/woolly-mammoth-meat-lab-grown/11554736002](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2023/03/28/woolly-mammoth-meat-lab-grown/11554736002)

A woolly mammoth meatball? Scientists grew cultured meat with extinct animal DNA



[Camille Fine](#)

USA TODAY

A cell-based meat company resurrected the extinct woolly mammoth – in the form of a lab-grown meatball.

The [woolly mammoth was chosen by Vow](#) because the extinct mammal is a symbol of loss and climate change, a video released by the company explains.

The product was unveiled Tuesday at Nemo, a science museum in the Netherlands. The “iconic” meatball was chosen because of its popularity worldwide “for centuries,” [Vow said](#).

“It is an accessible dish, simple to make and affordable,” their website says. “Exactly what we hope to achieve for cultured meat products in the future.”

George Peppou, co-founder and CEO of Vow, [wrote in a 2021 article](#) that the food tech startup believes animals domesticated by our ancestors “aren’t the best possible meat we can produce with new technologies.”

[Woolly mammoths: Climate change, not humans, was reason woolly mammoths went extinct, research suggests](#)

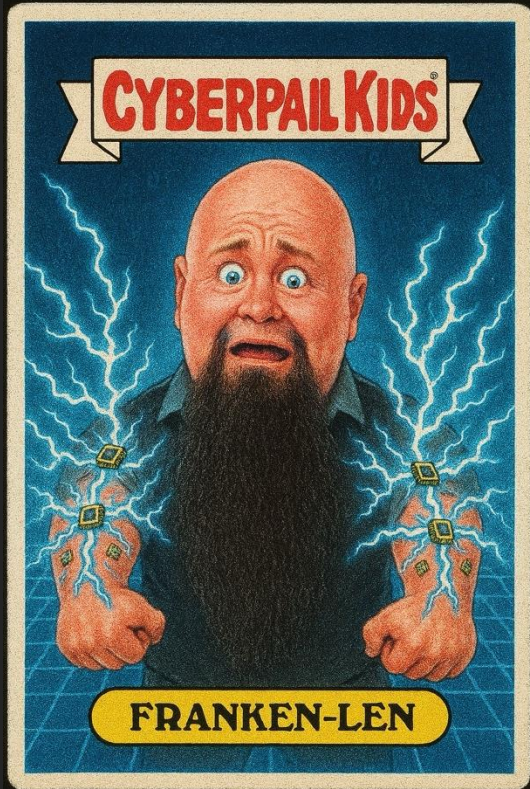
[‘It’s expanding’: Deadly flesh-eating bacteria thrive on East Coast as climate warms, research shows](#)



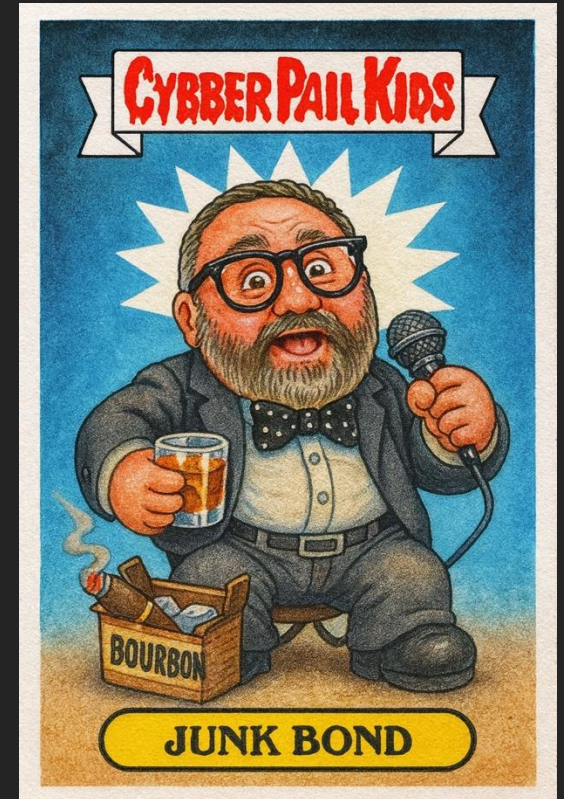
Where Do We Go From Here?



Yeah, if you could
just come to the dark side,
that'd be great.



Where Do
We Go
From Here?



QUESTIONS?

A promotional image for CW PENSEC featuring Tom Cruise. He is wearing a black t-shirt and holding two futuristic, black, fingerless gloves with glowing blue lights on the fingertips. The background is a dark, futuristic environment with glowing blue lines and a large, faint, glowing blue figure in the background.

Gregory "JunkBond" Carpenter, DrPH, FRSA
Principal Partner
CW PENSEC
gregory.carpenter@cw-pensec.com

Len "213" Noe
Divergent Research Engineer
CW PENSEC
len.noe@cw-pensec.com