Evaluating Web Sites: Easy as A B C D

Author Can you find the author's name? Is the author an expert?



TIP: The author may be a company or organization rather than a single person. The page may not have a by-line like you usually see for newspaper and magazine articles.



Born in Detroit, Michigan in 1942, he received a B.A. in Physics at Cornell University in 1963 and a Ph.D. in Physics and Astrophysics at the University of Colorado, Boulder, in 1968. He then worked for thre years at the California Institute of Technology, supported as a Fellow of the Mount Wilson and Palomar Observatories. At Caltech he taught physics did research on the sun's atmosphere and on groundbased and space-based telescope instrumentation, an published papers in leading scientific journals.

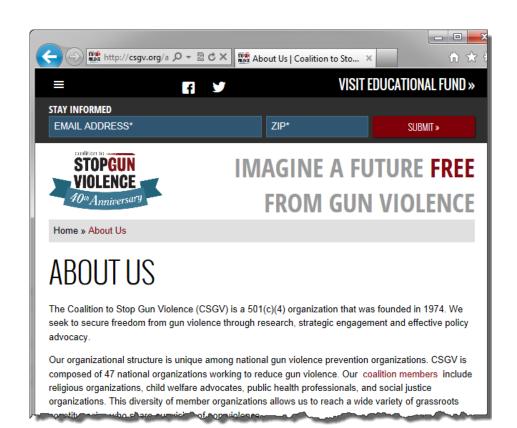
In 1971 Dr. Weart changed his field, enrolling as a graduate student in the History Department of the University of California, Berkeley. During his studies

TIP: If the author's name is not easy to find, look for an **About** page that may include the author's mission, vision, contact information, funding sources, and more.

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Bias

Does the site identify its sponsor? Who/what cause might benefit from the information? Is the site trying to convince you of a certain point (persuasive) or merely providing information, stating known facts (informational)?



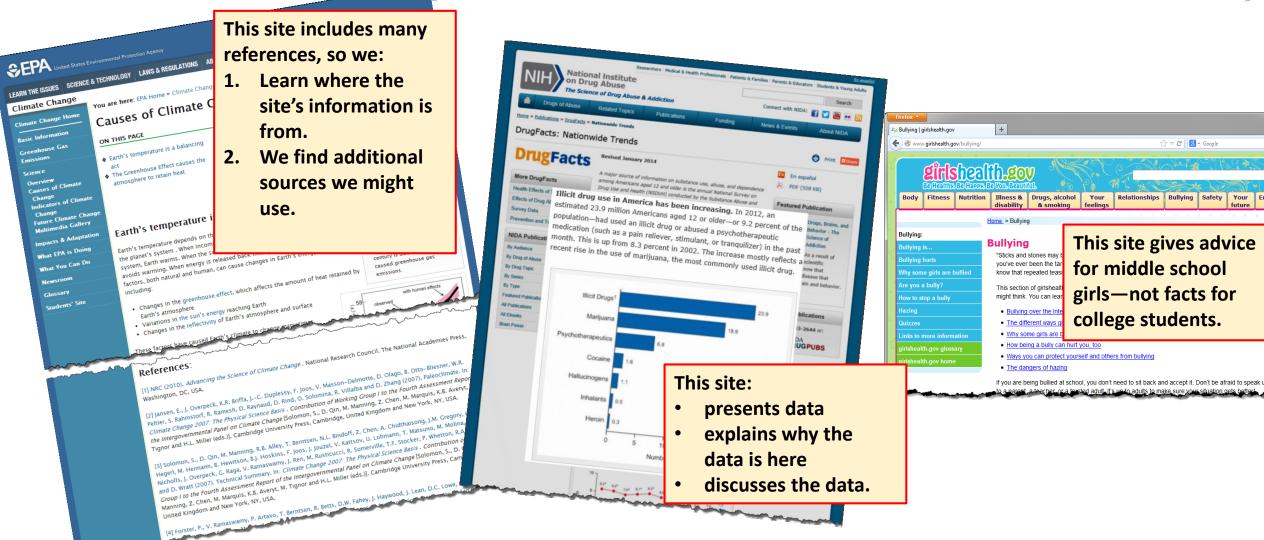
Our purpose is educational. We prefer sites that:

- Offer fact rather than opinion.
- Present both sides of an issue.



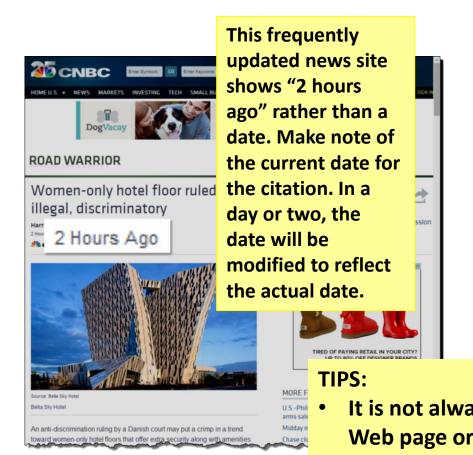
Content

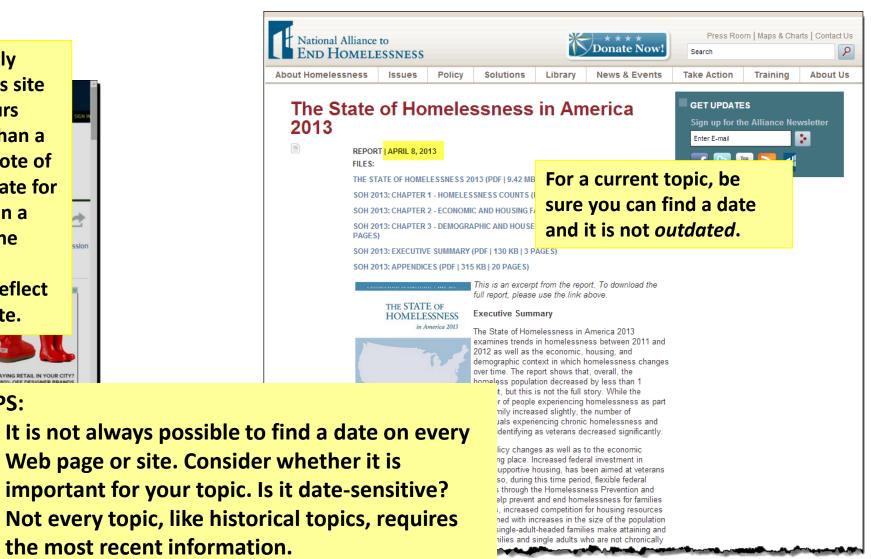
What is the intended use of the content? What kind of content is included? Who is the audience for this site?



Date

Is there a date? Is the date of the information important for your topic?





More Tips

For educational purposes, seek the following domains:

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.org Non-profit organizations
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.gov Government sites

.edu Educational (college, university, etc.)

.mil Military site

NOTE: Sites with a tilde ~ in the URL may be *affiliated* with an educational site but belong to an individual who may not be an expert.