

Week 6 Writing Activity: Chapter 5 of the *Scientific Attitude*

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1 Practical Ways in Which Scientists Embrace the Scientific Attitude

1. We will now shamelessly hack some p-values. Follow this link: <https://projects.fivethirtyeight.com/p-hacking/>.
(1) Choose one of two major political parties in the United States at the top. We are asking the question: “Does the economy do better if politicians from this or that party is in power?” (2) Define what you mean by politicians on the left side. (3) Run the analysis, given options like the amount of power the politicians have (US Representative, President, etc.) and whether or not recessions are included. Note the linear regression is used to produce a correlation. (4) Check if your result is significant on the right side. Do you feel comfortable publishing these results?

2. Consider the following quote from Ch. 5 of the text:

It should be clear by now how the conclusions of Settle, Koertge, and Longino tie in neatly with Sunstein's work. It is not just the honesty or "good faith" of the individual scientist, but fidelity to the scientific attitude as community practice that makes science special as an institution. No matter the biases, beliefs, or petty agendas that may be put forward by individual scientists, science is more objective than the sum of its individual practitioners.

- [illegible]