

Did We Really Land on the Moon?

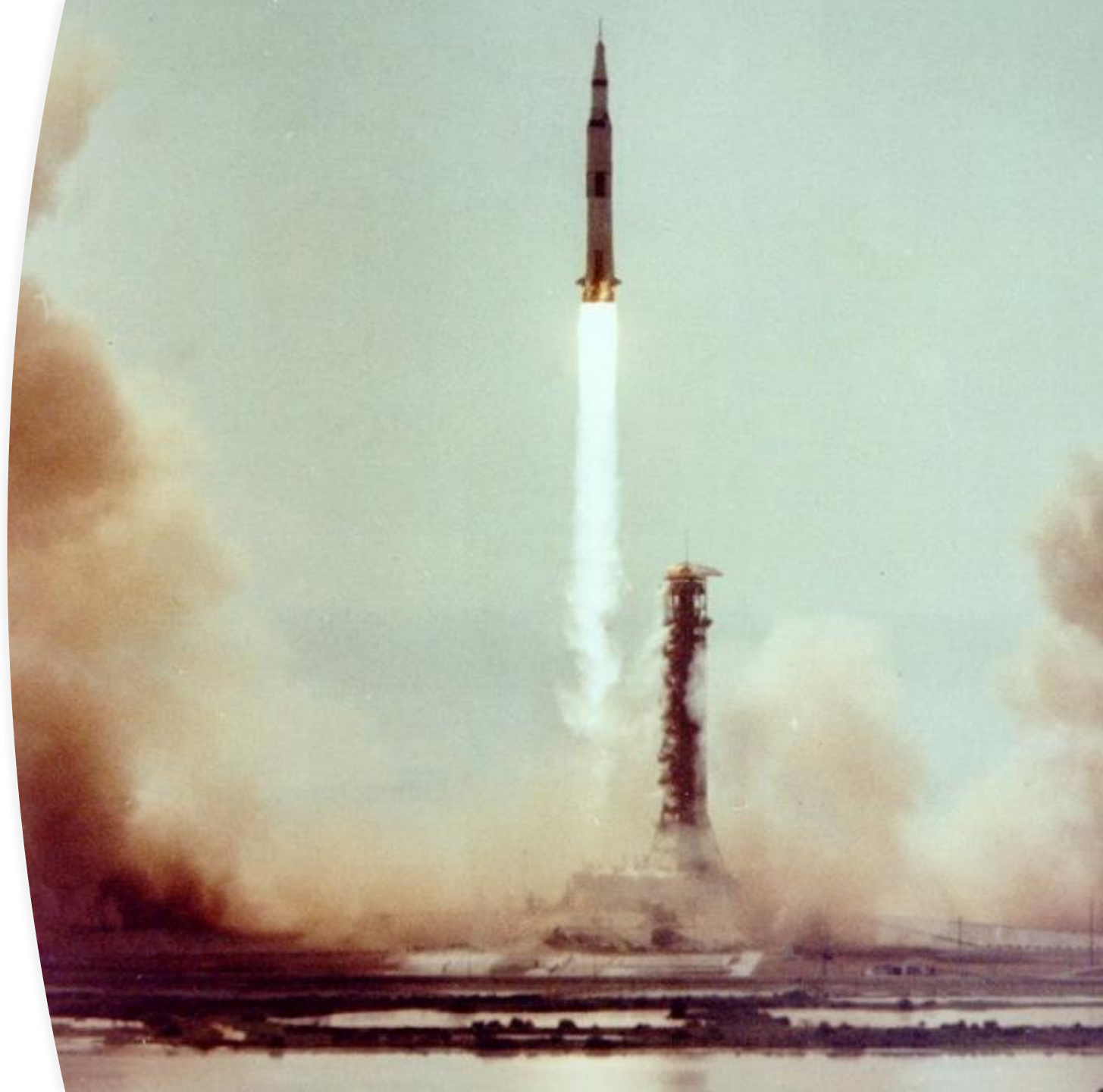
Misinformation, Myths, and the Power of Belief

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Setting the Scene

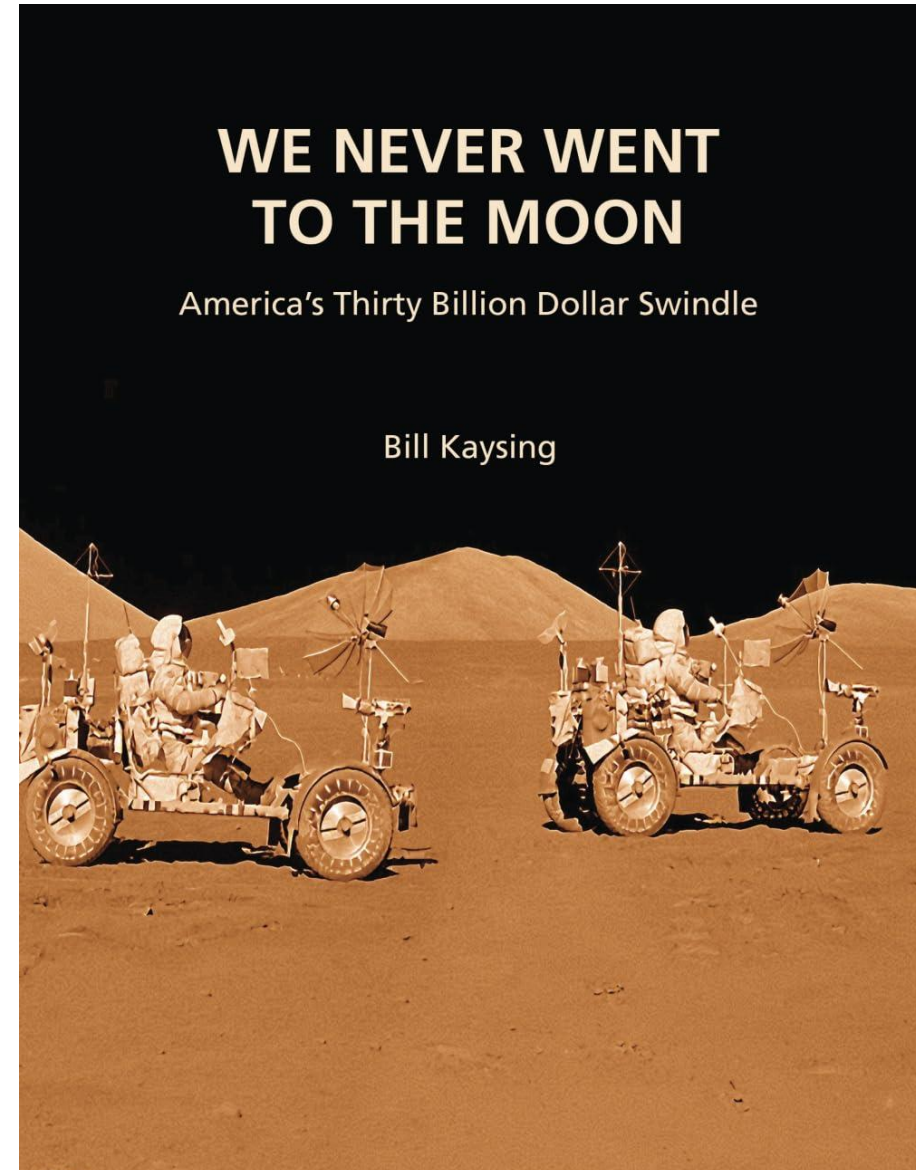
- September 12th 1962 JFK gave his famous We choose to go to the moon speech
- July 16th 1969, Apollo 11 departs for the moon
- July 20th Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin land on the moon
- An estimated 650 million people watched live as Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the moon



A Doubt Emerges

"We never went to the Moon." – Bill Kaysing

- Conspiracy theory started in 1976

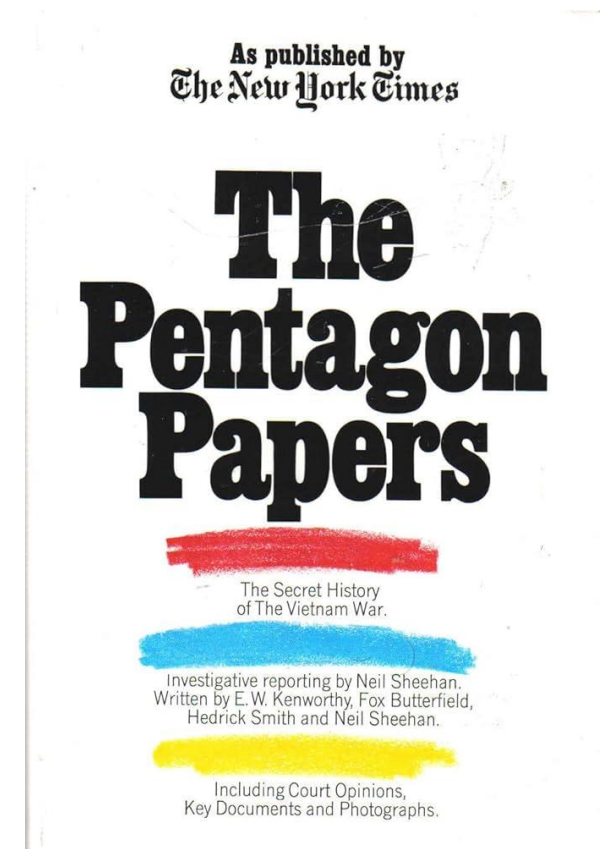


Top 4 Moon landing Denial Claims

Claim	Explanation
The Apollo 11 US flag is waving in the wind... but there's no wind on the Moon	It's been set up like this, it appears to be waving in the wind, All the wrinkles are there because it's been folded up for four days while en route to the Moon.
Why are there no stars in pictures of the NASA Moon landings?	If you're going to take a photo of a brightly lit scene, your camera's shutter speed needs to be fast and your aperture incredibly small. In that situation, faint objects like stars simply aren't going to show up.
Shadows in the Moon landing photos prove the images were faked	Professor Ojha explains that weird behavior we see in the moon photos can even be reproduced on earth during sunset. This is a result of uneven surfaces
Apollo astronauts could not have survived Earth's radiation field	The transit time through the Van Allen radiation belt right at the beginning of the Apollo voyages was incredibly short.

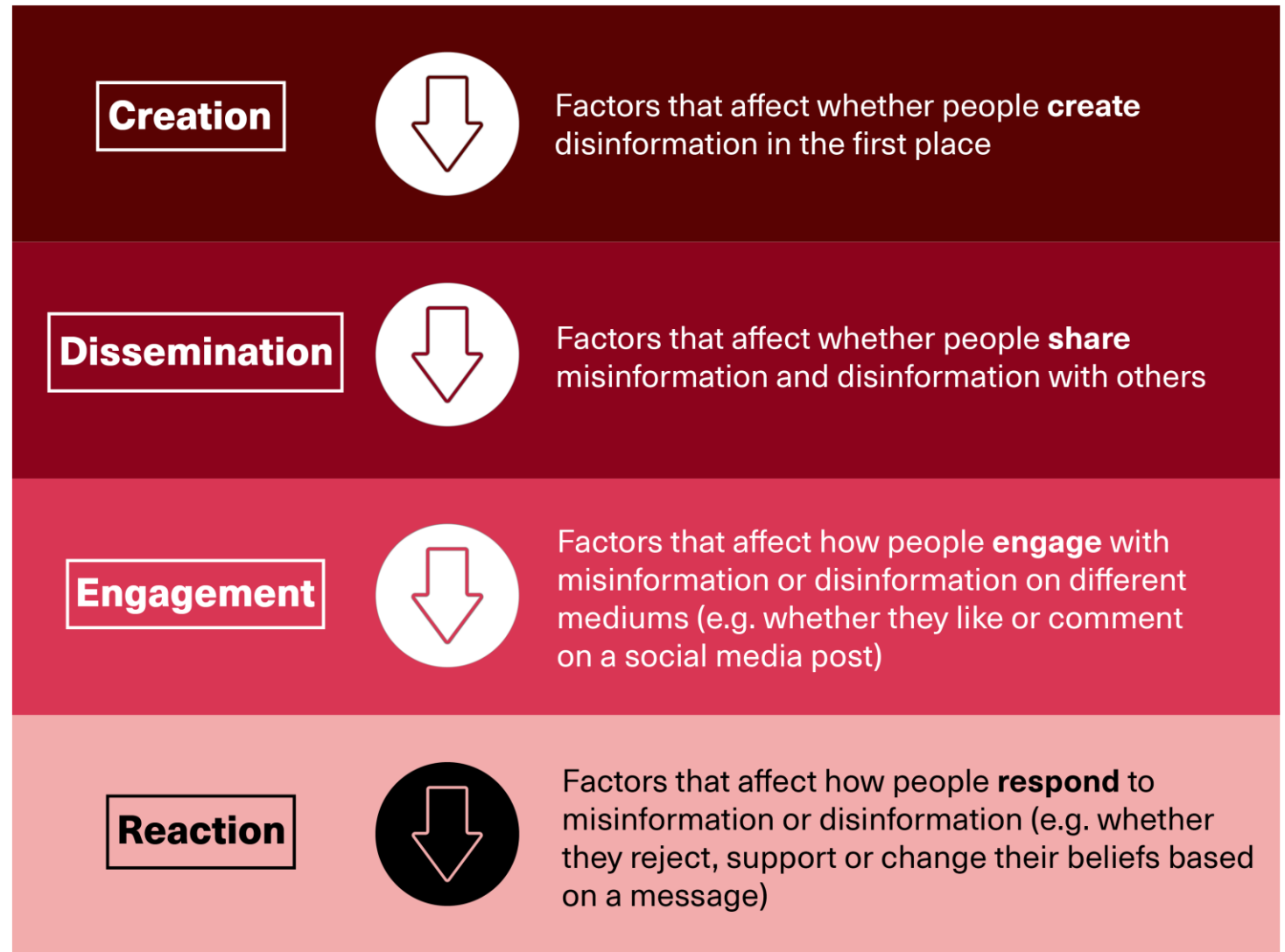
Why Do People Believe These theories?

- JFK assassination (1963), Watergate(1972), Vietnam Pentagon papers (1971).
- Conspiracies offer simple answers
- Linked to identity and distrust
- Psychological needs: control, uniqueness, safety



How Misinformation Spreads

- Social media algorithms amplify confirmation bias
- Platforms like YouTube and Facebook recommend similar content, creating filter bubbles
- Emotional content spreads faster than rational content (outrage, fear, suspicion)
- Repetition increases belief: the more we hear something, the more likely we are to accept it as true (illusory truth effect)
- Misinformation is often wrapped in engaging narratives or visuals, making it more memorable
- Lack of media literacy makes it harder to evaluate the credibility of sources



Debunking ≠ Belittling

- Mockery strengthens belief
- Use questions, credible sources
- Encourage curiosity



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"A must-read for anyone looking to transform health conversations with empathy and understanding."

— NUURRIANTI JALLI, PhD, Assistant Professor of Strategic Communications

DEBUNK WITH EMPATHY

How to Talk about Health When
Emotions, Uncertainty, and
Misinformation Are Involved



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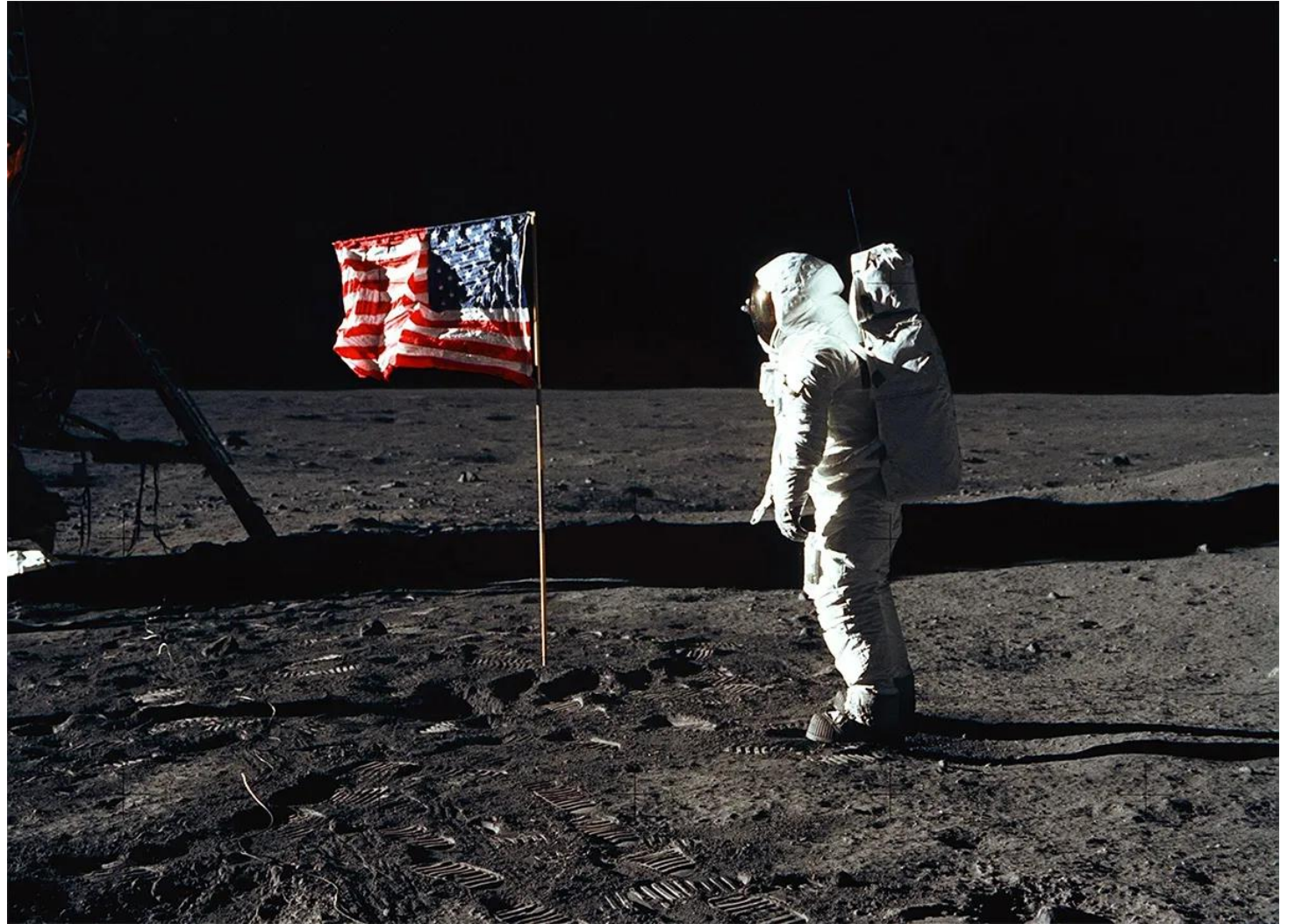
What Can We Learn?

- Teach critical thinking
- Check sources & motivation
- Empower media literacy



Final Thoughts

- We landed. Evidence is overwhelming.
- Misinformation distorts reality
- Curiosity + critical thinking = antidote





Works Cited

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