

#flo #ret #hw

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## 1 | Research project

### 1.1 | thoughts

sputnik? - satellite was launched before, sent this massive wave of panic - because the red was ahead technologically! - led to a huge amount of focus on STEM - turns out, we actually had the satellites the whole time - but eisenhower didn't want to launch them because he didn't want to deal with the fuss about how to manage airspace?

eisenhower didn't want to launch - didn't want to escalate? - was already spying, and got found out

// this entire philosophy that

the current modern philosophy that science and technology should be the main focus of education was built off of a politically self-serving lie. the current modern philosophy -> the current educational emphasis on science and technology, expanded in the post-sputnik era, was built on...

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- sputnik was a thing
- sputnik was a lie (we weren't really behind)
- that lie was politically motivated
- and yet...
- sputnik led to an expansion of techno education and social value
- that persists

political self serving motivates what is perceived as true has this on both sides: eisenhower and the "the gap"

driving 'truths' are formed from politically self serving lies

the sputnik lie – and its consequent impacts –

– a cultural impact so deep, that the falsehood of its roots has little effect on its adherence – was propagated by aligned political agendas of competing parties

thesis: the Sputnik lie – {} having a cultural impact so deep, that the falsehood of its roots has little effect on its adherence – was

The Sputnik lie, born of political agendas, had a cultural impact so deep that

the need for technological advancement \*

- sputnik shocked the country

sputnik launch,

### 1.2 | sources

- <https://history.nasa.gov/sputnik/sputorig.html> good source of quotes and primaries

- <https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/partners/aol/special/sputnik/main.html> all the archived nyts from the period
  - <https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/partners/aol/special/sputnik/sput-15.html> nyt article saying we need to focus on science
  - <https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/partners/aol/special/sputnik/sput-20.html> Vanguard Rocket Burns on Beach; Failure to Launch Test Satellite Assailed as Blow to U.S. Prestige
- <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/military/sputnik-declassified.html#> the org nova vid
- <https://guides.loc.gov/sputnik-and-the-space-race/primary-resources>
- <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/collection/383/space-race>

### 1.3 | route bin

### 1.4 | outlinin!

THESIS: The Sputnik lie, and with it massive cultural impacts, was born of a confluence of competing political interests.

- Sputnik had a massive cultural impact
  - hysteria, fear, massive focus on STEM in schools
- But it was a lie
  - what actually happened was...
- It was a lie because
  - Eisenhower's reasoning (declassified)
    - \* wanted covert info on Russians
    - \* got caught
    - \* didn't want to escalate further
  - Dems reasoning
    - \* wanted to make the reps look bad (had lost previous election due to being portrayed as "soft on communism" - lost China etc..)
- conclusion?
  - But nobody questions the emphasis on STEM, even though the original premise has been falsified. Thus, history teaches us, the cultural changes live on well beyond their original purpose.

#### 1. the cultural impact of sputnik

### 1.4.1 | rougher?

- intro : 1
- cultural impact
  - hysteria : 2
  - STEM focus : 3
- what actually happened : 4
- what actually happened pt.2? : 5
- why it was a lie
  - eisenhower : 6
  - dems : 7
- conclusions? : 8

### 1.5 | f\*ck it. lets write.

{SPUTNIK INTRO AND EXPLANATION} The Sputnik lie, and with it massive cultural impacts, was born of a confluence of competing political interests.

With Sputnik floating amidst the atmosphere, American society was thrown into crisis.

In a period defined by national pride – especially over technological superiority – the Russians being first to space was catastrophic for American society: "words do not easily convey the American reaction to the Soviet satellite," writes NASA, "the only appropriate characterization that begins to capture the mood on 5 October involves the use of the word hysteria."