INTERPRETING FINDINGS

ANALYZING AND UNDERSTANDING DATA FOR PROGRAM EVALUATION

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SOWK 460

THE BLIND MEN AND THE ELEPHANT

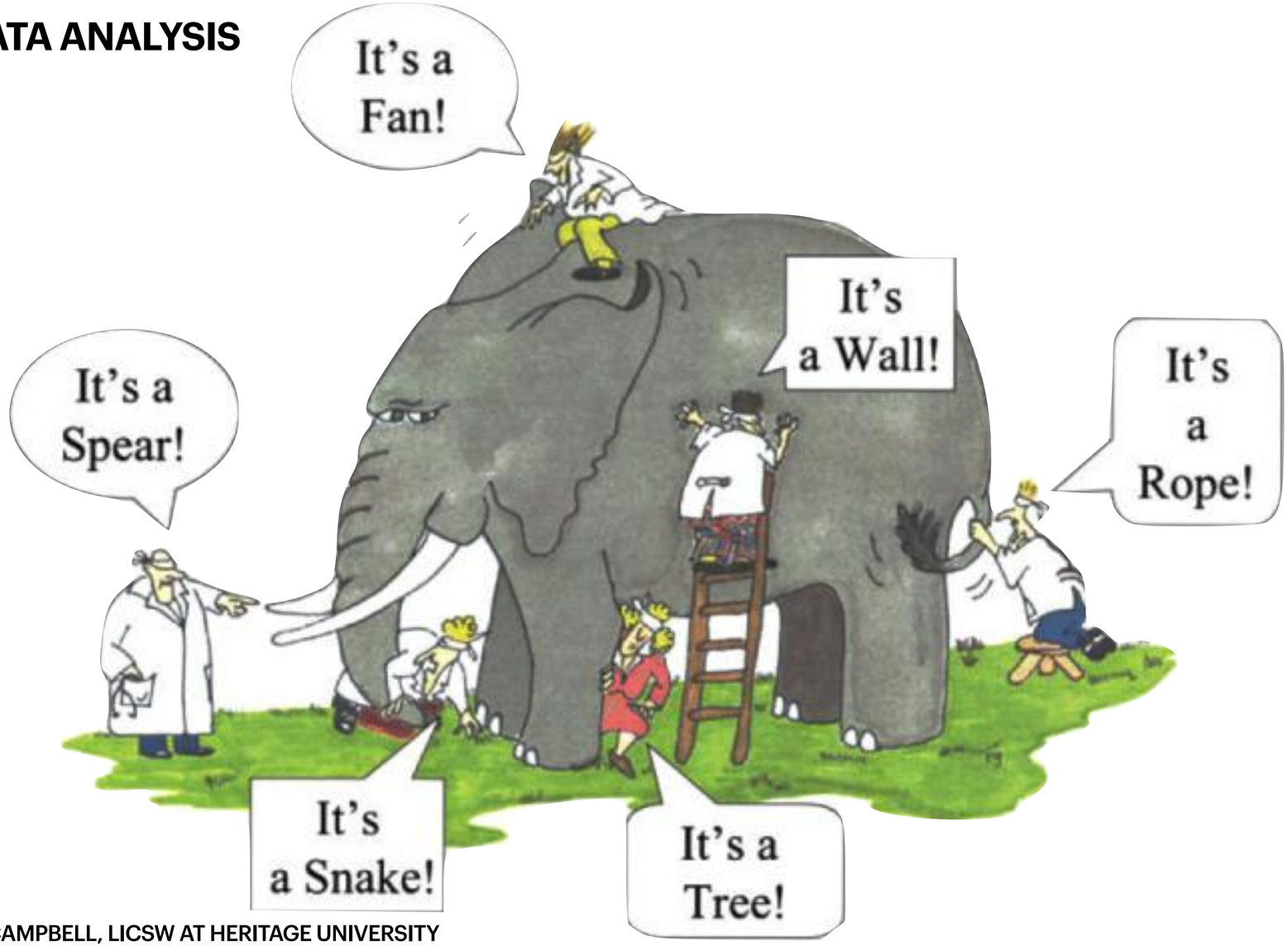
BY JOHN G. SAXE (READ BY TOM O'BEDLAM)

HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/BJVBQEFNXIW

THE BLIND MEN AND THE ELEPHANT

A PARABLE AND CONNECTION WITH DATA ANALYSIS

They all all touched different parts of the elephant and believed that they were



AGENDA

PLAN FOR CLASS TIME

What is the purpose of data ananalysis

Scales of measurement

Types of calculation

How we implement it for program evaluation

PURPOSE OF DATA ANALYSIS

WHY DO WE DO THIS?

- DESCRIBE AND SUMMARIZE THE DATA
- IDENTIFY RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN VARIABLES
- COMPARE VARIABLES
- IDENTIFY THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN VARIABLES
- FORECAST OUTCOMES

SCALES OF MEASUREMENT

NOMINAL SCALE

Data can be classified into a non-numerical or named categories, and the order in which these categories can be written or asked is arbitrary.

ORDINAL SCALE

The data can be classified into non-numerical or named categories an inherent order exists among the response categories. Ordinal scales are seen in questions that call for ratings of quality (for example, very good, good, fair, poor, very poor) and agreement (for example, strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree).

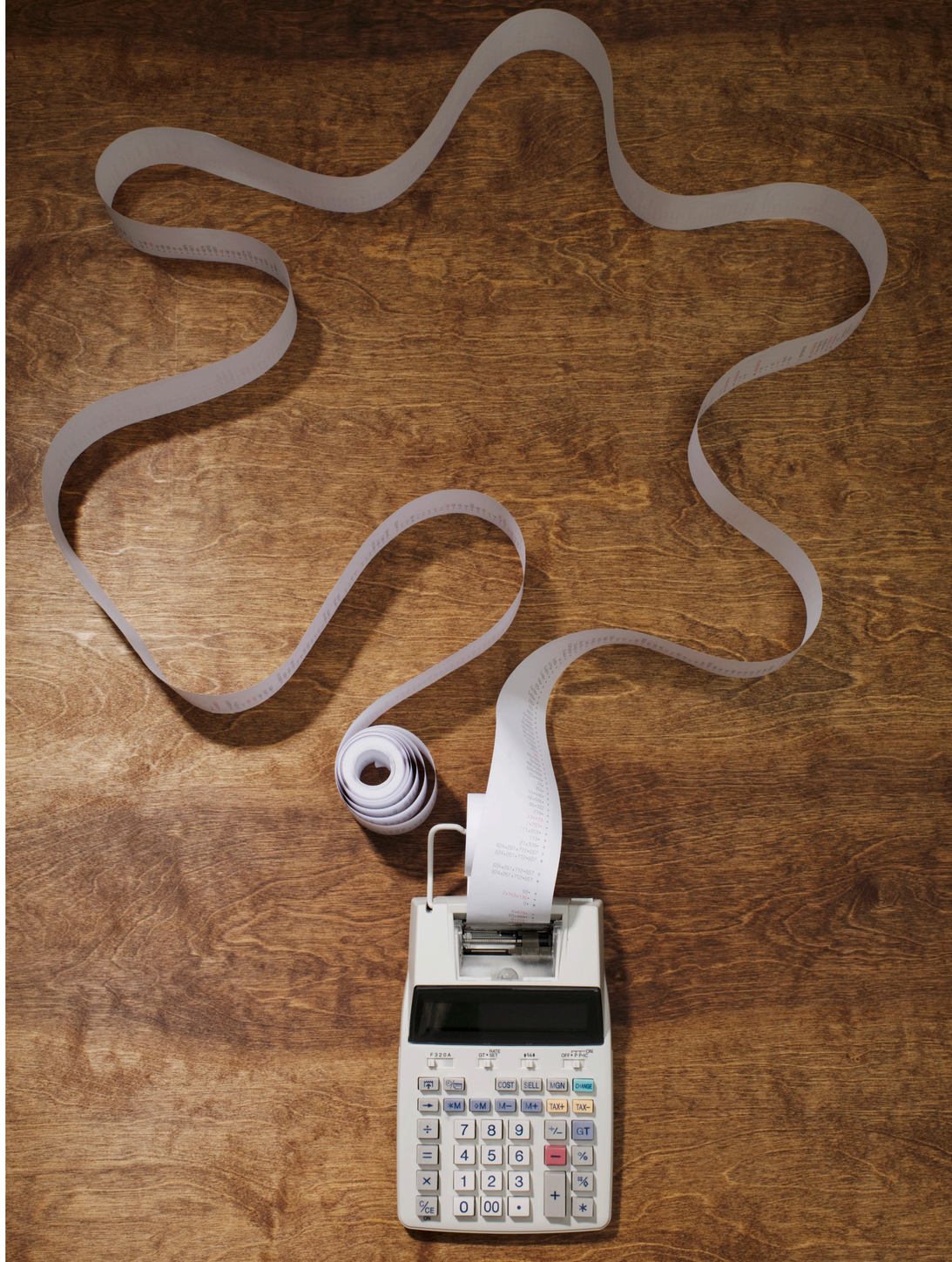
NUMERICAL SCALE

Where numbers represent the possible response categories there is a natural ranking of the categories zero on the scale has meaning there is a quantifiable difference within categories and between consecutive categories.

TYPES OF CALCULATION

METHODS USED TO CALCULATE DATA

- Count (frequencies)
- Percentage
- Mean (average)
- Mode (number of times)
- Median (middle number)
- Range
- Standard deviation (amount of change)
- Cross tabulation (comparative)
- Change score (pretest / post test)
- Quantitative analysis (SPSS)



SO WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

What kind of data have you collected

How are you analyzing it

Technical support