**PSYC 6135  
Summary Assignment  
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Unfortunately, I did not have time to explore the literature in my research area, but I found some examples of good and bad graphs in other areas of my life. One example that immediately came to mind when thinking of an evil graph was a disclosure of funding sources by CBC for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. I want to preface that I am a fan of the CBC, especially CBC Radio. But this graph depicts a truncated bar graph, and the truncation part is near the top of the Y-axis. By doing this, they could mask the amount of public subsidies they received compared to other funding sources. When the intent is deception, I suppose that it communicates that exceptionally well. Another example of a bad graph was something I came across that was tracking where the fires were in Los Angeles. However, this graph was missing all potential landmarks and major roadways. By simply looking at that graph/map, it would be impossible to tell if you needed to evacuate or if your home was at risk of burning down. It attempted to communicate potentially life-saving information but was missing so much context that it was essentially useless.

Examples of good graphs that appealed to me were the various ways COVID-19 cases were visualized, especially with “moving” graphs that illustrate the idea of flattening the curve. Visualizing something like a changing shape is hard without dynamic visuals. It makes me think of aspects of my own research wherein I hypothesize that data will fall in a hyperbolic pattern and how having a dynamic graph could make that pattern more visually appealing and possibly memorable than a simple U-shape on a two-dimensional plane. I am very excited about this course and for the opportunity to learn how to create captivating visuals that can tell an interesting story with the data I generate from my dissertation.