

Payton Erby

Professor Eric

GRDE 240 - 02

4 March 2025

Final Project Project

For the final project of Web Design, Spring 2025, we are choosing a fictitious truth or a conspiracy theory we believe. For this project, I chose a personal conspiracy theory that I have of my own. This theory is about sharks. This theory is a bit of an inside joke in my household involving my father, my sister - who is a Marine Biologist major at Goshen College and a shark lover -, and myself. My conspiracy theory is that sharks *do* hunt and eat humans. This is a theory that not only I personally believe in, but my father also believes.

There are plenty of movies in the world that are based on true stories of shark attacks or even fictional drama and horror shark tales. Movies including Jaws, The Meg, The Shallows, 46 Meters Down, and plenty more almost all give off the nature and impression that sharks will attack anything that is in their territory. While studies show that sharks only feed on fish and marine animals, these fictional horror movies all give the impression that sharks will not only feast on their normal ocean diet, but also humans.

Apart from having an irrational fear of sharks, this theory is a fun poke in my household because my sister always defends the sharks scientifically. As mentioned earlier, my sister is a huge shark lover. But she is also a studying Marine Biologist in college. She continues to learn about different sea animals such as dolphins, sea lions, and of course sharks. She strongly disagrees with my father and I on our personal conspiracy theory because she knows why shark attacks normally happen. This conspiracy could really be a benevolent untruth because of the fact that the way movies portray the marine animal, it strikes fear in many people that allows them to stay away from large oceans. Though, I would love to believe that this theory isn't a true

Payton Erby

Professor Eric

GRDE 240 - 02

4 March 2025

one, I stand on my emotions based on what I have seen in portrayed movies, shows, and even true stories.

Though, around the world, there are people who are pro sharks. But why should humans be pro-sharks if sharks are anti-humans? But another question is why do sharks attack humans? Sharks often attack humans that are surfing in the ocean. Whether it is out of curiosity or because sharks are tired of eating on their diet, they feast on human flesh. Thinking about how many fish eat other fish and the food chain ranking, sharks still feast on fish. But, with how often sharks attack, sharks begin to run out of normal fish to eat. Therefore, if a human is spotted in their line of vision, their next move is human flesh. Ever think about the different shark breeds and how they seem to attack their human prey? Would a hammer head swing on a human like a hammer with its head? Do megamouth sharks only attack younger humans? Do whale sharks attack older humans? These are questions that are important to think about the safety of surfers, divers, and ocean lovers. Marine Biologists need to dive deeper into the dietary needs of sharks to figure out what the real cause is for sharks to attack humans when humans truly mind their own business while near shark territory.

Do sharks feel threatened when us humans tend to be in their territory in the ocean? It's possible. What living thing would want a total stranger in their own territory. But when humans are simply not bothering them while on their surfboard, having a good time swimming out to the ocean, what is the real need to attack? The point of sharks truly attacking humans are a true conspiracy and I plan to uncover it truthfully.