

Read the following scenarios. Are we seeing the whole truth?

Are we seeing the truth? Why or why not?

Why aren't we getting the truth?

What could have been done in each of these situations to make sure the truth was uncovered?

Scenario 1

Michigan State is playing the University of Michigan, and Ben has some strong feelings on the subject. As he is watching, he can't believe how unfair the referees are!

"Come on!" Ben screams at the television when Michigan State *clearly* fumbles the ball, and the refs don't call it.

"Are you blind?" he huffs in frustration when State makes another mistake that the refs don't catch.

"That's so unfair!" he complains when the referees penalize U of M for a minor mistake. In Ben's opinion, it could have gone either way, but the biased refs called it in favor of State...*again*.

At the end of the game, when Ben is complaining that the refs are so unfair, and they called far more penalties against U of M than Michigan State, his dad does a little research and finds out that the penalizations for each team were almost equal.

Scenario 2

There was a fight at the basketball game, and the principal is trying to figure out what happened. She knows Jenny was near the fight, so she calls Jenny into her office and asks her what she saw. Jenny's best friend was in the fight, and she doesn't want to get her in trouble. She knows everything that happened because she *heard* everything even though she didn't *see* anything. She tells the principal that she didn't see anything and tells herself that she was technically telling the truth, right?

Scenario 3

Jeremy gets irritated by his sister all the time—she goes into his room and takes his things, she complains to her parents to get him in trouble, and she loves practical jokes, which Jeremy hates, especially since he is usually on the receiving end of the "joke". To get back at her, he started imitating everything she said and did. After about an hour, Jana had enough, so she broke his favorite video game. Holding the pieces, he rushes to find his mother and complains, "Mom, Jana broke my video game!" He says nothing more and waits for his mother to (hopefully ☺) ground his sister.

Tuesday, March 3, 2015

Scenario 4

James' soccer coach noticed that his players weren't making it to practice on time. They didn't seem to be making any effort toward changing that, so he warned them, "If you don't attend practice on time, there will be consequences." He went on to explain that if a player can't be counted on to get to practice on time, they are letting the team down, and their playing time will be reduced. James is usually late...very late...because he'd miss his favorite television show if he left early enough to get to practice on time.

The next practice, James was two minutes late, and the coach said, "I'm sorry, James, but you won't be starting in our next game. We need to be able to count on you."

Angry, he went home and told his parents, "Coach said we better start getting to practice on time or we are going to be in BIG trouble, and today, I was only a couple minute late—the other guys barely even started warming up, and he benched me for the next game!"

Media AoW: What are some notes that could be used for your RDW? Write them in the space provided below.

RDW #2—Sometimes people, even trusted sources, don't tell us the truth. The truth gets distorted by bias, exaggeration, miscommunication, or outright lies. What are some things we should do to make sure we are seeing the whole picture? **Highlight transitions** and integrate and **highlight the word bias**.