# **Thanks**

## **Baruch Fischhoff**

**Society for Judgment and Decision Making** 

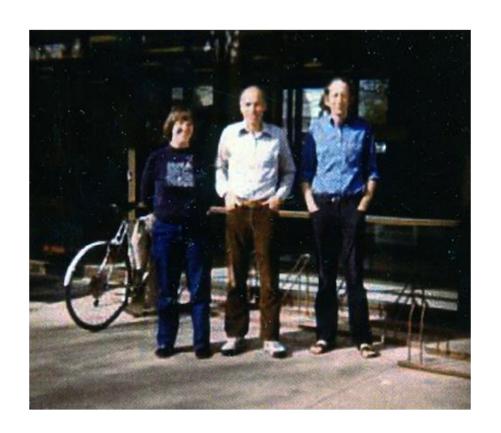
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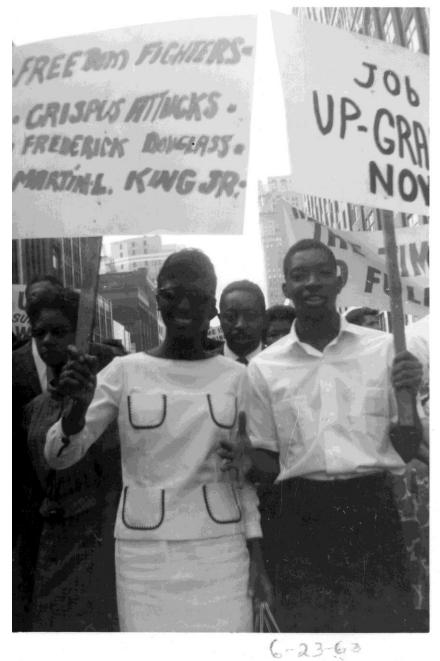




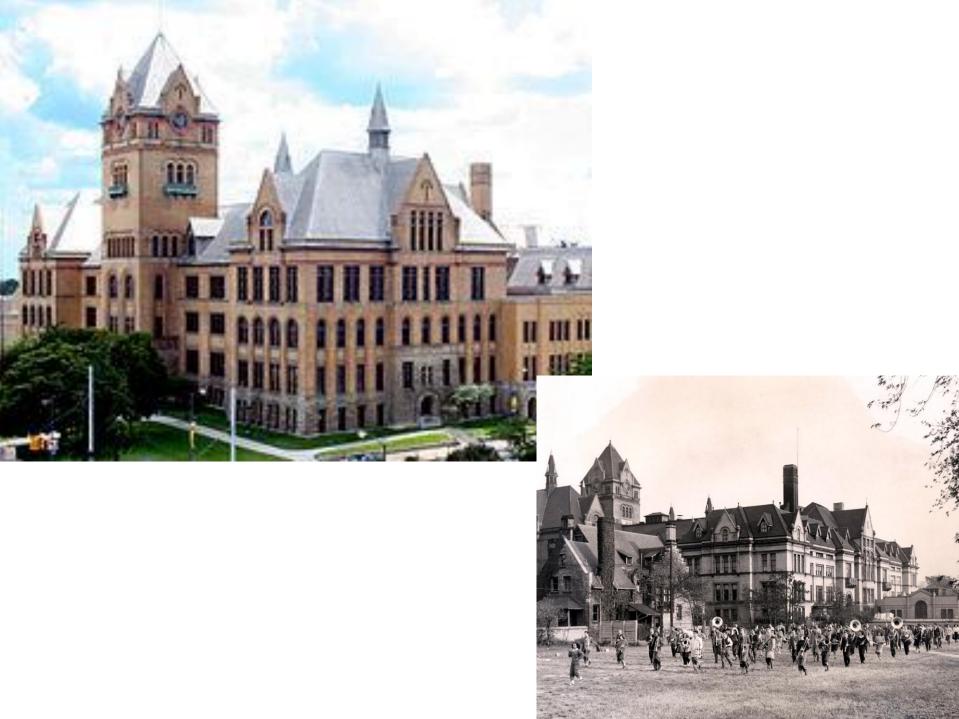








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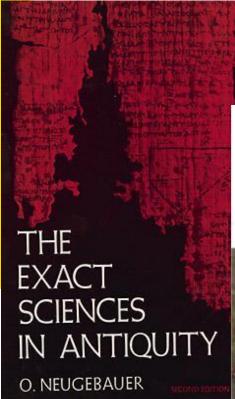
Carl Friedrich Gauss

# Disquisitiones Arithmeticae

**English Edition** 

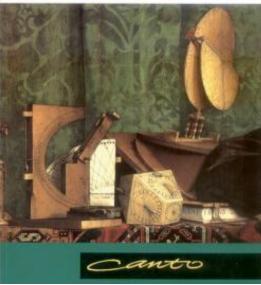


Springer-Verlag New York Berlin Heidelberg Tokyo



# A Mathematician's Apology

With a Foreword by C. P. Snow G. H. HARDY



## BELIEF IN THE LAW OF SMALL NUMBERS

### AMOS TVERSKY AND DANIEL KAHNEMAN 1

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

<sup>2</sup> The required estimate can be interpreted in several ways. One possible approach is to follow common research practice, where a value obtained in one study is taken to define a plausible alternative to the null hypothesis. The probability requested in the question can then be interpreted as the power of the second test (i.e., the probability of obtaining a significant result in the second sample) against the alternative hypothesis defined by the result of the first sample. In the special case of a test of a mean with known variance, one would compute the power of the test against the hypothesis that the population mean equals the mean of the first sample. Since the size of the second sample is half that of the first, the computed probability of obtaining  $z \ge 1.645$  is only .473. A theoretically more justifiable approach is to interpret the requested probability within a Bayesian framework and compute it relative to some appropriately selected prior distribution. Assuming a uniform prior, the desired posterior probability is .478. Clearly, if the prior distribution favors the null hypothesis, as is often the case, the posterior probability will be even smaller.



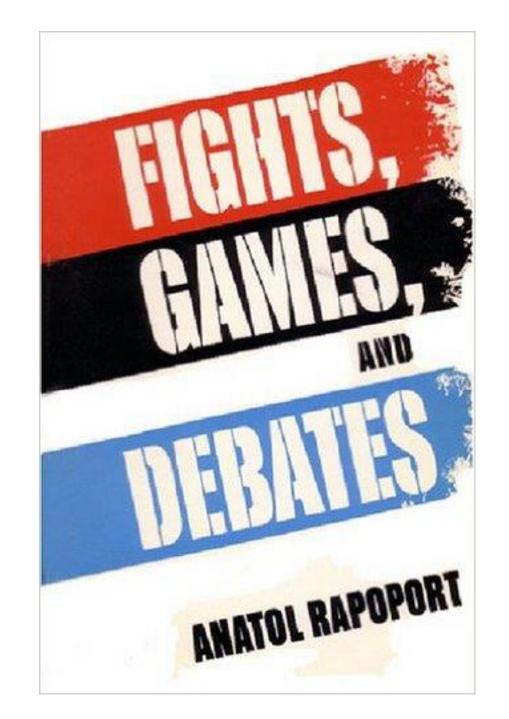
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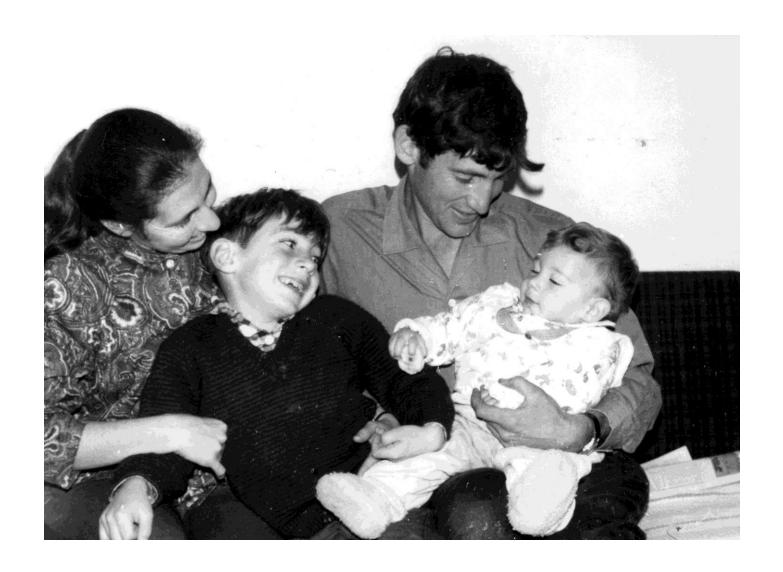
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PLANE 12







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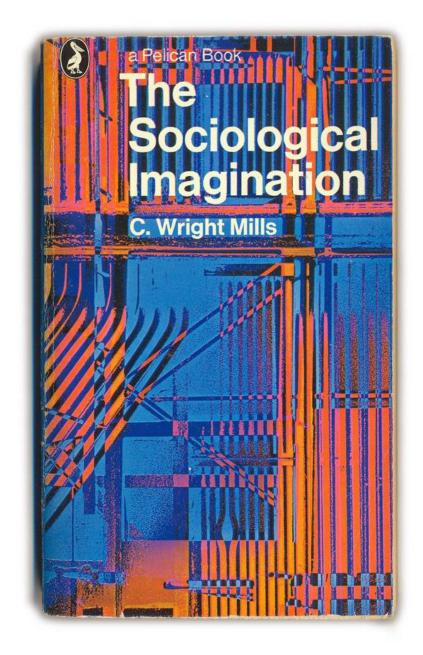
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# The Eugene Commission on the Rights of Women has been established to help you

- protect your own rights
- work effectively for the rights of women

This leaflet describes what the Women's Commission can do for you and how you can help. Please read it. Then let us know your concerns and your interests.

It is also against the law for anyone to retaliate against you for defending your rights.

These forms of discrimination also are illegal when based on color, race, religion, national origin, physical or mental handicap or marital

TATIL

## Giving Advice

## Decision Theory Perspectives on Sexual Assault

Baruch Fischhoff

Department of Social and Decision Sciences, Department of Engineering and Public Policy, Carnegie Mellon University

What entitles us to give general advice? This general question is explored here in the specific context of providing responsible advice to women on how to make decisions about possible ways of reducing their risk of sexual assault. An approach is advanced that is a combination of decision analysis, used to provide a formal characterization of decision situations, and behavioral decision theory, used to provide a descriptive characterization of how people perceive those situations. The approach is illustrated with a set of studies using three diverse groups of women; a group of men, paralleling one of the groups of women; and a national sample of sexual assault experts. The approach is evaluated in terms of its feasibility, its strengths and weaknesses relative to alternative approaches, and its implicit position on broader political and philosophical issues.

