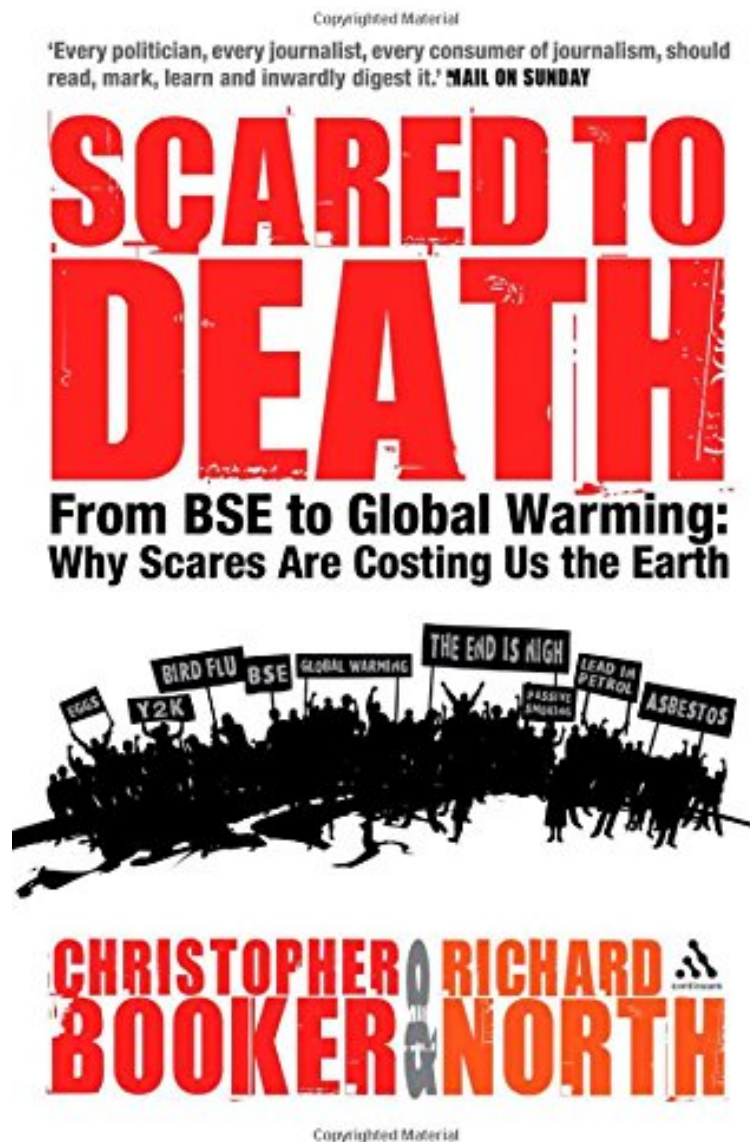


Scared to Death: From BSE to Global Warming: Why Scares are Costing Us the Earth

Christopher Booker, Richard North
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#1057782 in Books Bloomsbury Academic 2008-03-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.75 x 1.83 x 5.69l, 1.72 #File Name: 0826486142512 pages Great product! | File size: 28.Mb

Christopher Booker, Richard North : Scared to Death: From BSE to Global Warming: Why Scares are Costing Us the Earth before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Scared to Death: From BSE to Global Warming: Why Scares are Costing Us the Earth:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A massive eye opener!By CustomerBrilliantly written, faithfully researched. I am old enough to treat everything with suspicion and this book only reinforces why I do.It is unfortunate that many of the players involved in the 'scares' recounted here will simply not read the book and hang their heads in shame.A virtual study in what makes the human race look and act stupid. This book should be a standard study for all high school students, business heads, civil servants and media chiefs.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Scared to Death: From BSE to Global Warming:...By MartinWell written and with copious and appropriate references to support the grim sequence of events in each chapter. I wish I could find errors in their development of the principles presented but I have to admit it hangs together all too convincingly. The scientific concepts are accurately described without being inaccurately oversimplified, but even if you skip these bits, you will be left with a disturbingly accurate account of what has been going on. I hate to think what an American edition would be like.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. OutstandingBy T. SmithA well-researched and superb selection of the sort of madness and mass delusions that have always gripped mankind. The staggering costs and human tragedies of the scares is well presented and I only hope many people who are not usually interested in this sort of thing will read it, so that the next time they hear something like "measles vaccine causes autism" they'll demand to see proof before diving into the deep end. As for the media, I'd like to see them display more responsibility, but quite frankly, I doubt they ever will. "If it bleeds, it leads" seems to be branded into their brains at journalism school. A shame more time wasn't spent on skepticism and research. As an example, any time they hear someone say "It's for the children!" they should assume that those people are incompetent, lying, or pushing an agenda, and start their investigation with that in mind.I give out very few 5 star reviews, so that should indicate how impressed I am by this book.

pFrom salmonella in eggs to BSE, from the Millennium Bug to bird flu, from DDT to passive smoking, from asbestos to global warming, scares' have become one of the most conspicuous and damaging features of our modern world. This book for the first time tells the inside story of each of the major scares of the past two decades, showing how they have followed a remarkably consistent pattern./pbr/pIt analyses the crucial role played in each case by scientists who have misread or manipulated the evidence; by the media and lobbyists who eagerly promote the scare without regard to the facts; and finally by the politicians and officials who come up with an absurdly disproportionate response, leaving us all to pay a colossal price, which may run into billions or even hundreds of billions of pounds./pbr/pThe book culminates in a chillingly detailed account of the story behind what it shows has become the greatest scare of them all: the belief that the world faces disaster through man-made global warming. In an epilogue the authors compare our credulity in falling for scares to mass-hysterias of previous ages such as the post-mediaeval witch craze', describing our time as a new age of superstition'./p

'A very news-worthy subject, with Booker and North providing some much-needed common sense commentary.'