

# Those Experts!

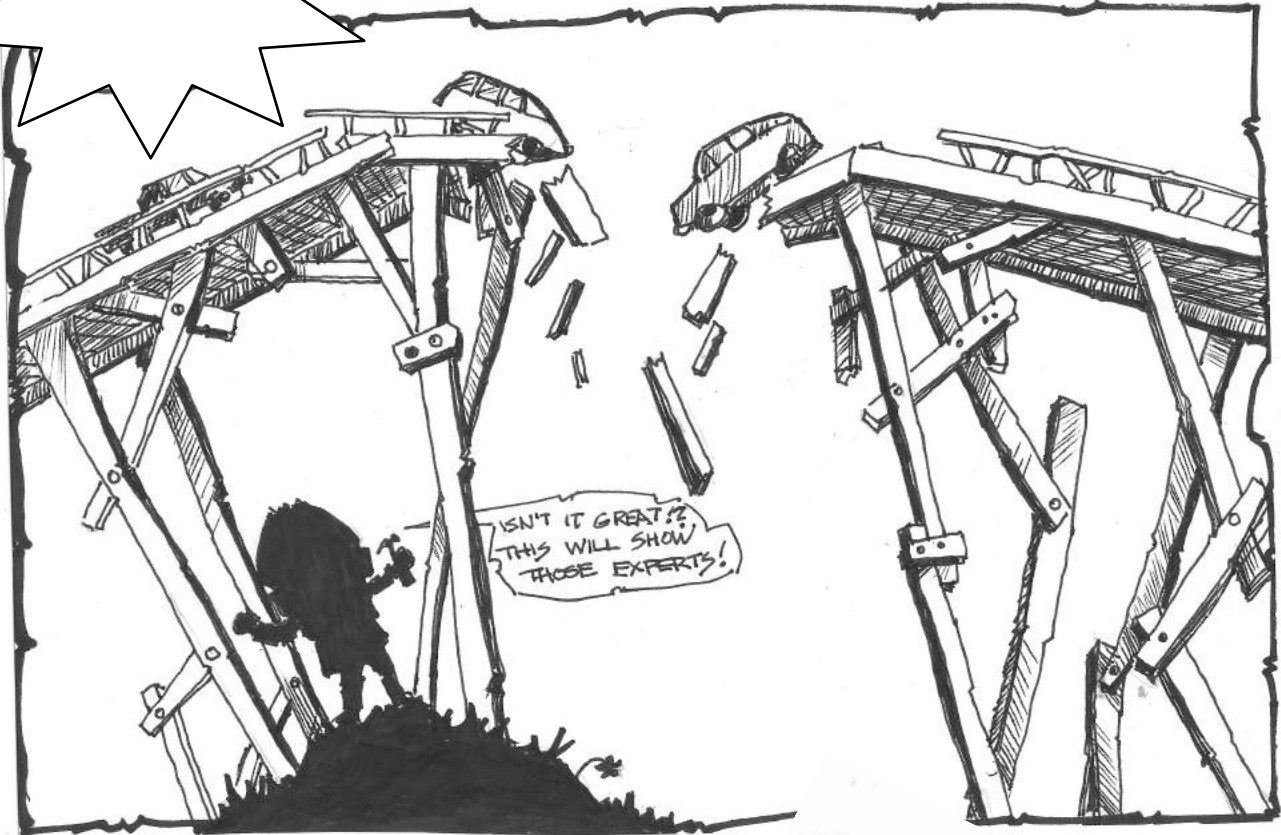




LATER..

YES! AT LAST!  
NOW I HAVE THE  
POWER TO DO THINGS  
MY WAY! THE WORLD'S  
GREATEST BRIDGE!  
AND THAT'S JUST  
THE BEGINNING!

LATER



ISN'T IT GREAT?  
THIS WILL SHOW  
THOSE EXPERTS!

Theo Dombrowski

## Theory of Knowledge Questions on "Those Experts!"

When people are described as "experts", what features do you expect them to possess?

In your own life, when do you turn to experts for your knowledge? Why do you do so?

Have you come across situations in your life or in the media in which someone is rejecting apparent experts and their conclusions? Do you think that claiming to be a rebel defying "the establishment" makes someone appealing to other people and the media? Do you think that disagreeing with a body of experts makes someone wrong? Does it make someone right?

How can you best judge who is truly an "expert", whose conclusions contribute reliably to knowledge? Can you suggest *at least four features* to check and evaluate regarding particular experts and the sources in which they are speaking (e.g. journal, website, news channel)?

What's the difference between "opinion" and "expert opinion"? What is meant by "scientific consensus"? What does it have in common with "public opinion", and what makes it significantly different?

In which areas of knowledge do you most, *and least*, expect specialists in the field to agree? Are there differences in what gives them the status of "expert" in the following: the arts, ethics, history, the natural sciences? Are there features that you would expect to find in common for the experts of all fields?

*cartoon and text: by Theo and Eileen Dombrowski  
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