

Podcast: 'Disinformation feedback loop' — GLP's Jon Entine and geneticist Kevin Folta expose web of anti-biotech groups — and their anti-vaxx, cult-promoting funding sources

The Genetic Literacy Project is a popular and respected science organization that promotes innovation and research using the cutting-edge tools of biotechnology in sustainable agriculture and biomedicine, including vaccine development. It's flagship website is geneticliteracyproject.org. The GLP presents diverse viewpoints with original articles and news aggregated from the internet.

Over the last decade, a small but fierce group of biotechnology rejectionists have accused the GLP of being a "front" for the biotechnology industry, even though the evidence rebutting that claim is abundant. In contrast, the nonprofit has an exemplary record of transparency and disclosure. Such accusations are levied by websites that reject biotechnology. Among their targets: the GLP, Jon Entine and University of Florida plant scientist Kevin Folta.

TALKING BIOTECH PODCAST



**Good Scientific
Media vs
Disinformation
Feedback Loops**

Jon Entine
Genetic Literacy Project

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A [recent exposé in the Genetic Literacy Project](#) analyzed the organizations and their funding, and dissected the accusations against the GLP (which echo ones made previously against Dr. Folta). It turns out that the fiercest critics of the GLP have direct and intricate links and connections to less-than-credible extremist factions in the pro-organic farming movement.

[su_panel color="#3A3A3A" border="1px solid #3A3A3A" radius="2" text_align="left"]**Read the GLP exposé here: [Anti-biotechnology critics say the Genetic Literacy Project is a Monsanto-funded 'corporate front'. It's not true. Here is the documentation — and a review of the critics behind the disinformation](#)**[/su_panel]

As Jon and Kevin discuss, we now have the bizarre situation where the leading opponents of biotechnology are an amalgam of science-denying crackpots (Organic Consumers Association, Joe Mercola, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.), ambulance-chasing cultists (Baum Hedlund law firm found by cult

members from the Church of Scientology) and conspiracy-embracing fringe activists and ideologues (SourceWatch, USRTK, Carey Gillam, Paul Thacker). Yet, bizarrely, some news organizations and other 'progressive groups' and universities not only treat claims by these clown car ideologues as credible, they uncritically disseminate their views and often promote them.

It's predictable, if disheartening, that the far left and far right are now in sync on some science issues. United by their righteous zealotry and suspicion of biotech-based medicine and agriculture, anti-GMO leftists are ideological bed fellows with Trumpists.

The take home message is that the disinformation these groups present is echoed by the other related "disinformation feedback loops." Multiple presentations in the media that appear to be independent actually part of a connected and intricate scheme to tarnish actual scientific information, the scientists that produce it, and the outlets that present it.

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