

How we are manipulated by statistics and charts.



Das Märchen von den aussterbenden Deutschen und andere **Statistiklügen**

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The Figure Jugglers

[Die Zahlentricks]

The myth that the Germans are a dying race and other ways statistics lie

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Gerd Bosbach was born in 1953 and teaches statistics, mathematics and social research as a professor. He worked for many years at the German Federal Bureau of Statistics, where he became very familiar with official statistics and what the world of politics does with these figures.

Jens Jürgen Korff, born in 1960, studied history and politics. He is the author of ecological dictionaries and campaigns for environmental and climate protection projects.

Is a Porsche genuinely environmentally friendlier than a Smart? Do the wealthy pay most taxes? Have demographic developments really led to a shortage of doctors?

Statistics give the impression of being objective and exact, and yet they can be used to prove anything and its opposite. The authors of this book demonstrate how each day we are being manipulated and lied to by business executives and political leaders, how charts are falsified, spot samples pre-sorted, relative and absolute figures played off against each other and cause and effect swapped round.

Clear, astute, witty – and with a lot of eye openers.

Press: "Gerd Bosbach, mathematician from Cologne, is a relentless Don Quixote fighting against the windmill sails of the official statistic lies." *Neue Rheinische Zeitung*