**Why should we trust scientists?**

Why do cars work so well? It's not because of the genius of Henry Ford or Karl Benz or even Elon Musk. It's because the modern automobile is the product of more than 100 years of work by hundreds and thousands and tens of thousands of people.

The modern automobile is the product of the collected work and wisdom and experience of every man and woman who has ever worked on a car, and the reliability of the technology is the result of that accumulated effort. We benefit not just from the genius of Benz and Ford and Musk, but from the collective intelligence and hard work of all of the people who have worked on the modern car.

The same is true of science, only science is even older. Our basis for trust in science is actually the same as our basis in trust in technology, and the same as our basis for trust in anything- namely, experience. But we shouldn't place blind trust in science anymore than we should have blind trust in anything. Our trust in science-- like science itself-- is based on evidence, evidence that has been gathered collectively by hundreds and thousands and tens of thousands of scientists working as a community.