

Weekly Public Affairs Program

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Length: 9:06

Length: 8:11

Length: 5:10

8PM EST

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 Matt Levendusky, PhD, Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania, Stephen & Mary Baran Chair in the Institutions of Democracy at the Annenberg Public Policy Center

Many Americans do not know what rights are protected under the First Amendment and a substantial number cannot name all three branches of government, according to the 2023 Annenberg Constitution Day Civics Survey. Prof. Levendusky shared other findings from the survey, discussed the reasons behind today's widespread civic ignorance and explained why the trend is so worrisome.

Issues covered:
Constitutional Rights
Citizenship
Education

2. **Marlene Schwartz, PhD,** Director of the University of Connecticut's Rudd Center for Food Policy and Health

Registered dietitians and other online influencers are being paid to post videos that promote diet soda, sugar and supplements on Instagram and TikTok. Prof. Schwartz discussed the little-known tactic often used by the multibillion-dollar food, beverage and pharmaceutical industries to sway consumers faced with often-contradictory health messages about popular products. She offered suggestions to help viewers recognize these paid messages.

<u>Issues covered:</u>
Consumer Matters
Personal Health/Nutrition

3. **Jill Ciminillo**, Managing Editor for the website Pickup Truck + SUV Talk, co-host of the Consumer Guide Car Stuff podcast

Minivans are frequently the go-to vehicle for families, not only for passenger comfort but also their ability to hold a lot of stuff. However, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety recently updated their methods for testing minivan safety, with disturbing results. Ms. Ciminillo outlined the new data and what consumers need to know.

<u>Issues covered:</u> Vehicle Safety Consumer Matters