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Epistemofobia – niepokojące zjawisko na przełomie tysiącleci

Epistemophobia – a disquieting phenomenon at the turn of the millennium

SUMMARY

In spite of the remarkable advances in science, the attitude of the general public towards science and scientists nowadays is one of distrust, and even fear. This reluctant attitude towards science can be termed “epistemophobia”. There are a number of factors underlying the appearance of epistemophobia. The citizens are not aware of the nature and benefits of scientific research, but do know that such research involves huge costs. They are also affected by the negative consequences of the application of such research, the responsibility for which rests with politicians and the world of industry. An important epistemophobic influence is exerted by the irresponsible negative propaganda spread by the Green movement. One of the effects of epistemophobia is the growing popularity of pseudoscience and all kinds of anti-scientific practices such as astrology, numerology, quackery, etc.

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