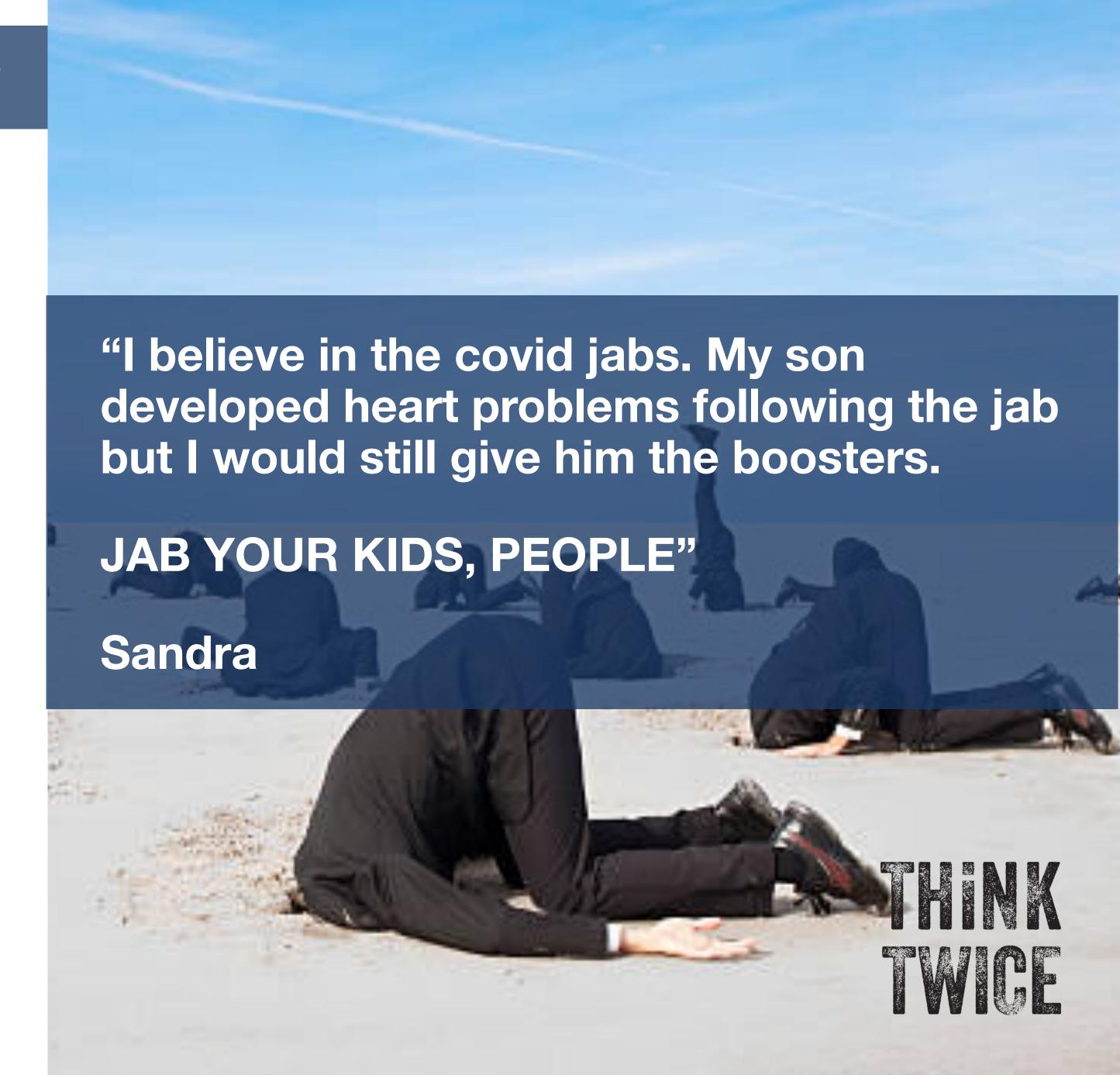




The mind only lets you see what it thinks you can handle; else deny and dissociate





COGNITIVE DISONANCE

We seek to minimise painful mental states when two thoughts or a behaviour and a thought are contradictory



"I think lockdowns and masks definitely work because the flu disappeared. Unfortunately, they didn't work for covid."

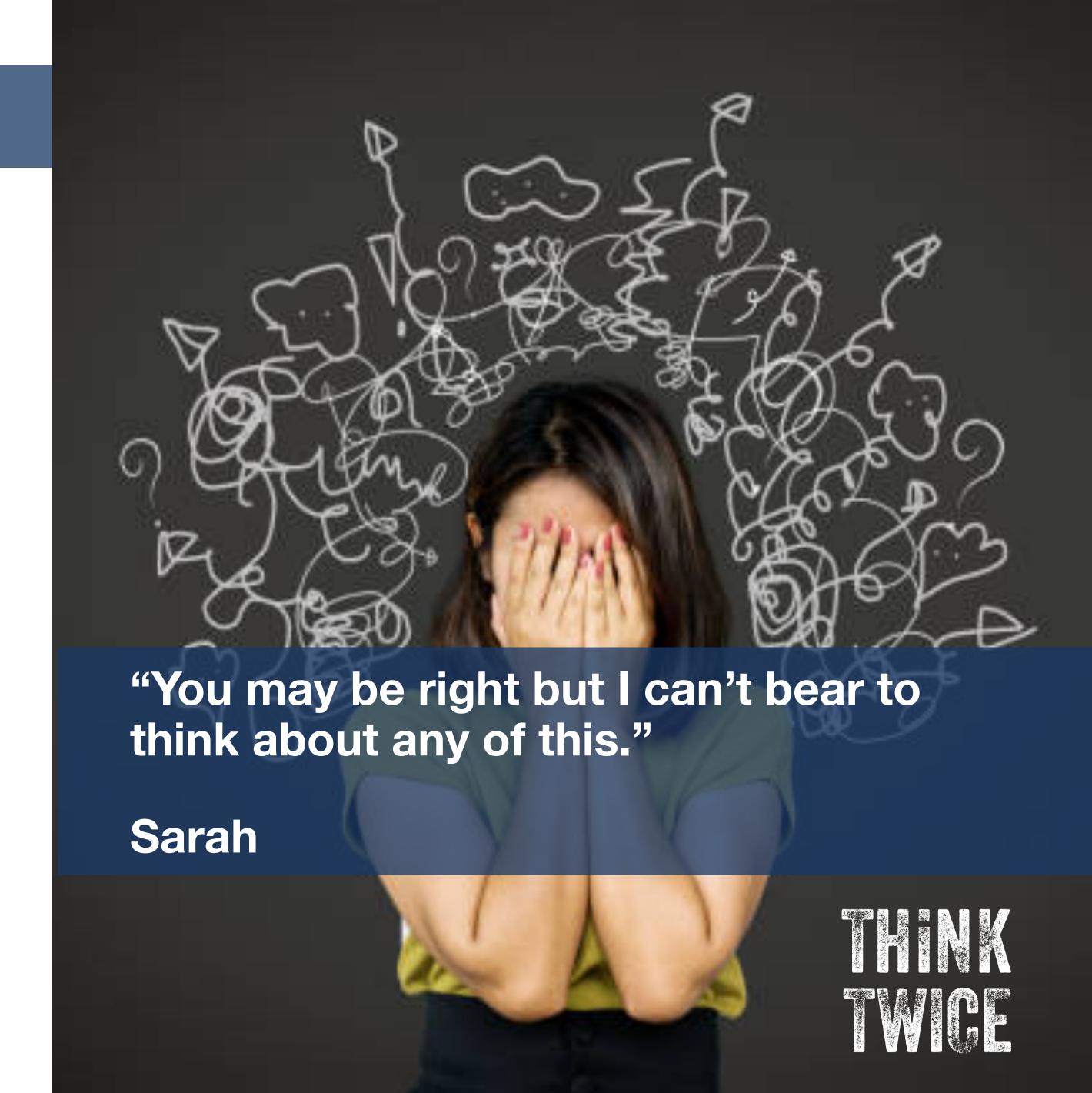
Rose





TERROR MANAGEMENT

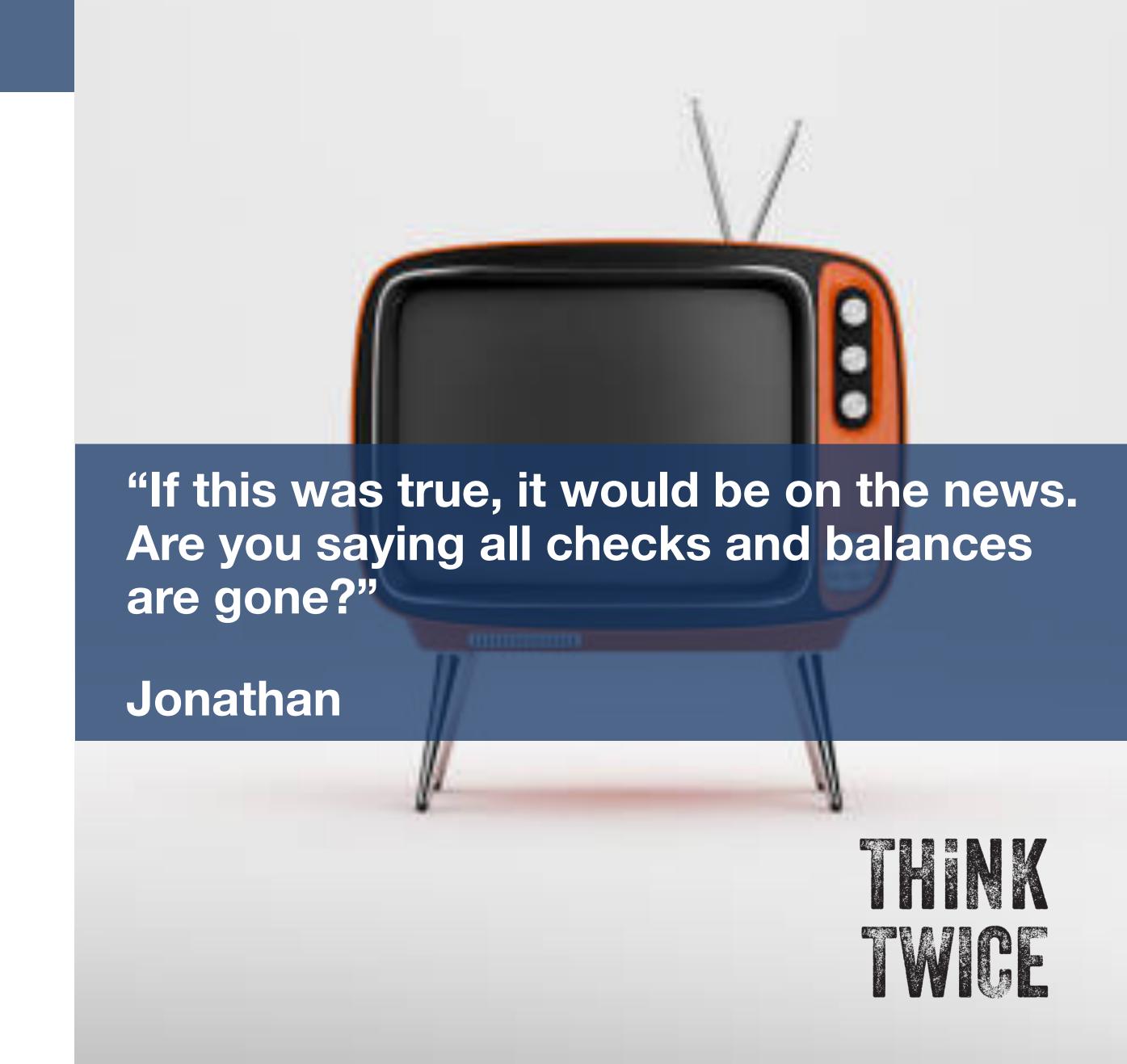
Death causes us to shut down mentally; 'reality extinction' is frightening





SYSTEM JUSTIFICATION

We cannot imagine that the system we benefit from could be incorrect or immoral





CONFORMITY

We assume the crowd is right and we are terrified of being ostracised





IN-GROUP

As social beings, we reject things that conflict with our group and as a result become more polarised



"You are not going to take that horse dewormer medicine, are you? That's what conspiracy theorist do."

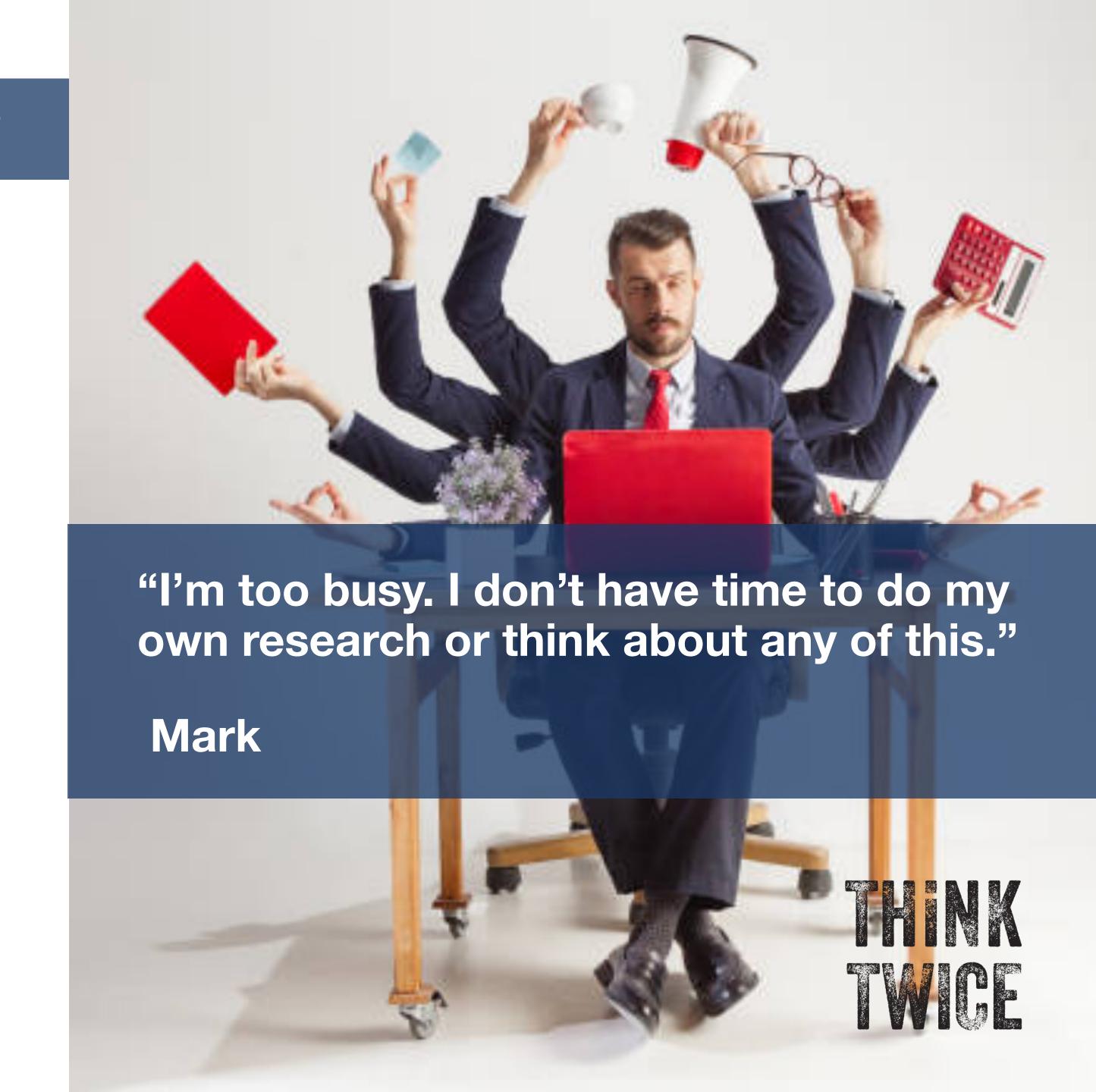
David

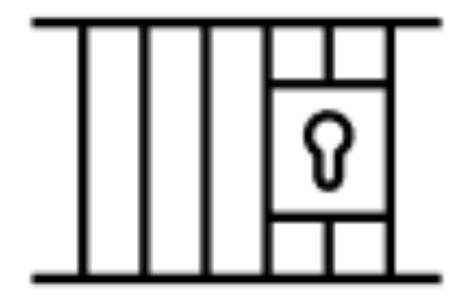




COGNITIVE MISERS

We don't have the time or energy to process new information or question the status quo





LEARNED HELPLESSNESS

If we feel that we are powerless then we won't even try in the first place

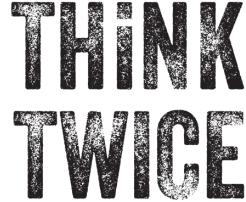




REGRESSION

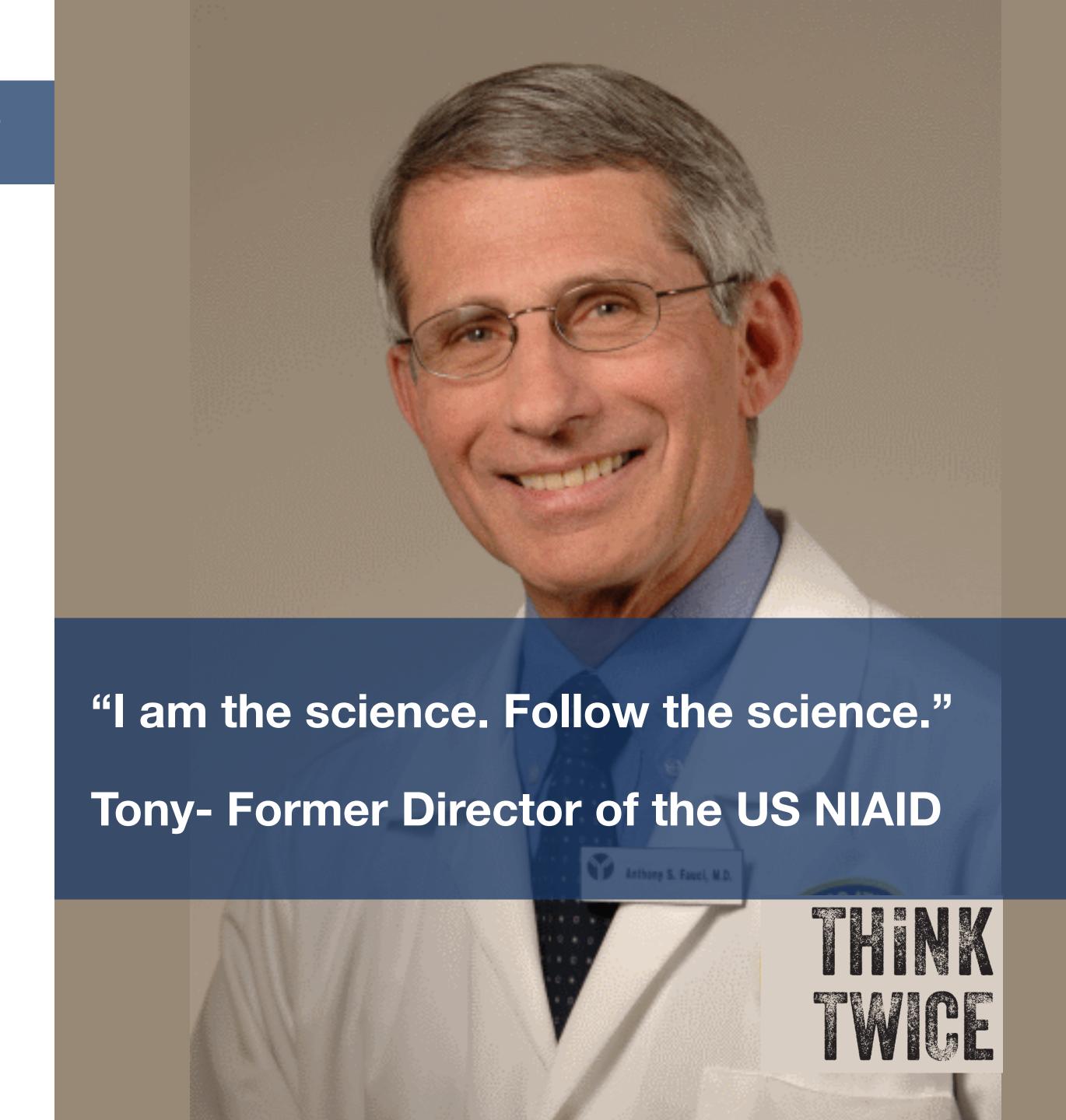
Most crave the submissive comfort of childhood; freedom means risk and responsibility







We are hardwired to trust authority figures and follow their direction



Many Thanks to Patrick Fagan for his contribution

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