

CHOICE *connect*

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The following review will appear in the January 2018 issue of CHOICE. The review is for your internal use only until our publication date of 01 January 2018

Science & Technology

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Bauer, Henry H. **Science is not what you think: how it has changed, why we can't trust it, how it can be fixed.**
 McFarland, 2017. 251p bibl index ISBN 9781476669106 pbk, \$35.00; ISBN 9781476628233 ebook, contact publisher for price.

Over the last few years, there have been several concerns pertaining to science research. Primarily, these concerns have surrounded integrity and reliability, particularly in areas that most affect the human condition like health and climate change. Bauer (emer., chemistry and science studies, Virginia Tech) delves into issues that are at the core of science. In a short, dense book, he posits that scientific research has been corrupted by "commercial and ideological interests," and thus is less trustworthy. The author pleads for a "Science Court" where "the media, policy makers, private foundations and ... the general public can navigate differences of opinion among equally qualified and informed specialists." Yet he does not take a position on the qualifications and credibility of the scientists with contrary views who are at loggerheads. Evolution does not appear as an issue. The book is presented in a chronological order, proceeding from old methods to modern science, from science performed by individuals in the past to science conducted by present groups. He also reflects on the differences between "hard" science (e.g., physics, chemistry, and biology) and "soft" science (e.g., psychology and anthropology). It should be noted that there are very few diagrams, and they are poor and unhelpful.

--N. Sadanand, *Central Connecticut State University*

Summing Up: Recommended. With the caveats above. Upper-division undergraduates and above; faculty and professionals.