

## **WHAT WAS THAT BOOK FOR?**

**FEAR**

**By**

**Bob Woodward**

**Hours and hours of deep throat interviews; hours and hours of support from assistants; lots and lots of high quality political gossip; and what do we discover? We find out that Trump is shit; and we find out that there is no way that he can do any governmental ironing. I think we did not have to buy this book to know that, although the fresh gossip is entertaining. We find out that very many officials do their best to manage a fool. Could we not have guessed that? But most of all we find out that every passenger and crew member in this ship of fools, irrespective of any party label, is a champion of American hegemony. And that includes Woodward.**

A journalist who simply reports is doing a job that requires not merely skill but also high values.

*Are you being fair to your reader?*

That is a question that should come onto your screen every time you log on. I am sure that Woodward is worthy of high marks for this test. What else should pop up on the screen?

*Can you explain?*

Cliff Jones Critical Professional Learning

OK that means revealing your personal values but providing you are open about them it offers your readers the opportunity to engage and construct (and test) their own views and arguments. It is a chance to grow political literacy. It is also a chance to learn from losing arguments.

For me Woodward lets his readers down because he won't put a toe in this water. Yes, he is a fine investigator but why not some analysis, some acknowledgement that there are other perspectives? Woodward is an establishment figure who simply wishes that the establishment worked better.

Cliff Jones, 10, December 2018