Stop Chasing Away Online Donors

ONLINE FUNDRAISING SCORECARD: A National Study Analyzing Online Fundraising Habits & Donor Experience

> **Dunham**+Company[®] CAUSE+EFFECT



The conference that changed my life.

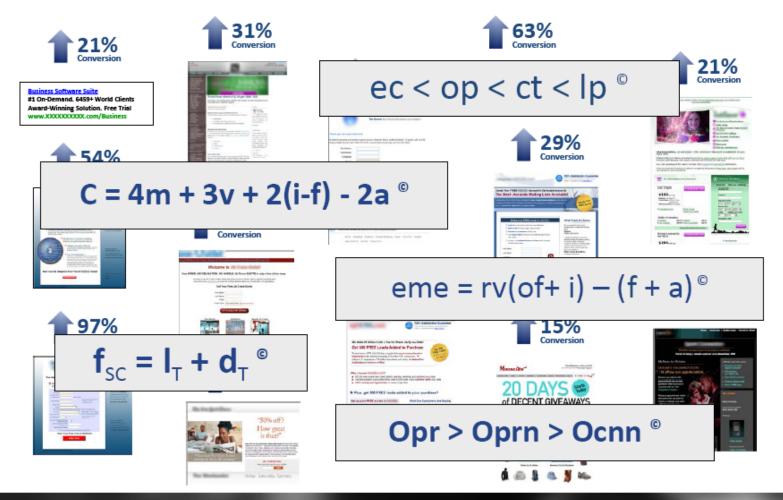


MECLABS





Over 10,000+ Paths Tested





Email Optimization Methodology eme = $rv(of + i) - (f + a)^{\circ}$

eme = email marketing effectiveness index
rv = relevance to the constituent
of = offer value

- i = incentive to take action
- f = friction elements of the process
- a = anxiety elements of the process



Optimization Methodology

$$eme = rv(of + i) - (f + a)^{c}$$

Value Factors rv(of + i)

Relevance (rv) Offer (of) Incentive (i) Inhibitors (f + a)

Friction (f) Anxiety (a)



My first experiment.



Version A - Control

Version B - Treatment

139% Increase in Clickthrough Rate 42% Increase in Revenue

George W. Bush Presidential Center	
elp President and Mrs. Bush advance the rinciples of freedom, opportunity, esponsibility and compassion. Become a harter Member of the George W. Bush residential Center today! Become a CHARTER MEMBER TODAY	Help princ respr <u>Chart</u> Presi
Dear Friend,	Dear F
don't have to remind you how America was tested time and again—at home and abroad—during the eight defining years of the George W. Bush presidency.	i don't eight c
The difficult decisions President Bush made in the face of each challenge were rooted in the core principles he held throughout his years of public service—the fundamental values that have guided America since her founding: Freedom Opportunity Responsibility Compassion.	The di princip Ameri
Now President and Mrs. Bush—with the support of many patriotic Americans like you—are taking on a new challenge. They are continuing their personal commitment to advancing these enduring principles through the George W. Bush Presidential Center.	Now P new cl throug
The Center will uniquely integrate the records of a national archive, the thematic exhibits of a presidential museum, and the intellectual capital of a research-based policy institute to transform ideas into action.	The Co muse
The George W. Bush Presidential Center will continue to advance the ideals and core principles that shaped his presidency during a defining period in America's history.	The G shape
Please accept this invitation to stand with President and Mrs. Bush by making a tax- deductible online contribution now.	Please
Thank you for your support.	Thank
Sincerely,	Sincer
-ml-	
Hon. Mark Langdale	Hon. N Presid
President George W. Bush Foundation	Georg



NHINE SCORECARD

Impact of Increasing the Perceived Value

<u>Original</u>

Optimized

Please accept this invitation to stand with President and Mrs. Bush by making a taxdeductible online contribution now.

Please accept this invitation to become a Charter Member of the George W. Bush Presidential Center.



139% Increase in Clickthrough42% Increase in Revenue



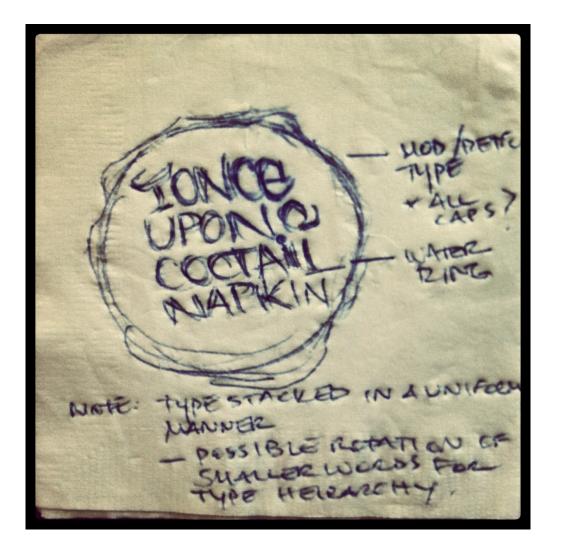
The most unlikely friendship began.



Meet my nemesis.









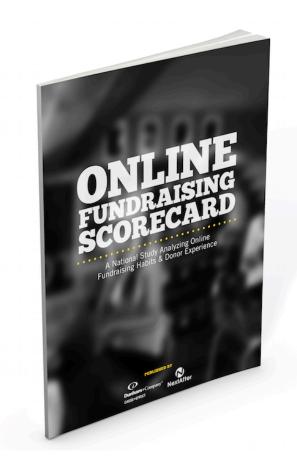
Methodology

- 1. Signed up to receive emails.
- 2. Watched our inbox; time/date stamped and analyzed each email.
- 3. Waited for an opportunity to give and then gave a \$20 donation.
- 4. Scored the donation process.
- 5. Monitored and recorded the acknowledgement and follow-up process.



Methodology

- Analysis of Four Key Functions
 - Email Capture
 - Email Communication
 - Donation Pages
 - Gift Acknowledgement
- Data collected 10/2012 thru 5/2013
- 46-Point Assessment





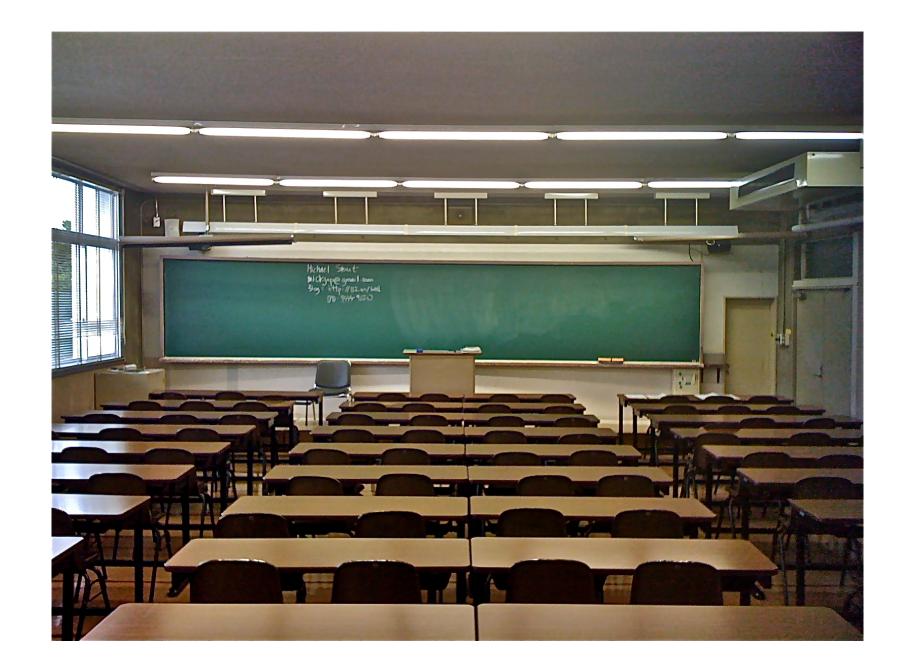
Scoring Criteria

MECLABS optimization heuristics:

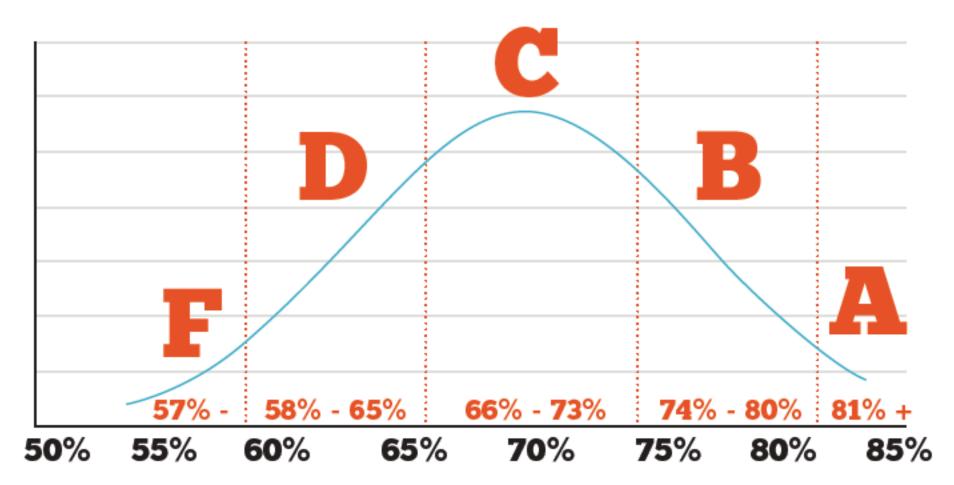
eme = rv(of + i) - (f + a)ec < op < ct < lp



So what did we learn?



We Had to Grade on a Curve



ONLINE FUNDRAISING SCORECARD

Some Verticals Do Better Than Others

At the head of the class:

- Animal Welfare: 81% A
- Political Candidates: 78% B
- Environment & Wildlife: 77% B
- Public Affairs: 75% B-
- Public Broadcasting Stations: 75% B-

And the bottom five verticals:

- Jewish Organizations: 68% C
- Christian Ministries: 67% C-
- Performing Arts & Libraries: 67% C-
- Hospitals: 65% D
- Associations/Membership: 63% D



Some Verticals Do Better Than Others

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- Performing Arts & Libraries: 67% C-
- Hospitals: 65% D
- Associations/Membership: 63% D



Sow to Reap

	Percent	Score Percentile
1	33%	71%
2	29%	72%
3	26%	75%
4	22%	69%
5	22%	75%
6	21%	74%
7	19%	81%
8	19%	69%
9	19%	74%
10	17%	83%
11	17%	72%
12	16%	81%
13	16%	82%
14	16%	72%
15	16%	73%
16	15%	81%
17	15%	80%
18	15%	67 %
19	15%	83%
20	14%	75%
21	14%	77%
22	13%	72%
23	13%	82%
24	13%	62%
25	12%	65%

	Fundraising Percent	Score Percentile
1	2 %	69%
2	2 %	67 %
3	2 %	65%
4	1%	65%
5	1%	69%
6	1%	78%
7	1%	59%
8	1%	62%
9	1%	62%
10	1%	63%
11	1%	56%
12	1%	78%
13	0%	75%
14	0%	69%
15	0%	62%
16	0%	60%
17	0%	68%
18	0%	65%
19	0%	74%
20	0%	71%
21	0%	67%
22	0%	63%
23	0%	67%
24	0%	69%
25	0%	65%

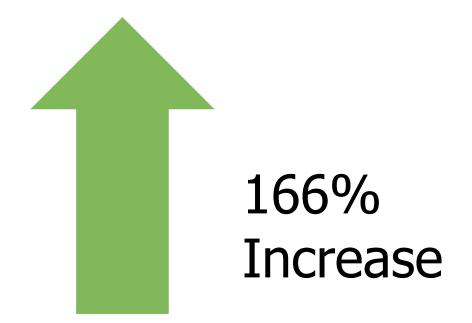
Figure 4 - Top 25 by Fundraising Percent

Figure 5 - Bottom 25 by Fundraising Percent



What is the bottom line impact of optimization?

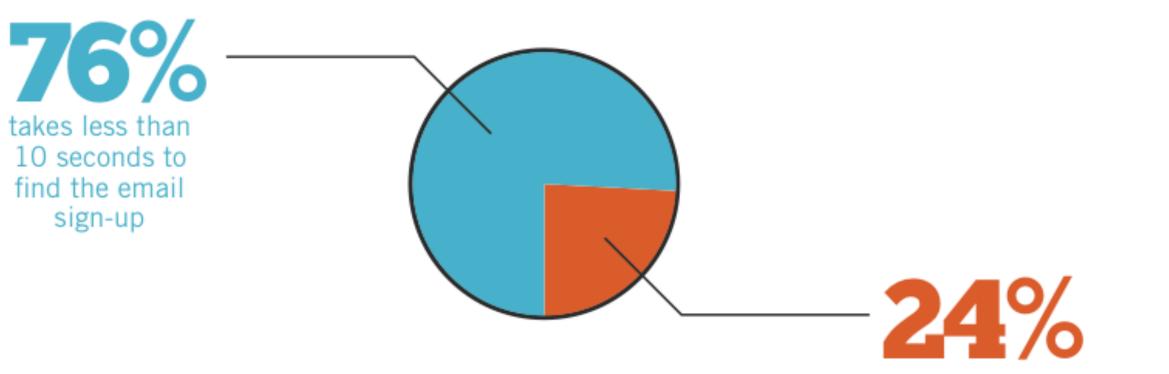
Organizations that had an optimized donation form saw 166% increase in online income compared to those organizations that didn't.





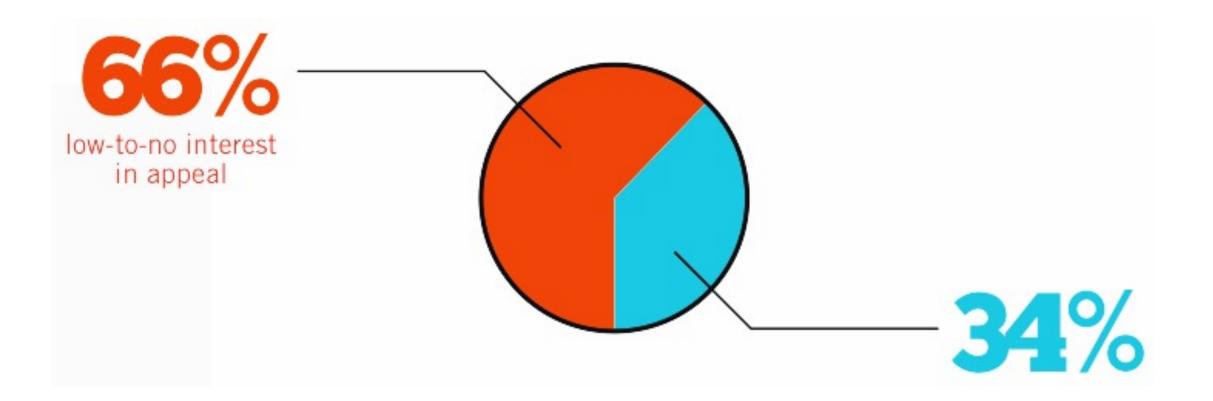
Email Registration GETTING PEOPLE TO RAISE THEIR HAND

Email Capture





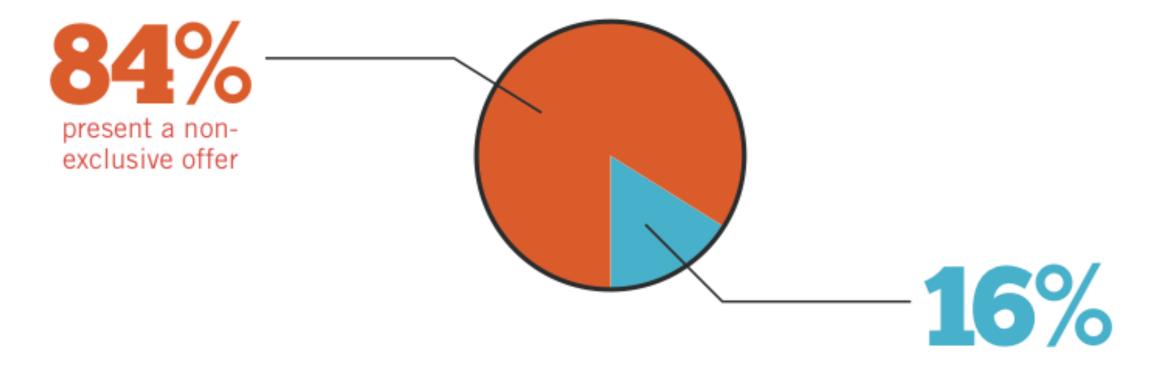
Email Capture





Email Capture

I can get a crappy newsletter anywhere!





Email Value Proposition Assessment

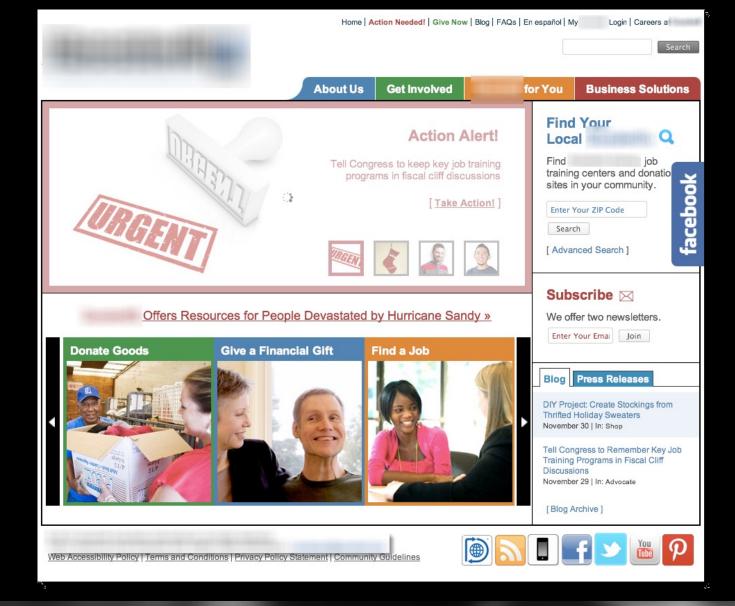
Desire

- 0 No interest
- 1 Possible interest
- 2 High interest

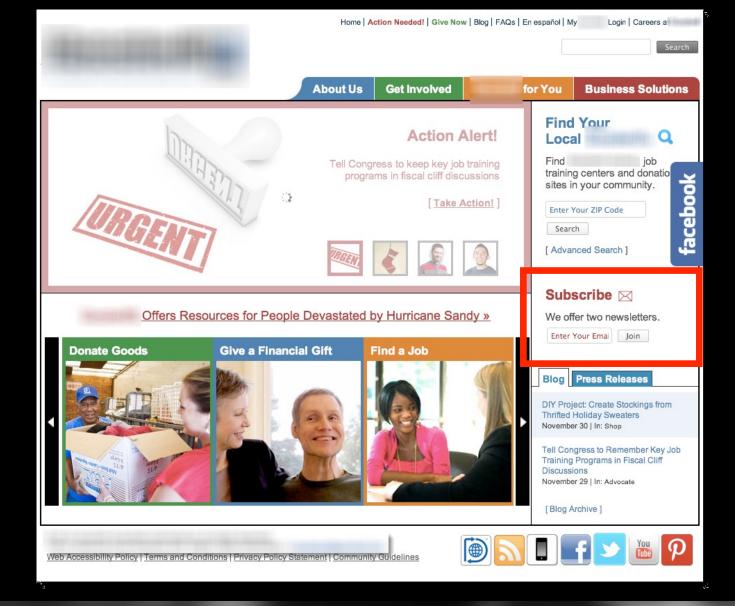
Exclusivity

- 0 Anywhere Else
- 1 Somewhere Else
- 2 Nowhere Else
- Rank the ideal customer's **desire** level for the offer associated with the email capture.
- 2. Rank the **exclusivity** of the offer associated with the email capture.
- 3. Multiply the two integers.
- 4. If the total is less than 2, re-craft your offer.











Email Value Proposition Assessment

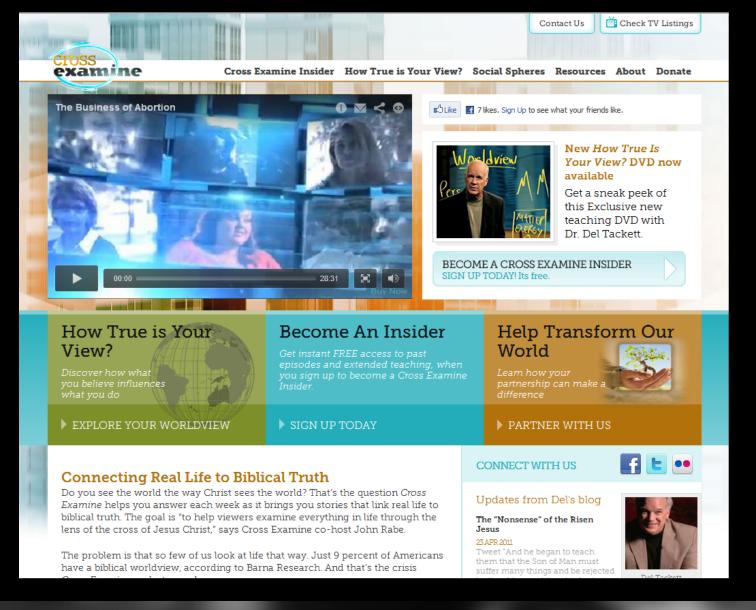
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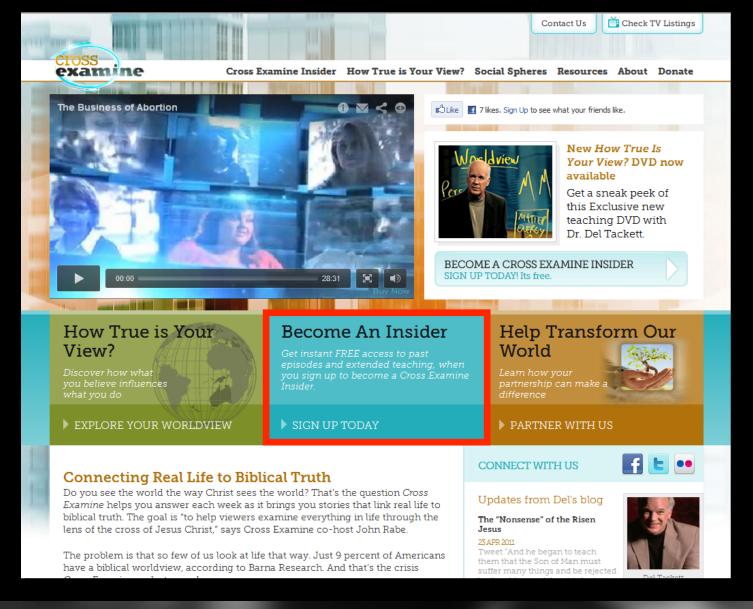
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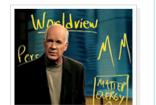






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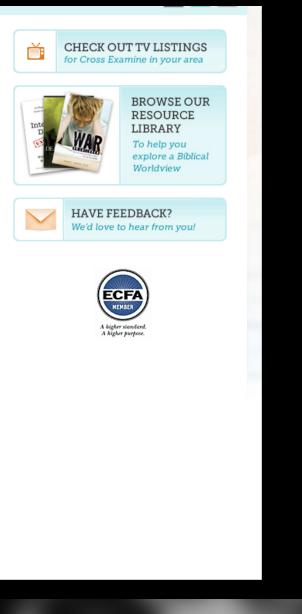


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- ✓ An Insider's sneak peek of the compelling special How True Is Your View?
- 🖋 A virtual backstage pass to "After Hours with Del and John", an Insider exclusive
- Complete unlimited access to past episodes of Cross Examine
- A subscription to our content-packed weekly eNewsletter, Weekly Worldview
- And much more!

Create a new account

First Name	Last Name	
Address		
Country UNITED STATES		
City	State - Select State - 👻	Postal Code
Email Address		
Ves, subscribe me to the	Cross Examine newslet	ter
Register		





Email Value Proposition Assessment

Desire

- 0 No interest
- 1 Possible interest
- 2 High interest

Exclusivity

- 0 Anywhere Else
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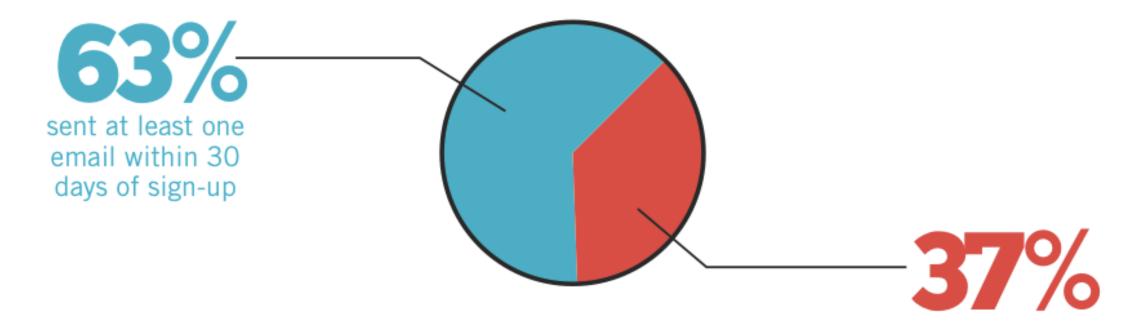
Email Communication **GETTING PEOPLE TO PAY ATTENTION**

Question 1:

If I signed up to receive emails from an organization, what might I expect to receive in the first 30 days?



Not much! Shockingly, more than one-third of organizations sampled did not send a single email to their subscribers within the first 30 days of sign-up. Nothing. Nada. Zilch.



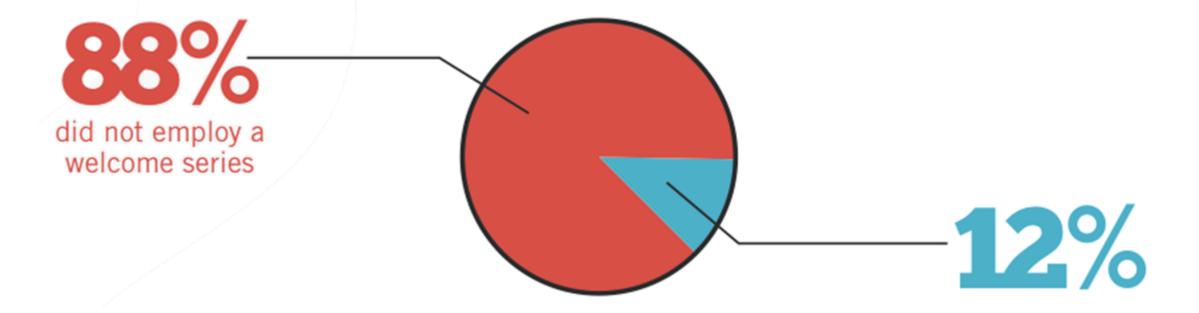


Question 2:

We've been talking about the importance of doing a Welcome Series for new email subscribers for almost a decade now. How many organizations are actually doing it?



Hardly any! Of the 151 organizations sampled in the study, only 18 actually employ a New Email Subscriber Welcome Series.





Question 3:

How long after subscribing do organizations start asking for money?

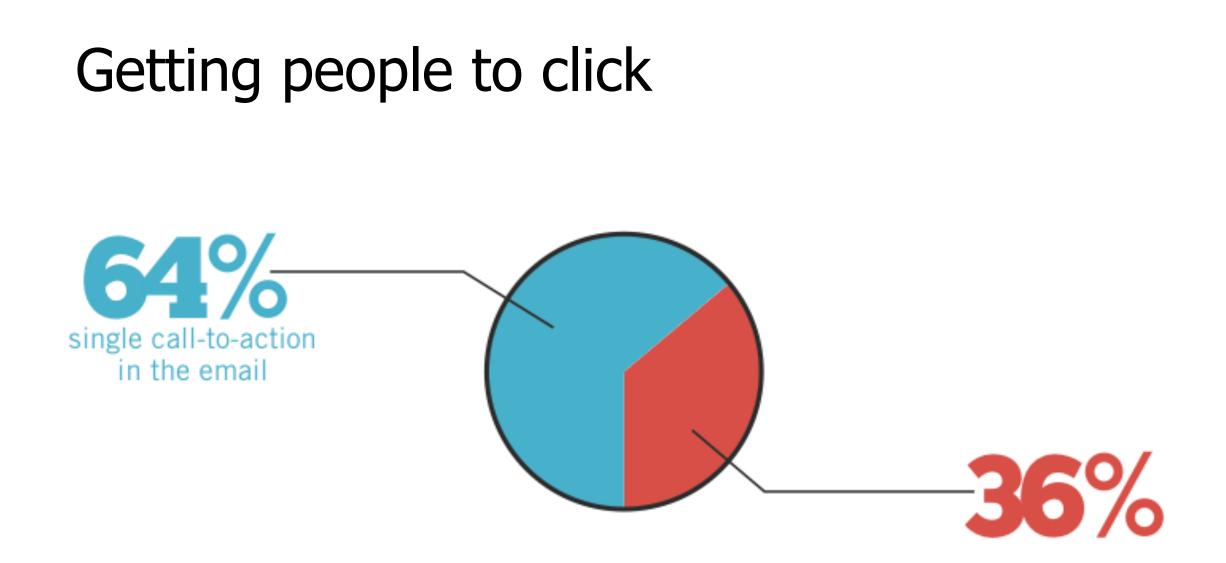






Email Frequency	Christian Ministries	Overall
Days from signup until first email sent.	22	20
Is an e-appeal send in the first 30 days?	Yes	No
Number of emails sent in 90 days.	20	7
Is there a Welcome Series in place?	No	No

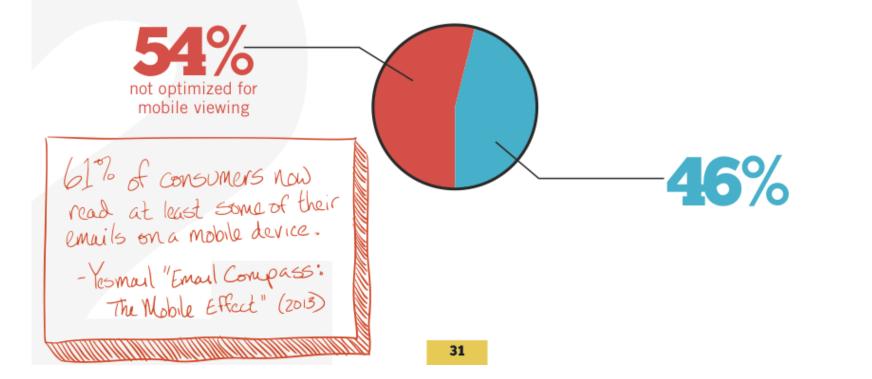






Better hurry home if you want to read my email.

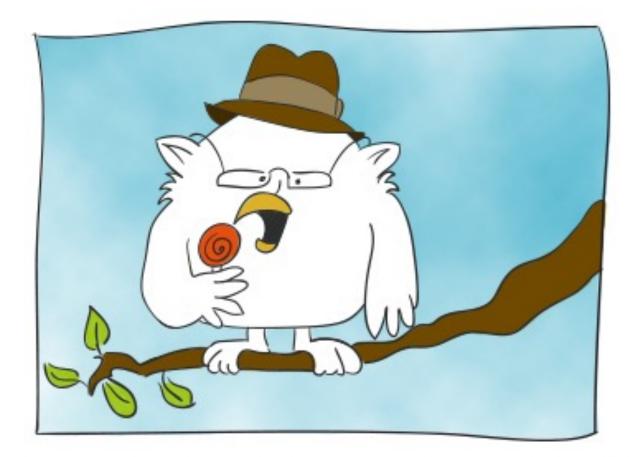
Even though more and more people are now reading their emails on a mobile device, most organizations in our sample are not making their emails mobile friendly. **Fifty-four percent of organizations are sending emails that are NOT optimized for viewing on a mobile device**.





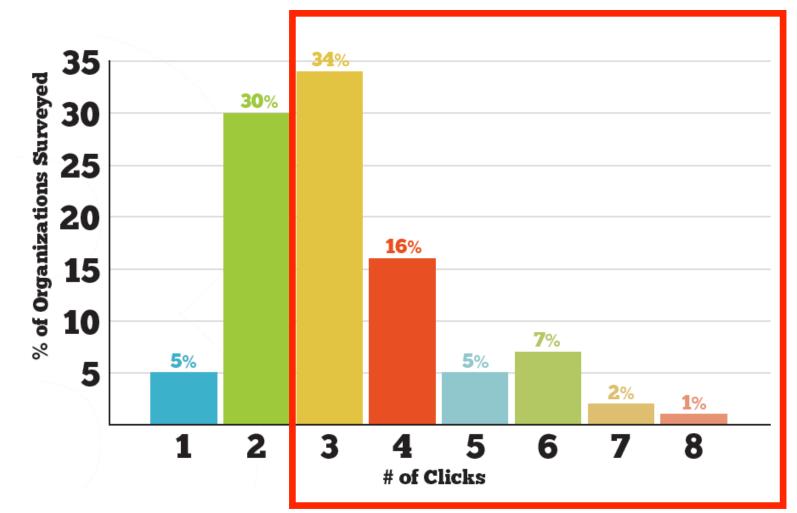
Online Donation Experience GETTING PEOPLE TO DONATE

Mr. Owl, how many clicks does it take to get to the end of a donation form?





65% require 3 or more clicks.





Friction: Defined

/ˈfrikSHən/ Noun.

The resistance that one surface or object encounters when moving over another.



Friction (in fundraising): Defined

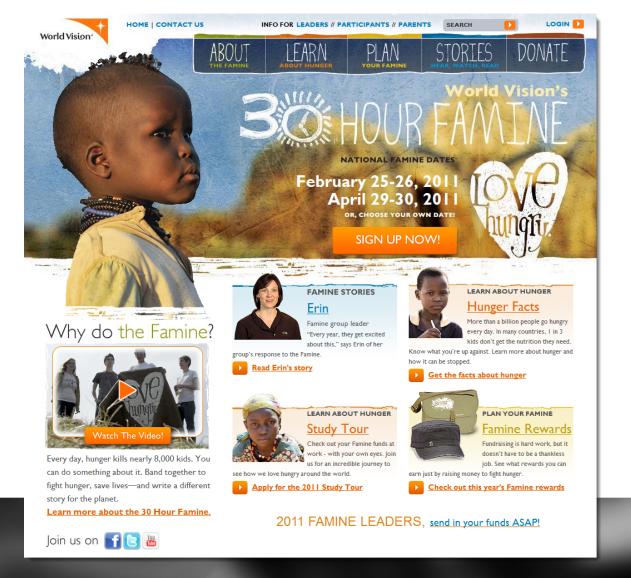
/ˈfrikSHən/ Noun.

Anything that causes psychological resistance to a given element in the donation process.



Friction in the online giving process is best <u>understood</u> when it is <u>experienced</u>.





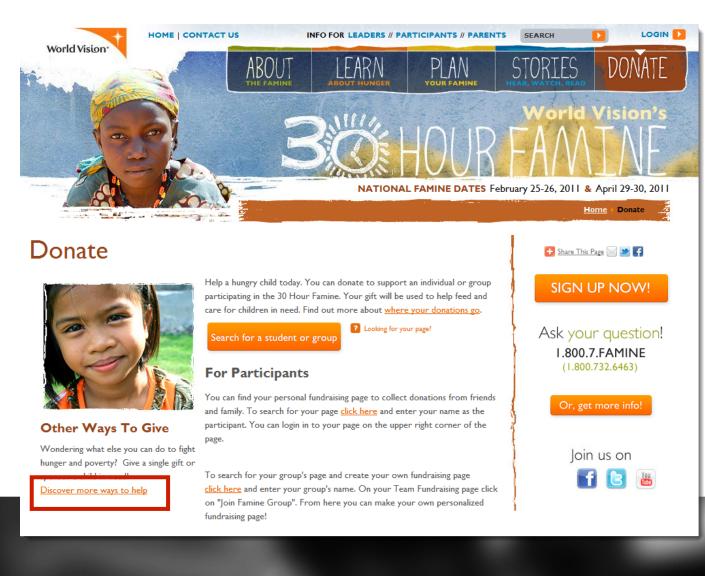




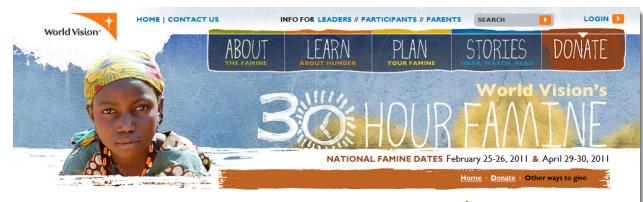












Other Ways to Give



Make a general donation.

Donate Now

Change one life forever.

Wonderful things happen when you choose to help a child all year long through child sponsorship. For just over \$1 a day, you'll show your child God's unconditional love by providing them with access to critical resources such as:

Other Ways To Give

Wondering what else you can do to fight hunger and poverty? Give a single gift or sponsor a child in need! Discover more ways to help

nutritious food

clean water

- health care
- education
- and more

Plus, the benefits you provide your child extend to their family, community, and other children in need. That's because World Vision plans and works alongside local community members to find solutions that will change the future for their children - and their community.



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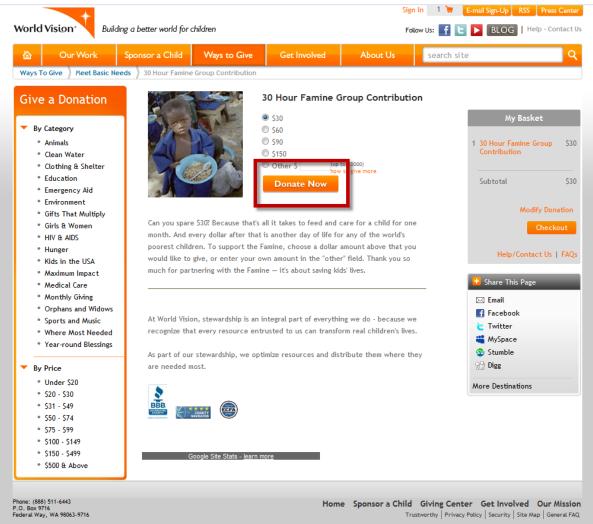
SIGN UP NOW!

Ask your question! **I.800.7.FAMINE** (1.800.732.6463)

Or, get more info!

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type of donatio [remove] One-time Gift continue browsing update	n description 30 Hour Famine Group Contribu	tion 1	amt total \$30.00 \$30.00 Shipping: \$0.00 Total: \$30.00 (check out) \$30.00		
Help Fight Hunger \$100		Your gift quickly in a help the v chil	There Needed Most will enable us to respond reas of greatest need, to world's most vulnerable dren and families.	Age: 6 Gender: Boy	
to hungry children around the donate now			donate now	Birthday: Oct 15, 2004 Country: Bolivia Sponsor Brayan Search for a Child	
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Access my existing account, and my password is:			Current World Vision donors who have never registered online should create a new
and my password is.			account.
Sign-In			Forgot your password? Click Here.
			Has your email address changed since your last donation?
			Contact us
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type of donation Dne-time Gift 30 Hi update	description our Famine Group Contribution	qty amt total cards 1 \$30.00 \$30.00 Shipping: \$0.00 Total: \$30.00



Donors Don't Like Friction



The difference between for-profit and non-profit.

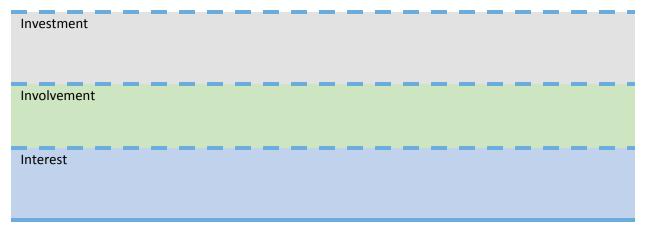






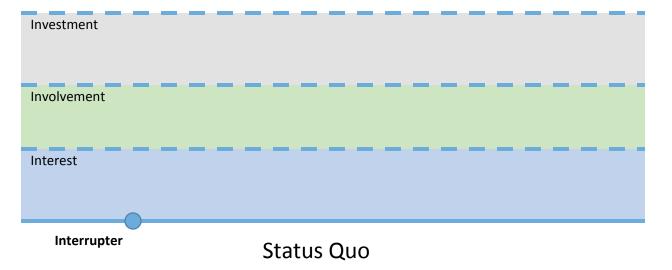
Status Quo



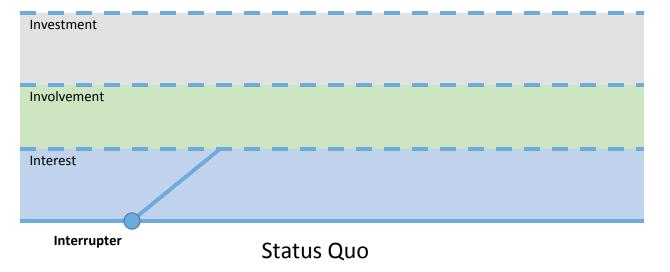


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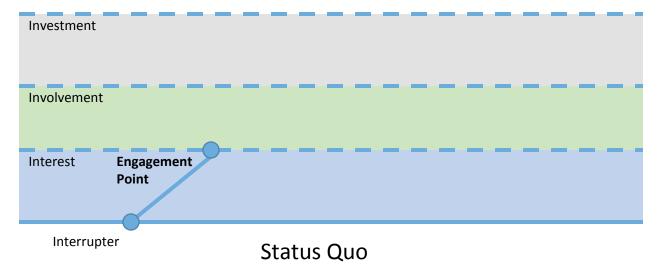




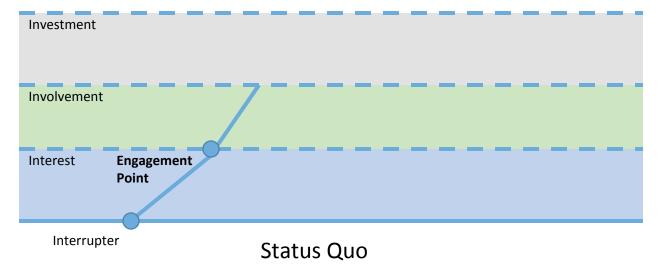




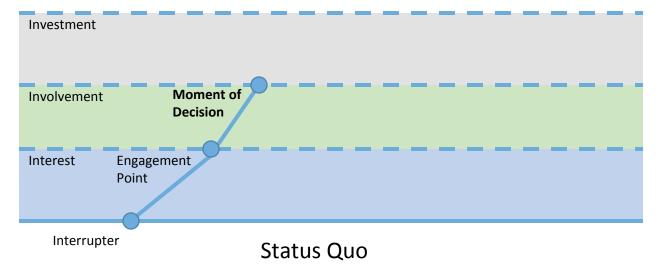




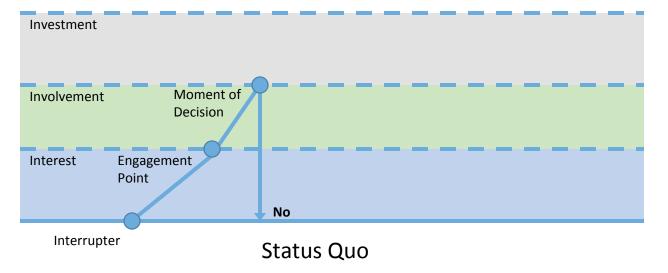




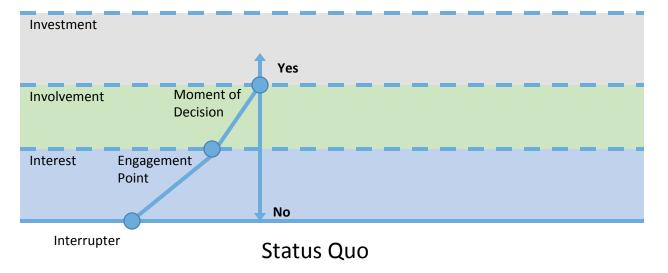




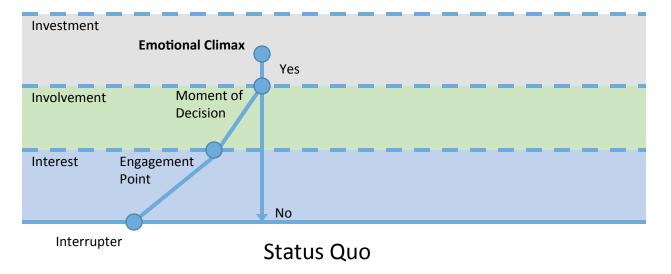




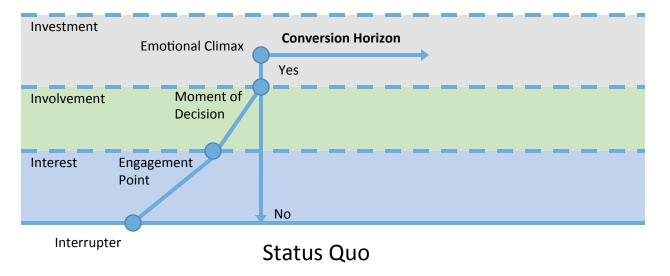




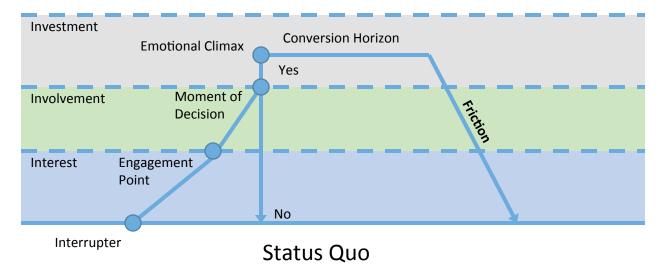




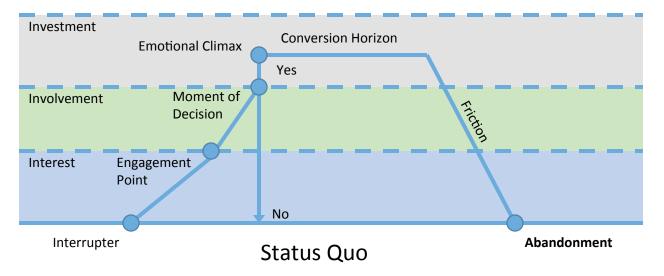






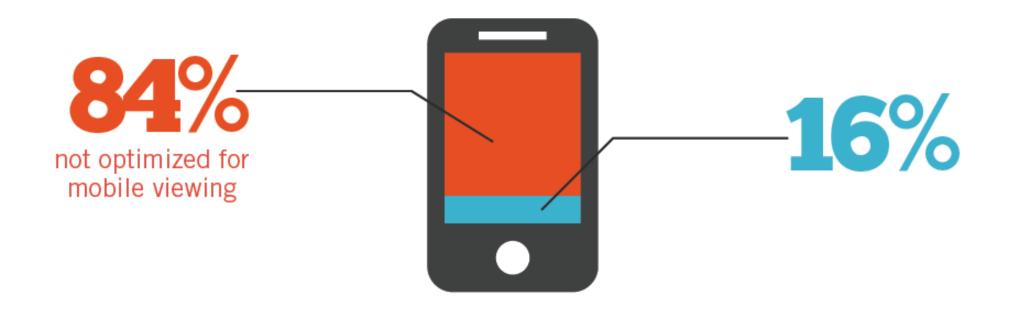






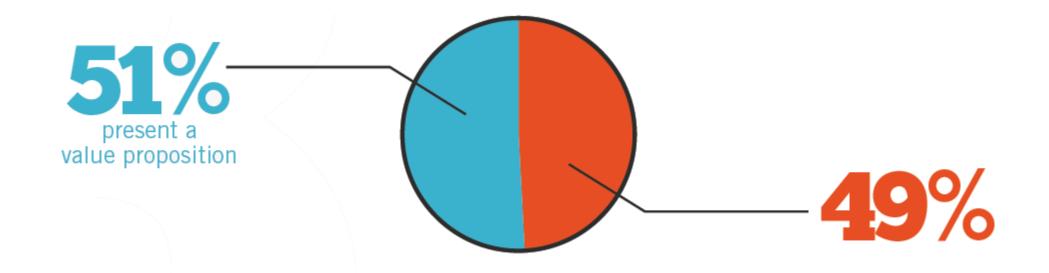


Not Suitable for Smartphones



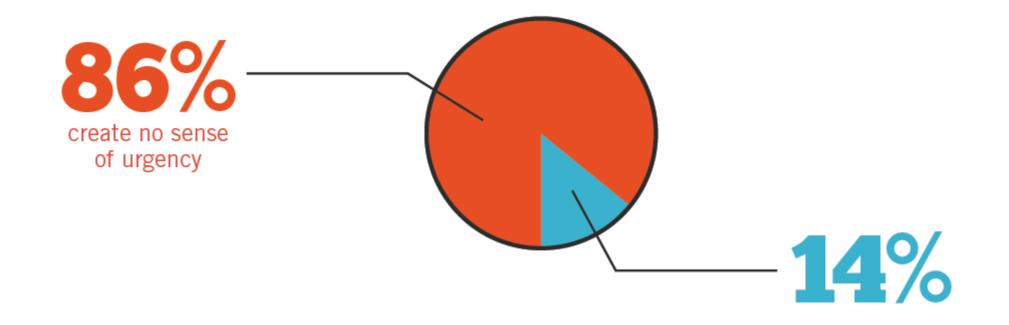


Give Me a Reason!



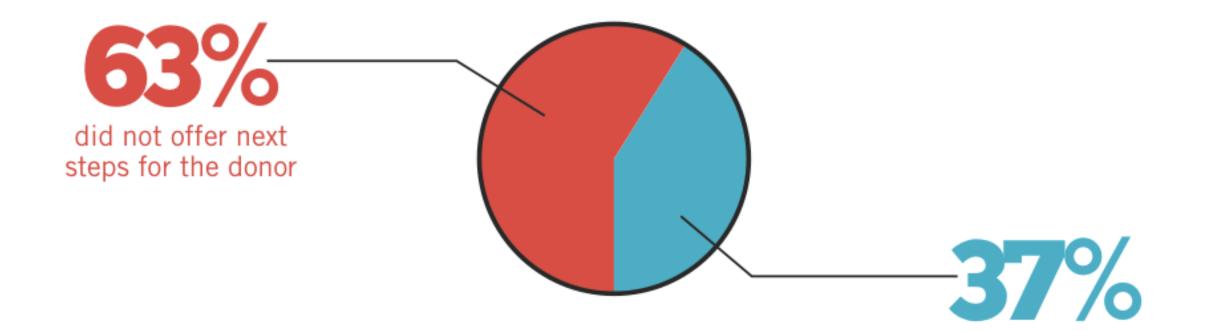


How About Now?





Gift Acknowledgment GIVING PEOPLE YOUR GRATITUDE





What about Multichannel Communication



Sent mail by 61 organizations or 41% of the groups we gave gifts to

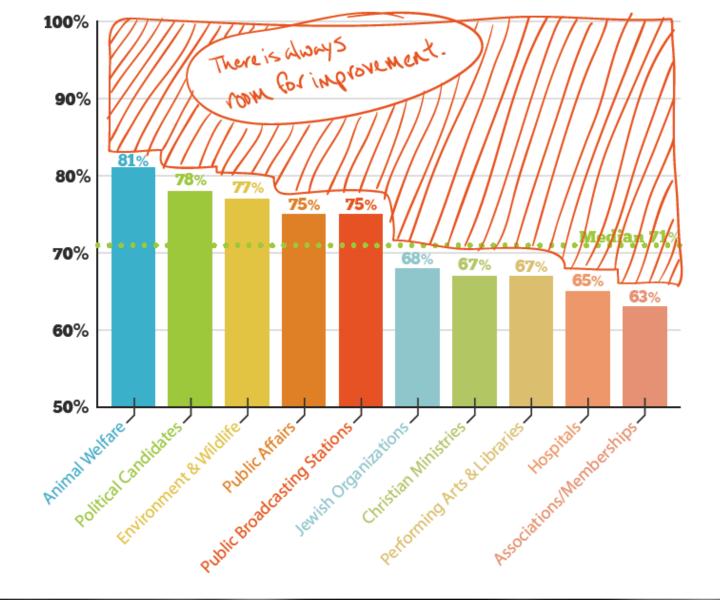


Got mail from 48 organizations that were not in the study



Final Report







5 Things You Should Do Tomorrow:

- 1. Sign up to receive emails from your organization; score the appeal and exclusivity of our email signup offer.
- 2. Try to focus on one call-to-action in every email you send. What is the ONE THING you want people to do?
- 3. Design your emails for mobile first; there should be no "pinching" and "zooming" required for the user to read or respond to your message.
- 4. Give a donation to yourself; note any examples of friction in the process and develop a plan to mitigate it.
- 5. Don't leave your donors hanging; introduce a next step you want your new donors to take *after* giving a gift. How about an opportunity to share?



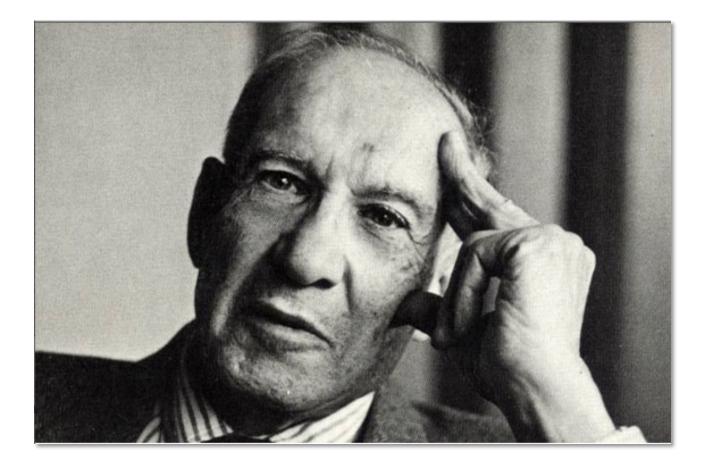
Why are we so obsessed with this stuff?



"Toothpaste is peddled with far more sophistication than all of the world's lifesaving causes."

- Nick Kristof



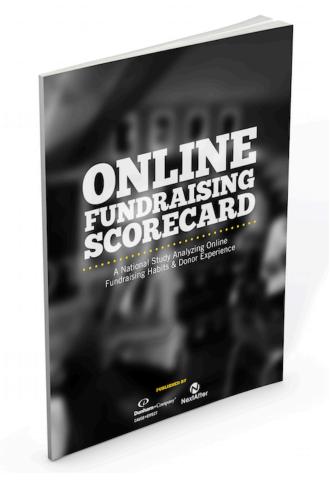


"Adequacy is the enemy of excellence"

Peter Drucker



Download the complete 48-page study









Brad Davies

brad@DunhamAndCompany.com

@BradJDavies

Tim Kachuriak <u>tim@NextAfter.com</u> @DigitalDonor

