



## **WASTE REPORT for July 14, 2015**

### **FEELING BAD ABOUT GOVERNMENT WASTE?**

Have you ever had a salesman try to talk you into a purchase you were not too sure about? Maybe he was selling you on watching the Super Bowl on a huge new T.V. or trying to convince you of the attention you will receive in a sporty new car. That sales technique counts on the buyer ignoring more logical, fact based considerations while focusing more on a feeling you may or may not have in the future.

Well, the National Science Foundation feels sorry for people that make poor decisions based on emotion and is hoping to help with a taxpayer funded **\$175,950 grant to research ways to better predict a person's feelings about the decisions they make.**<sup>1</sup>

“People making important decisions--such as whether to undergo surgery, listen to public health warnings, or pursue a specific career-- **will be better informed if they can accurately predict how the outcomes of their decisions will make them feel.**”<sup>2</sup>

Using **logic over emotion in making decisions should just be common sense and not warrant any research; but worse still is the government spending taxpayer money to figure out how people can better use emotion to make decisions.** Maybe this grant was the product of an emotional decision based on feelings. It certainly wasn't based on a logical use of your hard earned money.

So the next time there is a hurricane warning or a medical professional says you need a procedure, **Uncle Sam wants to make sure you are fully in touch with your feelings when you make the decision on whether or not follow expert advice.**

## **How does funding this study make you feel?**

---

<sup>1</sup> NSF, *Collaborative Proposal: Understanding the Improving Predictions about Future Feelings*; Research at UC-Irvine; Award No. 1451214.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid