

This style of plagiarism evidence display uses side-by-side display, with shading

Blue Word-for-word, in order, XX compared to direct antecedent

Green Same text, rearranged order

Yellow trivial changes, doable by copy editor, sometimes done by plagiarists to lessen mechanical detection, but also proves not an innocent copy where someone intended to add quotes and forgot.

Orange seems a close paraphrase, somewhat subjective

Pink Misrepresentation of a source, either cited, or copied

Gray odd

No color: might be original, or just not yet found

NOTE: to shade new text to match, one would like to select each of the 6 words above, then Shade>More Colors>OK, to put that into “Recent colors”, easy to use. At least my Word 2007 has a bug, where it only does that after the first color. So, one can: Shade>More Colors>4th box up diagonal for yellow>OK. Then the other 5 can be added by selecting the words above.

Getting rid of space-after-paragraph makes it easier to line up columns, and people rapidly come to see that the blue text is identical, and then can focus on the remainder.

Note: my matching algorithm is ~manual approximation of UNIX *diff(1)*, i.e., scan document, look for matches in XX or elsewhere, if necessary, skipping text moved, then come back and green shade moves. *Deep Climate* used a slightly different match algorithm and each has plusses and minuses. Mine tries to maximize blue text and usually does, but does not work so well for big moves of text.

I’ve sometimes had to go to 3 columns to display plagiarism chains, where someone re-used text that was already plagiarized.

From experience, the most time-consuming work is finding the plagiarized antecedent texts. Converting this example took less than an hour to do. Again, from experience, shading the blue and aligning them causes the other edits to become much more obvious, and often exposes mistakes where rewordings introduce errors.

This is an evolution of the styles seen in:

http://www.desmogblog.com/sites/beta.desmogblog.com/files/see_no_evil_speak_little_truth.pdf

All this started with *Deep Climate*’s use of fonts. I tried using gray highlighting, and after some discussion we both switched to Cyan/Yellow highlighting. However, MS Word **Highlighting** uses intense colors and a limited palette. The current approach uses Word **Shading**, which offers a full color palette including muted colors. Studying different shadings and display algorithms might be a good research problem for cognitive scientists.

====

Following is an example of the application of this display style.

The original plagiarism was exposed here:

http://cabinetofplagiarism.blogspot.fr/2014/03/exhibit-old-school-theft_1.html by Ann Ribidoux

and seen via

<http://andrewgelman.com/2014/05/14/plaig-publication-filter-together-last/> by Andrew Gelman

The following example just does the blue, (which is essentially algorithmic), and a few obvious yellows, and a few greens. Those are slightly more subjective.

I didn’t bother trying to do orange, as that is more subjective, and when there is this much blue, it probably doesn’t matter much.

Peace Be Still (p.178 -- no citation)

Fueled by "angry white men" as well as by white women, an all-out battle for the life of the policy emerged. For Conservatives, the system was a zero-sum game that opened the door for jobs, promotions, or education to people of color while it shut the door on whites. In a nation that has celebrated the values of independence and "pulling oneself up by one bootstraps," conservatives soon argued that "unqualified" racial minorities were getting a "free ride" in American schools and in the workplace as a result of affirmative action policies. They referred to affirmative action incorrectly and contemptuously as a system of "preferential treatment" and "quotas." Some even claimed that many people of color enjoyed playing the role of "professional victim" to exploit the policy for their own benefit.

Peace Be Still (p. 179) no citation

...progressives pointed out that despite widespread fears that people of color were taking 'white people's jobs,' white men in particular still dominated the workforce by virtue of their positions, salaries, and prestige. The conflict over affirmative action was also a result of its ambiguous and complex evolution. Many Progressives, for instance, understood the injustices of the affirmative measures associated with *Wygant v Jackson Board of Education* (1986), in which black employees retained their jobs while white employees with seniority were laid off. In addition, many conservatives struggled to offer a better alternative to the imposition of a strict quota system in *United States vs Paradise*, et al (1987), in which the defiantly racist state officials of the Alabama Department of Public Safety refused to promote any African Americans above entry-level positions, even after they were mandated to do so by twelve years of court orders.

<http://www.infoplease.com/spot/affirmative1.html>

Fueled by "angry white men," a backlash against affirmative action began to mount. To conservatives, the system was a zero-sum game that opened the door for jobs, promotions, or education to minorities while it shut the door on whites. In a country that prized the values of self-reliance and pulling oneself up by one's bootstraps, conservatives resented the idea that some unqualified minorities were getting a free ride on the American system.

"Preferential treatment" and "quotas" became expressions of contempt. Even more contentious was the accusation that some minorities enjoyed playing the role of professional victim.

<http://www.infoplease.com/spot/affirmative1.html>

Liberals also pointed out that another popular conservative argument—that because of affirmative action, minorities were threatening the jobs of whites—belied the reality that white men were still the undisputed rulers of the roost when it came to salaries, positions, and prestige. The debate about affirmative action has also grown more murky and difficult as the public has come to appreciate its complexity. Many liberals, for example, can understand the injustice of affirmative action in a case like *Wygant* (1986): black employees kept their jobs while white employees with seniority were laid off. And many conservatives would be hard pressed to come up with a better alternative to the imposition of a strict quota system in *Paradise* (1987), in which the defiantly racist Alabama Department of Public Safety refused to promote any black above entry level even after a full 12 years of court orders demanded they did.

Peace Be Still (p.???) no citation

Born Willard Christopher Smith Jr. In Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Smith attended Overbrook High School in Winfield, Pennsylvania, where he soon became known as "The Prince" for his charm and quick wit. At the early age of twelve, he began rapping and developing his own style under the influence of hip-hop legend Grandmaster Flash. Just four years later, at only sixteen, Smith met Jeff Townes, also known as DJ Jazzy Jeff, with whom he eventually collaborated with (sic) under the title Fresh Prince. The two artists produced a number of songs, including the worldwide hits "Girls Ain't Nothing But Trouble" (1989) and "Parents Just Don't Understand" (1989), which won a Grammy Award for Best Rap Performance

<http://www.take40.com/artists/1272/will-smith/bio>

Will Smith was born Willard Christopher Smith Junior on September 25th, 1968 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He attended Overbrook High School in Winfield Pennsylvania, which is where he soon became known to his friends as "The Prince," for his charming antics. Little did he know that this nickname would still have meaning over 30 years later. At the early age of 12, Smith began rapping and developing his own style under the influence of hip-hop legend, Grandmaster Flash. Four years later, at only 16, he met Jeff Townes, also known as DJ Jazzy Jeff, who he eventually collaborated with under the title, Fresh Prince. The two produced a number of songs including the worldwide hit, Girls Ain't Nothin But Trouble, and in 1989, the duo won their first Grammy for Best Rap Performance for Parents Just Don't Understand.

Note the odd (sic), where "who ... with" was copyedited to "with whom", but the second "with" remained. The correct name for the song is "Girls Ain't Nothing But Trouble" so in that case, the text was improved.