

# A psychological analysis of fractured political discourse

## Background:

My research project exists at the intersection between psychology, philosophy and politics. My aim was to examine the cognitive biases which are at the root of our belief forming and decision-making processes.

## Key Questions:

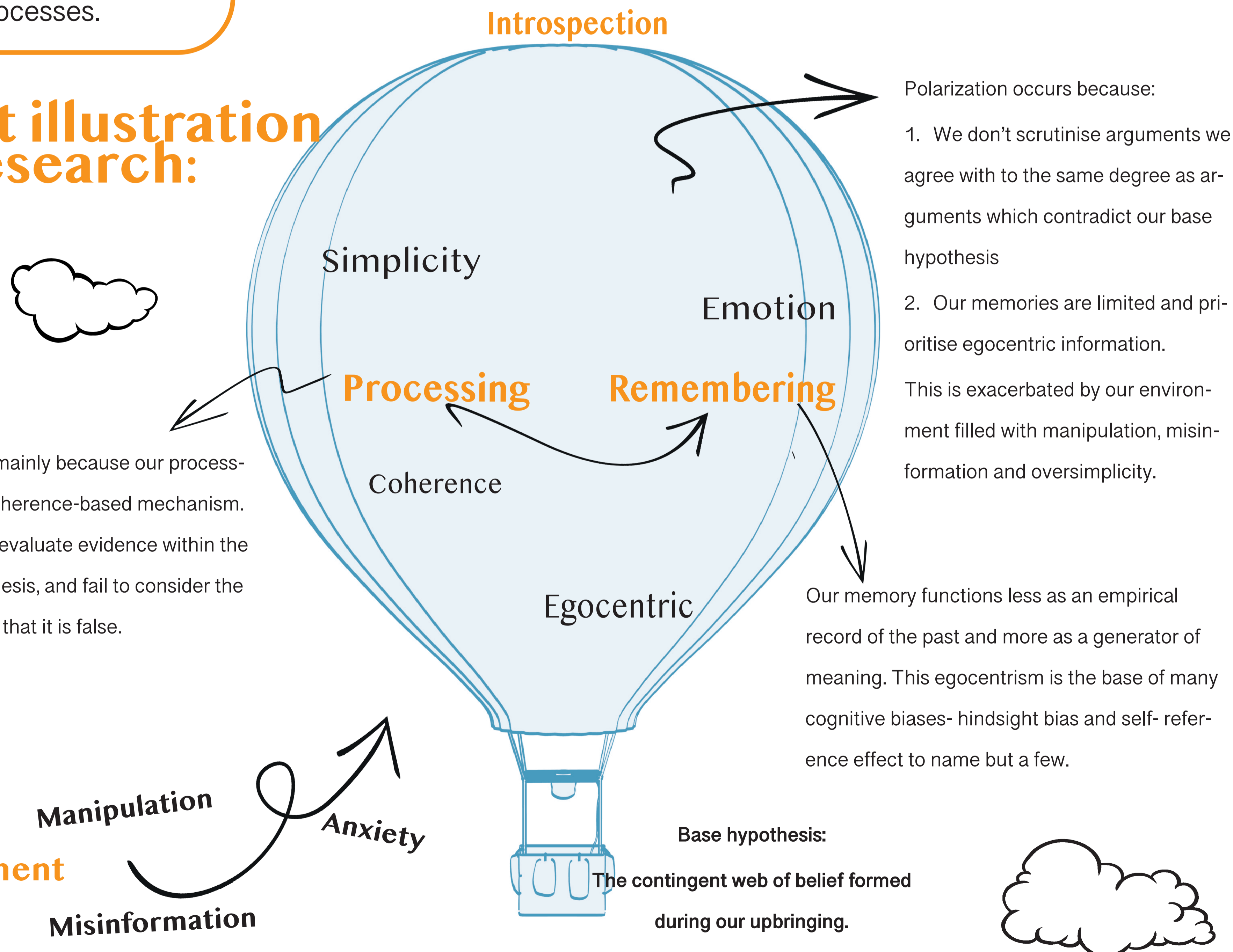
How can we consolidate all the differing cognitive biases with our conception of a rational human mind?  
 Does the pervasive presence of cognitive biases prove that we are fundamentally irrational?  
 Or do they highlight the fact that our definition of rationality is too narrow?

## Questions I would like to explore in my upcoming research:

- How can we mitigate the negative effects of cognitive biases by altering an individual's environment?
- How can the traditional conception of rationality be reframed to accommodate for my 'model' of the mind?
- Can polarisation be construed as having a positive effect on political and social life?

## Abstract illustration of my research:

Cognitive biases occur mainly because our processing functions follow a coherence-based mechanism. Furthermore, we mainly evaluate evidence within the frame of an initial hypothesis, and fail to consider the possibility that it is false.



## References:

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