



JOHNS HOPKINS  
BLOOMBERG  
SCHOOL of PUBLIC HEALTH

Department of Epidemiology  
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health  
415 N. Washington Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Baltimore, Maryland 21231

1 June 2021

## Memorandum

To: Trialists

Fr: Curtis Meinert

Re: No longer a dinosaur!

Earlier (15 Feb 2021) I distributed a listing of items indicative of being a dinosaur. The list is below.

- 1 You have a land line
- 2 You do not have a cell phone
- 3 You do not text
- 4 You pay cash for a quarter pounder at McDonald's
- 5 You have change
- 6 You do not have a smart TV (or one you can operate)
- 7 You do not use Microsoft Word
- 8 You write letters
- 9 You pay bills by check
- 10 You balance your checking account

I posited that if you checked four or more items you are a dinosaur. I checked items 1, 3, 6, and 7 placing me in the dinosaur class. No big surprise, but being there bothered me.

I know I will never be a Microsoft Word aficionado, that I am too dumb to operate my smart TV, and that I am not a texter, so the only way to get out of the class is by ditching my land line. Why not? Now that I am iPhone "proficient".

It was Sunday afternoon a week or two back. I had nothing to do so I looked into my Verizon account, but since I did not even know I had one (no doubt created years ago) they wanted to make certain I was who I said I was so they asked "security" questions:

Who was your best friend in college?

What was your favorite restaurant when you were in college?

Are you kidding? How the hell do I know? That was ages ago! Further, I don't even know if the answers were my wife's or mine.

So I opened a new account and then tried to cancel the line, only to learn that I had to do that by phone 9 to 5 Monday thru Friday.

The next day I got the job done after about 20 minutes of piped in noise.

No longer a dinosaur! Praise the Lord!