Thinking, People, Data, Marketing, Way, Baseball, Different, Want, Views, Needs, Information, Problem, Noise, Should, Predictions, Kind, Risk, Play, Analysis, Mean

There's always the risk that there are unknown unknowns.

~Nate Silver

Almost everyone's instinct is to be overconfident and read way too much into a hot or cold streak.

~Nate Silver

We're not that much smarter than we used to be, even though we have much more information - and that means the real skill now is learning how to pick out the useful information from all this noise.

~Nate Silver

New ideas are sometimes found in the most granular details of a problem where few others bother to look.

~Nate Silver

We must become more comfortable with probability and uncertainty.

~Nate Silver

Success makes you less intimidated by things.

~Nate Silver

The quest for certainty in forecasting outcomes can be the enemy of progress.

~Nate Silver

When human judgment and big data intersect there are some funny things that happen

~Nate Silver

Data scientist is just a sexed up word for statistician.

~Nate Silver

On average, people should be more skeptical when they see numbers.

They should be more willing to play around with the data themselves.

~Nate Silver

Data-driven predictions can succeed-and they can fail. It is when we deny our role in the process that the odds of failure rise. Before we demand more of our data, we need to demand more of ourselves.

~Nate Silver

Distinguishing the signal from the noise requires both scientific knowledge and self-knowledge.

~Nate Silver

We are living our lives more online and you need to have different ways to capture that.

~Nate Silver

I prefer more to kind of show people different things than tell them 'oh, here's what you should believe' and, over time, you can build up a rapport with your audience.

~Nate Silver

The thing that people associate with expertise, authoritativeness, kind of with a capital 'A,' don't correlate very well with who's actually good at making predictions.

~Nate Silver

People still don't appreciate how ephemeral success is.

~Nate Silver

Basically, books were a luxury item before the printing press.

~Nate Silver

I don't think that somebody who is observing or predicting behavior should also be participating in the 'experiment.'

~Nate Silver

I think there's space in the market for a half-dozen kind of polling analysts.

~Nate Silver

I was looking for something like baseball, where there's a lot of data and the competition was pretty low. That's when I discovered politics.

~Nate Silver

Midterm elections can be dreadfully boring, unfortunately.

~Nate Silver

If you aren't taking a representative sample, you won't get a representative snapshot.

~Nate Silver

The signal is the truth. The noise is what distracts us from the truth.

~Nate Silver

We need to stop, and admit it: we have a prediction problem. We love to predict thingsâ€"and we aren't very good at it.

~Nate Silver

Well the way we perceive accuracy and what accuracy is statistically are really two different things.

~Nate Silver

Precise forecasts masquerade as accurate ones.

~Nate Silver

Finding patterns is easy in any kind of data-rich environment; that's what mediocre gamblers do. The key is in determining whether the patterns represent signal or noise

~Nate Silver

People don't have a good intuitive sense of how to weigh new information in light of what they already know. They tend to overrate it.

~Nate Silver

Racism is predictable. It's predicted by interaction or lack thereof with people unlike you, people of other races.

~Nate Silver

We want to get 80%-85% of predictions right, not 100%. Or else we calibrated our estimates in the wrong way.

~Nate Silver

Walk rate is probably the area in which a pitcher has the most room to improve, but a rate that high is tough to overcome.

~Nate Silver

In baseball you have terrific data and you can be a lot more creative with it.

~Nate Silver

If you have reason to think that yesterday's forecast went wrong, there is no glory in sticking to it.

~Nate Silver

I've become invested with this symbolic power. It really does transcend what I'm actually doing and what I actually deserve.

~Nate Silver

Any one game in baseball doesn't tell you that much, just as any one poll doesn't tell you that much.

Race is still the No. 1 determinant in every election.

~Nate Silver

The public is even more pessimistic about the economy than even the most bearish economists are.

~Nate Silver

We're living in a world where Google beats Gallup.

~Nate Silver

I don't play fantasy baseball anymore now because it's too much work, and I feel like I have to hold myself up to such a high standard. I'm pretty serious about my fantasy football, though.

~Nate Silver

Shakespeare's plays often turn on the idea of fate, as much drama does. What makes them so tragic is the gap between what his characters might like to accomplish and what fate provides them.

~Nate Silver

To my friends, I'm kind of sexually gay but ethnically straight.

~Nate Silver

Plenty of pundits have really high IQs, but they don't have any discipline in how they look at the world, and so it leads to a lot of bullshit, basically.

~Nate Silver

I think punditry serves no purpose.

~Nate Silver

Voters' memories will fade some.

People have different ways of interpreting history.

~Nate Silver

If there's a major foreign policy event, the President gets on TV, the Congress doesn't.

~Nate Silver

All I know is that I have way more stuff that I want to write about than I possibly have time to.

~Nate Silver

I'm not trying to do anything too tricky.

~Nate Silver

You get steely nerves playing poker.

~Nate Silver

I have to make sure that I make good choices and that if I put my name on it, it's a high-quality endeavor and that I have time to be a human being.

~Nate Silver

I actually buy the paper version of The New York Times maybe once or twice a week.

~Nate Silver

Every four years in the presidential election, some new precedent is broken.

~Nate Silver

Caesar recognized the omens, but he didn't believe they applied to him.

I think a lot of journal articles should really be blogs.

~Nate Silver

It's a little strange to become a kind of symbol of a whole type of analysis.

~Nate Silver

A lot of the time nothing happens in a day.

~Nate Silver

The problem is that when polls are wrong, they tend to be wrong in the same direction. If they miss in New Hampshire, for instance, they all miss on the same mistake.

~Nate Silver

I've just always been a bit of a dork.

~Nate Silver

Remember, the Congress doesn't get as many opportunities to make an impression with the public.

~Nate Silver

You don't want to treat any one person as oracular.

~Nate Silver

I view my role now as providing more of a macro-level skepticism, rather than saying this poll is good or this poll is evil.

~Nate Silver

I love South American food, and I haven't really been down there. I really need a vacation.

~Nate Silver

I have the same friends and the same bad habits.

~Nate Silver

To be a very, very minor, eighth-tier celebrity, you realize, 'Hey, celebrities are just like us.'

~Nate Silver

You don't want to influence the same system you are trying to forecast.

~Nate Silver

In politics people build whole reputations off of getting one thing right.

~Nate Silver

First of all, I think it's odd that people who cover politics wouldn't have any political views.

~Nate Silver

Accountability doesn't mean apologizing.

~Nate Silver

To the extent that you can find ways where you're making predictions, there's no substitute for testing yourself on real-world situations that you don't know the answer to in advance.

~Nate Silver

The key to making a good forecast is not in limiting yourself to quantitative information.

~Nate Silver

If you're keeping yourself in the bubble and only looking at your own data or only watching the TV that fits your agenda then it gets boring.

~Nate Silver

People attach too much importance to intangibles like heart, desire and clutch hitting.

~Nate Silver

I know it's cheaper to fund an op-ed columnist than a team of reporters, but I think it confuses the mission of what these great journalistic brands are about.

~Nate Silver

Not only does political coverage often lose the signalâ€"it frequently accentuates the noise.

~Nate Silver

I think people feel like there are all these things in our lives that we don't really have control over.

~Nate Silver

If I had a spreadsheet on my computer, it looked like I was busy.

~Nate Silver

I have to think about how to not spread myself too thin. It's a really great problem to have.

~Nate Silver

I guess I don't like the people in politics very much, to be blunt.

~Nate Silver

I don't think you should limit what you read.

~Nate Silver

A lot of things can't be modeled very well.

~Nate Silver

When a possibility is unfamiliar to us, we do not even think about it.

A lot of news is just entertainment masquerading as news.

~Nate Silver

People gravitate toward information that implies a happier outlook for them.

~Nate Silver

We speak for them. We imbue them with meaning.

~Nate Silver

Economy is not baseball, where the game is always played by the same rules.

~Nate Silver

By playing games you can artificially speed up your learning curve to develop the right kind of thought processes.

~Nate Silver

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