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Who had the worst week in Washington? Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.).

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‘The truth is not for all men,’ Ayn Rand said, “but only for those who seek it.”

Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.), a devotee of the famed philosopher of self-interest, had a tough time with the truth this past week.

First, [MSNBC’s Rachel Maddow](#) showed that a speech Paul gave supporting Ken Cuccinelli’s Virginia gubernatorial campaign contained lines cribbed from a Wikipedia entry on the film “Gattaca.” Then [BuzzFeed](#) and [Politico](#) got in on the act, noting that Paul had taken chunks of text from publications by the Heritage Foundation and the Cato Institute , among other sources.

Paul, who is widely expected to compete in the 2016 presidential primaries, initially responded with umbrage: He said he wished dueling was legal in Kentucky so he could challenge those accusing him of plagiarism to a face-off.

Then came a not-quite mea culpa: “Senator Paul also relies on a large number of staff and advisers to provide supporting facts and anecdotes — some of which were not clearly sourced or vetted properly,” senior adviser Doug Stafford said in a statement Tuesday.

Then came some more umbrage. “To tell you the truth, people can think what they want, I can go back to being a doctor anytime, if they’re tired of me,” Paul [told the New York Times](#). “I’ll go back to being a doctor, and I’ll be perfectly content.” Very presidential of him.

But Paul wasn’t done. At a Senate hearing Wednesday, while talking about ads meant to draw tourists back to areas hit by Hurricane Sandy, he worked in a shot at New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie (R), who had swept to reelection less than 24 hours earlier. “In New Jersey, \$25 million was spent on ads that included somebody running for political office,” Paul said. “I’m thinking there might be a conflict of interest there.”

Rand Paul, for looking like a copycat when people like their presidential candidates to be original, you had the worst week in Washington. Congrats, or something.