

1
00:00:20,710 --> 00:00:27,410
hello and welcome to the skeptic zone

2
00:00:23,750 --> 00:00:31,550
episode number 58 for the 27th of

3
00:00:27,410 --> 00:00:34,128
November 2009 Richard Saunders here once

4
00:00:31,550 --> 00:00:35,808
again from Sydney Australia now to all

5
00:00:34,128 --> 00:00:38,210
those people wondering where Stefan's

6
00:00:35,808 --> 00:00:40,669
been lately Stefan's not been very well

7
00:00:38,210 --> 00:00:42,500
he tells me he's getting much better and

8
00:00:40,670 --> 00:00:45,408
I think he should be on the show next

9
00:00:42,500 --> 00:00:47,750
week get better soon Stefan after

10
00:00:45,408 --> 00:00:50,238
skeptic zone team this week are jumping

11
00:00:47,750 --> 00:00:52,250
on planes and heading up to Brisbane for

12
00:00:50,238 --> 00:00:54,709
the Australian skeptics National

13
00:00:52,250 --> 00:00:56,359
Convention so look out in the coming

14
00:00:54,710 --> 00:00:58,698
weeks there'll be lots of reports and

15
00:00:56,359 --> 00:01:00,170
interviews from this convention and if

16
00:00:58,698 --> 00:01:04,069
you're in Brisbane this weekend the

17
00:01:00,170 --> 00:01:07,519
weekend of the 28 and 29th come and say

18
00:01:04,069 --> 00:01:09,889
hello now to this week's episode dr.

19
00:01:07,519 --> 00:01:12,349
rachy and myself go off to the offices

20
00:01:09,890 --> 00:01:14,780
of choice magazine the consumer affairs

21
00:01:12,349 --> 00:01:17,269
magazine here in Australia and speak to

22
00:01:14,780 --> 00:01:19,759
christopher's in a fascinating interview

23
00:01:17,269 --> 00:01:21,500
we're big fans of choice say they're the

24
00:01:19,759 --> 00:01:24,409
sort of people who test things and look

25
00:01:21,500 --> 00:01:26,719
at things much like the skeptics that's

26
00:01:24,409 --> 00:01:29,450
followed by a short interview with James

27
00:01:26,719 --> 00:01:31,908
Randi conducted over ten years ago by

28
00:01:29,450 --> 00:01:33,650
our good friend Paul Willis now I've

29

00:01:31,909 --> 00:01:36,100
chosen this interviewer although it's a

30
00:01:33,650 --> 00:01:39,439
bit old because Randy discusses

31
00:01:36,099 --> 00:01:41,868
facilitated communication and this has

32
00:01:39,438 --> 00:01:44,989
been in the news lately and after that

33
00:01:41,868 --> 00:01:49,549
we have the think tank so sit back have

34
00:01:44,989 --> 00:01:52,658
a nice hmm chocolate sundae and enjoy

35
00:01:49,549 --> 00:01:52,659
the skeptic zone

36
00:02:06,239 --> 00:02:13,750
the consumers champion independent and

37
00:02:09,878 --> 00:02:16,959
transparent choice ensures the consumer

38
00:02:13,750 --> 00:02:18,909
voice is heard loudly and clearly choice

39
00:02:16,959 --> 00:02:20,469
empowers customers to get the most out

40
00:02:18,909 --> 00:02:23,609
of their purchasing decisions by

41
00:02:20,469 --> 00:02:25,930
providing a mix of advocacy and advice

42
00:02:23,610 --> 00:02:28,120
dr. ray Jay and I headed down to

43
00:02:25,930 --> 00:02:31,180

marrickville here in Sydney and we spoke

44

00:02:28,120 --> 00:02:37,360

to christopher's in media spokesman for

45

00:02:31,180 --> 00:02:39,189

choice choice magazine and we're

46

00:02:37,360 --> 00:02:40,810

speaking with Christophersen now the

47

00:02:39,189 --> 00:02:43,030

media spokesman for choice magazine

48

00:02:40,810 --> 00:02:44,860

Christopher how long first of all how

49

00:02:43,030 --> 00:02:46,689

long has choice magazine been going on

50

00:02:44,860 --> 00:02:50,049

it's 50 years we're just coming up to

51

00:02:46,689 --> 00:02:52,900

the celebration so really it was born as

52

00:02:50,049 --> 00:02:55,239

were consumer groups in the UK in the

53

00:02:52,900 --> 00:02:57,789

u.s. about the same time late 50s early

54

00:02:55,239 --> 00:02:59,230

60s when a lot more consumer products

55

00:02:57,789 --> 00:03:01,810

were coming on the market people had to

56

00:02:59,229 --> 00:03:03,848

side so what's a toaster or kitchen

57

00:03:01,810 --> 00:03:05,590

mixer should i get there were big issues

58
00:03:03,848 --> 00:03:08,108
then with product safety people actually

59
00:03:05,590 --> 00:03:10,030
being burned cut and killed in things so

60
00:03:08,109 --> 00:03:12,340
it was that kind of drive that got going

61
00:03:10,030 --> 00:03:14,500
and it's after 50 years of checking out

62
00:03:12,340 --> 00:03:17,920
this gear now I think we're all looking

63
00:03:14,500 --> 00:03:19,900
ahead how do we in this uncertain future

64
00:03:17,919 --> 00:03:21,608
in terms of the environmentally economy

65
00:03:19,900 --> 00:03:24,129
what's the role for consumer groups and

66
00:03:21,609 --> 00:03:26,650
does that mean that there has been a

67
00:03:24,129 --> 00:03:28,989
journal for that long or just a group no

68
00:03:26,650 --> 00:03:31,150
no the magazine its magazine itself yeah

69
00:03:28,989 --> 00:03:33,099
so has been monthly and it's we're not

70
00:03:31,150 --> 00:03:35,620
for profit so it's really people who

71
00:03:33,098 --> 00:03:38,828
subscribed signed up on the dotted line

72
00:03:35,620 --> 00:03:40,450
joined up that that that funds all of

73
00:03:38,829 --> 00:03:42,280
the research that we do so we don't get

74
00:03:40,449 --> 00:03:44,168
a Zach from the government or from

75
00:03:42,280 --> 00:03:46,060
advertisers it really is just from

76
00:03:44,169 --> 00:03:47,889
people who want to be a part of it

77
00:03:46,060 --> 00:03:49,840
because they get a benefit in terms of

78
00:03:47,889 --> 00:03:52,930
knowing what's good and what's not good

79
00:03:49,840 --> 00:03:55,500
but also keen to fund our advocacy and

80
00:03:52,930 --> 00:03:58,269
campaigns areas in terms of pushing for

81
00:03:55,500 --> 00:04:00,519
justice and transparency in various

82
00:03:58,269 --> 00:04:02,859
different arenas and you do have

83
00:04:00,519 --> 00:04:04,359
archives going back that far the first

84
00:04:02,859 --> 00:04:05,709
issue is still available yeah oh look we

85
00:04:04,359 --> 00:04:09,280
still have the first issue and I think

86

00:04:05,709 --> 00:04:10,180
they were testing tobacco and 22 bullets

87
00:04:09,280 --> 00:04:12,549
in those days

88
00:04:10,180 --> 00:04:14,170
it's amazing when you look back at what

89
00:04:12,549 --> 00:04:18,038
will consider consumer items you can't

90
00:04:14,169 --> 00:04:19,779
actually hardly by now but yes it's I

91
00:04:18,038 --> 00:04:20,699
think was low tar tobacco so they're

92
00:04:19,779 --> 00:04:22,869
trying to see if there's been any

93
00:04:20,699 --> 00:04:24,490
appreciable difference between the two

94
00:04:22,870 --> 00:04:28,329
sorts I don't think we've ever endorsed

95
00:04:24,490 --> 00:04:30,490
a cigarette smoking right right so

96
00:04:28,329 --> 00:04:32,050
Christopher you are the face the public

97
00:04:30,490 --> 00:04:34,689
face I guess of the Australian Consumer

98
00:04:32,050 --> 00:04:37,629
Commission and at the moment you've got

99
00:04:34,689 --> 00:04:39,279
over 200,000 subscribers how has that

100
00:04:37,629 --> 00:04:40,930

changed over that time have you found

101

00:04:39,279 --> 00:04:42,728

there's been periods where more people

102

00:04:40,930 --> 00:04:46,840

have subscribed because of some

103

00:04:42,728 --> 00:04:48,430

particular sort of consumer trend year

104

00:04:46,839 --> 00:04:51,448

linking yeah it grow and it's the

105

00:04:48,430 --> 00:04:55,300

Australian Consumer Association it grew

106

00:04:51,449 --> 00:04:56,520

up until about the 70s to about 200,000

107

00:04:55,300 --> 00:04:58,900

and then it sort of gone up and down

108

00:04:56,519 --> 00:05:00,159

there but often it can actually be we

109

00:04:58,899 --> 00:05:02,049

found you know the global financial

110

00:05:00,160 --> 00:05:03,849

crisis actually there's a bit of a

111

00:05:02,050 --> 00:05:06,848

flight to value people that she wanted

112

00:05:03,848 --> 00:05:08,620

to get more value for their spending so

113

00:05:06,848 --> 00:05:11,800

they were prepared to say look I can

114

00:05:08,620 --> 00:05:13,240

join up 80 bucks a year but it will

115
00:05:11,800 --> 00:05:15,098
actually help save me money and I think

116
00:05:13,240 --> 00:05:17,319
that's always been one of our I say

117
00:05:15,098 --> 00:05:18,969
selling points we're not for profit but

118
00:05:17,319 --> 00:05:21,149
if you actually engage with that and

119
00:05:18,970 --> 00:05:24,310
found out about private health and

120
00:05:21,149 --> 00:05:25,569
insurance and and super and all these

121
00:05:24,310 --> 00:05:27,129
other things you would actually save

122
00:05:25,569 --> 00:05:30,370
yourself money because you'd find out

123
00:05:27,129 --> 00:05:33,189
there are more efficient ways to face

124
00:05:30,370 --> 00:05:35,019
these very complicated products and

125
00:05:33,189 --> 00:05:36,370
services we now have to engage with well

126
00:05:35,019 --> 00:05:38,228
can we talk about some of the products

127
00:05:36,370 --> 00:05:39,879
and services that you do test you

128
00:05:38,228 --> 00:05:42,279
mentioned just then health care which

129
00:05:39,879 --> 00:05:44,288
private health insurance anyone all over

130
00:05:42,279 --> 00:05:46,089
the world would know that the plans are

131
00:05:44,288 --> 00:05:47,348
always very complicated but one of the

132
00:05:46,089 --> 00:05:50,319
other things you also test which is

133
00:05:47,348 --> 00:05:51,550
complicated is mobile phone plans can

134
00:05:50,319 --> 00:05:53,288
you tell us about some of the other

135
00:05:51,550 --> 00:05:55,300
products that you do test I just have to

136
00:05:53,288 --> 00:05:56,978
say about mobile phone plans that's what

137
00:05:55,300 --> 00:06:00,550
they're known as what's called a confuse

138
00:05:56,978 --> 00:06:02,379
opoly and they're so confusing and

139
00:06:00,550 --> 00:06:03,970
deliberately confusing that nobody can

140
00:06:02,379 --> 00:06:05,680
compare like with like and you know

141
00:06:03,970 --> 00:06:08,229
we've got fantastic boffins here with

142
00:06:05,680 --> 00:06:11,110
clipboards and spray cheese they used it

143

00:06:08,228 --> 00:06:12,699
comparing you know Mongolian yak butter

144
00:06:11,110 --> 00:06:14,590
with something from Mexico but they

145
00:06:12,699 --> 00:06:16,960
can't compare mobile phone plans because

146
00:06:14,589 --> 00:06:18,668
there's too many variables and the

147
00:06:16,959 --> 00:06:20,949
computing power of the universe isn't up

148
00:06:18,668 --> 00:06:22,620
to it you know that's something we're

149
00:06:20,949 --> 00:06:24,389
always simplicity and I'm sure

150
00:06:22,620 --> 00:06:26,310
no that's a value that scientists

151
00:06:24,389 --> 00:06:28,350
generally embrace and that's one we're

152
00:06:26,310 --> 00:06:30,959
really pushing for simplicity and

153
00:06:28,350 --> 00:06:32,729
products in in approach and description

154
00:06:30,959 --> 00:06:34,948
if we get simplicity in terms of the way

155
00:06:32,728 --> 00:06:37,259
that these things are sold a lot of the

156
00:06:34,949 --> 00:06:39,689
bull falls off them because you know

157
00:06:37,259 --> 00:06:43,050

it's when you get complexity that's when

158

00:06:39,689 --> 00:06:44,910

the the trickiness and the deceptiveness

159

00:06:43,050 --> 00:06:48,210

and a sleight-of-hand you know can slip

160

00:06:44,910 --> 00:06:50,639

in there unseen we we know exactly what

161

00:06:48,209 --> 00:06:53,519

you mean because and we might discuss

162

00:06:50,639 --> 00:06:55,168

this just briefly we regularly go as our

163

00:06:53,519 --> 00:06:57,029

listeners know we'll know we regularly

164

00:06:55,168 --> 00:06:59,370

go to the mind-body-spirit festivals and

165

00:06:57,029 --> 00:07:01,409

Sydney of mind-body wallet as we call

166

00:06:59,370 --> 00:07:04,139

them and this very point about keeping

167

00:07:01,410 --> 00:07:09,500

it simple we challenge some people there

168

00:07:04,139 --> 00:07:11,699

to try for our \$100,000 prize we have

169

00:07:09,500 --> 00:07:14,279

proof of the paranormal or supernatural

170

00:07:11,699 --> 00:07:16,110

strange things and their complaint to us

171

00:07:14,279 --> 00:07:18,448

was we can't take your test because it's

172
00:07:16,110 --> 00:07:20,759
too simple they wanted to make it as

173
00:07:18,449 --> 00:07:22,410
complicated as they possibly could but

174
00:07:20,759 --> 00:07:24,810
that's that's that is the scientific

175
00:07:22,410 --> 00:07:26,580
outlook I think keeping it simple it is

176
00:07:24,810 --> 00:07:29,160
and as we know that you know the world

177
00:07:26,579 --> 00:07:31,259
is incredibly complicated but part of

178
00:07:29,160 --> 00:07:32,729
most explanations you know there is

179
00:07:31,259 --> 00:07:34,800
something as a gem of something very

180
00:07:32,728 --> 00:07:37,620
simple it's always fairly hard to find

181
00:07:34,800 --> 00:07:40,860
that and but you know that's part of our

182
00:07:37,620 --> 00:07:42,780
challenge anyway and yours as yours so

183
00:07:40,860 --> 00:07:44,729
you have a team here Christopher that

184
00:07:42,779 --> 00:07:46,829
does all the testing and can you tell us

185
00:07:44,728 --> 00:07:48,839
a little bit about the process whereby

186
00:07:46,829 --> 00:07:50,490
you would find a product and then how

187
00:07:48,839 --> 00:07:52,348
you go about testing whether it's any

188
00:07:50,490 --> 00:07:54,478
good there's about a hundred people who

189
00:07:52,348 --> 00:07:56,430
work a choice so there are people who do

190
00:07:54,478 --> 00:07:58,109
market research see what's new in the

191
00:07:56,430 --> 00:08:00,598
market what's worth looking at there are

192
00:07:58,110 --> 00:08:02,639
buyers who go out just as ordinary

193
00:08:00,598 --> 00:08:04,199
people you know they pay cash and credit

194
00:08:02,639 --> 00:08:06,598
card we actually buy everything we don't

195
00:08:04,199 --> 00:08:08,490
get any freebies or whatever then they

196
00:08:06,598 --> 00:08:09,959
come back and then in terms of you know

197
00:08:08,490 --> 00:08:12,060
if they'd be fridges or white goods

198
00:08:09,959 --> 00:08:13,649
they're tested by people and we've

199
00:08:12,060 --> 00:08:15,629
developed protocols you know how do you

200

00:08:13,649 --> 00:08:17,038
actually test a fridge well you've

201
00:08:15,629 --> 00:08:19,769
actually got to put it in a thermal

202
00:08:17,038 --> 00:08:22,228
laboratory so you can't control the

203
00:08:19,769 --> 00:08:24,000
ambient temperature around the fridge to

204
00:08:22,228 --> 00:08:25,279
see how well the temperature inside so

205
00:08:24,000 --> 00:08:27,478
some of these tests are actually quite

206
00:08:25,279 --> 00:08:30,468
complicated because you're not just

207
00:08:27,478 --> 00:08:32,819
testing one for it might be testing 20

208
00:08:30,468 --> 00:08:35,759
comparatively alongside each other so

209
00:08:32,820 --> 00:08:36,120
I'd be quite detailed and then again how

210
00:08:35,759 --> 00:08:37,889
do you

211
00:08:36,120 --> 00:08:39,810
test coffee grinder and it's been huge

212
00:08:37,889 --> 00:08:42,088
Grove you're just saying coffee

213
00:08:39,809 --> 00:08:44,689
percolators copy espresso machines

214
00:08:42,089 --> 00:08:47,700

people have in their houses how do you

215

00:08:44,690 --> 00:08:50,070

compare those so we have a standard

216

00:08:47,700 --> 00:08:51,900

coffee machine that's a good one and

217

00:08:50,070 --> 00:08:54,690

that makes the standard good espresso

218

00:08:51,899 --> 00:08:56,759

everything else is measured by a tasting

219

00:08:54,690 --> 00:08:58,290

team around that and then there's way

220

00:08:56,759 --> 00:09:00,419

you grind it the sort of coffee and

221

00:08:58,289 --> 00:09:01,528

another example would be dishwashers how

222

00:09:00,419 --> 00:09:03,838

do you compare the performance of

223

00:09:01,528 --> 00:09:04,740

dishwasher as well scientific method

224

00:09:03,839 --> 00:09:07,290

you've got to make sure that everything

225

00:09:04,740 --> 00:09:09,629

goes in equally dirty so there are

226

00:09:07,289 --> 00:09:12,329

protocols for determining what levels of

227

00:09:09,629 --> 00:09:13,919

grease and an organic waste there are on

228

00:09:12,330 --> 00:09:15,830

the plates what sort of plates they are

229
00:09:13,919 --> 00:09:18,120
so you can measure how clean they are

230
00:09:15,830 --> 00:09:20,310
clothing if you love this we have to how

231
00:09:18,120 --> 00:09:21,810
do you measure washing machines well you

232
00:09:20,309 --> 00:09:24,750
have to make sure all the clothes are

233
00:09:21,809 --> 00:09:28,349
dirty in the same way to the same extent

234
00:09:24,750 --> 00:09:32,278
yeah so you actually get a material to

235
00:09:28,350 --> 00:09:34,769
make it gets material with dirt already

236
00:09:32,278 --> 00:09:36,809
impregnated in it from Europe and then

237
00:09:34,769 --> 00:09:38,970
you can wash it and you use an optical

238
00:09:36,809 --> 00:09:41,549
sensor to determine how white it is to

239
00:09:38,970 --> 00:09:43,500
see how much the dirt's gone out there's

240
00:09:41,549 --> 00:09:44,699
a lot of science in it Wow why does it

241
00:09:43,500 --> 00:09:47,220
come from Europe just out of interest

242
00:09:44,700 --> 00:09:49,110
but well and a dirty air look at

243
00:09:47,220 --> 00:09:50,430
probably armed with much of a market I

244
00:09:49,110 --> 00:09:51,750
know they're probably people listening a

245
00:09:50,429 --> 00:09:54,088
thing could send in their dirty kids

246
00:09:51,750 --> 00:09:55,440
clothes no in terms of there's probably

247
00:09:54,089 --> 00:09:57,510
won't in one place in the world who

248
00:09:55,440 --> 00:10:00,630
makes you know dirty bits of fabric to

249
00:09:57,509 --> 00:10:01,919
be tested in washing machines right so

250
00:10:00,629 --> 00:10:03,899
it's kind of like a standard that you

251
00:10:01,919 --> 00:10:06,028
would use in a scientific test maybe you

252
00:10:03,899 --> 00:10:07,980
would get a protein as a standard and

253
00:10:06,028 --> 00:10:10,409
measure everything besides that it is

254
00:10:07,980 --> 00:10:12,509
what she is finding you know what that

255
00:10:10,409 --> 00:10:15,958
benchmark is it could measure other

256
00:10:12,509 --> 00:10:17,429
things so you mentioned and I actually

257

00:10:15,958 --> 00:10:19,229
know someone who used to work here who

258
00:10:17,429 --> 00:10:21,299
is a scientist you do have scientists on

259
00:10:19,230 --> 00:10:23,250
staff can you tell us a little bit about

260
00:10:21,299 --> 00:10:27,139
the background of some of your testing

261
00:10:23,250 --> 00:10:29,610
people yeah look a sorrow lot of the

262
00:10:27,139 --> 00:10:32,759
CSIRO culture runs through the veins of

263
00:10:29,610 --> 00:10:35,039
this place you know in terms of that

264
00:10:32,759 --> 00:10:37,860
sense of service and dedication and

265
00:10:35,039 --> 00:10:40,528
inquiry and in fact curiosity is one of

266
00:10:37,860 --> 00:10:42,060
our you know brand values if you like so

267
00:10:40,528 --> 00:10:44,820
that is something that's really pushed

268
00:10:42,059 --> 00:10:47,759
curiosity and inquisitiveness and that

269
00:10:44,820 --> 00:10:48,278
we have scientists as say across a realm

270
00:10:47,759 --> 00:10:49,659
through

271
00:10:48,278 --> 00:10:52,088

I think would be an important area

272

00:10:49,659 --> 00:10:56,169

that's something people very engaged and

273

00:10:52,089 --> 00:10:58,660

interested in additives to food food

274

00:10:56,169 --> 00:11:00,849

wrappings and the effect what's in food

275

00:10:58,659 --> 00:11:02,860

how do you measure you know so we've got

276

00:11:00,850 --> 00:11:04,600

to come up with one test we did recently

277

00:11:02,860 --> 00:11:07,860

was you know how much added water is

278

00:11:04,600 --> 00:11:11,439

there in sliced ham from the supermarket

279

00:11:07,860 --> 00:11:14,139

well you know ham well all living things

280

00:11:11,438 --> 00:11:15,698

have walked in them anyway pam has water

281

00:11:14,139 --> 00:11:18,068

added to it as part of the curing

282

00:11:15,698 --> 00:11:20,889

process but how do you work out you know

283

00:11:18,068 --> 00:11:22,360

what is the added added water and that

284

00:11:20,889 --> 00:11:25,930

says you've quite complicated so we have

285

00:11:22,360 --> 00:11:27,610

to devise a lot of these tests to really

286
00:11:25,929 --> 00:11:30,419
work out how to do it another one was

287
00:11:27,610 --> 00:11:34,870
was phthalates which is a plasticizer

288
00:11:30,419 --> 00:11:37,349
used in the seals inside the metal tops

289
00:11:34,870 --> 00:11:39,610
on glass jars you know fairly innocuous

290
00:11:37,350 --> 00:11:42,100
sort of thing you'd think but in fact

291
00:11:39,610 --> 00:11:44,350
these can migrate into oily foods and

292
00:11:42,100 --> 00:11:47,019
it's how you find a test for that so you

293
00:11:44,350 --> 00:11:49,569
can compare them actually that's one of

294
00:11:47,019 --> 00:11:50,948
the anti-vaxxers pet hates at the moment

295
00:11:49,568 --> 00:11:53,318
is they're saying that's a lights are bad

296
00:11:50,948 --> 00:11:55,808
for children so you shouldn't heat up

297
00:11:53,318 --> 00:11:57,278
your bottle in the microwave because

298
00:11:55,808 --> 00:11:59,379
that allows that process to happen

299
00:11:57,278 --> 00:12:01,778
apparently I don't think they've done

300
00:11:59,379 --> 00:12:04,449
any research yes look at sea edit gain

301
00:12:01,778 --> 00:12:07,360
you know there's this look there's

302
00:12:04,448 --> 00:12:09,068
endocrine disruptors that and look again

303
00:12:07,360 --> 00:12:11,379
there are these areas where it's very

304
00:12:09,068 --> 00:12:13,269
marginal but I'm sure we'll find it with

305
00:12:11,379 --> 00:12:15,188
mobile phones and brain tumors you know

306
00:12:13,269 --> 00:12:16,990
suddenly there's the breakthrough

307
00:12:15,188 --> 00:12:21,818
research and that's another thing we do

308
00:12:16,990 --> 00:12:23,709
a lot is review the mainstream journals

309
00:12:21,818 --> 00:12:24,958
you know the proper hard science and

310
00:12:23,708 --> 00:12:27,938
we've had some good old ding-dongs

311
00:12:24,958 --> 00:12:29,349
people into the you know some people in

312
00:12:27,938 --> 00:12:31,149
the organic movement we're not against

313
00:12:29,350 --> 00:12:32,920
organic food organic foods fine but some

314

00:12:31,149 --> 00:12:34,899
of the claims made for organic food we

315
00:12:32,919 --> 00:12:37,958
do take issue with some of the claims

316
00:12:34,899 --> 00:12:39,669
made about various berries and juices

317
00:12:37,958 --> 00:12:41,289
who produces we had a good guy like

318
00:12:39,669 --> 00:12:43,479
those you know the levels of

319
00:12:41,289 --> 00:12:44,919
antioxidants but you know people say

320
00:12:43,480 --> 00:12:46,839
well then you know they send all these

321
00:12:44,919 --> 00:12:48,789
references to all these papers and all

322
00:12:46,839 --> 00:12:51,339
this research but we really have to say

323
00:12:48,789 --> 00:12:53,948
will you know what we actually stick

324
00:12:51,339 --> 00:12:57,550
with the mainstream science and that's

325
00:12:53,948 --> 00:12:59,198
that is our benchmark so actually on

326
00:12:57,549 --> 00:13:00,818
organic food on your website at the

327
00:12:59,198 --> 00:13:01,870
moment there's a poll where people can

328
00:13:00,818 --> 00:13:03,549

vote as to

329

00:13:01,870 --> 00:13:06,250

they can tell the difference between

330

00:13:03,549 --> 00:13:07,629

organic meat and whether they think

331

00:13:06,250 --> 00:13:09,220

whether they just buy it because it

332

00:13:07,629 --> 00:13:11,049

makes them feel warm and fuzzy or

333

00:13:09,220 --> 00:13:13,570

whether they actually can't tell the

334

00:13:11,049 --> 00:13:16,419

difference so people can maybe head to a

335

00:13:13,570 --> 00:13:19,180

choice apalsa looked at it recent ah

336

00:13:16,419 --> 00:13:22,269

well last night I think it said most

337

00:13:19,179 --> 00:13:24,489

people couldn't tell the difference the

338

00:13:22,269 --> 00:13:25,899

next highest votes was for people bought

339

00:13:24,490 --> 00:13:27,370

it because it makes the warm and fuzzy

340

00:13:25,899 --> 00:13:29,889

and the lowest was they can tell the

341

00:13:27,370 --> 00:13:31,629

difference well it's interesting

342

00:13:29,889 --> 00:13:33,069

actually because people will say they

343
00:13:31,629 --> 00:13:34,720
can tell the difference but really the

344
00:13:33,070 --> 00:13:37,390
only thing that counts is you know what

345
00:13:34,720 --> 00:13:40,028
happens in terms of blind taste testing

346
00:13:37,389 --> 00:13:41,080
and we haven't done all of these but

347
00:13:40,028 --> 00:13:42,850
we've done a number in terms of

348
00:13:41,080 --> 00:13:45,220
free-range eggs in terms of you know

349
00:13:42,850 --> 00:13:47,230
free range chicken breasts people

350
00:13:45,220 --> 00:13:49,960
actually can't tell the difference of

351
00:13:47,230 --> 00:13:52,330
the ever and we pride ourselves that we

352
00:13:49,960 --> 00:13:53,980
can but actually ultimately no unless

353
00:13:52,330 --> 00:13:56,620
we've got very sophisticated palate

354
00:13:53,980 --> 00:13:58,570
really know what to look out for it is

355
00:13:56,620 --> 00:14:00,850
very difficult yeah it's just that those

356
00:13:58,570 --> 00:14:03,430
products are very much more expensive in

357
00:14:00,850 --> 00:14:05,500
general aren't they well they are and

358
00:14:03,429 --> 00:14:07,929
not all organic ones are so much more

359
00:14:05,500 --> 00:14:09,190
but many of them can be and that's the

360
00:14:07,929 --> 00:14:11,259
difference and I suppose it's the

361
00:14:09,190 --> 00:14:13,450
argument you know people who don't have

362
00:14:11,259 --> 00:14:15,338
that much do you just give one small

363
00:14:13,450 --> 00:14:17,350
organic apple to the kids or do you give

364
00:14:15,339 --> 00:14:19,000
them a whole range of conventional

365
00:14:17,350 --> 00:14:20,320
provement of where does the real benefit

366
00:14:19,000 --> 00:14:22,958
line and those are kind of some of the

367
00:14:20,320 --> 00:14:26,339
questions we try to answer one of the

368
00:14:22,958 --> 00:14:28,088
campaigns that you one of the things you

369
00:14:26,339 --> 00:14:29,500
investigated recently which I was

370
00:14:28,089 --> 00:14:32,200
particularly interested in was the

371

00:14:29,500 --> 00:14:34,089
pharmacy diets these are the weight loss

372
00:14:32,200 --> 00:14:36,670
diets that you can buy in a pharmacy and

373
00:14:34,089 --> 00:14:39,610
you got quite a lot of coverage in the

374
00:14:36,669 --> 00:14:42,610
media for that basically you slammed

375
00:14:39,610 --> 00:14:45,339
them in most cases you said that they

376
00:14:42,610 --> 00:14:47,709
nutritionally failed just about on all

377
00:14:45,339 --> 00:14:50,110
counts except for one particular one and

378
00:14:47,708 --> 00:14:52,659
you also criticized them mostly for

379
00:14:50,110 --> 00:14:54,250
their upsell so they would say you you

380
00:14:52,659 --> 00:14:56,949
might need more nutrients and we happen

381
00:14:54,250 --> 00:14:58,330
to have them here which you can buy so

382
00:14:56,950 --> 00:15:00,160
can you tell us a little bit about that

383
00:14:58,330 --> 00:15:02,740
and I'm also interested in the response

384
00:15:00,159 --> 00:15:05,588
that you received and whether anything's

385
00:15:02,740 --> 00:15:07,389

changed in terms of pharmacies now have

386

00:15:05,589 --> 00:15:09,730

they removed them or modified their

387

00:15:07,389 --> 00:15:11,740

practices it would these are mainly meal

388

00:15:09,730 --> 00:15:13,690

replacements so you know typically

389

00:15:11,740 --> 00:15:15,519

people have seen TV ads or

390

00:15:13,690 --> 00:15:17,620

of sale material we can help you lose

391

00:15:15,519 --> 00:15:19,509

weight and then they're introduced the

392

00:15:17,620 --> 00:15:21,100

consultants at the pharmacy who will

393

00:15:19,509 --> 00:15:23,019

develop a plan for them and then they

394

00:15:21,100 --> 00:15:25,090

buy the meal replacements which is for

395

00:15:23,019 --> 00:15:27,460

milkshakes often or some sort of

396

00:15:25,090 --> 00:15:29,350

powdered soup and then of course yes you

397

00:15:27,460 --> 00:15:31,810

mentioned there's the upsell of you know

398

00:15:29,350 --> 00:15:35,409

you might need some more bitumens with a

399

00:15:31,809 --> 00:15:38,079

few more nutrients or some more salts or

400
00:15:35,409 --> 00:15:39,699
whatever it is look we said it what we

401
00:15:38,080 --> 00:15:41,800
call shadow shoppers which is sort of

402
00:15:39,700 --> 00:15:43,570
undercover people just to go as a normal

403
00:15:41,799 --> 00:15:45,539
consumer would be to see what they found

404
00:15:43,570 --> 00:15:47,650
and then we also had a panel of

405
00:15:45,539 --> 00:15:49,599
nutritionists and people who really knew

406
00:15:47,649 --> 00:15:52,449
to actually look at the contents of this

407
00:15:49,600 --> 00:15:55,029
to see what they would do and yeah our

408
00:15:52,450 --> 00:15:56,710
concerns were twofold one that often

409
00:15:55,029 --> 00:16:00,279
nutritionally these things are really

410
00:15:56,710 --> 00:16:04,269
lacking but also the lack of training in

411
00:16:00,279 --> 00:16:06,279
terms of the so-called experts on the

412
00:16:04,269 --> 00:16:08,889
scene who really were just sales the

413
00:16:06,279 --> 00:16:11,350
system's rebranded as some sort of

414
00:16:08,889 --> 00:16:14,439
expertise and as we all know issues of

415
00:16:11,350 --> 00:16:16,300
weight loss are multifactorial and you

416
00:16:14,440 --> 00:16:17,980
might get someone to lose weight in one

417
00:16:16,299 --> 00:16:20,259
particular program but it's an issue of

418
00:16:17,980 --> 00:16:21,519
what happens over time and that's where

419
00:16:20,259 --> 00:16:24,730
we felt that these things were really

420
00:16:21,519 --> 00:16:26,350
lacking and the real underlying point

421
00:16:24,730 --> 00:16:29,500
here is the question of trust you know

422
00:16:26,350 --> 00:16:32,800
pharmacists you know set themselves up

423
00:16:29,500 --> 00:16:35,500
and are many cases highly trusted in

424
00:16:32,799 --> 00:16:37,179
fact all that the surveys of trust /

425
00:16:35,500 --> 00:16:40,740
pharmacists right at the top they are

426
00:16:37,179 --> 00:16:43,089
trusted and we felt that this was

427
00:16:40,740 --> 00:16:46,019
something that actually would Road

428

00:16:43,090 --> 00:16:49,300
consumers trust in them if they knew

429
00:16:46,019 --> 00:16:51,129
really what was going on so has there

430
00:16:49,299 --> 00:16:53,740
been changed I suppose there's been a

431
00:16:51,129 --> 00:16:55,570
lack of confidence in the product so

432
00:16:53,740 --> 00:16:57,610
that must have hurt some of them some of

433
00:16:55,570 --> 00:17:00,129
the providers of these things you know

434
00:16:57,610 --> 00:17:02,379
went kicking and screaming and we always

435
00:17:00,129 --> 00:17:04,900
get long letters full of references to

436
00:17:02,379 --> 00:17:07,240
this that and the other but okay that's

437
00:17:04,900 --> 00:17:09,790
2x yeah yeah well duh put our people

438
00:17:07,240 --> 00:17:12,189
here are fantastic because they can send

439
00:17:09,789 --> 00:17:14,379
back longer lessons but not references

440
00:17:12,189 --> 00:17:16,209
with more Royal Colleges in him and

441
00:17:14,380 --> 00:17:19,510
actually often we that's it we never

442
00:17:16,209 --> 00:17:21,670

hear tickety-boo from them again so as

443

00:17:19,509 --> 00:17:24,009

far as a bit I don't think there's any

444

00:17:21,670 --> 00:17:25,340

regular tree changes or moves flowing

445

00:17:24,009 --> 00:17:28,599

from this which can sometime

446

00:17:25,339 --> 00:17:30,919

follow as a result of our inquiries but

447

00:17:28,599 --> 00:17:33,799

certainly I think they've pulled their

448

00:17:30,920 --> 00:17:36,200

heads in a bed and while this was a

449

00:17:33,799 --> 00:17:39,079

profitable area I think they'd probably

450

00:17:36,200 --> 00:17:40,580

face a few more questions yeah yeah I'll

451

00:17:39,079 --> 00:17:42,710

just show you this quickly I don't know

452

00:17:40,579 --> 00:17:45,079

if you wimps this before that we sent

453

00:17:42,710 --> 00:17:47,180

that out earlier in the year and we

454

00:17:45,079 --> 00:17:49,129

published it in our magazine the skeptic

455

00:17:47,180 --> 00:17:51,529

it's an open letter to the pharmacist of

456

00:17:49,130 --> 00:17:53,900

Australia basically saying look there's

457
00:17:51,529 --> 00:17:55,849
an awful lot of dodgy stuff in your

458
00:17:53,900 --> 00:17:57,950
pharmacist now especially these devices

459
00:17:55,849 --> 00:18:01,129
i hope the ear candles yes here I've

460
00:17:57,950 --> 00:18:02,720
seen them as well which and that this

461
00:18:01,130 --> 00:18:05,210
other brochure I have right here which

462
00:18:02,720 --> 00:18:07,910
is directly out of pharmacy most

463
00:18:05,210 --> 00:18:10,009
pharmacies now that we check out

464
00:18:07,910 --> 00:18:13,880
ourselves we'll sell these ear candles

465
00:18:10,009 --> 00:18:15,799
and it's staggering because even when

466
00:18:13,880 --> 00:18:17,930
questioned the people in the pharmacy

467
00:18:15,799 --> 00:18:20,299
themselves either don't know or will

468
00:18:17,930 --> 00:18:21,860
recommend them or in some cases they'll

469
00:18:20,299 --> 00:18:23,059
say we know that they're no good we

470
00:18:21,859 --> 00:18:24,829
wouldn't recommend them but they sell

471
00:18:23,059 --> 00:18:27,019
really well so what are we going to do

472
00:18:24,829 --> 00:18:28,759
about it yeah and there have been some

473
00:18:27,019 --> 00:18:30,500
fairly mainstream warnings about these

474
00:18:28,759 --> 00:18:35,119
things you do I think you know you know

475
00:18:30,500 --> 00:18:36,829
the authorities so yeah look it's it's

476
00:18:35,119 --> 00:18:38,839
an interesting one pharmacist because

477
00:18:36,829 --> 00:18:40,369
they enjoy a certain level of protection

478
00:18:38,839 --> 00:18:43,759
you know that they can keep out

479
00:18:40,369 --> 00:18:45,439
competition so they have for that they

480
00:18:43,759 --> 00:18:48,440
enjoy protections that other businesses

481
00:18:45,440 --> 00:18:50,720
don't do they enjoy a public standing

482
00:18:48,440 --> 00:18:53,210
that others don't but how much brother

483
00:18:50,720 --> 00:18:55,910
can some elements within them keep

484
00:18:53,210 --> 00:18:59,890
pushing the envelope in hopi ear candles

485

00:18:55,910 --> 00:19:02,390
or shonky diet plan or you know even

486
00:18:59,890 --> 00:19:05,990
things like having a consultant

487
00:19:02,390 --> 00:19:07,970
naturopath people doing iridology of

488
00:19:05,990 --> 00:19:09,769
their pharmacy's a lot of pharmacies

489
00:19:07,970 --> 00:19:11,839
will have this come every week every

490
00:19:09,769 --> 00:19:13,160
second week or whatever and talk to our

491
00:19:11,839 --> 00:19:14,720
euro dollar just these people are

492
00:19:13,160 --> 00:19:17,330
pretending to be doctors I don't know if

493
00:19:14,720 --> 00:19:19,370
you know about iridology itself well I

494
00:19:17,329 --> 00:19:21,740
know that you know something I iridology

495
00:19:19,369 --> 00:19:23,059
says \$13 and people say well that's not

496
00:19:21,740 --> 00:19:24,910
going to do you any harm but of course

497
00:19:23,059 --> 00:19:27,740
then you get less ood in for regular

498
00:19:24,910 --> 00:19:29,810
consultations and goodness knows what

499
00:19:27,740 --> 00:19:31,819

sort of health information will

500

00:19:29,809 --> 00:19:34,159

allegedly be imparted you and what might

501

00:19:31,819 --> 00:19:36,849

distract someone from really seeking a

502

00:19:34,160 --> 00:19:38,370

more professional opinion black to us if

503

00:19:36,849 --> 00:19:41,969

it's a really

504

00:19:38,369 --> 00:19:44,239

sad state of affairs that pharmacies

505

00:19:41,970 --> 00:19:46,950

should go downhill so markedly in our

506

00:19:44,240 --> 00:19:49,200

estimation anyway when you can walk in

507

00:19:46,950 --> 00:19:51,840

and get advice which is akin to which

508

00:19:49,200 --> 00:19:53,160

but I've well look I would just say keep

509

00:19:51,839 --> 00:19:55,079

pushing it we keep pushing the

510

00:19:53,160 --> 00:19:56,700

pharmacist from the commercial angle

511

00:19:55,079 --> 00:19:59,220

yeah but you know it's certainly a good

512

00:19:56,700 --> 00:20:02,250

case in the pharmacy guild are very

513

00:19:59,220 --> 00:20:05,220

powerful you know they should measures

514
00:20:02,250 --> 00:20:08,099
we seek to rein in this kind of behavior

515
00:20:05,220 --> 00:20:10,710
if it seems to be in conflict with what

516
00:20:08,099 --> 00:20:11,909
are their stated aims and ambitions well

517
00:20:10,710 --> 00:20:13,769
that is true they do have a code of

518
00:20:11,910 --> 00:20:15,420
conduct and they code of conduct does

519
00:20:13,769 --> 00:20:17,160
state that they should be selling things

520
00:20:15,420 --> 00:20:20,820
that for which there is evidence base

521
00:20:17,160 --> 00:20:24,058
and for example in this situation where

522
00:20:20,819 --> 00:20:28,769
there's a homeopathy placed next to a

523
00:20:24,058 --> 00:20:30,149
paracetamol for children I'm surely

524
00:20:28,769 --> 00:20:32,220
that's breaching their code of conduct

525
00:20:30,150 --> 00:20:35,040
because as you know homeopathy is

526
00:20:32,220 --> 00:20:37,140
basically water or sugar pills and it

527
00:20:35,039 --> 00:20:41,190
certainly has no efficacy compared to a

528
00:20:37,140 --> 00:20:45,059
paracetamol but to have have no I use

529
00:20:41,190 --> 00:20:48,779
the term again witchcraft next to tested

530
00:20:45,058 --> 00:20:51,029
and tried and true medical things like

531
00:20:48,779 --> 00:20:52,859
paracetamol it's it's outrageous because

532
00:20:51,029 --> 00:20:55,500
the person coming in off the street why

533
00:20:52,859 --> 00:20:57,299
should they know you know they've trust

534
00:20:55,500 --> 00:20:58,589
their pharmacy to that it wasn't good

535
00:20:57,299 --> 00:21:01,109
advice but I've been looking at this

536
00:20:58,589 --> 00:21:04,259
product which says teething relief you

537
00:21:01,109 --> 00:21:06,829
know doesn't say homeopathy brow well

538
00:21:04,259 --> 00:21:09,629
that sounds it's sort of quite akin to a

539
00:21:06,829 --> 00:21:11,250
respectable German pharmacy let's not

540
00:21:09,630 --> 00:21:13,200
exactly decide they are well he was a

541
00:21:11,250 --> 00:21:16,109
family doesn't I don't think homeopathy

542

00:21:13,200 --> 00:21:18,620
on the on that face side facing us now

543
00:21:16,109 --> 00:21:21,299
but it is it's tammie oh yeah they do

544
00:21:18,619 --> 00:21:23,428
well yeah look again we're all about

545
00:21:21,299 --> 00:21:24,928
labeling and things being really clear

546
00:21:23,429 --> 00:21:26,640
so people can you know it's up for

547
00:21:24,929 --> 00:21:29,000
people to choose what they want to do

548
00:21:26,640 --> 00:21:32,550
but that one they need to have you know

549
00:21:29,000 --> 00:21:35,130
maximum amount of clear honest deviation

550
00:21:32,549 --> 00:21:36,359
and you know without seeing the whole of

551
00:21:35,130 --> 00:21:38,910
that it's hard to say but I certainly

552
00:21:36,359 --> 00:21:40,740
wouldn't suggest you know again natural

553
00:21:38,910 --> 00:21:42,600
I mean we to come across this natural

554
00:21:40,740 --> 00:21:45,210
all the time in terms of food you know

555
00:21:42,599 --> 00:21:47,639
oh it's natural or it's fresh or it's

556
00:21:45,210 --> 00:21:49,559

bio this that and the other I mean

557

00:21:47,640 --> 00:21:50,669

they're meaningless terms because anyone

558

00:21:49,559 --> 00:21:53,428

can use them they're really

559

00:21:50,669 --> 00:21:56,070

no yes effective control over them so

560

00:21:53,429 --> 00:21:58,470

you know whenever it says natural nature

561

00:21:56,069 --> 00:22:02,358

that's when you really need to turn on

562

00:21:58,470 --> 00:22:05,159

your x-ray glasses I was just going to

563

00:22:02,358 --> 00:22:07,710

change the subject to something that we

564

00:22:05,159 --> 00:22:09,419

really enjoy which are the sharkies now

565

00:22:07,710 --> 00:22:11,819

what I want to say about the sharpies

566

00:22:09,419 --> 00:22:13,950

which are the equivalent to our bent

567

00:22:11,819 --> 00:22:15,480

spoon is where every year we have the

568

00:22:13,950 --> 00:22:17,340

vent spoon award which we give to the

569

00:22:15,480 --> 00:22:20,608

greatest perpetrator of paranormal or

570

00:22:17,339 --> 00:22:23,069

pseudo scientific piffle you have the

571
00:22:20,608 --> 00:22:26,038
Xiang keys and i must say that they are

572
00:22:23,069 --> 00:22:30,720
very well reported every year a lot of

573
00:22:26,038 --> 00:22:32,908
the the major news networks and the

574
00:22:30,720 --> 00:22:35,308
papers will pick up on the sharkies i

575
00:22:32,909 --> 00:22:36,809
think that's very successful for you it

576
00:22:35,308 --> 00:22:38,339
seems like only yesterday that we were

577
00:22:36,808 --> 00:22:40,829
handing out lemons to companies like

578
00:22:38,339 --> 00:22:43,288
coca-cola Amatil and citibank but

579
00:22:40,829 --> 00:22:44,908
already a year has passed and 2009 has

580
00:22:43,288 --> 00:22:47,368
presented us with a completely new batch

581
00:22:44,909 --> 00:22:48,419
of chunky products and services let's

582
00:22:47,368 --> 00:22:52,589
take a look at some of this year's

583
00:22:48,419 --> 00:22:54,778
winners it probably comes as no surprise

584
00:22:52,589 --> 00:22:56,819
that the cosmetics industry is among the

585
00:22:54,778 --> 00:22:59,128
first in the firing line as it continues

586
00:22:56,819 --> 00:23:00,749
to mislead misinform and misrepresent

587
00:22:59,128 --> 00:23:03,028
the abilities of beauty products to lift

588
00:23:00,749 --> 00:23:06,089
decrease and smooth but the award itself

589
00:23:03,028 --> 00:23:07,329
goes to lauriol why because they're

590
00:23:06,089 --> 00:23:09,490
worth it

591
00:23:07,329 --> 00:23:12,129
they always use soothing language

592
00:23:09,490 --> 00:23:15,430
reassuring language in a seductive leg

593
00:23:12,130 --> 00:23:18,820
flexing leave it in our hands don't pop

594
00:23:15,430 --> 00:23:20,890
your pretty head about this foodstuffs

595
00:23:18,819 --> 00:23:22,649
also showed well this year with shank is

596
00:23:20,890 --> 00:23:24,550
going to liquid stocks made from powder

597
00:23:22,650 --> 00:23:29,080
presumably saving you the trouble of

598
00:23:24,549 --> 00:23:30,819
adding water for yourself and uncle

599

00:23:29,079 --> 00:23:32,529
tobys for trying to pull the wall over

600
00:23:30,819 --> 00:23:35,379
it's customers eyes with some remarkably

601
00:23:32,529 --> 00:23:39,309
deceptive packaging practices not quite

602
00:23:35,380 --> 00:23:43,120
as deep as the old you get more thing

603
00:23:39,309 --> 00:23:44,740
said less Siri close to home travelers

604
00:23:43,119 --> 00:23:46,389
are the ones being stung by Qantas

605
00:23:44,740 --> 00:23:48,430
though the spirit of Australia is by no

606
00:23:46,390 --> 00:23:50,080
means the only airline that's happy to

607
00:23:48,430 --> 00:23:52,029
let credit card companies take the rap

608
00:23:50,079 --> 00:23:54,970
for its own price gouging on surcharges

609
00:23:52,029 --> 00:23:56,980
it is however the worst offender of

610
00:23:54,970 --> 00:23:58,450
course the shonky awards couldn't be

611
00:23:56,980 --> 00:24:00,549
complete without at least one dodgy

612
00:23:58,450 --> 00:24:02,860
piece of hardware and this year we have

613
00:24:00,549 --> 00:24:04,599

two on offer our first lemon in this

614

00:24:02,859 --> 00:24:06,339

category goes the energy-saving plug

615

00:24:04,599 --> 00:24:08,619

that doesn't appear to save you anything

616

00:24:06,339 --> 00:24:10,179

while the second is decisively won by a

617

00:24:08,619 --> 00:24:11,919

food processor that quite literally

618

00:24:10,180 --> 00:24:15,789

comes apart at the side of a block of

619

00:24:11,920 --> 00:24:17,560

cheese from shrinking Serbs and hidden

620

00:24:15,789 --> 00:24:20,200

charges to false claims and mechanical

621

00:24:17,559 --> 00:24:21,700

failures the 2009 chunkies lineup serves

622

00:24:20,200 --> 00:24:23,620

to remind us the companies will never

623

00:24:21,700 --> 00:24:25,120

get tired of finding you and interesting

624

00:24:23,619 --> 00:24:27,309

ways to con you out of your hard-earned

625

00:24:25,119 --> 00:24:28,779

money so it's just as well then but we

626

00:24:27,309 --> 00:24:31,740

never get tired of telling you what

627

00:24:28,779 --> 00:24:31,740

these companies are up to

628
00:24:34,519 --> 00:24:47,309
Lawrence Grayson choice TV yeah well

629
00:24:45,059 --> 00:24:49,379
thank you I mean it is because i think

630
00:24:47,309 --> 00:24:51,419
it strikes a chord and chunky is

631
00:24:49,380 --> 00:24:52,740
actually great australian term it's a

632
00:24:51,420 --> 00:24:54,870
great do you know and it's onomatopoeia

633
00:24:52,740 --> 00:24:56,339
really you don't even need to know this

634
00:24:54,869 --> 00:24:58,079
is anything in shonky it can't be very

635
00:24:56,339 --> 00:25:01,889
good it suggested it's a house of cards

636
00:24:58,079 --> 00:25:04,579
and will fall down and look the you know

637
00:25:01,890 --> 00:25:08,370
I suppose the basic thing of a shonky is

638
00:25:04,579 --> 00:25:09,960
that it's not what it states to be but

639
00:25:08,369 --> 00:25:13,229
it really needs a bit of star quality

640
00:25:09,960 --> 00:25:14,730
too so does that element of hypocrisy in

641
00:25:13,230 --> 00:25:16,470
terms of you know people saying well

642
00:25:14,730 --> 00:25:18,509
we've come out with this new size of

643
00:25:16,470 --> 00:25:21,329
cereal package to save you money hey

644
00:25:18,509 --> 00:25:24,359
it's smaller how can it save us money

645
00:25:21,329 --> 00:25:26,099
you know or the airline that you know

646
00:25:24,359 --> 00:25:27,929
says that has a massive credit card

647
00:25:26,099 --> 00:25:29,939
surcharge and says that that's they're

648
00:25:27,930 --> 00:25:32,130
still losing money on the deal you know

649
00:25:29,940 --> 00:25:35,430
it's that kind of little twist that gets

650
00:25:32,130 --> 00:25:37,350
it to there but chunkiness is also yeah

651
00:25:35,430 --> 00:25:38,789
it you know we try and test things in

652
00:25:37,349 --> 00:25:41,069
science and there was a great one that

653
00:25:38,789 --> 00:25:43,529
we had dude love this year which was for

654
00:25:41,069 --> 00:25:46,019
the region micro plug now this thing

655
00:25:43,529 --> 00:25:47,609
could solve all of the you know global

656

00:25:46,019 --> 00:25:49,680
warming problems overnight if it

657
00:25:47,609 --> 00:25:51,029
actually worked today like you plug into

658
00:25:49,680 --> 00:25:52,410
the wall and you plug your electrical

659
00:25:51,029 --> 00:25:55,109
device into there and it's thirty

660
00:25:52,410 --> 00:25:58,350
percent energy savings you know how to

661
00:25:55,109 --> 00:26:02,819
add a flick of a switch well we tested

662
00:25:58,349 --> 00:26:05,579
it with you know Hoover's and fans and

663
00:26:02,819 --> 00:26:08,129
fridges and didn't find anything at all

664
00:26:05,579 --> 00:26:11,099
with a drill a handheld drill we found

665
00:26:08,130 --> 00:26:12,510
five percent saving fairly miniscule

666
00:26:11,099 --> 00:26:14,219
it's hard to measure these things so

667
00:26:12,509 --> 00:26:15,480
yeah it'll be meaningless but you know

668
00:26:14,220 --> 00:26:16,769
cost you one hundred and fifty dollars

669
00:26:15,480 --> 00:26:19,769
to buy this thing so you'd have to have

670
00:26:16,769 --> 00:26:22,529

the drill on non-stop for ten years to

671

00:26:19,769 --> 00:26:23,879

make back the purchase price but what

672

00:26:22,529 --> 00:26:25,410

was interesting when we challenge the

673

00:26:23,880 --> 00:26:26,850

importers they said well you're testing

674

00:26:25,410 --> 00:26:29,070

it wrong and again I'm sure you hear

675

00:26:26,849 --> 00:26:31,069

this all our you're testing it wrong

676

00:26:29,069 --> 00:26:33,230

yeah doesn't work like yeah

677

00:26:31,069 --> 00:26:34,819

does my brother yeah and then they said

678

00:26:33,230 --> 00:26:36,950

well it will send you some evidence we

679

00:26:34,819 --> 00:26:38,839

thought that's good and they sent us the

680

00:26:36,950 --> 00:26:42,288

electricity bills from the rich rich

681

00:26:38,839 --> 00:26:44,480

fried chicken shop in seoul which

682

00:26:42,288 --> 00:26:47,538

apparently had attached these things to

683

00:26:44,480 --> 00:26:50,179

express and they sent the utility bill

684

00:26:47,538 --> 00:26:52,038

you know in korean I'm afraid it was you

685
00:26:50,179 --> 00:26:55,340
know it was but it was such a brilliant

686
00:26:52,038 --> 00:26:58,158
blatant bit of substantiation you don't

687
00:26:55,339 --> 00:27:00,168
have to frame it Richard's chicken shots

688
00:26:58,159 --> 00:27:01,639
in the save the world business

689
00:27:00,169 --> 00:27:03,320
interesting there's there's something

690
00:27:01,638 --> 00:27:05,000
where we can cross over because that's

691
00:27:03,319 --> 00:27:07,298
exactly the sort of thing Australian

692
00:27:05,000 --> 00:27:09,710
skeptics will investigate to energy

693
00:27:07,298 --> 00:27:11,628
polarizes fuel polarisers fill savers

694
00:27:09,710 --> 00:27:14,659
energy devices like that we have on our

695
00:27:11,628 --> 00:27:16,490
on our team our chief investigator in

696
00:27:14,659 --> 00:27:19,669
fact is a rocket scientist a real rocket

697
00:27:16,490 --> 00:27:21,798
scientist and he loves nothing more than

698
00:27:19,669 --> 00:27:23,899
going after these sort of devices in

699
00:27:21,798 --> 00:27:25,849
fact Peter Brock the racing car driver

700
00:27:23,898 --> 00:27:27,849
the late Peter Brock won the bent spoon

701
00:27:25,849 --> 00:27:30,138
a number of years ago because he was

702
00:27:27,849 --> 00:27:32,000
publicizing pushing a fuel polarizer

703
00:27:30,138 --> 00:27:34,308
which was basically a magnetic clip you

704
00:27:32,000 --> 00:27:37,278
put in your car around the fuel line in

705
00:27:34,308 --> 00:27:39,558
shonky talk about Sean oh look it and

706
00:27:37,278 --> 00:27:41,210
they'll keep coming and again we had a

707
00:27:39,558 --> 00:27:43,369
lot of the fuel ones come out would work

708
00:27:41,210 --> 00:27:45,649
when petrol was more expensive you or so

709
00:27:43,369 --> 00:27:47,508
ago and doubtless they'll they'll come

710
00:27:45,648 --> 00:27:48,768
back but you know what they know it's

711
00:27:47,509 --> 00:27:50,750
kind of like we were was warned about

712
00:27:48,769 --> 00:27:52,669
the scam emails you know people trying

713

00:27:50,750 --> 00:27:55,579
to get your banking details but it's

714
00:27:52,669 --> 00:27:56,960
with these scams and it unsure it's the

715
00:27:55,579 --> 00:27:59,418
same with the paranormal that the cost

716
00:27:56,960 --> 00:28:01,909
of entry is very low you can just send

717
00:27:59,419 --> 00:28:04,129
an email or proclaim something the risk

718
00:28:01,909 --> 00:28:05,960
of being caught is is very low because

719
00:28:04,128 --> 00:28:07,339
the agencies don't really take much

720
00:28:05,960 --> 00:28:09,288
action against it but the potential

721
00:28:07,339 --> 00:28:11,329
returns are actually very high yes

722
00:28:09,288 --> 00:28:12,440
because you managed to latch on someone

723
00:28:11,329 --> 00:28:14,869
who's going to send you their bank

724
00:28:12,440 --> 00:28:17,120
details or someone who's going to you

725
00:28:14,869 --> 00:28:18,798
know give all whatever the money it is

726
00:28:17,119 --> 00:28:20,508
for whatever you're selling you know

727
00:28:18,798 --> 00:28:22,970

it's it's a great business and it's when

728

00:28:20,509 --> 00:28:24,889

you look at the you know incentives and

729

00:28:22,970 --> 00:28:25,970

the disincentives that's when you're

730

00:28:24,888 --> 00:28:27,949

going to find these kind of activities

731

00:28:25,970 --> 00:28:29,480

breaking out so it really is this

732

00:28:27,950 --> 00:28:30,590

question of regulation and people who

733

00:28:29,480 --> 00:28:32,538

actually get to sit on it and do

734

00:28:30,589 --> 00:28:34,308

something now i suppose what we were in

735

00:28:32,538 --> 00:28:37,158

is really education to try and tell

736

00:28:34,308 --> 00:28:40,339

people hang on think twice be a bit

737

00:28:37,159 --> 00:28:42,470

skeptical i was very interested to look

738

00:28:40,339 --> 00:28:43,809

at your website choice condor day you

739

00:28:42,470 --> 00:28:46,059

and I was quite impressed by

740

00:28:43,809 --> 00:28:47,440

choice TV these little videos that

741

00:28:46,059 --> 00:28:50,559

you've produced and whacked on the earth

742
00:28:47,440 --> 00:28:52,420
via YouTube and you don't pull any

743
00:28:50,559 --> 00:28:54,250
punches you say you stay quite clearly

744
00:28:52,420 --> 00:28:59,289
look out for these people trying to con

745
00:28:54,250 --> 00:29:04,000
you and so on do you do not fear a legal

746
00:28:59,289 --> 00:29:06,940
action all the time no because we check

747
00:29:04,000 --> 00:29:09,009
and recheck and recheck again and then

748
00:29:06,940 --> 00:29:10,840
we're very sure where we come from

749
00:29:09,009 --> 00:29:12,700
there's only one person what is one

750
00:29:10,839 --> 00:29:14,949
celebrated case of someone who's tried

751
00:29:12,700 --> 00:29:17,380
to take us to court was when with it was

752
00:29:14,950 --> 00:29:19,180
a gas heater that we claim could become

753
00:29:17,380 --> 00:29:20,710
a potential flamethrower because the

754
00:29:19,180 --> 00:29:23,500
hose wasn't properly attached to the

755
00:29:20,710 --> 00:29:24,910
heater and this became quite a big legal

756
00:29:23,500 --> 00:29:27,069
test case that's still in the law

757
00:29:24,910 --> 00:29:29,710
textbooks for undergraduates but you

758
00:29:27,069 --> 00:29:31,149
know we won yeah because we proved it

759
00:29:29,710 --> 00:29:32,650
was in the public interest and I think

760
00:29:31,150 --> 00:29:34,300
that's actually where we always like we

761
00:29:32,650 --> 00:29:36,370
can show that it's in the public

762
00:29:34,299 --> 00:29:39,069
interest so we have various defenses at

763
00:29:36,369 --> 00:29:41,799
law that we can you know push the

764
00:29:39,069 --> 00:29:45,669
envelope but I think like you too we use

765
00:29:41,799 --> 00:29:47,980
the power of satire and humor because

766
00:29:45,670 --> 00:29:51,190
many of our targets which perhaps

767
00:29:47,980 --> 00:29:53,170
corporate Australia and corporate global

768
00:29:51,190 --> 00:29:54,700
you know they're very thin-skinned they

769
00:29:53,170 --> 00:29:56,710
have no sense of humor you know that

770

00:29:54,700 --> 00:29:58,569
really is their Achilles heel and I'm

771
00:29:56,710 --> 00:30:00,549
sure it's often with those people you go

772
00:29:58,569 --> 00:30:03,129
today they have no sense of for you none

773
00:30:00,549 --> 00:30:05,319
and that's what makes that shows them up

774
00:30:03,130 --> 00:30:07,420
for the for the folks frauds hypocrites

775
00:30:05,319 --> 00:30:10,629
that they really are yeah yeah but

776
00:30:07,420 --> 00:30:12,370
speaking of satire I loved one of the

777
00:30:10,630 --> 00:30:13,870
satires that you did for this year's

778
00:30:12,369 --> 00:30:16,000
donkeys which was the cosmetics

779
00:30:13,869 --> 00:30:18,909
companies where you had cosmetic

780
00:30:16,000 --> 00:30:23,230
companies make up and featuring

781
00:30:18,910 --> 00:30:24,730
profi corby and I understand that that's

782
00:30:23,230 --> 00:30:26,200
coming from the fact that they just get

783
00:30:24,730 --> 00:30:28,029
all these scientific terms and put them

784
00:30:26,200 --> 00:30:31,630

in a hat virtually and makeup you know

785

00:30:28,029 --> 00:30:33,639

this special active ingredient we've

786

00:30:31,630 --> 00:30:35,320

taken trace elements for random exotic

787

00:30:33,640 --> 00:30:37,810

sounding plant and combined it with some

788

00:30:35,319 --> 00:30:40,149

generic creamy goop to create profil be

789

00:30:37,809 --> 00:30:42,519

a totally made-up name the mixing sound

790

00:30:40,150 --> 00:30:43,990

really scientific here are some computer

791

00:30:42,519 --> 00:30:45,759

graphics that falsely suggest it works

792

00:30:43,990 --> 00:30:47,230

on a cellular level and an airbrush

793

00:30:45,759 --> 00:30:49,690

picture of a model who's probably had

794

00:30:47,230 --> 00:30:51,549

everything botoxed anyway with phrases

795

00:30:49,690 --> 00:30:53,289

like clinically proven and an arbitrary

796

00:30:51,549 --> 00:30:54,669

list of effects you'd like to think this

797

00:30:53,289 --> 00:30:56,250

is worth the staggering amount of money

798

00:30:54,670 --> 00:30:59,600

we're charging for it but

799

00:30:56,250 --> 00:31:03,029
not cosmetics companies we make up

800

00:30:59,599 --> 00:31:05,189
but surely you would be at risk of libel

801

00:31:03,029 --> 00:31:07,009
defamation for something like that well

802

00:31:05,190 --> 00:31:10,410
with that video we didn't actually

803

00:31:07,009 --> 00:31:13,529
mention a particular brand so that was a

804

00:31:10,410 --> 00:31:14,910
general we did give the shonky that was

805

00:31:13,529 --> 00:31:17,970
the video and you know if you can edit

806

00:31:14,910 --> 00:31:20,070
it in it's very funny we gave we were

807

00:31:17,970 --> 00:31:21,990
complaining about the abuse of science

808

00:31:20,069 --> 00:31:23,240
in terms of a labouring of cosmetics and

809

00:31:21,990 --> 00:31:26,640
there's one that's come up with a

810

00:31:23,240 --> 00:31:27,930
neutral ilion in terms of a shampoo you

811

00:31:26,640 --> 00:31:29,570
know and again we'd say well this sounds

812

00:31:27,930 --> 00:31:32,009
like it's about one hundred and fiftieth

813
00:31:29,569 --> 00:31:34,079
element on the periodic table you know

814
00:31:32,009 --> 00:31:36,150
that sounds like something it exists for

815
00:31:34,079 --> 00:31:38,210
a nanosecond in reactor but in fact all

816
00:31:36,150 --> 00:31:40,590
it does is make your hair less frizzy

817
00:31:38,210 --> 00:31:42,329
there they are brilliant at coming up

818
00:31:40,589 --> 00:31:44,039
with the terms and it all actually goes

819
00:31:42,329 --> 00:31:46,289
back to the pons institute if you

820
00:31:44,039 --> 00:31:47,940
remember people with white coats you

821
00:31:46,289 --> 00:31:49,230
know people think are that science they

822
00:31:47,940 --> 00:31:51,120
know what they're doing that must you're

823
00:31:49,230 --> 00:31:54,839
good yeah I mean it yeah I mean it's

824
00:31:51,119 --> 00:31:57,119
hilarious of course and that's that's

825
00:31:54,839 --> 00:31:58,649
why we we love to poke a bit of fun at

826
00:31:57,119 --> 00:32:00,599
them yes I've always wanted to get a job

827

00:31:58,650 --> 00:32:02,280
at the Pons Institute but I ended up

828
00:32:00,599 --> 00:32:05,179
with a Heart Research Institute it's not

829
00:32:02,279 --> 00:32:07,259
quite as interesting you know yeah um

830
00:32:05,180 --> 00:32:08,820
can we talk a little bit about the

831
00:32:07,259 --> 00:32:10,470
regulation of these things because

832
00:32:08,819 --> 00:32:12,869
obviously the government has laws in

833
00:32:10,470 --> 00:32:16,309
place to prevent people getting harmed

834
00:32:12,869 --> 00:32:19,349
by products that make outrageous claims

835
00:32:16,309 --> 00:32:21,299
we have actually made complaints to the

836
00:32:19,349 --> 00:32:24,179
TGA through the complaint resolution

837
00:32:21,299 --> 00:32:27,210
panel about things as dangerous as

838
00:32:24,180 --> 00:32:29,009
homeopathic immunization and then the

839
00:32:27,210 --> 00:32:30,870
complaint has SAT there for a few months

840
00:32:29,009 --> 00:32:33,269
and then just dropped off and you never

841
00:32:30,869 --> 00:32:36,029

hear from it again how do you go about

842

00:32:33,269 --> 00:32:37,740

dealing with you know government boards

843

00:32:36,029 --> 00:32:39,960

in terms of making complaints yeah

844

00:32:37,740 --> 00:32:41,539

normally I mean the H will see the

845

00:32:39,960 --> 00:32:43,950

consumer and competition commission

846

00:32:41,539 --> 00:32:46,649

normally people complain but the TGA

847

00:32:43,950 --> 00:32:49,080

look we've done those as well I suppose

848

00:32:46,650 --> 00:32:50,670

that we put in a letter wouldn't

849

00:32:49,079 --> 00:32:52,199

purchase a letter we've put in a body of

850

00:32:50,670 --> 00:32:53,880

research that probably goes with it

851

00:32:52,200 --> 00:32:56,700

because we'll probably have looked into

852

00:32:53,880 --> 00:32:58,440

this certainly green claims is one we're

853

00:32:56,700 --> 00:33:02,460

looking at again and that sort of often

854

00:32:58,440 --> 00:33:04,320

touches terms of scientific abuse

855

00:33:02,460 --> 00:33:07,799

look you know complaints procedures

856
00:33:04,319 --> 00:33:10,230
often the regulators have a fairly you

857
00:33:07,799 --> 00:33:12,450
know glacial process that has to be gone

858
00:33:10,230 --> 00:33:14,519
through so you have to be patient often

859
00:33:12,450 --> 00:33:16,620
we're disappointed too you know that

860
00:33:14,519 --> 00:33:18,269
yeah yeah they don't always like to take

861
00:33:16,619 --> 00:33:20,399
on the kind of work and targets that we

862
00:33:18,269 --> 00:33:21,599
do but then sometimes you know you do

863
00:33:20,400 --> 00:33:23,880
get lucky and they're the people with

864
00:33:21,599 --> 00:33:26,159
teeth so what would you recommend that

865
00:33:23,880 --> 00:33:28,260
consumers watch out for obviously they

866
00:33:26,160 --> 00:33:31,080
should join choice well of joining

867
00:33:28,259 --> 00:33:33,930
choice does help what I tell you what my

868
00:33:31,079 --> 00:33:36,659
advice is use your intuition you know I

869
00:33:33,930 --> 00:33:38,519
think deep within all of us there are

870
00:33:36,660 --> 00:33:39,990
the warning bells that go off and we

871
00:33:38,519 --> 00:33:43,259
have very good detectors and you just

872
00:33:39,990 --> 00:33:45,089
need to keep those finely honed and such

873
00:33:43,259 --> 00:33:46,740
a cliché but it's you know it's that

874
00:33:45,089 --> 00:33:48,659
thing if it seems too good to be true it

875
00:33:46,740 --> 00:33:51,059
must be you know I'm afraid it's true

876
00:33:48,660 --> 00:33:53,490
but what people that happen is that

877
00:33:51,059 --> 00:33:56,339
they're their wish-fulfillment they

878
00:33:53,490 --> 00:33:59,069
believe that you know there is more to

879
00:33:56,339 --> 00:34:01,049
the spirit world or there is a chance of

880
00:33:59,069 --> 00:34:03,149
making a million bucks from 50 Cent's

881
00:34:01,049 --> 00:34:05,069
you know that actually will give

882
00:34:03,150 --> 00:34:07,250
away a few of the council yeah yeah it

883
00:34:05,069 --> 00:34:11,400
pushes away that sort of natural

884

00:34:07,250 --> 00:34:13,650
skepticism which we not only have but we

885
00:34:11,400 --> 00:34:15,000
need to foster and encourage not just

886
00:34:13,650 --> 00:34:16,619
win ourselves but others you know

887
00:34:15,000 --> 00:34:19,110
because skepticism was a good thing not

888
00:34:16,619 --> 00:34:21,029
don't take things face value necessary

889
00:34:19,110 --> 00:34:22,620
or more to the point know what you can

890
00:34:21,030 --> 00:34:24,960
take at face value you know what you

891
00:34:22,619 --> 00:34:27,000
can't and I suppose that would be my

892
00:34:24,960 --> 00:34:28,650
advice well Christopher what a pleasure

893
00:34:27,000 --> 00:34:30,300
it's been to come here and talk with you

894
00:34:28,650 --> 00:34:33,030
today Christopher's in the media

895
00:34:30,300 --> 00:34:36,420
spokesman for choice magazine and I can

896
00:34:33,030 --> 00:34:38,070
really recommend choice of WWE choice

897
00:34:36,420 --> 00:34:39,539
comdata you there's lots of good

898
00:34:38,070 --> 00:34:41,610

information on the website you can

899

00:34:39,539 --> 00:34:44,460

subscribe to the magazine and also get

900

00:34:41,610 --> 00:34:46,470

the magazine at news agencies oh yeah

901

00:34:44,460 --> 00:34:47,880

online is the big growth area online

902

00:34:46,469 --> 00:34:49,529

that's that the preference of course

903

00:34:47,880 --> 00:34:52,160

well Christopher soon thank you very

904

00:34:49,530 --> 00:34:52,160

much my pleasure

905

00:35:01,480 --> 00:35:06,590

are your friends telling you that your

906

00:35:04,429 --> 00:35:08,809

lack of a love life is because Mars

907

00:35:06,590 --> 00:35:11,390

isn't rising in the house of Jupiter and

908

00:35:08,809 --> 00:35:13,969

that it's just like a Sagittarius to

909

00:35:11,389 --> 00:35:16,339

question things of Suzanne Somers and

910

00:35:13,969 --> 00:35:18,709

Jenny McCarthy become the sole source of

911

00:35:16,340 --> 00:35:20,809

medical advice for your mother-in-law

912

00:35:18,710 --> 00:35:23,750

have you had to argue the fact that the

913
00:35:20,809 --> 00:35:26,150
efficacy of coffee enemas has not been

914
00:35:23,750 --> 00:35:28,730
proven by science as the use of the

915
00:35:26,150 --> 00:35:30,650
evolution is just a theory argument

916
00:35:28,730 --> 00:35:34,340
driven you to the point of telling your

917
00:35:30,650 --> 00:35:36,800
co-workers to okay stop using gravity

918
00:35:34,340 --> 00:35:38,950
then as dealing with dowzers arguing

919
00:35:36,800 --> 00:35:41,450
with anti-vaxxers harping on homeopathy

920
00:35:38,949 --> 00:35:43,609
squirreling with collation squabbling

921
00:35:41,449 --> 00:35:46,419
with scientology and bickering with

922
00:35:43,610 --> 00:35:52,160
Bigfoot left you wondering what can I do

923
00:35:46,420 --> 00:35:53,659
to fight the wing then head on over to

924
00:35:52,159 --> 00:35:58,368
the James Randi Educational Foundation

925
00:35:53,659 --> 00:36:00,920
and ww Randy o RG and contribute to the

926
00:35:58,369 --> 00:36:03,079
season of recent fundraising campaign by

927
00:36:00,920 --> 00:36:05,210
clicking on the donate button every

928
00:36:03,079 --> 00:36:07,819
dollar you give helps fight whew the

929
00:36:05,210 --> 00:36:13,750
world over don't just get frustrated get

930
00:36:07,820 --> 00:36:15,230
involved donate at ww are a nd lorg

931
00:36:13,750 --> 00:36:20,239
channel

932
00:36:15,230 --> 00:36:22,190
oh that I do is see oh and now we bring

933
00:36:20,239 --> 00:36:25,129
you an interview conducted over 10 years

934
00:36:22,190 --> 00:36:27,800
ago by dr. Paul Willis with james randi

935
00:36:25,130 --> 00:36:31,750
the subject is very topical at the

936
00:36:27,800 --> 00:36:31,750
moment facilitated communication

937
00:36:45,469 --> 00:36:50,159
people affected by a serious disease

938
00:36:47,940 --> 00:36:52,858
illness or fauna and desperate for a

939
00:36:50,159 --> 00:36:55,348
solution a vulnerable to exploitation by

940
00:36:52,858 --> 00:36:56,940
quacks and charlatans this is the case

941

00:36:55,349 --> 00:36:59,519
for autistic children and their parents

942
00:36:56,940 --> 00:37:02,068
and a technique called facilitated

943
00:36:59,518 --> 00:37:03,750
communication this technique came under

944
00:37:02,068 --> 00:37:05,730
the skeptical eye of magician James

945
00:37:03,750 --> 00:37:07,318
Randi and he witnessed a number of

946
00:37:05,730 --> 00:37:09,719
autistic children who could not

947
00:37:07,318 --> 00:37:10,969
communicate with the outside world and

948
00:37:09,719 --> 00:37:13,500
yet the facilitating communication

949
00:37:10,969 --> 00:37:16,078
people tell us that these people have

950
00:37:13,500 --> 00:37:18,449
great poets and they can do mathematics

951
00:37:16,079 --> 00:37:20,430
and make them write essays and session

952
00:37:18,449 --> 00:37:23,189
and the way they do it is to sit before

953
00:37:20,429 --> 00:37:24,960
a communicator a keyboard or adjust a

954
00:37:23,190 --> 00:37:29,010
chart of alphabetic letters and numbers

955
00:37:24,960 --> 00:37:32,670

and the facilitated communicator holds

956

00:37:29,010 --> 00:37:35,069

on to the 15 kids hand the kid can be

957

00:37:32,670 --> 00:37:36,900

laying on the floor and they extend the

958

00:37:35,068 --> 00:37:39,659

arm up above the edge of the table and

959

00:37:36,900 --> 00:37:41,849

pack around on the keyboard or on the

960

00:37:39,659 --> 00:37:44,548

chart and the children are spelling out

961

00:37:41,849 --> 00:37:46,588

wonderful thing randy was invited to

962

00:37:44,548 --> 00:37:48,719

witness facilitated communication at

963

00:37:46,588 --> 00:37:51,659

work and investigate the possibility

964

00:37:48,719 --> 00:37:53,368

that autistic children a telepathic will

965

00:37:51,659 --> 00:37:56,308

call the facilitated communicator

966

00:37:53,369 --> 00:37:58,048

Lawrence I went there and I quote if you

967

00:37:56,309 --> 00:38:00,660

satisfy me that facilitated

968

00:37:58,048 --> 00:38:02,130

communication actually does work then

969

00:38:00,659 --> 00:38:03,929

we'll talk about the possibility of

970
00:38:02,130 --> 00:38:05,519
telepathy general did there's no need to

971
00:38:03,929 --> 00:38:08,368
that mcready it works we know their

972
00:38:05,518 --> 00:38:11,578
works I made up before I went a bunch of

973
00:38:08,369 --> 00:38:16,048
cards with random words on the fastest

974
00:38:11,579 --> 00:38:17,519
car bowl cup and then with the slow day

975
00:38:16,048 --> 00:38:19,469
jus sittin there and with the child

976
00:38:17,518 --> 00:38:21,358
sitting there I reached in and took

977
00:38:19,469 --> 00:38:23,818
Leonard random turned it over if it said

978
00:38:21,358 --> 00:38:27,179
on it car and I would say to the child

979
00:38:23,818 --> 00:38:29,699
the word is cars CA our car and show the

980
00:38:27,179 --> 00:38:31,858
child the card I would say now I want

981
00:38:29,699 --> 00:38:34,409
you with in Florence's help would you

982
00:38:31,858 --> 00:38:36,719
type out the word current Clarence would

983
00:38:34,409 --> 00:38:38,399
take the hand and CA are I would come

984
00:38:36,719 --> 00:38:40,199
out on the take we do this eight or ten

985
00:38:38,400 --> 00:38:41,910
times and it would take now we're going

986
00:38:40,199 --> 00:38:45,389
to continue the experiment that's one

987
00:38:41,909 --> 00:38:47,879
change only I want Florence to leave the

988
00:38:45,389 --> 00:38:50,038
room for our challenge of 15 and then

989
00:38:47,880 --> 00:38:51,990
come back into the room so she'd leave

990
00:38:50,039 --> 00:38:54,240
the room and while she's out of the room

991
00:38:51,989 --> 00:38:56,029
I would select a card run say to the

992
00:38:54,239 --> 00:38:59,899
child the word is

993
00:38:56,030 --> 00:39:01,970
ask it bas ke t basket for I should go

994
00:38:59,900 --> 00:39:07,190
back into the room and guess what the

995
00:39:01,969 --> 00:39:09,649
child tight for man woman brother sister

996
00:39:07,190 --> 00:39:12,050
and when I said no I'm sorry all of

997
00:39:09,650 --> 00:39:13,340
those were wrong the facility looked out

998

00:39:12,050 --> 00:39:15,590
at the keyboard with a determined look

999
00:39:13,340 --> 00:39:17,900
on her face and using the child can type

1000
00:39:15,590 --> 00:39:19,579
that a method which read approximately I

1001
00:39:17,900 --> 00:39:21,500
don't like this man from Florida

1002
00:39:19,579 --> 00:39:23,539
florenca he's tried to take you away

1003
00:39:21,500 --> 00:39:25,639
from me you're my only connection with

1004
00:39:23,539 --> 00:39:29,119
the world of course he send him away

1005
00:39:25,639 --> 00:39:30,799
he's a very bad man now I don't think

1006
00:39:29,119 --> 00:39:32,960
that Florence think that she is doing

1007
00:39:30,800 --> 00:39:35,090
the Tigers I honestly think that

1008
00:39:32,960 --> 00:39:37,460
flourished believe but the child is

1009
00:39:35,090 --> 00:39:40,280
doing the Titan I was hope that the

1010
00:39:37,460 --> 00:39:42,619
father of this little boy and Egyptian

1011
00:39:40,280 --> 00:39:45,380
deciding to mr. Randy I'm not a cow from

1012
00:39:42,619 --> 00:39:48,019

the expired that will have new ph DS but

1013

00:39:45,380 --> 00:39:50,030

these people did and they tell me that

1014

00:39:48,019 --> 00:39:52,280

they're helping me and I don't know what

1015

00:39:50,030 --> 00:39:55,100

to say I took them by the hand and I

1016

00:39:52,280 --> 00:39:56,900

said get out of it it's not working your

1017

00:39:55,099 --> 00:39:58,789

child is not communicating with you and

1018

00:39:56,900 --> 00:40:00,590

the tears came up in his eyes he said

1019

00:39:58,789 --> 00:40:02,989

yes I've known that for a long time but

1020

00:40:00,590 --> 00:40:05,480

I can't accept it we've been trying to

1021

00:40:02,989 --> 00:40:07,369

reach our travel for 78 years now it

1022

00:40:05,480 --> 00:40:09,730

just can't do it and I thought this was

1023

00:40:07,369 --> 00:40:09,730

a breakthrough

1024

00:40:16,940 --> 00:40:23,190

hi everyone this is andy Kaiser Richard

1025

00:40:21,090 --> 00:40:25,320

Saunders was nice enough to let me

1026

00:40:23,190 --> 00:40:27,690

interrupt the skeptic zone to tell you

1027
00:40:25,320 --> 00:40:30,500
about another gust of wind in the

1028
00:40:27,690 --> 00:40:33,539
maelstrom of worldwide critical thought

1029
00:40:30,500 --> 00:40:36,030
digital bits skeptic is a podcast

1030
00:40:33,539 --> 00:40:38,429
dedicated to skepticism and critical

1031
00:40:36,030 --> 00:40:41,360
thinking in our world of New Age

1032
00:40:38,429 --> 00:40:44,609
religion and credulous pop culture I

1033
00:40:41,360 --> 00:40:47,039
myself write a few articles but most are

1034
00:40:44,610 --> 00:40:49,920
written by everyone else and they're

1035
00:40:47,039 --> 00:40:52,650
paid for that effort if you're an expert

1036
00:40:49,920 --> 00:40:54,420
in your field if you need a forum or if

1037
00:40:52,650 --> 00:40:57,030
you want to make an impact on not just

1038
00:40:54,420 --> 00:41:00,720
the skeptical community but the world at

1039
00:40:57,030 --> 00:41:02,550
large I'd like to talk to you or if you

1040
00:41:00,719 --> 00:41:05,569
just like to listen to a quality

1041
00:41:02,550 --> 00:41:10,620
skeptical minded podcast that's great to

1042
00:41:05,570 --> 00:41:14,420
find digital bit skeptic at wwd be

1043
00:41:10,619 --> 00:41:14,420
skeptical calm

1044
00:41:19,989 --> 00:41:32,209
join us now for drinking skeptically in

1045
00:41:23,389 --> 00:41:34,250
the think tank well from the back room

1046
00:41:32,210 --> 00:41:37,610
of the downstairs area in a forgotten

1047
00:41:34,250 --> 00:41:39,949
corner with dying vending machines and

1048
00:41:37,610 --> 00:41:44,930
Hogan machines it's the think tank

1049
00:41:39,949 --> 00:41:47,989
cheers everybody excuse me click it over

1050
00:41:44,929 --> 00:41:50,690
your head or something poor on imaginary

1051
00:41:47,989 --> 00:41:52,250
glass I have what an interesting week

1052
00:41:50,690 --> 00:41:53,990
it's mean and skepticism ladies and

1053
00:41:52,250 --> 00:41:55,219
gentlemen and I'd like to kick off

1054
00:41:53,989 --> 00:41:58,609
straight away with that very interesting

1055

00:41:55,219 --> 00:42:02,000
and bizarre story of that man in Belgium

1056
00:41:58,610 --> 00:42:06,440
who has apparently been in a coma for 20

1057
00:42:02,000 --> 00:42:07,880
30 years and it seems all the reports

1058
00:42:06,440 --> 00:42:09,889
would have us believe that he's been

1059
00:42:07,880 --> 00:42:12,460
quite conscious throughout that whole

1060
00:42:09,889 --> 00:42:16,099
period and just sort of trapped in this

1061
00:42:12,460 --> 00:42:17,840
terrible situation that's what I thought

1062
00:42:16,099 --> 00:42:19,789
when I originally heard the story I

1063
00:42:17,840 --> 00:42:21,769
thought that was that's what they were

1064
00:42:19,789 --> 00:42:25,309
reporting somehow this guy it didn't

1065
00:42:21,769 --> 00:42:28,460
cross my mind until I read James Randy's

1066
00:42:25,309 --> 00:42:30,289
comments on this issue and then I saw

1067
00:42:28,460 --> 00:42:32,720
the video and it was quite clear that

1068
00:42:30,289 --> 00:42:36,320
well to my eyes at least into Randy's

1069
00:42:32,719 --> 00:42:38,179

eyes I guess that the helper was

1070

00:42:36,320 --> 00:42:41,600
actually directing this poor fellow's

1071

00:42:38,179 --> 00:42:43,849
hand two words out on the on the

1072

00:42:41,599 --> 00:42:47,000
keyboard on the computer system they're

1073

00:42:43,849 --> 00:42:49,460
using let me direct listeners straight

1074

00:42:47,000 --> 00:42:51,349
away to an interview that was conducted

1075

00:42:49,460 --> 00:42:54,139
with james randi about this very very

1076

00:42:51,349 --> 00:42:56,569
phenomenon called Susilo tenant

1077

00:42:54,139 --> 00:42:58,730
communication thank you facilitated

1078

00:42:56,570 --> 00:43:00,620
communication of pasties with artistic

1079

00:42:58,730 --> 00:43:02,860
and the autistic children that's right

1080

00:43:00,619 --> 00:43:10,309
was used with autistic people and

1081

00:43:02,860 --> 00:43:17,650
listeners can go to ww ABC net a you /

1082

00:43:10,309 --> 00:43:23,420
science / co RR e ex corrects / archives

1083

00:43:17,650 --> 00:43:25,099
/ f a CC 0 m dot HTM I'll put that on

1084
00:43:23,420 --> 00:43:26,880
the show Jim think that any more

1085
00:43:25,099 --> 00:43:29,098
difficult I did

1086
00:43:26,880 --> 00:43:32,039
that was the link that was go to Google

1087
00:43:29,099 --> 00:43:38,009
search for the correct files and type in

1088
00:43:32,039 --> 00:43:40,559
Randy and facilitate things right now

1089
00:43:38,009 --> 00:43:45,769
and get the typing target the coma guy

1090
00:43:40,559 --> 00:43:50,309
is going like this I didn't say that fun

1091
00:43:45,768 --> 00:43:57,778
and i forgot to welcome ever tactful dr.

1092
00:43:50,309 --> 00:44:00,599
Reiter welcome dr. H E yes my fishy to

1093
00:43:57,778 --> 00:44:04,318
me to sleep not at the moment and

1094
00:44:00,599 --> 00:44:07,410
welcome Joe Benna mu who actually flew

1095
00:44:04,318 --> 00:44:09,929
back to Australia yes I did Richard it

1096
00:44:07,409 --> 00:44:11,608
lovings at alarming speed now you were

1097
00:44:09,929 --> 00:44:12,808
supposed to be overseas right now I was

1098
00:44:11,608 --> 00:44:15,538
supposed to be in London right now

1099
00:44:12,809 --> 00:44:18,210
unfortunately that part of Maya Oh tease

1100
00:44:15,539 --> 00:44:20,309
taunt fell through but I'm still going

1101
00:44:18,210 --> 00:44:21,119
to be going to New York so I am very

1102
00:44:20,309 --> 00:44:22,619
much looking forward to hopefully

1103
00:44:21,119 --> 00:44:24,990
meeting up with some of the New York

1104
00:44:22,619 --> 00:44:26,970
skeptics I know Mario's looking bored

1105
00:44:24,989 --> 00:44:30,629
yes obviously mari el and hopefully

1106
00:44:26,969 --> 00:44:33,149
George crab as well and yeah that should

1107
00:44:30,630 --> 00:44:35,309
be excellent but I'm here now so and

1108
00:44:33,150 --> 00:44:37,108
welcome to Iran's again thank you

1109
00:44:35,309 --> 00:44:38,990
Richard and thank you for the grain of

1110
00:44:37,108 --> 00:44:43,078
salt last week with that interesting

1111
00:44:38,989 --> 00:44:44,788
adventure through Noah's Ark Wow for

1112

00:44:43,079 --> 00:44:46,559
giraffes were there in there right well

1113
00:44:44,789 --> 00:44:49,829
actually later noticed that there were

1114
00:44:46,559 --> 00:44:52,019
actually four of most of the larger

1115
00:44:49,829 --> 00:44:54,990
animals so they were actually also for

1116
00:44:52,018 --> 00:44:57,868
elephants and for rhinos they were thing

1117
00:44:54,989 --> 00:45:00,149
is that there were two on the platform

1118
00:44:57,869 --> 00:45:02,490
leading out of the ark they were

1119
00:45:00,150 --> 00:45:05,278
actually coming out of the ark and in

1120
00:45:02,489 --> 00:45:06,689
two more so to two of each there and two

1121
00:45:05,278 --> 00:45:09,000
more in another area of the god in the

1122
00:45:06,690 --> 00:45:11,400
giraffes stood out because they are

1123
00:45:09,000 --> 00:45:14,190
you've seen the book because it because

1124
00:45:11,400 --> 00:45:15,838
they're evil but also because they could

1125
00:45:14,190 --> 00:45:17,818
be seen did you know they were able

1126
00:45:15,838 --> 00:45:21,509

because of big otays no because there

1127

00:45:17,818 --> 00:45:23,548

were four so I had to be good anyway

1128

00:45:21,509 --> 00:45:26,608

does anybody else have a comment about

1129

00:45:23,548 --> 00:45:28,528

this situation yes um I have a comment

1130

00:45:26,608 --> 00:45:31,768

and Joe and I were discussing this just

1131

00:45:28,528 --> 00:45:33,480

earlier and you mentioned that on the

1132

00:45:31,768 --> 00:45:36,209

news reports that we saw in Australia

1133

00:45:33,480 --> 00:45:38,429

they showed his carer actually taking

1134

00:45:36,210 --> 00:45:40,250

his hand and typing keys on a computer

1135

00:45:38,429 --> 00:45:41,899

yeah but

1136

00:45:40,250 --> 00:45:43,789

the report that I saw recently and Joe

1137

00:45:41,900 --> 00:45:47,780

saw this as well was that apparently a

1138

00:45:43,789 --> 00:45:50,480

doctor had given him a PET scan PT and

1139

00:45:47,780 --> 00:45:52,550

near T skin and had noticed that he had

1140

00:45:50,480 --> 00:45:55,150

more activity in his brain than was

1141
00:45:52,550 --> 00:45:58,310
previously thought and for that reason

1142
00:45:55,150 --> 00:46:01,579
they thought that he was conscious so

1143
00:45:58,309 --> 00:46:03,349
I'm not sure if they're typing was

1144
00:46:01,579 --> 00:46:05,900
actually the only way they diagnosed it

1145
00:46:03,349 --> 00:46:08,059
but I have to say it looked preposterous

1146
00:46:05,900 --> 00:46:10,910
it'll completely would look los tres and

1147
00:46:08,059 --> 00:46:12,889
I have to say you know I am I was quite

1148
00:46:10,909 --> 00:46:15,559
surprised I had not actually heard yet

1149
00:46:12,889 --> 00:46:17,239
that that James Randi had commented on

1150
00:46:15,559 --> 00:46:19,759
this and so on I've had my head in a

1151
00:46:17,239 --> 00:46:21,979
ditch for the last 24 hours but when I

1152
00:46:19,760 --> 00:46:24,470
spoke to everyone else and so this had

1153
00:46:21,980 --> 00:46:27,789
come up when I first read the article i

1154
00:46:24,469 --> 00:46:29,599
also thought like Richard gosh how

1155
00:46:27,789 --> 00:46:31,400
fascinating I've heard of locked-in

1156
00:46:29,599 --> 00:46:33,829
syndrome and you know I thought well

1157
00:46:31,400 --> 00:46:35,840
this must be something like this the

1158
00:46:33,829 --> 00:46:38,230
minute I saw the video I immediately

1159
00:46:35,840 --> 00:46:41,210
thought on my goodness this is

1160
00:46:38,230 --> 00:46:42,800
facilitated communication what what was

1161
00:46:41,210 --> 00:46:44,210
particularly preposterous is that this

1162
00:46:42,800 --> 00:46:46,160
actually points where this woman is

1163
00:46:44,210 --> 00:46:48,530
holding his hand where his eyes are

1164
00:46:46,159 --> 00:46:51,440
closed yes yes Randy makes that point

1165
00:46:48,530 --> 00:46:53,690
it's quite it's quite horrifying it's

1166
00:46:51,440 --> 00:46:55,789
really awful to see really really ah but

1167
00:46:53,690 --> 00:46:57,950
if there's voluntary control of the eyes

1168
00:46:55,789 --> 00:46:59,840
then there's there's ways of finding out

1169

00:46:57,949 --> 00:47:02,480
you can ask us questions and say blink

1170
00:46:59,840 --> 00:47:05,360
once why some years that's how

1171
00:47:02,480 --> 00:47:08,090
communication with patients with the

1172
00:47:05,360 --> 00:47:10,250
locked-in syndrome is usually conducted

1173
00:47:08,090 --> 00:47:11,990
yeah I think some of the tips that it

1174
00:47:10,250 --> 00:47:14,929
might be facilitated communication are

1175
00:47:11,989 --> 00:47:17,479
also that now he's saying that he used

1176
00:47:14,929 --> 00:47:19,339
to speak four languages and he can he

1177
00:47:17,480 --> 00:47:20,869
can do it again now that he's woken up

1178
00:47:19,340 --> 00:47:22,730
before he had the car accident that's

1179
00:47:20,869 --> 00:47:23,900
how he got into the vegetative state he

1180
00:47:22,730 --> 00:47:25,760
could speak four languages he's now

1181
00:47:23,900 --> 00:47:26,900
saying he can do that again he's saying

1182
00:47:25,760 --> 00:47:29,630
that he's going to write a book about

1183
00:47:26,900 --> 00:47:31,660

his experiences that he's going to go

1184

00:47:29,630 --> 00:47:33,710

back to university all this stuff that

1185

00:47:31,659 --> 00:47:36,379

really doesn't sound like it's coming

1186

00:47:33,710 --> 00:47:39,610

from him you know it sounds like it's

1187

00:47:36,380 --> 00:47:42,380

the the ideas of the help of the carer

1188

00:47:39,610 --> 00:47:45,230

it's actually that would be particularly

1189

00:47:42,380 --> 00:47:46,789

easy to test because sport are the four

1190

00:47:45,230 --> 00:47:47,858

languages and they say what the four

1191

00:47:46,789 --> 00:47:50,288

languages is

1192

00:47:47,858 --> 00:47:53,170

then there's the care then you say just

1193

00:47:50,289 --> 00:47:55,180

pick a random word in you know common

1194

00:47:53,170 --> 00:47:56,889

random word from these four languages so

1195

00:47:55,179 --> 00:47:58,960

how do you say this in French German

1196

00:47:56,889 --> 00:48:01,389

Spanish in English Yeah Yeah right are

1197

00:47:58,960 --> 00:48:03,539

there any sick days like this tests you

1198
00:48:01,389 --> 00:48:05,558
know in the care of obviously you know

1199
00:48:03,539 --> 00:48:06,999
she wouldn't be a kid she gonna be

1200
00:48:05,559 --> 00:48:09,999
working as a carriage and you fall in

1201
00:48:06,998 --> 00:48:17,828
languages i suppose but uh huh ah no

1202
00:48:09,998 --> 00:48:19,419
points game so it is i think it's ii

1203
00:48:17,829 --> 00:48:21,099
would be quite a simple test to conduct

1204
00:48:19,420 --> 00:48:23,048
and i think i know what the results map

1205
00:48:21,099 --> 00:48:24,880
I mean once again this is an example of

1206
00:48:23,048 --> 00:48:27,038
credulous news reporting isn't it it's a

1207
00:48:24,880 --> 00:48:29,410
little bit like what we saw last week

1208
00:48:27,039 --> 00:48:32,230
with the Desiree Jenny Jennings story

1209
00:48:29,409 --> 00:48:37,629
the fox news story my head exploded Joe

1210
00:48:32,230 --> 00:48:39,130
oh yeah mine stolen pieces on actually

1211
00:48:37,630 --> 00:48:41,818
I'm glad you raised that is reg ending

1212
00:48:39,130 --> 00:48:44,048
story because I I had an interesting

1213
00:48:41,818 --> 00:48:47,139
discussion with the colleague of mine

1214
00:48:44,048 --> 00:48:50,849
who gave me permission to tell you all

1215
00:48:47,139 --> 00:48:54,278
about this we were talking about the

1216
00:48:50,849 --> 00:48:57,160
swine flu vaccine h1n one vaccine and

1217
00:48:54,278 --> 00:48:58,748
she was saying that her her boyfriend

1218
00:48:57,159 --> 00:49:01,179
had said that he didn't want her to get

1219
00:48:58,748 --> 00:49:03,568
it because he was a bit worried about

1220
00:49:01,179 --> 00:49:07,239
this girl that they'd seen who had

1221
00:49:03,568 --> 00:49:08,588
become paralyzed from the vaccine and it

1222
00:49:07,239 --> 00:49:10,900
was just a whole it was a bit of a

1223
00:49:08,588 --> 00:49:14,199
mishmash of of what we had already bout

1224
00:49:10,900 --> 00:49:16,630
Desiree Jennings and you know these

1225
00:49:14,199 --> 00:49:19,960
sheets she's a nurse and her boyfriend

1226

00:49:16,630 --> 00:49:22,980
and were both actually very very sort of

1227
00:49:19,960 --> 00:49:27,429
willing to the scientific evidence and

1228
00:49:22,980 --> 00:49:31,210
and very actually probe vaccination but

1229
00:49:27,429 --> 00:49:32,710
it was simply a result of the scare as a

1230
00:49:31,210 --> 00:49:34,599
result of the Desiree Jennings story

1231
00:49:32,710 --> 00:49:36,369
then they both felt that there was

1232
00:49:34,599 --> 00:49:38,829
something to be worried about and and

1233
00:49:36,369 --> 00:49:40,358
and it had made them alarmed at the

1234
00:49:38,829 --> 00:49:42,489
thought of getting the vaccine I must

1235
00:49:40,358 --> 00:49:45,038
say that this is actually chose that the

1236
00:49:42,489 --> 00:49:46,929
condition actually that it actually does

1237
00:49:45,039 --> 00:49:48,670
happen because Desiree's Jennings

1238
00:49:46,929 --> 00:49:53,919
condition is a psychological one and

1239
00:49:48,670 --> 00:49:57,789
here's another psychologically the Fox

1240
00:49:53,920 --> 00:49:59,559

story Iran on the on her recovery on no

1241

00:49:57,789 --> 00:50:01,749
oh

1242

00:49:59,559 --> 00:50:04,390
if listeners haven't seen that sorry I

1243

00:50:01,748 --> 00:50:07,448
just want to say something I do not wach

1244

00:50:04,389 --> 00:50:09,188
Fox choice this is the research you

1245

00:50:07,449 --> 00:50:13,479
really know you really should see it

1246

00:50:09,188 --> 00:50:14,978
because I watch a lot of weight all

1247

00:50:13,478 --> 00:50:16,568
right you can have the week off thank

1248

00:50:14,978 --> 00:50:18,909
you but if listeners haven't seen it

1249

00:50:16,568 --> 00:50:21,969
please just do a search for Fox News and

1250

00:50:18,909 --> 00:50:23,379
Desiree Jennings and you will you won't

1251

00:50:21,969 --> 00:50:26,380
believe what you see you won't believe

1252

00:50:23,380 --> 00:50:27,880
the credulity of the report it's all the

1253

00:50:26,380 --> 00:50:30,249
nonsense that you could possibly ever

1254

00:50:27,880 --> 00:50:31,838
hear they throw in Jenny McCarthy

1255
00:50:30,248 --> 00:50:35,038
they're throwing Jim Carrey they throw

1256
00:50:31,838 --> 00:50:38,349
in Generation Rescue they throw in

1257
00:50:35,039 --> 00:50:40,089
collation they throw in alternative

1258
00:50:38,349 --> 00:50:42,759
medicine is curing it what is me as a

1259
00:50:40,088 --> 00:50:46,659
doctor butter yeah yeah that's his name

1260
00:50:42,759 --> 00:50:49,449
who is being investigated treating her

1261
00:50:46,659 --> 00:50:52,708
yeah he's being investigated for serious

1262
00:50:49,449 --> 00:50:56,130
breaches of clinical practices etc and

1263
00:50:52,708 --> 00:50:59,228
they say that it's evidence that

1264
00:50:56,130 --> 00:51:01,150
alternative medicine works it's it's so

1265
00:50:59,228 --> 00:51:03,669
bad that I used to swear word on Twitter

1266
00:51:01,150 --> 00:51:05,469
and I never uses on Twitter and my

1267
00:51:03,670 --> 00:51:08,108
followers would know it was a bad four

1268
00:51:05,469 --> 00:51:12,519
letter word so have a little swimming on

1269
00:51:08,108 --> 00:51:15,548
Twitter this week and I never crash okay

1270
00:51:12,518 --> 00:51:18,508
why did you say ready to ship nothing

1271
00:51:15,548 --> 00:51:22,329
surprises me the word or worse like what

1272
00:51:18,509 --> 00:51:24,699
poop poop yes I've been actually just on

1273
00:51:22,329 --> 00:51:27,880
on that note the UM the very special

1274
00:51:24,699 --> 00:51:31,179
episode of SGU that just came out on the

1275
00:51:27,880 --> 00:51:36,269
h1n1 vaccine a very very good um

1276
00:51:31,179 --> 00:51:40,619
discussion between Steve novella and num

1277
00:51:36,268 --> 00:51:42,788
job each other beats and my chrysalis oh

1278
00:51:40,619 --> 00:51:46,119
yeah that was a good episode I enjoyed

1279
00:51:42,789 --> 00:51:48,640
that I using joyous to you mmm I'm

1280
00:51:46,119 --> 00:51:50,469
wearing this shirt in fact you can't see

1281
00:51:48,639 --> 00:51:52,568
wearing a big skeptics guide to the

1282
00:51:50,469 --> 00:51:54,639
universe it's a very 70s looking yes to

1283

00:51:52,568 --> 00:51:56,889
you TJ you should have ammo for Movember

1284
00:51:54,639 --> 00:52:00,188
to go this is the shirt designed by

1285
00:51:56,889 --> 00:52:02,768
Ricky cabana boys universe in Australia

1286
00:52:00,188 --> 00:52:05,438
oh yeah yeah okay now pretty cool now

1287
00:52:02,768 --> 00:52:07,028
can we talk about the opposite of what

1288
00:52:05,438 --> 00:52:09,719
we just talked about and that is good

1289
00:52:07,028 --> 00:52:12,730
news reporting in the mainstream media

1290
00:52:09,719 --> 00:52:14,559
there's a journalist who writes for the

1291
00:52:12,730 --> 00:52:17,710
Fairfax press here in Australia his

1292
00:52:14,559 --> 00:52:20,139
name's Nick Miller and if you wanna he's

1293
00:52:17,710 --> 00:52:23,019
actually on Twitter his a twitter name

1294
00:52:20,139 --> 00:52:25,480
is nick d miller and he wrote a story

1295
00:52:23,019 --> 00:52:30,130
this week about the risks of getting

1296
00:52:25,480 --> 00:52:32,679
quack stem cell therapy for very huge

1297
00:52:30,130 --> 00:52:34,090

for huge amounts of money in foreign

1298

00:52:32,679 --> 00:52:35,618

countries and Joey's got it in front of

1299

00:52:34,090 --> 00:52:38,980

her Joe can you tell us a little bit

1300

00:52:35,619 --> 00:52:41,980

about what's in the story hmm so this is

1301

00:52:38,980 --> 00:52:44,230

something that I've heard discussed in a

1302

00:52:41,980 --> 00:52:47,650

number of science-based podcasts over

1303

00:52:44,230 --> 00:52:51,789

the last year or so you know with with

1304

00:52:47,650 --> 00:52:53,950

the popularity of stem cell research and

1305

00:52:51,789 --> 00:52:57,550

all the possibilities that we see with

1306

00:52:53,949 --> 00:52:59,439

stem cells of course there have been a

1307

00:52:57,550 --> 00:53:02,590

lot of crack therapies that have come

1308

00:52:59,440 --> 00:53:04,420

out a lot of private clinics who are

1309

00:53:02,590 --> 00:53:08,050

claiming to be able to treat everything

1310

00:53:04,420 --> 00:53:11,530

from Alzheimer's to cancer in all sorts

1311

00:53:08,050 --> 00:53:15,010

of conditions and so this report from

1312
00:53:11,530 --> 00:53:19,810
Nick Miller is raising a couple of cases

1313
00:53:15,010 --> 00:53:22,390
where they've been suspected cancers

1314
00:53:19,809 --> 00:53:25,210
that have developed as a result of these

1315
00:53:22,389 --> 00:53:27,009
stem cell treatments now there are a

1316
00:53:25,210 --> 00:53:32,380
couple of very very interesting comments

1317
00:53:27,010 --> 00:53:34,750
in the article 11 of the things that he

1318
00:53:32,380 --> 00:53:37,570
he writes about is the fact that many

1319
00:53:34,750 --> 00:53:40,210
most of these clinics have virtually no

1320
00:53:37,570 --> 00:53:43,300
published clinical proof of their

1321
00:53:40,210 --> 00:53:46,420
efficacy and they promote themselves

1322
00:53:43,300 --> 00:53:49,030
through the usual testimonials and you

1323
00:53:46,420 --> 00:53:50,710
know glossy web sites and so on and

1324
00:53:49,030 --> 00:53:56,080
something that I just thought was very

1325
00:53:50,710 --> 00:53:59,980
pertinent was a hematologist from one of

1326
00:53:56,079 --> 00:54:04,088
the reputable research centers was

1327
00:53:59,980 --> 00:54:06,909
quoted as saying that a gentleman who

1328
00:54:04,088 --> 00:54:08,320
had a Queensland man had paid forty

1329
00:54:06,909 --> 00:54:12,338
thousand dollars for a treatment at a

1330
00:54:08,320 --> 00:54:13,660
private German clinic and that she said

1331
00:54:12,338 --> 00:54:15,789
that this was a treatment that was the

1332
00:54:13,659 --> 00:54:16,899
most open mind you not think that this

1333
00:54:15,789 --> 00:54:19,210
treatment would help him in any way

1334
00:54:16,900 --> 00:54:20,769
whatsoever but she specifically said

1335
00:54:19,210 --> 00:54:22,360
that they'll take his money and not do

1336
00:54:20,769 --> 00:54:24,699
anything to look after him when he lay

1337
00:54:22,360 --> 00:54:27,490
use that if we practice a treatment like

1338
00:54:24,699 --> 00:54:28,869
that we would be disbarred and you know

1339
00:54:27,489 --> 00:54:30,219
this again raises all these issues of

1340

00:54:28,869 --> 00:54:32,349
how these people are able to carry out

1341
00:54:30,219 --> 00:54:35,829
these treatments with no consequences

1342
00:54:32,349 --> 00:54:38,289
and and you know at no standards of

1343
00:54:35,829 --> 00:54:41,949
evidence and they will and no follow-up

1344
00:54:38,289 --> 00:54:44,909
so it's a very good article and um

1345
00:54:41,949 --> 00:54:47,319
doctors in these clinics that the

1346
00:54:44,909 --> 00:54:49,379
supposedly professionals I think that

1347
00:54:47,320 --> 00:54:51,910
was one of them just falling over out

1348
00:54:49,380 --> 00:54:55,119
what's going on about the quarter um

1349
00:54:51,909 --> 00:54:56,769
they don't they don't just diskant

1350
00:54:55,119 --> 00:54:58,750
discuss that specifically of what the

1351
00:54:56,769 --> 00:55:00,849
qualifications are people offering the

1352
00:54:58,750 --> 00:55:02,920
treatments he doesn't really go into

1353
00:55:00,849 --> 00:55:06,009
that he just really talks about what

1354
00:55:02,920 --> 00:55:07,869

they offer and you know you know the

1355

00:55:06,010 --> 00:55:11,440

lack of follow-up and so on one of the

1356

00:55:07,869 --> 00:55:12,670

cases they highlight is the specific

1357

00:55:11,440 --> 00:55:14,349

case that they were talking about was a

1358

00:55:12,670 --> 00:55:15,909

man who developed leukemia following

1359

00:55:14,349 --> 00:55:17,909

this therapy and they said that it was

1360

00:55:15,909 --> 00:55:20,789

very difficult to prove a definite

1361

00:55:17,909 --> 00:55:24,250

causative link between them but

1362

00:55:20,789 --> 00:55:27,969

apparently there is reported a case

1363

00:55:24,250 --> 00:55:29,889

report of an Israeli teenager who

1364

00:55:27,969 --> 00:55:32,589

developed brain tumors from experimental

1365

00:55:29,889 --> 00:55:35,049

stem cell injections at a Russian clinic

1366

00:55:32,590 --> 00:55:39,610

grand this has been you know very well

1367

00:55:35,050 --> 00:55:40,720

documented so you know as I said that he

1368

00:55:39,610 --> 00:55:41,890

doesn't discuss specifically the

1369
00:55:40,719 --> 00:55:44,079
qualifications but there's definitely

1370
00:55:41,889 --> 00:55:46,659
documented evidence I think there's well

1371
00:55:44,079 --> 00:55:49,569
do we have to be very cautious that

1372
00:55:46,659 --> 00:55:54,190
thing to not take these cases even the

1373
00:55:49,570 --> 00:55:56,460
case of that brain tumors as evidence

1374
00:55:54,190 --> 00:55:59,740
that it causes any harm the thing is

1375
00:55:56,460 --> 00:56:02,769
treatment should not be provided without

1376
00:55:59,739 --> 00:56:05,009
evidence of efficacy and safety and here

1377
00:56:02,769 --> 00:56:07,480
these are treatments there haven't been

1378
00:56:05,010 --> 00:56:09,160
proven to be either education so safe

1379
00:56:07,480 --> 00:56:11,139
and here they are just being bandied

1380
00:56:09,159 --> 00:56:12,909
about I think that's that's the most I

1381
00:56:11,139 --> 00:56:14,559
think this is really interesting to Iran

1382
00:56:12,909 --> 00:56:16,899
because only a week prior to this

1383
00:56:14,559 --> 00:56:19,420
article coming out there was a story on

1384
00:56:16,900 --> 00:56:21,340
channel seven on the show sunday night

1385
00:56:19,420 --> 00:56:23,849
which sometimes does good things they

1386
00:56:21,340 --> 00:56:27,760
actually expose some of the anti-vaxxers

1387
00:56:23,849 --> 00:56:30,489
back in the early in the year but they

1388
00:56:27,760 --> 00:56:32,380
did a story on autism and they covered

1389
00:56:30,489 --> 00:56:34,449
three families there were seeking three

1390
00:56:32,380 --> 00:56:35,760
different forms of treatment one of

1391
00:56:34,449 --> 00:56:37,619
which was this

1392
00:56:35,760 --> 00:56:39,450
he was so desperate she took her 12 year

1393
00:56:37,619 --> 00:56:42,329
old son to China to get stem cell

1394
00:56:39,449 --> 00:56:45,509
therapy and they covered their sinan was

1395
00:56:42,329 --> 00:56:47,940
the condition autism autism yes for

1396
00:56:45,510 --> 00:56:50,880
autism yeah of course there's no

1397

00:56:47,940 --> 00:56:52,769
evidence it once again but they kind of

1398
00:56:50,880 --> 00:56:55,500
I'm not a scientist so that there's

1399
00:56:52,769 --> 00:56:58,320
things i can say that scientists can to

1400
00:56:55,500 --> 00:57:02,639
have a very strong feeling that he can't

1401
00:56:58,320 --> 00:57:06,150
work yes you yet use stem cells to

1402
00:57:02,639 --> 00:57:08,369
replace Charles brain know that the

1403
00:57:06,150 --> 00:57:10,289
basis for the for the quackery is that

1404
00:57:08,369 --> 00:57:12,150
the stem cells will seek out the area

1405
00:57:10,289 --> 00:57:14,570
that needs repair and then go there

1406
00:57:12,150 --> 00:57:16,829
basic structural form it's not damaged

1407
00:57:14,570 --> 00:57:18,269
that's irrelevant in this case its

1408
00:57:16,829 --> 00:57:19,889
twenty thousand dollars just don't ask

1409
00:57:18,269 --> 00:57:21,900
you know yeah but the way that this

1410
00:57:19,889 --> 00:57:25,079
story was covered by channel 7 and shame

1411
00:57:21,900 --> 00:57:28,289

on them was there was a couple of things

1412

00:57:25,079 --> 00:57:30,869

that really got my goat and one of them

1413

00:57:28,289 --> 00:57:32,940

was the reporter said that they would

1414

00:57:30,869 --> 00:57:35,099

remove stem cells from the boys own body

1415

00:57:32,940 --> 00:57:37,079

and then re-inject them and then they

1416

00:57:35,099 --> 00:57:39,389

would inject stem cells from Chinese

1417

00:57:37,079 --> 00:57:42,509

babies and then they went to the next

1418

00:57:39,389 --> 00:57:44,489

part of the story and so I was sitting

1419

00:57:42,510 --> 00:57:47,100

in front of my television going excuse

1420

00:57:44,489 --> 00:57:50,069

me jaw hitting the floor stem cells from

1421

00:57:47,099 --> 00:57:52,079

Chinese babies of what I mean where do

1422

00:57:50,070 --> 00:57:53,670

these come from do you just go and

1423

00:57:52,079 --> 00:57:55,289

harvest some babies off the street I

1424

00:57:53,670 --> 00:57:57,900

mean there are too many people inside it

1425

00:57:55,289 --> 00:57:59,789

anyway right so this was not even

1426
00:57:57,900 --> 00:58:01,380
mentioned he didn't say anything it was

1427
00:57:59,789 --> 00:58:03,690
that was the that was it cuz they're

1428
00:58:01,380 --> 00:58:06,510
Chinese babies well maybe that's the

1429
00:58:03,690 --> 00:58:08,400
case well you mean the researcher or the

1430
00:58:06,510 --> 00:58:11,310
writers just written this not girls at

1431
00:58:08,400 --> 00:58:14,340
the thought that was it and there was

1432
00:58:11,309 --> 00:58:17,279
another faily faily part two years there

1433
00:58:14,340 --> 00:58:21,240
was another one of the families their

1434
00:58:17,280 --> 00:58:24,300
son is undergoing a clinical trial for a

1435
00:58:21,239 --> 00:58:27,829
hormone called oxytocin which the the

1436
00:58:24,300 --> 00:58:30,480
child is actually getting nasally and

1437
00:58:27,829 --> 00:58:33,690
this is a double-blind crossover trial

1438
00:58:30,480 --> 00:58:35,969
currently happening in Sydney and later

1439
00:58:33,690 --> 00:58:37,380
on when they'd filmed the boy undergoing

1440
00:58:35,969 --> 00:58:38,579
the treatment they went back to his

1441
00:58:37,380 --> 00:58:40,530
house with him and then they said to him

1442
00:58:38,579 --> 00:58:45,509
also how do you feel now that you're

1443
00:58:40,530 --> 00:58:48,750
taking the oxytocin and I won't fail the

1444
00:58:45,510 --> 00:58:49,500
boys in a random blind crossover trial

1445
00:58:48,750 --> 00:58:50,760
he's

1446
00:58:49,500 --> 00:58:54,179
not supposed to know what he's getting

1447
00:58:50,760 --> 00:58:57,000
and so they kind of unblinded the trial

1448
00:58:54,179 --> 00:58:59,940
wellness unless I mean how would they

1449
00:58:57,000 --> 00:59:01,230
know though if you paid online hey nice

1450
00:58:59,940 --> 00:59:03,450
maybe they don't know they probably

1451
00:59:01,230 --> 00:59:05,099
don't know and it may be a maybe it

1452
00:59:03,449 --> 00:59:08,129
maybe he could he could be on either

1453
00:59:05,099 --> 00:59:10,319
group yeah no they're not even right no

1454

00:59:08,130 --> 00:59:12,539
we don't that the point is they failed

1455
00:59:10,320 --> 00:59:14,070
you know I mean obviously have no

1456
00:59:12,539 --> 00:59:16,769
understanding of how science waste all

1457
00:59:14,070 --> 00:59:18,600
so I was very pleased when Nick Miller

1458
00:59:16,769 --> 00:59:20,969
wrote this article a week later and

1459
00:59:18,599 --> 00:59:22,349
actually got it right because I was

1460
00:59:20,969 --> 00:59:24,799
hitting my head against the wall at

1461
00:59:22,349 --> 00:59:26,539
mines going what are you people doing

1462
00:59:24,800 --> 00:59:28,830
remember you said earlier about

1463
00:59:26,539 --> 00:59:31,050
credulous reporting by the person I was

1464
00:59:28,829 --> 00:59:33,690
thinking really kick craziness report I

1465
00:59:31,050 --> 00:59:35,280
never just about to ask you why you've

1466
00:59:33,690 --> 00:59:37,530
got that bandage on your head but now I

1467
00:59:35,280 --> 00:59:39,180
know it's been a bad week started with

1468
00:59:37,530 --> 00:59:41,370

pops on Saturday morning and then just

1469

00:59:39,179 --> 00:59:44,250

went down hill so thank you Nick Miller

1470

00:59:41,369 --> 00:59:47,449

Adobe let me just mention and I won't

1471

00:59:44,250 --> 00:59:50,940

dwelt on this because our good friend

1472

00:59:47,449 --> 00:59:53,839

Jason over at the nonsense podcast will

1473

00:59:50,940 --> 00:59:57,869

be covering this for each year and I

1474

00:59:53,840 --> 01:00:00,990

went to see the performance or the

1475

00:59:57,869 --> 01:00:07,739

speech the talk I mean of a animal

1476

01:00:00,989 --> 01:00:09,869

telepath hmm do you want me to comment

1477

01:00:07,739 --> 01:00:13,859

on that in case you need to let me hear

1478

01:00:09,869 --> 01:00:16,039

that I just did yeah right you like

1479

01:00:13,860 --> 01:00:19,890

thats where where I used on Twitter yeah

1480

01:00:16,039 --> 01:00:22,279

yeah please go and subscribe to the

1481

01:00:19,889 --> 01:00:25,230

nonsense podcast look for it on itunes

1482

01:00:22,280 --> 01:00:27,630

we run ads for it but what Rachel I

1483
01:00:25,230 --> 01:00:32,369
comment on that podcast cuz we were

1484
01:00:27,630 --> 01:00:35,640
there and they request oh boy imagine

1485
01:00:32,369 --> 01:00:37,650
listeners imagine the looniest people

1486
01:00:35,639 --> 01:00:40,199
you can find and put them all in one

1487
01:00:37,650 --> 01:00:42,630
room and shut the door and sit there for

1488
01:00:40,199 --> 01:00:44,669
90 minutes and see how you can when when

1489
01:00:42,630 --> 01:00:49,740
when you told me that it was worse than

1490
01:00:44,670 --> 01:00:52,590
the bogan psychic it was it was the

1491
01:00:49,739 --> 01:00:54,239
bogus psychic iCarly said put them all

1492
01:00:52,590 --> 01:00:55,039
in the room a lot i just broke thinking

1493
01:00:54,239 --> 01:00:58,969
of

1494
01:00:55,039 --> 01:01:00,469
and saying getting the sack it was

1495
01:00:58,969 --> 01:01:03,109
something else believing it was

1496
01:01:00,469 --> 01:01:05,149
something um now I've noticed lately

1497
01:01:03,110 --> 01:01:07,160
that there's an interesting sites been

1498
01:01:05,150 --> 01:01:08,900
reviewing our podcast and lots of other

1499
01:01:07,159 --> 01:01:11,539
skeptical podcasts that sites called

1500
01:01:08,900 --> 01:01:14,269
Rachel it's called The Skeptical review

1501
01:01:11,539 --> 01:01:18,110
yeah and it's dub dub dub skip review

1502
01:01:14,269 --> 01:01:20,389
com and I really enjoy reading what what

1503
01:01:18,110 --> 01:01:21,920
other people think about our podcast I

1504
01:01:20,389 --> 01:01:23,359
mean we get a lot of letters from our

1505
01:01:21,920 --> 01:01:26,000
listeners which is really great and

1506
01:01:23,360 --> 01:01:27,559
they're full of very kind things but to

1507
01:01:26,000 --> 01:01:29,329
see something published on the internet

1508
01:01:27,559 --> 01:01:31,400
about our podcast another podcast earth

1509
01:01:29,329 --> 01:01:32,929
I find it is quite invaluable it's about

1510
01:01:31,400 --> 01:01:34,670
it on the internet so it must be true it

1511

01:01:32,929 --> 01:01:36,619
must be true it's a very nice site he

1512
01:01:34,670 --> 01:01:38,659
does a great job with it it's Nigel that

1513
01:01:36,619 --> 01:01:42,409
runs the Sun isn't it yeah Nigel sent

1514
01:01:38,659 --> 01:01:44,480
Whitehall hmm well cheers and thank you

1515
01:01:42,409 --> 01:01:48,529
very much we're not buttering up to you

1516
01:01:44,480 --> 01:01:53,210
or anything but keep you just gave the

1517
01:01:48,530 --> 01:01:57,350
game away now be honest be honest all

1518
01:01:53,210 --> 01:01:59,110
right oh now this is interesting now

1519
01:01:57,349 --> 01:02:02,599
what you're holding up there Joe is us

1520
01:01:59,110 --> 01:02:04,099
is a scan of a pamphlet that somebody

1521
01:02:02,599 --> 01:02:06,230
actually ripped up and threw in the bin

1522
01:02:04,099 --> 01:02:09,559
yes what about one of our listeners Ryan

1523
01:02:06,230 --> 01:02:10,610
sent this in to me and in fact it's

1524
01:02:09,559 --> 01:02:12,920
quite funny because you can actually see

1525
01:02:10,610 --> 01:02:14,690

the chair Markstrom I ripped it up in a

1526

01:02:12,920 --> 01:02:17,990

rage and smell all back together before

1527

01:02:14,690 --> 01:02:19,519

sending it to me okay so he was really

1528

01:02:17,989 --> 01:02:21,709

concerned about this because you know

1529

01:02:19,519 --> 01:02:26,599

we've spoken a lot about homeopathic pro

1530

01:02:21,710 --> 01:02:29,840

homeo prophylaxis or the belief that you

1531

01:02:26,599 --> 01:02:32,690

can vaccinate with water and sugar pills

1532

01:02:29,840 --> 01:02:36,380

yeah so what r I was very concerned

1533

01:02:32,690 --> 01:02:39,800

about is this this company that is

1534

01:02:36,380 --> 01:02:43,789

promoting a homeopathic vaccination for

1535

01:02:39,800 --> 01:02:45,650

pets yeah and they say that it's a

1536

01:02:43,789 --> 01:02:48,289

natural alternative to vaccinations

1537

01:02:45,650 --> 01:02:50,090

heartworm tick bite and prevention tick

1538

01:02:48,289 --> 01:02:52,730

paralysis snakebite multi wormer

1539

01:02:50,090 --> 01:02:57,829

allergen immune for all types of insect

1540
01:02:52,730 --> 01:03:00,500
bites and reactions and the cacica the

1541
01:02:57,829 --> 01:03:03,799
company name yeah so the company is

1542
01:03:00,500 --> 01:03:06,920
called natural pet Ock's got a second

1543
01:03:03,800 --> 01:03:08,930
rachel what you know how we work this

1544
01:03:06,920 --> 01:03:11,389
pet psychic we went to San all psychic

1545
01:03:08,929 --> 01:03:13,190
was that animal limb yes right and i'ma

1546
01:03:11,389 --> 01:03:15,588
liberation and all liberation in cydia

1547
01:03:13,190 --> 01:03:18,170
oh oh they would think about offering

1548
01:03:15,588 --> 01:03:19,909
water to animals and said well worming

1549
01:03:18,170 --> 01:03:21,200
tablets remember when we got in there

1550
01:03:19,909 --> 01:03:23,358
and the doors were closed and the

1551
01:03:21,199 --> 01:03:26,088
outlets were sealed and we were stuck

1552
01:03:23,358 --> 01:03:28,190
there I turned around and I yelped

1553
01:03:26,088 --> 01:03:31,429
almost because there was a video

1554
01:03:28,190 --> 01:03:35,510
cassette on the shelf called vaccination

1555
01:03:31,429 --> 01:03:38,118
the whole truth and at the end I got up

1556
01:03:35,510 --> 01:03:42,589
and I looked at it and it was Isaac

1557
01:03:38,119 --> 01:03:45,048
golden oh no and varus right now amongst

1558
01:03:42,588 --> 01:03:47,750
others so well yeah and this is an

1559
01:03:45,048 --> 01:03:50,420
animal liberation yeah so they would

1560
01:03:47,750 --> 01:03:52,880
probably condone this well um possibly

1561
01:03:50,420 --> 01:03:56,150
well I wonder what Alice think I would

1562
01:03:52,880 --> 01:03:59,750
think of you know people like that using

1563
01:03:56,150 --> 01:04:01,818
the mommy's book in there as the name of

1564
01:03:59,750 --> 01:04:04,190
their organization well these people

1565
01:04:01,818 --> 01:04:06,199
were really extreme actually and the

1566
01:04:04,190 --> 01:04:08,260
thing sorry to interrupt I just just add

1567
01:04:06,199 --> 01:04:11,058
that the thing that concerned me

1568

01:04:08,260 --> 01:04:13,099
particularly about them is that these

1569
01:04:11,059 --> 01:04:15,890
people really do care about animals and

1570
01:04:13,099 --> 01:04:19,579
I'm an animal lover myself but they're

1571
01:04:15,889 --> 01:04:21,289
wasting all their time your attention

1572
01:04:19,579 --> 01:04:22,760
please runs and gets the curses busted

1573
01:04:21,289 --> 01:04:26,029
apart department is going to ask free

1574
01:04:22,760 --> 01:04:31,579
HBO quarter part kmc ash free ash gourd

1575
01:04:26,030 --> 01:04:33,859
Omaha can see if I'm you thank you so

1576
01:04:31,579 --> 01:04:35,510
you're saying no you were making a face

1577
01:04:33,858 --> 01:04:38,000
as if I love animals because I can eat

1578
01:04:35,510 --> 01:04:39,950
them and that's not what I meant however

1579
01:04:38,000 --> 01:04:41,929
I won't deny that no but they are tasty

1580
01:04:39,949 --> 01:04:44,000
and delicious but I can't eat a whole

1581
01:04:41,929 --> 01:04:45,469
one but the thing is these people are

1582
01:04:44,000 --> 01:04:47,838

obviously very dedicated and passionate

1583

01:04:45,469 --> 01:04:49,818

about animals but why the hell are they

1584

01:04:47,838 --> 01:04:52,369

wasting their time and the resources of

1585

01:04:49,818 --> 01:04:54,558

people that give the money on having

1586

01:04:52,369 --> 01:04:56,180

seminars about explaining how their dog

1587

01:04:54,559 --> 01:04:59,450

can tell them that they want to curry

1588

01:04:56,179 --> 01:05:01,308

for dinner tonight the curry she did she

1589

01:04:59,449 --> 01:05:05,509

said and she also said she talks to dead

1590

01:05:01,309 --> 01:05:08,109

cows yeah but my sister talk to those

1591

01:05:05,510 --> 01:05:08,109

cars they go

1592

01:05:08,809 --> 01:05:15,529

Oh too well done my sisters heavily

1593

01:05:13,820 --> 01:05:17,570

involved in the greyhound rescue program

1594

01:05:15,530 --> 01:05:20,120

in Australia and I was telling her about

1595

01:05:17,570 --> 01:05:22,160

it and and she had the same opinion was

1596

01:05:20,119 --> 01:05:23,690

why do these people not direct the

1597
01:05:22,159 --> 01:05:26,509
energies into something useful instead

1598
01:05:23,690 --> 01:05:29,150
of sitting around and saying yes a cow

1599
01:05:26,510 --> 01:05:31,070
in France told me it was in distress so

1600
01:05:29,150 --> 01:05:33,380
I got on a plane that went there that's

1601
01:05:31,070 --> 01:05:35,600
true amazing it's the same reason that

1602
01:05:33,380 --> 01:05:37,820
people who have some serious illnesses

1603
01:05:35,599 --> 01:05:39,769
waste their time going to quacks instead

1604
01:05:37,820 --> 01:05:42,380
of going to doctors same reason these

1605
01:05:39,769 --> 01:05:43,789
people are do not have effects and

1606
01:05:42,380 --> 01:05:48,019
they're loaded maybe so to believe

1607
01:05:43,789 --> 01:05:50,269
comforting yeah anyway just to wrap up

1608
01:05:48,019 --> 01:05:52,070
on this one so the Alister was

1609
01:05:50,269 --> 01:05:54,079
particularly concerned because with

1610
01:05:52,070 --> 01:05:55,700
things like tick paralysis is snake bite

1611
01:05:54,079 --> 01:05:57,889
of course these are medical emergencies

1612
01:05:55,699 --> 01:05:59,299
for animals and yeah so you know this is

1613
01:05:57,889 --> 01:06:01,099
very worrying that people would be going

1614
01:05:59,300 --> 01:06:03,080
to these alternatives but what he did

1615
01:06:01,099 --> 01:06:04,489
find out and this is quite useful for

1616
01:06:03,079 --> 01:06:06,259
our listeners is if you are concerned

1617
01:06:04,489 --> 01:06:09,739
about something a product like this that

1618
01:06:06,260 --> 01:06:11,450
is being promoted for animals you can

1619
01:06:09,739 --> 01:06:13,750
report it to the Australian pesticides

1620
01:06:11,449 --> 01:06:19,819
and veterinary medicines authority at

1621
01:06:13,750 --> 01:06:21,619
www ap VMA ova you are we doing that he

1622
01:06:19,820 --> 01:06:25,250
is he is excellent and probably the

1623
01:06:21,619 --> 01:06:26,960
RSPCA to yet actually I should alert dr.

1624
01:06:25,250 --> 01:06:28,760
Alex Lucas who I interviewed a couple of

1625

01:06:26,960 --> 01:06:31,400
weeks ago he's working on designing a

1626
01:06:28,760 --> 01:06:33,950
vaccine for hookworm hmm he might just

1627
01:06:31,400 --> 01:06:38,269
use this is doing yes yes they've all

1628
01:06:33,949 --> 01:06:41,960
said all the work okay I have some good

1629
01:06:38,269 --> 01:06:43,519
news I've hopped on about religious

1630
01:06:41,960 --> 01:06:46,789
education in New South Wales schools in

1631
01:06:43,519 --> 01:06:49,519
the past and just to reiterate for those

1632
01:06:46,789 --> 01:06:53,420
who don't know the most public schools

1633
01:06:49,519 --> 01:06:55,750
in in New South Wales and and actually

1634
01:06:53,420 --> 01:06:58,970
across Australia have something called

1635
01:06:55,750 --> 01:07:00,800
religious education classes or sre which

1636
01:06:58,969 --> 01:07:02,989
is special religious education yeah a

1637
01:07:00,800 --> 01:07:04,340
lot of people also mr. all this country

1638
01:07:02,989 --> 01:07:06,889
is the common name for them in Scripture

1639
01:07:04,340 --> 01:07:09,019

yeah the official name is s re special

1640

01:07:06,889 --> 01:07:11,929

religious education in it's not about

1641

01:07:09,019 --> 01:07:13,610

religion these are these are half an

1642

01:07:11,929 --> 01:07:16,309

hour to an hour a week during which the

1643

01:07:13,610 --> 01:07:19,780

school authorities give the kids hand

1644

01:07:16,309 --> 01:07:21,639

the kids over to religious groups

1645

01:07:19,780 --> 01:07:24,700

mandated by the state

1646

01:07:21,639 --> 01:07:28,179

and it's a half an hour to an hour a

1647

01:07:24,699 --> 01:07:31,509

week of indoctrination of the worst kind

1648

01:07:28,179 --> 01:07:34,739

in some cases there were cases that I

1649

01:07:31,510 --> 01:07:37,390

know where say kids in the Catholic

1650

01:07:34,739 --> 01:07:40,689

religious education were told by the nun

1651

01:07:37,389 --> 01:07:42,308

who teaches them that anybody who's not

1652

01:07:40,690 --> 01:07:43,960

Catholic is going to hell and the kids

1653

01:07:42,309 --> 01:07:45,640

have to be six-year-old kid who had to

1654
01:07:43,960 --> 01:07:47,318
be withdrawn because he was distressed

1655
01:07:45,639 --> 01:07:50,588
about his father who was not Catholic

1656
01:07:47,318 --> 01:07:53,650
did um so there's all kinds of things

1657
01:07:50,588 --> 01:07:56,920
like that the thing is that for a long

1658
01:07:53,650 --> 01:07:59,108
time the law in New South Wales dictated

1659
01:07:56,920 --> 01:08:01,809
that children who whose parents opted

1660
01:07:59,108 --> 01:08:03,548
them out of these classes shall go to

1661
01:08:01,809 --> 01:08:05,289
the library and do nothing at all

1662
01:08:03,548 --> 01:08:06,400
they're not even allowed to read school

1663
01:08:05,289 --> 01:08:07,809
books they're allowed to read other

1664
01:08:06,400 --> 01:08:09,039
books but they're not allowed to do any

1665
01:08:07,809 --> 01:08:10,420
work you're not allowed to study

1666
01:08:09,039 --> 01:08:12,849
anything alternative the whole idea is

1667
01:08:10,420 --> 01:08:14,680
of course if you give them the law

1668
01:08:12,849 --> 01:08:16,480
basically gives the kids to an hour for

1669
01:08:14,679 --> 01:08:18,009
an hour to religious groups they will

1670
01:08:16,479 --> 01:08:21,608
obviously know what any meaningful

1671
01:08:18,009 --> 01:08:23,289
competition so so that was that's been

1672
01:08:21,609 --> 01:08:26,859
the law for a long time and recently

1673
01:08:23,289 --> 01:08:28,689
this same forgot the name of the year to

1674
01:08:26,859 --> 01:08:32,289
second i will pause this for a second

1675
01:08:28,689 --> 01:08:36,099
this practice so recently this in james

1676
01:08:32,289 --> 01:08:38,439
ethics centre started a campaign to have

1677
01:08:36,100 --> 01:08:41,380
an alternative in the shape of an ethics

1678
01:08:38,439 --> 01:08:43,439
class during that time but the idea is

1679
01:08:41,380 --> 01:08:45,338
that there's nothing you know if the

1680
01:08:43,439 --> 01:08:48,129
religious groups are saying that they're

1681
01:08:45,338 --> 01:08:50,738
teaching children ethics and morals in

1682

01:08:48,130 --> 01:08:52,150
the in that case why not just teach them

1683
01:08:50,738 --> 01:08:53,858
ethics and morals directly rather than

1684
01:08:52,149 --> 01:08:56,289
through the existence or lack of

1685
01:08:53,859 --> 01:08:59,100
existence of a supreme being of some

1686
01:08:56,289 --> 01:09:04,750
sort that that was quite a fight and

1687
01:08:59,100 --> 01:09:06,759
just I think was yesterday the Premier

1688
01:09:04,750 --> 01:09:07,929
of New South Wales Nathan Rees it's

1689
01:09:06,759 --> 01:09:09,908
announced that the government will now

1690
01:09:07,929 --> 01:09:12,810
allow a trial of an ethics course in 10

1691
01:09:09,908 --> 01:09:17,559
primary schools over two terms next year

1692
01:09:12,810 --> 01:09:18,909
I'm extremely pleased of course I don't

1693
01:09:17,560 --> 01:09:22,000
think it should have been a trial but I

1694
01:09:18,908 --> 01:09:24,338
understand how these things work I'm

1695
01:09:22,000 --> 01:09:26,948
fairly sure that if it's just 10 you

1696
01:09:24,338 --> 01:09:30,100

know the greatest arm conveyors of

1697

01:09:26,948 --> 01:09:32,528

ethics education will be chosen to a

1698

01:09:30,100 --> 01:09:34,239

teacher those ten schools and I'm sure

1699

01:09:32,529 --> 01:09:38,230

will be a great success and that will

1700

01:09:34,238 --> 01:09:40,238

to a real good alternative to kids whose

1701

01:09:38,229 --> 01:09:41,919

parents do not want to send them to

1702

01:09:40,238 --> 01:09:44,768

religiously begin classes so that's a

1703

01:09:41,920 --> 01:09:47,048

great win for reason and that's

1704

01:09:44,769 --> 01:09:50,289

fantastic news yeah great news it was

1705

01:09:47,048 --> 01:09:52,448

looking a little bit um I don't know

1706

01:09:50,288 --> 01:09:54,340

grim when it first came up a few weeks

1707

01:09:52,448 --> 01:09:56,799

ago there was immediately opposition

1708

01:09:54,340 --> 01:09:58,630

from the young the I think one of the

1709

01:09:56,800 --> 01:10:01,079

Catholic organizations well actually it

1710

01:09:58,630 --> 01:10:03,340

was more than that it turns out that the

1711
01:10:01,078 --> 01:10:06,069
sort of the i'm not sure what they're

1712
01:10:03,340 --> 01:10:07,809
called but it was a the group within the

1713
01:10:06,069 --> 01:10:10,448
department of education that's very

1714
01:10:07,809 --> 01:10:12,760
responsible for for religious education

1715
01:10:10,448 --> 01:10:15,009
for that time there are all religious

1716
01:10:12,760 --> 01:10:16,210
people and there are the ones who is

1717
01:10:15,010 --> 01:10:18,969
supposed to be the guardians of that

1718
01:10:16,210 --> 01:10:20,439
time and therefore they have the mandate

1719
01:10:18,969 --> 01:10:23,489
to say whether it's going to happen or

1720
01:10:20,439 --> 01:10:27,009
not and they objected on the grounds of

1721
01:10:23,488 --> 01:10:29,709
there being no basis for ethics and

1722
01:10:27,010 --> 01:10:31,960
morals and other than through religion

1723
01:10:29,710 --> 01:10:33,248
and all kinds of stuff like that so it's

1724
01:10:31,960 --> 01:10:35,529
a little bit of a self-fulfilling

1725
01:10:33,248 --> 01:10:37,809
prophecy so in other words will give

1726
01:10:35,529 --> 01:10:40,149
religious instruction the other children

1727
01:10:37,809 --> 01:10:42,820
don't get anything because well you know

1728
01:10:40,149 --> 01:10:44,109
they if they can't do our classes then

1729
01:10:42,819 --> 01:10:45,698
they're not going through anything and

1730
01:10:44,109 --> 01:10:47,529
therefore they won't be taught any

1731
01:10:45,698 --> 01:10:48,669
morals and ethics and see we're right if

1732
01:10:47,529 --> 01:10:51,908
you don't have religion you've got no

1733
01:10:48,670 --> 01:10:54,368
morals and ethics so they it's just

1734
01:10:51,908 --> 01:10:56,408
obviously a ridiculous and it's so it's

1735
01:10:54,368 --> 01:10:58,118
protecting you know protecting their

1736
01:10:56,408 --> 01:11:00,399
turf i completely understand i just

1737
01:10:58,118 --> 01:11:02,229
don't accept and i'm glad that this is

1738
01:11:00,399 --> 01:11:03,998
you know it's still a small win at this

1739

01:11:02,229 --> 01:11:05,948
stage because it's just a trial in some

1740
01:11:03,998 --> 01:11:09,550
sort of two terms it's only ten schools

1741
01:11:05,948 --> 01:11:11,768
but I'm it's it's the door is opened the

1742
01:11:09,550 --> 01:11:13,360
door is opened and I think that's that's

1743
01:11:11,769 --> 01:11:14,619
a great way it seems ridiculous to me

1744
01:11:13,359 --> 01:11:16,929
that this would even have to go to this

1745
01:11:14,618 --> 01:11:18,399
stage i agree but but the other thing

1746
01:11:16,929 --> 01:11:21,969
that this leaves open now is a great

1747
01:11:18,399 --> 01:11:24,998
pool of subjects for a big study right

1748
01:11:21,969 --> 01:11:27,309
so can we take the kids that sat in the

1749
01:11:24,998 --> 01:11:29,319
garden and drew roses and then take the

1750
01:11:27,309 --> 01:11:32,139
kids that did the classes and do a study

1751
01:11:29,319 --> 01:11:36,118
done downstream and see who's got the

1752
01:11:32,139 --> 01:11:39,480
the worst record for lack of ethics amor

1753
01:11:36,118 --> 01:11:42,308

we've got the sample there right mmm

1754

01:11:39,479 --> 01:11:44,119

nice we're doing someone apply for a

1755

01:11:42,309 --> 01:11:48,690

growth yeah

1756

01:11:44,119 --> 01:11:50,819

now we are all looking forward to the

1757

01:11:48,689 --> 01:11:52,469

next few days in fact as you're

1758

01:11:50,819 --> 01:11:55,619

listening to this we may well be in

1759

01:11:52,470 --> 01:11:57,720

Brisbane at the Australian skeptics

1760

01:11:55,619 --> 01:12:02,789

national convention this weekend in fact

1761

01:11:57,720 --> 01:12:06,240

the 20 28 and 29 yes yes saturday and

1762

01:12:02,789 --> 01:12:12,210

sunday yes briz skepticon that's right

1763

01:12:06,239 --> 01:12:16,679

that's a just rolls off will be selfish

1764

01:12:12,210 --> 01:12:19,560

Asia switch yes and next week on the

1765

01:12:16,680 --> 01:12:24,960

show you'll hear very very good news a

1766

01:12:19,560 --> 01:12:27,930

very young amazing news next convention

1767

01:12:24,960 --> 01:12:30,350

here in Australia November 2010 mm-hmm

1768
01:12:27,930 --> 01:12:33,450
stay tuned a very interesting exciting

1769
01:12:30,350 --> 01:12:37,770
okay uh was another item in the news

1770
01:12:33,449 --> 01:12:40,470
today and that is the son of the person

1771
01:12:37,770 --> 01:12:42,810
who designed the Opera House isn't it

1772
01:12:40,470 --> 01:12:44,850
the son's name is Jonathan he's a he's

1773
01:12:42,810 --> 01:12:47,580
an architect himself and he's now in

1774
01:12:44,850 --> 01:12:48,690
Australia designing some renovations and

1775
01:12:47,579 --> 01:12:50,819
changes that are going to be made to the

1776
01:12:48,689 --> 01:12:52,289
Opera House and not sure why is that

1777
01:12:50,819 --> 01:12:55,039
important but he's important enough for

1778
01:12:52,289 --> 01:13:01,019
the Sydney Morning Herald to report that

1779
01:12:55,039 --> 01:13:04,859
that he signed a petition to investigate

1780
01:13:01,020 --> 01:13:07,140
the September 11 conspiracy well to

1781
01:13:04,859 --> 01:13:13,019
investigate whether the supply or eleven

1782
01:13:07,140 --> 01:13:14,940
attack was was an inside job two

1783
01:13:13,020 --> 01:13:18,120
positives about that I I'm frankly I

1784
01:13:14,939 --> 01:13:19,949
don't really care what he thinks he's

1785
01:13:18,119 --> 01:13:22,050
not the only he's not he's not the only

1786
01:13:19,949 --> 01:13:23,579
nut at around and that that's that's

1787
01:13:22,050 --> 01:13:26,220
really fine but there's two things about

1788
01:13:23,579 --> 01:13:28,470
this article which I found interesting

1789
01:13:26,220 --> 01:13:30,060
one is that it starts with the following

1790
01:13:28,470 --> 01:13:32,579
paragraph it's short I'll read it as

1791
01:13:30,060 --> 01:13:35,039
conspiracy theories goes as sorry as

1792
01:13:32,579 --> 01:13:37,350
conspiracy theories go it is up there

1793
01:13:35,039 --> 01:13:39,569
with the CIA assassination of President

1794
01:13:37,350 --> 01:13:42,630
John John F Kennedy and the fake moon

1795
01:13:39,569 --> 01:13:43,920
landings so you know I'm glad that

1796

01:13:42,630 --> 01:13:46,230
they're cheering this year that's good

1797
01:13:43,920 --> 01:13:50,399
and it actually ends with also something

1798
01:13:46,229 --> 01:13:52,909
interesting that Mr Hudson said he

1799
01:13:50,399 --> 01:13:55,439
actually when he was contacted by the

1800
01:13:52,909 --> 01:13:56,970
but the journalist he said he had not

1801
01:13:55,439 --> 01:13:57,329
read any of the official reports and

1802
01:13:56,970 --> 01:13:59,039
therefore

1803
01:13:57,329 --> 01:14:02,010
did not regard himself as well informed

1804
01:13:59,039 --> 01:14:06,000
I think you're not well informed why are

1805
01:14:02,010 --> 01:14:08,250
you still a mission you comment yeah so

1806
01:14:06,000 --> 01:14:09,720
you know if I wouldn't sign a petition

1807
01:14:08,250 --> 01:14:12,750
about something I'm not informed about

1808
01:14:09,720 --> 01:14:14,550
but there's some people do yes but you

1809
01:14:12,750 --> 01:14:17,609
and your dad didn't design the Opera

1810
01:14:14,550 --> 01:14:19,920

House that's true all right well thanks

1811
01:14:17,609 --> 01:14:22,799
to Iran for coming along thank you and

1812
01:14:19,920 --> 01:14:25,470
thank you Joe thank you Richard I am

1813
01:14:22,800 --> 01:14:28,230
getting back to see ya and and I said I

1814
01:14:25,470 --> 01:14:30,360
won't be at bris skepticon however I

1815
01:14:28,229 --> 01:14:32,549
will be New York so you know if anyone

1816
01:14:30,359 --> 01:14:34,049
is around please find me on Twitter and

1817
01:14:32,550 --> 01:14:36,449
Joe been home who are you definitely

1818
01:14:34,050 --> 01:14:39,180
going I'm definitely going nothing will

1819
01:14:36,449 --> 01:14:41,340
stop me and thank you dr. Ishi once

1820
01:14:39,180 --> 01:14:42,990
again thank you Richard thank you and

1821
01:14:41,340 --> 01:14:44,640
until the next think tank in a couple of

1822
01:14:42,989 --> 01:14:46,590
weeks I guess or maybe even next week

1823
01:14:44,640 --> 01:14:50,220
i'm not sure depending on what we record

1824
01:14:46,590 --> 01:14:52,650
so on till then cheers everybody see my

1825
01:14:50,220 --> 01:14:55,970
imaginary class again very empty glasses

1826
01:14:52,649 --> 01:14:55,969
very big losses

1827
01:15:16,618 --> 01:15:18,648
Oh

1828
01:15:18,909 --> 01:15:24,099
thank you for listening to this week's

1829
01:15:20,920 --> 01:15:27,190
episode of the skeptic zone those of you

1830
01:15:24,100 --> 01:15:29,200
in Newport Beach California you have the

1831
01:15:27,189 --> 01:15:32,109
opportunity to meet yours truly Richard

1832
01:15:29,199 --> 01:15:36,760
Saunders on the second of January where

1833
01:15:32,109 --> 01:15:39,579
i'll be at the Muldoon's irish pub 202

1834
01:15:36,760 --> 01:15:42,970
newport center drive newport beach from

1835
01:15:39,579 --> 01:15:44,739
7pm to 11pm i think there's some more

1836
01:15:42,970 --> 01:15:47,650
information on facebook about that or

1837
01:15:44,739 --> 01:15:49,899
you can just ask brian dunning until the

1838
01:15:47,649 --> 01:15:52,149
next episode of the skeptic zone this is

1839
01:15:49,899 --> 01:15:57,609
Richard Saunders signing off from Sydney

1840
01:15:52,149 --> 01:16:01,869
Australia you've been listening to the

1841
01:15:57,609 --> 01:16:05,139
skeptic zone visit our website at wwc a

1842
01:16:01,869 --> 01:16:08,319
petting zoo TV for comments contacts and

1843
01:16:05,140 --> 01:16:12,090
extra video reports

1844
01:16:08,319 --> 01:16:12,090
I skin

1845
01:16:27,279 --> 01:16:29,340
you