

#27

MICHAEL SHERMER

CONSPIRACIES & CONSPIRACY THEORIES

audible ORIGINAL

CONSPIRACIES & CONSPIRACY THEORIES

WHAT WE SHOULD AND
SHOULDN'T BELIEVE—AND WHY

with Michael Shermer

THE
GREAT COURSES

ONLY FROM
audible

1
00:00:07,700 --> 00:00:05,420
welcome to tales from the rabbit hole

2
00:00:09,860 --> 00:00:07,710
I'm your host Mick West my guest today

3
00:00:11,930 --> 00:00:09,870
is dr. Michael Shara founder of the

4
00:00:13,999 --> 00:00:11,940
skeptical Society and publisher of skeptical

5
00:00:17,090 --> 00:00:14,009
magazine he's the author of numerous

6
00:00:19,340 --> 00:00:17,100
books on science and skepticism and he's

7
00:00:20,720 --> 00:00:19,350
appeared on TV many times and we're here

8
00:00:23,420 --> 00:00:20,730
to talk about his latest project

9
00:00:25,640 --> 00:00:23,430
conspiracies and conspiracy theories for

10
00:00:25,970 --> 00:00:25,650
the great courses inaudible so dr.

11
00:00:28,279 --> 00:00:25,980
Schiller

12
00:00:30,290 --> 00:00:28,289
thank you for being here and welcome no

13
00:00:31,849 --> 00:00:30,300

thanks for thanks for having me he you

14

00:00:33,049 --> 00:00:31,859

were one of my inspirations to do this

15

00:00:34,610 --> 00:00:33,059

course because I loved your book

16

00:00:36,799 --> 00:00:34,620

escaping the rabbit hole as you know I

17

00:00:39,440 --> 00:00:36,809

quote from it and numerous of the 12

18

00:00:41,420 --> 00:00:39,450

lectures yeah I was pleasantly surprised

19

00:00:43,520 --> 00:00:41,430

to come across my name a couple of times

20

00:00:45,619 --> 00:00:43,530

I service listening to it now this is

21

00:00:46,840 --> 00:00:45,629

it's an interesting project and I think

22

00:00:49,970 --> 00:00:46,850

it's kind of like a new thing for

23

00:00:52,040 --> 00:00:49,980

audible and the great courses it's kind

24

00:00:55,250 --> 00:00:52,050

of almost like a collaboration it's

25

00:00:57,260 --> 00:00:55,260

almost like a book or a course yeah so

26

00:00:59,599 --> 00:00:57,270

they they're branching out and trying

27

00:01:02,299 --> 00:00:59,609

different things you know audible it

28

00:01:04,280 --> 00:01:02,309

actually had evolved from books on tape

29

00:01:06,679 --> 00:01:04,290

back in the 80s and 90s I used to listen

30

00:01:08,450 --> 00:01:06,689

to audio books on cassette tapes with

31

00:01:10,730 --> 00:01:08,460

the Sony Walkman that's how far back I

32

00:01:12,710 --> 00:01:10,740

go and it was always a great way to

33

00:01:14,390 --> 00:01:12,720

consume content when you're driving or

34

00:01:16,880 --> 00:01:14,400

working out or doing chores or whatever

35

00:01:18,920 --> 00:01:16,890

I would do that then I had already done

36

00:01:21,170 --> 00:01:18,930

a course for the teaching company

37

00:01:24,499 --> 00:01:21,180

skepticism 101 it's based on the course

38

00:01:26,390 --> 00:01:24,509

I teach at Chapman University and and so

39

00:01:28,550 --> 00:01:26,400

one of the chapters was on conspiracy

40

00:01:30,260 --> 00:01:28,560

theories because that's a topic we deal

41

00:01:32,030 --> 00:01:30,270

with in skeptic magazine all the time

42

00:01:33,560 --> 00:01:32,040

and so then I thought well they should

43

00:01:34,999 --> 00:01:33,570

do a course on just on conspiracy

44

00:01:37,429 --> 00:01:35,009

theories because there was nothing in

45

00:01:38,690 --> 00:01:37,439

the catalog of the great courses on

46

00:01:40,940 --> 00:01:38,700

conspiracy theories and I thought well

47

00:01:43,490 --> 00:01:40,950

that would be good time to do it there's

48

00:01:46,219 --> 00:01:43,500

a ton of books I get you know books for

49

00:01:47,929 --> 00:01:46,229

review all the time and so I had a huge

50

00:01:49,730 --> 00:01:47,939

stack of conspiracy books including

51
00:01:50,960 --> 00:01:49,740
yours and I thought well I got it all

52
00:01:53,740 --> 00:01:50,970
right here I could just knock out a

53
00:01:56,899 --> 00:01:53,750
course probably in a few months so I did

54
00:01:58,609 --> 00:01:56,909
you know since the Trump election you

55
00:02:01,149 --> 00:01:58,619
know conspiracy theories are back in the

56
00:02:03,649 --> 00:02:01,159
news big time so I think it is pretty

57
00:02:06,170 --> 00:02:03,659
important to deal with it particularly

58
00:02:09,290 --> 00:02:06,180
so many of these you know sort of white

59
00:02:11,479 --> 00:02:09,300
supremacists and populist and extremists

60
00:02:13,280 --> 00:02:11,489
of left and right have conspiracy

61
00:02:13,700 --> 00:02:13,290
theories behind them for what motivates

62
00:02:17,750 --> 00:02:13,710
them

63
00:02:19,250 --> 00:02:17,760

I thought boy this is really an

64

00:02:21,020 --> 00:02:19,260

important topic not just a kind of a

65

00:02:22,850 --> 00:02:21,030

fringe like dealing with the

66

00:02:24,590 --> 00:02:22,860

flat-earthers like like you've done so

67

00:02:26,540 --> 00:02:24,600

well it's kind of fun but they're pretty

68

00:02:28,790 --> 00:02:26,550

harmless you know they're not gonna go

69

00:02:30,410 --> 00:02:28,800

out and commit mass genocide in the name

70

00:02:34,040 --> 00:02:30,420

of the flat earthers versus the

71

00:02:36,200 --> 00:02:34,050

globalists you know but by Conspirator

72

00:02:38,750 --> 00:02:36,210

conspiracy theorists you know they they

73

00:02:41,570 --> 00:02:38,760

are potentially dangerous so it's

74

00:02:43,190 --> 00:02:41,580

important yeah yeah and that's certainly

75

00:02:44,330 --> 00:02:43,200

a theme that runs through rinrin runs

76

00:02:47,000 --> 00:02:44,340

through your book the real harm of

77

00:02:48,590 --> 00:02:47,010

conspiracy theorist and yeah i really

78

00:02:50,750 --> 00:02:48,600

like the way you you did the book in

79

00:02:53,480 --> 00:02:50,760

that you I think trying to give a lot of

80

00:02:55,460 --> 00:02:53,490

context to things and you start off with

81

00:02:57,620 --> 00:02:55,470

the book in like in lesson number one

82

00:02:58,760 --> 00:02:57,630

you talk about you know there's some

83

00:03:01,210 --> 00:02:58,770

very obvious things like the

84

00:03:03,530 --> 00:03:01,220

Christchurch shooting in New Zealand

85

00:03:05,270 --> 00:03:03,540

where some guy showed up a mosque and he

86

00:03:07,850 --> 00:03:05,280

was kind of like basing his rationale

87

00:03:10,130 --> 00:03:07,860

for that essentially on conspiracy

88

00:03:13,130 --> 00:03:10,140

theorists you know there are things that

89

00:03:15,400 --> 00:03:13,140

you set out saying the harm is real

90

00:03:18,530 --> 00:03:15,410

which i think is very important

91

00:03:20,900 --> 00:03:18,540

yeah the you know when these guys post

92

00:03:23,150 --> 00:03:20,910

their so-called manifestos and you can

93

00:03:24,950 --> 00:03:23,160

go back to read say the Unabomber is

94

00:03:28,190 --> 00:03:24,960

manifesto they are really a type of

95

00:03:30,080 --> 00:03:28,200

conspiracy theory either overt

96

00:03:32,330 --> 00:03:30,090

conspiracy where some government agent

97

00:03:35,840 --> 00:03:32,340

or agency is doing something to us or

98

00:03:38,150 --> 00:03:35,850

it's more of a sort of subtle long-term

99

00:03:40,580 --> 00:03:38,160

trends of history conspiracy theory

100

00:03:41,900 --> 00:03:40,590

where you know technological society is

101
00:03:45,050 --> 00:03:41,910
moving in this direction and it's

102
00:03:47,240 --> 00:03:45,060
ruining our lives and we have to reverse

103
00:03:49,460 --> 00:03:47,250
it in case of the Unabomber those are

104
00:03:51,530 --> 00:03:49,470
all kinds of conspiracy theories things

105
00:03:53,030 --> 00:03:51,540
that they think are true that we can

106
00:03:56,990 --> 00:03:53,040
test whether they're true or not but

107
00:03:58,730 --> 00:03:57,000
have effects on behavior yeah and yeah

108
00:04:01,280 --> 00:03:58,740
another kind of thing you do in the book

109
00:04:03,470 --> 00:04:01,290
I think well is that you you make the

110
00:04:04,850 --> 00:04:03,480
point throughout the book but especially

111
00:04:07,400 --> 00:04:04,860
in the first chapter and the last

112
00:04:09,980 --> 00:04:07,410
chapter that there are lots of very real

113
00:04:12,470 --> 00:04:09,990

conspiracies and that we need to be

114

00:04:14,120 --> 00:04:12,480

aware aware of these things as well so I

115

00:04:15,650 --> 00:04:14,130

mean that's kind of like the subtitle of

116

00:04:19,490 --> 00:04:15,660

your book is like what should you

117

00:04:21,260 --> 00:04:19,500

believe and why so you know you you

118

00:04:23,030 --> 00:04:21,270

start out and I think this is a great

119

00:04:25,310 --> 00:04:23,040

way of talking to conspiracy theorists

120

00:04:27,460 --> 00:04:25,320

it's starting out by listing a whole

121

00:04:31,249 --> 00:04:27,470

bunch of a very real conspiracy

122

00:04:33,140 --> 00:04:31,259

yeah absolutely and and it's not it's

123

00:04:34,730 --> 00:04:33,150

also a good strategy in terms of like

124

00:04:37,339 --> 00:04:34,740

what you talked about in escaping the

125

00:04:39,260 --> 00:04:37,349

rabbit hole of how you talk to people in

126

00:04:41,689 --> 00:04:39,270

a way to engage them so they'll be

127

00:04:43,550 --> 00:04:41,699

honest and forthright with their beliefs

128

00:04:46,730 --> 00:04:43,560

one way is to acknowledge that sometimes

129

00:04:48,350 --> 00:04:46,740

they may be right and I find this the

130

00:04:50,149 --> 00:04:48,360

case when I was on Joe Rogan shows

131

00:04:52,490 --> 00:04:50,159

several times that you've been on you

132

00:04:54,200 --> 00:04:52,500

know he's he's really open to a lot of

133

00:04:56,719 --> 00:04:54,210

these conspiracy theories I think maybe

134

00:04:58,309 --> 00:04:56,729

more open-minded than I am about some of

135

00:05:01,279 --> 00:04:58,319

them but the but but the fact is

136

00:05:03,080 --> 00:05:01,289

sometimes even Alex Jones is right and

137

00:05:05,149 --> 00:05:03,090

so we have to we have to acknowledge

138

00:05:07,040 --> 00:05:05,159

that we can't just say well because Alex

139

00:05:08,480 --> 00:05:07,050

Jones said it that therefore it can't be

140

00:05:12,080 --> 00:05:08,490

true because he's he's crazy

141

00:05:14,959 --> 00:05:12,090

sometimes he's right and so the you know

142

00:05:16,850 --> 00:05:14,969

the rub here is well which are the true

143

00:05:19,070 --> 00:05:16,860

conspiracy theories in which were the

144

00:05:20,480 --> 00:05:19,080

false conspiracy theories so that's why

145

00:05:22,309 --> 00:05:20,490

I that's why I started making distinct

146

00:05:25,129 --> 00:05:22,319

between a conspiracy and a conspiracy

147

00:05:27,110 --> 00:05:25,139

theory spear see is you know a plot you

148

00:05:30,499 --> 00:05:27,120

know in secret by two of our people to

149

00:05:32,360 --> 00:05:30,509

gain a moral or illegal and immoral or

150

00:05:34,490 --> 00:05:32,370

illegal advantage over somebody else or

151

00:05:36,890 --> 00:05:34,500

some other group of people that that

152

00:05:39,140 --> 00:05:36,900

does happen then that the theory is the

153

00:05:42,230 --> 00:05:39,150

structured belief system around that

154

00:05:44,209 --> 00:05:42,240

conspiracy itself the question is is the

155

00:05:46,339 --> 00:05:44,219

conspiracy theory true or not which

156

00:05:48,279 --> 00:05:46,349

would then reflect on whether the

157

00:05:50,689 --> 00:05:48,289

conspiracy itself happened or not

158

00:05:52,820 --> 00:05:50,699

alright so yeah so like you know what is

159

00:05:55,790 --> 00:05:52,830

real and what isn't it's it's a it's a

160

00:05:57,860 --> 00:05:55,800

very a very difficult thing like we

161

00:06:01,089 --> 00:05:57,870

talked about the demarcation problem

162

00:06:03,469 --> 00:06:01,099

like you mentioned that later on but

163

00:06:06,110 --> 00:06:03,479

moving on to like kind of lesson to hear

164

00:06:08,029 --> 00:06:06,120

you talk about the different ways of

165

00:06:09,559 --> 00:06:08,039

classifying conspiracy theories and

166

00:06:12,890 --> 00:06:09,569

there seems to be like lots of different

167

00:06:14,570 --> 00:06:12,900

ways in which people like classify what

168

00:06:16,969 --> 00:06:14,580

is a conspiracy theory and what are the

169

00:06:17,809 --> 00:06:16,979

types of conspiracy theory I mean do you

170

00:06:19,339 --> 00:06:17,819

think there's like some kind of

171

00:06:23,269 --> 00:06:19,349

confusion here that we need to kind of

172

00:06:25,909 --> 00:06:23,279

settle on a language that we can all use

173

00:06:29,240 --> 00:06:25,919

to talk about them yeah I found that

174

00:06:32,149 --> 00:06:29,250

quite interesting that there was no kind

175

00:06:34,389 --> 00:06:32,159

of theoretical model over the study of

176

00:06:37,219 --> 00:06:34,399

conspiracy theories like in other

177

00:06:39,559 --> 00:06:37,229

branches of the social sciences you know

178

00:06:40,700 --> 00:06:39,569

the theorists and experimentalists have

179

00:06:43,670 --> 00:06:40,710

kind of

180

00:06:45,620 --> 00:06:43,680

on a particular framework about how

181

00:06:48,800 --> 00:06:45,630

they're gonna talk about the subject and

182

00:06:50,480 --> 00:06:48,810

test it and and then try to find some

183

00:06:52,250 --> 00:06:50,490

causal explanations for whatever it is

184

00:06:54,260 --> 00:06:52,260

they're studying there wasn't really

185

00:06:57,470 --> 00:06:54,270

there still isn't really anything quite

186

00:06:59,000 --> 00:06:57,480

like that for conspiracies because Percy

187

00:07:01,310 --> 00:06:59,010

theories I think in part because it's

188

00:07:05,620 --> 00:07:01,320

always been treated by scientists as

189

00:07:08,450 --> 00:07:05,630

kind of a fringy nutty borderline and

190

00:07:10,460 --> 00:07:08,460

Borderlands area that real scientists

191

00:07:13,370 --> 00:07:10,470

don't study and it's only just recently

192

00:07:15,530 --> 00:07:13,380

maybe in the last 10-15 years that a

193

00:07:17,480 --> 00:07:15,540

handful of social scientists have said

194

00:07:19,340 --> 00:07:17,490

well let's actually study this let's

195

00:07:22,040 --> 00:07:19,350

actually do a survey and find out how

196

00:07:24,260 --> 00:07:22,050

many Americans are Brits or Europeans or

197

00:07:26,350 --> 00:07:24,270

Germans or whatever believe this or that

198

00:07:29,150 --> 00:07:26,360

they're not just the moon landing or

199

00:07:31,700 --> 00:07:29,160

some crazy flat earthers or things like

200

00:07:33,170 --> 00:07:31,710

that but but but other things like to

201
00:07:37,280 --> 00:07:33,180
what extent do you think the government

202
00:07:40,160 --> 00:07:37,290
has conspired to alter the immigration

203
00:07:42,500 --> 00:07:40,170
policy that will harm our nation you

204
00:07:45,050 --> 00:07:42,510
know that's a that's a real issue that's

205
00:07:47,570 --> 00:07:45,060
in the news pretty much every day and

206
00:07:49,340 --> 00:07:47,580
you know so that's why you know I I kind

207
00:07:50,870 --> 00:07:49,350
of dove into that I'll just go through

208
00:07:51,890 --> 00:07:50,880
these some of these from my notes

209
00:07:54,350 --> 00:07:51,900
because I haven't looked at this in a

210
00:07:57,320 --> 00:07:54,360
while but you know just by category you

211
00:08:00,680 --> 00:07:57,330
know anti-semitism aliens aviation

212
00:08:02,810 --> 00:08:00,690
government medicine religion signs of

213
00:08:05,420 --> 00:08:02,820

Technology suspicious deaths of course

214

00:08:09,080 --> 00:08:05,430

is always a popular one the Clinton

215

00:08:10,760 --> 00:08:09,090

Fintan body count so oh yes well when it

216

00:08:13,370 --> 00:08:10,770

went up with Jeffrey Epstein

217

00:08:15,320 --> 00:08:13,380

yeah suici that was actually an

218

00:08:20,380 --> 00:08:15,330

interesting case on Twitter because I

219

00:08:23,090 --> 00:08:20,390

was I was posting skepticism about the

220

00:08:24,500 --> 00:08:23,100

Jeffrey Epstein so-called suicide that

221

00:08:26,900 --> 00:08:24,510

maybe he was murdered I was pretty

222

00:08:29,690 --> 00:08:26,910

skeptical of that until you know the

223

00:08:32,270 --> 00:08:29,700

story about the two cameras both failed

224

00:08:34,580 --> 00:08:32,280

in the hallways like okay that does look

225

00:08:36,650 --> 00:08:34,590

pretty bad you know no that's not proof

226

00:08:38,510 --> 00:08:36,660

that he was murdered or that the

227

00:08:41,750 --> 00:08:38,520

Clintons or whoever ordered him to be

228

00:08:44,600 --> 00:08:41,760

murdered maybe it was that you know

229

00:08:46,220 --> 00:08:44,610

cameras do fail it's possible but it to

230

00:08:47,900 --> 00:08:46,230

me it was almost reaching that tipping

231

00:08:50,360 --> 00:08:47,910

point or that kind of demarcation line

232

00:08:51,830 --> 00:08:50,370

you talk about like you know enough

233

00:08:54,000 --> 00:08:51,840

stuff builds up and you think okay

234

00:08:57,090 --> 00:08:54,010

that's pretty suspicious

235

00:08:59,579 --> 00:08:57,100

yeah I think it certainly it says it's

236

00:09:00,840 --> 00:08:59,589

very difficult to just when people just

237

00:09:02,699 --> 00:09:00,850

list the facts like that you know the

238

00:09:04,470 --> 00:09:02,709

guard didn't check on him he was taken

239

00:09:06,420 --> 00:09:04,480

off suicide watch and then the cameras

240

00:09:08,340 --> 00:09:06,430

weren't working and you know he had

241

00:09:11,040 --> 00:09:08,350

access to a a bunk bed to hang himself

242

00:09:13,379 --> 00:09:11,050

from it all seems very suspicious but of

243

00:09:16,889 --> 00:09:13,389

course though it all could be things

244

00:09:19,019 --> 00:09:16,899

that are coincidences or maybe not even

245

00:09:21,150 --> 00:09:19,029

so much coincidences like they they had

246

00:09:22,889 --> 00:09:21,160

a crappy video system in the in the jail

247

00:09:25,439 --> 00:09:22,899

or things like that it's difficult to

248

00:09:27,449 --> 00:09:25,449

tell without context but you can

249

00:09:30,269 --> 00:09:27,459

certainly see how people would get

250

00:09:32,850 --> 00:09:30,279

suspicious about things like that after

251
00:09:35,069 --> 00:09:32,860
I posted that on on Twitter somebody who

252
00:09:37,259 --> 00:09:35,079
works in the prison system wrote me to

253
00:09:38,939 --> 00:09:37,269
say you know what actually the video

254
00:09:40,860 --> 00:09:38,949
camera systems are pretty crappy in

255
00:09:44,160 --> 00:09:40,870
these places they they break down all

256
00:09:47,819 --> 00:09:44,170
the time I went oh yeah maybe I should

257
00:09:53,129 --> 00:09:50,870
I liked the framework that Jesse Walker

258
00:09:56,189 --> 00:09:53,139
outlined in the United States of

259
00:09:58,910 --> 00:09:56,199
paranoia he has five different types of

260
00:10:01,139 --> 00:09:58,920
conspiracies theories the enemy outside

261
00:10:02,790 --> 00:10:01,149
theories based on figures alleged to be

262
00:10:04,460 --> 00:10:02,800
scheming against a community from

263
00:10:06,329 --> 00:10:04,470

without and then the enemy within

264

00:10:08,879 --> 00:10:06,339

conspirators are working within our

265

00:10:10,710 --> 00:10:08,889

nation or our group the enemy above some

266

00:10:12,600 --> 00:10:10,720

powerful people manipulating things the

267

00:10:14,550 --> 00:10:12,610

enemy below features the lower classes

268

00:10:16,500 --> 00:10:14,560

working to overturn the social order a

269

00:10:18,960 --> 00:10:16,510

lot of conspiracies about unions and

270

00:10:20,730 --> 00:10:18,970

Marxists and things like that and then

271

00:10:22,710 --> 00:10:20,740

his fifth one was the benevolent

272

00:10:24,180 --> 00:10:22,720

conspiracies or angelic forces that work

273

00:10:26,340 --> 00:10:24,190

behind the scenes to improve the world

274

00:10:28,259 --> 00:10:26,350

and help people I find almost no

275

00:10:31,110 --> 00:10:28,269

conspiracy theories are positive like

276

00:10:33,269 --> 00:10:31,120

that you know when when you track moral

277

00:10:34,769 --> 00:10:33,279

progress over the centuries like people

278

00:10:37,319 --> 00:10:34,779

like myself and Steven Pinker I've done

279

00:10:38,939 --> 00:10:37,329

there are very rarely conspiracy

280

00:10:41,550 --> 00:10:38,949

theories about you know people working

281

00:10:43,019 --> 00:10:41,560

to make things better you know most of

282

00:10:45,000 --> 00:10:43,029

the conspiracy theories have a negative

283

00:10:48,000 --> 00:10:45,010

valence to them you know people are

284

00:10:51,689 --> 00:10:48,010

conspiring to do harm to somebody else

285

00:10:52,710 --> 00:10:51,699

you know so yeah I like that yeah I

286

00:10:54,930 --> 00:10:52,720

thought that was probably the most

287

00:10:58,079 --> 00:10:54,940

interesting of the different frameworks

288

00:11:01,410 --> 00:10:58,089

I mean how do you classify conspiracy

289

00:11:03,240 --> 00:11:01,420

theories I I mean I kind of don't really

290

00:11:04,949 --> 00:11:03,250

I mean I think in a way I would do it

291

00:11:06,290 --> 00:11:04,959

just on a simple way that you listed by

292

00:11:08,000 --> 00:11:06,300

the types of theories like

293

00:11:09,920 --> 00:11:08,010

no aliens I dis Emmett ISM whatever

294

00:11:13,600 --> 00:11:09,930

science because I look at like

295

00:11:17,210 --> 00:11:13,610

individual things like chemtrails and I

296

00:11:20,330 --> 00:11:17,220

find you know with the spectrum things

297

00:11:22,790 --> 00:11:20,340

kind of an individual conspiracy can

298

00:11:24,530 --> 00:11:22,800

span the spectrum quite a bit so it it

299

00:11:29,000 --> 00:11:24,540

can kind of cross over various

300

00:11:31,340 --> 00:11:29,010

categories like with with the 9/11 stuff

301
00:11:34,820 --> 00:11:31,350
you you could be part of some kind of

302
00:11:37,160 --> 00:11:34,830
New World Order Zionist yeah

303
00:11:39,380 --> 00:11:37,170
Illuminati type thing or he could just

304
00:11:40,580 --> 00:11:39,390
be here's something smaller like the

305
00:11:42,980 --> 00:11:40,590
project for a new American Century

306
00:11:46,520 --> 00:11:42,990
wanting to further their their goals in

307
00:11:48,590 --> 00:11:46,530
the Middle East so that they're the

308
00:11:50,510 --> 00:11:48,600
answer was necessarily easy to

309
00:11:52,100 --> 00:11:50,520
pigeonhole so perhaps we do need these

310
00:11:53,900 --> 00:11:52,110
different ways of classifying them like

311
00:11:55,520 --> 00:11:53,910
new you you slice them this way and you

312
00:11:58,660 --> 00:11:55,530
slice them that way and you get a

313
00:12:01,580 --> 00:11:58,670

different perspective on on what it is

314

00:12:03,410 --> 00:12:01,590

yeah I I added my own just a two-fold

315

00:12:05,420 --> 00:12:03,420

one of paranoid conspiracy theories

316

00:12:07,670 --> 00:12:05,430

versus realistic conspiracy theories of

317

00:12:09,860 --> 00:12:07,680

the paranoid ones include aliens evil

318

00:12:12,080 --> 00:12:09,870

forces world domination schemes or

319

00:12:13,550 --> 00:12:12,090

cobalt cabal so numerous and plot so

320

00:12:15,800 --> 00:12:13,560

complicated that it can ever be pulled

321

00:12:17,240 --> 00:12:15,810

off like the Bilderbergers Rockefeller

322

00:12:19,220 --> 00:12:17,250

and Rothschilds running the world's

323

00:12:19,820 --> 00:12:19,230

economies and obviously doing a crappy

324

00:12:21,380 --> 00:12:19,830

job of it

325

00:12:23,210 --> 00:12:21,390

you know the Illuminati determining

326

00:12:25,580 --> 00:12:23,220

political elections and power relations

327

00:12:27,950 --> 00:12:25,590

even 9/11 is an inside job I consider

328

00:12:29,780 --> 00:12:27,960

all those to be too paranoid to be

329

00:12:32,360 --> 00:12:29,790

realistic and realistic ones more like

330

00:12:34,670 --> 00:12:32,370

you know Volkswagen conspiring to cheat

331

00:12:36,620 --> 00:12:34,680

the emissions regulations in Europe you

332

00:12:39,380 --> 00:12:36,630

know Watergate may be the Russian

333

00:12:41,480 --> 00:12:39,390

hacking of the 2016 election you know

334

00:12:44,630 --> 00:12:41,490

those you know Wells Fargo opening fake

335

00:12:46,240 --> 00:12:44,640

bank accounts those things are not only

336

00:12:49,100 --> 00:12:46,250

they real but that's really more

337

00:12:51,170 --> 00:12:49,110

accurate of what actually happens that

338

00:12:54,530 --> 00:12:51,180

you most conspiracies that are real are

339

00:12:56,450 --> 00:12:54,540

kind of more narrowly focused you know

340

00:12:58,700 --> 00:12:56,460

some direct targeted thing just that

341

00:13:01,660 --> 00:12:58,710

thing right there you know so you could

342

00:13:04,970 --> 00:13:01,670

definitely see like Putin in his

343

00:13:07,190 --> 00:13:04,980

colleagues they're operating to

344

00:13:09,410 --> 00:13:07,200

manipulate social media to give Trump

345

00:13:11,420 --> 00:13:09,420

yeah it's a very specific thing it's not

346

00:13:13,540 --> 00:13:11,430

like the conspiracy theory is that Putin

347

00:13:17,990 --> 00:13:13,550

wants to take over the world you know

348

00:13:19,220 --> 00:13:18,000

she probably does he may very well or at

349

00:13:19,790 --> 00:13:19,230

least probably wants to cobble together

350

00:13:22,579 --> 00:13:19,800

something

351

00:13:24,199 --> 00:13:22,589

like the USSR in all the Baltic States

352

00:13:25,250 --> 00:13:24,209

and so on he would probably like to do

353

00:13:25,639 --> 00:13:25,260

that I don't think he can do that

354

00:13:27,590 --> 00:13:25,649

anymore

355

00:13:30,500 --> 00:13:27,600

you know just just what he did in Krait

356

00:13:33,110 --> 00:13:30,510

with Crimea that was a conspiracy and he

357

00:13:35,329 --> 00:13:33,120

pulled it off although it wasn't such a

358

00:13:36,710 --> 00:13:35,339

secret conspiracies but he kind of tried

359

00:13:39,740 --> 00:13:36,720

to make it that way remember the Russian

360

00:13:42,110 --> 00:13:39,750

soldiers were not wearing uniforms clear

361

00:13:44,030 --> 00:13:42,120

little green men they called them that

362

00:13:45,470 --> 00:13:44,040

was an interesting thing I voted on with

363

00:13:47,030 --> 00:13:45,480

little green men because I think they

364

00:13:49,069 --> 00:13:47,040

wore green I guess they were they were

365

00:13:50,840 --> 00:13:49,079

short or something many people thought

366

00:13:52,490 --> 00:13:50,850

that was evidence that there were aliens

367

00:13:54,319 --> 00:13:52,500

in our mist because there was stories

368

00:13:57,280 --> 00:13:54,329

about the army talking about little

369

00:14:00,139 --> 00:13:57,290

green men yeah so there's a short-lived

370

00:14:02,329 --> 00:14:00,149

flurry of interesting aliens at the time

371

00:14:04,579 --> 00:14:02,339

but a couple of generalizations that

372

00:14:07,699 --> 00:14:04,589

some social scientists have made is is

373

00:14:09,860 --> 00:14:07,709

having to do with power that is people

374

00:14:12,319 --> 00:14:09,870

out of power tend to think people in

375

00:14:15,380 --> 00:14:12,329

power have more power than they have and

376

00:14:19,009 --> 00:14:15,390

therefore that makes them more paranoid

377

00:14:20,870 --> 00:14:19,019

or more concerned or anxious about what

378

00:14:23,199 --> 00:14:20,880

they may be doing behind closed doors

379

00:14:26,510 --> 00:14:23,209

yeah it turns out that you know that

380

00:14:28,490 --> 00:14:26,520

fortune 500 CEOs and and major

381

00:14:30,079 --> 00:14:28,500

politicians generally don't have as much

382

00:14:32,269 --> 00:14:30,089

power as we think that they do and the

383

00:14:36,079 --> 00:14:32,279

people that get in there often surprise

384

00:14:37,850 --> 00:14:36,089

about what they can't do and you know

385

00:14:39,079 --> 00:14:37,860

it's like my the joke I make about you

386

00:14:40,400 --> 00:14:39,089

know when you get elected president they

387

00:14:41,870 --> 00:14:40,410

take you in the back room they go okay

388

00:14:43,460 --> 00:14:41,880

here's what's actually going on in the

389

00:14:44,720 --> 00:14:43,470

Middle East this is why we can't pull

390

00:14:47,030 --> 00:14:44,730

the troops out this is why we can't

391

00:14:49,040 --> 00:14:47,040

close Gitmo this is why we can't end

392

00:14:50,569 --> 00:14:49,050

this war and so on and and look what

393

00:14:52,280 --> 00:14:50,579

just happened yesterday with you know

394

00:14:54,800 --> 00:14:52,290

Trump says you know okay I'm gonna pull

395

00:14:57,350 --> 00:14:54,810

the troops out of out of northern Syria

396

00:14:58,670 --> 00:14:57,360

and Turkey's gonna go do their thing you

397

00:15:01,250 --> 00:14:58,680

know it's like we've been there forever

398

00:15:03,350 --> 00:15:01,260

enough is enough boom even his own party

399

00:15:06,199 --> 00:15:03,360

leaders were you know hard on that it's

400

00:15:07,550 --> 00:15:06,209

like wait we were doing what again now

401
00:15:08,540 --> 00:15:07,560
cuz I didn't really follow that the

402
00:15:11,240 --> 00:15:08,550
Kurds and this and that

403
00:15:14,389 --> 00:15:11,250
oh okay so we've been knee-deep in the

404
00:15:15,740 --> 00:15:14,399
muddy there for a long time and you know

405
00:15:17,509 --> 00:15:15,750
a lot of this stuff goes on behind

406
00:15:19,490 --> 00:15:17,519
closed doors and phone calls and so on

407
00:15:21,019 --> 00:15:19,500
and then stuff happens that's a kind of

408
00:15:24,889 --> 00:15:21,029
conspiracy but again it's very narrowly

409
00:15:26,420 --> 00:15:24,899
focused having to do with power and you

410
00:15:27,889 --> 00:15:26,430
know so some of the research shows for

411
00:15:30,310 --> 00:15:27,899
example that there's no racial

412
00:15:32,960 --> 00:15:30,320
differences in could spirit conspiracy

413
00:15:35,329 --> 00:15:32,970

thinking you know but but but

414

00:15:37,150 --> 00:15:35,339

but but the target of the conspiracy

415

00:15:38,929 --> 00:15:37,160

theory is is racially bad so

416

00:15:40,340 --> 00:15:38,939

african-americans for example are more

417

00:15:42,710 --> 00:15:40,350

likely to think the government conspired

418

00:15:45,949 --> 00:15:42,720

to plant crack cocaine in inner cities

419

00:15:47,929 --> 00:15:45,959

or created the AIDS virus to decimate

420

00:15:49,400 --> 00:15:47,939

the african-american population whites

421

00:15:51,530 --> 00:15:49,410

don't worry about that White's worry

422

00:15:54,079 --> 00:15:51,540

about you know the government's

423

00:15:56,300 --> 00:15:54,089

conspiring to take away the Second

424

00:15:58,309 --> 00:15:56,310

Amendment and confiscate our guns that

425

00:15:59,900 --> 00:15:58,319

that sort of thing so no difference

426
00:16:02,809 --> 00:15:59,910
between blacks and whites except for the

427
00:16:05,449 --> 00:16:02,819
kinds of conspiracy that they embrace

428
00:16:07,550 --> 00:16:05,459
having again to do with somebody's

429
00:16:09,259 --> 00:16:07,560
trying to control us some powerful

430
00:16:12,319 --> 00:16:09,269
entity usually it's a government agency

431
00:16:14,090 --> 00:16:12,329
but sometimes corporations so the power

432
00:16:17,019 --> 00:16:14,100
thing I'm not sure how the power thing

433
00:16:19,309 --> 00:16:17,029
would involve say the flat-earthers or

434
00:16:21,889 --> 00:16:19,319
maybe the creationists or something like

435
00:16:23,569 --> 00:16:21,899
that they do think it's kind of a power

436
00:16:26,210 --> 00:16:23,579
thing the Flat Earth people they think

437
00:16:29,629 --> 00:16:26,220
that tricking people into believing the

438
00:16:30,949 --> 00:16:29,639

earth is round is a way of the powers

439

00:16:33,139 --> 00:16:30,959

that be kind of asserting their

440

00:16:36,230 --> 00:16:33,149

authority over people it's kind of like

441

00:16:37,579 --> 00:16:36,240

they you know the thing in 1984 where

442

00:16:40,879 --> 00:16:37,589

you make someone believe something that

443

00:16:42,290 --> 00:16:40,889

just Falls two plus two equals five if

444

00:16:44,179 --> 00:16:42,300

you if you can force someone to believe

445

00:16:47,480 --> 00:16:44,189

something that is false then you have

446

00:16:48,920 --> 00:16:47,490

control over their their mind that's

447

00:16:50,990 --> 00:16:48,930

true that is that is a kind of power

448

00:16:55,369 --> 00:16:51,000

that's right a psychological power yeah

449

00:16:58,189 --> 00:16:55,379

yeah yeah I was curious if if you'd seen

450

00:16:59,720 --> 00:16:58,199

that Netflix film behind the curve yeah

451
00:17:01,100 --> 00:16:59,730
you probably seen that you know I was

452
00:17:03,139 --> 00:17:01,110
thinking about the psychology the people

453
00:17:05,390 --> 00:17:03,149
that attended that conference that they

454
00:17:06,679 --> 00:17:05,400
they had the camera crew there and I

455
00:17:09,919 --> 00:17:06,689
think you might be right there might be

456
00:17:12,679 --> 00:17:09,929
a sense of empowerment that we are in

457
00:17:15,620 --> 00:17:12,689
this room and those of us behind these

458
00:17:17,720 --> 00:17:15,630
closed doors here we know what's really

459
00:17:18,949 --> 00:17:17,730
going on you kind of see it in their

460
00:17:20,840 --> 00:17:18,959
face that maybe they're otherwise kind

461
00:17:23,929 --> 00:17:20,850
of nerdy powerless people or whatever

462
00:17:25,850 --> 00:17:23,939
but now they have at that moment like we

463
00:17:27,679 --> 00:17:25,860

we are empowered with this secret

464

00:17:29,539 --> 00:17:27,689

knowledge yeah they really enjoy it I

465

00:17:32,120 --> 00:17:29,549

actually went to a Flat Earth conference

466

00:17:34,490 --> 00:17:32,130

I got invited to speak there it was this

467

00:17:36,529 --> 00:17:34,500

weird one have you heard of Mad Mike

468

00:17:41,180 --> 00:17:36,539

Hughes the the rocket guy who was trying

469

00:17:43,220 --> 00:17:41,190

to shoot a steam rocket he he organized

470

00:17:44,240 --> 00:17:43,230

a little conference and they invited me

471

00:17:45,950 --> 00:17:44,250

as the

472

00:17:48,410 --> 00:17:45,960

kind of guest of honor to speak as asked

473

00:17:50,210 --> 00:17:48,420

from the sceptic point of view and so I

474

00:17:52,040 --> 00:17:50,220

got to talk there and meet all these

475

00:17:53,330 --> 00:17:52,050

people he was a very poorly attended

476
00:17:55,610 --> 00:17:53,340
conference but the people they were

477
00:17:57,470 --> 00:17:55,620
really nice and they just seemed on the

478
00:17:59,210 --> 00:17:57,480
whole to be just like ordinary people

479
00:18:02,150 --> 00:17:59,220
maybe a little bit more kind of like

480
00:18:04,010 --> 00:18:02,160
hippy and crystal type people than their

481
00:18:06,950 --> 00:18:04,020
own average but still they were just

482
00:18:09,970 --> 00:18:06,960
just ordinary people and it was it was

483
00:18:12,320 --> 00:18:09,980
kind of very strange that they have this

484
00:18:14,510 --> 00:18:12,330
normality and then they also have this

485
00:18:16,160 --> 00:18:14,520
very very weird set of beliefs whether

486
00:18:18,140 --> 00:18:16,170
it is you know lots of people have

487
00:18:20,390 --> 00:18:18,150
strange beliefs as you know people in

488
00:18:22,160 --> 00:18:20,400

all kinds of weird yeah I went back in

489

00:18:25,190 --> 00:18:22,170

the 90s I went to an alien abductee

490

00:18:26,510 --> 00:18:25,200

conference oh man bunch of them and it

491

00:18:27,830 --> 00:18:26,520

was the same kind of thing it's like

492

00:18:30,500 --> 00:18:27,840

otherwise they're just sort of normal

493

00:18:32,870 --> 00:18:30,510

powerless people but in this room it's

494

00:18:35,600 --> 00:18:32,880

like we have all shared this experience

495

00:18:37,850 --> 00:18:35,610

we know it's real and they had kind of

496

00:18:39,170 --> 00:18:37,860

read a little bit about sleep paralysis

497

00:18:41,470 --> 00:18:39,180

and some of the psychological

498

00:18:43,580 --> 00:18:41,480

explanations this is all in your head

499

00:18:45,260 --> 00:18:43,590

that you know they don't they absolutely

500

00:18:47,750 --> 00:18:45,270

reject that you know and they think

501
00:18:49,190 --> 00:18:47,760
something did happen to us we are it's

502
00:18:51,650 --> 00:18:49,200
almost like a chosen people kind of

503
00:18:52,610 --> 00:18:51,660
thing wow the aliens are out there and

504
00:18:54,530 --> 00:18:52,620
they care about us

505
00:18:56,150 --> 00:18:54,540
I mean they cared about us enough to

506
00:18:59,060 --> 00:18:56,160
come into my bedroom in the middle of

507
00:19:01,040 --> 00:18:59,070
the night and take me away and that you

508
00:19:02,900 --> 00:19:01,050
could kind of see the empowerment that

509
00:19:04,640 --> 00:19:02,910
they gave them like I have this

510
00:19:06,200 --> 00:19:04,650
knowledge about this thing that happened

511
00:19:08,030 --> 00:19:06,210
my friend Lee MacIntyre who's a

512
00:19:10,040 --> 00:19:08,040
philosopher of science at Boston

513
00:19:11,930 --> 00:19:10,050

University and he wrote a book called

514

00:19:13,490 --> 00:19:11,940

post truth and then his new book is the

515

00:19:15,950 --> 00:19:13,500

scientific attitude he's just a guest

516

00:19:17,480 --> 00:19:15,960

lecturer in my Chapman class Monday

517

00:19:18,980 --> 00:19:17,490

night and he was talking about he went

518

00:19:22,430 --> 00:19:18,990

to one of these flat earth conferences

519

00:19:25,190 --> 00:19:22,440

just the one last maybe six months ago

520

00:19:26,720 --> 00:19:25,200

or so here in the states and he said was

521

00:19:28,310 --> 00:19:26,730

the same kind of thing like behind these

522

00:19:30,260 --> 00:19:28,320

closed doors in this conference hotel

523

00:19:32,600 --> 00:19:30,270

conference room boy we have got the

524

00:19:34,760 --> 00:19:32,610

special knowledge and he didn't exactly

525

00:19:36,860 --> 00:19:34,770

go undercover he was just quiet and he'd

526

00:19:38,660 --> 00:19:36,870

signed up paid the entry fee and so on

527

00:19:40,430 --> 00:19:38,670

and and just sat there for the first day

528

00:19:42,320 --> 00:19:40,440

but the second day he came out as a

529

00:19:44,780 --> 00:19:42,330

skeptic you know I know we don't believe

530

00:19:47,390 --> 00:19:44,790

this yeah I'm not I'm a social scientist

531

00:19:48,500 --> 00:19:47,400

for not a physicist but you know let's

532

00:19:51,260 --> 00:19:48,510

just go through some of the arguments

533

00:19:54,200 --> 00:19:51,270

and so he was curious as a philosopher

534

00:19:57,230 --> 00:19:54,210

who studies reasoning if he could reason

535

00:19:59,210 --> 00:19:57,240

people out of a belief that they hold

536

00:20:01,760 --> 00:19:59,220

because this is an interesting new area

537

00:20:02,840 --> 00:20:01,770

of research now the backfire effect you

538

00:20:05,210 --> 00:20:02,850

know when you talk to somebody about

539

00:20:07,159 --> 00:20:05,220

climate change it only they double down

540

00:20:08,659 --> 00:20:07,169

on it but those studies have not been

541

00:20:10,279 --> 00:20:08,669

replicated and now there's some new

542

00:20:12,860 --> 00:20:10,289

research showing that you actually can

543

00:20:16,039 --> 00:20:12,870

talk people out of say climate denial or

544

00:20:17,570 --> 00:20:16,049

creationism or whatever if you but but

545

00:20:20,000 --> 00:20:17,580

it has to be done in a particular way

546

00:20:22,090 --> 00:20:20,010

where you're not insulting you're not

547

00:20:25,430 --> 00:20:22,100

challenging their deeper worldview you

548

00:20:28,730 --> 00:20:25,440

present the facts in a way that it kind

549

00:20:31,610 --> 00:20:28,740

of particularly a visual official visual

550

00:20:33,590 --> 00:20:31,620

data rather than just numbers you know

551

00:20:35,320 --> 00:20:33,600

apparently you know we're a visual

552

00:20:38,510 --> 00:20:35,330

primate species so we respond more to

553

00:20:40,430 --> 00:20:38,520

visual stimuli and you kind of went

554

00:20:42,289 --> 00:20:40,440

through a handful of these things that I

555

00:20:43,610 --> 00:20:42,299

too have experienced like it and if you

556

00:20:46,549 --> 00:20:43,620

tell people you got to choose between

557

00:20:48,440 --> 00:20:46,559

Darwin and Jesus you know they're not

558

00:20:50,299 --> 00:20:48,450

picking Darwin you know bit but but but

559

00:20:52,760 --> 00:20:50,309

don't couch it like that you let me give

560

00:20:54,380 --> 00:20:52,770

up I have to give up my entire Christian

561

00:20:56,260 --> 00:20:54,390

worldview and everything I believe my

562

00:20:59,210 --> 00:20:56,270

whole life for this theory of evolution

563

00:21:01,190 --> 00:20:59,220

forget yeah it's very difficult to get

564

00:21:03,440 --> 00:21:01,200

around that that that kind of false

565

00:21:06,350 --> 00:21:03,450

dichotomy though I talk to the UFO

566

00:21:09,230 --> 00:21:06,360

people quite a lot and they always kind

567

00:21:11,299 --> 00:21:09,240

of leap from me explaining one

568

00:21:13,490 --> 00:21:11,309

particular thing to saying that oh well

569

00:21:17,690 --> 00:21:13,500

you haven't you haven't debunked UFOs as

570

00:21:19,639 --> 00:21:17,700

if I was trying to debunk UFOs so now I

571

00:21:21,139 --> 00:21:19,649

have to start out saying this doesn't

572

00:21:22,940 --> 00:21:21,149

prove everything or you know at the end

573

00:21:24,139 --> 00:21:22,950

of a little video I will put in a

574

00:21:25,700 --> 00:21:24,149

disclaimer saying all I've done is

575

00:21:27,470 --> 00:21:25,710

explain this one little thing and that

576

00:21:29,240 --> 00:21:27,480

doesn't mean anything about and if the

577

00:21:31,159 --> 00:21:29,250

other beliefs or the other cases or the

578

00:21:35,149 --> 00:21:31,169

other bits of evidence so I think they

579

00:21:36,950 --> 00:21:35,159

kind of automatically yeah leap from one

580

00:21:38,389 --> 00:21:36,960

thing being wrong to everything being

581

00:21:40,610 --> 00:21:38,399

wrong which makes it very difficult to

582

00:21:42,529 --> 00:21:40,620

actually address like individual pieces

583

00:21:45,460 --> 00:21:42,539

of evidence yes deep pker makes this

584

00:21:49,039 --> 00:21:45,470

point about climate change that it got

585

00:21:51,889 --> 00:21:49,049

affiliated or tethered to liberalism

586

00:21:55,159 --> 00:21:51,899

because Al Gore's film An Inconvenient

587

00:21:59,210 --> 00:21:55,169

Truth was so huge you know won an Oscar

588

00:22:00,680 --> 00:21:59,220

and Academy or whatever it won and of

589

00:22:02,870 --> 00:22:00,690

course he was the vice president of the

590

00:22:04,940 --> 00:22:02,880

you know the Liberal Party so you know

591

00:22:07,730 --> 00:22:04,950

now climate change becomes a liberal

592

00:22:09,919 --> 00:22:07,740

cause so even if you know nothing about

593

00:22:10,640 --> 00:22:09,929

it you have to be against it if you're

594

00:22:12,110 --> 00:22:10,650

concerned

595

00:22:14,870 --> 00:22:12,120

Republican because it's a it's a

596

00:22:16,880 --> 00:22:14,880

left-wing thing so so when you comment

597

00:22:18,650 --> 00:22:16,890

publicly Pinker makes this point that

598

00:22:20,060 --> 00:22:18,660

you know most people don't know anything

599

00:22:22,250 --> 00:22:20,070

about climate science it's a it's a

600

00:22:24,920 --> 00:22:22,260

technical science so but but I can I can

601
00:22:27,140 --> 00:22:24,930
Virtue's signal to my group I'm so

602
00:22:31,250 --> 00:22:27,150
committed to our party that I'm gonna

603
00:22:32,930 --> 00:22:31,260
deny this theory over here and in a way

604
00:22:34,850 --> 00:22:32,940
I think that explains a lot of what goes

605
00:22:36,590 --> 00:22:34,860
on here you know you don't have to know

606
00:22:39,110 --> 00:22:36,600
the arguments the specific things I'm

607
00:22:42,350 --> 00:22:39,120
just giving a virtue signal that I

608
00:22:44,870 --> 00:22:42,360
belong to this group yeah my endorsing

609
00:22:47,750 --> 00:22:44,880
this or denying that yeah I think that

610
00:22:48,950 --> 00:22:47,760
kind of extends individuals as well I

611
00:22:52,400 --> 00:22:48,960
remember you were on a show called

612
00:22:53,780 --> 00:22:52,410
conspiracy road trip like years ago yeah

613
00:22:56,870 --> 00:22:53,790

I remember there was a scene where I

614

00:22:59,600 --> 00:22:56,880

think they introduce you to the the

615

00:23:01,040 --> 00:22:59,610

conspiracists and you got on the bus and

616

00:23:02,390 --> 00:23:01,050

there was one woman there and she was

617

00:23:03,410 --> 00:23:02,400

like oh I know who you are I'm not gonna

618

00:23:06,980 --> 00:23:03,420

listen to anything you say

619

00:23:08,900 --> 00:23:06,990

and she was ready to dismiss everything

620

00:23:10,700 --> 00:23:08,910

you said just because you know you were

621

00:23:13,640 --> 00:23:10,710

Michael Shermer a skeptic who she knew

622

00:23:16,340 --> 00:23:13,650

was kind of opposed to her so you get

623

00:23:18,380 --> 00:23:16,350

this automatic poisoning the well thing

624

00:23:21,710 --> 00:23:18,390

which is also a very difficult thing to

625

00:23:23,510 --> 00:23:21,720

to get around yeah we ended up actually

626

00:23:26,480 --> 00:23:23,520

having drinks later on with the whole

627

00:23:28,220 --> 00:23:26,490

group at the bar after the sort of post

628

00:23:29,870 --> 00:23:28,230

wrapped dinner that they had for all of

629

00:23:31,550 --> 00:23:29,880

us and she was super friendly at that

630

00:23:33,050 --> 00:23:31,560

point and she even said you know I had

631

00:23:33,050 --> 00:23:33,910

no idea I thought you were just this

632

00:23:38,840 --> 00:23:36,410

this person I just wanted to

633

00:23:40,880 --> 00:23:38,850

hate and yeah you're a nice guy and it's

634

00:23:44,330 --> 00:23:40,890

like okay so maybe it pays to be a nice

635

00:23:45,770 --> 00:23:44,340

guy at the start that's interesting

636

00:23:47,540 --> 00:23:45,780

because I've had the exact same reaction

637

00:23:50,900 --> 00:23:47,550

like I went over to the plateau of

638

00:23:52,310 --> 00:23:50,910

conference you know I'm a nice guy chat

639

00:23:53,540 --> 00:23:52,320

with people and I'm friendly and

640

00:23:55,580 --> 00:23:53,550

everything and everyone was like whoa

641

00:23:57,800 --> 00:23:55,590

you're my quest like I thought you end

642

00:23:59,960 --> 00:23:57,810

up in some kind of like arrogant no it's

643

00:24:03,800 --> 00:23:59,970

all who was like making fun of

644

00:24:04,880 --> 00:24:03,810

us and so yeah I think it's it you've

645

00:24:07,700 --> 00:24:04,890

got to get that across there to people

646

00:24:10,670 --> 00:24:07,710

and and media is a great way of doing it

647

00:24:13,520 --> 00:24:10,680

but yeah otherwise it's difficult and

648

00:24:15,680 --> 00:24:13,530

and and and abyssal dining and drinking

649

00:24:17,510 --> 00:24:15,690

with people is a more social friendly

650

00:24:19,100 --> 00:24:17,520

thing back in the 90s when I first

651
00:24:21,440 --> 00:24:19,110
started investigating the Holocaust

652
00:24:22,620 --> 00:24:21,450
deniers of course they don't call

653
00:24:24,570 --> 00:24:22,630
themselves that

654
00:24:26,279 --> 00:24:24,580
but they were in Costa Mesa right down

655
00:24:27,779 --> 00:24:26,289
the road from me so I went down to the

656
00:24:29,490 --> 00:24:27,789
Institute for historical review and met

657
00:24:31,529 --> 00:24:29,500
them now they have kind of a conspiracy

658
00:24:33,150 --> 00:24:31,539
theory you know that the Jews are doing

659
00:24:35,789 --> 00:24:33,160
this and the Jews are doing that and

660
00:24:37,890 --> 00:24:35,799
it's it's pretty obvious once you dig

661
00:24:39,510 --> 00:24:37,900
not even very deep you know that there's

662
00:24:41,690 --> 00:24:39,520
a lot of anti-semitism and particularly

663
00:24:43,890 --> 00:24:41,700

anti-zionism they don't rely cos rayul

664

00:24:45,900 --> 00:24:43,900

but they really warmed up to me just

665

00:24:47,130 --> 00:24:45,910

like not the formal interview you know

666

00:24:48,779 --> 00:24:47,140

with the microphone and stuff but

667

00:24:50,490 --> 00:24:48,789

actually just going out for a beer and

668

00:24:52,080 --> 00:24:50,500

pizza afterwards and you know they kind

669

00:24:53,640 --> 00:24:52,090

of open up you know at first they didn't

670

00:24:55,710 --> 00:24:53,650

say much about Israel and the Jews you

671

00:24:57,750 --> 00:24:55,720

know they're just saying well we we just

672

00:24:59,669 --> 00:24:57,760

doubt the specific thing right here you

673

00:25:02,789 --> 00:24:59,679

know there were no holes in the in the

674

00:25:06,060 --> 00:25:02,799

gas chamber at Auschwitz Birkenau

675

00:25:08,310 --> 00:25:06,070

crema number two this was a such a

676

00:25:10,500 --> 00:25:08,320

classic case of you know if I can get

677

00:25:12,180 --> 00:25:10,510

some little minutiae thing and show that

678

00:25:14,549 --> 00:25:12,190

it's wrong then the whole edifice will

679

00:25:16,409 --> 00:25:14,559

collapse and this became actually our

680

00:25:20,100 --> 00:25:16,419

little rallying cry and David Irving's

681

00:25:22,350 --> 00:25:20,110

trial in England but we're no holes no

682

00:25:23,909 --> 00:25:22,360

Holocaust like what you know people

683

00:25:26,730 --> 00:25:23,919

could not figure out what the hell this

684

00:25:28,289 --> 00:25:26,740

had to do with well so he says if you go

685

00:25:31,680 --> 00:25:28,299

to Auschwitz Birkenau

686

00:25:33,419 --> 00:25:31,690

can you go to crema two or three the two

687

00:25:35,010 --> 00:25:33,429

big ones there was four there actually

688

00:25:37,470 --> 00:25:35,020

but the two big ones there and there's

689

00:25:39,149 --> 00:25:37,480

no holes on the on the gas chamber

690

00:25:41,340 --> 00:25:39,159

ceilings well these were subterranean

691

00:25:44,100 --> 00:25:41,350

gas chambers the ceiling was maybe three

692

00:25:46,470 --> 00:25:44,110

feet high and the induction ports where

693

00:25:48,990 --> 00:25:46,480

they poured the zyklon-b into the

694

00:25:51,330 --> 00:25:49,000

chamber were just maybe another foot or

695

00:25:53,640 --> 00:25:51,340

two above this subterranean thang anyway

696

00:25:56,820 --> 00:25:53,650

the eyewitnesses said the SS guards

697

00:25:58,470 --> 00:25:56,830

clamored up on top of this roof and then

698

00:26:00,330 --> 00:25:58,480

took the lid off and poured the zyklon-b

699

00:26:02,940 --> 00:26:00,340

pellets into the wire-mesh columns and

700

00:26:05,669 --> 00:26:02,950

then so the gaseum would occur okay so

701
00:26:07,529 --> 00:26:05,679
if you go there there's no holes mmm

702
00:26:09,899 --> 00:26:07,539
says David Irving so it's like what so

703
00:26:11,340 --> 00:26:09,909
if that was not true and then maybe no

704
00:26:13,320 --> 00:26:11,350
one was gassed at Auschwitz and if no

705
00:26:15,060 --> 00:26:13,330
one was gassed at Auschwitz maybe no one

706
00:26:16,740 --> 00:26:15,070
was guest at my donek and Treblinka and

707
00:26:19,380 --> 00:26:16,750
so no one was gassed anywhere

708
00:26:21,480 --> 00:26:19,390
maybe the Nazis did not have a plan to

709
00:26:24,270 --> 00:26:21,490
exterminate European Jewry maybe all

710
00:26:25,320 --> 00:26:24,280
those deaths we've seen not as many as 6

711
00:26:27,180 --> 00:26:25,330
million but maybe a couple hundred

712
00:26:29,820 --> 00:26:27,190
thousand to a million or two those are

713
00:26:30,930 --> 00:26:29,830

due to disease and overwork and war is

714

00:26:32,760 --> 00:26:30,940

bad and so on

715

00:26:34,440 --> 00:26:32,770

ok that's their argument but if you go

716

00:26:35,640 --> 00:26:34,450

to Auschwitz Birkenau to cream of 2

717

00:26:36,270 --> 00:26:35,650

you'll see there's no holes because

718

00:26:39,780 --> 00:26:36,280

there's no room

719

00:26:41,700 --> 00:26:39,790

the Nazis dynamited as the Russians were

720

00:26:44,160 --> 00:26:41,710

moving in in January 1942 feels like

721

00:26:45,810 --> 00:26:44,170

well you know I could not confronted him

722

00:26:48,120 --> 00:26:45,820

about this and he doesn't back down no

723

00:26:51,870 --> 00:26:48,130

no holes no Holocaust er I kind of went

724

00:26:54,690 --> 00:26:51,880

down this little rant exhibit as an

725

00:26:56,550 --> 00:26:54,700

example of you know just how you take

726
00:26:58,500 --> 00:26:56,560
one little tiny thing and try to you

727
00:27:00,630 --> 00:26:58,510
know to take down the entire edifice and

728
00:27:03,030 --> 00:27:00,640
you make this point also when you deal

729
00:27:05,790 --> 00:27:03,040
with the 9/11 truthers that you know

730
00:27:09,570 --> 00:27:05,800
they kind of feel like you can't explain

731
00:27:11,970 --> 00:27:09,580
every single anomaly and the problem is

732
00:27:13,560 --> 00:27:11,980
is we can't explain every single anomaly

733
00:27:15,000 --> 00:27:13,570
Richard Dawkins makes this point about

734
00:27:18,060 --> 00:27:15,010
the creationists they'll say if you

735
00:27:20,730 --> 00:27:18,070
can't explain the left elbow of the

736
00:27:23,160 --> 00:27:20,740
Amazon green tree frog and where that

737
00:27:25,050 --> 00:27:23,170
came from then therefore evolution did

738
00:27:27,810 --> 00:27:25,060

not happen and therefore no species

739

00:27:29,400 --> 00:27:27,820

evolved he's like we can't explain every

740

00:27:32,790 --> 00:27:29,410

single little thing about the living

741

00:27:34,530 --> 00:27:32,800

world and in any major event like 9/11

742

00:27:36,300 --> 00:27:34,540

there's got to be just little weird

743

00:27:38,070 --> 00:27:36,310

things that happen and the same thing

744

00:27:40,530 --> 00:27:38,080

with the Holocaust errs they made a big

745

00:27:43,290 --> 00:27:40,540

thing about the door at the gas chamber

746

00:27:44,910 --> 00:27:43,300

at my donek doesn't lock and if you

747

00:27:46,080 --> 00:27:44,920

can't lock a gas chamber door how you

748

00:27:48,810 --> 00:27:46,090

gonna gas a bunch of people are gonna

749

00:27:50,490 --> 00:27:48,820

want to push it out so we went there my

750

00:27:54,330 --> 00:27:50,500

co-author Alex Grubman and I went there

751

00:27:55,890 --> 00:27:54,340

and so and I had a list from just when I

752

00:27:57,660 --> 00:27:55,900

went down to visit them in Costa Mesa I

753

00:27:59,460 --> 00:27:57,670

said give me your best arguments give me

754

00:28:01,110 --> 00:27:59,470

like you did 20 best arguments you have

755

00:28:03,570 --> 00:28:01,120

for why you think the Holocaust didn't

756

00:28:05,070 --> 00:28:03,580

happen so they did so I kind of went

757

00:28:08,100 --> 00:28:05,080

down the list as I was writing my book

758

00:28:10,080 --> 00:28:08,110

on this and so one of them was this door

759

00:28:12,510 --> 00:28:10,090

doesn't plug so Alex and I go there and

760

00:28:14,340 --> 00:28:12,520

the door is this big metal door that has

761

00:28:16,680 --> 00:28:14,350

a handle that kind of moves like that

762

00:28:19,020 --> 00:28:16,690

and so the handle should go like that

763

00:28:21,930 --> 00:28:19,030

where it locks into the door jamb on

764

00:28:24,420 --> 00:28:21,940

this side and and sure enough there was

765

00:28:26,250 --> 00:28:24,430

no hole for this thing to jam into you

766

00:28:28,230 --> 00:28:26,260

could not lock the door and I thought

767

00:28:29,430 --> 00:28:28,240

that is kind of weird so I said all

768

00:28:30,780 --> 00:28:29,440

right Alex I'm gonna get in the gas

769

00:28:32,070 --> 00:28:30,790

chamber and you hold the door and see if

770

00:28:34,170 --> 00:28:32,080

I can push it open of course I

771

00:28:35,400 --> 00:28:34,180

shouldered into it and no problem push

772

00:28:37,290 --> 00:28:35,410

the door right open it's like yeah that

773

00:28:38,850 --> 00:28:37,300

is kind of weird you know so we had a

774

00:28:40,860 --> 00:28:38,860

little guy like a 20 year old girl

775

00:28:42,840 --> 00:28:40,870

walking us around and she got there I go

776

00:28:45,180 --> 00:28:42,850

do you know why the door doesn't lock no

777

00:28:47,220 --> 00:28:45,190

so then she gets the next person up and

778

00:28:48,360 --> 00:28:47,230

do you know the door doesn't lock it's

779

00:28:49,050 --> 00:28:48,370

like yeah doesn't that seem kind of

780

00:28:51,210 --> 00:28:49,060

weird

781

00:28:52,890 --> 00:28:51,220

I don't know I didn't even know and then

782

00:28:54,630 --> 00:28:52,900

I get that next person up and then

783

00:28:57,510 --> 00:28:54,640

finally the head of the whole my donek

784

00:28:58,860 --> 00:28:57,520

camp which is now a museum he's like

785

00:29:01,350 --> 00:28:58,870

what's this about the door doesn't lock

786

00:29:04,650 --> 00:29:01,360

yeah you never noticed that he goes no

787

00:29:05,880 --> 00:29:04,660

and then next thing I know we got kicked

788

00:29:07,590 --> 00:29:05,890

out of the camp basically they thought

789

00:29:07,980 --> 00:29:07,600

maybe we were there to cause trouble or

790

00:29:11,040 --> 00:29:07,990

something

791

00:29:12,720 --> 00:29:11,050

and I got a phone call there they go you

792

00:29:15,660 --> 00:29:12,730

have a phone call dr. Schurman liked me

793

00:29:17,790 --> 00:29:15,670

at my dock what and it was the head of

794

00:29:20,790 --> 00:29:17,800

the interior of all of Austria who runs

795

00:29:21,930 --> 00:29:20,800

all of their parks and camps and museums

796

00:29:23,670 --> 00:29:21,940

and the whole thing he goes what's this

797

00:29:26,310 --> 00:29:23,680

about the door doesn't lock like oh my

798

00:29:28,980 --> 00:29:26,320

god I can't believe there's I said I'm

799

00:29:31,200 --> 00:29:28,990

we're just here to debunk the deniers

800

00:29:33,390 --> 00:29:31,210

and there's Alex with his yarmulke you

801
00:29:35,940 --> 00:29:33,400
know we're not skinheads or something

802
00:29:37,710 --> 00:29:35,950
right and they said we have no idea

803
00:29:39,870 --> 00:29:37,720
anyway it took me two years to find out

804
00:29:42,180 --> 00:29:39,880
that that door was taken off after the

805
00:29:44,220 --> 00:29:42,190
war and shipped off to hungry for some

806
00:29:47,970 --> 00:29:44,230
museum and they just ducked some other

807
00:29:49,860 --> 00:29:47,980
door on there right you know mystery

808
00:29:52,590 --> 00:29:49,870
solved but for the deniers it's like

809
00:29:54,180 --> 00:29:52,600
a-ha we got you on that one little thing

810
00:29:56,760 --> 00:29:54,190
right there and if you can't get that

811
00:29:58,830 --> 00:29:56,770
then oh yeah well it's interesting I

812
00:29:59,940 --> 00:29:58,840
know no one knew about it because for

813
00:30:02,190 --> 00:29:59,950

most people it wasn't really an

814

00:30:03,510 --> 00:30:02,200

important point it's because they all

815

00:30:05,040 --> 00:30:03,520

knew that the Holocaust happened so they

816

00:30:07,650 --> 00:30:05,050

didn't really look about it and that's

817

00:30:08,940 --> 00:30:07,660

right that's kind of its kind of like a

818

00:30:11,670 --> 00:30:08,950

problem you come across it's kind of

819

00:30:13,980 --> 00:30:11,680

asymmetry of interest in things you get

820

00:30:15,330 --> 00:30:13,990

these conspiracy theorists and they're

821

00:30:16,950 --> 00:30:15,340

really really into these things that

822

00:30:19,080 --> 00:30:16,960

it's been hours and hours going over all

823

00:30:21,630 --> 00:30:19,090

the details and then you get on the

824

00:30:23,850 --> 00:30:21,640

other side most mainstream scientists

825

00:30:25,260 --> 00:30:23,860

and historians are not interested yep

826

00:30:27,240 --> 00:30:25,270

sure more about you know Holocaust

827

00:30:29,340 --> 00:30:27,250

denial but things like 9/11 and

828

00:30:32,010 --> 00:30:29,350

chemtrails and stuff there's very very

829

00:30:35,280 --> 00:30:32,020

few experts who are interested in it so

830

00:30:37,290 --> 00:30:35,290

you you get in a way like this this this

831

00:30:39,510 --> 00:30:37,300

swarm of conspiracy theorists on one

832

00:30:41,010 --> 00:30:39,520

side and then you get a few debunkers

833

00:30:43,170 --> 00:30:41,020

like like me and you on the other side

834

00:30:44,520 --> 00:30:43,180

and you kind of get a bit overwhelmed

835

00:30:47,550 --> 00:30:44,530

you know in a way because there's just

836

00:30:49,710 --> 00:30:47,560

so many different things coming in so

837

00:30:52,560 --> 00:30:49,720

that's kind of why I I try to use the

838

00:30:55,500 --> 00:30:52,570

tactic of getting them to focus on one

839

00:30:57,000 --> 00:30:55,510

thing and really focus on one thing

840

00:30:58,950 --> 00:30:57,010

because you know that the technique of

841

00:31:01,620 --> 00:30:58,960

the Gish gallop quit I'll just list off

842

00:31:02,710 --> 00:31:01,630

a whole bunch of things right you got to

843

00:31:04,510 --> 00:31:02,720

stop them and

844

00:31:07,420 --> 00:31:04,520

what's your one best piece of evidence

845

00:31:09,550 --> 00:31:07,430

and a lot of the time they they they're

846

00:31:11,620 --> 00:31:09,560

really reluctant to give you their best

847

00:31:14,710 --> 00:31:11,630

piece of evidence because they know that

848

00:31:16,000 --> 00:31:14,720

you'll be able to explain it and they'll

849

00:31:18,280 --> 00:31:16,010

say no I'm not doing that because you'll

850

00:31:20,650 --> 00:31:18,290

just explain it away and I'd say yeah

851

00:31:23,350 --> 00:31:20,660

that's the whole point it's all your

852

00:31:25,420 --> 00:31:23,360

best evidence is easily explainable so

853

00:31:27,880 --> 00:31:25,430

you know say about the rest of the

854

00:31:29,440 --> 00:31:27,890

evidence the other problem is the just

855

00:31:31,540 --> 00:31:29,450

the the difficulty

856

00:31:33,310 --> 00:31:31,550

all of us have cognitively of being

857

00:31:35,260 --> 00:31:33,320

comfortable with uncertainty like just

858

00:31:37,210 --> 00:31:35,270

saying I have no idea why the door

859

00:31:39,550 --> 00:31:37,220

doesn't lock or this particular thing

860

00:31:41,080 --> 00:31:39,560

there and so on I mean most of the

861

00:31:42,670 --> 00:31:41,090

Holocaust historians I initially

862

00:31:44,830 --> 00:31:42,680

interview when I was writing my book

863

00:31:47,770 --> 00:31:44,840

they had no idea about most of the

864

00:31:49,690 --> 00:31:47,780

things on that list and it's like why

865

00:31:51,670 --> 00:31:49,700

would we know that I mean it's just some

866

00:31:53,410 --> 00:31:51,680

tiny little minutia that makes no

867

00:31:54,760 --> 00:31:53,420

difference really and so it was kind of

868

00:31:57,340 --> 00:31:54,770

hard to track a lot of them down I

869

00:31:58,480 --> 00:31:57,350

noticed the 9/11 truthers do that there

870

00:32:00,640 --> 00:31:58,490

was something about you know somebody's

871

00:32:02,620 --> 00:32:00,650

passport ended up on the street that was

872

00:32:05,080 --> 00:32:02,630

in the flight well you know I don't know

873

00:32:07,170 --> 00:32:05,090

what yeah and they have a list of things

874

00:32:11,110 --> 00:32:07,180

like that just tiny little things and

875

00:32:12,970 --> 00:32:11,120

and anyway so back to to that my friend

876

00:32:15,910 --> 00:32:12,980

Lee MacIntyre one of the points he made

877

00:32:17,650 --> 00:32:15,920

was to the flat-earthers I think maybe

878

00:32:20,470 --> 00:32:17,660

you did this was what would it take to

879

00:32:22,240 --> 00:32:20,480

change your mind what what what just can

880

00:32:25,090 --> 00:32:22,250

you and I agree on some tests we could

881

00:32:26,290 --> 00:32:25,100

do that I'll change my mind and agree

882

00:32:28,360 --> 00:32:26,300

you're right or you'll change your mind

883

00:32:30,160 --> 00:32:28,370

agree I'm right if we can look at this

884

00:32:33,190 --> 00:32:30,170

one thing right here so I actually got

885

00:32:37,060 --> 00:32:33,200

one of them to agree that they would

886

00:32:39,880 --> 00:32:37,070

take a flight from New Zealand over to

887

00:32:42,130 --> 00:32:39,890

the you know across the South Pole and

888

00:32:43,660 --> 00:32:42,140

so on yeah the guy was ready to do it

889

00:32:45,400 --> 00:32:43,670

and like yeah okay if we can actually do

890

00:32:47,860 --> 00:32:45,410

this then I'll agree that you know it's

891

00:32:48,790 --> 00:32:47,870

obviously it's a globe and Antarctica as

892

00:32:50,620 --> 00:32:48,800

you know they they don't again

893

00:32:52,630 --> 00:32:50,630

Antarctica exists it's a white and ice

894

00:32:54,760 --> 00:32:52,640

wall nanni changed his mind later and

895

00:32:56,200 --> 00:32:54,770

said no I think that if the pilots are

896

00:32:59,050 --> 00:32:56,210

in on the conspiracy they're just gonna

897

00:33:00,820 --> 00:32:59,060

fly around the ice wall and it'll look

898

00:33:04,030 --> 00:33:00,830

like a continent but it's not actually a

899

00:33:07,180 --> 00:33:04,040

continent and if your if your theory is

900

00:33:09,730 --> 00:33:07,190

not testable you know if if it is

901
00:33:11,590 --> 00:33:09,740
absolutely irrefutable true and there's

902
00:33:13,870 --> 00:33:11,600
nothing you can do to change my mind

903
00:33:16,540 --> 00:33:13,880
then you're really off the page of

904
00:33:16,989 --> 00:33:16,550
having a conversation yeah yeah and he's

905
00:33:18,879 --> 00:33:16,999
kind of like

906
00:33:21,309 --> 00:33:18,889
yeah psychological things the stuff that

907
00:33:22,539 --> 00:33:21,319
you talk about in lessons 3 & 4

908
00:33:26,349 --> 00:33:22,549
I've already half an hour in and where I

909
00:33:28,599 --> 00:33:26,359
got lesson 3 so did you pick up the pace

910
00:33:30,279 --> 00:33:28,609
but yeah you took a lot about the

911
00:33:32,049 --> 00:33:30,289
cognitive biases that people have and I

912
00:33:33,729 --> 00:33:32,059
think like the big one I was gonna ask

913
00:33:35,529 --> 00:33:33,739

you like if you were to pick one of the

914

00:33:36,999 --> 00:33:35,539

cognitive biases what do you think is

915

00:33:39,909 --> 00:33:37,009

the most significant of all the

916

00:33:41,979 --> 00:33:39,919

cognitive biases well the two big ones

917

00:33:43,479 --> 00:33:41,989

for disparity there is is confirmation

918

00:33:45,219 --> 00:33:43,489

bias in the hindsight bias confirmation

919

00:33:46,959 --> 00:33:45,229

bias you look for and find confirming

920

00:33:48,519 --> 00:33:46,969

evidence that fits what you already

921

00:33:51,339 --> 00:33:48,529

believe and you ignore the disconfirming

922

00:33:53,229 --> 00:33:51,349

evidence everybody does it and this is

923

00:33:55,209 --> 00:33:53,239

what really fuels conspiracy once you

924

00:33:56,949 --> 00:33:55,219

think the Jews are doing this but the

925

00:33:58,299 --> 00:33:56,959

Muslims are doing that then all you got

926

00:34:00,069 --> 00:33:58,309

to do is just read the daily newspaper

927

00:34:02,919 --> 00:34:00,079

or just kind of look around and go aha

928

00:34:05,559 --> 00:34:02,929

example example example example ignoring

929

00:34:07,479 --> 00:34:05,569

all the counter examples and that's

930

00:34:08,889 --> 00:34:07,489

probably the biggest one in case of

931

00:34:10,749 --> 00:34:08,899

conspiracy theories I find the hindsight

932

00:34:13,119 --> 00:34:10,759

bias you know after something after the

933

00:34:14,889 --> 00:34:13,129

fact reasoning after something happens

934

00:34:17,859 --> 00:34:14,899

then you go back and look at the

935

00:34:19,990 --> 00:34:17,869

assorted evidence and stuff that was

936

00:34:21,639 --> 00:34:20,000

going on at the time and think well they

937

00:34:23,589 --> 00:34:21,649

should have known like this happened

938

00:34:26,109 --> 00:34:23,599

with the Pearl Harbor conspiracy

939

00:34:27,970 --> 00:34:26,119

theorists you know that Roosevelt knew

940

00:34:30,549 --> 00:34:27,980

that Japanese were gonna attack in Pearl

941

00:34:32,589 --> 00:34:30,559

Harbor just look here's a piece of Intel

942

00:34:34,839 --> 00:34:32,599

here in here there's three or four of

943

00:34:38,049 --> 00:34:34,849

these that's you know the Japanese may

944

00:34:39,249 --> 00:34:38,059

attack in the Hawaiian Islands but when

945

00:34:40,690 --> 00:34:39,259

you go back and look at the historical

946

00:34:42,399 --> 00:34:40,700

record in fact you know we were we had

947

00:34:44,589 --> 00:34:42,409

broken their code and there was like ten

948

00:34:47,109 --> 00:34:44,599

thousand pieces of evidence and Intel

949

00:34:49,960 --> 00:34:47,119

about what the Japanese might do and you

950

00:34:51,639 --> 00:34:49,970

simply can't know until it already

951
00:34:52,899 --> 00:34:51,649
happens which are the ones that we

952
00:34:54,339 --> 00:34:52,909
should have been paying attention to

953
00:34:56,799 --> 00:34:54,349
this is of course a big problem with

954
00:34:59,049 --> 00:34:56,809
intelligence agencies and the same thing

955
00:35:01,359 --> 00:34:59,059
happened with 9/11 that you know there

956
00:35:03,819 --> 00:35:01,369
was that August 9th memo from

957
00:35:07,569 --> 00:35:03,829
Condoleezza Rice to Bush in his

958
00:35:09,160 --> 00:35:07,579
administration you know al Qaeda intends

959
00:35:13,930 --> 00:35:09,170
to attack the United States

960
00:35:15,370 --> 00:35:13,940
on US soil okay how could he he

961
00:35:16,720 --> 00:35:15,380
obviously bush knew this was going to

962
00:35:20,140 --> 00:35:16,730
happen that was August night that was

963
00:35:21,970 --> 00:35:20,150

you know weeks before 9/11 and then when

964

00:35:24,700 --> 00:35:21,980

you look at what actually was going on

965

00:35:26,410 --> 00:35:24,710

again 10,000 pieces of Intel about what

966

00:35:28,720 --> 00:35:26,420

Al Qaeda was doing all over the world

967

00:35:30,579 --> 00:35:28,730

only after the fact do you look at him

968

00:35:32,529 --> 00:35:30,589

though oh that's the one that we should

969

00:35:34,690 --> 00:35:32,539

paid attention to which is really not

970

00:35:36,759 --> 00:35:34,700

fair to intelligence agencies yeah

971

00:35:38,170 --> 00:35:36,769

absolutely and you talked about with the

972

00:35:39,849 --> 00:35:38,180

Pearl Harbor thing like the other

973

00:35:42,700 --> 00:35:39,859

intelligence was about them actually

974

00:35:44,049 --> 00:35:42,710

attacking other things like even the the

975

00:35:47,650 --> 00:35:44,059

Philippines or somewhere like that or

976
00:35:49,630 --> 00:35:47,660
even attacks on mainland United States

977
00:35:52,059 --> 00:35:49,640
they were chattering about all kinds of

978
00:35:53,499 --> 00:35:52,069
things I think you said there was so

979
00:35:55,599 --> 00:35:53,509
much information coming through that

980
00:35:57,039 --> 00:35:55,609
they actually kind of stopped forwarding

981
00:35:58,599 --> 00:35:57,049
some of it because they were afraid was

982
00:36:00,969 --> 00:35:58,609
gonna leak and the Japanese would figure

983
00:36:02,829 --> 00:36:00,979
out that they were intercepting there

984
00:36:05,109 --> 00:36:02,839
and breaking their code there's just so

985
00:36:07,779 --> 00:36:05,119
much stuff but yeah another example you

986
00:36:10,779 --> 00:36:07,789
gave was the Space Shuttle right they

987
00:36:12,999 --> 00:36:10,789
people thought in hindsight that it was

988
00:36:15,640 --> 00:36:13,009

obvious that the Space Shuttle was going

989

00:36:18,249 --> 00:36:15,650

to fail because he's obvious that if you

990

00:36:21,880 --> 00:36:18,259

cool this particular oring down then it

991

00:36:24,099 --> 00:36:21,890

loses its stiffness its possibility yeah

992

00:36:26,859 --> 00:36:24,109

but again that's the hindsight bias in

993

00:36:28,900 --> 00:36:26,869

action yeah exactly after a disaster

994

00:36:30,729 --> 00:36:28,910

it's easy to figure out you know what we

995

00:36:32,769 --> 00:36:30,739

should have done to prevent it complex

996

00:36:35,019 --> 00:36:32,779

systems like that economy's political

997

00:36:37,930 --> 00:36:35,029

systems complex machines like the Space

998

00:36:39,190 --> 00:36:37,940

Shuttle you know things are bound to go

999

00:36:41,049 --> 00:36:39,200

wrong you know the second law of

1000

00:36:42,819 --> 00:36:41,059

thermodynamics entropy you know there's

1001
00:36:45,459 --> 00:36:42,829
more ways for things to go wrong than to

1002
00:36:48,339 --> 00:36:45,469
go right inevitably systems are gonna

1003
00:36:50,049 --> 00:36:48,349
fail and but it's so difficult to

1004
00:36:52,359 --> 00:36:50,059
predict ahead of time you know which

1005
00:36:54,880 --> 00:36:52,369
pathway is gonna is gonna end up leading

1006
00:36:56,739 --> 00:36:54,890
to failure only after the fact and then

1007
00:36:58,359 --> 00:36:56,749
you throw in some pattern isset II and

1008
00:37:00,309 --> 00:36:58,369
agent isset II where you are sure

1009
00:37:03,009 --> 00:37:00,319
there's some agent behind the pattern

1010
00:37:04,839 --> 00:37:03,019
you've just found in hindsight that was

1011
00:37:06,069 --> 00:37:04,849
pulling the strings to make it happen or

1012
00:37:08,319 --> 00:37:06,079
they should have prevented it from

1013
00:37:10,660 --> 00:37:08,329

happening and that sort of thing again

1014

00:37:13,630 --> 00:37:10,670

hindsight 20/20 and that's the problem

1015

00:37:14,950 --> 00:37:13,640

yeah I was actually thinking you were

1016

00:37:18,609 --> 00:37:14,960

gonna go for cognitive dissonance

1017

00:37:21,069 --> 00:37:18,619

because that seems to be underlying

1018

00:37:22,989 --> 00:37:21,079

everything yeah that's true that's

1019

00:37:24,219 --> 00:37:22,999

another underlying one Carol Tavis has a

1020

00:37:25,269 --> 00:37:24,229

great book on that mistakes were made

1021

00:37:27,459 --> 00:37:25,279

but not by me

1022

00:37:29,349 --> 00:37:27,469

and sort of sort of the whole history of

1023

00:37:30,819 --> 00:37:29,359

the literature on cognitive dissonance

1024

00:37:33,459 --> 00:37:30,829

I liked it with conspiracy theories

1025

00:37:35,469 --> 00:37:33,469

because there's a dissonance between the

1026

00:37:39,489 --> 00:37:35,479

size of the event and the cause of the

1027

00:37:42,099 --> 00:37:39,499

events of the assassination of JFK you

1028

00:37:43,400 --> 00:37:42,109

know the most powerful leader of the

1029

00:37:45,470 --> 00:37:43,410

free world

1030

00:37:48,589 --> 00:37:45,480

and articulate and handsome and so on

1031

00:37:50,750 --> 00:37:48,599

and he was taken out by who Lee Harvey

1032

00:37:52,819 --> 00:37:50,760

Oswald some lone nut' no no that doesn't

1033

00:37:54,470 --> 00:37:52,829

you know so we want the it's like the

1034

00:37:55,370 --> 00:37:54,480

Holocaust is one of the worst things

1035

00:37:57,140 --> 00:37:55,380

that's ever happened in history

1036

00:38:00,410 --> 00:37:57,150

committed by the Nazis one of the worst

1037

00:38:02,210 --> 00:38:00,420

regimes in history so the end of a make

1038

00:38:02,740 --> 00:38:02,220

sense harmony between the cause and the

1039

00:38:05,680 --> 00:38:02,750

effect

1040

00:38:07,880 --> 00:38:05,690

9/11 you tell you you you've heard the

1041

00:38:09,920 --> 00:38:07,890

9/11 truthers say this you know you mean

1042

00:38:11,390 --> 00:38:09,930

nineteen guys with box cutters brought

1043

00:38:13,010 --> 00:38:11,400

down the you know world's largest

1044

00:38:14,960 --> 00:38:13,020

military come on

1045

00:38:16,789 --> 00:38:14,970

impossible you know again you have the

1046

00:38:18,620 --> 00:38:16,799

size of the cause and the size the size

1047

00:38:19,370 --> 00:38:18,630

of the event the size of the cod doesn't

1048

00:38:22,190 --> 00:38:19,380

feel right

1049

00:38:24,650 --> 00:38:22,200

Princess Diana cause of death drunk

1050

00:38:26,720 --> 00:38:24,660

driving speeding no seatbelts you know I

1051
00:38:28,400 --> 00:38:26,730
don't know was a million people a year

1052
00:38:30,170 --> 00:38:28,410
die of those causes in automobile

1053
00:38:31,640 --> 00:38:30,180
accidents around the world something

1054
00:38:33,829 --> 00:38:31,650
like forty thousand in America alone

1055
00:38:35,809 --> 00:38:33,839
most of those are by one of those three

1056
00:38:38,870 --> 00:38:35,819
causes are all three but princesses

1057
00:38:40,880 --> 00:38:38,880
don't die the way normal people die so

1058
00:38:43,010 --> 00:38:40,890
it had to be the royal family or you

1059
00:38:43,430 --> 00:38:43,020
know whoever mi5 and so on that we're in

1060
00:38:45,440 --> 00:38:43,440
on it

1061
00:38:48,500 --> 00:38:45,450
see you start stacking in more and more

1062
00:38:49,940 --> 00:38:48,510
people to make that the cognitive

1063
00:38:53,180 --> 00:38:49,950

dissonance balance and so you have

1064

00:38:55,430 --> 00:38:53,190

harmony so again you know JFK well as

1065

00:38:59,180 --> 00:38:55,440

they you know as the the Cubans and the

1066

00:39:00,500 --> 00:38:59,190

Russians and the KGB and the CIA and so

1067

00:39:02,750 --> 00:39:00,510

on they all were in on it all the way up

1068

00:39:05,660 --> 00:39:02,760

to President Johnson and I thought

1069

00:39:08,539 --> 00:39:05,670

Oliver Stone's film and is another sort

1070

00:39:11,299 --> 00:39:08,549

of sidebar the power of visual narrative

1071

00:39:13,010 --> 00:39:11,309

you know Oliver Stone is such a good

1072

00:39:14,720 --> 00:39:13,020

filmmaker that you know even though I

1073

00:39:15,950 --> 00:39:14,730

was pretty skeptical of most of this way

1074

00:39:18,349 --> 00:39:15,960

by the time I got to the end of that

1075

00:39:20,359 --> 00:39:18,359

film I thought my god if only like a

1076

00:39:21,950 --> 00:39:20,369

half of this is true or ten percent of

1077

00:39:24,410 --> 00:39:21,960

is true there's got to be a conspiracy

1078

00:39:26,299 --> 00:39:24,420

yeah and then websites popped up going

1079

00:39:28,220 --> 00:39:26,309

here's that one hundred things he got

1080

00:39:33,349 --> 00:39:28,230

wrong in this movie is like oh crap

1081

00:39:35,599 --> 00:39:33,359

wow yeah I remember watching JFK and I

1082

00:39:37,430 --> 00:39:35,609

didn't know very much about the

1083

00:39:40,279 --> 00:39:37,440

conspiracy theories at the time and and

1084

00:39:43,339 --> 00:39:40,289

you just see it all laid out on screen

1085

00:39:44,809 --> 00:39:43,349

in such a compelling way that it just it

1086

00:39:47,150 --> 00:39:44,819

just it's like hammering it into your

1087

00:39:49,309 --> 00:39:47,160

brain you know this is obviously you

1088

00:39:51,200 --> 00:39:49,319

know very very suspicious and something

1089

00:39:53,599 --> 00:39:51,210

must have gone wrong like they they talk

1090

00:39:56,090 --> 00:39:53,609

about the one thing is the Magic Bullet

1091

00:39:59,540 --> 00:39:56,100

and of course they portray it

1092

00:40:01,880 --> 00:39:59,550

and the in the movie as if you know the

1093

00:40:04,070 --> 00:40:01,890

but the bullet have to change direction

1094

00:40:05,990 --> 00:40:04,080

in midair and do a twist and things like

1095

00:40:08,870 --> 00:40:06,000

that and then magically come out

1096

00:40:10,880 --> 00:40:08,880

unscathed the other side and when you

1097

00:40:12,740 --> 00:40:10,890

see it there on the big screen even

1098

00:40:16,400 --> 00:40:12,750

though you know it's just a movie it

1099

00:40:18,380 --> 00:40:16,410

really is very compelling totally back

1100

00:40:20,780 --> 00:40:18,390

into the left back into the left they

1101
00:40:23,560 --> 00:40:20,790
just repeated that yes like my god yes

1102
00:40:27,620 --> 00:40:23,570
look it's going back into the left Wow

1103
00:40:31,730 --> 00:40:27,630
yeah that's his do you think like if we

1104
00:40:34,220 --> 00:40:31,740
hadn't had the JFK movie yeah that kind

1105
00:40:38,450 --> 00:40:34,230
of the conspiracy spear would be at all

1106
00:40:40,430 --> 00:40:38,460
different regarding JFK or all

1107
00:40:43,220 --> 00:40:40,440
conspiracies well both like you know

1108
00:40:45,680 --> 00:40:43,230
with JFK like I think so many people

1109
00:40:47,120 --> 00:40:45,690
were influenced by it but then Jake Kane

1110
00:40:49,580 --> 00:40:47,130
away is kind of a foundational belief

1111
00:40:51,920 --> 00:40:49,590
for a lot of conspiracy theorists yeah

1112
00:40:54,770 --> 00:40:51,930
yeah Vincent Bugliosi has a story in his

1113
00:40:57,800 --> 00:40:54,780

huge book on reclaiming history is

1114

00:40:59,810 --> 00:40:57,810

called and he to his credit he went

1115

00:41:02,510 --> 00:40:59,820

through every single one of the JFK

1116

00:41:03,950 --> 00:41:02,520

conspiracy theorists and detail every

1117

00:41:07,040 --> 00:41:03,960

single minutiae point which is why that

1118

00:41:09,410 --> 00:41:07,050

book is like 1,400 pages long but he he

1119

00:41:12,560 --> 00:41:09,420

talked about he was at a conference of

1120

00:41:14,300 --> 00:41:12,570

lawyers right after the JFK film came

1121

00:41:16,310 --> 00:41:14,310

out and everybody's seen it how many of

1122

00:41:18,500 --> 00:41:16,320

you seen everybody seen it how many

1123

00:41:20,930 --> 00:41:18,510

think that you know that there's that

1124

00:41:22,580 --> 00:41:20,940

the Warren Report was mistaken and that

1125

00:41:24,020 --> 00:41:22,590

there was a conspiracy pretty much every

1126

00:41:25,760 --> 00:41:24,030

hand goes up it's like how many of you

1127

00:41:27,890 --> 00:41:25,770

have read the Warren Report nobody'd

1128

00:41:29,840 --> 00:41:27,900

read the Warren Report it so here's that

1129

00:41:31,190 --> 00:41:29,850

here's a roomful of criminal lawyers

1130

00:41:33,710 --> 00:41:31,200

this is their job

1131

00:41:35,330 --> 00:41:33,720

and they had not even read the report

1132

00:41:39,320 --> 00:41:35,340

and they've already decided simply by

1133

00:41:41,450 --> 00:41:39,330

the power of the film yeah and it's

1134

00:41:44,660 --> 00:41:41,460

exactly the same way 9/11 they don't

1135

00:41:46,850 --> 00:41:44,670

read the reports the next report or the

1136

00:41:47,960 --> 00:41:46,860

9/11 Commission report so you know even

1137

00:41:49,610 --> 00:41:47,970

though there's a great reports and

1138

00:41:52,060 --> 00:41:49,620

they've got lots of detail in them they

1139

00:41:54,890 --> 00:41:52,070

just they just assume that they're wrong

1140

00:41:57,050 --> 00:41:54,900

that's right yeah well even loose change

1141

00:42:00,320 --> 00:41:57,060

which was you know nothing like a an

1142

00:42:01,670 --> 00:42:00,330

Oliver Stone film with movie stars you

1143

00:42:04,970 --> 00:42:01,680

know it was long enough and there was

1144

00:42:07,280 --> 00:42:04,980

enough stuff tossed into the mix and the

1145

00:42:09,240 --> 00:42:07,290

way the guy presented it like I'm not

1146

00:42:11,280 --> 00:42:09,250

saying this is the but but I'm

1147

00:42:13,349 --> 00:42:11,290

I'm just curious I just can't explain

1148

00:42:16,080 --> 00:42:13,359

I'm not sure what this is this kind of

1149

00:42:17,460 --> 00:42:16,090

weird and yeah I'm totally skeptical of

1150

00:42:20,430 --> 00:42:17,470

loose change but I'm watching it going

1151
00:42:22,200 --> 00:42:20,440
yeah yeah that is kind of weird and you

1152
00:42:24,089 --> 00:42:22,210
know until you get into it and go okay

1153
00:42:26,130 --> 00:42:24,099
so this and this and this and this it

1154
00:42:28,080 --> 00:42:26,140
you know has explanations and again back

1155
00:42:29,520 --> 00:42:28,090
to the problem of anomalies maybe this

1156
00:42:31,620 --> 00:42:29,530
is a blue would be another one of our

1157
00:42:34,680 --> 00:42:31,630
cognitive biases that we're not

1158
00:42:36,390 --> 00:42:34,690
comfortable with unknown anomalies we

1159
00:42:39,120 --> 00:42:36,400
have we want an explanation for

1160
00:42:40,830 --> 00:42:39,130
everything and you know it's just okay

1161
00:42:44,730 --> 00:42:40,840
to say I don't know I mean like with the

1162
00:42:47,430 --> 00:42:44,740
UFO field you know there's you know tens

1163
00:42:49,589 --> 00:42:47,440

of thousands of sightings I have no idea

1164

00:42:52,050 --> 00:42:49,599

about most of those 10,000 I could

1165

00:42:53,790 --> 00:42:52,060

explain these over here the big ones but

1166

00:42:55,500 --> 00:42:53,800

it's okay to just say I don't know what

1167

00:42:58,290 --> 00:42:55,510

it was maybe it was a flock of geese

1168

00:43:00,930 --> 00:42:58,300

maybe it was a experimental test plane

1169

00:43:03,210 --> 00:43:00,940

maybe it was a Balu who knows yeah no

1170

00:43:04,320 --> 00:43:03,220

but but psychologically most of us are

1171

00:43:07,140 --> 00:43:04,330

not comfortable with that

1172

00:43:10,230 --> 00:43:07,150

and you can talk about how these these

1173

00:43:13,530 --> 00:43:10,240

biases I kind of have evolutionary basis

1174

00:43:16,650 --> 00:43:13,540

like people even then it's a natural

1175

00:43:18,300 --> 00:43:16,660

thing to be suspicious of things but

1176
00:43:20,190 --> 00:43:18,310
something else you talk about this kind

1177
00:43:22,680 --> 00:43:20,200
of a natural thing is that the the brain

1178
00:43:24,480 --> 00:43:22,690
is a believing brain so it almost seems

1179
00:43:26,130 --> 00:43:24,490
like to me there's like this it's kind

1180
00:43:28,890 --> 00:43:26,140
of conflict in a way in those two things

1181
00:43:31,500 --> 00:43:28,900
like the brain is has evolved to believe

1182
00:43:34,170 --> 00:43:31,510
things it's also evolved to be very

1183
00:43:37,290 --> 00:43:34,180
suspicious of things yeah are they are

1184
00:43:39,060 --> 00:43:37,300
they different things I think they're

1185
00:43:40,920 --> 00:43:39,070
related okay so let's just unpack that

1186
00:43:43,410 --> 00:43:40,930
so you know in the believing brain I

1187
00:43:46,050 --> 00:43:43,420
talked about the default position is

1188
00:43:48,810 --> 00:43:46,060

just to that the moment you make a

1189

00:43:50,640 --> 00:43:48,820

connection between a and B this is

1190

00:43:52,859 --> 00:43:50,650

called learning you know the organism

1191

00:43:55,050 --> 00:43:52,869

now associates the Bell with the food

1192

00:43:56,609 --> 00:43:55,060

and therefore when you ring the bell he

1193

00:43:59,190 --> 00:43:56,619

you know he salivates to the food

1194

00:44:00,450 --> 00:43:59,200

Pavlov's dog or Skinner's rats pressing

1195

00:44:01,440 --> 00:44:00,460

the bar and so once they've learned it

1196

00:44:03,450 --> 00:44:01,450

they've assumed there's a real

1197

00:44:04,650 --> 00:44:03,460

connection and for good reason because

1198

00:44:06,480 --> 00:44:04,660

they're probably really is a good

1199

00:44:08,609 --> 00:44:06,490

connection then I make the argument

1200

00:44:10,440 --> 00:44:08,619

about type 1 and type 2 errors one is

1201
00:44:11,970 --> 00:44:10,450
more costly than the other if you hear a

1202
00:44:14,099 --> 00:44:11,980
rustle in the grass is it a dangerous

1203
00:44:16,710 --> 00:44:14,109
predator just the wind I'm arguing

1204
00:44:18,450 --> 00:44:16,720
natural selection would have selected us

1205
00:44:20,400 --> 00:44:18,460
to have brains that just assume the

1206
00:44:22,099 --> 00:44:20,410
rustles in the grass are more likely to

1207
00:44:24,440 --> 00:44:22,109
be dangerous predators

1208
00:44:25,940 --> 00:44:24,450
because assuming that it's just it's the

1209
00:44:27,680 --> 00:44:25,950
dangerous predator and turns out it's

1210
00:44:29,960 --> 00:44:27,690
just the wind a type one error false

1211
00:44:30,829 --> 00:44:29,970
positive there's a relatively cost

1212
00:44:33,710 --> 00:44:30,839
low-cost

1213
00:44:34,970 --> 00:44:33,720

error to make no harm no foul but if you

1214

00:44:37,039 --> 00:44:34,980

assume the other that the rustle in the

1215

00:44:39,019 --> 00:44:37,049

grass is just the wind instead it's a

1216

00:44:40,519 --> 00:44:39,029

dangerous predator your lunch you get a

1217

00:44:42,380 --> 00:44:40,529

Darwin Award for taking yourself out of

1218

00:44:46,220 --> 00:44:42,390

the gene pool early so natural selection

1219

00:44:47,569 --> 00:44:46,230

selected for us to assume most Russell's

1220

00:44:50,210 --> 00:44:47,579

in the grass or dangerous predators okay

1221

00:44:51,380 --> 00:44:50,220

so this was my argument for why a deeper

1222

00:44:53,029 --> 00:44:51,390

reason for why people believe we're

1223

00:44:55,549 --> 00:44:53,039

things is because we have to believe

1224

00:44:57,650 --> 00:44:55,559

things and weird things are not

1225

00:44:59,900 --> 00:44:57,660

generally all that costly so it's just

1226
00:45:02,359 --> 00:44:59,910
easier to assume most things are true

1227
00:45:04,970 --> 00:45:02,369
and so this is the basis of magical

1228
00:45:07,130 --> 00:45:04,980
thinking superstition even claims like

1229
00:45:09,049 --> 00:45:07,140
autism and vaccinations that's a simple

1230
00:45:11,269 --> 00:45:09,059
anecdotal you know what's the last thing

1231
00:45:11,839 --> 00:45:11,279
I did before my kid got diagnosed with

1232
00:45:14,029 --> 00:45:11,849
autism

1233
00:45:15,829 --> 00:45:14,039
oh I remember we got him vaccinated and

1234
00:45:17,210 --> 00:45:15,839
then you you get that meme going and

1235
00:45:18,499 --> 00:45:17,220
then you have that one study that was

1236
00:45:21,529 --> 00:45:18,509
debunked but no one accepts the

1237
00:45:23,660 --> 00:45:21,539
debunking of the study by Wakefield and

1238
00:45:25,940 --> 00:45:23,670

now you have this whole movement of

1239

00:45:27,349 --> 00:45:25,950

which is a kind of conspiracy theory you

1240

00:45:29,120 --> 00:45:27,359

know the government the pharmaceutical

1241

00:45:31,099 --> 00:45:29,130

companies are all in on the vaccines and

1242

00:45:33,170 --> 00:45:31,109

they don't care about our kids it's

1243

00:45:35,089 --> 00:45:33,180

crazy but that the deeper cause behind

1244

00:45:38,329 --> 00:45:35,099

that is just anecdotal thinking

1245

00:45:40,249 --> 00:45:38,339

connecting A to B and then I then I add

1246

00:45:42,019 --> 00:45:40,259

to that pattern is to the agent issah t

1247

00:45:44,420 --> 00:45:42,029

that that we infuse those patterns with

1248

00:45:46,130 --> 00:45:44,430

agency there's somebody behind that

1249

00:45:48,829 --> 00:45:46,140

pattern that's making that happen

1250

00:45:51,859 --> 00:45:48,839

that that causes that because predators

1251
00:45:54,470 --> 00:45:51,869
are intentional agents Dan Dennett makes

1252
00:45:58,029 --> 00:45:54,480
this argument about an intentionality

1253
00:46:00,849 --> 00:45:58,039
that that our brains are wired to assume

1254
00:46:04,940 --> 00:46:00,859
kind of an agency or intention behind

1255
00:46:07,130 --> 00:46:04,950
causal vectors so you we're not wired

1256
00:46:09,710 --> 00:46:07,140
really well to understand the physical

1257
00:46:12,920 --> 00:46:09,720
world you know quantum physics and and

1258
00:46:16,130 --> 00:46:12,930
so on there's nothing in our African

1259
00:46:18,979 --> 00:46:16,140
ancestry to glom on to most physical

1260
00:46:20,660 --> 00:46:18,989
laws of nature so we just assume that

1261
00:46:22,789 --> 00:46:20,670
you know the wind has something behind

1262
00:46:25,069 --> 00:46:22,799
it the Lightning has gods behind it or

1263
00:46:27,019 --> 00:46:25,079

whatever the basis of animism and

1264

00:46:30,650 --> 00:46:27,029

spiritualism and polytheism and

1265

00:46:33,109 --> 00:46:30,660

monotheism and so forth now the second

1266

00:46:34,609 --> 00:46:33,119

part to deepak that is i got this idea

1267

00:46:36,110 --> 00:46:34,619

from jared diamond when he talked about

1268

00:46:38,630 --> 00:46:36,120

going to pop in again

1269

00:46:40,670 --> 00:46:38,640

and pitching his tent he was initially

1270

00:46:42,560 --> 00:46:40,680

went to go birding because he was

1271

00:46:44,480 --> 00:46:42,570

interested in ornithology but they'd be

1272

00:46:46,790 --> 00:46:44,490

out camping with his Papua New Guinean

1273

00:46:48,560 --> 00:46:46,800

natives and he supposed pitched the tent

1274

00:46:50,420 --> 00:46:48,570

underneath this tree and they're like no

1275

00:46:51,920 --> 00:46:50,430

trees fall and then you could die in the

1276

00:46:53,810 --> 00:46:51,930

middle of the night it goes with chances

1277

00:46:57,200 --> 00:46:53,820

of that particular tree falling or very

1278

00:46:58,700 --> 00:46:57,210

very low so that's too much paranoia but

1279

00:47:00,650 --> 00:46:58,710

then he got to thinking well if we sleep

1280

00:47:02,930 --> 00:47:00,660

under a tree every single night for 365

1281

00:47:05,150 --> 00:47:02,940

days a year and we hear trees falling

1282

00:47:08,000 --> 00:47:05,160

maybe once every thousand trees or

1283

00:47:10,130 --> 00:47:08,010

thousand and once every thousand a tree

1284

00:47:12,860 --> 00:47:10,140

is going to kill you in it within three

1285

00:47:16,070 --> 00:47:12,870

years so it's best to be constructively

1286

00:47:17,860 --> 00:47:16,080

paranoid paranoid and then I drill down

1287

00:47:20,060 --> 00:47:17,870

a little bit more on that to talk about

1288

00:47:21,800 --> 00:47:20,070

you know what's behind that is the

1289

00:47:23,780 --> 00:47:21,810

second law of thermodynamics and entropy

1290

00:47:25,810 --> 00:47:23,790

and the fact that there's so many more

1291

00:47:28,640 --> 00:47:25,820

ways for things to go wrong than right

1292

00:47:30,260 --> 00:47:28,650

you know in terms of our bodies you'd

1293

00:47:32,420 --> 00:47:30,270

have to have all these systems operating

1294

00:47:34,640 --> 00:47:32,430

fairly well effectively to keep living

1295

00:47:36,020 --> 00:47:34,650

it only takes one of them to go wrong

1296

00:47:38,120 --> 00:47:36,030

you know the heart stops beating the

1297

00:47:40,280 --> 00:47:38,130

valve goes wrong a you know a plate a

1298

00:47:41,720 --> 00:47:40,290

brain bleed due to a clogged artery

1299

00:47:44,900 --> 00:47:41,730

whatever there's you know a thousand

1300

00:47:46,700 --> 00:47:44,910

things that could kill you and so Pinker

1301
00:47:49,670 --> 00:47:46,710
makes this argument in lightning in this

1302
00:47:51,620 --> 00:47:49,680
book enlightenment now that that he's

1303
00:47:54,050 --> 00:47:51,630
kind of summarizing the research on the

1304
00:47:56,150 --> 00:47:54,060
negativity bias that is we tend to focus

1305
00:47:57,710 --> 00:47:56,160
on negative things more than positive

1306
00:48:00,860 --> 00:47:57,720
things we have more words to describe

1307
00:48:03,050 --> 00:48:00,870
negative things negative emotions have

1308
00:48:05,060 --> 00:48:03,060
more adjectives than positive emotions

1309
00:48:07,850 --> 00:48:05,070
and on and on and on it goes

1310
00:48:09,770 --> 00:48:07,860
you know athletes are more afraid of

1311
00:48:11,660 --> 00:48:09,780
losing than they are winning the you

1312
00:48:14,000 --> 00:48:11,670
know yeah economists talk about loss

1313
00:48:16,700 --> 00:48:14,010

aversion losses hurt twice as much as

1314

00:48:18,110 --> 00:48:16,710

gains feel good so you have to make it a

1315

00:48:19,430 --> 00:48:18,120

get somebody to make an investment you

1316

00:48:20,750 --> 00:48:19,440

have to convince them that the payoff is

1317

00:48:22,340 --> 00:48:20,760

going to be twice what the potential

1318

00:48:23,270 --> 00:48:22,350

loss could be before they're willing to

1319

00:48:27,680 --> 00:48:23,280

take that anyway

1320

00:48:28,910 --> 00:48:27,690

I memorize all that yeah it's it's you

1321

00:48:31,610 --> 00:48:28,920

know it's fascinating thinking about how

1322

00:48:32,720 --> 00:48:31,620

yeah the brain evolves to do that but

1323

00:48:34,910 --> 00:48:32,730

like you know right now we're in a

1324

00:48:38,900 --> 00:48:34,920

situation where conspiracy theories are

1325

00:48:40,160 --> 00:48:38,910

about distrust of the government those

1326

00:48:43,100 --> 00:48:40,170

in power you think that just kind of

1327

00:48:44,810 --> 00:48:43,110

come is like a translation of they

1328

00:48:46,160 --> 00:48:44,820

believe where things happen something is

1329

00:48:47,840 --> 00:48:46,170

behind that and then the only thing

1330

00:48:49,800 --> 00:48:47,850

that's available to be behind that is

1331

00:48:51,630 --> 00:48:49,810

the government so naturally for

1332

00:48:53,940 --> 00:48:51,640

on the government as being the

1333

00:48:57,240 --> 00:48:53,950

suspicious yeah that's exactly that's

1334

00:48:58,860 --> 00:48:57,250

right so again most negative spirit ETS

1335

00:49:01,530 --> 00:48:58,870

have a negative valence to them and this

1336

00:49:04,700 --> 00:49:01,540

was my explanation for why no one argues

1337

00:49:06,860 --> 00:49:04,710

that there's been this conspiracy to

1338

00:49:09,990 --> 00:49:06,870

drive the arc of the moral universe

1339

00:49:11,310 --> 00:49:10,000

toward freedom and justice you know that

1340

00:49:13,650 --> 00:49:11,320

there's been these secret operative

1341

00:49:15,630 --> 00:49:13,660

forces to you know ban slavery and

1342

00:49:18,030 --> 00:49:15,640

overturn capital punishment and end

1343

00:49:20,640 --> 00:49:18,040

torture and give women the right to vote

1344

00:49:23,010 --> 00:49:20,650

and get engaged the right to marry and

1345

00:49:25,140 --> 00:49:23,020

so on no one has a conspiracy theory

1346

00:49:26,850 --> 00:49:25,150

about this in fact when I wrote my book

1347

00:49:28,530 --> 00:49:26,860

the moral arc it was kind of hard to

1348

00:49:31,170 --> 00:49:28,540

figure out yet what has been driving

1349

00:49:33,000 --> 00:49:31,180

this because there is a part there's

1350

00:49:35,190 --> 00:49:33,010

definitely a kind of progress to history

1351

00:49:37,560 --> 00:49:35,200

but it's this sort of this bottom-up

1352

00:49:39,750 --> 00:49:37,570

directionless nobody is trying to make

1353

00:49:42,210 --> 00:49:39,760

this happen just all of us individually

1354

00:49:44,040 --> 00:49:42,220

or women you know protesting and

1355

00:49:45,990 --> 00:49:44,050

demanding the right to vote against the

1356

00:49:47,540 --> 00:49:46,000

resistance of the whole system and so on

1357

00:49:50,160 --> 00:49:47,550

it's all this kind of bottom-up

1358

00:49:51,990 --> 00:49:50,170

television scripts have changed comic

1359

00:49:54,960 --> 00:49:52,000

books have changed television shows have

1360

00:49:56,700 --> 00:49:54,970

changes the way we talk about other

1361

00:49:59,370 --> 00:49:56,710

people Dawkins makes this point in the

1362

00:50:01,110 --> 00:49:59,380

God Delusion II as a chapter on the

1363

00:50:03,600 --> 00:50:01,120

changing moral zeitgeist like you could

1364

00:50:06,240 --> 00:50:03,610

pinpoint when a novel was written down

1365

00:50:09,420 --> 00:50:06,250

to about the decade as to how they talk

1366

00:50:11,250 --> 00:50:09,430

about Jews and blacks and women and it's

1367

00:50:13,920 --> 00:50:11,260

like and and and he gives examples and

1368

00:50:15,570 --> 00:50:13,930

they're just painful to read God this

1369

00:50:17,220 --> 00:50:15,580

was like not even a century ago they

1370

00:50:19,890 --> 00:50:17,230

were talking about Jews and blacks this

1371

00:50:21,990 --> 00:50:19,900

way terrible and butthat but how did

1372

00:50:22,710 --> 00:50:22,000

that happen no one conspired to make

1373

00:50:24,990 --> 00:50:22,720

that happen

1374

00:50:27,180 --> 00:50:25,000

it just happened from the bottom up I

1375

00:50:29,100 --> 00:50:27,190

suppose the religious people will say

1376

00:50:31,200 --> 00:50:29,110

that it's part of God's plan but then

1377

00:50:34,740 --> 00:50:31,210

why do you God start with everything

1378

00:50:37,650 --> 00:50:34,750

being so bad yes or or why did he wait

1379

00:50:39,660 --> 00:50:37,660

2,000 years you know or Jesus gave this

1380

00:50:41,550 --> 00:50:39,670

commandment and and look the Christians

1381

00:50:43,920 --> 00:50:41,560

you know led the abolition of slavery

1382

00:50:45,510 --> 00:50:43,930

it's like hold on first of all that took

1383

00:50:47,580 --> 00:50:45,520

you know seventeen hundred years between

1384

00:50:49,680 --> 00:50:47,590

Jesus and the abolition of slavery and

1385

00:50:52,830 --> 00:50:49,690

second of all all of the people that

1386

00:50:54,990 --> 00:50:52,840

resisted the Quakers and a few

1387

00:50:57,510 --> 00:50:55,000

Episcopalians and a few others we're

1388

00:50:59,010 --> 00:50:57,520

Christians they all conspired to keep

1389

00:51:00,180 --> 00:50:59,020

slavery going because it says right

1390

00:51:02,010 --> 00:51:00,190

there in the Bible this is the way it's

1391

00:51:03,089 --> 00:51:02,020

supposed to be and God wants the races

1392

00:51:04,380 --> 00:51:03,099

to be

1393

00:51:07,589 --> 00:51:04,390

and continents that that was an argument

1394

00:51:09,660 --> 00:51:07,599

made as late as 1967 in the United

1395

00:51:13,319 --> 00:51:09,670

States in opposition to same-sex

1396

00:51:16,200 --> 00:51:13,329

marriage interracial marriage that God

1397

00:51:17,549 --> 00:51:16,210

and God intended the races to be on

1398

00:51:20,670 --> 00:51:17,559

separate continents they should have

1399

00:51:25,680 --> 00:51:20,680

never mixed it's like this is 1960

1400

00:51:26,999 --> 00:51:25,690

that's incredible yeah so uh this can

1401
00:51:29,219 --> 00:51:27,009
get back to go back going back through

1402
00:51:33,569 --> 00:51:29,229
your course you've got two very good

1403
00:51:37,170 --> 00:51:33,579
chapters lessons 8 and 9 which are on

1404
00:51:39,390 --> 00:51:37,180
9/11 and JFK and you did have a very

1405
00:51:41,819 --> 00:51:39,400
detailed point-by-point debunking of the

1406
00:51:43,559 --> 00:51:41,829
major issues and that like did you pick

1407
00:51:45,660 --> 00:51:43,569
those because those are the ones that

1408
00:51:47,700 --> 00:51:45,670
you personally am most familiar with you

1409
00:51:50,900 --> 00:51:47,710
did these episodes of skeptic magazine

1410
00:51:52,829 --> 00:51:50,910
on them yeah yeah in part but also

1411
00:51:54,839 --> 00:51:52,839
because they're important because people

1412
00:51:57,599 --> 00:51:54,849
care about them I mean that those are

1413
00:51:59,069 --> 00:51:57,609

probably the two most popular conspiracy

1414

00:52:00,779 --> 00:51:59,079

theories as you know because you've

1415

00:52:02,819 --> 00:52:00,789

written about them and you've gotten

1416

00:52:04,499 --> 00:52:02,829

into the weeds with these guys I mean I

1417

00:52:08,700 --> 00:52:04,509

was just watching your the clip about

1418

00:52:09,839 --> 00:52:08,710

the little Tic Tac UFO and I don't

1419

00:52:11,370 --> 00:52:09,849

remember it was the Tic Tac or the other

1420

00:52:13,079 --> 00:52:11,380

one but it had to do with the camera

1421

00:52:14,700 --> 00:52:13,089

zooming in and out that made it look

1422

00:52:17,489 --> 00:52:14,710

like it was moving faster than any

1423

00:52:20,249 --> 00:52:17,499

physical object can move according to

1424

00:52:22,109 --> 00:52:20,259

modern physics and so on and to me this

1425

00:52:24,630 --> 00:52:22,119

was such a great example of what you did

1426

00:52:27,209 --> 00:52:24,640

if debunking in a way a very specific

1427

00:52:30,930 --> 00:52:27,219

way to solve a much larger problem which

1428

00:52:33,239 --> 00:52:30,940

is that this if I assume this is true

1429

00:52:36,209 --> 00:52:33,249

that this object I'm seeing on the video

1430

00:52:38,849 --> 00:52:36,219

is moving faster than it is possible for

1431

00:52:40,859 --> 00:52:38,859

any physical object to move under our

1432

00:52:44,660 --> 00:52:40,869

current technological engineering

1433

00:52:47,609 --> 00:52:44,670

capability therefore it has to be

1434

00:52:49,019 --> 00:52:47,619

extraterrestrial how about your

1435

00:52:51,509 --> 00:52:49,029

assumption that it's moving at that

1436

00:52:54,180 --> 00:52:51,519

speed is wrong what if it isn't

1437

00:52:56,670 --> 00:52:54,190

accurately portrayed in a video that the

1438

00:52:58,440 --> 00:52:56,680

video is zooming in and out is making it

1439

00:52:59,940 --> 00:52:58,450

look like it's moving faster then

1440

00:53:02,039 --> 00:52:59,950

everything else falls away

1441

00:53:04,469 --> 00:53:02,049

none of those explanations are necessary

1442

00:53:06,420 --> 00:53:04,479

to me that's why it pays to get into the

1443

00:53:08,039 --> 00:53:06,430

weeds you have to do that with these

1444

00:53:09,599 --> 00:53:08,049

conspiracies because they're you know

1445

00:53:11,099 --> 00:53:09,609

they're glomming on to that one little

1446

00:53:14,640 --> 00:53:11,109

thing if you can show that one little

1447

00:53:16,620 --> 00:53:14,650

thing is not necessarily true then you

1448

00:53:18,060 --> 00:53:16,630

kind of have to take a step back

1449

00:53:20,340 --> 00:53:18,070

well then you do have to really address

1450

00:53:22,860 --> 00:53:20,350

all the weeds because unfortunately they

1451
00:53:25,440 --> 00:53:22,870
can just move to one different you know

1452
00:53:26,940 --> 00:53:25,450
wheat and and go with that like we're

1453
00:53:28,710 --> 00:53:26,950
talking about earlier with the geese

1454
00:53:31,530 --> 00:53:28,720
gallop they they don't like to pick one

1455
00:53:33,990 --> 00:53:31,540
thing so the hard part there is as you

1456
00:53:36,690 --> 00:53:34,000
know is so you know they have to say a

1457
00:53:38,880 --> 00:53:36,700
hundred points and you explain 50 of

1458
00:53:42,600 --> 00:53:38,890
them what what do you do with the other

1459
00:53:44,250 --> 00:53:42,610
fifty you know and maybe they'll never

1460
00:53:46,380 --> 00:53:44,260
be explained you know there was just

1461
00:53:48,150 --> 00:53:46,390
just there's anomalies you know there

1462
00:53:49,710 --> 00:53:48,160
was nobody else there in the in the

1463
00:53:52,320 --> 00:53:49,720

wheat field at 3:00 in the morning who

1464

00:53:55,440 --> 00:53:52,330

knows what that thing was if there was

1465

00:53:57,060 --> 00:53:55,450

anything at all and you know I guess you

1466

00:53:58,680 --> 00:53:57,070

know it's just back to that psychology

1467

00:54:01,470 --> 00:53:58,690

of just you know whether or not you're

1468

00:54:03,690 --> 00:54:01,480

comfortable with uncertainty people that

1469

00:54:05,190 --> 00:54:03,700

are low uncomfortable being

1470

00:54:06,930 --> 00:54:05,200

uncomfortable with certainty are higher

1471

00:54:09,360 --> 00:54:06,940

in conspiratorial thinking we know this

1472

00:54:11,340 --> 00:54:09,370

from research on-site by psychologists

1473

00:54:12,600 --> 00:54:11,350

that you know that people that are more

1474

00:54:15,030 --> 00:54:12,610

fearful or anxious

1475

00:54:16,860 --> 00:54:15,040

neither primed to be so an experimental

1476

00:54:18,480 --> 00:54:16,870

condition or they are just by

1477

00:54:20,850 --> 00:54:18,490

temperament are more conspiratorial

1478

00:54:22,620 --> 00:54:20,860

minded my colleagues at Chapman did some

1479

00:54:24,090 --> 00:54:22,630

studies on this showing you know people

1480

00:54:25,590 --> 00:54:24,100

that are more fearful or more and more

1481

00:54:28,440 --> 00:54:25,600

conspiratorial in mind and are more

1482

00:54:30,510 --> 00:54:28,450

likely to buy a gun for example oh boy

1483

00:54:33,720 --> 00:54:30,520

here we go real-world consequences of

1484

00:54:35,610 --> 00:54:33,730

conspiratorial thinking the the various

1485

00:54:38,580 --> 00:54:35,620

that is being done you you talk about a

1486

00:54:43,200 --> 00:54:38,590

lot of them and I think like lesson

1487

00:54:46,860 --> 00:54:43,210

three about the correlations between

1488

00:54:49,350 --> 00:54:46,870

various traits and conspiracism do you

1489

00:54:51,360 --> 00:54:49,360

think those are useful to know when

1490

00:54:53,220 --> 00:54:51,370

you're dealing with an individual cuz I

1491

00:54:54,900 --> 00:54:53,230

mean I think that they're useful in the

1492

00:54:56,940 --> 00:54:54,910

aggregate if you thinking about like

1493

00:54:59,700 --> 00:54:56,950

social policy or ways of reaching a

1494

00:55:01,680 --> 00:54:59,710

large number of people but other ways

1495

00:55:04,680 --> 00:55:01,690

you can kind of leverage knowing that

1496

00:55:06,960 --> 00:55:04,690

someone might be you know whatever he

1497

00:55:07,860 --> 00:55:06,970

has a certain pattern is to see tendency

1498

00:55:09,900 --> 00:55:07,870

or something like that for the

1499

00:55:11,880 --> 00:55:09,910

individual because I kind of glossed

1500

00:55:13,350 --> 00:55:11,890

over that a bit in my book like it's not

1501
00:55:16,740 --> 00:55:13,360
being that's important because it's hard

1502
00:55:18,780 --> 00:55:16,750
to I agree I think it's good to know

1503
00:55:20,400 --> 00:55:18,790
that just theoretically and if we want

1504
00:55:22,650 --> 00:55:20,410
to construct a model of conspiracism

1505
00:55:24,360 --> 00:55:22,660
that's important to know engaging with

1506
00:55:26,280 --> 00:55:24,370
people no I wouldn't say to somebody oh

1507
00:55:28,200 --> 00:55:26,290
well so you're a paranoid personality or

1508
00:55:29,670 --> 00:55:28,210
you're low and openness to experience or

1509
00:55:30,130 --> 00:55:29,680
you're high and conscientiousness or

1510
00:55:32,440 --> 00:55:30,140
here

1511
00:55:35,589 --> 00:55:32,450
whatever cuz you know they no one wants

1512
00:55:37,509 --> 00:55:35,599
to be you know stereotyped at place by

1513
00:55:40,599 --> 00:55:37,519

something like that because they don't

1514

00:55:42,220 --> 00:55:40,609

think that any in any case I mean again

1515

00:55:43,660 --> 00:55:42,230

this is a point I'm making in other

1516

00:55:45,999 --> 00:55:43,670

areas you know no one in the history of

1517

00:55:47,499 --> 00:55:46,009

the world has ever joined a cult they

1518

00:55:49,150 --> 00:55:47,509

join a group that they think is a really

1519

00:55:51,160 --> 00:55:49,160

good group we're gonna help humanity

1520

00:55:54,880 --> 00:55:51,170

we're gonna save the help the poor I'm

1521

00:55:55,989 --> 00:55:54,890

gonna get rich and and so forth yeah and

1522

00:55:57,749 --> 00:55:55,999

no one in the history of the world has

1523

00:55:59,979 --> 00:55:57,759

ever identified as a pseudo scientist

1524

00:56:01,539 --> 00:55:59,989

you know they that the people that

1525

00:56:03,640 --> 00:56:01,549

so-called pseudo scientists I've dealt

1526

00:56:05,589 --> 00:56:03,650

what they all are sure that they have

1527

00:56:07,239 --> 00:56:05,599

the correct theory of physics or oh yeah

1528

00:56:08,650 --> 00:56:07,249

you know your theory of evolution is

1529

00:56:10,900 --> 00:56:08,660

wrong but I've got it all worked out

1530

00:56:12,609 --> 00:56:10,910

here and Einstein was wrong and and

1531

00:56:14,140 --> 00:56:12,619

Stephen Hawking was wrong and I have

1532

00:56:15,970 --> 00:56:14,150

this new theory of physics I get these

1533

00:56:18,789 --> 00:56:15,980

you know these theories every every

1534

00:56:20,499 --> 00:56:18,799

month and it's like they don't think I'm

1535

00:56:22,329 --> 00:56:20,509

a pseudo scientist going down to my

1536

00:56:23,410 --> 00:56:22,339

pseudo lab to collect pseudo facts for

1537

00:56:25,359 --> 00:56:23,420

my pseudo theory they think they're

1538

00:56:28,690 --> 00:56:25,369

right you know so it doesn't help to you

1539

00:56:30,729 --> 00:56:28,700

know gauge people on that level I always

1540

00:56:32,349 --> 00:56:30,739

just try to again like you just try to

1541

00:56:34,450 --> 00:56:32,359

be friendly try to be respectful just

1542

00:56:36,729 --> 00:56:34,460

and then ask some probing questions like

1543

00:56:37,839 --> 00:56:36,739

boom how do you know that's true what

1544

00:56:39,489 --> 00:56:37,849

you know how did you arrive at that

1545

00:56:42,579 --> 00:56:39,499

belief and what would it take to change

1546

00:56:44,440 --> 00:56:42,589

your mind and see if it would see what

1547

00:56:45,489 --> 00:56:44,450

they come up with and yeah I'm a the

1548

00:56:47,079 --> 00:56:45,499

important thing really is just keeping

1549

00:56:49,509 --> 00:56:47,089

them talking and giving them your

1550

00:56:52,839 --> 00:56:49,519

information I mean the other thing on

1551

00:56:55,710 --> 00:56:52,849

the 9/11 truther thing that I added to

1552

00:56:58,779 --> 00:56:55,720

the course I was I was thinking about

1553

00:57:01,029 --> 00:56:58,789

Dan Danny Kahneman's research on the

1554

00:57:04,650 --> 00:57:01,039

conjunction fallacy this is the famous

1555

00:57:07,720 --> 00:57:04,660

susan experiment you know susan was a a

1556

00:57:09,579 --> 00:57:07,730

social activist and I forget what the

1557

00:57:11,410 --> 00:57:09,589

characteristics are of her when she was

1558

00:57:13,120 --> 00:57:11,420

in college there's a whole list of these

1559

00:57:14,710 --> 00:57:13,130

things and then you know what's more

1560

00:57:16,390 --> 00:57:14,720

likely that Susan was a bank teller or

1561

00:57:18,999 --> 00:57:16,400

that Susan is a bank teller and a

1562

00:57:20,890 --> 00:57:19,009

feminist activist and everybody thinks

1563

00:57:22,660 --> 00:57:20,900

well she had to be a feminist activist

1564

00:57:25,479 --> 00:57:22,670

and a bank teller because look at her

1565

00:57:28,900 --> 00:57:25,489

history but the Kahneman's point was

1566

00:57:31,900 --> 00:57:28,910

that the conjunction fallacy is that the

1567

00:57:33,609 --> 00:57:31,910

probability of two independent factors

1568

00:57:37,089 --> 00:57:33,619

happening at the same time is always

1569

00:57:40,299 --> 00:57:37,099

going to be lower than any either one of

1570

00:57:41,499 --> 00:57:40,309

the independent factors happening so I I

1571

00:57:43,070 --> 00:57:41,509

got to thinking about that it's like

1572

00:57:45,140 --> 00:57:43,080

that applies to the 9/11

1573

00:57:46,400 --> 00:57:45,150

we don't have to deal with any of this

1574

00:57:49,040 --> 00:57:46,410

stuff of their thermite and

1575

00:57:53,240 --> 00:57:49,050

super-thermite and other little

1576
00:57:56,390 --> 00:57:53,250
arguments they're claiming that you know

1577
00:57:58,490 --> 00:57:56,400
the planes hit the buildings and this

1578
00:58:00,470 --> 00:57:58,500
other independent thing happened that

1579
00:58:02,060 --> 00:58:00,480
explosive devices were planted in the

1580
00:58:04,070 --> 00:58:02,070
buildings those are two separate

1581
00:58:06,500 --> 00:58:04,080
independent events the probabilities of

1582
00:58:08,030 --> 00:58:06,510
both of those happening are lower than

1583
00:58:10,400 --> 00:58:08,040
the probability of either one of them

1584
00:58:11,960 --> 00:58:10,410
happening we know the planes hit the

1585
00:58:14,660 --> 00:58:11,970
building because we've seen the videos

1586
00:58:17,090 --> 00:58:14,670
and so on and tons of eyewitnesses and

1587
00:58:19,400 --> 00:58:17,100
so the probabilities that that happen

1588
00:58:21,350 --> 00:58:19,410

which we know happen and the explosive

1589

00:58:23,120 --> 00:58:21,360

devices were planted in the buildings

1590

00:58:24,890 --> 00:58:23,130

and then that that's fraught with

1591

00:58:27,920 --> 00:58:24,900

problems these are two the most secure

1592

00:58:29,930 --> 00:58:27,930

buildings in all of America and under

1593

00:58:31,370 --> 00:58:29,940

the pretenses of fixing the elevators

1594

00:58:34,280 --> 00:58:31,380

they snuck in broke through the drywall

1595

00:58:36,380 --> 00:58:34,290

planted and so on and they knew exactly

1596

00:58:39,170 --> 00:58:36,390

which floors the planes were gonna hit

1597

00:58:41,270 --> 00:58:39,180

on so they planted the explosive devices

1598

00:58:43,490 --> 00:58:41,280

there on those particularly now and it

1599

00:58:45,560 --> 00:58:43,500

goes so the probabilities of all that

1600

00:58:47,720 --> 00:58:45,570

happening are so low to me

1601
00:58:49,550 --> 00:58:47,730
I don't even you wouldn't even need to

1602
00:58:51,290 --> 00:58:49,560
bother with all the other arguments the

1603
00:58:53,300 --> 00:58:51,300
things that's how it is that it's hard

1604
00:58:55,700 --> 00:58:53,310
to talk about prognosis because they

1605
00:58:57,050 --> 00:58:55,710
don't really make sense on an individual

1606
00:58:58,640 --> 00:58:57,060
case like this because things either

1607
00:59:00,470 --> 00:58:58,650
happened or they didn't and you know

1608
00:59:03,170 --> 00:59:00,480
it's how do you talk about yeah I wasn't

1609
00:59:04,370 --> 00:59:03,180
entirely convinced by i'ma say by your

1610
00:59:07,130 --> 00:59:04,380
argument for the conjunction fallacy

1611
00:59:09,110 --> 00:59:07,140
okay I think I think the you know this

1612
00:59:10,790 --> 00:59:09,120
objections raised about the conjunction

1613
00:59:13,340 --> 00:59:10,800

fallacy like people take the question as

1614

00:59:15,380 --> 00:59:13,350

meaning was she a bank teller and not a

1615

00:59:18,260 --> 00:59:15,390

feminist or was she a bank teller and a

1616

00:59:19,010 --> 00:59:18,270

feminist I think a lot of people I read

1617

00:59:20,780 --> 00:59:19,020

it that way

1618

00:59:22,940 --> 00:59:20,790

and they think of these things as being

1619

00:59:25,520 --> 00:59:22,950

being separate and that they don't

1620

00:59:27,350 --> 00:59:25,530

necessarily think that you're you're

1621

00:59:29,750 --> 00:59:27,360

asking you when you're asking about say

1622

00:59:32,000 --> 00:59:29,760

was it planes and know was it planes or

1623

00:59:33,530 --> 00:59:32,010

was it planes plus explosions they're

1624

00:59:35,390 --> 00:59:33,540

thinking you're asking was it planes

1625

00:59:37,520 --> 00:59:35,400

plus no explosions

1626

00:59:39,980 --> 00:59:37,530

so that really it boils down to just the

1627

00:59:41,930 --> 00:59:39,990

left side of that argument the right way

1628

00:59:43,970 --> 00:59:41,940

it would be like yes the last but but

1629

00:59:45,860 --> 00:59:43,980

but isn't that what 9/11 truthers

1630

00:59:47,930 --> 00:59:45,870

believe most of them I mean you do you

1631

00:59:50,840 --> 00:59:47,940

do talk about a demarcation line there

1632

00:59:52,580 --> 00:59:50,850

the no planers are skeptical of the ones

1633

00:59:54,770 --> 00:59:52,590

that accept that the planes did hit the

1634

00:59:56,570 --> 00:59:54,780

buildings but just the ones that accept

1635

00:59:59,090 --> 00:59:56,580

that the planes hit the buildings

1636

01:00:00,650 --> 00:59:59,100

and that explosive devices were planted

1637

01:00:01,910 --> 01:00:00,660

right isn't that what they believe yeah

1638

01:00:04,700 --> 01:00:01,920

but I think I think that's very much the

1639

01:00:07,460 --> 01:00:04,710

mainstream for 911 the no cleaners

1640

01:00:09,500 --> 01:00:07,470

are a very very small fringe minority of

1641

01:00:11,240 --> 01:00:09,510

crazy people essentially who think that

1642

01:00:12,890 --> 01:00:11,250

no planes hit the World Trade Center and

1643

01:00:14,240 --> 01:00:12,900

it was all Holograms or something so

1644

01:00:16,040 --> 01:00:14,250

when you're talking to a 9/11 truther

1645

01:00:17,660 --> 01:00:16,050

they're all saying yeah planes hit the

1646

01:00:20,330 --> 01:00:17,670

building some of them will say that

1647

01:00:22,550 --> 01:00:20,340

there were remote control planes but

1648

01:00:26,360 --> 01:00:22,560

then they're saying like in addition

1649

01:00:28,340 --> 01:00:26,370

there was a so from their perspective I

1650

01:00:30,230 --> 01:00:28,350

don't think the probability of the plane

1651
01:00:32,750 --> 01:00:30,240
hitting on not is really really a factor

1652
01:00:35,390 --> 01:00:32,760
there that probability is like you got

1653
01:00:37,190 --> 01:00:35,400
to focus on is how how plausible is it

1654
01:00:39,080 --> 01:00:37,200
that you would have sneaked explosives

1655
01:00:41,030 --> 01:00:39,090
into the buildings which as you know is

1656
01:00:43,790 --> 01:00:41,040
very implausible especially as you've

1657
01:00:46,250 --> 01:00:43,800
pointed out on the same floor that the

1658
01:00:50,270 --> 01:00:46,260
planes hitting was burning for nearly an

1659
01:00:52,310 --> 01:00:50,280
hour before it collapsed yeah so yeah I

1660
01:00:54,710 --> 01:00:52,320
mean there's the again another one of

1661
01:00:56,600 --> 01:00:54,720
the points I enjoyed about your book was

1662
01:00:59,030 --> 01:00:56,610
that line of demarcation is such an

1663
01:01:01,190 --> 01:00:59,040

important subject I did this one's I did

1664

01:01:02,570 --> 01:01:01,200

I had a three-way debate with a young

1665

01:01:04,070 --> 01:01:02,580

earth creationist and an older earth

1666

01:01:07,040 --> 01:01:04,080

creationist and I represented the

1667

01:01:09,290 --> 01:01:07,050

evolutionary position now I just got the

1668

01:01:10,520 --> 01:01:09,300

two of them going at each other you know

1669

01:01:13,400 --> 01:01:10,530

it started debunking each other's

1670

01:01:14,780 --> 01:01:13,410

arguments so I didn't have to do it you

1671

01:01:16,730 --> 01:01:14,790

know because we all have that sort of

1672

01:01:19,880 --> 01:01:16,740

line of demarcation where we where we

1673

01:01:23,330 --> 01:01:19,890

draw down there but but but back to the

1674

01:01:25,250 --> 01:01:23,340

conjunction fallacy yeah it does seem to

1675

01:01:27,100 --> 01:01:25,260

me that just just a simple argument

1676

01:01:29,210 --> 01:01:27,110

leaving out the details that

1677

01:01:30,890 --> 01:01:29,220

probabilities of the planes hitting the

1678

01:01:32,600 --> 01:01:30,900

buildings and the explosive devices

1679

01:01:34,370 --> 01:01:32,610

leaving aside however they would have

1680

01:01:35,810 --> 01:01:34,380

gotten them in there isn't that a lower

1681

01:01:37,700 --> 01:01:35,820

probability than either one of them

1682

01:01:39,050 --> 01:01:37,710

happening independently sure but we know

1683

01:01:40,550 --> 01:01:39,060

that the planes hit the buildings and

1684

01:01:43,700 --> 01:01:40,560

all the 9/11 truthers know the planes

1685

01:01:45,710 --> 01:01:43,710

hit the building so it's not really yeah

1686

01:01:48,290 --> 01:01:45,720

kind of that's not that's that's a 1 on

1687

01:01:51,160 --> 01:01:48,300

the probability scale so ok when you

1688

01:01:53,840 --> 01:01:51,170

multiply them out it comes out the same

1689

01:01:55,250 --> 01:01:53,850

but you know it's it's an interesting

1690

01:01:57,980 --> 01:01:55,260

thing to think about the conjunction

1691

01:02:01,190 --> 01:01:57,990

power said I have problems with the way

1692

01:02:03,230 --> 01:02:01,200

it's phrased like that yeah okay I guess

1693

01:02:04,790 --> 01:02:03,240

that I hadn't seen they could critiques

1694

01:02:06,800 --> 01:02:04,800

of the suzhen conjunction fallacy that

1695

01:02:08,780 --> 01:02:06,810

that that is interesting although I

1696

01:02:10,520 --> 01:02:08,790

guess it would apply to any conspiracy

1697

01:02:13,520 --> 01:02:10,530

theory because one of my

1698

01:02:15,650 --> 01:02:13,530

sort of debunking points again that you

1699

01:02:17,990 --> 01:02:15,660

make - is that the more complex the

1700

01:02:20,090 --> 01:02:18,000

system has to be the more people that

1701
01:02:22,190 --> 01:02:20,100
are going to have to be involved to pull

1702
01:02:24,230 --> 01:02:22,200
it off and the more things that have to

1703
01:02:26,270 --> 01:02:24,240
happen in just the right sequence the

1704
01:02:28,970 --> 01:02:26,280
lower the probability is the devil

1705
01:02:31,340 --> 01:02:28,980
conspiracy yeah definitely is that I'm

1706
01:02:33,590 --> 01:02:31,350
very difficult to pull off yeah I think

1707
01:02:36,410 --> 01:02:33,600
I have a better way of talking about it

1708
01:02:38,630 --> 01:02:36,420
than just like how likely is this thing

1709
01:02:41,300 --> 01:02:38,640
is a thing you do very well in the book

1710
01:02:43,720 --> 01:02:41,310
is giving like historical contexts

1711
01:02:47,510 --> 01:02:43,730
for real conspiracies and what actually

1712
01:02:50,240 --> 01:02:47,520
it took to pull these various things off

1713
01:02:52,910 --> 01:02:50,250

and how kind of narrowly focused they

1714

01:02:55,640 --> 01:02:52,920

were but you talk about I think the idea

1715

01:02:57,170 --> 01:02:55,650

around Scotch iran-contra scandal yeah

1716

01:02:59,150 --> 01:02:57,180

I'm just a relatively small number of

1717

01:03:00,560 --> 01:02:59,160

people and he did actually get it did

1718

01:03:02,630 --> 01:03:00,570

actually come out because it's very very

1719

01:03:05,930 --> 01:03:02,640

hard to keep things secret and if that

1720

01:03:08,090 --> 01:03:05,940

came out then much bigger things would

1721

01:03:13,160 --> 01:03:08,100

also come out yeah something like on the

1722

01:03:14,810 --> 01:03:13,170

scale of 9/11 yeah exactly i mean again

1723

01:03:16,810 --> 01:03:14,820

clinton couldn't even get a in

1724

01:03:19,640 --> 01:03:16,820

the White House is that as people joke

1725

01:03:21,140 --> 01:03:19,650

you know Nixon couldn't even get you

1726

01:03:22,910 --> 01:03:21,150

know his plumbers to break into the

1727

01:03:24,650 --> 01:03:22,920

Democratic headquarters successfully I

1728

01:03:27,050 --> 01:03:24,660

mean these are you know see you know

1729

01:03:29,780 --> 01:03:27,060

these are FBI g-men who would supposedly

1730

01:03:31,460 --> 01:03:29,790

professionals at this and you know it

1731

01:03:34,010 --> 01:03:31,470

just shows you how hard it is to really

1732

01:03:35,960 --> 01:03:34,020

pull off a real conspiracy I mean again

1733

01:03:37,850 --> 01:03:35,970

Volkswagen got caught cheating the

1734

01:03:40,310 --> 01:03:37,860

emissions scandal and you know these

1735

01:03:42,200 --> 01:03:40,320

these insider trader stuff every week

1736

01:03:44,000 --> 01:03:42,210

somebody gets busted for it I mean those

1737

01:03:46,580 --> 01:03:44,010

are all kinds of conspiracies that are

1738

01:03:48,440 --> 01:03:46,590

very detailed and narrowly focused and

1739

01:03:50,930 --> 01:03:48,450

still hard to pull off

1740

01:03:53,560 --> 01:03:50,940

most people get busted yeah you know

1741

01:03:58,160 --> 01:03:53,570

they I've been reading Edward Snowden's

1742

01:04:00,190 --> 01:03:58,170

memoirs and autobiographies and and gosh

1743

01:04:02,330 --> 01:04:00,200

it's just you know it is kind of

1744

01:04:04,190 --> 01:04:02,340

illuminating about the kinds of stuff

1745

01:04:06,080 --> 01:04:04,200

governments are willing to do this was

1746

01:04:08,270 --> 01:04:06,090

under the not just the Bush

1747

01:04:11,180 --> 01:04:08,280

administration but under Obama you know

1748

01:04:13,550 --> 01:04:11,190

mister transparency and you know he

1749

01:04:15,200 --> 01:04:13,560

Snowden talks about this keystroke I

1750

01:04:18,350 --> 01:04:15,210

forget what it's called key something

1751

01:04:20,690 --> 01:04:18,360

Keystone where you can actually take

1752

01:04:21,770 --> 01:04:20,700

over somebody's personal computer and

1753

01:04:24,050 --> 01:04:21,780

watch what they're watching on their

1754

01:04:24,800 --> 01:04:24,060

screen porn or their a bit of a video

1755

01:04:27,500 --> 01:04:24,810

conference with

1756

01:04:28,970 --> 01:04:27,510

child or whatever is this incredibly and

1757

01:04:30,980 --> 01:04:28,980

he describes that I'm sitting here

1758

01:04:34,360 --> 01:04:30,990

watching this look at this father with

1759

01:04:37,430 --> 01:04:34,370

his little son in his lap it's like what

1760

01:04:39,020 --> 01:04:37,440

yeah this is quite amazing and yeah

1761

01:04:41,840 --> 01:04:39,030

something you talk about a lot as well

1762

01:04:44,930 --> 01:04:41,850

like there's one thing it was an old

1763

01:04:47,750 --> 01:04:44,940

program that was instituted after World

1764

01:04:50,630 --> 01:04:47,760

War two like in 1945 was Project

1765

01:04:52,520 --> 01:04:50,640

Shamrock yeah that was that was the

1766

01:04:54,050 --> 01:04:52,530

project that they they recorded all of

1767

01:04:57,470 --> 01:04:54,060

the telegrams coming into the United

1768

01:04:59,960 --> 01:04:57,480

States from 1945 until in 1970s all of

1769

01:05:01,430 --> 01:04:59,970

the church commissioned church committee

1770

01:05:03,650 --> 01:05:01,440

which is quite a quite incredible way

1771

01:05:05,630 --> 01:05:03,660

yeah I never never see heard of project

1772

01:05:07,670 --> 01:05:05,640

shamrock better it just seems like you

1773

01:05:09,860 --> 01:05:07,680

know the same type of thing going on

1774

01:05:11,420 --> 01:05:09,870

yeah and that church committee thing was

1775

01:05:12,620 --> 01:05:11,430

really important which is why it's good

1776

01:05:14,660 --> 01:05:12,630

that we have those kinds of things I

1777

01:05:16,340 --> 01:05:14,670

think we needed another one now about

1778

01:05:17,660 --> 01:05:16,350

the Russian meddling and Ukraine or

1779

01:05:19,670 --> 01:05:17,670

whatever else is going on that we don't

1780

01:05:21,410 --> 01:05:19,680

quite know about because from the Church

1781

01:05:24,290 --> 01:05:21,420

Committee we also found more stuff about

1782

01:05:26,480 --> 01:05:24,300

the JFK assassination including that you

1783

01:05:28,730 --> 01:05:26,490

know it was Kennedy that set up there

1784

01:05:30,890 --> 01:05:28,740

were secret recording devices in the

1785

01:05:33,020 --> 01:05:30,900

Oval Office you know not Nixon he you

1786

01:05:35,300 --> 01:05:33,030

know not not Johnson Kennedy before them

1787

01:05:38,300 --> 01:05:35,310

wait wait a Democrat he's on our side

1788

01:05:40,370 --> 01:05:38,310

liberals say yeah well you know so this

1789

01:05:41,900 --> 01:05:40,380

stuff goes on and MKULTRA came out

1790

01:05:44,180 --> 01:05:41,910

because of that you know we were doing

1791

01:05:45,680 --> 01:05:44,190

what mind-control and all that

1792

01:05:47,030 --> 01:05:45,690

Manchurian Candidate stuff which

1793

01:05:49,280 --> 01:05:47,040

everybody assumed well that's just a

1794

01:05:50,990 --> 01:05:49,290

movie you know trying to figure out how

1795

01:05:53,300 --> 01:05:51,000

to brainwash people no actually it was a

1796

01:05:54,920 --> 01:05:53,310

real program yeah same thing with

1797

01:05:57,170 --> 01:05:54,930

Project Star Gate I didn't talk about

1798

01:06:01,660 --> 01:05:57,180

that in the in the course but you know

1799

01:06:05,960 --> 01:06:01,670

this was the CIA's attempt to master

1800

01:06:08,150 --> 01:06:05,970

this remote viewing where you have these

1801

01:06:09,890 --> 01:06:08,160

remote viewers these psychics in a room

1802

01:06:11,680 --> 01:06:09,900

and Washington DC somewhere and and

1803

01:06:14,000 --> 01:06:11,690

they're trying to determine

1804

01:06:16,880 --> 01:06:14,010

telepathically where the missile silos

1805

01:06:18,710 --> 01:06:16,890

are located in Russia or ever you know

1806

01:06:20,990 --> 01:06:18,720

where Osama bin Laden is hiding you know

1807

01:06:23,540 --> 01:06:21,000

that was that came later but you know

1808

01:06:25,520 --> 01:06:23,550

and so these guys are they claim they

1809

01:06:28,060 --> 01:06:25,530

got hits it's like yeah I'm sure you've

1810

01:06:29,990 --> 01:06:28,070

got some hits but is it statistically

1811

01:06:32,420 --> 01:06:30,000

significant number of hits are they

1812

01:06:33,740 --> 01:06:32,430

important hits and you know this is kind

1813

01:06:35,660 --> 01:06:33,750

of how psychic subarray but but the

1814

01:06:38,270 --> 01:06:35,670

point was it's like wait we spent twenty

1815

01:06:40,250 --> 01:06:38,280

million dollars so testing room

1816

01:06:42,380 --> 01:06:40,260

viewing that that's just stuff

1817

01:06:44,210 --> 01:06:42,390

we these get fixed debunk decades ago I

1818

01:06:46,190 --> 01:06:44,220

mean right at the amazing Randi debunked

1819

01:06:48,170 --> 01:06:46,200

to stuff back in the 80s we were

1820

01:06:50,150 --> 01:06:48,180

spending money on this the government

1821

01:06:52,190 --> 01:06:50,160

was that yeah so again we have to

1822

01:06:54,620 --> 01:06:52,200

acknowledge to the Alex Jones of the

1823

01:06:56,840 --> 01:06:54,630

world that some of this stuff is real it

1824

01:06:59,030 --> 01:06:56,850

does go on there are you know we should

1825

01:07:00,880 --> 01:06:59,040

not just trust government for sure and

1826

01:07:02,810 --> 01:07:00,890

and it isn't just the Republican

1827

01:07:04,670 --> 01:07:02,820

administrations we shouldn't trust you

1828

01:07:06,170 --> 01:07:04,680

know the Democrats they they've done

1829

01:07:08,810 --> 01:07:06,180

just as many nefarious things

1830

01:07:11,630 --> 01:07:08,820

yeah well certainly over yeah at the

1831

01:07:13,070 --> 01:07:11,640

last hundred years or so like this stuff

1832

01:07:15,650 --> 01:07:13,080

that was going on was obviously under

1833

01:07:17,780 --> 01:07:15,660

yeah both both administration's Democrat

1834

01:07:20,050 --> 01:07:17,790

and Republicans all the interventions in

1835

01:07:22,760 --> 01:07:20,060

foreign countries and things like that

1836

01:07:25,900 --> 01:07:22,770

lecture eleven you talk about the

1837

01:07:28,310 --> 01:07:25,910

deadliest conspiracy in history which

1838

01:07:32,810 --> 01:07:28,320

was essentially the events leading up to

1839

01:07:35,630 --> 01:07:32,820

World War one and why did you devote a

1840

01:07:37,780 --> 01:07:35,640

whole chapter to that well I knew a fair

1841

01:07:40,160 --> 01:07:37,790

man about that I just read a book on

1842

01:07:42,350 --> 01:07:40,170

that the whole origins of the First

1843

01:07:44,480 --> 01:07:42,360

World War and the causes and there was a

1844

01:07:48,070 --> 01:07:44,490

whole section on that and then there was

1845

01:07:51,320 --> 01:07:48,080

a there was a film about prince chef

1846

01:07:54,680 --> 01:07:51,330

gabriele print ship and the assessment

1847

01:07:57,050 --> 01:07:54,690

whether or not he was a pot like up what

1848

01:08:01,130 --> 01:07:57,060

would it Oswald call himself I'm a poxy

1849

01:08:02,480 --> 01:08:01,140

Patsy yeah where he was where every old

1850

01:08:05,030 --> 01:08:02,490

print shop was described as something

1851
01:08:06,500 --> 01:08:05,040
like a patsy somebody else was pulling

1852
01:08:08,690 --> 01:08:06,510
those strings and maybe the strings are

1853
01:08:11,570 --> 01:08:08,700
being pulled by serbia itself the

1854
01:08:13,100 --> 01:08:11,580
government as a false flag operation you

1855
01:08:14,690 --> 01:08:13,110
know at for their own nefarious things i

1856
01:08:16,250 --> 01:08:14,700
thought whoa this is so much like the

1857
01:08:16,670 --> 01:08:16,260
JFK thing i got to look into this some

1858
01:08:19,400 --> 01:08:16,680
more

1859
01:08:21,380 --> 01:08:19,410
and I did and I'm not you know I'm not

1860
01:08:23,930 --> 01:08:21,390
super convinced I know the correct

1861
01:08:27,170 --> 01:08:23,940
answer I think it was you know this sort

1862
01:08:29,599 --> 01:08:27,180
of Serbian nationalist black hand

1863
01:08:31,070 --> 01:08:29,609

conspiracy with some other people behind

1864

01:08:33,170 --> 01:08:31,080

the scenes but probably not government

1865

01:08:35,599 --> 01:08:33,180

agents probably these independent groups

1866

01:08:37,640 --> 01:08:35,609

I think not a hundred percent sure on

1867

01:08:40,460 --> 01:08:37,650

that and I was amazed to see that there

1868

01:08:41,870 --> 01:08:40,470

is some debate about that but that you

1869

01:08:44,300 --> 01:08:41,880

know whatever the conspiracy whether

1870

01:08:46,190 --> 01:08:44,310

it's this black hand Serbian nationalist

1871

01:08:48,200 --> 01:08:46,200

group or the government itself you know

1872

01:08:50,030 --> 01:08:48,210

this led to this cascade of consequences

1873

01:08:51,740 --> 01:08:50,040

that triggered the first world war and

1874

01:08:54,890 --> 01:08:51,750

you know tens of millions of

1875

01:08:57,499 --> 01:08:54,900

people dead that's a conspiracy yeah and

1876

01:08:59,630 --> 01:08:57,509

obviously it was yeah you could describe

1877

01:09:02,120 --> 01:08:59,640

it as being a conspiracy theory on the

1878

01:09:03,890 --> 01:09:02,130

part of the austrian-hungarian empire in

1879

01:09:07,309 --> 01:09:03,900

that they used the particular

1880

01:09:12,289 --> 01:09:07,319

interpretation of what happened to to

1881

01:09:14,150 --> 01:09:12,299

attack was it Serbia yeah yeah oh yeah

1882

01:09:15,980 --> 01:09:14,160

that that's that's where I made that I

1883

01:09:17,720 --> 01:09:15,990

also made that link between made it

1884

01:09:20,059 --> 01:09:17,730

happen on purpose my home and let it

1885

01:09:24,289 --> 01:09:20,069

happen on purpose lie huh from the 9/11

1886

01:09:26,269 --> 01:09:24,299

truth theorists that then I called it

1887

01:09:27,170 --> 01:09:26,279

capitalized on what happened on purpose

1888

01:09:29,210 --> 01:09:27,180

cow Hoth

1889

01:09:31,400 --> 01:09:29,220

which is in a way kind of what Roosevelt

1890

01:09:34,970 --> 01:09:31,410

did I mean Roosevelt wanted to get the

1891

01:09:37,340 --> 01:09:34,980

United States into the European war but

1892

01:09:39,200 --> 01:09:37,350

he needed a pretext for that and that

1893

01:09:40,610 --> 01:09:39,210

was Pearl Harbor so you know of course

1894

01:09:43,220 --> 01:09:40,620

tea you know he let it happen on purpose

1895

01:09:46,400 --> 01:09:43,230

or he made it happen on purpose no it

1896

01:09:47,690 --> 01:09:46,410

just happened but he then did what

1897

01:09:50,120 --> 01:09:47,700

governments often do they take advantage

1898

01:09:52,099 --> 01:09:50,130

of something that just happens and then

1899

01:09:54,140 --> 01:09:52,109

utilize it for their own political gain

1900

01:09:55,820 --> 01:09:54,150

that that's what that's a true

1901

01:09:57,590 --> 01:09:55,830

conspiracy that's a little more nuanced

1902

01:10:00,200 --> 01:09:57,600

but it is a kind of a conspiracy

1903

01:10:01,880 --> 01:10:00,210

generally yeah yeah and that's again

1904

01:10:04,370 --> 01:10:01,890

like the type of perspective I think

1905

01:10:06,560 --> 01:10:04,380

that you want to give people like yeah

1906

01:10:10,670 --> 01:10:06,570

tell people that people exploit things

1907

01:10:13,550 --> 01:10:10,680

like the Gulf of Tonkin attacks are not

1908

01:10:15,500 --> 01:10:13,560

acts they weren't exactly a false flag

1909

01:10:20,120 --> 01:10:15,510

it was kind of a mistaken report of an

1910

01:10:22,910 --> 01:10:20,130

attack but McNamara left upon it and you

1911

01:10:24,470 --> 01:10:22,920

know exploited it you know capital

1912

01:10:26,660 --> 01:10:24,480

eyesight and like you I'm glad you came

1913

01:10:32,260 --> 01:10:26,670

up with KY hop

1914

01:10:36,770 --> 01:10:34,880

because I used to call it so glad it

1915

01:10:38,840 --> 01:10:36,780

happened but then I couldn't I couldn't

1916

01:10:44,780 --> 01:10:38,850

figure out what how to end it so it was

1917

01:10:49,790 --> 01:10:44,790

like hot my hop and Gi a so I use a cow

1918

01:10:52,130 --> 01:10:49,800

hop now which is a more what also wrote

1919

01:10:53,720 --> 01:10:52,140

about you know operate the operation

1920

01:10:56,570 --> 01:10:53,730

Northwoods joe rogan

1921

01:10:57,830 --> 01:10:56,580

it made a big Alex Jones made a big deal

1922

01:11:00,260 --> 01:10:57,840

about that on joe rogan show I'm like

1923

01:11:01,250 --> 01:11:00,270

wait operation Northwoods II I gotta

1924

01:11:02,660 --> 01:11:01,260

look into that a little bit more I

1925

01:11:03,950 --> 01:11:02,670

forget what the details of that that

1926

01:11:05,640 --> 01:11:03,960

came out during the church

1927

01:11:08,100 --> 01:11:05,650

well actually came out an issue

1928

01:11:09,990 --> 01:11:08,110

Johnson had heard about it after Kennedy

1929

01:11:11,820 --> 01:11:10,000

was assassinated and he covered it up

1930

01:11:14,220 --> 01:11:11,830

because he thought this could be really

1931

01:11:16,530 --> 01:11:14,230

bad for Cold War tensions if American

1932

01:11:18,750 --> 01:11:16,540

public finds that if the Russians find

1933

01:11:20,250 --> 01:11:18,760

out what we can administer a ssin was

1934

01:11:23,310 --> 01:11:20,260

planning on doing to assassinate Castro

1935

01:11:26,940 --> 01:11:23,320

and and also create false like

1936

01:11:29,100 --> 01:11:26,950

operations like we'll have a one of our

1937

01:11:31,710 --> 01:11:29,110

Jets doctored up to look like a Russian

1938

01:11:35,700 --> 01:11:31,720

MIG and then it'll you know Buzz fly

1939

01:11:38,010 --> 01:11:35,710

some American commercial planes and that

1940

01:11:39,510 --> 01:11:38,020

will say the Russians did that and then

1941

01:11:41,040 --> 01:11:39,520

we'll invade Cuba you know and they had

1942

01:11:42,510 --> 01:11:41,050

like a dozen different things like now

1943

01:11:44,700 --> 01:11:42,520

to his credit Kennedy said we're not

1944

01:11:46,980 --> 01:11:44,710

doing those things that's crazy but the

1945

01:11:48,690 --> 01:11:46,990

fact that that his administration all

1946

01:11:50,460 --> 01:11:48,700

the way up to McNamara going yeah this

1947

01:11:53,190 --> 01:11:50,470

this seems like a good idea let's do

1948

01:11:54,900 --> 01:11:53,200

that and we'll assassinate Castro while

1949

01:11:56,700 --> 01:11:54,910

we're at it you know and it wasn't until

1950

01:11:59,460 --> 01:11:56,710

Reagan was president that Reagan passed

1951

01:12:01,320 --> 01:11:59,470

that law we will not that's against a

1952

01:12:03,180 --> 01:12:01,330

lot of assassinate foreign leaders yeah

1953

01:12:04,830 --> 01:12:03,190

you know cuz I'm sure he was a little

1954

01:12:06,540 --> 01:12:04,840

worried himself because you know we we

1955

01:12:09,990 --> 01:12:06,550

were we had been doing this in South

1956

01:12:11,250 --> 01:12:10,000

America backing South American dictators

1957

01:12:13,380 --> 01:12:11,260

you know he's a son of a but he's

1958

01:12:16,350 --> 01:12:13,390

our son of a right you know

1959

01:12:18,210 --> 01:12:16,360

Hitchens wrote about this about you know

1960

01:12:20,340 --> 01:12:18,220

this book on Henry Kissinger as a war

1961

01:12:22,440 --> 01:12:20,350

criminal I remember reading this going

1962

01:12:24,660 --> 01:12:22,450

kind of never thought about Kissinger in

1963

01:12:26,160 --> 01:12:24,670

that regard but yeah I can kind of see

1964

01:12:28,500 --> 01:12:26,170

the argument not that try go that far

1965

01:12:30,270 --> 01:12:28,510

but all the conniving things we were

1966

01:12:32,250 --> 01:12:30,280

doing secretly

1967

01:12:33,960 --> 01:12:32,260

you know Congress did not know about it

1968

01:12:36,600 --> 01:12:33,970

so the public doesn't know about it so

1969

01:12:38,010 --> 01:12:36,610

this is a kind of conspiracy to topple

1970

01:12:40,410 --> 01:12:38,020

certain dictators that were more

1971

01:12:42,270 --> 01:12:40,420

communist and back dictators that were

1972

01:12:45,150 --> 01:12:42,280

either leaning toward democracy or more

1973

01:12:46,710 --> 01:12:45,160

fascist in South American countries to

1974

01:12:49,230 --> 01:12:46,720

the point where we're you know sending

1975

01:12:53,040 --> 01:12:49,240

CIA operatives were provided them with

1976

01:12:55,110 --> 01:12:53,050

weapons and people are dying and these

1977

01:12:56,970 --> 01:12:55,120

some of these false flag operations to

1978

01:12:58,590 --> 01:12:56,980

make it look like the Communists did

1979

01:13:00,090 --> 01:12:58,600

this to the fascists therefore the

1980

01:13:02,340 --> 01:13:00,100

Democrats should come in you know all

1981

01:13:04,770 --> 01:13:02,350

this stuff this is all you know came out

1982

01:13:06,420 --> 01:13:04,780

in the 90s about what we were doing in

1983

01:13:08,220 --> 01:13:06,430

the 60s and 70s in South American

1984

01:13:09,990 --> 01:13:08,230

countries it's like holy crap that's

1985

01:13:12,720 --> 01:13:10,000

pretty bad and that's a real conspiracy

1986

01:13:15,150 --> 01:13:12,730

mm-hmm yeah I think yeah I'm like oh

1987

01:13:17,430 --> 01:13:15,160

saying like it's it's really important

1988

01:13:18,870 --> 01:13:17,440

tell people the real conspiracy to

1989

01:13:19,149 --> 01:13:18,880

happen that's why I started the first

1990

01:13:20,439 --> 01:13:19,159

word

1991

01:13:22,839 --> 01:13:20,449

my book where that comes first there's a

1992

01:13:24,879 --> 01:13:22,849

rail of course and you start out you

1993

01:13:28,929 --> 01:13:24,889

know your series like listing all these

1994

01:13:30,729 --> 01:13:28,939

conspiracies and you you list your list

1995

01:13:32,560 --> 01:13:30,739

more in the in the last lecture like

1996

01:13:34,419 --> 01:13:32,570

you're talking about say the real

1997

01:13:36,879 --> 01:13:34,429

x-files conspiracy theories and myth and

1998

01:13:39,159 --> 01:13:36,889

reality and you're talking about cover

1999

01:13:41,259 --> 01:13:39,169

the real underpinnings like in this case

2000

01:13:46,419 --> 01:13:41,269

it's interesting you it's gonna switch

2001
01:13:48,699 --> 01:13:46,429
in a way to go to UFOs yeah because I

2002
01:13:50,290 --> 01:13:48,709
almost feel like universe exists the

2003
01:13:53,169 --> 01:13:50,300
part wait I know when you were going

2004
01:13:56,560 --> 01:13:53,179
through my my scheme of classifications

2005
01:13:58,089 --> 01:13:56,570
of conspiracy extremeness and we get to

2006
01:13:59,890 --> 01:13:58,099
UFOs and I think I put it as an eight or

2007
01:14:01,029 --> 01:13:59,900
something like that seven or eight yeah

2008
01:14:02,830 --> 01:14:01,039
I could tell you weren't entirely

2009
01:14:05,859 --> 01:14:02,840
convinced that it deserved to be quite

2010
01:14:07,810 --> 01:14:05,869
so high on the on the thing because it's

2011
01:14:10,060 --> 01:14:07,820
it's you know in some ways it seems like

2012
01:14:14,799 --> 01:14:10,070
a almost like a harmless almost hobby

2013
01:14:17,109 --> 01:14:14,809

rather than a conspiracy theory yeah I

2014

01:14:19,149 --> 01:14:17,119

think yes the way I think about it is

2015

01:14:20,649 --> 01:14:19,159

this you know and again in terms of your

2016

01:14:23,020 --> 01:14:20,659

your strategies for dealing with these

2017

01:14:25,060 --> 01:14:23,030

people is to acknowledge that very

2018

01:14:27,429 --> 01:14:25,070

probably extraterrestrial intelligences

2019

01:14:28,779 --> 01:14:27,439

exist somewhere in the cosmos and you

2020

01:14:31,060 --> 01:14:28,789

can go through all the steady arguments

2021

01:14:33,489 --> 01:14:31,070

and that's it that's reasonable now have

2022

01:14:34,509 --> 01:14:33,499

they come here I separate those two

2023

01:14:36,790 --> 01:14:34,519

separate questions are they out there

2024

01:14:38,409 --> 01:14:36,800

have they come here now let's look at

2025

01:14:40,229 --> 01:14:38,419

the evidence for have they come here and

2026

01:14:42,129 --> 01:14:40,239

you know this goes back to Sagan kind of

2027

01:14:43,989 --> 01:14:42,139

deconstructing the arguments back in the

2028

01:14:45,969 --> 01:14:43,999

sixties and seventies and you know

2029

01:14:47,739 --> 01:14:45,979

always it's you know the evidence is

2030

01:14:49,569 --> 01:14:47,749

thin it's always questionable it's not

2031

01:14:51,399 --> 01:14:49,579

clear you know we don't have a type

2032

01:14:53,049 --> 01:14:51,409

specimen there's no physical body we can

2033

01:14:54,689 --> 01:14:53,059

all look at there's no spacecraft all we

2034

01:14:57,640 --> 01:14:54,699

have are these sort of blacked-out

2035

01:14:59,409 --> 01:14:57,650

paragraphs in in secret document

2036

01:15:01,419 --> 01:14:59,419

government talk classified documents and

2037

01:15:02,979 --> 01:15:01,429

we have blurry photographs and grainy

2038

01:15:06,069 --> 01:15:02,989

videos it's always kind of in that

2039

01:15:07,810 --> 01:15:06,079

that's kind of questionable area if by

2040

01:15:10,779 --> 01:15:07,820

UFO you mean the you eat means

2041

01:15:13,000 --> 01:15:10,789

extraterrestrial now you know it to me

2042

01:15:14,350 --> 01:15:13,010

if you mean by you experimental aircraft

2043

01:15:16,390 --> 01:15:14,360

that the government is secretly working

2044

01:15:18,250 --> 01:15:16,400

on yeah I'm sure that's true

2045

01:15:19,810 --> 01:15:18,260

or maybe the Russians have some

2046

01:15:21,969 --> 01:15:19,820

experimental aircraft we don't know

2047

01:15:23,919 --> 01:15:21,979

about that's entirely possible so there

2048

01:15:26,500 --> 01:15:23,929

I would agree with you you know it

2049

01:15:28,870 --> 01:15:26,510

should have fairly high standing yeah

2050

01:15:31,569 --> 01:15:28,880

yeah so it's a little perspective thing

2051

01:15:33,009 --> 01:15:31,579

that's kinda surprising to me was you

2052

01:15:34,120 --> 01:15:33,019

took about Roswell and how

2053

01:15:36,310 --> 01:15:34,130

you know the Roswell was a brief

2054

01:15:38,140 --> 01:15:36,320

flare-up of things for them for 20 years

2055

01:15:39,779 --> 01:15:38,150

Roswell didn't even really make the

2056

01:15:42,729 --> 01:15:39,789

grade in terms of the most interesting

2057

01:15:44,140 --> 01:15:42,739

you know UFO sightings and until someone

2058

01:15:46,629 --> 01:15:44,150

wrote a book about it and then he bumped

2059

01:15:48,609 --> 01:15:46,639

back up again right and then

2060

01:15:51,669 --> 01:15:48,619

eyewitnesses suddenly remembered things

2061

01:15:54,790 --> 01:15:51,679

I saw and so on by the way you had Nick

2062

01:15:57,970 --> 01:15:54,800

Pope on your yes which I really enjoyed

2063

01:16:00,370 --> 01:15:57,980

I've not met him personally I've seen

2064

01:16:02,350 --> 01:16:00,380

him on every one of those ancient alien

2065

01:16:03,160 --> 01:16:02,360

right yeah so he's like a regular I

2066

01:16:04,899 --> 01:16:03,170

don't know if he's one of the producers

2067

01:16:06,910 --> 01:16:04,909

or what I don't know what but he's on

2068

01:16:09,279 --> 01:16:06,920

every one of them you would think he's

2069

01:16:11,470 --> 01:16:09,289

totally down the rabbit hole with those

2070

01:16:13,209 --> 01:16:11,480

guys and on your podcast he's going I

2071

01:16:15,250 --> 01:16:13,219

have no idea if aliens have come here I

2072

01:16:17,620 --> 01:16:15,260

can't say we cannot say that the

2073

01:16:19,060 --> 01:16:17,630

evidence is not good enough to make that

2074

01:16:21,520 --> 01:16:19,070

conclusion I'm like dude you've never

2075

01:16:24,549 --> 01:16:21,530

said that and hundreds of hours on

2076

01:16:25,959 --> 01:16:24,559

television you know and he but but then

2077

01:16:28,450 --> 01:16:25,969

I've watched a few more of these

2078

01:16:32,379 --> 01:16:28,460

episodes they're streaming now on Hulu I

2079

01:16:35,439 --> 01:16:32,389

think and and he couches the language so

2080

01:16:37,839 --> 01:16:35,449

carefully you know like is it possible

2081

01:16:39,250 --> 01:16:37,849

that and it could be and some people are

2082

01:16:41,290 --> 01:16:39,260

saying that you know it's almost

2083

01:16:42,970 --> 01:16:41,300

trumpian like you know Trump says you

2084

01:16:46,330 --> 01:16:42,980

know people are saying what people Oh a

2085

01:16:48,549 --> 01:16:46,340

lot of people well wait a minute you

2086

01:16:50,439 --> 01:16:48,559

know and it's hard to pin down that and

2087

01:16:52,000 --> 01:16:50,449

I thought you pin him down perfectly he

2088

01:16:54,009 --> 01:16:52,010

said right there oh well you don't know

2089

01:16:55,779 --> 01:16:54,019

yeah well we were just two guys having a

2090

01:16:57,790 --> 01:16:55,789

conversation I think you know when you

2091

01:17:00,100 --> 01:16:57,800

see him on the other shows he's an

2092

01:17:02,859 --> 01:17:00,110

entertainer and yeah that's kind of how

2093

01:17:05,620 --> 01:17:02,869

he makes a living is it's to a certain

2094

01:17:08,950 --> 01:17:05,630

degree exaggerating things like his

2095

01:17:11,979 --> 01:17:08,960

experience and his opinions with regards

2096

01:17:15,489 --> 01:17:11,989

to aliens cuz you know he's he does he

2097

01:17:17,680 --> 01:17:15,499

does make a living doing it now so he in

2098

01:17:18,850 --> 01:17:17,690

some ways he's kind of forced to do it

2099

01:17:21,520 --> 01:17:18,860

but when he when he was just like

2100

01:17:26,140 --> 01:17:21,530

chatting with somebody one on one I

2101

01:17:28,120 --> 01:17:26,150

think perhaps yeah it yeah yeah also he

2102

01:17:30,669 --> 01:17:28,130

he's played up of course over maybe the

2103

01:17:32,229 --> 01:17:30,679

TV producers play up his role as a who

2104

01:17:33,580 --> 01:17:32,239

worked for the defense industry or

2105

01:17:35,649 --> 01:17:33,590

defense department or whatever in

2106

01:17:38,379 --> 01:17:35,659

England you know that gives him cachet

2107

01:17:40,509 --> 01:17:38,389

like oh well he was on the inside he

2108

01:17:41,709 --> 01:17:40,519

knows what they were doing well he told

2109

01:17:42,790 --> 01:17:41,719

you that you know most of the stuff I

2110

01:17:46,689 --> 01:17:42,800

was doing had nothing to do with the

2111

01:17:48,969 --> 01:17:46,699

aliens and UFOs that's right

2112

01:17:51,279 --> 01:17:48,979

good when he says he here am the British

2113

01:17:52,810 --> 01:17:51,289

governments you go for her program even

2114

01:17:54,279 --> 01:17:52,820

though if it wasn't pretty much of a

2115

01:17:56,350 --> 01:17:54,289

program right

2116

01:17:57,969 --> 01:17:56,360

it's like Stan Friedman oh he's may be

2117

01:18:00,100 --> 01:17:57,979

may he rest in peace cuz I always like

2118

01:18:02,080 --> 01:18:00,110

Stan but you know he always made a big

2119

01:18:04,180 --> 01:18:02,090

deal yeah nuclear physicists like

2120

01:18:06,459 --> 01:18:04,190

nuclear physicists so he must have some

2121

01:18:08,049 --> 01:18:06,469

inside knowledge about it's like UFO

2122

01:18:11,229 --> 01:18:08,059

people when they sight you know well he

2123

01:18:14,229 --> 01:18:11,239

was a general so what we found Sheriff

2124

01:18:15,910 --> 01:18:14,239

so what you know they have the same

2125

01:18:18,160 --> 01:18:15,920

eyeballs and brains that we have there

2126

01:18:20,439 --> 01:18:18,170

no no no no better at observing things

2127

01:18:21,489 --> 01:18:20,449

but but you know we want that kind of

2128

01:18:23,350 --> 01:18:21,499

art you well it's an argument from

2129

01:18:24,609 --> 01:18:23,360

Authority you know we want the people

2130

01:18:28,930 --> 01:18:24,619

making the claim to have some

2131

01:18:31,330 --> 01:18:28,940

credibility yeah so so what do we do

2132

01:18:33,729 --> 01:18:31,340

about all this how do we actually like

2133

01:18:35,949 --> 01:18:33,739

you know how do we fight the tide of

2134

01:18:37,839 --> 01:18:35,959

disinformation like you you you know

2135

01:18:39,729 --> 01:18:37,849

obviously like you your course is

2136

01:18:42,310 --> 01:18:39,739

grating like understanding it and

2137

01:18:43,689 --> 01:18:42,320

getting a lot of context to it but what

2138

01:18:47,580 --> 01:18:43,699

what do you think about the practical

2139

01:18:49,689 --> 01:18:47,590

steps that's we should be advocating for

2140

01:18:51,129 --> 01:18:49,699

well first of all I think the kinds of

2141

01:18:54,069 --> 01:18:51,139

things you and I are doing are important

2142

01:18:56,259 --> 01:18:54,079

that is nailing down the details and not

2143

01:18:58,149 --> 01:18:56,269

just us but you know Snopes for example

2144

01:19:01,169 --> 01:18:58,159

has been at him for a long time and and

2145

01:19:03,549 --> 01:19:01,179

now there are other groups like that

2146

01:19:04,419 --> 01:19:03,559

fact-checking political speeches so

2147

01:19:07,149 --> 01:19:04,429

PolitiFact

2148

01:19:09,129 --> 01:19:07,159

for example will fact-check Trump

2149

01:19:10,299 --> 01:19:09,139

speeches in real time then you can kind

2150

01:19:12,339 --> 01:19:10,309

of watch the speech and you can go

2151

01:19:14,140 --> 01:19:12,349

online and see they're checking or as he

2152

01:19:15,430 --> 01:19:14,150

is speaking you know and there and

2153

01:19:17,859 --> 01:19:15,440

there's a half a dozen of these

2154

01:19:19,060 --> 01:19:17,869

fact-checking sites that have come to

2155

01:19:23,199 --> 01:19:19,070

fruition in the last couple of years

2156

01:19:25,029 --> 01:19:23,209

that to me is an encouraging sign that

2157

01:19:27,219 --> 01:19:25,039

we're not living in a post truth world

2158

01:19:29,199 --> 01:19:27,229

the cover story of the current issue of

2159

01:19:31,390 --> 01:19:29,209

skeptic as deep thinker on it and he

2160

01:19:33,129 --> 01:19:31,400

wrote the cover story for us are we

2161

01:19:35,140 --> 01:19:33,139

living in a post truth world well he

2162

01:19:37,899 --> 01:19:35,150

just we titled it we're not living in a

2163

01:19:42,819 --> 01:19:37,909

post truth world and so his opening the

2164

01:19:47,589 --> 01:19:42,829

paragraph is is the statement we're

2165

01:19:49,899 --> 01:19:47,599

living in a post truth world true now

2166

01:19:51,189 --> 01:19:49,909

the moment you open your mouth you've

2167

01:19:53,439 --> 01:19:51,199

lost the argument because you're making

2168

01:19:55,029 --> 01:19:53,449

an argument yes you're saying I think

2169

01:19:58,209 --> 01:19:55,039

there's evidence that we are living in a

2170

01:20:00,490 --> 01:19:58,219

post truth world weight evidence facts

2171

01:20:02,340 --> 01:20:00,500

you mean these things still matter

2172

01:20:05,170 --> 01:20:02,350

just like the anti free speech people

2173

01:20:07,030 --> 01:20:05,180

well but they open their mouth to make

2174

01:20:09,070 --> 01:20:07,040

an argument against free speech

2175

01:20:10,690 --> 01:20:09,080

they've lost because we're giving them

2176
01:20:14,290 --> 01:20:10,700
the platform to go ahead and make an

2177
01:20:16,090 --> 01:20:14,300
argument and voice their speech and you

2178
01:20:17,500 --> 01:20:16,100
know so I don't think we're living in a

2179
01:20:19,780 --> 01:20:17,510
post true I don't think conspiracy

2180
01:20:21,670 --> 01:20:19,790
theories have taken over I I think we

2181
01:20:23,920 --> 01:20:21,680
can keep pushing as we always had that

2182
01:20:27,160 --> 01:20:23,930
fact-checking matters evidence matters

2183
01:20:27,910 --> 01:20:27,170
values the Enlightenment values of

2184
01:20:31,540 --> 01:20:27,920
truth-telling

2185
01:20:32,470 --> 01:20:31,550
that matters we do want to know what

2186
01:20:34,840 --> 01:20:32,480
actually happened

2187
01:20:36,640 --> 01:20:34,850
I do think not just all these bottom-up

2188
01:20:38,620 --> 01:20:36,650

fact-checking type insights and

2189

01:20:41,710 --> 01:20:38,630

magazines like skeptic and books like

2190

01:20:43,540 --> 01:20:41,720

yours but but like the checks and

2191

01:20:45,370 --> 01:20:43,550

balances the stuff we've seen now during

2192

01:20:47,770 --> 01:20:45,380

the Trump administration you know the

2193

01:20:49,690 --> 01:20:47,780

end and that Trump haters you know they

2194

01:20:51,700 --> 01:20:49,700

keep portraying like this is the end of

2195

01:20:54,310 --> 01:20:51,710

the world actually he hasn't done all

2196

01:20:57,130 --> 01:20:54,320

that much because of all the pushback he

2197

01:20:59,830 --> 01:20:57,140

gets and all the legal pushback and and

2198

01:21:03,130 --> 01:20:59,840

the checks and balances are working

2199

01:21:05,860 --> 01:21:03,140

fairly well you know that whistleblower

2200

01:21:07,870 --> 01:21:05,870

protection it seems to be in place and

2201

01:21:09,550 --> 01:21:07,880

here Edward Snowden has one of the

2202

01:21:11,680 --> 01:21:09,560

best-selling books in America this week

2203

01:21:13,450 --> 01:21:11,690

you know he's the whistle but now it

2204

01:21:14,950 --> 01:21:13,460

true he has to live in Russia in Moscow

2205

01:21:16,690 --> 01:21:14,960

I'm not sure that's such a great trade

2206

01:21:19,450 --> 01:21:16,700

off for him but you know maybe he'll be

2207

01:21:21,400 --> 01:21:19,460

able to come back the whistle laws

2208

01:21:23,940 --> 01:21:21,410

protecting whistleblowers is I think

2209

01:21:28,330 --> 01:21:23,950

still pretty solid so I'm encouraged

2210

01:21:30,880 --> 01:21:28,340

that you know we're standing the tide of

2211

01:21:32,830 --> 01:21:30,890

craziness yeah I never love the

2212

01:21:34,960 --> 01:21:32,840

corporations are working on things as

2213

01:21:36,580 --> 01:21:34,970

well partly because they want to avoid

2214

01:21:38,080 --> 01:21:36,590

regulation but probably because they

2215

01:21:40,440 --> 01:21:38,090

want to do good and they are fighting

2216

01:21:43,990 --> 01:21:40,450

against things like this information and

2217

01:21:45,910 --> 01:21:44,000

extremism yeah you saw that with

2218

01:21:47,230 --> 01:21:45,920

Facebook I mean Zuckerberg and so you

2219

01:21:48,730 --> 01:21:47,240

know they're running scared they don't

2220

01:21:49,960 --> 01:21:48,740

want to be great they don't want to be

2221

01:21:51,730 --> 01:21:49,970

regulated they don't want to be broken

2222

01:21:54,640 --> 01:21:51,740

up and elizabeth warren wants to break

2223

01:21:56,590 --> 01:21:54,650

up the huge corporations Facebook Google

2224

01:21:59,410 --> 01:21:56,600

Twitter and so on I don't think that's

2225

01:22:01,780 --> 01:21:59,420

necessary I think you know just leaning

2226

01:22:05,550 --> 01:22:01,790

on them socially it you know has a

2227

01:22:08,260 --> 01:22:05,560

pretty big effect and you know so that

2228

01:22:11,100 --> 01:22:08,270

that that's working I think fairly well

2229

01:22:13,939 --> 01:22:11,110

yeah you you are a member of the

2230

01:22:17,100 --> 01:22:13,949

intellectual dark web

2231

01:22:20,490 --> 01:22:17,110

such as it is yeah and I mean I guess

2232

01:22:22,859 --> 01:22:20,500

the the themes of us are kind of talking

2233

01:22:28,169 --> 01:22:22,869

about things that are not acceptable to

2234

01:22:29,910 --> 01:22:28,179

talk about you know things that's and I

2235

01:22:31,260 --> 01:22:29,920

say various issues like gender and

2236

01:22:35,339 --> 01:22:31,270

language and things like that an

2237

01:22:37,200 --> 01:22:35,349

immigration yet and whatnot do you think

2238

01:22:39,629 --> 01:22:37,210

near the the the themes of the

2239

01:22:40,979 --> 01:22:39,639

intellectual dark web in pushing back

2240

01:22:44,160 --> 01:22:40,989

against not being able to talk about

2241

01:22:47,689 --> 01:22:44,170

things irrelevant to like conspiracy

2242

01:22:50,760 --> 01:22:47,699

theorists do we need more discussion

2243

01:22:54,500 --> 01:22:50,770

totally I mean that you know the shining

2244

01:22:57,149 --> 01:22:54,510

the light in the dark spots is gonna

2245

01:22:59,339 --> 01:22:57,159

attenuate fear and anxiety people

2246

01:23:02,430 --> 01:22:59,349

naturally have about those dark places

2247

01:23:04,649 --> 01:23:02,440

that we know sometimes are real there

2248

01:23:06,810 --> 01:23:04,659

for open conversation and dialogue is

2249

01:23:08,810 --> 01:23:06,820

the only hope we have to solving these

2250

01:23:12,470 --> 01:23:08,820

problems if you're worried about

2251

01:23:14,520 --> 01:23:12,480

discrimination against LGBTQ for example

2252

01:23:17,010 --> 01:23:14,530

the best thing we could do is have

2253

01:23:19,200 --> 01:23:17,020

conversations about well how many people

2254

01:23:21,479 --> 01:23:19,210

are gay how many people are really trans

2255

01:23:22,950 --> 01:23:21,489

what does it mean to be trans I had on

2256

01:23:24,839 --> 01:23:22,960

my podcast yesterday Douglas Murray has

2257

01:23:26,700 --> 01:23:24,849

this book the madness of crowds out in

2258

01:23:28,620 --> 01:23:26,710

which he's pushing back against that and

2259

01:23:30,300 --> 01:23:28,630

you know he's got a pretty big audience

2260

01:23:32,250 --> 01:23:30,310

and a receptive audience to this like

2261

01:23:33,959 --> 01:23:32,260

yeah yeah well why are we talking about

2262

01:23:35,609 --> 01:23:33,969

trans how many people are we talking

2263

01:23:37,950 --> 01:23:35,619

about then the answer is we have no idea

2264

01:23:41,069 --> 01:23:37,960

there's almost no research on any of

2265

01:23:42,569 --> 01:23:41,079

this so you know Sean's research people

2266

01:23:45,569 --> 01:23:42,579

just go to these kind of natural

2267

01:23:47,669 --> 01:23:45,579

prejudices prejudice places no let's

2268

01:23:50,069 --> 01:23:47,679

let's have an open conversation about

2269

01:23:51,510 --> 01:23:50,079

every single thing that's of interest to

2270

01:23:54,390 --> 01:23:51,520

people now you don't have to talk about

2271

01:23:57,089 --> 01:23:54,400

everything the point I made when I was

2272

01:23:59,189 --> 01:23:57,099

in graduate school I could see that the

2273

01:24:01,740 --> 01:23:59,199

race and IQ issue I was in cycling

2274

01:24:04,709 --> 01:24:01,750

psychology this was already a pretty

2275

01:24:06,030 --> 01:24:04,719

sensitive subject in the 70s and I

2276
01:24:09,030 --> 01:24:06,040
thought you know what I'm just not gonna

2277
01:24:11,129 --> 01:24:09,040
do that I can see why African Americans

2278
01:24:12,600 --> 01:24:11,139
would not be to have hip up this

2279
01:24:14,790 --> 01:24:12,610
research and I'm not sure why I'd want

2280
01:24:17,129 --> 01:24:14,800
to know if there really are differences

2281
01:24:19,109 --> 01:24:17,139
in IQ between blacks and whites and if I

2282
01:24:21,419 --> 01:24:19,119
did know that what I would do with that

2283
01:24:23,430 --> 01:24:21,429
I'm totally supportive that people don't

2284
01:24:25,350 --> 01:24:23,440
want to research that and you know talk

2285
01:24:27,089 --> 01:24:25,360
about it we should talk about it

2286
01:24:29,339 --> 01:24:27,099
but we don't have to do everything that

2287
01:24:30,810 --> 01:24:29,349
right so there's there's censoring

2288
01:24:32,580 --> 01:24:30,820

things which we don't want to do but you

2289

01:24:35,009 --> 01:24:32,590

don't have to fund research I don't have

2290

01:24:37,139 --> 01:24:35,019

to you know you know encourage people to

2291

01:24:38,549 --> 01:24:37,149

do that yeah and there's some things

2292

01:24:40,529 --> 01:24:38,559

that just attach you that even if

2293

01:24:42,719 --> 01:24:40,539

there's something to be gained from

2294

01:24:47,250 --> 01:24:42,729

researching it it might be offset by the

2295

01:24:49,020 --> 01:24:47,260

negative social consequences of focusing

2296

01:24:52,679 --> 01:24:49,030

right and I think that some of the some

2297

01:24:54,179 --> 01:24:52,689

individuals as well it's you can protest

2298

01:24:56,909 --> 01:24:54,189

that you should be able to talk about

2299

01:24:59,429 --> 01:24:56,919

things but realistically it's gonna have

2300

01:25:00,949 --> 01:24:59,439

an effect if you want to research things

2301

01:25:05,459 --> 01:25:00,959

like eugenics or something like that

2302

01:25:06,600 --> 01:25:05,469

right yeah you know the the whole the

2303

01:25:08,580 --> 01:25:06,610

thing about the intellectual darkwave

2304

01:25:10,909 --> 01:25:08,590

our you know our focus on free speech

2305

01:25:13,949 --> 01:25:10,919

and it's kind of a fundamental principle

2306

01:25:15,569 --> 01:25:13,959

and you know we've highlighted a lot you

2307

01:25:17,100 --> 01:25:15,579

know the deep platforming of speakers on

2308

01:25:18,600 --> 01:25:17,110

college campuses we don't want that kind

2309

01:25:20,489 --> 01:25:18,610

of censorship okay first of all it's not

2310

01:25:22,709 --> 01:25:20,499

a First Amendment issue government is

2311

01:25:24,989 --> 01:25:22,719

not coming in to tell Miley innopolis he

2312

01:25:27,089 --> 01:25:24,999

can't speak at UC Berkeley no it's more

2313

01:25:29,489 --> 01:25:27,099

you know bottom-up students protesting

2314

01:25:31,500 --> 01:25:29,499

shouldn't students have the opportunity

2315

01:25:34,649 --> 01:25:31,510

to hear my LOI innopolis or ben shapiro

2316

01:25:37,049 --> 01:25:34,659

yeah sure but the universities don't

2317

01:25:39,209 --> 01:25:37,059

have to invite them you know they're not

2318

01:25:42,389 --> 01:25:39,219

required to invite every single person

2319

01:25:46,049 --> 01:25:42,399

who has some weird belief I I would

2320

01:25:49,889 --> 01:25:46,059

invite say a George Will or some kind of

2321

01:25:52,259 --> 01:25:49,899

centrist conservative to talk about the

2322

01:25:54,060 --> 01:25:52,269

conservative position so that liberal

2323

01:25:57,119 --> 01:25:54,070

students have some idea why half of

2324

01:26:00,810 --> 01:25:57,129

America votes Republican yeah but I

2325

01:26:03,270 --> 01:26:00,820

wouldn't invite Richard Spencer or Jared

2326

01:26:04,549 --> 01:26:03,280

Taylor you know they're conservative but

2327

01:26:08,609 --> 01:26:04,559

they're really kind of right-wing

2328

01:26:10,669 --> 01:26:08,619

neo-nazi type yeah and no I would not

2329

01:26:12,629 --> 01:26:10,679

represent not invite them to represent

2330

01:26:14,969 --> 01:26:12,639

conservatism you don't have to invite

2331

01:26:17,250 --> 01:26:14,979

everybody like a Ben Shapiro you know

2332

01:26:20,040 --> 01:26:17,260

there's the IDW isn't made much about

2333

01:26:23,969 --> 01:26:20,050

the grief Ben Shapiro has gotten at some

2334

01:26:26,969 --> 01:26:23,979

of his campus appearances and that's

2335

01:26:28,739 --> 01:26:26,979

true but you know he's given hundreds of

2336

01:26:31,259 --> 01:26:28,749

these talks and most of them I've

2337

01:26:33,659 --> 01:26:31,269

watched quite a few online he's received

2338

01:26:35,250 --> 01:26:33,669

very well standing ovations there's a

2339

01:26:38,640 --> 01:26:35,260

huge conservative movement on campus

2340

01:26:39,870 --> 01:26:38,650

they love him and he invites people

2341

01:26:42,780 --> 01:26:39,880

that disagree with them to come to the

2342

01:26:45,810 --> 01:26:42,790

front of the line and he only a couple

2343

01:26:48,330 --> 01:26:45,820

do mostly he's not D platformed the

2344

01:26:50,669 --> 01:26:48,340

hecklers veto does not shut him down so

2345

01:26:52,200 --> 01:26:50,679

while all the incidences that have

2346

01:26:55,800 --> 01:26:52,210

happened that you know we're concerned

2347

01:26:58,110 --> 01:26:55,810

about campus craziness they're still

2348

01:27:00,120 --> 01:26:58,120

kind of in the minority most of the time

2349

01:27:02,040 --> 01:27:00,130

on college campuses things are just

2350

01:27:04,620 --> 01:27:02,050

going along like they usually do most

2351

01:27:06,240 --> 01:27:04,630

speakers are not D platformed most of

2352

01:27:08,100 --> 01:27:06,250

the time students are not burning down

2353

01:27:10,500 --> 01:27:08,110

the local Starbucks or whatever in

2354

01:27:12,840 --> 01:27:10,510

protest to the speaker that's still

2355

01:27:14,790 --> 01:27:12,850

fairly rare so I'm not I'm not in an

2356

01:27:17,610 --> 01:27:14,800

existential mode of you know we're

2357

01:27:23,070 --> 01:27:17,620

facing a crisis in Western civilization

2358

01:27:25,590 --> 01:27:23,080

now yeah just a last topic what do you

2359

01:27:27,780 --> 01:27:25,600

think of the skeptical community

2360

01:27:29,820 --> 01:27:27,790

do you think there's a viable skeptical

2361

01:27:33,330 --> 01:27:29,830

community and you know should there be a

2362

01:27:34,590 --> 01:27:33,340

different skeptical community well

2363

01:27:36,870 --> 01:27:34,600

obviously I published a magazine called

2364

01:27:38,850 --> 01:27:36,880

skeptics oh yeah I think we had we have

2365

01:27:41,100 --> 01:27:38,860

a viable movement just by some

2366

01:27:43,530 --> 01:27:41,110

background the modern skeptical movement

2367

01:27:45,570 --> 01:27:43,540

really began in the 70s when early

2368

01:27:48,300 --> 01:27:45,580

Geller and some of the other New Agers

2369

01:27:49,800 --> 01:27:48,310

kind of got popular and famous and a

2370

01:27:54,419 --> 01:27:49,810

handful of people like the amazing Randi

2371

01:27:59,250 --> 01:27:54,429

ray hyman Paul Kurtz marchello true Zia

2372

01:28:00,680 --> 01:27:59,260

sociologist and a few others Martin

2373

01:28:02,430 --> 01:28:00,690

Gardner mm-hmm

2374

01:28:03,899 --> 01:28:02,440

said you know we need to push back

2375

01:28:05,640 --> 01:28:03,909

against these people I mean I mean early

2376

01:28:07,020 --> 01:28:05,650

Geller this Israeli spoon bender he's

2377

01:28:09,570 --> 01:28:07,030

like on the cover of Time magazine it's

2378

01:28:12,720 --> 01:28:09,580

like what he's on these top major talk

2379

01:28:14,250 --> 01:28:12,730

shows it's like okay this like who do

2380

01:28:16,410 --> 01:28:14,260

you choose to take on to be scale well

2381

01:28:17,850 --> 01:28:16,420

if they're big and people really want to

2382

01:28:20,100 --> 01:28:17,860

know and millions of people are watching

2383

01:28:22,649 --> 01:28:20,110

we you know we should say something and

2384

01:28:24,870 --> 01:28:22,659

that that's what launched the Center for

2385

01:28:26,280 --> 01:28:24,880

inquiry as it's now called and skeptical

2386

01:28:28,439 --> 01:28:26,290

inquirer and then we launched skeptic

2387

01:28:30,090 --> 01:28:28,449

magazine in the 90s but there are dozens

2388

01:28:32,160 --> 01:28:30,100

of magazines around the world

2389

01:28:34,860 --> 01:28:32,170

and hundreds of local small skeptic

2390

01:28:36,240 --> 01:28:34,870

groups and millions of people that you

2391

01:28:37,620 --> 01:28:36,250

know I don't know if they'd call

2392

01:28:39,840 --> 01:28:37,630

themselves skeptics but they you know

2393

01:28:43,080 --> 01:28:39,850

they embrace that kind of skeptical

2394

01:28:45,630 --> 01:28:43,090

perspective and and what we do is it's

2395

01:28:47,790 --> 01:28:45,640

kind of specialized knowledge like what

2396

01:28:50,070 --> 01:28:47,800

you do you know the average person is

2397

01:28:52,049 --> 01:28:50,080

not going to know how fast a building

2398

01:28:53,760 --> 01:28:52,059

falls when it's you know collapsing

2399

01:28:56,310 --> 01:28:53,770

why would you know that most people

2400

01:28:58,109 --> 01:28:56,320

don't know that and you know or the door

2401

01:28:59,310 --> 01:28:58,119

doesn't lock on the gas chamber at my

2402

01:29:01,649 --> 01:28:59,320

dock you know who would know these

2403

01:29:03,600 --> 01:29:01,659

things right but skeptics know that you

2404

01:29:06,029 --> 01:29:03,610

know like how do people walk across hot

2405

01:29:07,830 --> 01:29:06,039

coals in bare feet without getting

2406

01:29:09,330 --> 01:29:07,840

burned well here's the physics of it now

2407

01:29:09,950 --> 01:29:09,340

most physicists don't know that why

2408

01:29:12,479 --> 01:29:09,960

would they know that

2409

01:29:14,609 --> 01:29:12,489

skeptics know that so it's kind of a

2410

01:29:16,140 --> 01:29:14,619

specialized thing that's what we do and

2411

01:29:18,930 --> 01:29:16,150

skeptics do I think it's it's pretty

2412

01:29:20,430 --> 01:29:18,940

solid my one concern about it is this is

2413

01:29:22,790 --> 01:29:20,440

more really the Atheist movement in this

2414

01:29:25,620 --> 01:29:22,800

chemical movement is being too political

2415

01:29:27,770 --> 01:29:25,630

that is the after the atheist movement

2416

01:29:29,819 --> 01:29:27,780

started to get really big after Dawkins

2417

01:29:31,740 --> 01:29:29,829

2006 book The God Delusion

2418

01:29:34,049 --> 01:29:31,750

but then it splintered first it

2419

01:29:35,970 --> 01:29:34,059

splintered about who is militant atheist

2420

01:29:39,120 --> 01:29:35,980

versus more moderate atheist you know

2421

01:29:42,930 --> 01:29:39,130

you know and because Richard and Sam

2422

01:29:44,790 --> 01:29:42,940

Harris and and Hitchens not so much

2423

01:29:46,589 --> 01:29:44,800

Dawkins but you know they're really go

2424

01:29:48,899 --> 01:29:46,599

for the jugular I mean we're gonna just

2425

01:29:51,299 --> 01:29:48,909

drive right in there and debunk these

2426
01:29:55,169 --> 01:29:51,309
crazy claims and anybody that believes

2427
01:29:57,870 --> 01:29:55,179
this god stuff is deluded Wow okay well

2428
01:29:59,819 --> 01:29:57,880
sometimes that works but other times

2429
01:30:01,589 --> 01:29:59,829
that doesn't work and more moderate

2430
01:30:03,000 --> 01:30:01,599
approaches that other people take work

2431
01:30:05,220 --> 01:30:03,010
better you know there isn't so there's

2432
01:30:07,080 --> 01:30:05,230
no single answers the first division was

2433
01:30:08,879 --> 01:30:07,090
between militant atheists and more

2434
01:30:11,910 --> 01:30:08,889
moderate atheists and the next split was

2435
01:30:14,490 --> 01:30:11,920
social justice atheism so atheist plus

2436
01:30:16,620 --> 01:30:14,500
the plus is social justice well that's

2437
01:30:18,750 --> 01:30:16,630
kind of a dog whistle label that means

2438
01:30:22,830 --> 01:30:18,760

something very specific politically

2439

01:30:25,080 --> 01:30:22,840

far-left progressive liberalism and this

2440

01:30:29,669 --> 01:30:25,090

is very different from kind of more

2441

01:30:31,950 --> 01:30:29,679

centrist liberal liberalism and so a lot

2442

01:30:34,529 --> 01:30:31,960

of atheists were very alienated by that

2443

01:30:36,359 --> 01:30:34,539

including me like well but wait we all

2444

01:30:38,040 --> 01:30:36,369

embrace and endorse science and critical

2445

01:30:39,720 --> 01:30:38,050

thinking and reason and enlightenment

2446

01:30:42,330 --> 01:30:39,730

values right that's kind of a big tent

2447

01:30:44,819 --> 01:30:42,340

right down the middle and we all agree

2448

01:30:46,799 --> 01:30:44,829

on that but the Atheist plus are way off

2449

01:30:48,810 --> 01:30:46,809

to the left going no no no

2450

01:30:51,479 --> 01:30:48,820

if you can't tick the box for all 12 of

2451
01:30:52,620 --> 01:30:51,489
these things you're out and the same

2452
01:30:54,870 --> 01:30:52,630
thing happened with the humanist

2453
01:30:56,760 --> 01:30:54,880
movement and feminist movement and

2454
01:30:59,760 --> 01:30:56,770
Marxist movement and the iron rant

2455
01:31:02,759 --> 01:30:59,770
Objectivist movement I think there's a

2456
01:31:04,890 --> 01:31:02,769
psychology here a sociology of social

2457
01:31:05,729 --> 01:31:04,900
groups social movements they splinter

2458
01:31:07,379 --> 01:31:05,739
apart

2459
01:31:10,529 --> 01:31:07,389
when they fight over little tiny

2460
01:31:12,479 --> 01:31:10,539
doctrinaire portions of their whole

2461
01:31:14,970 --> 01:31:12,489
platform and if you can't tick the box

2462
01:31:17,399 --> 01:31:14,980
for all 12 or whatever then you're out

2463
01:31:18,779 --> 01:31:17,409

and the moment you start kicking people

2464

01:31:21,259 --> 01:31:18,789

out of your group your group's gonna get

2465

01:31:23,399 --> 01:31:21,269

smaller so I do worry about that yeah

2466

01:31:25,109 --> 01:31:23,409

yeah actually the last question I had

2467

01:31:30,870 --> 01:31:25,119

written down was is the skeptical tent

2468

01:31:32,819 --> 01:31:30,880

too big and I think well I to me I think

2469

01:31:34,319 --> 01:31:32,829

everybody should be skeptical I mean

2470

01:31:35,879 --> 01:31:34,329

people are just they're not thinking

2471

01:31:38,040 --> 01:31:35,889

themselves as skeptical but if you're

2472

01:31:42,330 --> 01:31:38,050

skeptical of what Trump is doing with

2473

01:31:44,700 --> 01:31:42,340

Ukraine this week you're a skeptic and

2474

01:31:45,390 --> 01:31:44,710

even if you're a 9/11 truther they're

2475

01:31:47,790 --> 01:31:45,400

skeptics

2476

01:31:50,970 --> 01:31:47,800

okay so the skepticism thing is good

2477

01:31:52,709 --> 01:31:50,980

fine suspicious of the government the

2478

01:31:54,660 --> 01:31:52,719

government does do suspicious things

2479

01:31:56,609 --> 01:31:54,670

that's absolutely yeah we should all be

2480

01:31:59,910 --> 01:31:56,619

skeptical then it comes down to well how

2481

01:32:03,209 --> 01:31:59,920

do we know what's true that's really

2482

01:32:04,500 --> 01:32:03,219

science is our best tool yeah I know

2483

01:32:06,989 --> 01:32:04,510

this has been a fascinating conversation

2484

01:32:10,049 --> 01:32:06,999

I wanna thank you very much is there any

2485

01:32:11,729 --> 01:32:10,059

just would you want to say I'll touch

2486

01:32:14,279 --> 01:32:11,739

upon oh well just thanks for having me

2487

01:32:15,660 --> 01:32:14,289

on thanks for your important work the

2488

01:32:17,549 --> 01:32:15,670

course itself you can just go to

2489

01:32:18,600 --> 01:32:17,559

audible.com and get it there I don't

2490

01:32:20,459 --> 01:32:18,610

think it's on the teaching company

2491

01:32:23,489 --> 01:32:20,469

website yeah but audible.com or Amazon

2492

01:32:26,430 --> 01:32:23,499

has the course and yeah so keep up the

2493

01:32:27,839 --> 01:32:26,440

good work you know thank you yeah and

2494

01:32:29,220 --> 01:32:27,849

you too and yeah I really enjoyed the

2495

01:32:32,430 --> 01:32:29,230

book and I can recommend it to anybody

2496

01:32:35,160 --> 01:32:32,440

who wants to get a good perspective on

2497

01:32:36,839 --> 01:32:35,170

conspiracy theories it's a very

2498

01:32:39,209 --> 01:32:36,849

interested some new things which is

2499

01:32:43,770 --> 01:32:39,219

saying something as I'm a long term

2500

01:32:44,070 --> 01:32:43,780

conspiracy guy all right well thanks

