

**SKEPTIC  
ZONE**



**THINKING CAPS  
MUST BE WORN  
IN THIS AREA**

The  
Podcast  
from  
Australia  
for  
Science  
and  
Reason

[www.skepticzone.tv](http://www.skepticzone.tv)

1  
00:00:26,470 --> 00:00:23,590  
hello and welcome to the skeptic zone

2  
00:00:27,670 --> 00:00:26,480  
for the 22nd of january

3  
00:00:30,230 --> 00:00:27,680  
2010.

4  
00:00:31,990 --> 00:00:30,240  
episode number 66 richard saunders here

5  
00:00:37,030 --> 00:00:32,000  
with you once again

6  
00:00:39,430 --> 00:00:37,040  
episode 66 huh on the 22nd of

7  
00:00:42,470 --> 00:00:39,440  
january 6622

8  
00:00:44,549 --> 00:00:42,480  
okay all you numerologists out there

9  
00:00:46,389 --> 00:00:44,559  
get working and speaking of

10  
00:00:49,270 --> 00:00:46,399  
numerologists you have to be a bit of a

11  
00:00:51,270 --> 00:00:49,280  
numerologist to work out the fantastic

12  
00:00:54,069 --> 00:00:51,280  
numbers involved with the

13  
00:00:55,750 --> 00:00:54,079

ludicrous bogus and quack modality known

14

00:00:57,990 --> 00:00:55,760

as homeopathy

15

00:01:00,310 --> 00:00:58,000

and a bit of a win for outsider this

16

00:01:02,630 --> 00:01:00,320

week where two websites run by

17

00:01:05,270 --> 00:01:02,640

homeopathy plus in this country have

18

00:01:07,429 --> 00:01:05,280

been ordered to remove misleading and

19

00:01:09,510 --> 00:01:07,439

unverified information

20

00:01:10,950 --> 00:01:09,520

from their websites about homeopathic

21

00:01:12,870 --> 00:01:10,960

vaccination

22

00:01:15,830 --> 00:01:12,880

now this order has been made by the

23

00:01:18,149 --> 00:01:15,840

therapeutics goods administration the

24

00:01:20,469 --> 00:01:18,159

tga here in this country

25

00:01:22,550 --> 00:01:20,479

the retraction that the homeopathy plus

26

00:01:24,710 --> 00:01:22,560

are required to put on their website

27

00:01:27,350 --> 00:01:24,720

reads as follows

28

00:01:30,149 --> 00:01:27,360

retraction an advertisement for

29

00:01:32,230 --> 00:01:30,159

homeopathic immunization products which

30

00:01:34,469 --> 00:01:32,240

we published on this website should not

31

00:01:36,630 --> 00:01:34,479

have been published in the advertisement

32

00:01:39,429 --> 00:01:36,640

we unlawfully made the claims that

33

00:01:42,390 --> 00:01:39,439

homeopathic immunization products could

34

00:01:45,109 --> 00:01:42,400

aid immunity were alternatives to

35

00:01:47,830 --> 00:01:45,119

vaccination and that they could prevent

36

00:01:50,950 --> 00:01:47,840

or protect against infectious diseases

37

00:01:54,069 --> 00:01:50,960

including serious infectious diseases

38

00:01:56,870 --> 00:01:54,079

we also made claims that an advertised

39

00:01:59,670 --> 00:01:56,880

homeopathic product was more effective

40

00:02:01,670 --> 00:01:59,680

than antiviral medication

41

00:02:03,670 --> 00:02:01,680

a complaint about the advertisement was

42

00:02:05,350 --> 00:02:03,680

recently upheld by the complaints

43

00:02:07,429 --> 00:02:05,360

resolution panel

44

00:02:08,869 --> 00:02:07,439

we did not provide adequate evidence to

45

00:02:10,949 --> 00:02:08,879

support the claims made in the

46

00:02:13,830 --> 00:02:10,959

advertisement and the panel found that

47

00:02:17,350 --> 00:02:13,840

the claims were unlawful misleading and

48

00:02:20,150 --> 00:02:17,360

unverified and breached the therapeutics

49

00:02:22,710 --> 00:02:20,160

goods advertising code the panel

50

00:02:25,030 --> 00:02:22,720

therefore requests that homeopathy plus

51  
00:02:26,630 --> 00:02:25,040  
publish this retraction

52  
00:02:29,190 --> 00:02:26,640  
so there you go

53  
00:02:31,910 --> 00:02:29,200  
a bit of a win for our side this week in

54  
00:02:34,589 --> 00:02:31,920  
australia more news about that can be

55  
00:02:40,430 --> 00:02:37,509  
www.skeptics.com or at dr h's very own

56  
00:02:42,070 --> 00:02:40,440  
blog the skeptics book of poopoo at

57  
00:02:44,150 --> 00:02:42,080  
skepticsbook.com

58  
00:02:45,589 --> 00:02:44,160  
but now on to this week's show

59  
00:02:48,830 --> 00:02:45,599  
this week's show we've got a sort of a

60  
00:02:52,070 --> 00:02:48,840  
double barrel kylie sturgis interview

61  
00:02:54,390 --> 00:02:52,080  
special she starts off by interviewing

62  
00:02:56,869 --> 00:02:54,400  
michael marshall from the merseyside

63  
00:02:58,710 --> 00:02:56,879

skeptics there in the uk

64

00:03:01,430 --> 00:02:58,720

and he's going to be talking about many

65

00:03:02,830 --> 00:03:01,440

things including the upcoming 1023

66

00:03:06,149 --> 00:03:02,840

homeopathy

67

00:03:08,470 --> 00:03:06,159

campaign then kylie interviews a famous

68

00:03:09,430 --> 00:03:08,480

australian blogger sean the blogger

69

00:03:11,509 --> 00:03:09,440

naught

70

00:03:13,430 --> 00:03:11,519

after all that we can relax in the nice

71

00:03:15,750 --> 00:03:13,440

hot tub with me brian dunning and a

72

00:03:18,949 --> 00:03:15,760

bunch of skeptics in a special

73

00:03:21,350 --> 00:03:18,959

californian edition of the think tank

74

00:03:35,110 --> 00:03:21,360

so sit back grab that champagne and

75

00:03:38,789 --> 00:03:37,350

i'm carly sturgis and i'm talking to

76

00:03:43,430 --> 00:03:38,799

michael marshall

77

00:03:45,589 --> 00:03:43,440

amongst the merseyside skeptics is a

78

00:03:46,470 --> 00:03:45,599

presenter of the righteous indignation

79

00:03:48,390 --> 00:03:46,480

podcast

80

00:03:51,550 --> 00:03:48,400

and skeptics with a k

81

00:03:53,750 --> 00:03:51,560

the 1023 campaign found at

82

00:03:56,229 --> 00:03:53,760

1023.org dot uk

83

00:03:58,470 --> 00:03:56,239

is challenging homeopathy and hopefully

84

00:04:00,710 --> 00:03:58,480

will manage to do it worldwide

85

00:04:02,390 --> 00:04:00,720

the 1023 campaign aims to raise

86

00:04:04,789 --> 00:04:02,400

awareness about the realities of

87

00:04:07,270 --> 00:04:04,799

homeopathy not only investigating the

88

00:04:09,030 --> 00:04:07,280

claims but why people should care

89

00:04:11,270 --> 00:04:09,040

as a member of the merseyside skeptic

90

00:04:13,429 --> 00:04:11,280

society a non-profit organization for

91

00:04:18,390 --> 00:04:13,439

the promotion of scientific skepticism

92

00:04:22,069 --> 00:04:20,310

okay marsh i guess my first question is

93

00:04:23,749 --> 00:04:22,079

is there anything that you don't do for

94

00:04:26,150 --> 00:04:23,759

skepticism

95

00:04:27,590 --> 00:04:26,160

well yeah that's a very good question um

96

00:04:29,990 --> 00:04:27,600

well first of all i uh i helped run the

97

00:04:32,550 --> 00:04:30,000

motorcycle skeptic society um which runs

98

00:04:34,710 --> 00:04:32,560

liverpool skeptics in the pub so i try

99

00:04:35,830 --> 00:04:34,720

uh as best i can and keep uh regular

100

00:04:38,230 --> 00:04:35,840

speakers come along there we've only

101  
00:04:39,749 --> 00:04:38,240  
been doing talks since i think october

102  
00:04:42,710 --> 00:04:39,759  
although we've existed since february so

103  
00:04:44,310 --> 00:04:42,720  
we had a bit of a kind of uh uh a run-up

104  
00:04:46,070 --> 00:04:44,320  
basically we just thought we'd uh try

105  
00:04:47,590 --> 00:04:46,080  
and gauge how much um interest and

106  
00:04:48,790 --> 00:04:47,600  
opinion there would be in in merseyside

107  
00:04:50,390 --> 00:04:48,800  
before we started and it turns out

108  
00:04:51,830 --> 00:04:50,400  
there's quite a lot so we went with it

109  
00:04:53,909 --> 00:04:51,840  
so yeah so i organized the liverpool

110  
00:04:55,830 --> 00:04:53,919  
skeptics in the pub um i'm on the

111  
00:04:57,430 --> 00:04:55,840  
skeptics for the care podcast i present

112  
00:04:59,670 --> 00:04:57,440  
that with uh with mike and with colin

113  
00:05:01,590 --> 00:04:59,680

from uh from from the mss from most of

114

00:05:03,670 --> 00:05:01,600

our skeptics um which listens to the

115

00:05:06,150 --> 00:05:03,680

skeptics going skeptic zone might have

116

00:05:07,990 --> 00:05:06,160

actually heard um that's our really

117

00:05:09,590 --> 00:05:08,000

unprofessional sounding trailer in the

118

00:05:10,950 --> 00:05:09,600

middle of the skeptic zone every now and

119

00:05:13,029 --> 00:05:10,960

again where we kind of just mumble and

120

00:05:14,710 --> 00:05:13,039

things that would be us um i also

121

00:05:15,909 --> 00:05:14,720

presented yeah you shouldn't be so tough

122

00:05:17,830 --> 00:05:15,919

on yourself it's great to be able to

123

00:05:19,029 --> 00:05:17,840

support other podcasts it's great yeah

124

00:05:21,990 --> 00:05:19,039

well it was really fantastic for the

125

00:05:23,189 --> 00:05:22,000

skeptics on to run it um yeah i also um

126

00:05:25,350 --> 00:05:23,199

present the righteous indignation

127

00:05:27,749 --> 00:05:25,360

podcast uh as well which is a weekly uh

128

00:05:29,749 --> 00:05:27,759

show which is uh a bit more sort of

129

00:05:32,310 --> 00:05:29,759

formalized and structured uh another

130

00:05:33,749 --> 00:05:32,320

than that i'm called running the 1023

131

00:05:35,590 --> 00:05:33,759

campaign which is the big campaign

132

00:05:36,870 --> 00:05:35,600

that's happening in the uk and hopefully

133

00:05:39,749 --> 00:05:36,880

around the rest of the globe at the

134

00:05:41,189 --> 00:05:39,759

moment um to bring homeopathy to light

135

00:05:44,150 --> 00:05:41,199

in order for our audience to get a bit

136

00:05:45,830 --> 00:05:44,160

of context what exactly is boots and why

137

00:05:48,950 --> 00:05:45,840

are they in particular being challenged

138

00:05:51,110 --> 00:05:48,960

by the first leg of the 1023 campaign

139

00:05:53,029 --> 00:05:51,120

boots are around the leading pharmacy in

140

00:05:54,070 --> 00:05:53,039

the uk um they're they're huge they're

141

00:05:55,510 --> 00:05:54,080

on every high street and they're

142

00:05:58,870 --> 00:05:55,520

synonymous with healthcare really so

143

00:06:00,469 --> 00:05:58,880

they've got a a a incredibly um

144

00:06:02,629 --> 00:06:00,479

incredibly professional reputation and

145

00:06:04,230 --> 00:06:02,639

incredibly um legitimate reputation

146

00:06:05,430 --> 00:06:04,240

they're where people turn

147

00:06:07,189 --> 00:06:05,440

first and foremost for their

148

00:06:09,590 --> 00:06:07,199

pharmaceuticals which is why it's

149

00:06:11,830 --> 00:06:09,600

incredibly disappointing um that they

150

00:06:13,990 --> 00:06:11,840

sell their own brand of homeopathy as

151  
00:06:15,909 --> 00:06:14,000  
well as a leading brand of homeopathy

152  
00:06:18,150 --> 00:06:15,919  
right there in the in the shop next to

153  
00:06:19,990 --> 00:06:18,160  
the real medicines i was wondering if

154  
00:06:22,390 --> 00:06:20,000  
like in australia there's several

155  
00:06:24,469 --> 00:06:22,400  
different pharmacies or drug stores that

156  
00:06:25,670 --> 00:06:24,479  
could possibly be targeted in this

157  
00:06:27,189 --> 00:06:25,680  
campaign

158  
00:06:29,110 --> 00:06:27,199  
well there are but uh none with a

159  
00:06:30,950 --> 00:06:29,120  
legitimacy that a pharmacy with the

160  
00:06:32,950 --> 00:06:30,960  
reputation of boots can lend it um there

161  
00:06:34,309 --> 00:06:32,960  
are other shops in the uk things like

162  
00:06:36,790 --> 00:06:34,319  
holland and barrett's and health food

163  
00:06:38,870 --> 00:06:36,800

shops that sell homeopathy but they

164

00:06:40,870 --> 00:06:38,880

don't sell prescription medicines and

165

00:06:42,710 --> 00:06:40,880

cough medicines and and flu remedies

166

00:06:44,309 --> 00:06:42,720

that are a genuine medicine in boots

167

00:06:46,629 --> 00:06:44,319

it's very very difficult to distinguish

168

00:06:47,909 --> 00:06:46,639

between um the real medicines and the

169

00:06:49,830 --> 00:06:47,919

alternative medicines there's just a

170

00:06:50,629 --> 00:06:49,840

little a little side

171

00:06:52,790 --> 00:06:50,639

side

172

00:06:54,870 --> 00:06:52,800

stall a shelf with the words alternative

173

00:06:56,870 --> 00:06:54,880

medicines and uh all the homeopathy and

174

00:06:58,230 --> 00:06:56,880

the herbal stuff right on there and

175

00:07:00,469 --> 00:06:58,240

there's nothing to say that this stuff

176

00:07:02,790 --> 00:07:00,479

isn't proven if i'm not mistaken there's

177

00:07:04,870 --> 00:07:02,800

quite a history of political and popular

178

00:07:06,390 --> 00:07:04,880

support for homeopathy in the uk isn't

179

00:07:08,710 --> 00:07:06,400

there

180

00:07:10,309 --> 00:07:08,720

yeah it's it's um i'd say it's more

181

00:07:11,990 --> 00:07:10,319

pervasive than a lot of people would

182

00:07:13,749 --> 00:07:12,000

realize i don't think it's uh

183

00:07:15,670 --> 00:07:13,759

necessarily something that your ev your

184

00:07:17,670 --> 00:07:15,680

average man on the street has tried um

185

00:07:19,830 --> 00:07:17,680

but it's uh the industry's worth around

186

00:07:21,350 --> 00:07:19,840

about 40 million pounds i believe um

187

00:07:23,510 --> 00:07:21,360

plus the nhs actually supports

188

00:07:25,830 --> 00:07:23,520

homeopathy um it's uh spends around

189

00:07:28,629 --> 00:07:25,840

about four million pounds a year on um

190

00:07:30,230 --> 00:07:28,639

four homeopathic hospitals um one of

191

00:07:32,469 --> 00:07:30,240

which is actually situated in liverpool

192

00:07:33,830 --> 00:07:32,479

which is uh where where uh where i live

193

00:07:36,070 --> 00:07:33,840

which is uh why it's a particular bug

194

00:07:37,670 --> 00:07:36,080

bearer of ours

195

00:07:39,589 --> 00:07:37,680

yeah i can imagine why it would be quite

196

00:07:41,510 --> 00:07:39,599

insulting to have that appear right on

197

00:07:43,749 --> 00:07:41,520

your yeah endorsed it it's absolutely

198

00:07:45,110 --> 00:07:43,759

crazy that uh that that the government

199

00:07:46,710 --> 00:07:45,120

health service the national health

200

00:07:48,150 --> 00:07:46,720

service actually supports this stuff

201  
00:07:49,749 --> 00:07:48,160  
even though it's been proven and

202  
00:07:51,589 --> 00:07:49,759  
whenever uh they're asked about it they

203  
00:07:52,950 --> 00:07:51,599  
tend to say well people wanted so we

204  
00:07:55,270 --> 00:07:52,960  
provide it which is a bit of a cop-out

205  
00:07:56,869 --> 00:07:55,280  
when it comes to medicine because

206  
00:07:59,029 --> 00:07:56,879  
you don't give people what they want you

207  
00:08:01,350 --> 00:07:59,039  
give them what can be proven to work

208  
00:08:03,510 --> 00:08:01,360  
so what initially inspired the 1023

209  
00:08:04,869 --> 00:08:03,520  
campaign um that's a very good question

210  
00:08:06,629 --> 00:08:04,879  
actually it was it was something i came

211  
00:08:07,990 --> 00:08:06,639  
up while we were at one of our skeptics

212  
00:08:09,270 --> 00:08:08,000  
and pub socials up in liverpool and we

213  
00:08:10,950 --> 00:08:09,280

saw that um

214

00:08:12,550 --> 00:08:10,960

all there were many bloggers doing some

215

00:08:15,110 --> 00:08:12,560

great work when it came to the simon

216

00:08:16,550 --> 00:08:15,120

singh um case and the chiropractic the

217

00:08:19,270 --> 00:08:16,560

general chiropractic council and the

218

00:08:20,469 --> 00:08:19,280

beca um there were some great bloggers

219

00:08:22,550 --> 00:08:20,479

who were taking apart the claims of

220

00:08:23,670 --> 00:08:22,560

chiropractors and um calling into task

221

00:08:25,350 --> 00:08:23,680

for some of the more outrageous

222

00:08:28,550 --> 00:08:25,360

statements you were making um and it

223

00:08:30,550 --> 00:08:28,560

occurred to us that that was a really um

224

00:08:32,230 --> 00:08:30,560

powerful way for your average sort of

225

00:08:34,230 --> 00:08:32,240

skeptic to get involved and to really

226

00:08:35,670 --> 00:08:34,240

lend a hand but while everyone's

227

00:08:37,670 --> 00:08:35,680

attention was turned to chiropractic

228

00:08:39,909 --> 00:08:37,680

manipulation and chiropractors there was

229

00:08:41,670 --> 00:08:39,919

a real possibility that other forms of

230

00:08:43,990 --> 00:08:41,680

pseudoscience and pseudomedicine might

231

00:08:45,750 --> 00:08:44,000

sort of uh flourish with the the

232

00:08:47,910 --> 00:08:45,760

spotlight turned off them so we thought

233

00:08:49,190 --> 00:08:47,920

why not uh let other people take care of

234

00:08:51,030 --> 00:08:49,200

the chiropractors and we'll try and put

235

00:08:52,550 --> 00:08:51,040

something together where um a similar

236

00:08:54,310 --> 00:08:52,560

band of bloggers anyone who wants to get

237

00:08:55,910 --> 00:08:54,320

involved can gather together under the

238

00:08:57,190 --> 00:08:55,920

umbrella of one campaign and take a look

239

00:08:59,350 --> 00:08:57,200

at homeopathy

240

00:09:01,190 --> 00:08:59,360

i've noticed on social networking sites

241

00:09:03,910 --> 00:09:01,200

like twitter that there's even an effort

242

00:09:05,430 --> 00:09:03,920

to get overseas people involved

243

00:09:07,350 --> 00:09:05,440

absolutely we're trying to encourage it

244

00:09:09,269 --> 00:09:07,360

to spread as wide as possible um

245

00:09:11,030 --> 00:09:09,279

although the campaign itself is largely

246

00:09:12,550 --> 00:09:11,040

uk focused we really want to support uh

247

00:09:14,550 --> 00:09:12,560

international international blogs and

248

00:09:16,550 --> 00:09:14,560

international skeptics um so it's a case

249

00:09:18,870 --> 00:09:16,560

of um look around you you know keep an

250

00:09:20,870 --> 00:09:18,880

eye out for for um claims made by

251  
00:09:22,949 --> 00:09:20,880  
homeopaths visit your local homeopaths

252  
00:09:25,190 --> 00:09:22,959  
visit pharmacies that sell homeopathic

253  
00:09:27,110 --> 00:09:25,200  
remedies and try and get a good uh a

254  
00:09:29,030 --> 00:09:27,120  
good idea of the lie of the land locally

255  
00:09:31,990 --> 00:09:29,040  
and then use the 10 23

256  
00:09:33,910 --> 00:09:32,000  
umbrella the 10 23 band to uh to start

257  
00:09:36,070 --> 00:09:33,920  
taking apart the claims of homeopaths to

258  
00:09:37,670 --> 00:09:36,080  
start drawing attention to them and and

259  
00:09:39,829 --> 00:09:37,680  
subjecting them to criticism and

260  
00:09:41,829 --> 00:09:39,839  
analysis and also to make people aware

261  
00:09:43,829 --> 00:09:41,839  
of what homeopathy is and fundamentally

262  
00:09:46,310 --> 00:09:43,839  
what it isn't which is it isn't real

263  
00:09:48,230 --> 00:09:46,320

medicine i've read in the news that the

264

00:09:50,630 --> 00:09:48,240

house of commons parliamentary science

265

00:09:53,030 --> 00:09:50,640

watchdog about boots insistence on

266

00:09:54,870 --> 00:09:53,040

selling homeopathic preparations their

267

00:09:57,030 --> 00:09:54,880

chief pharmacist professional standards

268

00:09:59,509 --> 00:09:57,040

director paul bennett admitted that they

269

00:10:01,750 --> 00:09:59,519

had no evidence so doesn't this possibly

270

00:10:03,509 --> 00:10:01,760

contravene consumer rights or trade

271

00:10:05,110 --> 00:10:03,519

practices acts well that's certainly

272

00:10:06,230 --> 00:10:05,120

something we're looking into um what

273

00:10:07,910 --> 00:10:06,240

we're doing at the moment with the

274

00:10:10,310 --> 00:10:07,920

campaign and uh

275

00:10:11,990 --> 00:10:10,320

i i will stress that the 10 23 campaign

276

00:10:13,910 --> 00:10:12,000

is more directed to homeopaths in

277

00:10:15,590 --> 00:10:13,920

general than homeopathy the system of

278

00:10:17,269 --> 00:10:15,600

homeopathy in general but at the moment

279

00:10:19,350 --> 00:10:17,279

we've chosen to focus an arm of the

280

00:10:21,110 --> 00:10:19,360

campaign on boots because in part of

281

00:10:23,829 --> 00:10:21,120

this admission by uh by paul bennett

282

00:10:25,509 --> 00:10:23,839

that boots sell homeopathy not because

283

00:10:27,590 --> 00:10:25,519

they can prove it works or because the

284

00:10:29,430 --> 00:10:27,600

the evidence is there to support it but

285

00:10:30,949 --> 00:10:29,440

just because it sells and no it's

286

00:10:32,949 --> 00:10:30,959

absolutely not a good number he's an

287

00:10:34,230 --> 00:10:32,959

absolutely yeah it's really not a good

288

00:10:37,269 --> 00:10:34,240

enough reason at all and it certainly

289

00:10:38,630 --> 00:10:37,279

doesn't um stand to the the policy of

290

00:10:40,710 --> 00:10:38,640

exceptional patient care which the

291

00:10:43,350 --> 00:10:40,720

pharmacy um proclaims

292

00:10:45,030 --> 00:10:43,360

uh so i i think absolutely uh that it's

293

00:10:47,509 --> 00:10:45,040

worth taking we are taking a look at uh

294

00:10:48,710 --> 00:10:47,519

whether it is uh a remit there of

295

00:10:49,910 --> 00:10:48,720

trading standards and advertising

296

00:10:52,630 --> 00:10:49,920

standards and things like that i know in

297

00:10:54,470 --> 00:10:52,640

the uk you have to make direct claims of

298

00:10:56,389 --> 00:10:54,480

efficacy and direct claims of what it

299

00:10:58,470 --> 00:10:56,399

can cure before you can be called to

300

00:10:59,670 --> 00:10:58,480

action or call to task but that's

301  
00:11:01,910 --> 00:10:59,680  
something we're definitely looking into

302  
00:11:03,269 --> 00:11:01,920  
but i think as much as anything um the

303  
00:11:05,990 --> 00:11:03,279  
what we have on the side which is an

304  
00:11:08,470 --> 00:11:06,000  
open letter appealing to boots to to

305  
00:11:09,670 --> 00:11:08,480  
reconsider the sale of homeopathy um i

306  
00:11:12,069 --> 00:11:09,680  
think that's the first step because we

307  
00:11:13,430 --> 00:11:12,079  
don't want to go in um all guns blazing

308  
00:11:15,269 --> 00:11:13,440  
and and start

309  
00:11:17,030 --> 00:11:15,279  
laying down the law it's a much much

310  
00:11:18,949 --> 00:11:17,040  
better situation if boots realize that

311  
00:11:20,389 --> 00:11:18,959  
this that selling something that they

312  
00:11:22,870 --> 00:11:20,399  
can't prove works and that has been

313  
00:11:24,389 --> 00:11:22,880

proven not to work is bad patient care

314

00:11:26,389 --> 00:11:24,399

and if they can take it off the shelves

315

00:11:28,389 --> 00:11:26,399

themselves you know we we will continue

316

00:11:29,910 --> 00:11:28,399

to support boots and their uh their

317

00:11:32,470 --> 00:11:29,920

excellent reputation but until that

318

00:11:34,150 --> 00:11:32,480

happens um it's a bit of a bit of a big

319

00:11:35,829 --> 00:11:34,160

black mark on their on their conscience

320

00:11:37,590 --> 00:11:35,839

and on their reputation i think when i

321

00:11:39,670 --> 00:11:37,600

first heard about the campaign i was

322

00:11:42,630 --> 00:11:39,680

reminded of the australian skeptic's

323

00:11:45,190 --> 00:11:42,640

open letter to pharmacies yes i mean we

324

00:11:47,590 --> 00:11:45,200

did actually uh i'll admit we lifted

325

00:11:49,430 --> 00:11:47,600

fairly wholesale from your uh from your

326

00:11:51,509 --> 00:11:49,440

letter certainly about ear candling and

327

00:11:52,949 --> 00:11:51,519

um

328

00:11:55,030 --> 00:11:52,959

you'll be getting a letter from richard

329

00:11:57,030 --> 00:11:55,040

saunders now dear

330

00:11:58,150 --> 00:11:57,040

well fortunately enough once we put our

331

00:11:59,990 --> 00:11:58,160

letter to boots out i actually got an

332

00:12:01,750 --> 00:12:00,000

email from uh from iran and from richard

333

00:12:02,949 --> 00:12:01,760

who were uh they were supportive of our

334

00:12:06,230 --> 00:12:02,959

campaign and were

335

00:12:07,990 --> 00:12:06,240

quite happy for us to to use uh the the

336

00:12:11,350 --> 00:12:08,000

jumping ground the jumping butt and it

337

00:12:12,550 --> 00:12:11,360

doesn't make sense

338

00:12:13,829 --> 00:12:12,560

the launching pad that's the one they

339

00:12:15,350 --> 00:12:13,839

were quite happy for us to use your

340

00:12:16,790 --> 00:12:15,360

letter as a launching pad for our letter

341

00:12:18,790 --> 00:12:16,800

because i think uh

342

00:12:20,629 --> 00:12:18,800

ultimately what we what we as skeptics

343

00:12:22,550 --> 00:12:20,639

need to do in general is is stop

344

00:12:23,430 --> 00:12:22,560

reinventing the wheel um and i think

345

00:12:25,590 --> 00:12:23,440

that was something that we were trying

346

00:12:26,470 --> 00:12:25,600

to do with the 10 23 campaign it was

347

00:12:28,150 --> 00:12:26,480

there were a lot of people who were

348

00:12:30,790 --> 00:12:28,160

individually taking homeopathy

349

00:12:32,310 --> 00:12:30,800

homeopathy and the claims mid apart um

350

00:12:33,750 --> 00:12:32,320

but they were doing it individually in

351

00:12:35,350 --> 00:12:33,760

the same kind of way as each other

352

00:12:36,629 --> 00:12:35,360

whereas now we've tried to sort of put a

353

00:12:38,389 --> 00:12:36,639

little system in place when you say

354

00:12:40,069 --> 00:12:38,399

right this one's done someone's done

355

00:12:41,910 --> 00:12:40,079

this part of it so you can focus your

356

00:12:43,910 --> 00:12:41,920

attention elsewhere and everyone doesn't

357

00:12:45,910 --> 00:12:43,920

have to be doing the same thing um the

358

00:12:47,910 --> 00:12:45,920

ground works there is already done for

359

00:12:49,670 --> 00:12:47,920

them and they can use it to uh to go

360

00:12:51,910 --> 00:12:49,680

further really so this is just the

361

00:12:53,350 --> 00:12:51,920

beginning of the 1023 campaign and i'm

362

00:12:55,750 --> 00:12:53,360

certain that you've got a lot more on

363

00:12:57,509 --> 00:12:55,760

the cards can overseas people perhaps

364

00:12:59,670 --> 00:12:57,519

contribute more

365

00:13:00,790 --> 00:12:59,680

yeah absolutely um if anyone wants to to

366

00:13:02,470 --> 00:13:00,800

check out what we've got on the site at

367

00:13:04,629 --> 00:13:02,480

the moment um we've got um an

368

00:13:07,110 --> 00:13:04,639

explanation of what homeopathy is about

369

00:13:09,269 --> 00:13:07,120

we've also got uh 10 reasons not to use

370

00:13:11,670 --> 00:13:09,279

homeopathy um which was something that

371

00:13:12,949 --> 00:13:11,680

we felt was a strong

372

00:13:14,389 --> 00:13:12,959

piece of content for the site because a

373

00:13:16,150 --> 00:13:14,399

lot of people say well you know we can

374

00:13:18,470 --> 00:13:16,160

still use homeopathy it works alongside

375

00:13:20,069 --> 00:13:18,480

real medicine well it doesn't and if you

376

00:13:22,230 --> 00:13:20,079

check out those 10 reasons it's things

377

00:13:23,990 --> 00:13:22,240

like it's a waste of your money as a

378

00:13:25,509 --> 00:13:24,000

customer but it's also waste of

379

00:13:28,150 --> 00:13:25,519

everyone's money with with the tax

380

00:13:29,750 --> 00:13:28,160

dollar the tax uh money going into it

381

00:13:31,030 --> 00:13:29,760

from the nhs and also it's a waste of

382

00:13:32,710 --> 00:13:31,040

your time you could be getting better

383

00:13:33,829 --> 00:13:32,720

care and it's worth everyone's time

384

00:13:35,030 --> 00:13:33,839

because we could be researching

385

00:13:37,350 --> 00:13:35,040

something else you know we could spend

386

00:13:38,150 --> 00:13:37,360

that time actually finding more cures

387

00:13:41,590 --> 00:13:38,160

more

388

00:13:43,509 --> 00:13:41,600

work um so on the site there's a there's

389

00:13:45,110 --> 00:13:43,519

an essay on that um and there's also a

390

00:13:46,470 --> 00:13:45,120

way of getting involved we've got videos

391

00:13:48,629 --> 00:13:46,480

up there so

392

00:13:50,470 --> 00:13:48,639

there's plenty on there for people to uh

393

00:13:51,990 --> 00:13:50,480

to to pick up information on homeopathy

394

00:13:53,590 --> 00:13:52,000

and hopefully then spread it around

395

00:13:55,990 --> 00:13:53,600

people they know so if next time

396

00:13:58,550 --> 00:13:56,000

someone's recommending homeopathy or uh

397

00:14:00,470 --> 00:13:58,560

or or contemplating trying it um people

398

00:14:02,150 --> 00:14:00,480

can be in a position to to explain what

399

00:14:03,829 --> 00:14:02,160

it is and what it isn't uh well it

400

00:14:06,550 --> 00:14:03,839

started already if you go to the uh the

401  
00:14:08,949 --> 00:14:06,560  
website 1023.org dot uk uh that's all in

402  
00:14:10,470 --> 00:14:08,959  
numbers one or two three dot uk um

403  
00:14:13,189 --> 00:14:10,480  
there's a there's a form there's people

404  
00:14:14,949 --> 00:14:13,199  
to get involved um so far we've put our

405  
00:14:16,629 --> 00:14:14,959  
first piece of activism out there so we

406  
00:14:18,550 --> 00:14:16,639  
want to try and set people uh small

407  
00:14:20,629 --> 00:14:18,560  
actions that they can get involved in

408  
00:14:22,629 --> 00:14:20,639  
and hopefully it will contribute to a a

409  
00:14:24,230 --> 00:14:22,639  
larger movement um so the first piece of

410  
00:14:26,470 --> 00:14:24,240  
action is to sign the letter to boots

411  
00:14:27,910 --> 00:14:26,480  
and and uh appeal to them to stop

412  
00:14:29,430 --> 00:14:27,920  
selling something that doesn't work yeah

413  
00:14:31,269 --> 00:14:29,440

so that's the first piece of action um

414

00:14:33,269 --> 00:14:31,279

we've actually just launched the second

415

00:14:35,110 --> 00:14:33,279

piece of action uh which involves a few

416

00:14:36,550 --> 00:14:35,120

little tasks for people to do

417

00:14:38,710 --> 00:14:36,560

one of which is to sign a petition to

418

00:14:40,069 --> 00:14:38,720

the government to uh have the the

419

00:14:41,430 --> 00:14:40,079

government regulatory body take a look

420

00:14:43,670 --> 00:14:41,440

at homeopathy and whether it should be

421

00:14:45,350 --> 00:14:43,680

funded by the nhs um so they can sign

422

00:14:48,069 --> 00:14:45,360

that petition if you're based in the uk

423

00:14:50,069 --> 00:14:48,079

um we also have up there a flyer

424

00:14:51,990 --> 00:14:50,079

which can be downloaded and

425

00:14:54,949 --> 00:14:52,000

given to people given to people given to

426  
00:14:55,670 --> 00:14:54,959  
homeopaths left in pharmacies in that

427  
00:14:57,829 --> 00:14:55,680  
that

428  
00:14:59,590 --> 00:14:57,839  
sell homeopathy which explains what

429  
00:15:01,030 --> 00:14:59,600  
homeopathy is and what it isn't and why

430  
00:15:02,310 --> 00:15:01,040  
it shouldn't be considered an

431  
00:15:04,550 --> 00:15:02,320  
alternative to real medicine so you can

432  
00:15:05,350 --> 00:15:04,560  
download that flyer and distribute that

433  
00:15:09,990 --> 00:15:05,360  
um

434  
00:15:12,470 --> 00:15:10,000  
not stay quiet so if they see a story on

435  
00:15:14,230 --> 00:15:12,480  
in an online newspaper or on a blog um

436  
00:15:15,509 --> 00:15:14,240  
feel free to comment on that blog to

437  
00:15:17,910 --> 00:15:15,519  
point them to the in the direction of

438  
00:15:21,189 --> 00:15:17,920

our website to explain to them the the

439

00:15:23,509 --> 00:15:21,199

rules behind homeopathy and uh to

440

00:15:25,189 --> 00:15:23,519

to stop being uh as much as possible the

441

00:15:26,949 --> 00:15:25,199

armchair skeptic and and to sort of roll

442

00:15:28,389 --> 00:15:26,959

up their sleeves and try and help out

443

00:15:30,150 --> 00:15:28,399

well i'm very pleased to say that

444

00:15:32,150 --> 00:15:30,160

there's a few australian skeptical

445

00:15:35,269 --> 00:15:32,160

groups out there who are hoping to test

446

00:15:37,350 --> 00:15:35,279

out the uh efficacy or inefficacy of

447

00:15:39,269 --> 00:15:37,360

homeopathy over the weekend

448

00:15:41,110 --> 00:15:39,279

i think it's particularly wonderful that

449

00:15:43,710 --> 00:15:41,120

we've just started hearing about how

450

00:15:46,069 --> 00:15:43,720

websites like homeopathy plus and

451  
00:15:47,750 --> 00:15:46,079  
dnh.org have been ordered to remove

452  
00:15:50,550 --> 00:15:47,760  
information suggesting that they can

453  
00:15:52,069 --> 00:15:50,560  
provide homeopathic immunization after

454  
00:15:54,069 --> 00:15:52,079  
there was a complaint made to the

455  
00:15:55,829 --> 00:15:54,079  
therapeutic goods administration

456  
00:15:58,230 --> 00:15:55,839  
absolutely and i think um the internet

457  
00:16:00,550 --> 00:15:58,240  
is uh is proving more and more to be the

458  
00:16:02,310 --> 00:16:00,560  
uh the most amazing tool for getting

459  
00:16:04,550 --> 00:16:02,320  
people involved and we see that time and

460  
00:16:06,470 --> 00:16:04,560  
time again with bloggers and and even

461  
00:16:08,389 --> 00:16:06,480  
with the advent of uh with the advent of

462  
00:16:09,670 --> 00:16:08,399  
twitter um i think this campaign is

463  
00:16:11,030 --> 00:16:09,680

really taking off as much as anything on

464

00:16:13,110 --> 00:16:11,040

twitter if if people want to check out

465

00:16:16,550 --> 00:16:13,120

on twitter um search for the

466

00:16:18,150 --> 00:16:16,560

1023 that's ten23 because twitter

467

00:16:19,350 --> 00:16:18,160

doesn't really like numbers too much uh

468

00:16:20,550 --> 00:16:19,360

if you want to search for that hashtag

469

00:16:23,189 --> 00:16:20,560

on twitter you'll see there's a whole

470

00:16:25,829 --> 00:16:23,199

flurry of activity on a fairly constant

471

00:16:27,110 --> 00:16:25,839

basis of people putting up information

472

00:16:30,150 --> 00:16:27,120

about the site and about the the

473

00:16:32,470 --> 00:16:30,160

campaigns 1023.org.uk

474

00:16:34,230 --> 00:16:32,480

and that's 1023 in numbers thanks again

475

00:16:35,910 --> 00:16:34,240

marsh for being a part of our show

476  
00:16:37,590 --> 00:16:35,920  
excellent thank you very much and you

477  
00:16:39,910 --> 00:16:37,600  
can find more of his work on the

478  
00:16:42,790 --> 00:16:39,920  
righteous indignation podcast the

479  
00:16:46,629 --> 00:16:42,800  
skeptics with a k podcast the merseyside

480  
00:17:01,269 --> 00:16:46,639  
skeptics and of course the 1023.org

481  
00:17:05,270 --> 00:17:03,269  
astronomy cast takes a fact-based

482  
00:17:07,029 --> 00:17:05,280  
journey through the cosmos as it offers

483  
00:17:09,669 --> 00:17:07,039  
listeners weekly discussions on

484  
00:17:11,029 --> 00:17:09,679  
astronomical topics ranging from planets

485  
00:17:13,510 --> 00:17:11,039  
to cosmology

486  
00:17:15,510 --> 00:17:13,520  
hosted by fraser kane of universe today

487  
00:17:17,829 --> 00:17:15,520  
and myself dr pamela gay of southern

488  
00:17:19,590 --> 00:17:17,839

illinois university edwardsville this

489

00:17:21,350 --> 00:17:19,600

show brings the questions of an avid

490

00:17:22,470 --> 00:17:21,360

astronomy lover directly to an

491

00:17:24,470 --> 00:17:22,480

astronomer

492

00:17:26,069 --> 00:17:24,480

together fraser and i explore what is

493

00:17:27,669 --> 00:17:26,079

known and being discovered about the

494

00:17:29,270 --> 00:17:27,679

universe around us

495

00:17:31,350 --> 00:17:29,280

join us each week as we take a

496

00:17:41,510 --> 00:17:31,360

fact-based journey through the cosmos at

497

00:17:45,350 --> 00:17:44,150

i'm kylie sturgis and i'm talking to

498

00:17:48,630 --> 00:17:45,360

sean wright

499

00:17:50,870 --> 00:17:48,640

in 2009 shaun wright won the nexus monte

500

00:17:52,950 --> 00:17:50,880

miller award it is named after a

501  
00:17:55,190 --> 00:17:52,960  
prominent 19th century pre-thought

502  
00:17:57,669 --> 00:17:55,200  
advocate monty miller and is presented

503  
00:17:59,750 --> 00:17:57,679  
annually to an australian new zealand or

504  
00:18:01,669 --> 00:17:59,760  
south pacific atheist who has made an

505  
00:18:04,070 --> 00:18:01,679  
outstanding contribution to advancing

506  
00:18:05,590 --> 00:18:04,080  
the cause of free thought in this region

507  
00:18:09,270 --> 00:18:05,600  
it may involve work in the fields of

508  
00:18:12,710 --> 00:18:09,280  
atheism skepticism humanism rationalism

509  
00:18:14,150 --> 00:18:12,720  
or in the case of 2009 all of these

510  
00:18:16,150 --> 00:18:14,160  
thanks for joining us on this skeptic

511  
00:18:17,909 --> 00:18:16,160  
zone sean now people might recognize

512  
00:18:20,870 --> 00:18:17,919  
your name as the author of a rather

513  
00:18:22,549 --> 00:18:20,880

spiffy looking steampunk themed blog

514

00:18:24,630 --> 00:18:22,559

in the press release from the atheist

515

00:18:26,230 --> 00:18:24,640

nexus for the monty miller award you're

516

00:18:29,110 --> 00:18:26,240

described as an advocate for those

517

00:18:31,029 --> 00:18:29,120

survivors of the mercy ministries church

518

00:18:32,950 --> 00:18:31,039

and also an investigator of the

519

00:18:34,710 --> 00:18:32,960

activities of hillsong church and

520

00:18:37,110 --> 00:18:34,720

committed to challenging the claims of

521

00:18:39,029 --> 00:18:37,120

meryl dory's australian vaccination

522

00:18:40,230 --> 00:18:39,039

network so how would you describe

523

00:18:43,190 --> 00:18:40,240

yourself

524

00:18:45,270 --> 00:18:43,200

how would i describe myself

525

00:18:47,990 --> 00:18:45,280

i always find that sort of question a

526

00:18:49,909 --> 00:18:48,000

bit a bit difficult it's like answering

527

00:18:53,350 --> 00:18:49,919

uh an interview question when they ask

528

00:18:54,470 --> 00:18:53,360

you to uh tell us about yourself tell us

529

00:18:58,150 --> 00:18:54,480

why

530

00:18:59,510 --> 00:18:58,160

good enough for the position or whatever

531

00:19:01,190 --> 00:18:59,520

so

532

00:19:02,710 --> 00:19:01,200

yeah i suppose it's a bit difficult but

533

00:19:10,150 --> 00:19:02,720

uh

534

00:19:11,430 --> 00:19:10,160

atheist a skeptic and a humanist

535

00:19:13,350 --> 00:19:11,440

so

536

00:19:15,270 --> 00:19:13,360

i guess that's that is how i describe

537

00:19:18,230 --> 00:19:15,280

myself uh

538

00:19:20,310 --> 00:19:18,240

i think it necessary to be upfront and

539

00:19:22,070 --> 00:19:20,320

open about my atheism

540

00:19:24,070 --> 00:19:22,080

i'd like to see that change in the long

541

00:19:27,110 --> 00:19:24,080

term perhaps 20 30 years down the track

542

00:19:30,549 --> 00:19:27,120

where you don't have to

543

00:19:32,150 --> 00:19:30,559

to be so upfront about that part of your

544

00:19:34,390 --> 00:19:32,160

um

545

00:19:36,549 --> 00:19:34,400

your life uh you know what what you

546

00:19:38,310 --> 00:19:36,559

believe in but um

547

00:19:40,230 --> 00:19:38,320

yeah i think at this point in time it's

548

00:19:42,230 --> 00:19:40,240

necessary to be up front

549

00:19:44,230 --> 00:19:42,240

uh to say

550

00:19:46,789 --> 00:19:44,240

as an atheist here i am i'm a good

551  
00:19:49,590 --> 00:19:46,799  
person i'm a community-minded person

552  
00:19:52,070 --> 00:19:49,600  
i'm a deep thinker

553  
00:19:55,750 --> 00:19:52,080  
and none of that is down to an

554  
00:19:57,990 --> 00:19:55,760  
omniscient uh or knowing or seeing

555  
00:19:59,430 --> 00:19:58,000  
all doing god so

556  
00:20:02,230 --> 00:19:59,440  
that's why i think it's important to be

557  
00:20:03,990 --> 00:20:02,240  
open and up front as an atheist

558  
00:20:07,909 --> 00:20:04,000  
as a skeptic yeah i think i see

559  
00:20:10,310 --> 00:20:07,919  
skepticism as tied in with my atheism

560  
00:20:12,710 --> 00:20:10,320  
i like to think i've the decisions i

561  
00:20:15,510 --> 00:20:12,720  
make in life are based on thinking

562  
00:20:18,070 --> 00:20:15,520  
deeply about a situation

563  
00:20:20,310 --> 00:20:18,080

uh examining all the claims so yeah and

564

00:20:22,310 --> 00:20:20,320

being aware of uh

565

00:20:25,190 --> 00:20:22,320

you know the things about our our

566

00:20:27,430 --> 00:20:25,200

humanity you know cognitive biases that

567

00:20:29,750 --> 00:20:27,440

sort of thing the way

568

00:20:31,830 --> 00:20:29,760

perception can be altered by our

569

00:20:32,789 --> 00:20:31,840

emotional state at the time that sort of

570

00:20:37,430 --> 00:20:32,799

thing

571

00:20:40,870 --> 00:20:37,440

there and affect our views on the world

572

00:20:42,950 --> 00:20:40,880

and yeah so i think i define myself as a

573

00:20:44,710 --> 00:20:42,960

big ass skeptic as as

574

00:20:48,390 --> 00:20:44,720

as opposed to a little less skeptic i

575

00:20:49,350 --> 00:20:48,400

think i think i've always been skeptical

576  
00:20:51,110 --> 00:20:49,360  
about

577  
00:20:54,230 --> 00:20:51,120  
most things i think a good decent

578  
00:20:56,310 --> 00:20:54,240  
education in australia

579  
00:20:58,789 --> 00:20:56,320  
sort of does give you a

580  
00:21:01,029 --> 00:20:58,799  
a reasonable skepticism and then as a

581  
00:21:03,909 --> 00:21:01,039  
humanist i'm not not a card carrying

582  
00:21:05,830 --> 00:21:03,919  
member of any humanist organization but

583  
00:21:08,149 --> 00:21:05,840  
i suppose that's

584  
00:21:11,270 --> 00:21:08,159  
that's the opposite to my atheism my

585  
00:21:13,110 --> 00:21:11,280  
atheism is is what i don't believe in

586  
00:21:15,270 --> 00:21:13,120  
whereas the humanist side of me is you

587  
00:21:17,750 --> 00:21:15,280  
know these are the

588  
00:21:20,149 --> 00:21:17,760

the aspirations uh

589

00:21:22,310 --> 00:21:20,159

you know the principles that i that i

590

00:21:25,510 --> 00:21:22,320

you know try to live by so in a general

591

00:21:27,029 --> 00:21:25,520

sense i'd say i'm humanist i i i believe

592

00:21:28,390 --> 00:21:27,039

in being uh

593

00:21:31,110 --> 00:21:28,400

active in the community and that's

594

00:21:33,510 --> 00:21:31,120

active for everyone not just skeptics or

595

00:21:36,070 --> 00:21:33,520

atheists you know i believe in in

596

00:21:38,549 --> 00:21:36,080

doing the least harm

597

00:21:40,470 --> 00:21:38,559

in all situations or you know do no harm

598

00:21:41,190 --> 00:21:40,480

but sometimes we don't have that choice

599

00:21:42,789 --> 00:21:41,200

but

600

00:21:45,029 --> 00:21:42,799

some of the topics you've investigated

601  
00:21:47,190 --> 00:21:45,039  
in your writings include hillsong church

602  
00:21:48,470 --> 00:21:47,200  
and their activities in australia can

603  
00:21:50,630 --> 00:21:48,480  
you tell us how you came to be

604  
00:21:52,870 --> 00:21:50,640  
interested i suppose i've been writing

605  
00:21:54,230 --> 00:21:52,880  
about them over the last two years

606  
00:21:56,549 --> 00:21:54,240  
i think it probably comes down to a

607  
00:21:58,390 --> 00:21:56,559  
number of different circumstances led me

608  
00:22:00,710 --> 00:21:58,400  
to write about hillsong one that sticks

609  
00:22:03,110 --> 00:22:00,720  
out in my mind is of course reading tony

610  
00:22:05,350 --> 00:22:03,120  
11's book people in glass houses they

611  
00:22:08,230 --> 00:22:05,360  
gave me a sort of a broader background

612  
00:22:12,549 --> 00:22:08,240  
on the church i've always been

613  
00:22:14,149 --> 00:22:12,559

somewhat wary of evangelical churches uh

614

00:22:15,590 --> 00:22:14,159

that stems from sort of earlier

615

00:22:18,390 --> 00:22:15,600

experiences

616

00:22:20,230 --> 00:22:18,400

in my formative years i guess you'd say

617

00:22:21,909 --> 00:22:20,240

when i was still a practicing christian

618

00:22:25,270 --> 00:22:21,919

i was invited along by a couple of

619

00:22:27,029 --> 00:22:25,280

friends to an assemblies of god church

620

00:22:29,110 --> 00:22:27,039

the assemblies of god were a precursor

621

00:22:31,110 --> 00:22:29,120

to to the group of churches of which

622

00:22:32,630 --> 00:22:31,120

hillsong is a

623

00:22:34,950 --> 00:22:32,640

more prominent

624

00:22:37,110 --> 00:22:34,960

member but yeah i was invited along to

625

00:22:38,149 --> 00:22:37,120

these assemblies of god church didn't

626

00:22:39,830 --> 00:22:38,159

mind the

627

00:22:42,310 --> 00:22:39,840

the rock band uh

628

00:22:44,950 --> 00:22:42,320

the rock style music we found the la la

629

00:22:47,590 --> 00:22:44,960

the lyrics are a bit naff and a bit

630

00:22:50,390 --> 00:22:47,600

bit out of place i guess you could say

631

00:22:52,390 --> 00:22:50,400

but uh you know that side of it the the

632

00:22:54,310 --> 00:22:52,400

jubilant nature

633

00:22:57,029 --> 00:22:54,320

of the service i suppose was was

634

00:22:59,430 --> 00:22:57,039

interesting and refreshing what scared

635

00:23:01,430 --> 00:22:59,440

me and scared me in the sense that um

636

00:23:04,950 --> 00:23:01,440

not that i was actually

637

00:23:06,789 --> 00:23:04,960

in fear of uh the holy spirit or

638

00:23:09,350 --> 00:23:06,799

some sort of spirit possessing people

639

00:23:12,789 --> 00:23:09,360

would but it was witnessing uh adults

640

00:23:14,549 --> 00:23:12,799

and in some cases people that i knew

641

00:23:17,430 --> 00:23:14,559

uh waving their hands in the air and

642

00:23:19,750 --> 00:23:17,440

then and then talking in tongues that uh

643

00:23:23,350 --> 00:23:19,760

it scared me because you were

644

00:23:26,310 --> 00:23:23,360

intelligent adults some of whom i i had

645

00:23:29,190 --> 00:23:26,320

respect for behaving in a way that i i

646

00:23:32,230 --> 00:23:29,200

thought was um extremely weird i suppose

647

00:23:34,950 --> 00:23:32,240

i've you know i've always had a certain

648

00:23:36,470 --> 00:23:34,960

degree of skepticism and now that that

649

00:23:38,070 --> 00:23:36,480

demonstration

650

00:23:39,990 --> 00:23:38,080

just felt uh

651

00:23:43,190 --> 00:23:40,000

i suppose dishonest to me

652

00:23:45,350 --> 00:23:43,200

so yeah i've had this weariness of

653

00:23:46,789 --> 00:23:45,360

the evangelical approach to things and

654

00:23:48,310 --> 00:23:46,799

then of course my two friends that

655

00:23:51,750 --> 00:23:48,320

invited me along to that service then

656

00:23:53,029 --> 00:23:51,760

went on to join another church uh even

657

00:23:56,710 --> 00:23:53,039

more

658

00:23:58,310 --> 00:23:56,720

than hillsong

659

00:24:00,390 --> 00:23:58,320

called the potter's house and they're

660

00:24:02,310 --> 00:24:00,400

they're still active in my my hometown

661

00:24:04,870 --> 00:24:02,320

and i've had

662

00:24:07,909 --> 00:24:04,880

run-ins with their pastor on the street

663

00:24:09,590 --> 00:24:07,919

um and uses pretty underhanded preaching

664

00:24:11,750 --> 00:24:09,600

techniques you know emotional

665

00:24:13,909 --> 00:24:11,760

steamrolling that sort of thing so even

666

00:24:16,149 --> 00:24:13,919

as a christian then continuing when i

667

00:24:19,190 --> 00:24:16,159

became an atheist i've i've had an

668

00:24:21,190 --> 00:24:19,200

awareness surrounding evangelical style

669

00:24:22,390 --> 00:24:21,200

churches and then

670

00:24:24,149 --> 00:24:22,400

of course watching the media and

671

00:24:25,990 --> 00:24:24,159

following hillsong there's uh there's

672

00:24:28,470 --> 00:24:26,000

been a number of things that put them in

673

00:24:30,070 --> 00:24:28,480

the spotlight for the wrong reasons and

674

00:24:31,909 --> 00:24:30,080

and i suppose supporters of the church

675

00:24:35,510 --> 00:24:31,919

like to claim that they're persecuted

676

00:24:37,909 --> 00:24:35,520

but um i think

677

00:24:40,070 --> 00:24:37,919

there's criticism warranted if you go

678

00:24:42,070 --> 00:24:40,080

back uh even into the early church

679

00:24:43,830 --> 00:24:42,080

history you've got frank houston brian

680

00:24:46,070 --> 00:24:43,840

houston's father's

681

00:24:46,950 --> 00:24:46,080

admitted to sexually molesting a young

682

00:24:50,630 --> 00:24:46,960

boy

683

00:24:52,390 --> 00:24:50,640

yet uh despite uh the law uh currently i

684

00:24:53,990 --> 00:24:52,400

think the law at the time

685

00:24:56,710 --> 00:24:54,000

nothing was ever reported to police he

686

00:24:59,430 --> 00:24:56,720

was he never faced any charges he was

687

00:25:01,590 --> 00:24:59,440

just put to the side swept away

688

00:25:03,510 --> 00:25:01,600

and not dealt with aside from that

689

00:25:05,350 --> 00:25:03,520

you've got scandals

690

00:25:07,990 --> 00:25:05,360

surrounding the misappropriation of

691

00:25:09,909 --> 00:25:08,000

funds for indigenous programs you've got

692

00:25:13,510 --> 00:25:09,919

infiltration into schools through the

693

00:25:15,269 --> 00:25:13,520

shine program and through exo days well

694

00:25:17,510 --> 00:25:15,279

so yeah i think there's

695

00:25:19,590 --> 00:25:17,520

there is a definite criticism warranted

696

00:25:20,310 --> 00:25:19,600

of them uh they put themselves out there

697

00:25:25,590 --> 00:25:20,320

as

698

00:25:27,909 --> 00:25:25,600

with uh with the holy spirit and there

699

00:25:29,430 --> 00:25:27,919

for the lord and you know i think if you

700

00:25:31,510 --> 00:25:29,440

if you put yourself up on a pedestal

701  
00:25:32,870 --> 00:25:31,520  
you'd be prepared to

702  
00:25:33,830 --> 00:25:32,880  
take some knocks when you're doing the

703  
00:25:35,830 --> 00:25:33,840  
wrong thing

704  
00:25:38,070 --> 00:25:35,840  
recently it seems australia's somewhat

705  
00:25:40,310 --> 00:25:38,080  
secular identity is being challenged on

706  
00:25:41,990 --> 00:25:40,320  
a variety of fronts what do you think

707  
00:25:43,669 --> 00:25:42,000  
are some of the big concerns australia

708  
00:25:45,510 --> 00:25:43,679  
should have about the intersection of

709  
00:25:47,669 --> 00:25:45,520  
religion and politics

710  
00:25:49,430 --> 00:25:47,679  
well i mean i don't have any issues with

711  
00:25:51,350 --> 00:25:49,440  
anyone of any

712  
00:25:52,870 --> 00:25:51,360  
religion faith or

713  
00:25:54,470 --> 00:25:52,880

non-faith

714

00:25:56,710 --> 00:25:54,480

going into politics

715

00:25:59,269 --> 00:25:56,720

attempting to stand as a member uh i

716

00:26:00,950 --> 00:25:59,279

guess i where i start to get concerned

717

00:26:04,710 --> 00:26:00,960

is where

718

00:26:06,149 --> 00:26:04,720

instead of a person's faith or belief

719

00:26:09,430 --> 00:26:06,159

uh

720

00:26:12,630 --> 00:26:09,440

informing their actions i get concerned

721

00:26:15,190 --> 00:26:12,640

when it seems those uh beliefs

722

00:26:16,789 --> 00:26:15,200

my faith seems to dictate actions and

723

00:26:19,190 --> 00:26:16,799

the most recent example i can think of

724

00:26:21,590 --> 00:26:19,200

that is tony abbott and his call for

725

00:26:22,710 --> 00:26:21,600

the bible to be studied in

726  
00:26:24,789 --> 00:26:22,720  
in school

727  
00:26:26,870 --> 00:26:24,799  
another area of concern and this has

728  
00:26:28,149 --> 00:26:26,880  
happened probably as far as i can see

729  
00:26:30,470 --> 00:26:28,159  
for the last

730  
00:26:33,190 --> 00:26:30,480  
the last decade in australia uh it's

731  
00:26:36,230 --> 00:26:33,200  
where uh deference uh or

732  
00:26:39,669 --> 00:26:36,240  
special sort of significance is given to

733  
00:26:42,070 --> 00:26:39,679  
to certain religious groups above others

734  
00:26:44,470 --> 00:26:42,080  
most recently the australian christian

735  
00:26:47,029 --> 00:26:44,480  
lobby and senator conroy is talking with

736  
00:26:48,789 --> 00:26:47,039  
them over his release of the

737  
00:26:51,669 --> 00:26:48,799  
the filtering report

738  
00:26:53,750 --> 00:26:51,679

as as to why they get special uh special

739

00:26:55,669 --> 00:26:53,760

significance or special treatment uh on

740

00:26:57,190 --> 00:26:55,679

this year rather than just issuing a

741

00:26:59,909 --> 00:26:57,200

standard sort of release of the report

742

00:27:01,190 --> 00:26:59,919

to all interested stakeholders another

743

00:27:03,990 --> 00:27:01,200

big example

744

00:27:06,310 --> 00:27:04,000

that is concerning to me is

745

00:27:08,950 --> 00:27:06,320

both rudd and before him howard's

746

00:27:10,710 --> 00:27:08,960

addressing of sort of evangelical church

747

00:27:14,470 --> 00:27:10,720

leaders in australia

748

00:27:17,029 --> 00:27:14,480

helped there by by hillsong and also

749

00:27:18,230 --> 00:27:17,039

also previously howard's uh special

750

00:27:20,149 --> 00:27:18,240

treatment of

751

00:27:22,630 --> 00:27:20,159

the exclusive president so they're

752

00:27:24,870 --> 00:27:22,640

they're my sort of main areas of concern

753

00:27:27,830 --> 00:27:24,880

where politics is uh

754

00:27:30,230 --> 00:27:27,840

sort of uh walking too tightly hand in

755

00:27:32,789 --> 00:27:30,240

hand with with religion

756

00:27:34,950 --> 00:27:32,799

other areas of concern of course

757

00:27:36,070 --> 00:27:34,960

when you get uh people like uh cardinal

758

00:27:38,710 --> 00:27:36,080

pell

759

00:27:40,390 --> 00:27:38,720

uh attempting to influence

760

00:27:42,710 --> 00:27:40,400

influence catholic members of parliament

761

00:27:45,110 --> 00:27:42,720

to to vote in a particular way you know

762

00:27:45,909 --> 00:27:45,120

by perhaps threatening or insinuating

763

00:27:46,830 --> 00:27:45,919

that

764

00:27:50,789 --> 00:27:46,840

he might

765

00:27:53,029 --> 00:27:50,799

withdraw certain religious privileges or

766

00:27:55,510 --> 00:27:53,039

acts from them if if they go ahead and

767

00:27:57,190 --> 00:27:55,520

vote a certain way immediately springs

768

00:27:58,549 --> 00:27:57,200

to mind it's

769

00:28:01,990 --> 00:27:58,559

there's new i mean there's always been

770

00:28:04,149 --> 00:28:02,000

an issue as far as i can see with uh

771

00:28:06,710 --> 00:28:04,159

chaplains in schools uh there's there's

772

00:28:07,990 --> 00:28:06,720

actually no no really good evidence

773

00:28:09,669 --> 00:28:08,000

that um

774

00:28:11,750 --> 00:28:09,679

credible evidence that there's any

775

00:28:13,830 --> 00:28:11,760

benefit to having uh chaplains in state

776

00:28:15,909 --> 00:28:13,840

schools and then of course the whole

777

00:28:18,630 --> 00:28:15,919

idea of having religious scripture

778

00:28:21,590 --> 00:28:18,640

classes in state schools is a concern

779

00:28:23,669 --> 00:28:21,600

but they've been around for a relatively

780

00:28:25,110 --> 00:28:23,679

long period of time certainly wouldn't

781

00:28:27,110 --> 00:28:25,120

are all religious

782

00:28:28,310 --> 00:28:27,120

believers with the same brush but

783

00:28:31,110 --> 00:28:28,320

certain religious people that don't

784

00:28:33,110 --> 00:28:31,120

understand the value of having a secular

785

00:28:34,950 --> 00:28:33,120

and by secular i don't mean atheist but

786

00:28:36,950 --> 00:28:34,960

you know a secular

787

00:28:39,110 --> 00:28:36,960

playing field for lack of a of a better

788

00:28:41,590 --> 00:28:39,120

word you've done a little investigation

789

00:28:43,110 --> 00:28:41,600

into how to raise the profile of a blog

790

00:28:44,630 --> 00:28:43,120

do you have any advice for people who

791

00:28:46,950 --> 00:28:44,640

are hoping to make a difference via

792

00:28:49,350 --> 00:28:46,960

online networking or blogging

793

00:28:52,070 --> 00:28:49,360

yeah quite recently i've been attempting

794

00:28:53,590 --> 00:28:52,080

to to raise the profile of

795

00:28:56,470 --> 00:28:53,600

of my blog

796

00:28:59,029 --> 00:28:56,480

i've been using a workbook and put out

797

00:29:01,510 --> 00:28:59,039

by an australian uh gentleman darren

798

00:29:03,669 --> 00:29:01,520

rouse christian and uh pro blogger the

799

00:29:05,590 --> 00:29:03,679

guy makes an astounding amount of money

800

00:29:06,710 --> 00:29:05,600

through blogging the top bloggers in the

801  
00:29:07,830 --> 00:29:06,720  
world

802  
00:29:10,950 --> 00:29:07,840  
um

803  
00:29:13,029 --> 00:29:10,960  
but his workbook to me is is a good sort

804  
00:29:15,269 --> 00:29:13,039  
of series of exercises and activities

805  
00:29:18,310 --> 00:29:15,279  
that basically get get you into good

806  
00:29:20,710 --> 00:29:18,320  
habits for blogging and i think probably

807  
00:29:23,269 --> 00:29:20,720  
in the uh the science the skeptic and

808  
00:29:26,549 --> 00:29:23,279  
the atheist community we we're all

809  
00:29:28,310 --> 00:29:26,559  
reasonably capable um and some of us

810  
00:29:30,310 --> 00:29:28,320  
more so than others

811  
00:29:33,430 --> 00:29:30,320  
of writing well and writing good

812  
00:29:34,549 --> 00:29:33,440  
engaging content i'm not sure how many

813  
00:29:36,470 --> 00:29:34,559

of us

814

00:29:38,470 --> 00:29:36,480

actively seek to promote our blogs

815

00:29:41,110 --> 00:29:38,480

perhaps in the same way that commercial

816

00:29:42,149 --> 00:29:41,120

bloggers do and i think perhaps the

817

00:29:43,590 --> 00:29:42,159

message

818

00:29:45,590 --> 00:29:43,600

what we're trying to get across might

819

00:29:47,430 --> 00:29:45,600

suffer in some respects i mean somebody

820

00:29:49,029 --> 00:29:47,440

like pz myers certainly isn't going to

821

00:29:51,110 --> 00:29:49,039

have any trouble

822

00:29:52,630 --> 00:29:51,120

but there are other equally

823

00:29:54,950 --> 00:29:52,640

good writers out there that probably

824

00:29:57,750 --> 00:29:54,960

don't get the uh the level of coverage

825

00:30:01,269 --> 00:29:57,760

that uh that he would and uh you know

826

00:30:03,269 --> 00:30:01,279

their material is just as worthwhile

827

00:30:05,350 --> 00:30:03,279

if not better in some cases so in that

828

00:30:06,789 --> 00:30:05,360

sense yes i've been using

829

00:30:07,909 --> 00:30:06,799

darren rouse's i'm just trying to think

830

00:30:09,750 --> 00:30:07,919

of it off the top of my head i think

831

00:30:10,789 --> 00:30:09,760

it's 31 days to building building a

832

00:30:13,029 --> 00:30:10,799

better blog

833

00:30:15,750 --> 00:30:13,039

and it's not rocket science it's just a

834

00:30:18,389 --> 00:30:15,760

series of activities or habits

835

00:30:20,389 --> 00:30:18,399

or techniques that you can use yeah so

836

00:30:22,310 --> 00:30:20,399

i mean essentially

837

00:30:23,909 --> 00:30:22,320

my investigations are ongoing i had some

838

00:30:25,510 --> 00:30:23,919

real success in in the first couple of

839

00:30:28,070 --> 00:30:25,520

weeks a couple of weeks ago i had a post

840

00:30:30,789 --> 00:30:28,080

that uh went absolutely ballistic tried

841

00:30:32,950 --> 00:30:30,799

the same technique a couple of days ago

842

00:30:34,470 --> 00:30:32,960

and

843

00:30:36,470 --> 00:30:34,480

nowhere near the same sort of result so

844

00:30:38,389 --> 00:30:36,480

it's something that i think requires

845

00:30:40,710 --> 00:30:38,399

aside from just implementing you know

846

00:30:42,630 --> 00:30:40,720

certain techniques or certain habits you

847

00:30:44,630 --> 00:30:42,640

really need to look at your stats look

848

00:30:46,070 --> 00:30:44,640

at your blog look at

849

00:30:47,990 --> 00:30:46,080

you know look at who's looking at you

850

00:30:49,909 --> 00:30:48,000

basically and and try and figure out

851  
00:30:52,789 --> 00:30:49,919  
some patterns of your own and be

852  
00:30:53,669 --> 00:30:52,799  
persistent and consistent i'm just

853  
00:30:56,789 --> 00:30:53,679  
thinking

854  
00:30:59,110 --> 00:30:56,799  
back to my mercy ministries coverage

855  
00:31:00,549 --> 00:30:59,120  
which didn't really benefit from the

856  
00:31:01,909 --> 00:31:00,559  
from blog promotion or anything like

857  
00:31:04,870 --> 00:31:01,919  
that but

858  
00:31:07,269 --> 00:31:04,880  
i think benefited from persistence and

859  
00:31:10,870 --> 00:31:07,279  
and being consistent in in the writing

860  
00:31:12,789 --> 00:31:10,880  
uh that took probably verging on

861  
00:31:14,950 --> 00:31:12,799  
coming up to two years two years of

862  
00:31:17,029 --> 00:31:14,960  
writing about the issue

863  
00:31:20,230 --> 00:31:17,039

and it's just chipping away writing

864

00:31:22,310 --> 00:31:20,240

every day and you know writing engaging

865

00:31:25,190 --> 00:31:22,320

relevant information so at the moment

866

00:31:27,510 --> 00:31:25,200

twitter is probably twitter and

867

00:31:29,909 --> 00:31:27,520

submission to reddit probably my best

868

00:31:31,350 --> 00:31:29,919

sources for views in six months time

869

00:31:33,510 --> 00:31:31,360

that should change and i think always

870

00:31:36,070 --> 00:31:33,520

keeping a weather eye out for

871

00:31:38,149 --> 00:31:36,080

the technological changes uh is a good

872

00:31:40,389 --> 00:31:38,159

idea finally congratulations again on

873

00:31:42,549 --> 00:31:40,399

winning the 2009 monty miller free

874

00:31:44,950 --> 00:31:42,559

thought advocacy award what are some of

875

00:31:47,909 --> 00:31:44,960

the goals you have for 2010 yeah thanks

876

00:31:51,750 --> 00:31:47,919

um so yeah that was that was that was

877

00:31:55,509 --> 00:31:51,760

quite a shock as to my goals for 2010

878

00:31:57,190 --> 00:31:55,519

uh to write better perhaps to uh delay

879

00:31:59,350 --> 00:31:57,200

my posting i'm

880

00:32:02,070 --> 00:31:59,360

one of the terrible things about

881

00:32:04,470 --> 00:32:02,080

blogging technology for myself as you

882

00:32:06,070 --> 00:32:04,480

know a passionate writer is that i write

883

00:32:07,509 --> 00:32:06,080

something down and

884

00:32:08,950 --> 00:32:07,519

read through it once or twice think

885

00:32:10,230 --> 00:32:08,960

everything's

886

00:32:11,590 --> 00:32:10,240

edited

887

00:32:13,430 --> 00:32:11,600

perfectly

888

00:32:15,509 --> 00:32:13,440

and then publish it and then only to

889

00:32:18,950 --> 00:32:15,519

realize i've made an absolutely a simple

890

00:32:20,950 --> 00:32:18,960

glaring mistake so i think perhaps

891

00:32:23,430 --> 00:32:20,960

yeah write better and

892

00:32:25,350 --> 00:32:23,440

relax a bit not be so eager to publish

893

00:32:26,789 --> 00:32:25,360

so quickly

894

00:32:30,230 --> 00:32:26,799

i'd like to increase that readership but

895

00:32:32,710 --> 00:32:30,240

also maintain my perspective uh a

896

00:32:35,750 --> 00:32:32,720

gentleman over at bruce over at the

897

00:32:37,990 --> 00:32:35,760

thinkers podium on wordpress uh

898

00:32:40,310 --> 00:32:38,000

mentioned that you know he thought

899

00:32:41,350 --> 00:32:40,320

i had a rather unique take on things and

900

00:32:44,549 --> 00:32:41,360

that

901  
00:32:46,789 --> 00:32:44,559  
he really appreciated about my blog and

902  
00:32:49,430 --> 00:32:46,799  
i think that's important that

903  
00:32:51,509 --> 00:32:49,440  
in in particular for me if i'm

904  
00:32:53,430 --> 00:32:51,519  
chasing more readership i

905  
00:32:55,029 --> 00:32:53,440  
you know i don't want to lose what

906  
00:32:57,509 --> 00:32:55,039  
essentially makes

907  
00:32:59,350 --> 00:32:57,519  
you know my writing different just

908  
00:33:00,870 --> 00:32:59,360  
for the sake of

909  
00:33:01,990 --> 00:33:00,880  
you know having more people see what i

910  
00:33:03,830 --> 00:33:02,000  
write

911  
00:33:05,990 --> 00:33:03,840  
two big things i'd like to do this year

912  
00:33:08,070 --> 00:33:06,000  
if possible and one is attend the global

913  
00:33:09,110 --> 00:33:08,080

global latest convention

914

00:33:11,110 --> 00:33:09,120

in melbourne and which i've got the

915

00:33:13,509 --> 00:33:11,120

tickets for plane tickets and convention

916

00:33:16,310 --> 00:33:13,519

tickets uh i'd like to do that just for

917

00:33:18,310 --> 00:33:16,320

networking social reasons but i'd also

918

00:33:19,190 --> 00:33:18,320

like something

919

00:33:21,110 --> 00:33:19,200

uh

920

00:33:23,669 --> 00:33:21,120

big to come out of it something

921

00:33:25,350 --> 00:33:23,679

important to come out of this meeting of

922

00:33:27,750 --> 00:33:25,360

atheists from around the world and

923

00:33:30,070 --> 00:33:27,760

around australia

924

00:33:32,070 --> 00:33:30,080

i'm also hoping to do something with the

925

00:33:34,470 --> 00:33:32,080

group of australian and new zealand

926  
00:33:37,190 --> 00:33:34,480  
atheist bloggers have some coverage of

927  
00:33:38,630 --> 00:33:37,200  
the event or some reporting on it

928  
00:33:41,590 --> 00:33:38,640  
haven't quite made up my mind still

929  
00:33:43,590 --> 00:33:41,600  
waiting for the the program details to

930  
00:33:44,950 --> 00:33:43,600  
be sorted out there and see what see

931  
00:33:46,549 --> 00:33:44,960  
what we might be able to do as a group

932  
00:33:49,509 --> 00:33:46,559  
of atheist bloggers

933  
00:33:50,870 --> 00:33:49,519  
in the long term i'd love to get paid

934  
00:33:52,789 --> 00:33:50,880  
for doing

935  
00:33:55,350 --> 00:33:52,799  
some sort of writing work

936  
00:33:58,310 --> 00:33:55,360  
i uh i'm hoping that this will be a big

937  
00:34:01,669 --> 00:33:58,320  
year for for acs and actually for for

938  
00:34:03,269 --> 00:34:01,679

skeptics um in australia with uh tam

939

00:34:04,630 --> 00:34:03,279

later in the year i'd love to be able to

940

00:34:07,190 --> 00:34:04,640

make it to town

941

00:34:08,550 --> 00:34:07,200

it could really kick off uh two areas

942

00:34:11,750 --> 00:34:08,560

that i'm passionate about that being

943

00:34:13,510 --> 00:34:11,760

atheism and uh and skepticism thanks

944

00:34:15,510 --> 00:34:13,520

again sean for joining us

945

00:34:17,270 --> 00:34:15,520

well thanks kyle it's been a pleasure

946

00:34:19,750 --> 00:34:17,280

talking to you and best of luck to

947

00:34:23,349 --> 00:34:19,760

yourself and the skeptic zone and

948

00:34:25,109 --> 00:34:23,359

skeptic zone listers for 2010.

949

00:34:26,629 --> 00:34:25,119

to learn more about shawn's ongoing

950

00:34:43,829 --> 00:34:26,639

adventures head to

951  
00:34:48,950 --> 00:34:45,909  
this is eugenie scott national center

952  
00:34:52,950 --> 00:34:48,960  
for science education you can find us at

953  
00:34:56,950 --> 00:34:54,710  
come see us if you want to know anything

954  
00:34:59,510 --> 00:34:56,960  
about the creationism and evolution

955  
00:35:01,430 --> 00:34:59,520  
conflict in the united states or

956  
00:35:03,349 --> 00:35:01,440  
more is the pity internationally these

957  
00:35:06,550 --> 00:35:03,359  
days we are clearing house for

958  
00:35:08,470 --> 00:35:06,560  
information on this vexing but certainly

959  
00:35:16,310 --> 00:35:08,480  
very interesting problem

960  
00:35:27,750 --> 00:35:19,430  
join us now for drinking skeptically in

961  
00:35:27,760 --> 00:35:40,230  
kangaroos most things

962  
00:35:45,670 --> 00:35:42,630  
and welcome to the

963  
00:35:48,390 --> 00:35:45,680

think tub think tub think tub i'm with

964

00:35:51,430 --> 00:35:48,400

brian dunny hello hello brian could you

965

00:35:53,990 --> 00:35:51,440

introduce everybody oh boy we've got uh

966

00:35:56,790 --> 00:35:54,000

gus and sarah and lizzy and lisa

967

00:35:58,310 --> 00:35:56,800

hi hi hey what's up

968

00:36:00,550 --> 00:35:58,320

you want full introductions is everyone

969

00:36:02,550 --> 00:36:00,560

embarrassed to use their full name or

970

00:36:04,790 --> 00:36:02,560

i'm not that embarrassed now now this

971

00:36:06,790 --> 00:36:04,800

must be one of the more enjoyable think

972

00:36:08,310 --> 00:36:06,800

tank i've done we're calling it the

973

00:36:10,630 --> 00:36:08,320

think tub because we're all sitting in

974

00:36:12,710 --> 00:36:10,640

brian's hot tub with the microphone

975

00:36:15,030 --> 00:36:12,720

hanging over with on a piece of string

976

00:36:17,349 --> 00:36:15,040

it's very classy it's a pretty good rig

977

00:36:19,589 --> 00:36:17,359

i gotta say it is i'm not at all worried

978

00:36:21,990 --> 00:36:19,599

about the fade of the microphone

979

00:36:24,790 --> 00:36:22,000

this is in fact the famous skeptoid hot

980

00:36:29,670 --> 00:36:26,470

famous are infamous

981

00:36:34,069 --> 00:36:31,670

where many well well-designed

982

00:36:35,510 --> 00:36:34,079

experiments have been performed

983

00:36:37,190 --> 00:36:35,520

you realize there's some people who are

984

00:36:41,750 --> 00:36:37,200

downloading this podcast for the first

985

00:36:46,710 --> 00:36:44,790

those poor poor sods yeah what i always

986

00:36:48,790 --> 00:36:46,720

try to stress in them in the show is

987

00:36:50,069 --> 00:36:48,800

that skeptics like to have fun like

988

00:36:52,390 --> 00:36:50,079

anybody else

989

00:36:54,230 --> 00:36:52,400

parties and and our fun is less guilt

990

00:36:56,069 --> 00:36:54,240

written

991

00:36:58,069 --> 00:36:56,079

that's true we don't have to say hail

992

00:36:59,910 --> 00:36:58,079

mary's afterwards tomorrow morning we do

993

00:37:01,910 --> 00:36:59,920

not have to go to confession oh yes and

994

00:37:03,910 --> 00:37:01,920

we are sipping champagne

995

00:37:05,510 --> 00:37:03,920

i should have been classy cheers and

996

00:37:08,470 --> 00:37:05,520

everyone's naked

997

00:37:10,790 --> 00:37:08,480

except for that part

998

00:37:12,550 --> 00:37:10,800

that part does require confession or

999

00:37:13,829 --> 00:37:12,560

what

1000

00:37:15,589 --> 00:37:13,839

this is this is theater of the

1001

00:37:17,270 --> 00:37:15,599

imagination

1002

00:37:19,270 --> 00:37:17,280

and listeners now are imagining us in

1003

00:37:24,310 --> 00:37:19,280

this hot tub sipping champagne naked yes

1004

00:37:28,870 --> 00:37:26,710

champagne is scantily clad

1005

00:37:30,950 --> 00:37:28,880

well i i had a such a great time tonight

1006

00:37:33,030 --> 00:37:30,960

in the pub i hope everybody did

1007

00:37:34,870 --> 00:37:33,040

it was a nice turnout right it was a

1008

00:37:37,190 --> 00:37:34,880

fabulous turnout it was probably the it

1009

00:37:39,030 --> 00:37:37,200

was certainly the busiest uh uh pub

1010

00:37:40,950 --> 00:37:39,040

night in the skeptics in the oc that

1011

00:37:42,550 --> 00:37:40,960

we've ever had

1012

00:37:44,550 --> 00:37:42,560

we should have people from

1013

00:37:46,870 --> 00:37:44,560

40 50 miles away

1014

00:37:48,829 --> 00:37:46,880

oh at least or or farther how far did

1015

00:37:50,550 --> 00:37:48,839

you come oh a long

1016

00:37:53,829 --> 00:37:50,560

way

1017

00:37:56,310 --> 00:37:53,839

i think i think just just to

1018

00:37:57,750 --> 00:37:56,320

everyone's got this uh you know

1019

00:37:59,030 --> 00:37:57,760

incredible images floating around in

1020

00:38:00,310 --> 00:37:59,040

their head right now it's worth pointing

1021

00:38:01,670 --> 00:38:00,320

out that

1022

00:38:03,750 --> 00:38:01,680

those of us sitting in the hot tub have

1023

00:38:05,349 --> 00:38:03,760

caused huge volumes of water to spill

1024

00:38:07,750 --> 00:38:05,359

out over the edge

1025

00:38:10,790 --> 00:38:07,760

because we're very unsightly people in

1026

00:38:13,670 --> 00:38:10,800

general speak for yourself man

1027

00:38:15,349 --> 00:38:13,680

make us some more water as we

1028

00:38:17,430 --> 00:38:15,359

i think i did that actually can you give

1029

00:38:19,990 --> 00:38:17,440

our listeners any um

1030

00:38:22,790 --> 00:38:20,000

any inside gossip in these sneak peeks

1031

00:38:24,230 --> 00:38:22,800

as to your projects coming up uh my

1032

00:38:25,990 --> 00:38:24,240

project's coming up well when is this

1033

00:38:28,230 --> 00:38:26,000

coming out because it might be old news

1034

00:38:29,910 --> 00:38:28,240

by then oh probably late january

1035

00:38:32,470 --> 00:38:29,920

something like that uh well probably

1036

00:38:33,990 --> 00:38:32,480

about the same time then is um i'm going

1037

00:38:36,150 --> 00:38:34,000

to be doing a

1038

00:38:38,550 --> 00:38:36,160

a full first season of in fact my new

1039

00:38:42,470 --> 00:38:38,560

video podcast

1040

00:38:45,030 --> 00:38:42,480

um i put out three pilot episodes uh oh

1041

00:38:47,030 --> 00:38:45,040

late mid 2009 and i'm going to be doing

1042

00:38:48,390 --> 00:38:47,040

a full season of 13 episodes starting in

1043

00:38:50,470 --> 00:38:48,400

january

1044

00:38:51,670 --> 00:38:50,480

and they're about uh three minutes long

1045

00:38:53,950 --> 00:38:51,680

and probably by the time you hear this

1046

00:38:55,550 --> 00:38:53,960

they should be available at

1047

00:38:59,990 --> 00:38:55,560

infactvideo.com

1048

00:39:01,990 --> 00:39:00,000

domain name for which by the way i was

1049

00:39:03,990 --> 00:39:02,000

searching in fact dot tv and everything

1050

00:39:06,069 --> 00:39:04,000

else was long been taken but oh wow so i

1051  
00:39:08,470 --> 00:39:06,079  
was searching for infactvideo.com and it

1052  
00:39:10,790 --> 00:39:08,480  
was taken too and so i was quite upset

1053  
00:39:13,030 --> 00:39:10,800  
by that and i went to godaddy to do a

1054  
00:39:14,790 --> 00:39:13,040  
one of those domain purchase things you

1055  
00:39:15,910 --> 00:39:14,800  
know where you can like bid on it

1056  
00:39:18,069 --> 00:39:15,920  
and um

1057  
00:39:22,630 --> 00:39:18,079  
found out that the current owner was

1058  
00:39:25,589 --> 00:39:24,230  
did you have to call him up and threaten

1059  
00:39:27,670 --> 00:39:25,599  
him

1060  
00:39:29,430 --> 00:39:27,680  
i did i had to beat my own ass i dragged

1061  
00:39:32,710 --> 00:39:29,440  
myself out of the yard

1062  
00:39:34,790 --> 00:39:32,720  
were you sleep coding or something how i

1063  
00:39:36,390 --> 00:39:34,800

don't know i think i probably registered

1064

00:39:39,030 --> 00:39:36,400

it two years ago or something and had

1065

00:39:40,870 --> 00:39:39,040

forgotten all about it yeah

1066

00:39:43,109 --> 00:39:40,880

so that's really exciting it's because i

1067

00:39:45,190 --> 00:39:43,119

really enjoyed the first um

1068

00:39:46,470 --> 00:39:45,200

three you produced and hopefully these

1069

00:39:48,470 --> 00:39:46,480

will be uh

1070

00:39:50,310 --> 00:39:48,480

less less sickening to those who did not

1071

00:39:52,310 --> 00:39:50,320

enjoy the moving background in the first

1072

00:39:54,550 --> 00:39:52,320

three ah the moving background i was

1073

00:39:56,069 --> 00:39:54,560

just thinking about that yes i liked the

1074

00:39:58,230 --> 00:39:56,079

background i didn't i didn't mind it you

1075

00:39:59,990 --> 00:39:58,240

had complaints about that i had quite a

1076

00:40:02,150 --> 00:40:00,000

lot of complaints about that

1077

00:40:03,109 --> 00:40:02,160

i had mostly complaints from from

1078

00:40:05,670 --> 00:40:03,119

viewers

1079

00:40:07,910 --> 00:40:05,680

i i had a lot of directorial feedback

1080

00:40:09,349 --> 00:40:07,920

too from like guys who were actual

1081

00:40:10,390 --> 00:40:09,359

movie directors and people who knew what

1082

00:40:12,470 --> 00:40:10,400

they were doing

1083

00:40:14,870 --> 00:40:12,480

and none of them had any issues with the

1084

00:40:16,390 --> 00:40:14,880

moving background yeah um i mean it

1085

00:40:20,230 --> 00:40:16,400

wasn't racing

1086

00:40:22,870 --> 00:40:20,240

moving

1087

00:40:24,310 --> 00:40:22,880

sickeningly one might say

1088

00:40:25,990 --> 00:40:24,320

the same type of people who can't play

1089

00:40:27,109 --> 00:40:26,000

the first person shoot em up games had

1090

00:40:28,630 --> 00:40:27,119

the same had

1091

00:40:30,069 --> 00:40:28,640

similar problems with my scrolling

1092

00:40:32,069 --> 00:40:30,079

background

1093

00:40:33,990 --> 00:40:32,079

so so that's gone and some other things

1094

00:40:35,510 --> 00:40:34,000

have been changed and what topics can we

1095

00:40:37,190 --> 00:40:35,520

look forward to hearing about or seeing

1096

00:40:39,829 --> 00:40:37,200

about well they're actually they're all

1097

00:40:41,349 --> 00:40:39,839

based on old skeptoid episodes previous

1098

00:40:43,190 --> 00:40:41,359

skeptoid episodes that were some of the

1099

00:40:45,190 --> 00:40:43,200

more popular and universally appealing

1100

00:40:47,829 --> 00:40:45,200

ones so it's not going for the same

1101  
00:40:49,910 --> 00:40:47,839  
audience as my podcast it's going for

1102  
00:40:54,470 --> 00:40:49,920  
a a new audience

1103  
00:40:57,990 --> 00:40:55,670  
you know there's a lot more people who

1104  
00:41:00,470 --> 00:40:58,000  
watch videos youtube for example i mean

1105  
00:41:02,390 --> 00:41:00,480  
has an incredibly huge audience by

1106  
00:41:04,069 --> 00:41:02,400  
itself oh yeah you've got the potential

1107  
00:41:05,510 --> 00:41:04,079  
to reach a lot more people yeah so

1108  
00:41:08,150 --> 00:41:05,520  
that's why i'm doing it it's not that

1109  
00:41:09,510 --> 00:41:08,160  
i'm trying to bring something extra to

1110  
00:41:11,030 --> 00:41:09,520  
skeptoid listeners or something like

1111  
00:41:12,710 --> 00:41:11,040  
that it's just trying to go for a new

1112  
00:41:13,990 --> 00:41:12,720  
audience a new broader audience

1113  
00:41:15,589 --> 00:41:14,000

fantastic

1114

00:41:17,589 --> 00:41:15,599

well i'm looking forward to seeing those

1115

00:41:20,550 --> 00:41:17,599

because i've seen your production studio

1116

00:41:24,309 --> 00:41:20,560

and that's impressive it certainly is

1117

00:41:26,150 --> 00:41:24,319

he's winking as he's saying that folks

1118

00:41:31,190 --> 00:41:26,160

you guys listen to brian

1119

00:41:33,670 --> 00:41:32,630

more importantly do you listen to

1120

00:41:37,589 --> 00:41:33,680

richard

1121

00:41:40,390 --> 00:41:37,599

as of three o'clock this afternoon that

1122

00:41:42,630 --> 00:41:40,400

was a smattering of yeses yes i think um

1123

00:41:45,589 --> 00:41:42,640

it was evidenced by people singing his

1124

00:41:48,150 --> 00:41:45,599

intro tune at the pub tonight yeah

1125

00:41:50,309 --> 00:41:48,160

definitely best intro ever in this in

1126  
00:41:51,430 --> 00:41:50,319  
the podcast world can we hear a round of

1127  
00:41:52,790 --> 00:41:51,440  
that now please

1128  
00:41:54,390 --> 00:41:52,800  
that was people who were not coming to

1129  
00:41:56,470 --> 00:41:54,400  
the tub

1130  
00:41:58,550 --> 00:41:56,480  
in the car park i heard a rendition of

1131  
00:41:59,750 --> 00:41:58,560  
the skeptics i thought i heard that too

1132  
00:42:04,390 --> 00:41:59,760  
but uh

1133  
00:42:08,390 --> 00:42:06,470  
now you you three people over here who

1134  
00:42:10,390 --> 00:42:08,400  
i'm meeting for the first time

1135  
00:42:12,470 --> 00:42:10,400  
what's your interest in what we do the

1136  
00:42:14,710 --> 00:42:12,480  
the skeptical line

1137  
00:42:17,589 --> 00:42:14,720  
i think i i knew i was a skeptic before

1138  
00:42:19,349 --> 00:42:17,599

i had a word for it in in that i i

1139

00:42:21,190 --> 00:42:19,359

understood that i didn't really believe

1140

00:42:22,950 --> 00:42:21,200

in the supernatural

1141

00:42:25,589 --> 00:42:22,960

per se yeah but

1142

00:42:26,710 --> 00:42:25,599

no one i ever articulated that to

1143

00:42:27,910 --> 00:42:26,720

really understood that and they're like

1144

00:42:29,190 --> 00:42:27,920

so you don't believe in ghosts and i was

1145

00:42:30,309 --> 00:42:29,200

like well yeah i guess i don't believe

1146

00:42:31,430 --> 00:42:30,319

in ghosts and i said so you don't

1147

00:42:32,950 --> 00:42:31,440

believe in like

1148

00:42:35,670 --> 00:42:32,960

you know crystal healing either and i

1149

00:42:37,670 --> 00:42:35,680

said no i guess i don't and then after a

1150

00:42:40,150 --> 00:42:37,680

while until i you know

1151

00:42:41,589 --> 00:42:40,160  
by the time i was like 25 or 26 i

1152

00:42:43,589 --> 00:42:41,599  
finally figured out

1153

00:42:46,470 --> 00:42:43,599  
that what i what i believe in if you

1154

00:42:48,390 --> 00:42:46,480  
want to use that word is is what i

1155

00:42:50,710 --> 00:42:48,400  
can basically say that i have solid

1156

00:42:53,270 --> 00:42:50,720  
evidence for or that someone can give me

1157

00:42:55,190 --> 00:42:53,280  
solid evidence for right so

1158

00:42:58,390 --> 00:42:55,200  
and then somehow i guess through i just

1159

00:43:00,390 --> 00:42:58,400  
sort of ran across skeptoid randomly and

1160

00:43:02,870 --> 00:43:00,400  
i was like these people

1161

00:43:05,589 --> 00:43:02,880  
understand what what i

1162

00:43:07,270 --> 00:43:05,599  
they think the way i think yeah and yes

1163

00:43:09,190 --> 00:43:07,280

it in a way it doesn't matter what

1164

00:43:11,030 --> 00:43:09,200

conclusions they draw it just matters

1165

00:43:12,710 --> 00:43:11,040

that they use the same sort of processes

1166

00:43:14,790 --> 00:43:12,720

to get there and i'm not a scientist i

1167

00:43:15,910 --> 00:43:14,800

have no science background i'm an artist

1168

00:43:17,510 --> 00:43:15,920

but uh

1169

00:43:19,589 --> 00:43:17,520

what was important to me was that they

1170

00:43:21,030 --> 00:43:19,599

they sort of

1171

00:43:23,109 --> 00:43:21,040

really try and think about what what

1172

00:43:25,430 --> 00:43:23,119

people tell them and try and

1173

00:43:27,430 --> 00:43:25,440

sort of crank up their detector

1174

00:43:29,589 --> 00:43:27,440

um in terms of like

1175

00:43:32,150 --> 00:43:29,599

okay you know that sounds interesting

1176

00:43:33,829 --> 00:43:32,160

but why don't we try and prove it or or

1177

00:43:35,670 --> 00:43:33,839

what you tell me sounds great but let's

1178

00:43:37,430 --> 00:43:35,680

see if there's any evidence for it

1179

00:43:39,910 --> 00:43:37,440

um and do you think i didn't have the

1180

00:43:41,910 --> 00:43:39,920

word skeptic for it until probably like

1181

00:43:44,470 --> 00:43:41,920

two years ago do you find the topics

1182

00:43:46,710 --> 00:43:44,480

really interesting i do yeah any pretty

1183

00:43:49,030 --> 00:43:46,720

much any topic um

1184

00:43:50,950 --> 00:43:49,040

i mean my my real sort of

1185

00:43:53,270 --> 00:43:50,960

my passion is art but when i when i

1186

00:43:55,270 --> 00:43:53,280

think about science what really like

1187

00:43:56,870 --> 00:43:55,280

fills me with a kind of

1188

00:43:59,589 --> 00:43:56,880

religious and i use that in quotation

1189

00:44:01,750 --> 00:43:59,599

marks religious awe is astronomy so

1190

00:44:03,990 --> 00:44:01,760

anytime i learn anything about astronomy

1191

00:44:06,550 --> 00:44:04,000

that fills me with a kind of like

1192

00:44:08,470 --> 00:44:06,560

you know existential

1193

00:44:11,109 --> 00:44:08,480

dread slash

1194

00:44:12,710 --> 00:44:11,119

feel a feeling of amazement and and i

1195

00:44:14,630 --> 00:44:12,720

think dread and amazement kind of go

1196

00:44:17,589 --> 00:44:14,640

hand in hand i think that carl sagan

1197

00:44:19,910 --> 00:44:17,599

called it uh numbness yeah the numinous

1198

00:44:22,150 --> 00:44:19,920

absolutely um and reading contact when i

1199

00:44:24,150 --> 00:44:22,160

was in high school was absolutely

1200

00:44:26,790 --> 00:44:24,160

groundbreaking you've seen cosmos this

1201

00:44:28,630 --> 00:44:26,800

series yes and i read cosmos uh probably

1202

00:44:30,470 --> 00:44:28,640

last year i finally read the book

1203

00:44:31,829 --> 00:44:30,480

and i was accused of being a dork which

1204

00:44:33,670 --> 00:44:31,839

is absolutely true

1205

00:44:35,750 --> 00:44:33,680

and uh i live the nerds

1206

00:44:37,589 --> 00:44:35,760

amen brother oh man they call me

1207

00:44:40,309 --> 00:44:37,599

anything they like if i watch cosmos i

1208

00:44:41,670 --> 00:44:40,319

don't care yeah it does yeah exactly um

1209

00:44:43,190 --> 00:44:41,680

i forget what my point was but it really

1210

00:44:44,230 --> 00:44:43,200

doesn't matter someone handed me

1211

00:44:45,430 --> 00:44:44,240

champagne a while ago but it's

1212

00:44:47,589 --> 00:44:45,440

interesting you should mention that

1213

00:44:49,910 --> 00:44:47,599

because if i just look up into the sky

1214

00:44:53,030 --> 00:44:49,920

right now over my shoulder here i can

1215

00:44:56,390 --> 00:44:53,040

see orion the constellation of orion

1216

00:45:00,630 --> 00:44:58,230

which is pretty weird yeah

1217

00:45:03,190 --> 00:45:00,640

there it is upside down it is uh it is

1218

00:45:05,750 --> 00:45:03,200

summer right now in australia yeah

1219

00:45:07,750 --> 00:45:05,760

i think i can see mars

1220

00:45:09,670 --> 00:45:07,760

just up a little bit i can confirm that

1221

00:45:11,990 --> 00:45:09,680

later on with my handy iphone app

1222

00:45:13,270 --> 00:45:12,000

cassiopeia is over there oh yeah

1223

00:45:14,790 --> 00:45:13,280

the w

1224

00:45:17,190 --> 00:45:14,800

i think the reason they appear upside

1225

00:45:21,190 --> 00:45:17,200

down is that nibiru must have passed

1226

00:45:24,790 --> 00:45:22,950

isn't he a little early

1227

00:45:28,390 --> 00:45:24,800

i know late he's late didn't he

1228

00:45:31,510 --> 00:45:28,400

2003 wasn't it for the original oh boy

1229

00:45:33,829 --> 00:45:31,520

no it's b it's a starry night and i can

1230

00:45:35,190 --> 00:45:33,839

i can see the the the constellations i

1231

00:45:36,790 --> 00:45:35,200

know but they're upside down so that's

1232

00:45:38,390 --> 00:45:36,800

really interesting oh there's the um

1233

00:45:39,910 --> 00:45:38,400

pleiades over there

1234

00:45:44,069 --> 00:45:39,920

see that one do you know that the the

1235

00:45:44,079 --> 00:45:48,710

no kidding

1236

00:45:52,550 --> 00:45:50,230

the first six years i could drive i

1237

00:45:53,990 --> 00:45:52,560

drove a subaru and uh i finally learned

1238

00:45:55,510 --> 00:45:54,000

what the pleiades were and that it was

1239

00:45:57,589 --> 00:45:55,520

the logo and it's

1240

00:46:05,270 --> 00:45:57,599

really very exciting to it to a young

1241

00:46:08,790 --> 00:46:06,790

pretty much any disaster that happens is

1242

00:46:11,990 --> 00:46:08,800

my fault

1243

00:46:14,230 --> 00:46:12,000

so all of us being barefoot

1244

00:46:16,069 --> 00:46:14,240

oh glass and bare feet what could go

1245

00:46:17,670 --> 00:46:16,079

wrong nothing

1246

00:46:19,910 --> 00:46:17,680

you've seen people walking over glass

1247

00:46:21,829 --> 00:46:19,920

before haven't you i thought it was hot

1248

00:46:23,510 --> 00:46:21,839

coals yeah you can walk out for glass

1249

00:46:25,109 --> 00:46:23,520

but i wouldn't recommend it hot glass

1250

00:46:27,589 --> 00:46:25,119

bowls of glass

1251  
00:46:29,270 --> 00:46:27,599  
we'll find out we'll be right behind you

1252  
00:46:31,430 --> 00:46:29,280  
yeah go ahead richard

1253  
00:46:32,790 --> 00:46:31,440  
thank you now what about you

1254  
00:46:35,910 --> 00:46:32,800  
um

1255  
00:46:38,630 --> 00:46:35,920  
i think what started me into the idea of

1256  
00:46:41,030 --> 00:46:38,640  
critical thinking particularly was um i

1257  
00:46:42,550 --> 00:46:41,040  
worked as a research assistant on people

1258  
00:46:44,710 --> 00:46:42,560  
um working

1259  
00:46:47,109 --> 00:46:44,720  
on an idea of invisible or unidentified

1260  
00:46:49,270 --> 00:46:47,119  
skin parasites which kind of brought to

1261  
00:46:51,190 --> 00:46:49,280  
the surface people who um

1262  
00:46:53,829 --> 00:46:51,200  
had kind of a some people while some

1263  
00:46:56,150 --> 00:46:53,839

people did have skin parasites some

1264

00:46:58,790 --> 00:46:56,160

individuals had a persistent unshakable

1265

00:46:59,670 --> 00:46:58,800

belief that um insects were inside their

1266

00:47:01,750 --> 00:46:59,680

skin

1267

00:47:03,349 --> 00:47:01,760

to the contrary to persistent evidence

1268

00:47:05,109 --> 00:47:03,359

that otherwise

1269

00:47:06,710 --> 00:47:05,119

and it was um you know and like

1270

00:47:07,670 --> 00:47:06,720

experiencing their suffering you know

1271

00:47:09,990 --> 00:47:07,680

and i didn't really have words for

1272

00:47:12,150 --> 00:47:10,000

understanding that concept of critical

1273

00:47:14,790 --> 00:47:12,160

thinking and how people perceive and

1274

00:47:17,349 --> 00:47:14,800

come to what is true for them and so

1275

00:47:19,829 --> 00:47:17,359

that was very um very interesting and

1276

00:47:21,349 --> 00:47:19,839

very exciting and confusing and learning

1277

00:47:23,270 --> 00:47:21,359

about skepticism and it's thought about

1278

00:47:24,390 --> 00:47:23,280

how people attain knowledge was very

1279

00:47:26,390 --> 00:47:24,400

important for

1280

00:47:28,550 --> 00:47:26,400

my work therein and now that i'm working

1281

00:47:30,630 --> 00:47:28,560

on my doctorate in clinical psychology

1282

00:47:32,790 --> 00:47:30,640

it's i think very relevant for me to

1283

00:47:34,470 --> 00:47:32,800

understand how people the individuals i

1284

00:47:36,790 --> 00:47:34,480

work with come to their reality and

1285

00:47:38,630 --> 00:47:36,800

their truths and um

1286

00:47:40,950 --> 00:47:38,640

it's helpful as a cognitive behavioral

1287

00:47:43,510 --> 00:47:40,960

therapist to um

1288

00:47:44,630 --> 00:47:43,520

um find dissonance with people's beliefs

1289

00:47:47,030 --> 00:47:44,640

and how they come to believe what they

1290

00:47:49,670 --> 00:47:47,040

believe is very helpful for therapy to

1291

00:47:51,190 --> 00:47:49,680

be skeptical in my experience this is

1292

00:47:52,470 --> 00:47:51,200

very interesting you should

1293

00:47:54,550 --> 00:47:52,480

raise these sort of topics because we've

1294

00:47:56,950 --> 00:47:54,560

been discussing this today brian

1295

00:47:58,790 --> 00:47:56,960

the way people convince themselves into

1296

00:48:00,390 --> 00:47:58,800

believing things yeah and i was

1297

00:48:02,230 --> 00:48:00,400

discussing the feedback they get the

1298

00:48:04,550 --> 00:48:02,240

positive feedback with the kinesiology

1299

00:48:06,390 --> 00:48:04,560

for example but i've seen this with with

1300

00:48:08,550 --> 00:48:06,400

all sorts of people from astrologers to

1301

00:48:10,710 --> 00:48:08,560

psychics to all sorts of people well as

1302

00:48:11,750 --> 00:48:10,720

a reformed hypochondriac i can say that

1303

00:48:13,910 --> 00:48:11,760

uh

1304

00:48:16,630 --> 00:48:13,920

what's amazing is is that you can think

1305

00:48:19,270 --> 00:48:16,640

critically about almost any other topic

1306

00:48:20,630 --> 00:48:19,280

besides what you yourself have convinced

1307

00:48:22,390 --> 00:48:20,640

to be true i mean

1308

00:48:24,630 --> 00:48:22,400

i i was an atheist by the time i was

1309

00:48:27,910 --> 00:48:24,640

around 13 so i didn't think of god but i

1310

00:48:29,990 --> 00:48:27,920

was convinced convinced at age 19 that i

1311

00:48:31,030 --> 00:48:30,000

had a brain tumor that i was dying and

1312

00:48:37,030 --> 00:48:31,040

any

1313

00:48:39,349 --> 00:48:37,040

tumor and by the time i was about around

1314

00:48:41,270 --> 00:48:39,359

22 i realized like okay no i'm probably

1315

00:48:43,670 --> 00:48:41,280

not dying of a brain tumor but it's

1316

00:48:45,670 --> 00:48:43,680

amazing that it took me three years to

1317

00:48:47,750 --> 00:48:45,680

to figure out

1318

00:48:49,829 --> 00:48:47,760

that the the symptoms that i thought

1319

00:48:52,069 --> 00:48:49,839

were true were actually false

1320

00:48:53,030 --> 00:48:52,079

and the the things that i thought were

1321

00:48:55,190 --> 00:48:53,040

were

1322

00:48:57,270 --> 00:48:55,200

you know just i mean i it was literally

1323

00:49:00,230 --> 00:48:57,280

the idea of like you know the false

1324

00:49:01,750 --> 00:49:00,240

positives and remembering what

1325

00:49:03,109 --> 00:49:01,760

exactly confirmation bias remembering

1326

00:49:05,670 --> 00:49:03,119

what was true and what was versus what

1327

00:49:06,950 --> 00:49:05,680

was false yeah and really and it was you

1328

00:49:09,430 --> 00:49:06,960

know what i learned later was really a

1329

00:49:11,670 --> 00:49:09,440

symptom of of like a poor body image

1330

00:49:13,349 --> 00:49:11,680

like i figured that my body was

1331

00:49:15,109 --> 00:49:13,359

something wrong with my body not the way

1332

00:49:16,390 --> 00:49:15,119

it looked but the way it was you know

1333

00:49:17,349 --> 00:49:16,400

health-wise

1334

00:49:18,950 --> 00:49:17,359

and

1335

00:49:21,030 --> 00:49:18,960

i was willing to think critically about

1336

00:49:22,470 --> 00:49:21,040

god about jesus about religion about

1337

00:49:24,630 --> 00:49:22,480

crystal healing about anything you'd

1338

00:49:26,069 --> 00:49:24,640

give me except for my own body and i was

1339

00:49:27,910 --> 00:49:26,079

convinced that something was wrong with

1340

00:49:30,549 --> 00:49:27,920

my own body and it actually

1341

00:49:33,109 --> 00:49:30,559

turned out not to be so it's amazing how

1342

00:49:34,950 --> 00:49:33,119

individual people can be skeptical about

1343

00:49:38,230 --> 00:49:34,960

almost anything except that they're

1344

00:49:40,470 --> 00:49:38,240

except their own personal sort of

1345

00:49:41,750 --> 00:49:40,480

cow exactly their own sacred cows even

1346

00:49:45,349 --> 00:49:41,760

if it's a negative thing even if it's

1347

00:49:47,510 --> 00:49:45,359

something they think is harming them now

1348

00:49:50,150 --> 00:49:47,520

it's a really good point because i often

1349

00:49:51,270 --> 00:49:50,160

wonder if i'm the same

1350

00:49:53,430 --> 00:49:51,280

in what way

1351  
00:49:55,270 --> 00:49:53,440  
did i have something that i have a block

1352  
00:49:57,030 --> 00:49:55,280  
about yeah

1353  
00:49:59,190 --> 00:49:57,040  
and why wouldn't i be i'm human like

1354  
00:50:00,630 --> 00:49:59,200  
everybody else and it's up for other

1355  
00:50:02,630 --> 00:50:00,640  
people to tell me what it is and then

1356  
00:50:03,750 --> 00:50:02,640  
for me to go oh no that's silly

1357  
00:50:06,470 --> 00:50:03,760  
yeah you know

1358  
00:50:08,150 --> 00:50:06,480  
well i think part of it i mean i i

1359  
00:50:11,030 --> 00:50:08,160  
as i said i was a skeptic even before i

1360  
00:50:12,790 --> 00:50:11,040  
had the word for it so i had had read

1361  
00:50:15,349 --> 00:50:12,800  
about people dismissing their own

1362  
00:50:17,910 --> 00:50:15,359  
symptoms and then having it turn out to

1363  
00:50:18,950 --> 00:50:17,920

be real so all i could think was like

1364

00:50:20,230 --> 00:50:18,960

and then they have the same thing

1365

00:50:21,589 --> 00:50:20,240

happens to me like i don't like to fly

1366

00:50:23,589 --> 00:50:21,599

but i do it on a regular basis because

1367

00:50:25,190 --> 00:50:23,599

my family lives 3000 miles away so i go

1368

00:50:26,470 --> 00:50:25,200

at least twice a year to go visit them

1369

00:50:27,750 --> 00:50:26,480

and i always think if i'm missing a

1370

00:50:29,190 --> 00:50:27,760

flight or i'm trying desperately to

1371

00:50:31,349 --> 00:50:29,200

catch that last flight out to the east

1372

00:50:33,270 --> 00:50:31,359

coast like oh my god am i desperately

1373

00:50:36,309 --> 00:50:33,280

trying to catch the death flight

1374

00:50:37,990 --> 00:50:36,319

and or am i desperately convincing

1375

00:50:39,270 --> 00:50:38,000

myself that i'm healthy when in fact i

1376

00:50:42,309 --> 00:50:39,280

am really sick

1377

00:50:43,750 --> 00:50:42,319

and i mean you know the the human brain

1378

00:50:45,270 --> 00:50:43,760

i love it i think it's it's one of the

1379

00:50:47,349 --> 00:50:45,280

most fascinating

1380

00:50:50,069 --> 00:50:47,359

objects ever created

1381

00:50:52,790 --> 00:50:50,079

at the same time it it totally screws me

1382

00:50:55,990 --> 00:50:52,800

up on a regular basis it's

1383

00:50:57,750 --> 00:50:56,000

you know i i think myself out of

1384

00:50:59,750 --> 00:50:57,760

trying new things sometimes and then i

1385

00:51:01,510 --> 00:50:59,760

think myself into trying crazy things

1386

00:51:03,030 --> 00:51:01,520

and what i have to work on convincing

1387

00:51:05,030 --> 00:51:03,040

myself and i think most humans have to

1388

00:51:06,230 --> 00:51:05,040

work on convincing themselves

1389

00:51:08,390 --> 00:51:06,240

is that

1390

00:51:09,750 --> 00:51:08,400

your brain will lead you astray

1391

00:51:11,030 --> 00:51:09,760

and sometimes

1392

00:51:13,430 --> 00:51:11,040

if if you

1393

00:51:15,910 --> 00:51:13,440

try and research how it works you can

1394

00:51:17,589 --> 00:51:15,920

override those those systems

1395

00:51:19,430 --> 00:51:17,599

i think that goes to show how your mind

1396

00:51:21,430 --> 00:51:19,440

is or your brain is like a meaning

1397

00:51:22,790 --> 00:51:21,440

making machine yes and how you're trying

1398

00:51:24,950 --> 00:51:22,800

to make meaning out of all these things

1399

00:51:27,349 --> 00:51:24,960

and how it serves you so seeking which

1400

00:51:28,710 --> 00:51:27,359

makes the process

1401

00:51:30,710 --> 00:51:28,720

really difficult especially in

1402

00:51:32,470 --> 00:51:30,720

self-reflection well the discipline of

1403

00:51:33,430 --> 00:51:32,480

it i think is what makes the discipline

1404

00:51:35,750 --> 00:51:33,440

so

1405

00:51:38,309 --> 00:51:35,760

important yeah well you can't pick it up

1406

00:51:40,150 --> 00:51:38,319

either overnight no it's it's i think

1407

00:51:41,270 --> 00:51:40,160

it's a lifelong process honestly

1408

00:51:43,430 --> 00:51:41,280

oh yeah i don't know if you guys have a

1409

00:51:44,630 --> 00:51:43,440

time i learned all about wikipedia okay

1410

00:51:46,069 --> 00:51:44,640

well yeah

1411

00:51:57,670 --> 00:51:46,079

but yeah i learned all about it on

1412

00:52:01,589 --> 00:51:59,270

as i was telling you richard earlier

1413

00:52:03,190 --> 00:52:01,599

today um most of

1414

00:52:05,510 --> 00:52:03,200

probably the probably the whole first

1415

00:52:07,270 --> 00:52:05,520

two years of skeptoid i would

1416

00:52:09,910 --> 00:52:07,280

gladly throw away

1417

00:52:11,589 --> 00:52:09,920

because i would do them all what i think

1418

00:52:13,109 --> 00:52:11,599

is a lot better now

1419

00:52:14,390 --> 00:52:13,119

and i'm sure that two years from now

1420

00:52:16,390 --> 00:52:14,400

i'll be saying the same thing about the

1421

00:52:17,990 --> 00:52:16,400

shows i'm doing possibly today possibly

1422

00:52:19,589 --> 00:52:18,000

don't be surprised if there's a lot of

1423

00:52:21,670 --> 00:52:19,599

stuff that that you think you'd look

1424

00:52:23,750 --> 00:52:21,680

back on and say no that's good i'm happy

1425

00:52:25,510 --> 00:52:23,760

with that yeah some of it but i mean i i

1426

00:52:27,030 --> 00:52:25,520

when i go back and and you know read the

1427

00:52:29,430 --> 00:52:27,040

transcripts or listen to the old ones i

1428

00:52:31,190 --> 00:52:29,440

know that you know i was guilty of some

1429

00:52:32,790 --> 00:52:31,200

a lot of the same things that i'm trying

1430

00:52:34,630 --> 00:52:32,800

to do something about now well you're

1431

00:52:36,710 --> 00:52:34,640

learning yeah that's true of almost

1432

00:52:39,349 --> 00:52:36,720

anything you pursue i mean i i as an

1433

00:52:41,190 --> 00:52:39,359

artist which i really a term i kind of

1434

00:52:43,190 --> 00:52:41,200

get grossed out by but it

1435

00:52:44,950 --> 00:52:43,200

reluctantly has been applied to me so

1436

00:52:47,670 --> 00:52:44,960

i'll own it

1437

00:52:50,630 --> 00:52:47,680

she draws lockheed p-38 yeah shut up

1438

00:52:52,870 --> 00:52:50,640

about the p-38 my god um

1439

00:52:55,030 --> 00:52:52,880

so like two years ago

1440

00:52:56,309 --> 00:52:55,040

the stuff i was drawing was was absolute

1441

00:52:58,230 --> 00:52:56,319

crap

1442

00:53:00,150 --> 00:52:58,240

and you know but i thought it was great

1443

00:53:02,710 --> 00:53:00,160

at the time and the stuff i think is

1444

00:53:04,950 --> 00:53:02,720

great now i'll probably think is is crap

1445

00:53:07,430 --> 00:53:04,960

in two years but

1446

00:53:09,190 --> 00:53:07,440

that's i mean what's the great the gift

1447

00:53:12,230 --> 00:53:09,200

about the human brain which is why you

1448

00:53:14,309 --> 00:53:12,240

know i think i'll hang on to mine

1449

00:53:16,309 --> 00:53:14,319

is that and not have a tumor after all i

1450

00:53:18,069 --> 00:53:16,319

don't think so okay it turns out i'm

1451

00:53:20,470 --> 00:53:18,079

pretty healthy um

1452

00:53:22,950 --> 00:53:20,480

is that it it's able to to learn from

1453

00:53:25,270 --> 00:53:22,960

itself in that we think and there's

1454

00:53:27,270 --> 00:53:25,280

there's conclusions we drew it's capable

1455

00:53:28,710 --> 00:53:27,280

it's some some it's capable not it

1456

00:53:30,150 --> 00:53:28,720

doesn't always happen

1457

00:53:31,670 --> 00:53:30,160

well there's conclusions i drew when i

1458

00:53:33,510 --> 00:53:31,680

was 12 and when i was 15 and when i was

1459

00:53:36,390 --> 00:53:33,520

18 and when i was 25

1460

00:53:39,030 --> 00:53:36,400

that sound ridiculous to me now and at

1461

00:53:40,390 --> 00:53:39,040

age 28 you know i'm drawing conclusions

1462

00:53:43,109 --> 00:53:40,400

that will probably seem ridiculous at

1463

00:53:44,470 --> 00:53:43,119

35. but i'm always able to look back at

1464

00:53:45,910 --> 00:53:44,480

those conclusions and see what was

1465

00:53:48,470 --> 00:53:45,920

correct about them and what was wrong

1466

00:53:50,069 --> 00:53:48,480

about them well i think most skeptics

1467

00:53:52,069 --> 00:53:50,079

and and most people who work really hard

1468

00:53:53,270 --> 00:53:52,079

thinking about that would agree with me

1469

00:53:55,270 --> 00:53:53,280

well and i think that what we've all

1470

00:53:57,430 --> 00:53:55,280

been talking about is that

1471

00:53:58,710 --> 00:53:57,440

our brain is able to change into shift

1472

00:54:01,510 --> 00:53:58,720

and to grow

1473

00:54:03,430 --> 00:54:01,520

i'm an artist too and i look back on my

1474

00:54:05,670 --> 00:54:03,440

quilt making and there's stuff that i do

1475

00:54:07,829 --> 00:54:05,680

not like the way i did

1476  
00:54:09,670 --> 00:54:07,839  
but at the time it was good and so same

1477  
00:54:10,390 --> 00:54:09,680  
thing you know i grew up my dad is a

1478  
00:54:12,390 --> 00:54:10,400  
physicist

1479  
00:54:14,549 --> 00:54:12,400  
i questions a lot and

1480  
00:54:16,390 --> 00:54:14,559  
and i have grown since then

1481  
00:54:17,510 --> 00:54:16,400  
and so i think that what we're saying is

1482  
00:54:19,270 --> 00:54:17,520  
all the same thing we're growing and

1483  
00:54:20,549 --> 00:54:19,280  
changing constantly we always look back

1484  
00:54:22,950 --> 00:54:20,559  
and say i could have would have should

1485  
00:54:24,230 --> 00:54:22,960  
have but now i'm going to which is so

1486  
00:54:25,510 --> 00:54:24,240  
interesting because as someone who's

1487  
00:54:27,829 --> 00:54:25,520  
seen your quilt says someone who's seen

1488  
00:54:30,309 --> 00:54:27,839

your art at least on facebook um i'm

1489

00:54:31,750 --> 00:54:30,319

like oh wow that's really great and

1490

00:54:33,190 --> 00:54:31,760

you know and i'd probably two years from

1491

00:54:35,030 --> 00:54:33,200

now i would think that's really great

1492

00:54:36,630 --> 00:54:35,040

but i would say

1493

00:54:38,470 --> 00:54:36,640

but i would see you interacting with

1494

00:54:40,150 --> 00:54:38,480

with a crazy person as a clinical

1495

00:54:41,670 --> 00:54:40,160

psychologist and i'd be like how the

1496

00:54:44,150 --> 00:54:41,680

hell does she do that and what do you

1497

00:54:45,750 --> 00:54:44,160

think right now

1498

00:54:47,589 --> 00:54:45,760

there is that no we don't use the term

1499

00:54:50,309 --> 00:54:47,599

crazy person anymore i'm sorry what do

1500

00:54:53,589 --> 00:54:52,150

what is that is that an australian word

1501

00:54:55,270 --> 00:54:53,599

yeah

1502

00:54:57,030 --> 00:54:55,280

idiot brian and i were having this

1503

00:54:58,390 --> 00:54:57,040

discussion today and our australian

1504

00:54:59,990 --> 00:54:58,400

listeners will appreciate this but how

1505

00:55:01,430 --> 00:55:00,000

many words we have in australia which

1506

00:55:02,870 --> 00:55:01,440

mean idiot

1507

00:55:04,950 --> 00:55:02,880

that's when they came up any language

1508

00:55:07,430 --> 00:55:04,960

that happened

1509

00:55:09,510 --> 00:55:07,440

bogan mug what was some of the other

1510

00:55:11,990 --> 00:55:09,520

ones i i don't know do they all have

1511

00:55:13,670 --> 00:55:12,000

their ears um they're all suddenly

1512

00:55:15,430 --> 00:55:13,680

they're slightly yeah they're they're

1513

00:55:17,750 --> 00:55:15,440

shades of videos brilliant yeah

1514

00:55:19,589 --> 00:55:17,760

absolutely wow they sound much cuter and

1515

00:55:21,510 --> 00:55:19,599

yeah yeah well it's interesting because

1516

00:55:23,430 --> 00:55:21,520

you use the word yankee in your podcast

1517

00:55:24,710 --> 00:55:23,440

announcing this particular event and

1518

00:55:27,430 --> 00:55:24,720

what's what's funny to me is that from

1519

00:55:29,670 --> 00:55:27,440

the east coast northeast area a yankee

1520

00:55:31,190 --> 00:55:29,680

is from and from the northeast yeah

1521

00:55:33,750 --> 00:55:31,200

but to an australian but to an

1522

00:55:35,430 --> 00:55:33,760

australian exactly yank

1523

00:55:37,030 --> 00:55:35,440

any american you call someone from

1524

00:55:39,030 --> 00:55:37,040

georgia yankee and you might want to

1525

00:55:41,670 --> 00:55:39,040

leave the room you might get your ass

1526

00:55:45,349 --> 00:55:43,190

yeah and just for clarification no

1527

00:55:47,430 --> 00:55:45,359

psychology does not call people crazy

1528

00:55:48,870 --> 00:55:47,440

sorry i'm an artist what is the word i

1529

00:55:51,270 --> 00:55:48,880

don't think you would ev um i mean these

1530

00:55:53,190 --> 00:55:51,280

people have atypical no not even because

1531

00:55:54,870 --> 00:55:53,200

people have different issues

1532

00:55:56,549 --> 00:55:54,880

yeah issues so thinking you have a tumor

1533

00:55:58,230 --> 00:55:56,559

when you're 19. that's an issue man it's

1534

00:55:59,990 --> 00:55:58,240

an issue that's an issue

1535

00:56:01,670 --> 00:56:00,000

it's cool differently advantage

1536

00:56:09,510 --> 00:56:01,680

differently

1537

00:56:10,390 --> 00:56:09,520

okay i prefer whacked out

1538

00:56:12,470 --> 00:56:10,400

now

1539

00:56:16,150 --> 00:56:12,480

how did you come across silva

1540

00:56:17,990 --> 00:56:16,160

um well i grew up catholic and i still

1541

00:56:20,230 --> 00:56:18,000

kind of consider myself ethnically

1542

00:56:21,750 --> 00:56:20,240

catholic and culturally catholic

1543

00:56:23,829 --> 00:56:21,760

culturally catholic yeah it's a better

1544

00:56:26,470 --> 00:56:23,839

term i understand um

1545

00:56:28,710 --> 00:56:26,480

but i was also very much into science

1546

00:56:31,589 --> 00:56:28,720

and um as

1547

00:56:34,390 --> 00:56:31,599

i progressed through that field i'm now

1548

00:56:36,950 --> 00:56:34,400

um trying in the process of getting my

1549

00:56:37,990 --> 00:56:36,960

doctorate in molecular biology

1550

00:56:40,230 --> 00:56:38,000

um

1551  
00:56:46,390 --> 00:56:42,630  
the age of the earth

1552  
00:56:47,270 --> 00:56:46,400  
came into play oh yeah wow evolution and

1553  
00:56:51,270 --> 00:56:47,280  
many

1554  
00:56:53,510 --> 00:56:51,280  
that great book as

1555  
00:56:56,390 --> 00:56:53,520  
truth just

1556  
00:56:59,589 --> 00:56:56,400  
oh no that one no 42 is still true

1557  
00:57:03,430 --> 00:56:59,599  
i was worried um the other book uh

1558  
00:57:05,829 --> 00:57:03,440  
seemed patently at odds with um reality

1559  
00:57:07,589 --> 00:57:05,839  
many many many many lines of evidence

1560  
00:57:10,630 --> 00:57:07,599  
yes and um

1561  
00:57:12,710 --> 00:57:10,640  
i think from there i i kind of dropped

1562  
00:57:15,589 --> 00:57:12,720  
the jehovah

1563  
00:57:17,349 --> 00:57:15,599

complex and um

1564

00:57:20,309 --> 00:57:17,359

i just kind of wandered around for a

1565

00:57:23,030 --> 00:57:20,319

while until um in the desert

1566

00:57:35,270 --> 00:57:23,040

for 40 years i really don't did you come

1567

00:57:41,109 --> 00:57:39,030

um this is geek hot tub

1568

00:57:43,589 --> 00:57:41,119

that was like four movie references in

1569

00:57:46,309 --> 00:57:43,599

five seconds and geeky movies

1570

00:57:47,750 --> 00:57:46,319

all the better yeah the only

1571

00:57:48,549 --> 00:57:47,760

someone was saying something whoever it

1572

00:57:52,630 --> 00:57:48,559

was

1573

00:57:53,589 --> 00:57:52,640

um

1574

00:57:55,990 --> 00:57:53,599

and

1575

00:57:57,750 --> 00:57:56,000

i you know i think the first podcast i

1576

00:58:00,549 --> 00:57:57,760

caught was uh

1577

00:58:02,549 --> 00:58:00,559

the skeptic's guide yep and uh a lot of

1578

00:58:04,470 --> 00:58:02,559

people come to us with the skeptics yeah

1579

00:58:06,549 --> 00:58:04,480

and that's sort of like i can't i don't

1580

00:58:07,510 --> 00:58:06,559

remember if it was you sarah graduate

1581

00:58:09,829 --> 00:58:07,520

from

1582

00:58:11,990 --> 00:58:09,839

they graduate

1583

00:58:14,390 --> 00:58:12,000

that's really kind of what happened um

1584

00:58:16,870 --> 00:58:14,400

you know that sort of opens god

1585

00:58:20,069 --> 00:58:16,880

opened my eyes to the

1586

00:58:21,589 --> 00:58:20,079

the quote community and uh branched out

1587

00:58:23,990 --> 00:58:21,599

from there well did you have the

1588

00:58:25,589 --> 00:58:24,000

experience of of knowing that you were a

1589

00:58:27,109 --> 00:58:25,599

skeptic before you had a word for it or

1590

00:58:29,349 --> 00:58:27,119

knowing that you were an atheist before

1591

00:58:32,069 --> 00:58:29,359

i knew i was a scientist

1592

00:58:34,069 --> 00:58:32,079

and uh i never really put skeptic to it

1593

00:58:35,750 --> 00:58:34,079

i saw michael shermer talk

1594

00:58:39,430 --> 00:58:35,760

and you know when i was younger i would

1595

00:58:41,589 --> 00:58:39,440

see him talk and go and do as so many do

1596

00:58:45,829 --> 00:58:41,599

and

1597

00:58:47,750 --> 00:58:45,839

uh sort of add cynic on top of right the

1598

00:58:50,309 --> 00:58:47,760

skeptic yeah and then i would hear him

1599

00:58:52,789 --> 00:58:50,319

talk and go this guy is making sense you

1600

00:58:54,230 --> 00:58:52,799

know that that's true actually one of my

1601  
00:58:55,829 --> 00:58:54,240  
early experiences with the australian

1602  
00:58:58,309 --> 00:58:55,839  
skeptics was i went to a public talk

1603  
00:59:00,549 --> 00:58:58,319  
about ufos and the guy speaking just

1604  
00:59:01,829 --> 00:59:00,559  
made so much clearer sense

1605  
00:59:05,190 --> 00:59:01,839  
and he didn't sound like a jerk he

1606  
00:59:06,630 --> 00:59:05,200  
didn't sound like cantankerous right

1607  
00:59:08,069 --> 00:59:06,640  
so richard i have a question for you

1608  
00:59:09,990 --> 00:59:08,079  
that i wanted to know is is my

1609  
00:59:12,870 --> 00:59:10,000  
understanding is that in australia

1610  
00:59:15,190 --> 00:59:12,880  
there's a lot less sort of religious um

1611  
00:59:17,510 --> 00:59:15,200  
fundamentalism and a lot of a lot sort

1612  
00:59:19,510 --> 00:59:17,520  
of less religious uh

1613  
00:59:20,950 --> 00:59:19,520

you know belief yeah and more sort of

1614

00:59:22,630 --> 00:59:20,960

what what we in america would refer to

1615

00:59:25,670 --> 00:59:22,640

as woo-woo a lot of like

1616

00:59:27,430 --> 00:59:25,680

crystal healing etc whereas here we have

1617

00:59:28,630 --> 00:59:27,440

a lot of religious fundamentalism a lot

1618

00:59:30,230 --> 00:59:28,640

of like

1619

00:59:31,670 --> 00:59:30,240

hardcore christians

1620

00:59:33,589 --> 00:59:31,680

um

1621

00:59:35,829 --> 00:59:33,599

who would denounce in the same breath

1622

00:59:37,030 --> 00:59:35,839

the crystal healing exactly yeah so i i

1623

00:59:38,870 --> 00:59:37,040

want to know what your take is on that

1624

00:59:41,670 --> 00:59:38,880

we have pockets of

1625

00:59:43,430 --> 00:59:41,680

of the fundamentalists okay and i guess

1626

00:59:45,990 --> 00:59:43,440

a lot of countries suffer that problem

1627

00:59:48,390 --> 00:59:46,000

right um fundamentals christians yeah

1628

00:59:50,230 --> 00:59:48,400

yeah um well we got the the cults too

1629

00:59:53,109 --> 00:59:50,240

yeah but everything's sort of toned down

1630

00:59:54,950 --> 00:59:53,119

a bit yeah mainstream religion is just

1631

00:59:56,230 --> 00:59:54,960

part of the background really

1632

01:00:00,549 --> 00:59:56,240

it's interesting because here it seems

1633

01:00:04,230 --> 01:00:01,990

it kind of like kicks itself back up

1634

01:00:06,069 --> 01:00:04,240

periodically and i find it interesting

1635

01:00:07,910 --> 01:00:06,079

that this country has laws

1636

01:00:09,190 --> 01:00:07,920

with the separation of church and state

1637

01:00:10,230 --> 01:00:09,200

but you've got these

1638

01:00:12,069 --> 01:00:10,240

well that was another amount of

1639

01:00:13,430 --> 01:00:12,079

questions is that

1640

01:00:15,349 --> 01:00:13,440

you know separation of church and state

1641

01:00:17,829 --> 01:00:15,359

doesn't exist in say the uk and i don't

1642

01:00:19,910 --> 01:00:17,839

know what the law is in australia

1643

01:00:21,670 --> 01:00:19,920

and yet it seems that the government

1644

01:00:23,910 --> 01:00:21,680

there is less influenced

1645

01:00:26,470 --> 01:00:23,920

absolutely religion whereas here you

1646

01:00:29,270 --> 01:00:26,480

know we have like the family

1647

01:00:31,190 --> 01:00:29,280

scary prayer breakfasts

1648

01:00:32,950 --> 01:00:31,200

and that's that's sort of terrifying to

1649

01:00:34,950 --> 01:00:32,960

me just about any politician in

1650

01:00:36,230 --> 01:00:34,960

australia can get elected and no one

1651

01:00:37,910 --> 01:00:36,240

really gives

1652

01:00:40,150 --> 01:00:37,920

a rats about that so you think an

1653

01:00:42,069 --> 01:00:40,160

atheist could get elected in austria

1654

01:00:44,069 --> 01:00:42,079

we've had atheist prime minister i don't

1655

01:00:45,430 --> 01:00:44,079

think that's not an issue because here

1656

01:00:49,109 --> 01:00:45,440

uh there are

1657

01:00:51,270 --> 01:00:49,119

there are uh i and you know i'm gonna

1658

01:00:52,710 --> 01:00:51,280

do a cardinal sent and quote some

1659

01:00:54,230 --> 01:00:52,720

statistic without knowing where it came

1660

01:00:55,190 --> 01:00:54,240

from but uh

1661

01:00:58,230 --> 01:00:55,200

that

1662

01:01:00,630 --> 01:00:58,240

it would be harder for an atheist to get

1663

01:01:02,789 --> 01:01:00,640

um oh yeah to get elected here than than

1664

01:01:04,710 --> 01:01:02,799

a muslim oh absolutely because a muslim

1665

01:01:06,309 --> 01:01:04,720

could still say like well we all believe

1666

01:01:08,069 --> 01:01:06,319

i mean there's nothing i'm not saying

1667

01:01:09,270 --> 01:01:08,079

anything about muslims

1668

01:01:11,030 --> 01:01:09,280

it's just about just some franchise

1669

01:01:13,109 --> 01:01:11,040

population and what bothers me about the

1670

01:01:14,950 --> 01:01:13,119

united states a lot of sort of liberal

1671

01:01:17,030 --> 01:01:14,960

uh you know and i count myself as a

1672

01:01:20,630 --> 01:01:17,040

liberal or leftist um

1673

01:01:22,309 --> 01:01:20,640

you know religion in that sense is that

1674

01:01:24,549 --> 01:01:22,319

some people try to quote like well we

1675

01:01:27,030 --> 01:01:24,559

all believe in one god it's all one god

1676

01:01:28,950 --> 01:01:27,040

and it's it immediately instantly

1677

01:01:32,309 --> 01:01:28,960

negates those of us who don't believe in

1678

01:01:34,069 --> 01:01:32,319

a god at all yeah and yeah you know on

1679

01:01:36,390 --> 01:01:34,079

one level i can agree with them like yes

1680

01:01:37,910 --> 01:01:36,400

we should take care of our fellow man

1681

01:01:39,990 --> 01:01:37,920

um but just for a very different reason

1682

01:01:41,829 --> 01:01:40,000

and and it's it's really distressing to

1683

01:01:42,870 --> 01:01:41,839

hear you know when people talk about all

1684

01:01:44,309 --> 01:01:42,880

one god

1685

01:01:45,829 --> 01:01:44,319

immediately eliminating those of us who

1686

01:01:47,349 --> 01:01:45,839

don't believe in any god at all but i

1687

01:01:49,270 --> 01:01:47,359

think also in this conversation we've

1688

01:01:50,549 --> 01:01:49,280

eliminated people who are skeptics who

1689

01:01:52,710 --> 01:01:50,559

identify as skeptics but still are

1690

01:01:53,910 --> 01:01:52,720

religious that's true because i don't

1691

01:01:56,549 --> 01:01:53,920

think it's synonymous to say you're

1692

01:01:58,870 --> 01:01:56,559

skeptical and atheist but not always

1693

01:02:00,630 --> 01:01:58,880

just getting back to the topic of

1694

01:02:01,829 --> 01:02:00,640

the electing of someone i was just

1695

01:02:03,670 --> 01:02:01,839

thinking about it

1696

01:02:05,589 --> 01:02:03,680

it really even comes up in interviews

1697

01:02:07,190 --> 01:02:05,599

when they're talking to politicians what

1698

01:02:09,430 --> 01:02:07,200

their religious views are in australia

1699

01:02:11,910 --> 01:02:09,440

it's not an issue so can you fix the

1700

01:02:13,430 --> 01:02:11,920

taxes what happened about the roads

1701  
01:02:14,630 --> 01:02:13,440  
when you go to church oh that's nice now

1702  
01:02:16,309 --> 01:02:14,640  
what about this issue what about the

1703  
01:02:18,230 --> 01:02:16,319  
kangaroos yeah what are you gonna do

1704  
01:02:20,470 --> 01:02:18,240  
about the bloody kangaroos well here

1705  
01:02:21,589 --> 01:02:20,480  
it's like you know what i mean we have

1706  
01:02:23,349 --> 01:02:21,599  
the whole big government small

1707  
01:02:24,309 --> 01:02:23,359  
government issue

1708  
01:02:25,589 --> 01:02:24,319  
you know

1709  
01:02:27,589 --> 01:02:25,599  
we have conservatives who are worried

1710  
01:02:29,510 --> 01:02:27,599  
about quote big government uh getting in

1711  
01:02:32,069 --> 01:02:29,520  
the way of our businesses

1712  
01:02:34,390 --> 01:02:32,079  
and yet in the same breath they will say

1713  
01:02:35,270 --> 01:02:34,400

we want you know gay people not to be

1714

01:02:36,630 --> 01:02:35,280

able to get married and we want

1715

01:02:38,630 --> 01:02:36,640

government to control who came married

1716

01:02:40,630 --> 01:02:38,640

who and then there's

1717

01:02:42,069 --> 01:02:40,640

the issue of like well liberals want you

1718

01:02:43,670 --> 01:02:42,079

know a small government in some sense in

1719

01:02:45,910 --> 01:02:43,680

a big government another

1720

01:02:47,510 --> 01:02:45,920

sense but what happens

1721

01:02:49,190 --> 01:02:47,520

there's always this umbrella issue of

1722

01:02:50,789 --> 01:02:49,200

like well as long as he has a he has

1723

01:02:52,950 --> 01:02:50,799

some sort of fate and it's always a he i

1724

01:02:54,230 --> 01:02:52,960

mean honestly

1725

01:02:56,390 --> 01:02:54,240

you know as long as there's some sort of

1726

01:02:57,030 --> 01:02:56,400

faith as long as he he trusts some sort

1727

01:02:59,750 --> 01:02:57,040

of

1728

01:03:02,069 --> 01:02:59,760

you know deity it's going to be okay

1729

01:03:04,549 --> 01:03:02,079

and like mr deity

1730

01:03:07,349 --> 01:03:04,559

which is such a funny show and i as a

1731

01:03:09,190 --> 01:03:07,359

woman i fully support his show about eve

1732

01:03:10,710 --> 01:03:09,200

big shout out to mrs

1733

01:03:12,870 --> 01:03:10,720

we enjoy your show

1734

01:03:14,309 --> 01:03:12,880

how you doing sir

1735

01:03:16,870 --> 01:03:14,319

certainly

1736

01:03:18,950 --> 01:03:16,880

brian call of duty sir ryan i think i'm

1737

01:03:22,549 --> 01:03:18,960

gonna have to come back in the not too

1738

01:03:24,470 --> 01:03:22,559

distant future and do another think tub

1739

01:03:25,990 --> 01:03:24,480

i think tubs are tubs are good well

1740

01:03:28,069 --> 01:03:26,000

worthwhile they've got no bus

1741

01:03:29,349 --> 01:03:28,079

announcements but that's just you know

1742

01:03:30,549 --> 01:03:29,359

yeah

1743

01:03:32,470 --> 01:03:30,559

a couple of people here could put their

1744

01:03:34,470 --> 01:03:32,480

clothes back on that would really

1745

01:03:35,829 --> 01:03:34,480

kind of oh oh my gosh my mother can

1746

01:03:38,150 --> 01:03:35,839

never listen to i mean i find that my

1747

01:03:40,069 --> 01:03:38,160

own thinking has been you know somewhat

1748

01:03:42,150 --> 01:03:40,079

like

1749

01:04:04,470 --> 01:03:42,160

screwed up by the tub

1750

01:04:08,950 --> 01:04:06,630

on that cultural note i'd like to thank

1751

01:04:10,470 --> 01:04:08,960

every everybody for joining me and brian

1752

01:04:11,430 --> 01:04:10,480

and this is hot tub

1753

01:04:13,750 --> 01:04:11,440

tonight

1754

01:04:16,309 --> 01:04:13,760

you're here and um brian i'll try to

1755

01:04:18,069 --> 01:04:16,319

make one my way back i hope so we'll

1756

01:04:21,829 --> 01:04:18,079

make this a monthly event thank you

1757

01:04:38,309 --> 01:04:23,589

we don't have any glasses to clean so

1758

01:04:42,150 --> 01:04:40,309

hi i'm jason and i'm andrew from the

1759

01:04:44,789 --> 01:04:42,160

nonsense podcast bringing you a

1760

01:04:46,470 --> 01:04:44,799

skeptical overview of news religion and

1761

01:04:48,309 --> 01:04:46,480

all forms of pseudoscience we're

1762

01:04:49,829 --> 01:04:48,319

defending science and reason against the

1763

01:04:51,750 --> 01:04:49,839

onslaught of medical and spiritual

1764

01:04:53,910 --> 01:04:51,760

nonsense all week we are busy

1765

01:04:56,710 --> 01:04:53,920

researching and debunking pseudoscience

1766

01:05:00,029 --> 01:04:56,720

but on the seventh day we listen to the

1767

01:05:01,670 --> 01:05:00,039

skeptic zone check us out at

1768

01:05:14,950 --> 01:05:01,680

nonsensepodcast.lipsin.com or search for

1769

01:05:18,150 --> 01:05:16,789

thanks for joining me for this week's

1770

01:05:19,510 --> 01:05:18,160

skeptic zone

1771

01:05:23,190 --> 01:05:19,520

don't forget to check out the new

1772

01:05:26,230 --> 01:05:23,200

podcast by kylie sturges token skeptic

1773

01:05:27,990 --> 01:05:26,240

at tokenskeptic.org

1774

01:05:30,549 --> 01:05:28,000

and thanks to kylie for putting together

1775

01:05:33,190 --> 01:05:30,559

our recent skeptic zone survey and thank

1776

01:05:35,190 --> 01:05:33,200

you to everybody who wrote in and took

1777

01:05:37,190 --> 01:05:35,200

part in the survey

1778

01:05:38,870 --> 01:05:37,200

many interesting results for us to look

1779

01:05:40,069 --> 01:05:38,880

through i'm glad most of you seem to

1780

01:05:41,829 --> 01:05:40,079

like the show

1781

01:05:43,670 --> 01:05:41,839

lots of good comments lots of good uh

1782

01:05:44,630 --> 01:05:43,680

constructive criticism which we take on

1783

01:05:46,710 --> 01:05:44,640

board

1784

01:05:49,750 --> 01:05:46,720

and just one point all the ads you hear

1785

01:05:51,430 --> 01:05:49,760

on on the skeptic zone are actually um

1786

01:05:53,670 --> 01:05:51,440

done as favors there is no paid

1787

01:05:55,589 --> 01:05:53,680

advertising on the skeptic zone we

1788

01:05:56,870 --> 01:05:55,599

advertise people we think you might like

1789

01:05:59,109 --> 01:05:56,880

to hear about

1790

01:06:01,430 --> 01:05:59,119

just so you know and of course if you

1791

01:06:04,390 --> 01:06:01,440

want to help the skeptic zone you can

1792

01:06:08,150 --> 01:06:04,400

contribute by donation or subscribe

1793

01:06:12,549 --> 01:06:10,150

well enough of all that thanks again for

1794

01:06:15,029 --> 01:06:12,559

listening and until next time this is

1795

01:06:19,109 --> 01:06:15,039

richard saunders signing off from sydney

1796

01:06:22,789 --> 01:06:20,789

you've been listening to the skeptic

1797

01:06:26,150 --> 01:06:22,799

zone visit our website at