



Episode **631**

THE
**SKEPTIC
ZONE**
PODCAST

www.skepticzone.tv

15 November 2020

Conspiracy Theories
with Claus Larsen

Logical Fallacies with
Michelle Bijkersma
"The Appeal to the Stone"

TROVE
Australian Skeptics



1
00:00:08,470 --> 00:00:06,630
[Music]

2
00:00:11,270 --> 00:00:08,480
welcome to the skeptic zone

3
00:00:16,840 --> 00:00:11,280
the podcast from australia for science

4
00:00:23,349 --> 00:00:16,850
and reason

5
00:00:25,189 --> 00:00:23,359
[Music]

6
00:00:27,990 --> 00:00:25,199
yes it's the skeptic's own podcast

7
00:00:31,349 --> 00:00:28,000
episode number 631

8
00:00:32,950 --> 00:00:31,359
for the 15th of november 2020

9
00:00:34,950 --> 00:00:32,960
richard saunders coming to you from

10
00:00:36,389 --> 00:00:34,960
sydney australia and the weather is

11
00:00:39,830 --> 00:00:36,399
warming up

12
00:00:43,190 --> 00:00:39,840
summer is coming which is all very well

13
00:00:45,190 --> 00:00:43,200

but it means winter

14

00:00:48,470 --> 00:00:45,200

is coming colder weather is coming for

15

00:00:51,110 --> 00:00:48,480

the northern hemisphere and right now

16

00:00:52,869 --> 00:00:51,120

i know they really don't need that they

17

00:00:54,709 --> 00:00:52,879

really don't need that the good news for

18

00:00:57,910 --> 00:00:54,719

australians is the

19

00:00:59,029 --> 00:00:57,920

covert situation here is doing very well

20

00:01:01,830 --> 00:00:59,039

the

21

00:01:04,070 --> 00:01:01,840

rate of infection is extremely low and

22

00:01:06,950 --> 00:01:04,080

australia and new zealand are looking

23

00:01:08,630 --> 00:01:06,960

quite good at the moment as opposed to

24

00:01:09,830 --> 00:01:08,640

much of the rest of the world especially

25

00:01:12,710 --> 00:01:09,840

the united states and

26

00:01:15,270 --> 00:01:12,720

much of europe which is not doing too

27

00:01:17,910 --> 00:01:15,280

well at the moment and things look

28

00:01:20,070 --> 00:01:17,920

to be getting worse not a good story not

29

00:01:21,749 --> 00:01:20,080

a good story at all

30

00:01:23,590 --> 00:01:21,759

and that sort of leads me on to the

31

00:01:24,789 --> 00:01:23,600

first segment in today's episode an

32

00:01:28,070 --> 00:01:24,799

interview with klaus

33

00:01:29,830 --> 00:01:28,080

larsen from denmark now klaus has an i.t

34

00:01:31,350 --> 00:01:29,840

background but he's been a skeptic for

35

00:01:33,350 --> 00:01:31,360

many years and

36

00:01:34,390 --> 00:01:33,360

is internationally recognized as a

37

00:01:36,710 --> 00:01:34,400

writer

38

00:01:39,109 --> 00:01:36,720

for skeptica the network of independent

39

00:01:41,749 --> 00:01:39,119

skeptics in denmark

40

00:01:43,030 --> 00:01:41,759

now klaus was living in new york when

41

00:01:46,310 --> 00:01:43,040

the september 11

42

00:01:50,230 --> 00:01:46,320

attacks happened and now

43

00:01:55,670 --> 00:01:50,240

he is one of the people behind 9 11

44

00:01:58,950 --> 00:01:55,680

facts a web page which is 911.d

45

00:02:01,030 --> 00:01:58,960

all about the multitude of conspiracy

46

00:02:03,510 --> 00:02:01,040

theories about 911

47

00:02:05,190 --> 00:02:03,520

and we'll be interviewing klaus coming

48

00:02:07,429 --> 00:02:05,200

up about that page

49

00:02:08,389 --> 00:02:07,439

and more recently of course his

50

00:02:12,710 --> 00:02:08,399

investigations

51
00:02:14,869 --> 00:02:12,720
into covert 19 conspiracy theories

52
00:02:15,750 --> 00:02:14,879
and after that it's logical fallacy

53
00:02:18,070 --> 00:02:15,760
segment with

54
00:02:19,430 --> 00:02:18,080
michelle bickersma and this week

55
00:02:22,869 --> 00:02:19,440
michelle will be

56
00:02:24,630 --> 00:02:22,879
looking at the appeal to the stone

57
00:02:25,990 --> 00:02:24,640
what does that mean what is the appeal

58
00:02:28,790 --> 00:02:26,000
to the stone

59
00:02:30,869 --> 00:02:28,800
find out with michelle because ma coming

60
00:02:32,470 --> 00:02:30,879
up a bit later on in the show

61
00:02:34,309 --> 00:02:32,480
then to round off the show it's another

62
00:02:36,710 --> 00:02:34,319
trip another dive another journey

63
00:02:39,350 --> 00:02:36,720

through the treasure trove at trove

64

00:02:40,949 --> 00:02:39,360

the digitized resource from the

65

00:02:42,150 --> 00:02:40,959

australian government and the national

66

00:02:43,830 --> 00:02:42,160

library of australia

67

00:02:46,390 --> 00:02:43,840

we're going to be looking at references

68

00:02:49,270 --> 00:02:46,400

in the past to the australian skeptics

69

00:02:51,509 --> 00:02:49,280

why did they make the news who was

70

00:02:53,589 --> 00:02:51,519

writing about them

71

00:02:54,869 --> 00:02:53,599

find out to round off this week's

72

00:02:56,150 --> 00:02:54,879

episode

73

00:02:59,350 --> 00:02:56,160

but now it's time for me to run

74

00:03:01,270 --> 00:02:59,360

downstairs grab a glass of champagne

75

00:03:02,390 --> 00:03:01,280

and toast those people who have just had

76

00:03:05,030 --> 00:03:02,400

a birthday

77

00:03:07,589 --> 00:03:05,040

happy birthday to you and those people

78

00:03:09,589 --> 00:03:07,599

who have just turned 18 you can vote now

79

00:03:12,869 --> 00:03:09,599

what a thrill that is

80

00:03:15,509 --> 00:03:12,879

downstairs and

81

00:03:27,690 --> 00:03:15,519

celebrate with you i hope you enjoy the

82

00:03:40,070 --> 00:03:38,149

[Music]

83

00:03:42,229 --> 00:03:40,080

and joining me on the line now all the

84

00:03:43,990 --> 00:03:42,239

way from beautiful or is it wonderful or

85

00:03:45,110 --> 00:03:44,000

is it what i can't remember what pretty

86

00:03:47,350 --> 00:03:45,120

beautiful beautiful

87

00:03:49,030 --> 00:03:47,360

copenhagen in denmark it's klaus larson

88

00:03:51,350 --> 00:03:49,040

hello klaus

89

00:03:52,710 --> 00:03:51,360

hello well you've heard that one before

90

00:03:54,869 --> 00:03:52,720

huh

91

00:03:56,309 --> 00:03:54,879

yeah it's wonderful copenhagen wonderful

92

00:03:58,789 --> 00:03:56,319

i knew it was something like that i've

93

00:04:01,670 --> 00:03:58,799

never been to wonderful copenhagen i'd

94

00:04:02,070 --> 00:04:01,680

oh you should come i should well i will

95

00:04:06,710 --> 00:04:02,080

i

96

00:04:09,670 --> 00:04:06,720

take you on the

97

00:04:11,270 --> 00:04:09,680

skeptical tour of copenhagen because we

98

00:04:13,509 --> 00:04:11,280

have something

99

00:04:15,830 --> 00:04:13,519

really amazing here we have the holy

100

00:04:18,150 --> 00:04:15,840

grail of modern day skepticism

101
00:04:19,749 --> 00:04:18,160
right here in copenhagen and i'm not

102
00:04:20,789 --> 00:04:19,759
going to tell you what it is because i

103
00:04:23,350 --> 00:04:20,799
want it to be

104
00:04:24,469 --> 00:04:23,360
a surprise and believe me it's a

105
00:04:27,590 --> 00:04:24,479
surprise

106
00:04:31,590 --> 00:04:27,600
it's worth the whole trip

107
00:04:36,950 --> 00:04:34,870
no she's not well i won't bother i won't

108
00:04:39,270 --> 00:04:36,960
bother to come anymore

109
00:04:40,550 --> 00:04:39,280
i look for wow that's enticing that

110
00:04:43,830 --> 00:04:40,560
that's interesting yes

111
00:04:46,469 --> 00:04:43,840
that's pleasing yeah now klaus i was

112
00:04:48,230 --> 00:04:46,479
thoroughly enjoyed watching uh and

113
00:04:50,230 --> 00:04:48,240

taking part in of course

114

00:04:52,870 --> 00:04:50,240

the skype track at dragoncon only a

115

00:04:55,990 --> 00:04:52,880

couple of months ago in atlanta georgia

116

00:04:56,790 --> 00:04:56,000

and um it was very uh thrilling for me

117

00:04:58,790 --> 00:04:56,800

to take part

118

00:05:00,390 --> 00:04:58,800

as one of the speakers but i was

119

00:05:02,629 --> 00:05:00,400

watching all the other speakers too of

120

00:05:03,909 --> 00:05:02,639

course and i was so impressed i was so

121

00:05:07,990 --> 00:05:03,919

interested by

122

00:05:09,270 --> 00:05:08,000

your talk um about conspiracy theories

123

00:05:10,310 --> 00:05:09,280

and i thought that was absolutely

124

00:05:13,590 --> 00:05:10,320

fascinating

125

00:05:13,909 --> 00:05:13,600

so tell us a little bit about uh who you

126

00:05:16,950 --> 00:05:13,919

are

127

00:05:20,150 --> 00:05:16,960

first of all and uh what led you to all

128

00:05:23,189 --> 00:05:20,160

this interesting conspiracy theories

129

00:05:27,350 --> 00:05:23,199

well i used to live in new york

130

00:05:29,990 --> 00:05:27,360

from 2000 to 2003 so i experienced 911

131

00:05:30,629 --> 00:05:30,000

up close and personal not an experience

132

00:05:33,990 --> 00:05:30,639

i would

133

00:05:38,710 --> 00:05:37,189

and i knew that there were some

134

00:05:41,909 --> 00:05:38,720

conspiracies regarding that

135

00:05:44,950 --> 00:05:41,919

but when i had returned to denmark in

136

00:05:47,270 --> 00:05:44,960

uh by the time it was 2009

137

00:05:48,550 --> 00:05:47,280

uh i accidentally came across a

138

00:05:51,670 --> 00:05:48,560

demonstration

139

00:05:53,830 --> 00:05:51,680

uh in in

140

00:05:55,029 --> 00:05:53,840

just outside city hall in copenhagen

141

00:05:58,469 --> 00:05:55,039

where some truthers

142

00:06:01,430 --> 00:05:58,479

had set up their plaques and you know

143

00:06:02,629 --> 00:06:01,440

was telling everyone that 911 was an

144

00:06:06,150 --> 00:06:02,639

inside job

145

00:06:06,950 --> 00:06:06,160

and so i got talking i started talking

146

00:06:09,990 --> 00:06:06,960

to them and

147

00:06:13,189 --> 00:06:10,000

each and every one of them lied to me

148

00:06:16,790 --> 00:06:13,199

about something about 9 11. that's a

149

00:06:19,749 --> 00:06:16,800

really bad idea don't lie to me

150

00:06:20,150 --> 00:06:19,759

so i got pretty pissed uh when i went

151
00:06:22,390 --> 00:06:20,160
home

152
00:06:24,670 --> 00:06:22,400
so i wrote an article about it for the

153
00:06:27,590 --> 00:06:24,680
danish skeptics

154
00:06:29,510 --> 00:06:27,600
skepticate.dk and

155
00:06:31,590 --> 00:06:29,520
that brought me that got me in contact

156
00:06:35,189 --> 00:06:31,600
with the steen svenholm

157
00:06:35,749 --> 00:06:35,199
who was also looking into uh conspiracy

158
00:06:39,029 --> 00:06:35,759
theories

159
00:06:43,670 --> 00:06:39,039
regarding 911 and uh that made us

160
00:06:45,670 --> 00:06:43,680
uh we decided to create 911 facts.decay

161
00:06:49,029 --> 00:06:45,680
where we investigate conspiracy theories

162
00:06:52,070 --> 00:06:49,039
about the terror attack on 9 11.

163
00:06:54,150 --> 00:06:52,080

and we launched in 2011 we have

164

00:06:56,390 --> 00:06:54,160

investigated about a hundred claims

165

00:06:58,070 --> 00:06:56,400

each with their own article the articles

166

00:07:01,589 --> 00:06:58,080

are now available in both

167

00:07:03,110 --> 00:07:01,599

danish and english and we found that the

168

00:07:05,830 --> 00:07:03,120

articles are incredibly

169

00:07:07,670 --> 00:07:05,840

effective in debates because conspiracy

170

00:07:10,070 --> 00:07:07,680

theorists focus on questions

171

00:07:11,830 --> 00:07:10,080

they feel haven't been answered so we

172

00:07:13,990 --> 00:07:11,840

simply point to the articles

173

00:07:15,589 --> 00:07:14,000

there you go might your questions are

174

00:07:18,309 --> 00:07:15,599

now answered

175

00:07:20,150 --> 00:07:18,319

and we all we've also made uh created

176

00:07:22,230 --> 00:07:20,160

fact sheets and articles with a broader

177

00:07:23,189 --> 00:07:22,240

scope and a collection of all available

178

00:07:25,830 --> 00:07:23,199

documentation

179

00:07:26,629 --> 00:07:25,840

regarding the terror attack wow so that

180

00:07:28,150 --> 00:07:26,639

folks just

181

00:07:30,070 --> 00:07:28,160

and i'll link to this in the show notes

182

00:07:35,830 --> 00:07:30,080

of course that is 9 11

183

00:07:38,070 --> 00:07:35,840

so that's 911.dkd for denmark of course

184

00:07:38,950 --> 00:07:38,080

and you see so you've you've obviously

185

00:07:40,550 --> 00:07:38,960

done a lot of

186

00:07:42,870 --> 00:07:40,560

research what does that mean what does

187

00:07:46,469 --> 00:07:42,880

that involve exactly

188

00:07:49,510 --> 00:07:46,479

well um it wasn't intended as such

189

00:07:51,270 --> 00:07:49,520

as at first but as a result uh we began

190

00:07:53,270 --> 00:07:51,280

to research more deeply why people

191

00:07:55,110 --> 00:07:53,280

believe conspiracy theories and what can

192

00:07:57,350 --> 00:07:55,120

be done about it

193

00:07:59,670 --> 00:07:57,360

because we keep a close eye on the

194

00:08:01,510 --> 00:07:59,680

existing and emerging research and we've

195

00:08:02,710 --> 00:08:01,520

come up with a couple of findings of our

196

00:08:06,230 --> 00:08:02,720

own

197

00:08:08,390 --> 00:08:06,240

so far it's still early days but so far

198

00:08:09,749 --> 00:08:08,400

our findings seem to hold up to scrutiny

199

00:08:10,950 --> 00:08:09,759

in part because we haven't found

200

00:08:13,510 --> 00:08:10,960

anything that go against

201
00:08:15,029 --> 00:08:13,520
the bulk of the existing research our

202
00:08:18,070 --> 00:08:15,039
findings are more of an

203
00:08:18,869 --> 00:08:18,080
extra layer of understanding our main

204
00:08:21,350 --> 00:08:18,879
discovery

205
00:08:21,990 --> 00:08:21,360
uh is that it's what we call the herit

206
00:08:24,629 --> 00:08:22,000
syndrome

207
00:08:25,909 --> 00:08:24,639
it's named after niels harrett you know

208
00:08:28,230 --> 00:08:25,919
the famous uh

209
00:08:30,150 --> 00:08:28,240
danish conspiracy theorist who claims to

210
00:08:31,909 --> 00:08:30,160
have found nanothermite in the duster

211
00:08:35,350 --> 00:08:31,919
from ground zero in manhattan

212
00:08:37,750 --> 00:08:35,360
following the terror attack all right um

213
00:08:39,990 --> 00:08:37,760

now the existing research explains why

214

00:08:41,269 --> 00:08:40,000

people become conspiracy theorists but

215

00:08:43,670 --> 00:08:41,279

it doesn't explain

216

00:08:45,990 --> 00:08:43,680

uh the two types of conspiracy theories

217

00:08:49,190 --> 00:08:46,000

that we have

218

00:08:50,070 --> 00:08:49,200

identified all right okay two types two

219

00:08:52,630 --> 00:08:50,080

types

220

00:08:54,389 --> 00:08:52,640

type one is the what we call the novice

221

00:08:56,790 --> 00:08:54,399

conspiracy theorist

222

00:08:58,230 --> 00:08:56,800

he believes in one or more conspiracies

223

00:09:00,070 --> 00:08:58,240

but he doesn't connect them

224

00:09:03,110 --> 00:09:00,080

and he can normally be reasoned with at

225

00:09:06,470 --> 00:09:03,120

least to a certain extent

226

00:09:09,110 --> 00:09:06,480

type 2 is the evangelical

227

00:09:11,110 --> 00:09:09,120

conspiracy theorist he has experienced a

228

00:09:13,509 --> 00:09:11,120

revelation

229

00:09:14,470 --> 00:09:13,519

where he sees all conspiracy theories as

230

00:09:17,590 --> 00:09:14,480

connected

231

00:09:19,110 --> 00:09:17,600

as part of a larger plan and

232

00:09:20,949 --> 00:09:19,120

the experience is similar to what

233

00:09:23,430 --> 00:09:20,959

religious people experience

234

00:09:24,870 --> 00:09:23,440

when they are visited by saints or talk

235

00:09:27,910 --> 00:09:24,880

directly to god

236

00:09:31,590 --> 00:09:27,920

right there seems to be

237

00:09:33,829 --> 00:09:31,600

more of type 1 than type 2 but it's the

238

00:09:36,230 --> 00:09:33,839

type 2 that's far more influential

239

00:09:38,470 --> 00:09:36,240

because type 2 sees themselves as

240

00:09:39,269 --> 00:09:38,480

oracles and they are considered gurus

241

00:09:42,070 --> 00:09:39,279

and prophets

242

00:09:44,230 --> 00:09:42,080

among other conspiracy theorists there's

243

00:09:47,430 --> 00:09:44,240

another difference

244

00:09:50,710 --> 00:09:47,440

type 2 type 1 is rather innocuous but

245

00:09:51,269 --> 00:09:50,720

type 2 they're far more aggressive and

246

00:09:54,310 --> 00:09:51,279

exhibit

247

00:09:58,070 --> 00:09:54,320

uh trans transboundary behavior uh

248

00:10:01,190 --> 00:09:58,080

some will even resort to uh crime

249

00:10:01,509 --> 00:10:01,200

we've been we have experienced that some

250

00:10:04,710 --> 00:10:01,519

have

251

00:10:08,230 --> 00:10:04,720

stolen our articles hmm so

252

00:10:08,949 --> 00:10:08,240

it it that's disconcerting uh how do

253

00:10:12,389 --> 00:10:08,959

they be how

254

00:10:15,110 --> 00:10:12,399

does uh people become type 2 uh

255

00:10:16,069 --> 00:10:15,120

there's always a carrier of illumination

256

00:10:18,630 --> 00:10:16,079

a messenger

257

00:10:19,590 --> 00:10:18,640

people don't seem to go from normal or

258

00:10:22,389 --> 00:10:19,600

type 1

259

00:10:22,870 --> 00:10:22,399

to type 2 on their own the carrier can

260

00:10:27,190 --> 00:10:22,880

be

261

00:10:28,949 --> 00:10:27,200

videos lectures or a tv show books

262

00:10:31,269 --> 00:10:28,959

they're usually recommended by other

263

00:10:34,710 --> 00:10:31,279

evangelical conspiracy theorists

264

00:10:36,630 --> 00:10:34,720

type two now as for

265

00:10:37,829 --> 00:10:36,640

research into conspiracy theories the

266

00:10:40,150 --> 00:10:37,839

existing

267

00:10:41,110 --> 00:10:40,160

literature explains why a person becomes

268

00:10:42,949 --> 00:10:41,120

a novice

269

00:10:45,590 --> 00:10:42,959

conspiracy theorist the heritage

270

00:10:47,750 --> 00:10:45,600

syndrome but we have

271

00:10:49,750 --> 00:10:47,760

come up with explains why a person

272

00:10:51,190 --> 00:10:49,760

becomes an evangelical conspiracy

273

00:10:54,069 --> 00:10:51,200

theorist

274

00:10:55,829 --> 00:10:54,079

i don't know are we right time will tell

275

00:10:57,750 --> 00:10:55,839

we may not be and we are careful not to

276

00:11:00,790 --> 00:10:57,760

present our findings as the ultimate

277

00:11:02,790 --> 00:11:00,800

truth let's see how it pans out so far

278

00:11:04,550 --> 00:11:02,800

we seem to be on to something well i

279

00:11:05,990 --> 00:11:04,560

mean you're sort of making a lot of

280

00:11:08,870 --> 00:11:06,000

sense and i've certainly met

281

00:11:09,829 --> 00:11:08,880

both types that you speak of and now you

282

00:11:11,430 --> 00:11:09,839

mention it now

283

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

you say it that way i guess you're

284

00:11:15,590 --> 00:11:13,360

writing so much as most people i

285

00:11:17,110 --> 00:11:15,600

certainly come across would be type

286

00:11:19,110 --> 00:11:17,120

what you would call the type one the

287

00:11:19,910 --> 00:11:19,120

novice the people who think something's

288

00:11:21,990 --> 00:11:19,920

going on

289

00:11:23,190 --> 00:11:22,000

but yes the type two are really wrapped

290

00:11:24,310 --> 00:11:23,200

up into it it's like their whole

291

00:11:26,470 --> 00:11:24,320

existence

292

00:11:27,829 --> 00:11:26,480

sort of depends on this precisely and we

293

00:11:29,590 --> 00:11:27,839

see the slot in the in

294

00:11:31,829 --> 00:11:29,600

well especially i would have to say the

295

00:11:34,150 --> 00:11:31,839

anti-vaccination movement though

296

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

quite a lot of type 2 uh conspiracy

297

00:11:37,670 --> 00:11:35,839

theories wrapped up in that but uh

298

00:11:39,990 --> 00:11:37,680

how how how do you work this how do you

299

00:11:43,190 --> 00:11:40,000

go about doing this

300

00:11:44,949 --> 00:11:43,200

well uh my uh background is i.t so i'm a

301

00:11:48,790 --> 00:11:44,959

very methodical guy

302

00:11:51,509 --> 00:11:48,800

and quite early we we had to develop

303

00:11:52,389 --> 00:11:51,519

some kind of method to approach this and

304

00:11:55,590 --> 00:11:52,399

we

305

00:11:58,870 --> 00:11:55,600

the w3 method

306

00:12:00,629 --> 00:11:58,880

what why and where to okay what are

307

00:12:02,710 --> 00:12:00,639

conspiracy theories

308

00:12:04,629 --> 00:12:02,720

why do people believe in them and where

309

00:12:06,629 --> 00:12:04,639

do we go from here

310

00:12:07,670 --> 00:12:06,639

we can't begin to fight false beliefs

311

00:12:10,790 --> 00:12:07,680

until we understand

312

00:12:12,629 --> 00:12:10,800

what those false beliefs are but we also

313

00:12:13,350 --> 00:12:12,639

need to understand why people believe

314

00:12:16,310 --> 00:12:13,360

falsehoods

315

00:12:16,790 --> 00:12:16,320

before we can do anything about them we

316

00:12:20,949 --> 00:12:16,800

don't

317

00:12:22,710 --> 00:12:20,959

goal of ridiculing conspiracy theorists

318

00:12:24,550 --> 00:12:22,720

we don't assume from the beginning that

319

00:12:26,310 --> 00:12:24,560

their claims are false

320

00:12:27,829 --> 00:12:26,320

we've decided to take the conspiracy

321

00:12:31,110 --> 00:12:27,839

theorists seriously

322

00:12:32,629 --> 00:12:31,120

very seriously they may be right even

323

00:12:35,750 --> 00:12:32,639

partly and if they are

324

00:12:37,910 --> 00:12:35,760

that needs to be acknowledged however

325

00:12:39,670 --> 00:12:37,920

if they are wrong that's equally

326

00:12:41,750 --> 00:12:39,680

important for people to know

327

00:12:43,509 --> 00:12:41,760

yeah i think i think so absolutely and

328

00:12:44,310 --> 00:12:43,519

it's impor of course it's important to

329

00:12:47,430 --> 00:12:44,320

understand

330

00:12:49,190 --> 00:12:47,440

the thinking behind the conspiracy

331

00:12:50,150 --> 00:12:49,200

theories why do people get into this

332

00:12:52,230 --> 00:12:50,160

situation

333

00:12:53,509 --> 00:12:52,240

now of course 911 is i don't know i

334

00:12:55,910 --> 00:12:53,519

guess we could call it the grandfather

335

00:12:57,269 --> 00:12:55,920

of all modern day conspiracy theories

336

00:12:58,949 --> 00:12:57,279

but let's talk about something a little

337

00:13:00,310 --> 00:12:58,959

bit um

338

00:13:02,150 --> 00:13:00,320

i don't want to say more important but i

339

00:13:03,509 --> 00:13:02,160

guess it is it's more pressing i can say

340

00:13:06,949 --> 00:13:03,519

it's more pressing in these

341

00:13:09,509 --> 00:13:06,959

this time it's the pandemic covert 19

342

00:13:11,110 --> 00:13:09,519

you must have come across a lot of covert

343

00:13:14,470 --> 00:13:11,120

19 conspiracy theories

344

00:13:17,750 --> 00:13:14,480

are there a lot out there well yeah

345

00:13:18,949 --> 00:13:17,760

it's true that the 911 has taken the

346

00:13:21,750 --> 00:13:18,959

back seat

347

00:13:22,710 --> 00:13:21,760

nowadays it's definitely covert 19 and as

348

00:13:25,030 --> 00:13:22,720

you say

349

00:13:25,829 --> 00:13:25,040

it's urgent and it's pressing people are

350

00:13:28,470 --> 00:13:25,839

dying

351

00:13:30,150 --> 00:13:28,480

more than what at this moment 1.3

352

00:13:33,030 --> 00:13:30,160

million have died

353

00:13:34,230 --> 00:13:33,040

and coveted 19 conspiracy theories

354

00:13:36,230 --> 00:13:34,240

they're interested

355

00:13:37,829 --> 00:13:36,240

interesting because they are spread by

356

00:13:40,230 --> 00:13:37,839

all levels in society

357

00:13:41,110 --> 00:13:40,240

not merely by isolated groups as we've

358

00:13:43,750 --> 00:13:41,120

seen in partic

359

00:13:45,189 --> 00:13:43,760

in particular in western societies

360

00:13:47,829 --> 00:13:45,199

truthers

361

00:13:49,509 --> 00:13:47,839

they exist in small groups here and

362

00:13:51,189 --> 00:13:49,519

there

363

00:13:52,949 --> 00:13:51,199

they've been spread by you know we can

364

00:13:54,230 --> 00:13:52,959

call them pockets of conspiracy

365

00:13:56,550 --> 00:13:54,240

theorists

366

00:13:57,829 --> 00:13:56,560

but for instance in the arab world the

367

00:13:59,910 --> 00:13:57,839

media and governments have been

368

00:14:02,790 --> 00:13:59,920

spreading conspiracy theories about

369

00:14:03,509 --> 00:14:02,800

usually involving jews ever since the

370

00:14:06,470 --> 00:14:03,519

attack

371

00:14:08,150 --> 00:14:06,480

but covet 19 theories they are being

372

00:14:11,350 --> 00:14:08,160

spread by all levels

373

00:14:13,189 --> 00:14:11,360

and in the united states in particular

374

00:14:14,550 --> 00:14:13,199

and this is a very disturbing and

375

00:14:17,269 --> 00:14:14,560

dangerous development

376

00:14:18,870 --> 00:14:17,279

yeah so so i mean within your work and

377

00:14:21,189 --> 00:14:18,880

and what you've been able to

378

00:14:22,310 --> 00:14:21,199

to gather uh how do you go about dealing

379

00:14:25,590 --> 00:14:22,320

with these uh

380

00:14:27,030 --> 00:14:25,600

covets conspiracies well there are many

381

00:14:30,230 --> 00:14:27,040

ways to uh

382

00:14:33,269 --> 00:14:30,240

approach this and there's not one that

383

00:14:34,710 --> 00:14:33,279

always works one way is to assume that

384

00:14:37,430 --> 00:14:34,720

they are true

385

00:14:38,069 --> 00:14:37,440

if we meet conspiracy theorists with an

386

00:14:40,550 --> 00:14:38,079

automatic

387

00:14:41,750 --> 00:14:40,560

you're wrong along with the evidence as

388

00:14:43,590 --> 00:14:41,760

to why

389

00:14:46,150 --> 00:14:43,600

that'll really get them interested in a

390

00:14:48,230 --> 00:14:46,160

dialogue it's crucial to examine the

391

00:14:49,829 --> 00:14:48,240

theories but doing so and facing the

392

00:14:52,550 --> 00:14:49,839

conspiracy theorists

393

00:14:53,670 --> 00:14:52,560

rarely make them change their minds and

394

00:14:55,990 --> 00:14:53,680

we've noticed that

395

00:14:57,990 --> 00:14:56,000

the conspiracy theorists are very

396

00:15:00,550 --> 00:14:58,000

strongly attached to the notion of

397

00:15:02,949 --> 00:15:00,560

evidence and reason the theories are

398

00:15:03,430 --> 00:15:02,959

presented as a comprehensive and logical

399

00:15:05,670 --> 00:15:03,440

story

400

00:15:08,550 --> 00:15:05,680

right so perhaps if we can get the

401
00:15:11,590 --> 00:15:08,560
conspiracy theorists to realize just how

402
00:15:11,990 --> 00:15:11,600
wacky and unreasonable their theories

403
00:15:14,470 --> 00:15:12,000
really

404
00:15:15,829 --> 00:15:14,480
are then we can get them to think about

405
00:15:17,829 --> 00:15:15,839
what they're saying

406
00:15:19,590 --> 00:15:17,839
especially if we compare the various

407
00:15:20,230 --> 00:15:19,600
theories and see if they contradict each

408
00:15:21,670 --> 00:15:20,240
other

409
00:15:24,470 --> 00:15:21,680
and that's something that they very

410
00:15:26,710 --> 00:15:24,480
often do right of course

411
00:15:27,910 --> 00:15:26,720
we can't convince all that many

412
00:15:30,389 --> 00:15:27,920
conspiracy theories

413
00:15:31,990 --> 00:15:30,399

just with evidence we know that by now

414

00:15:34,710 --> 00:15:32,000

but if we can make them think

415

00:15:36,150 --> 00:15:34,720

just think perhaps they can convince

416

00:15:38,069 --> 00:15:36,160

themselves that they are wrong

417

00:15:39,430 --> 00:15:38,079

by applying their own standards to their

418

00:15:42,629 --> 00:15:39,440

own reasoning

419

00:15:44,389 --> 00:15:42,639

well yes it's worth a shot i suppose

420

00:15:45,990 --> 00:15:44,399

what what are some of the conspiracy

421

00:15:46,629 --> 00:15:46,000

theories in particular that you've come

422

00:15:49,030 --> 00:15:46,639

across

423

00:15:51,110 --> 00:15:49,040

an early one was that the virus is

424

00:15:52,389 --> 00:15:51,120

engineered as a biological weapon and

425

00:15:54,550 --> 00:15:52,399

escaped from or

426
00:15:56,550 --> 00:15:54,560
was deliberately released from a secret

427
00:15:58,389 --> 00:15:56,560
lab in wuhan china

428
00:16:00,230 --> 00:15:58,399
yeah i've heard that one that one's very

429
00:16:01,910 --> 00:16:00,240
popular i've heard that uh some of my

430
00:16:03,350 --> 00:16:01,920
friends have even told me that they

431
00:16:05,590 --> 00:16:03,360
think that is the case why why do you

432
00:16:08,710 --> 00:16:05,600
think people are so

433
00:16:11,749 --> 00:16:08,720
so wrapped up in that one

434
00:16:14,389 --> 00:16:11,759
two words yellow peril

435
00:16:16,150 --> 00:16:14,399
conspiracies are often openly racist

436
00:16:18,310 --> 00:16:16,160
people believe that type of theory

437
00:16:20,470 --> 00:16:18,320
simply because racism still plays a

438
00:16:23,509 --> 00:16:20,480

large role in most societies

439

00:16:26,790 --> 00:16:23,519

trump's incessant china joiner china

440

00:16:29,430 --> 00:16:26,800

that's the best known example it is

441

00:16:30,629 --> 00:16:29,440

it is i'm not going to do a trump

442

00:16:32,710 --> 00:16:30,639

impersonation

443

00:16:33,910 --> 00:16:32,720

but it reminds me it reminds me of

444

00:16:35,269 --> 00:16:33,920

something that we say here in the

445

00:16:37,110 --> 00:16:35,279

australian skeptics who've said it for a

446

00:16:39,110 --> 00:16:37,120

long time we say well let's play the

447

00:16:41,110 --> 00:16:39,120

game what if it was true

448

00:16:42,629 --> 00:16:41,120

and in this case what if that particular

449

00:16:44,629 --> 00:16:42,639

theory was true what do you think the

450

00:16:47,829 --> 00:16:44,639

consequences would be

451

00:16:49,350 --> 00:16:47,839

dire because china would be really

452

00:16:50,150 --> 00:16:49,360

careless with their weapons of mass

453

00:16:52,470 --> 00:16:50,160

destruction

454

00:16:53,189 --> 00:16:52,480

they would unleash kovit 19 on its own

455

00:16:55,910 --> 00:16:53,199

population

456

00:16:58,470 --> 00:16:55,920

first that's not a good thing and of

457

00:17:00,270 --> 00:16:58,480

course they can't even keep it secret

458

00:17:02,310 --> 00:17:00,280

yay good work communist party

459

00:17:05,750 --> 00:17:02,320

[Laughter]

460

00:17:07,750 --> 00:17:05,760

and if it were true why doesn't the west

461

00:17:10,470 --> 00:17:07,760

perpetuate this

462

00:17:11,990 --> 00:17:10,480

uh conspiracy theory china is rapidly

463

00:17:13,750 --> 00:17:12,000

becoming a threat to the west

464

00:17:15,189 --> 00:17:13,760

not just military-wise but also

465

00:17:18,309 --> 00:17:15,199

business-wise it would make

466

00:17:21,510 --> 00:17:18,319

sense for western experts

467

00:17:24,069 --> 00:17:21,520

to perpetuate this theory normally don't

468

00:17:26,470 --> 00:17:24,079

right okay yeah that's an interesting

469

00:17:29,029 --> 00:17:26,480

one anymore that you have

470

00:17:30,549 --> 00:17:29,039

well of course there's also the story

471

00:17:32,950 --> 00:17:30,559

the usual story

472

00:17:34,310 --> 00:17:32,960

that the virus is being engineered by

473

00:17:36,150 --> 00:17:34,320

jews

474

00:17:37,430 --> 00:17:36,160

and why do people believe that one

475

00:17:39,669 --> 00:17:37,440

that's in one word

476

00:17:41,750 --> 00:17:39,679

anti-semitism yeah you don't have to

477

00:17:43,270 --> 00:17:41,760

learn about conspiracies for more than a

478

00:17:46,549 --> 00:17:43,280

few minutes before you meet

479

00:17:49,669 --> 00:17:46,559

the evil jews they are just everywhere

480

00:17:51,510 --> 00:17:49,679

and according to this theory uh israel

481

00:17:54,390 --> 00:17:51,520

is really behind the pandemic because an

482

00:17:57,029 --> 00:17:54,400

israeli company is working on a vaccine

483

00:17:59,029 --> 00:17:57,039

which will make jews look good so it

484

00:18:02,470 --> 00:17:59,039

must be an evil plot

485

00:18:04,310 --> 00:18:02,480

oh no oh boy no matter how many times

486

00:18:05,350 --> 00:18:04,320

you hear these crazy conspiracy theories

487

00:18:07,750 --> 00:18:05,360

there's one more just

488

00:18:09,430 --> 00:18:07,760

just as crazy well let's play the same

489

00:18:11,510 --> 00:18:09,440

game now what do you think what if that

490

00:18:14,230 --> 00:18:11,520

one was true

491

00:18:15,029 --> 00:18:14,240

well um israel is up against many other

492

00:18:17,190 --> 00:18:15,039

countries

493

00:18:19,510 --> 00:18:17,200

uh which are also working on their own

494

00:18:21,190 --> 00:18:19,520

vaccines denmark is close to having its

495

00:18:23,110 --> 00:18:21,200

own vaccine now

496

00:18:25,430 --> 00:18:23,120

and we see them pop up just about

497

00:18:25,909 --> 00:18:25,440

everywhere the united states is pretty

498

00:18:29,669 --> 00:18:25,919

close

499

00:18:31,830 --> 00:18:29,679

to uh rolling out a vaccine

500

00:18:32,710 --> 00:18:31,840

so why would the jews instigate a

501
00:18:34,630 --> 00:18:32,720
pandemic

502
00:18:35,830 --> 00:18:34,640
only to have their plan of being the

503
00:18:38,549 --> 00:18:35,840
world's heroic

504
00:18:39,830 --> 00:18:38,559
rescuers foiled by many other countries

505
00:18:42,870 --> 00:18:39,840
beating them to it

506
00:18:45,270 --> 00:18:42,880
i mean that's just dumb

507
00:18:47,270 --> 00:18:45,280
yeah yeah it certainly is it certainly

508
00:18:47,750 --> 00:18:47,280
isn't and one i've heard and and you've

509
00:18:50,870 --> 00:18:47,760
probably

510
00:18:53,190 --> 00:18:50,880
come across this one too is our

511
00:18:55,029 --> 00:18:53,200
uh our dear friend well i don't mean

512
00:18:57,750 --> 00:18:55,039
that personally of course

513
00:18:59,510 --> 00:18:57,760

bill gates who does so much good work to

514

00:19:02,070 --> 00:18:59,520

try and help humanity

515

00:19:03,590 --> 00:19:02,080

i believe he's the focus of conspiracy

516

00:19:06,630 --> 00:19:03,600

theories too

517

00:19:07,110 --> 00:19:06,640

yeah according to uh by the way he's not

518

00:19:13,590 --> 00:19:07,120

called

519

00:19:15,830 --> 00:19:13,600

he plans a genocide by forcing vaccines

520

00:19:18,150 --> 00:19:15,840

on everyone

521

00:19:19,830 --> 00:19:18,160

and this is interesting because

522

00:19:22,470 --> 00:19:19,840

antivirus as you are

523

00:19:23,350 --> 00:19:22,480

very familiar with down under and

524

00:19:28,150 --> 00:19:23,360

conspiracy

525

00:19:30,310 --> 00:19:28,160

join forces

526

00:19:31,270 --> 00:19:30,320

it plays into the fear of science of

527

00:19:33,430 --> 00:19:31,280

mind control

528

00:19:35,190 --> 00:19:33,440

in favor of this naturalistic fallacy

529

00:19:38,230 --> 00:19:35,200

that everything in nature is good

530

00:19:41,350 --> 00:19:38,240

everything man-made is bad and of course

531

00:19:43,830 --> 00:19:41,360

so-called alternative medicine so

532

00:19:44,549 --> 00:19:43,840

it's an interesting conspiracy theory

533

00:19:47,909 --> 00:19:44,559

because

534

00:19:49,909 --> 00:19:47,919

here you have two groups joining forces

535

00:19:51,270 --> 00:19:49,919

yeah yeah it's it's absolutely it's

536

00:19:54,150 --> 00:19:51,280

absolutely bizarre

537

00:19:56,230 --> 00:19:54,160

and i mean what benefit could that

538

00:19:59,029 --> 00:19:56,240

possibly be to bill gates what what okay

539

00:20:01,830 --> 00:19:59,039

what if that were true what do you think

540

00:20:04,710 --> 00:20:01,840

well as history has taught us if you

541

00:20:07,669 --> 00:20:04,720

want to plan and carry out a genocide

542

00:20:09,669 --> 00:20:07,679

don't do it in broad daylight i mean if

543

00:20:12,470 --> 00:20:09,679

vaccinations were forced

544

00:20:14,789 --> 00:20:12,480

and resulted in mass deaths it would be

545

00:20:17,750 --> 00:20:14,799

painfully obvious what was behind it

546

00:20:18,630 --> 00:20:17,760

bill gates and his vaccines yes it would

547

00:20:20,710 --> 00:20:18,640

cost perhaps

548

00:20:23,029 --> 00:20:20,720

hundreds of thousands of deaths before

549

00:20:25,990 --> 00:20:23,039

it was revealed or

550

00:20:27,430 --> 00:20:26,000

people realized it but the public outcry

551
00:20:29,110 --> 00:20:27,440
would be enormous

552
00:20:30,950 --> 00:20:29,120
and it would stop the vaccinations

553
00:20:33,909 --> 00:20:30,960
before the deaths reached

554
00:20:35,590 --> 00:20:33,919
millions and it would also mean that

555
00:20:36,710 --> 00:20:35,600
bill gates would be surpassing even

556
00:20:38,630 --> 00:20:36,720
adolf hitler

557
00:20:39,830 --> 00:20:38,640
in being the most reviled person in the

558
00:20:42,470 --> 00:20:39,840
world history

559
00:20:43,350 --> 00:20:42,480
you couldn't keep it secret yeah yeah so

560
00:20:44,870 --> 00:20:43,360
why do it

561
00:20:47,029 --> 00:20:44,880
yeah you make you make an excellent

562
00:20:47,990 --> 00:20:47,039
point and bill gates if you're listening

563
00:20:50,470 --> 00:20:48,000

uh we're sorry

564

00:20:51,830 --> 00:20:50,480

that all this nonsense has been uh

565

00:20:54,710 --> 00:20:51,840

heading your way

566

00:20:55,190 --> 00:20:54,720

now there's another one and i i consider

567

00:20:58,630 --> 00:20:55,200

this

568

00:21:00,070 --> 00:20:58,640

probably the most far-fetched one i've

569

00:21:03,669 --> 00:21:00,080

ever heard certainly

570

00:21:07,110 --> 00:21:03,679

which is of course 5g mobile

571

00:21:10,710 --> 00:21:07,120

phone towers are spreading covet 19.

572

00:21:13,350 --> 00:21:10,720

it's an interesting here we also see

573

00:21:15,270 --> 00:21:13,360

two groups joining forces anti-cell

574

00:21:16,950 --> 00:21:15,280

phoners and kovit-19 conspiracy

575

00:21:19,669 --> 00:21:16,960

theorists

576

00:21:21,029 --> 00:21:19,679

here we have the fear of technology

577

00:21:22,149 --> 00:21:21,039

together with a fundamental

578

00:21:25,909 --> 00:21:22,159

understanding of

579

00:21:29,510 --> 00:21:25,919

very basic scientific concepts because

580

00:21:32,630 --> 00:21:29,520

if why 5g and not 4g

581

00:21:34,390 --> 00:21:32,640

3g or 2g indeed those technologies were

582

00:21:34,950 --> 00:21:34,400

also claimed to be harmful to millions

583

00:21:37,270 --> 00:21:34,960

of people

584

00:21:38,390 --> 00:21:37,280

where are the massive deaths from cancer

585

00:21:40,870 --> 00:21:38,400

and how do you even

586

00:21:41,750 --> 00:21:40,880

spread a virus via electromagnetic

587

00:21:45,270 --> 00:21:41,760

radiation

588

00:21:47,510 --> 00:21:45,280

yes and more to the point why would you

589

00:21:49,350 --> 00:21:47,520

i mean it would hit everyone including

590

00:21:49,750 --> 00:21:49,360

the including those behind the devious

591

00:21:52,950 --> 00:21:49,760

plan

592

00:21:56,230 --> 00:21:52,960

yeah yeah i mean and to

593

00:21:57,590 --> 00:21:56,240

further nail it this conspiracy theory

594

00:21:59,909 --> 00:21:57,600

is promoted in part

595

00:22:01,270 --> 00:21:59,919

via cell phone technology and that's a

596

00:22:03,590 --> 00:22:01,280

contradiction right there

597

00:22:04,950 --> 00:22:03,600

the conspiracy theorists may believe the

598

00:22:07,430 --> 00:22:04,960

theory but they don't

599

00:22:08,630 --> 00:22:07,440

act accordingly i love that one they're

600

00:22:10,230 --> 00:22:08,640

all calling themselves

601
00:22:12,310 --> 00:22:10,240
each other up on the on their cell

602
00:22:15,510 --> 00:22:12,320
phones using various uh

603
00:22:15,909 --> 00:22:15,520
g technology you know 4g 3g and probably

604
00:22:19,190 --> 00:22:15,919
now

605
00:22:21,669 --> 00:22:19,200
5g to complain about it and commiserate

606
00:22:24,630 --> 00:22:21,679
with themselves and try to plot

607
00:22:25,430 --> 00:22:24,640
all sorts of things so so class are

608
00:22:27,110 --> 00:22:25,440
there any that

609
00:22:29,990 --> 00:22:27,120
sort of roll on from that weird

610
00:22:34,070 --> 00:22:30,000
conspiracy theory with the 5g

611
00:22:37,590 --> 00:22:34,080
well it's maybe a meta

612
00:22:39,830 --> 00:22:37,600
conspiracy mega corporations global

613
00:22:41,750 --> 00:22:39,840

corporations benefit from businesses

614

00:22:46,630 --> 00:22:41,760

shutting down so they must be behind

615

00:22:49,270 --> 00:22:46,640

it and this is uh this

616

00:22:50,870 --> 00:22:49,280

it's about anti-globalism that runs deep

617

00:22:53,190 --> 00:22:50,880

in conspiracy land

618

00:22:55,669 --> 00:22:53,200

anything global is seen as evil

619

00:23:00,310 --> 00:22:55,679

therefore jeff pieces from amazon.com

620

00:23:03,909 --> 00:23:02,470

we found that there's often a grain of

621

00:23:06,149 --> 00:23:03,919

truth to conspiracy

622

00:23:07,029 --> 00:23:06,159

theories because online businesses have

623

00:23:10,870 --> 00:23:07,039

indeed

624

00:23:13,830 --> 00:23:10,880

sales oh yeah

625

00:23:14,710 --> 00:23:13,840

but starting a pandemic seems like a

626

00:23:17,270 --> 00:23:14,720

rather stupid

627

00:23:18,789 --> 00:23:17,280

way to increase profit since the trend

628

00:23:20,710 --> 00:23:18,799

is going in the direction of online

629

00:23:23,190 --> 00:23:20,720

stores anyway

630

00:23:24,310 --> 00:23:23,200

so why would you risk a sure thing by

631

00:23:25,990 --> 00:23:24,320

launching a pandemic

632

00:23:28,789 --> 00:23:26,000

that would also cost millions of

633

00:23:31,029 --> 00:23:28,799

potential customers they're gonna die

634

00:23:32,149 --> 00:23:31,039

so they can't buy people yeah they can't

635

00:23:33,909 --> 00:23:32,159

buy your stuff

636

00:23:35,350 --> 00:23:33,919

well again you're making a lot of sense

637

00:23:36,549 --> 00:23:35,360

and and

638

00:23:38,470 --> 00:23:36,559

on the flip side of course the

639

00:23:40,630 --> 00:23:38,480

conspiracy theorists and conspiracy

640

00:23:42,950 --> 00:23:40,640

theories in general to me

641

00:23:43,990 --> 00:23:42,960

um don't seem to make a lot of sense

642

00:23:45,909 --> 00:23:44,000

really

643

00:23:49,029 --> 00:23:45,919

yeah but that's because you're thinking

644

00:23:51,990 --> 00:23:49,039

like a skeptic

645

00:23:52,789 --> 00:23:52,000

have found that and this really sounds

646

00:23:54,950 --> 00:23:52,799

uh

647

00:23:56,149 --> 00:23:54,960

insane i'm not i'm not saying that

648

00:24:01,350 --> 00:23:56,159

conspiracy theorists

649

00:24:08,710 --> 00:24:04,950

the more absurd a conspiracy theory

650

00:24:11,510 --> 00:24:08,720

is the easier it is believed by

651
00:24:13,350 --> 00:24:11,520
especially type 2 because if everything

652
00:24:15,590 --> 00:24:13,360
is a conspiracy

653
00:24:18,950 --> 00:24:15,600
well then it makes more and more sense

654
00:24:22,789 --> 00:24:18,960
that's why you have people

655
00:24:23,110 --> 00:24:22,799
where people can go from jfbs is behind

656
00:24:26,230 --> 00:24:23,120
the

657
00:24:29,350 --> 00:24:26,240
covet 19 pandemic to gradually

658
00:24:32,470 --> 00:24:29,360
accept the idea of reptilian

659
00:24:33,269 --> 00:24:32,480
overloads from outer space because the

660
00:24:39,430 --> 00:24:33,279
more

661
00:24:40,310 --> 00:24:39,440
the easier it is to believe once you've

662
00:24:44,390 --> 00:24:40,320
gone down the

663
00:24:47,590 --> 00:24:44,400

shall we say the dark way yeah yeah so

664

00:24:48,390 --> 00:24:47,600

if if we take them one by one conspiracy

665

00:24:49,909 --> 00:24:48,400

theories

666

00:24:51,830 --> 00:24:49,919

they don't they don't pass the sniff

667

00:24:55,269 --> 00:24:51,840

test if they are true

668

00:24:57,590 --> 00:24:55,279

they make no sense at all but uh

669

00:24:59,190 --> 00:24:57,600

it's when we compare the theories to

670

00:25:03,029 --> 00:24:59,200

other theories that they become

671

00:25:05,990 --> 00:25:03,039

truly ridiculous because if either

672

00:25:06,549 --> 00:25:06,000

the chinese government or bill gates are

673

00:25:09,350 --> 00:25:06,559

behind

674

00:25:10,230 --> 00:25:09,360

the pandemic both theories can't be true

675

00:25:12,710 --> 00:25:10,240

so which

676
00:25:13,669 --> 00:25:12,720
theory is false and why right right

677
00:25:16,549 --> 00:25:13,679
think about it

678
00:25:17,669 --> 00:25:16,559
that's what we we say to conspiracy

679
00:25:20,630 --> 00:25:17,679
theorists

680
00:25:21,830 --> 00:25:20,640
why which one is uh false which one is

681
00:25:24,950 --> 00:25:21,840
true

682
00:25:26,789 --> 00:25:24,960
why are they false think about it if

683
00:25:27,990 --> 00:25:26,799
of course on the other hand they are

684
00:25:29,669 --> 00:25:28,000
both true

685
00:25:32,470 --> 00:25:29,679
what about the other ones what about the

686
00:25:35,029 --> 00:25:32,480
other theories if they are all true

687
00:25:35,990 --> 00:25:35,039
why would the and get get ready for this

688
00:25:38,230 --> 00:25:36,000

one

689

00:25:39,590 --> 00:25:38,240

why would the chinese government work

690

00:25:42,149 --> 00:25:39,600

with cell phone companies

691

00:25:44,230 --> 00:25:42,159

deaf pieces from amazon.com bill gates

692

00:25:45,269 --> 00:25:44,240

with his genocidal vaccine and israel

693

00:25:47,590 --> 00:25:45,279

with their vaccine

694

00:25:49,029 --> 00:25:47,600

to kill off millions of customers yes

695

00:25:52,630 --> 00:25:49,039

yes that's right

696

00:25:57,029 --> 00:25:52,640

what that's the if you accept

697

00:25:59,269 --> 00:25:57,039

that as being logical and making sense

698

00:26:01,990 --> 00:25:59,279

the neck you are not that far from

699

00:26:04,870 --> 00:26:02,000

accepting reptilian overlords

700

00:26:07,510 --> 00:26:04,880

so there's a danger to believing once

701
00:26:10,950 --> 00:26:07,520
you believe your first conspiracy theory

702
00:26:12,630 --> 00:26:10,960
it's not going to be your last yeah yep

703
00:26:14,149 --> 00:26:12,640
that makes a lot of sense to me and of

704
00:26:15,750 --> 00:26:14,159
course you you know

705
00:26:17,430 --> 00:26:15,760
full well that you and i are both part

706
00:26:19,590 --> 00:26:17,440
of the conspiracy to keep conspiracy

707
00:26:23,029 --> 00:26:19,600
theories down don't you

708
00:26:25,269 --> 00:26:23,039
oh yes and uh but

709
00:26:27,590 --> 00:26:25,279
i i'm i'm better at it than you because

710
00:26:30,630 --> 00:26:27,600
i actually get paid

711
00:26:33,350 --> 00:26:30,640
i get paid uh you don't

712
00:26:34,470 --> 00:26:33,360
uh we are all when steve and i are uh

713
00:26:36,390 --> 00:26:34,480

giving lectures

714

00:26:38,070 --> 00:26:36,400

we don't give that many lectures

715

00:26:41,430 --> 00:26:38,080

nowadays but

716

00:26:45,190 --> 00:26:41,440

usually when we go to schools and

717

00:26:48,149 --> 00:26:45,200

high schools and even universities we

718

00:26:48,789 --> 00:26:48,159

we get usually get the same question who

719

00:26:51,669 --> 00:26:48,799

pays us

720

00:26:52,230 --> 00:26:51,679

to do this conspiracy theorists they

721

00:26:54,950 --> 00:26:52,240

have a

722

00:26:56,390 --> 00:26:54,960

hard time understanding that this is uh

723

00:26:59,190 --> 00:26:56,400

just a conomor

724

00:26:59,990 --> 00:26:59,200

uh project for us we do sting and i do

725

00:27:02,230 --> 00:27:00,000

this

726

00:27:03,110 --> 00:27:02,240

because we think it's necessary of

727

00:27:06,390 --> 00:27:03,120

course we get

728

00:27:09,510 --> 00:27:06,400

paid when we do lectures but our

729

00:27:12,710 --> 00:27:09,520

far biggest shall we say donation comes

730

00:27:15,510 --> 00:27:12,720

from the conspiracy theorists ourselves

731

00:27:16,950 --> 00:27:15,520

themselves because um i mentioned

732

00:27:19,430 --> 00:27:16,960

earlier that

733

00:27:20,470 --> 00:27:19,440

we've had articles stolen from us yeah

734

00:27:23,269 --> 00:27:20,480

yeah

735

00:27:24,070 --> 00:27:23,279

so we took one of them to court which uh

736

00:27:27,830 --> 00:27:24,080

resulted

737

00:27:30,870 --> 00:27:27,840

in we got about just over fifty thousand

738

00:27:33,750 --> 00:27:30,880

days corner that's about

739

00:27:35,430 --> 00:27:33,760

seven or eight thousand dollars from the

740

00:27:38,470 --> 00:27:35,440

court

741

00:27:41,190 --> 00:27:38,480

so you know yeah

742

00:27:43,990 --> 00:27:41,200

sure we get paid for doing this but we

743

00:27:47,830 --> 00:27:44,000

get paid by the conspiracy theorists

744

00:27:49,110 --> 00:27:47,840

that's funny come on who can say among

745

00:27:52,870 --> 00:27:49,120

the skeptics

746

00:27:55,510 --> 00:27:52,880

the skeptic community communities that

747

00:27:56,389 --> 00:27:55,520

you know you get paid by people who want

748

00:27:58,710 --> 00:27:56,399

to hear

749

00:28:00,549 --> 00:27:58,720

what you have to say we get paid by the

750

00:28:03,190 --> 00:28:00,559

conspiracy theorists

751
00:28:03,990 --> 00:28:03,200
i can't argue with that oh you sound

752
00:28:05,590 --> 00:28:04,000
like you're on

753
00:28:07,590 --> 00:28:05,600
a good deal there if that if that's the

754
00:28:08,549 --> 00:28:07,600
case folks i will link to this website

755
00:28:10,389 --> 00:28:08,559
once again

756
00:28:11,669 --> 00:28:10,399
in this week's show notes it's certainly

757
00:28:15,029 --> 00:28:11,679
worth your uh

758
00:28:16,870 --> 00:28:15,039
visit i've been going there and

759
00:28:18,310 --> 00:28:16,880
perusing the it's very well laid out

760
00:28:19,750 --> 00:28:18,320
klaus i must say it's a really

761
00:28:22,070 --> 00:28:19,760
interesting way you've laid out the

762
00:28:26,310 --> 00:28:22,080
website that's 9 11

763
00:28:28,549 --> 00:28:26,320

facts dot d k d k for denmark of course

764

00:28:29,350 --> 00:28:28,559

well worth your visit and clas i worked

765

00:28:31,830 --> 00:28:29,360

out that we

766

00:28:32,789 --> 00:28:31,840

have indeed met each other and it was at

767

00:28:36,549 --> 00:28:32,799

tam

768

00:28:41,110 --> 00:28:36,559

number six

769

00:28:43,990 --> 00:28:41,120

in 2008 how about that

770

00:28:46,149 --> 00:28:44,000

oh boy that's 12 years ago i know now

771

00:28:47,669 --> 00:28:46,159

that's a conspiracy in itself i think

772

00:28:49,350 --> 00:28:47,679

well it's the only thing i don't like

773

00:28:53,110 --> 00:28:49,360

about getting older

774

00:28:57,190 --> 00:28:53,120

time seemed to pass quicker and quicker

775

00:28:58,630 --> 00:28:57,200

a month is just wait i mean it was just

776

00:29:00,630 --> 00:28:58,640

where where are we now well we are in

777

00:29:03,990 --> 00:29:00,640

november what happened it was just

778

00:29:05,909 --> 00:29:04,000

east yesterday so

779

00:29:07,590 --> 00:29:05,919

that i don't like otherwise it's okay

780

00:29:10,149 --> 00:29:07,600

although otherwise it's okay but

781

00:29:12,070 --> 00:29:10,159

i will say about this year 2020 with the

782

00:29:14,870 --> 00:29:12,080

pandemic it has been

783

00:29:15,909 --> 00:29:14,880

in some respects the longest year i can

784

00:29:19,190 --> 00:29:15,919

remember

785

00:29:21,350 --> 00:29:19,200

and one of the shortest it's just

786

00:29:23,430 --> 00:29:21,360

and that's a conspiracy all in itself

787

00:29:25,029 --> 00:29:23,440

well klaus larsen thank you so much for

788

00:29:26,070 --> 00:29:25,039

spending some time here on the skeptic

789

00:29:29,029 --> 00:29:26,080

own come back again

790

00:29:31,029 --> 00:29:29,039

soon uh you're always welcome to to

791

00:29:31,909 --> 00:29:31,039

appear on the show and i might even get

792

00:29:33,269 --> 00:29:31,919

you

793

00:29:35,110 --> 00:29:33,279

in the next little while to make a

794

00:29:35,909 --> 00:29:35,120

little promo i can run regularly on the

795

00:29:37,830 --> 00:29:35,919

show to

796

00:29:40,310 --> 00:29:37,840

get more people to visit your site but

797

00:29:54,320 --> 00:29:40,320

for now klaus larsen thank you very much

798

00:30:06,830 --> 00:29:54,330

thank you

799

00:30:11,330 --> 00:30:09,750

do

800

00:30:14,870 --> 00:30:11,340

logical fallacies

801
00:30:17,669 --> 00:30:14,880

[Music]

802
00:30:19,510 --> 00:30:17,679

what are logical fallacies and why is it

803
00:30:22,149 --> 00:30:19,520

important that critical thinkers should

804
00:30:24,470 --> 00:30:22,159

know about them

805
00:30:26,070 --> 00:30:24,480

a logical fallacy is an error we can

806
00:30:28,070 --> 00:30:26,080

make in reasoning

807
00:30:32,470 --> 00:30:28,080

but it usually crops up when we are

808
00:30:36,870 --> 00:30:34,549

some people might even knowingly use

809
00:30:37,750 --> 00:30:36,880

them to try and score cheap points in an

810
00:30:41,029 --> 00:30:37,760

argument

811
00:30:43,590 --> 00:30:41,039

due to intellectual laziness

812
00:30:45,350 --> 00:30:43,600

they are traps we can fall into but if

813
00:30:47,510 --> 00:30:45,360

we know what to look out for

814

00:30:51,060 --> 00:30:47,520

we can spot them when they occur and

815

00:30:52,870 --> 00:30:51,070

stop ourselves from using them

816

00:30:55,350 --> 00:30:52,880

[Music]

817

00:30:57,029 --> 00:30:55,360

this time we'll look at appeal to the

818

00:30:59,830 --> 00:30:57,039

stone

819

00:31:01,430 --> 00:30:59,840

this is when you dismiss an idea or

820

00:31:04,389 --> 00:31:01,440

statement as absurd

821

00:31:06,230 --> 00:31:04,399

invalid or incorrect without giving a

822

00:31:10,070 --> 00:31:06,240

satisfactory reason

823

00:31:11,830 --> 00:31:10,080

as to why many armchair skeptics can be

824

00:31:15,350 --> 00:31:11,840

guilty of this fallacy

825

00:31:18,630 --> 00:31:15,360

as it is all too easy to reject an idea

826
00:31:21,269 --> 00:31:18,640
without really understanding the topic

827
00:31:23,430 --> 00:31:21,279
but then again those who believe in

828
00:31:25,830 --> 00:31:23,440
talking to the dead for example

829
00:31:26,590 --> 00:31:25,840
can be too quick to write off more

830
00:31:29,990 --> 00:31:26,600
mundane

831
00:31:30,230 --> 00:31:30,000
explanations of course i don't believe

832
00:31:33,669 --> 00:31:30,240
in

833
00:31:35,909 --> 00:31:33,679
sources

834
00:31:37,269 --> 00:31:35,919
i don't know much about space travel but

835
00:31:40,310 --> 00:31:37,279
the whole idea is

836
00:31:42,950 --> 00:31:40,320
just ridiculous so far

837
00:31:45,990 --> 00:31:42,960
there is no good evidence to suggest

838
00:31:49,029 --> 00:31:46,000

aliens or robotic ships have visited the

839

00:31:51,430 --> 00:31:49,039

earth from other planets however

840

00:31:53,990 --> 00:31:51,440

it would be naive to write the whole

841

00:31:57,669 --> 00:31:54,000

idea of as being ridiculous

842

00:32:01,509 --> 00:31:57,679

without some understanding of the topic

843

00:32:03,630 --> 00:32:01,519

as carl sagan said for all i know

844

00:32:06,149 --> 00:32:03,640

we may be visited by a different

845

00:32:09,110 --> 00:32:06,159

extraterrestrial civilization

846

00:32:11,750 --> 00:32:09,120

every second tuesday but there's no

847

00:32:14,230 --> 00:32:11,760

support for this appealing idea

848

00:32:15,509 --> 00:32:14,240

i hear that thousands of scientists have

849

00:32:17,990 --> 00:32:15,519

signed a paper

850

00:32:19,029 --> 00:32:18,000

calling for action on climate change but

851
00:32:22,070 --> 00:32:19,039
i don't care

852
00:32:24,310 --> 00:32:22,080
climate change is just made up and silly

853
00:32:26,149 --> 00:32:24,320
not understanding a topic like climate

854
00:32:29,350 --> 00:32:26,159
change and calling it silly

855
00:32:31,669 --> 00:32:29,360
is a very poor way of reasoning we owe

856
00:32:34,630 --> 00:32:31,679
it to ourselves to do at least

857
00:32:35,990 --> 00:32:34,640
some research on a topic before taking a

858
00:32:39,110 --> 00:32:36,000
strong stand

859
00:32:41,909 --> 00:32:39,120
one way or the other the earth is

860
00:32:42,870 --> 00:32:41,919
flat i tell you i mean just look at the

861
00:32:45,509 --> 00:32:42,880
horizon

862
00:32:46,310 --> 00:32:45,519
it's flat the idea that the earth is

863
00:32:49,269 --> 00:32:46,320

round is

864

00:32:50,470 --> 00:32:49,279

absurd it's funny to think that once

865

00:32:52,870 --> 00:32:50,480

upon a time

866

00:32:54,549 --> 00:32:52,880

thousands of years ago people thought

867

00:32:57,029 --> 00:32:54,559

the same thing

868

00:32:57,830 --> 00:32:57,039

we can forgive those ancient people as

869

00:33:00,950 --> 00:32:57,840

they didn't

870

00:33:04,230 --> 00:33:00,960

know better but for the last

871

00:33:07,509 --> 00:33:04,240

2 000 years it has been widely accepted

872

00:33:10,470 --> 00:33:07,519

and understood that we live on a globe

873

00:33:14,230 --> 00:33:10,480

no matter how absurd some people think

874

00:33:19,430 --> 00:33:16,710

even if you think an idea or claim is

875

00:33:21,750 --> 00:33:19,440

just too silly for you to entertain

876

00:33:23,029 --> 00:33:21,760

it is worth the time to come to an

877

00:33:26,070 --> 00:33:23,039

understanding as to

878

00:33:27,990 --> 00:33:26,080

why you made that determination

879

00:33:29,909 --> 00:33:28,000

does the claim violate the laws of

880

00:33:34,149 --> 00:33:29,919

physics for example

881

00:33:36,310 --> 00:33:34,159

if so which laws and why

882

00:33:38,070 --> 00:33:36,320

what other reasons do you have to reject

883

00:33:40,070 --> 00:33:38,080

the claim

884

00:33:42,549 --> 00:33:40,080

then at least you'll have a better

885

00:33:44,870 --> 00:33:42,559

answer than simply calling it silly or

886

00:33:47,830 --> 00:33:44,880

ridiculous

887

00:33:49,909 --> 00:33:47,840

[Music]

888

00:33:50,870 --> 00:33:49,919

knowing a logical fallacy when you hear

889

00:33:53,590 --> 00:33:50,880

one and

890

00:33:56,149 --> 00:33:53,600

even knowing its name is important when

891

00:33:59,509 --> 00:33:56,159

arguing your point of view

892

00:34:01,990 --> 00:33:59,519

however you may come across as arrogant

893

00:34:02,710 --> 00:34:02,000

and not get very far if you call it out

894

00:34:05,110 --> 00:34:02,720

by name

895

00:34:07,190 --> 00:34:05,120

to your opponent when you hear it being

896

00:34:09,669 --> 00:34:07,200

used

897

00:34:10,550 --> 00:34:09,679

if your opponent calls you out for using

898

00:34:12,790 --> 00:34:10,560

one

899

00:34:15,829 --> 00:34:12,800

it's time to stop and think about how

900

00:34:17,909 --> 00:34:15,839

you are making your case

901
00:34:19,109 --> 00:34:17,919
use your knowledge of logical fallacies

902
00:34:21,909 --> 00:34:19,119
wisely

903
00:34:23,109 --> 00:34:21,919
and remember that even if your point of

904
00:34:25,430 --> 00:34:23,119
view is right

905
00:34:26,790 --> 00:34:25,440
and you know all the pitfalls in arguing

906
00:34:29,270 --> 00:34:26,800
your case

907
00:34:30,389 --> 00:34:29,280
it doesn't always mean you'll win on the

908
00:34:33,669 --> 00:34:30,399
day

909
00:34:36,270 --> 00:34:33,679
and as skeptics we must also remember

910
00:34:39,270 --> 00:34:36,280
that we too can be wrong at times

911
00:34:41,109 --> 00:34:39,280
[Music]

912
00:34:52,479 --> 00:34:41,119
i'm michelle bickersma from the vic

913
00:34:52,489 --> 00:35:07,750

[Music]

914

00:35:11,510 --> 00:35:09,750

now it's time once again to dive into

915

00:35:13,510 --> 00:35:11,520

the treasure trove

916

00:35:17,030 --> 00:35:13,520

the information treasure trove that is

917

00:35:18,870 --> 00:35:17,040

trove at trove.nla.gov

918

00:35:21,510 --> 00:35:18,880

an online resource of magazines

919

00:35:24,950 --> 00:35:21,520

periodicals reports

920

00:35:26,550 --> 00:35:24,960

newspapers flyers gazettes that sort of

921

00:35:28,150 --> 00:35:26,560

thing

922

00:35:30,069 --> 00:35:28,160

now over the past few months we've been

923

00:35:32,310 --> 00:35:30,079

looking at classic skepticism like loch

924

00:35:35,349 --> 00:35:32,320

ness monster or yowie's

925

00:35:37,430 --> 00:35:35,359

ufos esp clairvoyance that sort of thing

926

00:35:39,670 --> 00:35:37,440

so today i thought we'd look at

927

00:35:41,270 --> 00:35:39,680

skepticism itself or in this case

928

00:35:42,790 --> 00:35:41,280

australian skeptics now australian

929

00:35:46,069 --> 00:35:42,800

skeptics have been

930

00:35:48,390 --> 00:35:46,079

around since 1981

931

00:35:51,589 --> 00:35:48,400

which means uh early next year it'll be

932

00:35:53,670 --> 00:35:51,599

the 40th anniversary of the organization

933

00:35:55,589 --> 00:35:53,680

who knows we might have a celebratory

934

00:35:58,230 --> 00:35:55,599

cup of tea or something

935

00:36:00,230 --> 00:35:58,240

anyway i've typed into the search engine

936

00:36:03,510 --> 00:36:00,240

here at trove

937

00:36:06,310 --> 00:36:03,520

australian skeptics and there are

938

00:36:06,950 --> 00:36:06,320

a surprising amount of returns most of

939

00:36:10,310 --> 00:36:06,960

them

940

00:36:12,870 --> 00:36:10,320

from the canberra times because i think

941

00:36:14,390 --> 00:36:12,880

a lot of what you find in this trove is

942

00:36:15,750 --> 00:36:14,400

from the canberra times but that's all

943

00:36:17,990 --> 00:36:15,760

right

944

00:36:19,829 --> 00:36:18,000

and the first one we come across and

945

00:36:22,230 --> 00:36:19,839

i'll read a selection of them

946

00:36:24,829 --> 00:36:22,240

comes from the canberra times monday

947

00:36:27,140 --> 00:36:24,839

january the 6th

948

00:36:30,710 --> 00:36:27,150

1986

949

00:36:37,510 --> 00:36:34,589

with the headline creationists grants

950

00:36:39,190 --> 00:36:37,520

unconstitutional the australian skeptics

951
00:36:41,589 --> 00:36:39,200
believe the government may have

952
00:36:43,750 --> 00:36:41,599
breached the constitution by giving

953
00:36:45,910 --> 00:36:43,760
export development grants totaling

954
00:36:48,020 --> 00:36:45,920
at least twenty seven thousand dollars

955
00:36:49,589 --> 00:36:48,030
to two creationist organizations

956
00:36:51,829 --> 00:36:49,599
[Music]

957
00:36:53,750 --> 00:36:51,839
national president of the australian

958
00:36:56,390 --> 00:36:53,760
skeptics mr mark plummer

959
00:36:58,790 --> 00:36:56,400
and as an aside mark plummer is regarded

960
00:37:03,510 --> 00:36:58,800
as the founder of australian skeptics

961
00:37:05,109 --> 00:37:03,520
and he died sadly in about 2011.

962
00:37:06,790 --> 00:37:05,119
anyway mr mark plummer said from

963
00:37:09,109 --> 00:37:06,800

melbourne yesterday that

964

00:37:10,390 --> 00:37:09,119

section 116 of the federal constitution

965

00:37:13,349 --> 00:37:10,400

prevented the government

966

00:37:15,349 --> 00:37:13,359

from establishing a religion we find it

967

00:37:17,589 --> 00:37:15,359

rather amazing that the board

968

00:37:18,710 --> 00:37:17,599

the export development grants board have

969

00:37:21,109 --> 00:37:18,720

made grants to

970

00:37:23,190 --> 00:37:21,119

religious organizations and we want to

971

00:37:24,150 --> 00:37:23,200

know under what pretext they got the

972

00:37:26,950 --> 00:37:24,160

money

973

00:37:28,390 --> 00:37:26,960

he said the skeptics had made a freedom

974

00:37:30,950 --> 00:37:28,400

of information request

975

00:37:32,790 --> 00:37:30,960

to the attorney general's department to

976

00:37:34,230 --> 00:37:32,800

find out if checks had been made to

977

00:37:36,550 --> 00:37:34,240

ensure that the grants

978

00:37:37,670 --> 00:37:36,560

had not been inconsistent with the

979

00:37:39,990 --> 00:37:37,680

section

980

00:37:42,230 --> 00:37:40,000

mr plummer said there had only been four

981

00:37:45,270 --> 00:37:42,240

legal cases brought under this section

982

00:37:47,349 --> 00:37:45,280

since federation and uh and again

983

00:37:51,589 --> 00:37:47,359

another aside federation

984

00:37:53,510 --> 00:37:51,599

occurred in 1901 but the section

985

00:37:55,750 --> 00:37:53,520

was based on the united states first

986

00:37:59,349 --> 00:37:55,760

amendment and there had been

987

00:38:01,190 --> 00:37:59,359

a preponderance of u.s court cases

988

00:38:02,870 --> 00:38:01,200

which had gone against the state-making

989

00:38:05,190 --> 00:38:02,880

grants to religious groups

990

00:38:05,910 --> 00:38:05,200

the grants were detailed in an 80-page

991

00:38:08,150 --> 00:38:05,920

booklet

992

00:38:08,950 --> 00:38:08,160

launched by the skeptics in sydney on

993

00:38:12,069 --> 00:38:08,960

friday

994

00:38:15,270 --> 00:38:12,079

challenging creationist beliefs it's

995

00:38:17,750 --> 00:38:15,280

said a balance sheet of the creationist

996

00:38:19,470 --> 00:38:17,760

science foundation limited for the year

997

00:38:22,870 --> 00:38:19,480

ending 31st of march

998

00:38:27,829 --> 00:38:22,880

1985 listed as credit and export

999

00:38:29,829 --> 00:38:27,839

market development grant of 24 693

1000

00:38:32,150 --> 00:38:29,839

the booklet edited by queensland

1001
00:38:34,950 --> 00:38:32,160
scientists dr martin bridgstock and

1002
00:38:36,630 --> 00:38:34,960
dr ken smith said the brisbane-based

1003
00:38:39,829 --> 00:38:36,640
foundation had grown rapidly

1004
00:38:42,710 --> 00:38:39,839
into an organization with a 500 000

1005
00:38:43,670 --> 00:38:42,720
turnover a well-produced magazine

1006
00:38:47,030 --> 00:38:43,680
newspaper

1007
00:38:49,270 --> 00:38:47,040
and 14 full-time staff mr plumber said

1008
00:38:50,510 --> 00:38:49,280
the skeptic's claim was supported by the

1009
00:38:53,670 --> 00:38:50,520
board's

1010
00:38:55,270 --> 00:38:53,680
1984-85 annual report which listed a

1011
00:38:56,470 --> 00:38:55,280
payment to the creation scientist

1012
00:38:58,230 --> 00:38:56,480
foundation limited

1013
00:39:00,390 --> 00:38:58,240

of twelve thousand four hundred and

1014

00:39:01,670 --> 00:39:00,400

forty dollars and to the creation

1015

00:39:06,630 --> 00:39:01,680

science association

1016

00:39:09,349 --> 00:39:06,640

inc of 3177

1017

00:39:11,270 --> 00:39:09,359

the society has also made a freedom of

1018

00:39:12,310 --> 00:39:11,280

information request to the department of

1019

00:39:14,310 --> 00:39:12,320

trade

1020

00:39:16,550 --> 00:39:14,320

but the department had refused the

1021

00:39:18,790 --> 00:39:16,560

request on the grounds that it could

1022

00:39:20,150 --> 00:39:18,800

not reveal information about the

1023

00:39:22,230 --> 00:39:20,160

applicant's affairs

1024

00:39:23,910 --> 00:39:22,240

mr plummer said the creationists were

1025

00:39:25,510 --> 00:39:23,920

holding a conference at the

1026
00:39:27,910 --> 00:39:25,520
university of new south wales from

1027
00:39:29,990 --> 00:39:27,920
tomorrow the skeptics had challenged the

1028
00:39:31,190 --> 00:39:30,000
creationists to reveal the details of

1029
00:39:33,349 --> 00:39:31,200
export grants

1030
00:39:34,470 --> 00:39:33,359
and had challenged two visiting us

1031
00:39:37,910 --> 00:39:34,480
creationists

1032
00:39:39,510 --> 00:39:37,920
to a debate and this really does hark

1033
00:39:40,630 --> 00:39:39,520
back to the early days of australian

1034
00:39:43,349 --> 00:39:40,640
skeptics

1035
00:39:44,150 --> 00:39:43,359
where a lot of what they were concerned

1036
00:39:47,109 --> 00:39:44,160
about

1037
00:39:49,030 --> 00:39:47,119
was the teaching of creationism in the

1038
00:39:50,630 --> 00:39:49,040

school system here especially in the

1039

00:39:52,150 --> 00:39:50,640

state of queensland

1040

00:39:54,069 --> 00:39:52,160

and as we've seen over the decades

1041

00:39:55,270 --> 00:39:54,079

although the battle isn't won the war

1042

00:39:56,870 --> 00:39:55,280

isn't one

1043

00:39:58,870 --> 00:39:56,880

the other side has been more or less

1044

00:40:00,710 --> 00:39:58,880

decimated and

1045

00:40:02,630 --> 00:40:00,720

there are pockets of creationism still

1046

00:40:05,030 --> 00:40:02,640

about there always will be

1047

00:40:06,069 --> 00:40:05,040

but they are uh not what they used to be

1048

00:40:09,190 --> 00:40:06,079

in the past

1049

00:40:11,829 --> 00:40:09,200

our next search brings us to

1050

00:40:12,390 --> 00:40:11,839

the canberra times once again published

1051

00:40:15,510 --> 00:40:12,400

on

1052

00:40:17,030 --> 00:40:15,520

saturday the 18th of april 1987 so the

1053

00:40:20,069 --> 00:40:17,040

next year

1054

00:40:24,069 --> 00:40:20,079

skeptical people to meet at anu

1055

00:40:24,790 --> 00:40:24,079

by ian warden you may be reluctant to

1056

00:40:27,109 --> 00:40:24,800

believe it

1057

00:40:28,870 --> 00:40:27,119

but the australian skeptic's third

1058

00:40:31,510 --> 00:40:28,880

national conference will be held at the

1059

00:40:34,069 --> 00:40:31,520

australian national university today

1060

00:40:35,349 --> 00:40:34,079

speakers will speak on and generally

1061

00:40:38,550 --> 00:40:35,359

scoff about

1062

00:40:40,550 --> 00:40:38,560

such subjects as taro and the occult

1063

00:40:41,829 --> 00:40:40,560

creationism the prophecies of

1064

00:40:44,069 --> 00:40:41,839

nostradamus

1065

00:40:47,030 --> 00:40:44,079

and astrology although the speakers

1066

00:40:50,150 --> 00:40:47,040

scheduled to speak on ufos in australia

1067

00:40:51,990 --> 00:40:50,160

mr andrew cole says that he has an open

1068

00:40:52,870 --> 00:40:52,000

mind on the seven or eight percent of

1069

00:40:55,030 --> 00:40:52,880

sightings which

1070

00:40:56,230 --> 00:40:55,040

cannot be explained away as sightings of

1071

00:40:59,109 --> 00:40:56,240

venus or jupiter

1072

00:41:00,710 --> 00:40:59,119

or of anset's 8 15 pm flight from suny

1073

00:41:03,190 --> 00:41:00,720

to melbourne

1074

00:41:05,349 --> 00:41:03,200

in conjunction with the conference there

1075

00:41:08,069 --> 00:41:05,359

will be the announcement of the bent

1076

00:41:09,990 --> 00:41:08,079

spoon award for 1987 which will be

1077

00:41:12,150 --> 00:41:10,000

awarded to what the secretary of the

1078

00:41:13,589 --> 00:41:12,160

canberra skeptics mr william gray

1079

00:41:15,270 --> 00:41:13,599

calls the perpetrator of the most

1080

00:41:16,950 --> 00:41:15,280

outrageous paranormal act of the

1081

00:41:18,950 --> 00:41:16,960

preceding 12 months

1082

00:41:20,670 --> 00:41:18,960

the reference to the ben spoon is a

1083

00:41:22,950 --> 00:41:20,680

reference to the works of the

1084

00:41:25,670 --> 00:41:22,960

spoon-bending charlatan

1085

00:41:26,470 --> 00:41:25,680

yuri gela a favorite target for the

1086

00:41:28,870 --> 00:41:26,480

scoffing

1087

00:41:30,630 --> 00:41:28,880

of the skeptics who insists that he is

1088

00:41:31,670 --> 00:41:30,640

not a psychic but only a naughty

1089

00:41:33,510 --> 00:41:31,680

magician

1090

00:41:34,710 --> 00:41:33,520

when i put it to mr gray that it might

1091

00:41:36,790 --> 00:41:34,720

make for a rather

1092

00:41:38,150 --> 00:41:36,800

incestuous afternoon to have a room full

1093

00:41:39,910 --> 00:41:38,160

of skeptics or

1094

00:41:42,710 --> 00:41:39,920

congratulating one another on their

1095

00:41:43,910 --> 00:41:42,720

skepticism he said he had done his best

1096

00:41:46,710 --> 00:41:43,920

to invite some

1097

00:41:48,550 --> 00:41:46,720

credulists to heckle and raise

1098

00:41:50,790 --> 00:41:48,560

alternative voices

1099

00:41:51,750 --> 00:41:50,800

in particular he had invited don and

1100

00:41:53,910 --> 00:41:51,760

joan roach

1101
00:41:55,750 --> 00:41:53,920
who had organized last may's second

1102
00:41:56,550 --> 00:41:55,760
alternative medicine festival in

1103
00:41:58,069 --> 00:41:56,560
canberra

1104
00:41:59,910 --> 00:41:58,079
in the alternatively splendid

1105
00:42:02,790 --> 00:41:59,920
surroundings of the diplomat

1106
00:42:04,710 --> 00:42:02,800
international in griffith and who had

1107
00:42:07,430 --> 00:42:04,720
objected to the skeptic's

1108
00:42:08,710 --> 00:42:07,440
picketing of the conference the

1109
00:42:11,829 --> 00:42:08,720
picketing skeptics

1110
00:42:14,309 --> 00:42:11,839
had been offering and continue to offer

1111
00:42:17,030 --> 00:42:14,319
twenty thousand dollar reward for just

1112
00:42:19,190 --> 00:42:17,040
one proved psychic occurrence

1113
00:42:21,030 --> 00:42:19,200

mr gray had not heard from the roaches

1114

00:42:21,829 --> 00:42:21,040

and i was unable to contact them

1115

00:42:24,390 --> 00:42:21,839

yesterday

1116

00:42:24,950 --> 00:42:24,400

but they and any other apologists for

1117

00:42:26,630 --> 00:42:24,960

tarot

1118

00:42:29,349 --> 00:42:26,640

and the occult creationism and the

1119

00:42:32,230 --> 00:42:29,359

prophecies of nostradamus and astrology

1120

00:42:32,950 --> 00:42:32,240

are welcome to attend the conference the

1121

00:42:36,470 --> 00:42:32,960

skeptics

1122

00:42:39,829 --> 00:42:36,480

make rather a fetish of openness which

1123

00:42:42,550 --> 00:42:39,839

it is prophesized will begin at 2 pm

1124

00:42:44,870 --> 00:42:42,560

in the seminar room of the jega building

1125

00:42:45,589 --> 00:42:44,880

research school of earth sciences mills

1126

00:42:48,390 --> 00:42:45,599

road

1127

00:42:49,030 --> 00:42:48,400

admission is a scarcely credible five

1128

00:42:52,550 --> 00:42:49,040

dollars

1129

00:42:55,589 --> 00:42:52,560

and 2.50 for students

1130

00:42:59,750 --> 00:42:55,599

now if we go to the 27th of may

1131

00:43:03,430 --> 00:42:59,760

in the canberra times 1986

1132

00:43:06,950 --> 00:43:03,440

letters to the editor skeptics doubts

1133

00:43:09,510 --> 00:43:06,960

it says received may 26 sir

1134

00:43:10,710 --> 00:43:09,520

canberra's skeptics take issue with the

1135

00:43:13,829 --> 00:43:10,720

statements of mr

1136

00:43:15,829 --> 00:43:13,839

rod roach organizer of the alternative

1137

00:43:18,790 --> 00:43:15,839

medicine and esp festival

1138

00:43:20,309 --> 00:43:18,800

last weekend the skeptic's offer of

1139

00:43:22,630 --> 00:43:20,319

twenty thousand dollars for a

1140

00:43:25,670 --> 00:43:22,640

demonstration of paranormal phenomena

1141

00:43:26,069 --> 00:43:25,680

is not quote so controlled that they

1142

00:43:29,109 --> 00:43:26,079

can't

1143

00:43:31,349 --> 00:43:29,119

get a result anyway end quote the

1144

00:43:33,270 --> 00:43:31,359

controls are normal scientific controls

1145

00:43:34,630 --> 00:43:33,280

designed to eliminate results arising

1146

00:43:36,950 --> 00:43:34,640

from chance fraud

1147

00:43:38,870 --> 00:43:36,960

or self-deception on the part of the

1148

00:43:40,790 --> 00:43:38,880

investigator or the subject

1149

00:43:42,790 --> 00:43:40,800

the skeptics had little to say about

1150

00:43:44,550 --> 00:43:42,800

alternative medicine based on the use of

1151

00:43:47,190 --> 00:43:44,560

herbs and acupuncture

1152

00:43:48,390 --> 00:43:47,200

except to advise the public to exercise

1153

00:43:51,190 --> 00:43:48,400

discretion in

1154

00:43:52,309 --> 00:43:51,200

evaluating claims the main problem with

1155

00:43:55,030 --> 00:43:52,319

alternative medicine

1156

00:43:55,990 --> 00:43:55,040

is that there are so many alternatives

1157

00:43:58,630 --> 00:43:56,000

the skeptics

1158

00:44:00,230 --> 00:43:58,640

questioned more severely the presence of

1159

00:44:01,270 --> 00:44:00,240

psychics and clairvoyance at the

1160

00:44:03,510 --> 00:44:01,280

festival

1161

00:44:05,829 --> 00:44:03,520

indulging in character reading and

1162

00:44:06,870 --> 00:44:05,839

prediction on the basis of methods such

1163

00:44:09,750 --> 00:44:06,880

as astrology

1164

00:44:10,710 --> 00:44:09,760

tarot reading and numerology methods for

1165

00:44:13,510 --> 00:44:10,720

which there is no

1166

00:44:14,309 --> 00:44:13,520

acceptable scientific basis and which

1167

00:44:17,109 --> 00:44:14,319

have never yet

1168

00:44:18,230 --> 00:44:17,119

been able to demonstrate results better

1169

00:44:21,670 --> 00:44:18,240

than chance under

1170

00:44:23,910 --> 00:44:21,680

controlled conditions mr roach also said

1171

00:44:24,790 --> 00:44:23,920

that if he had known the skeptics were

1172

00:44:26,790 --> 00:44:24,800

to be there

1173

00:44:28,150 --> 00:44:26,800

he would have organized a demonstration

1174

00:44:31,109 --> 00:44:28,160

of firewalking

1175

00:44:33,109 --> 00:44:31,119

and you can't fake that however research

1176

00:44:34,870 --> 00:44:33,119

by skeptics indicates that firewalking

1177

00:44:38,150 --> 00:44:34,880

does not involve any paranormal

1178

00:44:40,630 --> 00:44:38,160

phenomenon and can be done by anyone

1179

00:44:41,190 --> 00:44:40,640

it is also interesting that mr roach

1180

00:44:44,950 --> 00:44:41,200

claimed

1181

00:44:46,790 --> 00:44:44,960

not to know what a charlatan is

1182

00:44:48,630 --> 00:44:46,800

every other organization dealing with

1183

00:44:50,470 --> 00:44:48,640

the public is keen to expose its

1184

00:44:53,190 --> 00:44:50,480

unethical practitioners

1185

00:44:54,309 --> 00:44:53,200

to enhance the reputation of the

1186

00:44:56,950 --> 00:44:54,319

professionals

1187

00:44:59,750 --> 00:44:56,960

on mr roach's claims that the skeptics

1188

00:45:02,550 --> 00:44:59,760

got free publicity from his festival

1189

00:45:03,190 --> 00:45:02,560

the boot may well be on the other foot

1190

00:45:05,030 --> 00:45:03,200

certainly

1191

00:45:07,109 --> 00:45:05,040

psychics mystics and healers were

1192

00:45:08,790 --> 00:45:07,119

notoriously reluctant to gain any

1193

00:45:10,630 --> 00:45:08,800

publicity from the well-attended

1194

00:45:14,309 --> 00:45:10,640

skeptics convention in melbourne

1195

00:45:16,230 --> 00:45:14,319

last easter also mr roach avoided any

1196

00:45:18,710 --> 00:45:16,240

possibility of public debate with

1197

00:45:21,990 --> 00:45:18,720

skeptics in canberra mr roach

1198

00:45:24,870 --> 00:45:22,000

also said that his reputable people

1199

00:45:27,109 --> 00:45:24,880

paid a heck of a lot of money to

1200

00:45:29,990 --> 00:45:27,119

participate in his festival

1201
00:45:30,309 --> 00:45:30,000
skeptics ask only whether they did this

1202
00:45:34,150 --> 00:45:30,319
as

1203
00:45:37,190 --> 00:45:34,160
professionals

1204
00:45:39,270 --> 00:45:37,200
they expected to recap a handsome profit

1205
00:45:41,829 --> 00:45:39,280
from a gullible public

1206
00:45:44,150 --> 00:45:41,839
signed don leycocock canberra committee

1207
00:45:47,670 --> 00:45:44,160
australian skeptics

1208
00:45:50,230 --> 00:45:47,680
now not surprisingly that received a

1209
00:45:51,349 --> 00:45:50,240
letter in reply or at least a letter to

1210
00:45:53,750 --> 00:45:51,359
the editor

1211
00:45:56,230 --> 00:45:53,760
uh some days later on the 4th of june

1212
00:45:59,670 --> 00:45:56,240
1986 in the camera times

1213
00:46:03,190 --> 00:45:59,680

and it says doubting the skeptic's view

1214

00:46:04,309 --> 00:46:03,200

received may 29 sir regarding the letter

1215

00:46:05,750 --> 00:46:04,319

from the canberra committee of the

1216

00:46:08,390 --> 00:46:05,760

australian skeptics

1217

00:46:10,230 --> 00:46:08,400

canberra times mate 27 it was like

1218

00:46:11,589 --> 00:46:10,240

stepping into a time capsule and

1219

00:46:14,150 --> 00:46:11,599

watching the inquisition

1220

00:46:15,670 --> 00:46:14,160

question galileo i got the distinct

1221

00:46:18,069 --> 00:46:15,680

impression that the skeptics

1222

00:46:19,510 --> 00:46:18,079

are sorry that we do not burn at the

1223

00:46:22,230 --> 00:46:19,520

stake anymore

1224

00:46:23,510 --> 00:46:22,240

i don't know what paranormal is not so

1225

00:46:26,950 --> 00:46:23,520

long ago hypnotism

1226
00:46:30,069 --> 00:46:26,960
telepathy telekinesis at al were

1227
00:46:31,670 --> 00:46:30,079
spooky now they are recognized by

1228
00:46:34,470 --> 00:46:31,680
orthodox science

1229
00:46:36,550 --> 00:46:34,480
good heavens what's the world coming to

1230
00:46:38,470 --> 00:46:36,560
we have departments of parapsychology in

1231
00:46:40,069 --> 00:46:38,480
our institutions of learning

1232
00:46:42,150 --> 00:46:40,079
the skeptics talk of science and

1233
00:46:43,030 --> 00:46:42,160
scientific method but what if some

1234
00:46:46,470 --> 00:46:43,040
phenomena

1235
00:46:48,790 --> 00:46:46,480
don't follow skeptics rules does it mean

1236
00:46:51,030 --> 00:46:48,800
the phenomena don't exist the

1237
00:46:51,990 --> 00:46:51,040
investigation of mediums is a case in

1238
00:46:54,390 --> 00:46:52,000

point

1239

00:46:55,270 --> 00:46:54,400

mediums are human some are good some are

1240

00:46:58,550 --> 00:46:55,280

bad some

1241

00:47:00,630 --> 00:46:58,560

cheat so what is the whole field

1242

00:47:02,630 --> 00:47:00,640

therefore discredited

1243

00:47:04,550 --> 00:47:02,640

is beethoven charlatan because he

1244

00:47:05,750 --> 00:47:04,560

couldn't produce masterpieces all the

1245

00:47:08,230 --> 00:47:05,760

time

1246

00:47:10,630 --> 00:47:08,240

the whole range of phenomena now has a

1247

00:47:13,190 --> 00:47:10,640

huge bank of evidence supporting it

1248

00:47:14,230 --> 00:47:13,200

various mental physical and psychic

1249

00:47:16,150 --> 00:47:14,240

phenomena

1250

00:47:17,670 --> 00:47:16,160

it's a pity it doesn't fall within the

1251

00:47:21,589 --> 00:47:17,680

skeptic's black or white

1252

00:47:24,630 --> 00:47:21,599

tabulation but it exists nonetheless

1253

00:47:27,430 --> 00:47:24,640

and one would have to be ridiculously

1254

00:47:29,109 --> 00:47:27,440

narrow-minded to pretend otherwise

1255

00:47:30,630 --> 00:47:29,119

neither will these manifestations go

1256

00:47:31,910 --> 00:47:30,640

away just because the canberra committee

1257

00:47:34,309 --> 00:47:31,920

of australian skeptics

1258

00:47:35,030 --> 00:47:34,319

says so as for the twenty thousand

1259

00:47:38,630 --> 00:47:35,040

dollar

1260

00:47:41,109 --> 00:47:38,640

quotes reward end quotes no one of the

1261

00:47:43,670 --> 00:47:41,119

skeptics are troubled by charlatans

1262

00:47:45,430 --> 00:47:43,680

they have issued an rsvp to every

1263

00:47:47,510 --> 00:47:45,440

charlatan within miles

1264

00:47:49,589 --> 00:47:47,520

knowledge cannot be bought the skeptics

1265

00:47:51,030 --> 00:47:49,599

would do much better to adopt a truly

1266

00:47:53,270 --> 00:47:51,040

scientific attitude

1267

00:47:54,309 --> 00:47:53,280

and go out among the healers psychics

1268

00:47:57,190 --> 00:47:54,319

and mediums

1269

00:47:58,870 --> 00:47:57,200

and quietly investigate be open-minded

1270

00:48:00,950 --> 00:47:58,880

but not gullible

1271

00:48:02,549 --> 00:48:00,960

admit that their well-defined universe

1272

00:48:04,950 --> 00:48:02,559

may be boundless

1273

00:48:06,470 --> 00:48:04,960

as for fire walking and i don't know if

1274

00:48:08,870 --> 00:48:06,480

it is paranormal

1275

00:48:09,589 --> 00:48:08,880

it would be fun to see the skeptics all

1276

00:48:12,230 --> 00:48:09,599

in a row

1277

00:48:13,589 --> 00:48:12,240

hot footing it across a fire pit made by

1278

00:48:15,589 --> 00:48:13,599

the psychics

1279

00:48:17,030 --> 00:48:15,599

perhaps the astrologers could predict

1280

00:48:22,790 --> 00:48:17,040

what would happen

1281

00:48:26,150 --> 00:48:24,230

wow i could spend a whole episode

1282

00:48:29,109 --> 00:48:26,160

unpacking the

1283

00:48:30,349 --> 00:48:29,119

uh logical fallacies and the false

1284

00:48:32,790 --> 00:48:30,359

statements and the

1285

00:48:36,390 --> 00:48:32,800

inconsistencies and the tithe arguments

1286

00:48:38,230 --> 00:48:36,400

from that letter but that is from 1986

1287

00:48:39,829 --> 00:48:38,240

and of course skeptics all over the

1288

00:48:42,069 --> 00:48:39,839

world including myself

1289

00:48:43,109 --> 00:48:42,079

many times have been hot footing it

1290

00:48:45,750 --> 00:48:43,119

across

1291

00:48:47,510 --> 00:48:45,760

fire pits that was an interesting letter

1292

00:48:47,990 --> 00:48:47,520

certainly lots of false premises and

1293

00:48:51,270 --> 00:48:48,000

special

1294

00:48:53,190 --> 00:48:51,280

pleading and finally let's skip forward

1295

00:48:55,510 --> 00:48:53,200

to the year 1988

1296

00:48:57,990 --> 00:48:55,520

on the 3rd of april once again in the

1297

00:49:01,750 --> 00:48:58,000

canberra times

1298

00:49:04,710 --> 00:49:01,760

outrageous psychic scam wins award from

1299

00:49:09,510 --> 00:49:07,349

sydney an adelaide clairvoyant who

1300

00:49:12,069 --> 00:49:09,520

claimed to know the location of the long

1301

00:49:14,390 --> 00:49:12,079

lost colossus of rhodes won the

1302

00:49:16,309 --> 00:49:14,400

australian skeptics association's bent

1303

00:49:19,270 --> 00:49:16,319

spoon award yesterday

1304

00:49:19,990 --> 00:49:19,280

the award for the quote most outrageous

1305

00:49:23,190 --> 00:49:20,000

psychic

1306

00:49:26,309 --> 00:49:23,200

scam end quote followed ms

1307

00:49:28,309 --> 00:49:26,319

anne dankbaar's claim last year that the

1308

00:49:29,750 --> 00:49:28,319

ancient statue was lying off the greek

1309

00:49:31,510 --> 00:49:29,760

islands

1310

00:49:33,670 --> 00:49:31,520

the association holding its annual

1311

00:49:36,470 --> 00:49:33,680

convention in sydney over the weekend

1312

00:49:37,750 --> 00:49:36,480

also presented the 1 000 skeptical

1313

00:49:40,470 --> 00:49:37,760

journalism award

1314

00:49:41,349 --> 00:49:40,480
to an abc television journalist and

1315

00:49:43,270 --> 00:49:41,359
researcher

1316

00:49:44,390 --> 00:49:43,280
who disproved claims that a small

1317

00:49:47,430 --> 00:49:44,400
plastic device

1318

00:49:49,349 --> 00:49:47,440
improved cars fuel efficiency the

1319

00:49:50,150 --> 00:49:49,359
president of the association mr barry

1320

00:49:53,589 --> 00:49:50,160
williams

1321

00:49:55,829 --> 00:49:53,599
said mr john millard and mr john dawes

1322

00:49:57,190 --> 00:49:55,839
had shown the best traditions of

1323

00:49:59,510 --> 00:49:57,200
skeptical journalism

1324

00:50:01,430 --> 00:49:59,520
in their report shown on the

1325

00:50:04,470 --> 00:50:01,440
investigators

1326

00:50:07,190 --> 00:50:04,480

and just as an aside again

1327

00:50:09,109 --> 00:50:07,200

the investigators was a consumer affair

1328

00:50:11,109 --> 00:50:09,119

investigating program in the 80s which

1329

00:50:14,790 --> 00:50:11,119

was incredibly popular

1330

00:50:17,829 --> 00:50:14,800

and did a lot of good for consumers

1331

00:50:18,790 --> 00:50:17,839

we read on but mr williams said there

1332

00:50:21,030 --> 00:50:18,800

had been no

1333

00:50:22,069 --> 00:50:21,040

successful nominations for the twenty

1334

00:50:24,870 --> 00:50:22,079

thousand dollar

1335

00:50:26,470 --> 00:50:24,880

skeptics challenge award made to any

1336

00:50:27,910 --> 00:50:26,480

psychics who could prove their claim

1337

00:50:29,030 --> 00:50:27,920

under scientifically controlled

1338

00:50:32,309 --> 00:50:29,040

conditions

1339

00:50:35,270 --> 00:50:32,319

about 150 skeptics took part yesterday

1340

00:50:36,150 --> 00:50:35,280

in discussions challenging ufos creation

1341

00:50:38,790 --> 00:50:36,160

science

1342

00:50:41,030 --> 00:50:38,800

astrology and mythical animals such as

1343

00:50:43,349 --> 00:50:41,040

the loch ness monster

1344

00:50:44,150 --> 00:50:43,359

today panel discussions will focus on

1345

00:50:47,030 --> 00:50:44,160

traditional

1346

00:50:47,910 --> 00:50:47,040

versus alternative medicines including

1347

00:50:50,950 --> 00:50:47,920

new age

1348

00:50:53,270 --> 00:50:50,960

crystal healing techniques the 600

1349

00:50:54,309 --> 00:50:53,280

member association which was established

1350

00:50:56,710 --> 00:50:54,319

eight years ago

1351
00:50:57,510 --> 00:50:56,720
aims to encourage rational debate about

1352
00:51:00,470 --> 00:50:57,520
so-called

1353
00:51:05,349 --> 00:51:00,480
supernatural and psychic events

1354
00:51:08,309 --> 00:51:06,950
well there we go just a selection of

1355
00:51:10,069 --> 00:51:08,319
some of the times the australian

1356
00:51:11,510 --> 00:51:10,079
skeptics have been mentioned

1357
00:51:13,910 --> 00:51:11,520
well in this case especially in the

1358
00:51:15,510 --> 00:51:13,920
canberra times over the years and there

1359
00:51:16,390 --> 00:51:15,520
are more there are more going into the

1360
00:51:19,510 --> 00:51:16,400
uh

1361
00:51:23,040 --> 00:51:19,520
into 90s and beyond but i thought

1362
00:51:27,270 --> 00:51:23,050
that was an interesting selection

1363
00:51:30,549 --> 00:51:29,109

once again the treasure trove of

1364

00:51:32,390 --> 00:51:30,559

information at trove is at your

1365

00:51:34,829 --> 00:51:32,400

fingertips around the world

1366

00:51:35,990 --> 00:51:34,839

all you have to do is visit

1367

00:51:38,630 --> 00:51:36,000

trove.nla.gov

1368

00:51:39,589 --> 00:51:38,640

a u type in your search and you never

1369

00:51:59,750 --> 00:51:39,599

know

1370

00:52:03,349 --> 00:52:01,349

thank you for listening to the skeptic's

1371

00:52:04,230 --> 00:52:03,359

own podcast coming up on next week's

1372

00:52:05,990 --> 00:52:04,240

show

1373

00:52:07,589 --> 00:52:06,000

more logical fallacies with michelle

1374

00:52:10,549 --> 00:52:07,599

bickersma

1375

00:52:11,990 --> 00:52:10,559

and a mystery and another mystery and

1376
00:52:13,270 --> 00:52:12,000
another mystery in other words i haven't

1377
00:52:14,870 --> 00:52:13,280
put the show together yet so it's a

1378
00:52:17,990 --> 00:52:14,880
mystery to me too

1379
00:52:21,349 --> 00:52:18,000
hmm what's no mystery what's no mystery

1380
00:52:22,069 --> 00:52:21,359
is the help and support of listeners

1381
00:52:23,910 --> 00:52:22,079
just like you

1382
00:52:25,190 --> 00:52:23,920
who contribute to the skeptic zone every

1383
00:52:27,790 --> 00:52:25,200
week or every month

1384
00:52:29,430 --> 00:52:27,800
using paypal or patreon at

1385
00:52:31,030 --> 00:52:29,440
skepticzone.tv

1386
00:52:32,630 --> 00:52:31,040
and if that wasn't the case then it

1387
00:52:33,990 --> 00:52:32,640
would be a mystery if the show kept

1388
00:52:37,270 --> 00:52:34,000

going at all

1389

00:52:41,030 --> 00:52:37,280

thank you very much and just to note

1390

00:52:42,790 --> 00:52:41,040

last week i put out a caller plea

1391

00:52:45,349 --> 00:52:42,800

if anyone could help me i was looking

1392

00:52:46,790 --> 00:52:45,359

for something called the corex files by

1393

00:52:49,430 --> 00:52:46,800

our friend professor

1394

00:52:50,710 --> 00:52:49,440

associate professor paul willis these

1395

00:52:54,390 --> 00:52:50,720

were a series of

1396

00:52:59,990 --> 00:52:54,400

short three four five minute

1397

00:53:01,430 --> 00:53:00,000

radio shows he did in 1997 and 1998 and

1398

00:53:04,069 --> 00:53:01,440

they've been lost

1399

00:53:05,510 --> 00:53:04,079

lost for many years now although the

1400

00:53:08,309 --> 00:53:05,520

website is still there

1401
00:53:10,390 --> 00:53:08,319
the website links to broken audio files

1402
00:53:13,270 --> 00:53:10,400
audio files which don't exist

1403
00:53:14,390 --> 00:53:13,280
well in the last week with a little bit

1404
00:53:16,710 --> 00:53:14,400
of uh

1405
00:53:17,829 --> 00:53:16,720
asking around a little bit of work i

1406
00:53:20,390 --> 00:53:17,839
managed to collect

1407
00:53:21,910 --> 00:53:20,400
all the back episodes all the episodes

1408
00:53:23,829 --> 00:53:21,920
of the corrects files

1409
00:53:26,549 --> 00:53:23,839
and deliver them to a grateful paul

1410
00:53:29,030 --> 00:53:26,559
willis now

1411
00:53:30,069 --> 00:53:29,040
i hope i'm going to have a chat to paul

1412
00:53:32,150 --> 00:53:30,079
and maybe

1413
00:53:34,150 --> 00:53:32,160

we can resurrect the corex files and use

1414

00:53:35,589 --> 00:53:34,160
them in some form some fashion

1415

00:53:38,390 --> 00:53:35,599
they're quite fascinating lots of

1416

00:53:41,109 --> 00:53:38,400
interviews with very eminent people

1417

00:53:41,990 --> 00:53:41,119
in the late part of last century still

1418

00:53:45,270 --> 00:53:42,000
nevertheless it's

1419

00:53:47,270 --> 00:53:45,280
all good science so uh

1420

00:53:48,309 --> 00:53:47,280
what they say watch this space listen to

1421

00:53:49,829 --> 00:53:48,319
this space

1422

00:53:51,910 --> 00:53:49,839
and we'll let you know how that

1423

00:53:53,990 --> 00:53:51,920
progresses

1424

00:53:55,510 --> 00:53:54,000
but for this week this is richard

1425

00:54:01,829 --> 00:53:55,520
saunders signing off

1426
00:54:05,109 --> 00:54:03,589
you've been listening to the skeptic

1427
00:54:08,270 --> 00:54:05,119
zone podcast

1428
00:54:09,670 --> 00:54:08,280
please visit our website at

1429
00:54:12,710 --> 00:54:09,680
www.skepticzone.tv

1430
00:54:14,710 --> 00:54:12,720
for show notes contacts and to access

1431
00:54:18,230 --> 00:54:14,720
the back catalog of episodes

1432
00:54:20,309 --> 00:54:18,240
going back to 2008. you can follow the

1433
00:54:23,750 --> 00:54:20,319
skepticzone podcast on twitter

1434
00:54:24,870 --> 00:54:23,760
at skepticzone visit our facebook page

1435
00:54:27,829 --> 00:54:24,880
or leave a review

1436
00:54:28,710 --> 00:54:27,839
on itunes you can also support the

1437
00:54:32,710 --> 00:54:28,720
skeptic zone

1438
00:54:35,589 --> 00:54:32,720

podcast

1439

00:54:37,349 --> 00:54:35,599

is an independent production the views

1440

00:54:39,349 --> 00:54:37,359

and opinions expressed on the skeptic

1441

00:54:40,710 --> 00:54:39,359

zone are not necessarily those of

1442

00:54:53,829 --> 00:54:40,720

australian skeptics

1443

00:54:56,390 --> 00:54:53,839

or any other skeptical organization

1444

00:54:57,589 --> 00:54:56,400

you have a kitchen sink you guys don't

1445

00:54:59,750 --> 00:54:57,599

have a clue

1446

00:55:01,349 --> 00:54:59,760

how awesome it is to have a kitchen sink

1447

00:55:03,270 --> 00:55:01,359

well and a garbage

1448

00:55:05,109 --> 00:55:03,280

now now the whole of the skeptic zone

1449

00:55:08,069 --> 00:55:05,119

audience knows now susan but you're

1450

00:55:11,109 --> 00:55:08,079

excited to have a kitchen sink

1451

00:55:14,230 --> 00:55:11,119

oh my gosh you guys i'm live

1452

00:55:14,630 --> 00:55:14,240

in my bathroom sink for seven weeks i am

1453

00:55:17,270 --> 00:55:14,640

so

1454

00:55:17,750 --> 00:55:17,280

excited no when we're not live it's all

1455

00:55:20,230 --> 00:55:17,760

right

1456

00:55:22,069 --> 00:55:20,240

i'll edit that out wink wink anyway hi

1457

00:55:23,589 --> 00:55:22,079

this is uh richard sanders here at the

1458

00:55:26,150 --> 00:55:23,599

prediction project we're back again

1459

00:55:28,069 --> 00:55:26,160

after a hiatus for about a month where

1460

00:55:30,309 --> 00:55:28,079

i had some other things on and uh what

1461

00:55:31,349 --> 00:55:30,319

was there's some event last week that we

1462

00:55:34,390 --> 00:55:31,359

couldn't make it i

1463

00:55:36,390 --> 00:55:34,400

can't a remember something

1464

00:55:39,430 --> 00:55:36,400

that was happening in america something

1465

00:55:41,510 --> 00:55:39,440

like important on tuesday

1466

00:55:42,470 --> 00:55:41,520

it probably was but we're plowing

1467

00:55:44,630 --> 00:55:42,480

through we've

1468

00:55:46,230 --> 00:55:44,640

we're i think the end's in sight for the

1469

00:55:47,670 --> 00:55:46,240

great prediction project but i've spent

1470

00:55:48,390 --> 00:55:47,680

the last two hours with a group of

1471

00:55:50,950 --> 00:55:48,400

friends

1472

00:55:51,510 --> 00:55:50,960

happily predicting away with wendy

1473

00:55:54,870 --> 00:55:51,520

leonard

1474

00:55:57,910 --> 00:55:54,880

susan rob and adrian and we

1475

00:55:59,910 --> 00:55:57,920

had probably the biggest laugh of the

1476

00:56:02,470 --> 00:55:59,920

whole project

1477

00:56:04,390 --> 00:56:02,480

a little while ago where i posted a

1478

00:56:06,630 --> 00:56:04,400

prediction susan can you scroll up and

1479

00:56:09,829 --> 00:56:06,640

find that prediction for us again

1480

00:56:12,230 --> 00:56:09,839

oh my goodness it is from astrologer

1481

00:56:12,870 --> 00:56:12,240

milton black and what you've had and

1482

00:56:19,030 --> 00:56:12,880

what does i

1483

00:56:23,430 --> 00:56:21,950

and he gives his a prediction back in

1484

00:56:26,390 --> 00:56:23,440

2017.

1485

00:56:27,910 --> 00:56:26,400

for the publication what's in the stars

1486

00:56:30,630 --> 00:56:27,920

for 2017

1487

00:56:31,670 --> 00:56:30,640

yes oh this was published in the in fact

1488

00:56:34,950 --> 00:56:31,680

it was published in the

1489

00:56:37,109 --> 00:56:34,960

uh daily telegraph newspaper oh

1490

00:56:38,470 --> 00:56:37,119

yes oh that was the title of the article

1491

00:56:40,470 --> 00:56:38,480

i must have missed that

1492

00:56:42,069 --> 00:56:40,480

the title was what's in the stars and

1493

00:56:44,150 --> 00:56:42,079

what what what did

1494

00:56:45,430 --> 00:56:44,160

milton black be famed and noted

1495

00:56:48,470 --> 00:56:45,440

astrologer

1496

00:56:52,069 --> 00:56:48,480

who specializes in political forecasting

1497

00:56:55,990 --> 00:56:52,079

what did he have to say susan

1498

00:56:58,309 --> 00:56:56,000

um he said donald trump will make a good

1499

00:56:59,270 --> 00:56:58,319

president and his cabinet will be the

1500

00:57:07,910 --> 00:56:59,280

best in

1501
00:57:11,430 --> 00:57:09,750
we're laughing all over again i was

1502
00:57:12,630 --> 00:57:11,440
about to say what was our reaction i

1503
00:57:14,710 --> 00:57:12,640
didn't have to you

1504
00:57:16,549 --> 00:57:14,720
everyone's thrusting in this love it's

1505
00:57:18,630 --> 00:57:16,559
funny every time i hear it

1506
00:57:21,190 --> 00:57:18,640
that's really funny it just shows you

1507
00:57:22,870 --> 00:57:21,200
how accurate this astrologer is boy i

1508
00:57:25,190 --> 00:57:22,880
tell you that was

1509
00:57:25,990 --> 00:57:25,200
he so i don't know i don't i'm gonna go

1510
00:57:28,950 --> 00:57:26,000
get my my

1511
00:57:31,349 --> 00:57:28,960
stars read by him and just do the

1512
00:57:33,990 --> 00:57:31,359
opposite of whatever he says

1513
00:57:35,670 --> 00:57:34,000

all right so this in fact this will be

1514

00:57:36,630 --> 00:57:35,680

the easter egg susan so we're gonna play

1515

00:57:41,589 --> 00:57:36,640

the dice game

1516

00:57:43,190 --> 00:57:41,599

and then we'll wrap it up

1517

00:57:44,870 --> 00:57:43,200

you can't tell anybody all right don't

1518

00:57:48,470 --> 00:57:44,880

tell anybody so this is

1519

00:57:51,750 --> 00:57:48,480

look at that look at oh that's a big

1520

00:57:59,030 --> 00:57:51,760

d10 much bigger five on it what's it got

1521

00:58:03,030 --> 00:58:00,390

when i played the game last time were

1522

00:58:04,470 --> 00:58:03,040

all fours and as i recall

1523

00:58:06,390 --> 00:58:04,480

you said i got none of them right so i

1524

00:58:09,589 --> 00:58:06,400

never saw the die so i'm not really sure

1525

00:58:10,309 --> 00:58:09,599

this time you can verify um yeah of

1526

00:58:13,589 --> 00:58:10,319

course folks

1527

00:58:15,589 --> 00:58:13,599

if if you haven't guessed we're on zoom

1528

00:58:18,549 --> 00:58:15,599

so we can all see each other

1529

00:58:20,230 --> 00:58:18,559

and i'm just ah haha i'm looking for a

1530

00:58:22,390 --> 00:58:20,240

little

1531

00:58:24,470 --> 00:58:22,400

clear container so i can shake the die

1532

00:58:27,670 --> 00:58:24,480

and show you all so you can verify

1533

00:58:29,109 --> 00:58:27,680

so there you are it's in the container

1534

00:58:31,270 --> 00:58:29,119

then you're fine here we go i'm going to

1535

00:58:33,829 --> 00:58:31,280

roll it bye

1536

00:58:34,630 --> 00:58:33,839

the first number folks this week is what

1537

00:58:35,990 --> 00:58:34,640

you haven't you

1538

00:58:38,390 --> 00:58:36,000

all you haven't predicted susan's

1539

00:58:39,510 --> 00:58:38,400

predicted so all of you have if susan's

1540

00:58:42,870 --> 00:58:39,520

predicted five

1541

00:58:46,069 --> 00:58:42,880

leonard what do you predict three

1542

00:58:49,270 --> 00:58:46,079

three adrian nine nine

1543

00:58:55,589 --> 00:58:49,280

rob i'm sticking with my four four

1544

00:59:01,750 --> 00:58:59,270

seven seven seven seven

1545

00:59:02,870 --> 00:59:01,760

does anybody say seven how many sided

1546

00:59:06,069 --> 00:59:02,880

die i didn't even see that

1547

00:59:07,589 --> 00:59:06,079

ten seven first number

1548

00:59:09,430 --> 00:59:07,599

oh we're gonna write that down number

1549

00:59:10,549 --> 00:59:09,440

seven okay next predict

1550

00:59:16,230 --> 00:59:10,559

are you gonna stick with your

1551
00:59:24,549 --> 00:59:19,510
next number is seven

1552
00:59:28,230 --> 00:59:26,069
stupid thing is the five on the other

1553
00:59:31,349 --> 00:59:28,240
side of the seven

1554
00:59:31,990 --> 00:59:31,359
seven write that down seven look at look

1555
00:59:35,030 --> 00:59:32,000
at the bottom

1556
00:59:37,589 --> 00:59:35,040
of it i'm really shaking it up well this

1557
00:59:41,670 --> 00:59:37,599
time just in case

1558
00:59:44,710 --> 00:59:41,680
you see that and five

1559
00:59:47,750 --> 00:59:44,720
two seven four

1560
00:59:49,990 --> 00:59:47,760
yeah finally look on the bottom of that

1561
00:59:51,349 --> 00:59:50,000
look on the bottom of that seven richard

1562
00:59:53,109 --> 00:59:51,359
i want to know if it's a five

1563
00:59:54,870 --> 00:59:53,119

uh no actually the bottom of the seven

1564

00:59:55,750 --> 00:59:54,880

directly beneath it so to speak is a

1565

00:59:58,470 --> 00:59:55,760

cross between a

1566

01:00:00,630 --> 00:59:58,480

ten and a four anyway it's four both

1567

01:00:02,069 --> 01:00:00,640

games i've predicted four for six rolls

1568

01:00:02,789 --> 01:00:02,079

and i got one of them right what are the

1569

01:00:05,670 --> 01:00:02,799

odds of that

1570

01:00:07,109 --> 01:00:05,680

what are the odds well there's less

1571

01:00:09,109 --> 01:00:07,119

windy who would know

1572

01:00:11,190 --> 01:00:09,119

all about that i i would have to say the

1573

01:00:11,750 --> 01:00:11,200

odds must be crazy the odds must be

1574

01:00:15,349 --> 01:00:11,760

crazy

1575

01:00:17,990 --> 01:00:15,359

be anyway

1576

01:00:18,950 --> 01:00:18,000

folks this week's winning numbers are

1577

01:00:23,030 --> 01:00:18,960

seven

1578

01:00:26,470 --> 01:00:23,040

numbers in

1579

01:00:29,829 --> 01:00:26,480

uh congratulations and sorry

1580

01:00:34,710 --> 01:00:29,839

sorry susan it wasn't there five someday

1581

01:00:36,710 --> 01:00:34,720

it's sunday someday thanks everyone