



# HE'S A BIOLOGICAL ROBOT

**JOHN LOFTUS**

[skeptiko.com](http://skeptiko.com)

1  
00:00:11,450 --> 00:00:08,960  
on this episode of skeptic Oh Alex talks

2  
00:00:14,690 --> 00:00:11,460  
with author and well-known atheist john

3  
00:00:16,910 --> 00:00:14,700  
Loftus about his book The Outsider test

4  
00:00:20,720 --> 00:00:16,920  
for fate how to know which religion is

5  
00:00:22,910 --> 00:00:20,730  
true when we falsified the idea that you

6  
00:00:25,730 --> 00:00:22,920  
are this biological robot we accept that

7  
00:00:28,550 --> 00:00:25,740  
that's absurd and once we get past the

8  
00:00:31,999 --> 00:00:28,560  
idea that consciousness ends at death

9  
00:00:34,880 --> 00:00:32,009  
when I cross that chasm and I say okay

10  
00:00:38,080 --> 00:00:34,890  
that's the evidence and I have to deal

11  
00:00:40,819 --> 00:00:38,090  
with it a lot of things start falling

12  
00:00:44,479 --> 00:00:40,829  
differently in terms of how I orient

13  
00:00:47,479 --> 00:00:44,489

myself to morals purpose meaning in life

14

00:00:52,340 --> 00:00:47,489

you are not a biological robot well you

15

00:00:56,119 --> 00:00:52,350

are you okay all right fine I mean I

16

00:00:58,639 --> 00:00:56,129

disagree and I've said why so um of

17

00:01:01,490 --> 00:00:58,649

course you does a great you stand up and

18

00:01:03,560 --> 00:01:01,500

say I am a biological robot I am gonna

19

00:01:05,870 --> 00:01:03,570

stand by that well there's no evidence

20

00:01:08,030 --> 00:01:05,880

for invisible beings or entities hey but

21

00:01:09,679 --> 00:01:08,040

but you as you live your life you live

22

00:01:12,730 --> 00:01:09,689

your life like a biological robot

23

00:01:15,920 --> 00:01:12,740

everybody does some it's all there is

24

00:01:19,190 --> 00:01:15,930

okay I don't want to discount your

25

00:01:21,740 --> 00:01:19,200

questions I don't want to I think that

26  
00:01:25,249 --> 00:01:21,750  
you might be doing a service to atheists

27  
00:01:39,390 --> 00:01:25,259  
I encourage the exploration of all the

28  
00:01:43,210 --> 00:01:41,530  
welcome to skeptic oh where we explore

29  
00:01:45,490 --> 00:01:43,220  
controversial science with leading

30  
00:01:47,710 --> 00:01:45,500  
researchers thinkers and their critics

31  
00:01:50,710 --> 00:01:47,720  
i'm your host Alex Karras and this

32  
00:01:53,710 --> 00:01:50,720  
episode of skeptic 0 is yet another in

33  
00:01:56,020 --> 00:01:53,720  
this series i've been doing on atheism

34  
00:01:59,140 --> 00:01:56,030  
now i do feel a need to tell you a

35  
00:02:01,719 --> 00:01:59,150  
little bit about how i came to do this

36  
00:02:04,330 --> 00:02:01,729  
interview because as you know if you've

37  
00:02:07,150 --> 00:02:04,340  
listened you just heard a similar kind

38  
00:02:09,370 --> 00:02:07,160

of debate with philosophy professor dr.

39

00:02:12,190 --> 00:02:09,380

steven law and actually these two

40

00:02:15,730 --> 00:02:12,200

interviews with dr. law and john Loftus

41

00:02:19,330 --> 00:02:15,740

came about as the result of my interview

42

00:02:21,340 --> 00:02:19,340

on episode 217 with Gary Marcus because

43

00:02:23,590 --> 00:02:21,350

Aaron Marcus of course is this NYU

44

00:02:26,199 --> 00:02:23,600

professor of psychology best-selling

45

00:02:28,540 --> 00:02:26,209

author writes frequently unconsciousness

46

00:02:30,850 --> 00:02:28,550

issues yet if you listen to the

47

00:02:33,120 --> 00:02:30,860

interview stumbled with some basic

48

00:02:34,690 --> 00:02:33,130

questions about consciousness and

49

00:02:36,430 --> 00:02:34,700

surprisingly but i guess not

50

00:02:40,410 --> 00:02:36,440

surprisingly for me because i keep

51  
00:02:43,320 --> 00:02:40,420  
pounding on this drum is essentially

52  
00:02:46,780 --> 00:02:43,330  
atheistic in his thinking that is

53  
00:02:49,540 --> 00:02:46,790  
academia is atheistic so you go to a guy

54  
00:02:52,060 --> 00:02:49,550  
like Gary Marcus he's not waving the

55  
00:02:53,770 --> 00:02:52,070  
flag for atheism but you pushed through

56  
00:02:56,620 --> 00:02:53,780  
just a little bit and boom there it has

57  
00:02:58,420 --> 00:02:56,630  
the same kind of talking points parroted

58  
00:03:00,430 --> 00:02:58,430  
back to you that you hear from atheists

59  
00:03:03,280 --> 00:03:00,440  
so that led me to saying you know I

60  
00:03:05,740 --> 00:03:03,290  
really need to revisit the Atheist

61  
00:03:08,650 --> 00:03:05,750  
proposition directly and establish a

62  
00:03:11,320 --> 00:03:08,660  
dialogue with some atheists so the way

63  
00:03:13,449 --> 00:03:11,330

that I often do that is I go to Amazon

64

00:03:16,030 --> 00:03:13,459

and I look for the best-selling books in

65

00:03:19,000 --> 00:03:16,040

the category i'm interested in in this

66

00:03:21,009 --> 00:03:19,010

case is atheism and I came up with dr.

67

00:03:23,590 --> 00:03:21,019

Stephen laws book and I also came up

68

00:03:25,840 --> 00:03:23,600

with john Loftus this book so it's kind

69

00:03:28,150 --> 00:03:25,850

of a numbers game in inviting guests on

70

00:03:29,350 --> 00:03:28,160

you don't get everyone you ask so a lot

71

00:03:31,479 --> 00:03:29,360

of times I'll go out with a couple of

72

00:03:34,180 --> 00:03:31,489

requests and hope to get one in this

73

00:03:36,490 --> 00:03:34,190

case I got both of them I got one and

74

00:03:38,440 --> 00:03:36,500

then left a week later John Loftus

75

00:03:40,449 --> 00:03:38,450

responded and said hey I missed the

76

00:03:42,190 --> 00:03:40,459

email but I'd be happy to do it so I

77

00:03:43,870 --> 00:03:42,200

felt obligated and I felt like there was

78

00:03:45,789 --> 00:03:43,880

enough of a difference between the two

79

00:03:48,490 --> 00:03:45,799

that I could pursue both of them because

80

00:03:50,950 --> 00:03:48,500

they really cover two different aspects

81

00:03:53,370 --> 00:03:50,960

of the atheism prop

82

00:03:55,840 --> 00:03:53,380

one is the philosophy of science

83

00:03:58,300 --> 00:03:55,850

proposition that you heard from dr.

84

00:04:00,070 --> 00:03:58,310

Stephen law that I think doesn't hold up

85

00:04:02,230 --> 00:04:00,080

very well and from the discussion we've

86

00:04:04,690 --> 00:04:02,240

had he doesn't really come off as

87

00:04:07,120 --> 00:04:04,700

sounding like he has a very strong case

88

00:04:10,330 --> 00:04:07,130

but will kind of leave that as it is and

89

00:04:12,910 --> 00:04:10,340

then the second is this religious thrust

90

00:04:15,490 --> 00:04:12,920

that you get from John Loftus whose

91

00:04:18,430 --> 00:04:15,500

website is all about debunking

92

00:04:20,800 --> 00:04:18,440

Christianity but as you'll hear in this

93

00:04:23,650 --> 00:04:20,810

dialogue seems to come up short and

94

00:04:26,260 --> 00:04:23,660

actually some somewhat convoluted once

95

00:04:29,230 --> 00:04:26,270

you get past some of these silly empty

96

00:04:30,700 --> 00:04:29,240

tomb Christianity kind of debate and let

97

00:04:32,440 --> 00:04:30,710

me add one more thing that I've said in

98

00:04:35,980 --> 00:04:32,450

the past but I think bears repeating

99

00:04:38,680 --> 00:04:35,990

these kind of interviews are among the

100

00:04:40,810 --> 00:04:38,690

most important kind of interviews I can

101  
00:04:42,340 --> 00:04:40,820  
do that I can bring forward because I

102  
00:04:44,730 --> 00:04:42,350  
believe the number one thing that holds

103  
00:04:47,830 --> 00:04:44,740  
people back from making their own

104  
00:04:50,770 --> 00:04:47,840  
personal paradigm shift beyond the

105  
00:04:52,960 --> 00:04:50,780  
silliness of this you are a biological

106  
00:04:56,740 --> 00:04:52,970  
robot meme that gets jammed down your

107  
00:04:59,110 --> 00:04:56,750  
throat the number one barrier is wow

108  
00:05:02,320 --> 00:04:59,120  
there's so many smart people out there

109  
00:05:05,260 --> 00:05:02,330  
that go along with that idea how can all

110  
00:05:08,680 --> 00:05:05,270  
these really smart people be wrong so in

111  
00:05:11,890 --> 00:05:08,690  
that sense I think exposing how an

112  
00:05:14,560 --> 00:05:11,900  
Oxford philosopher and an NYU professor

113  
00:05:17,410 --> 00:05:14,570

of psychology and a well-known author

114

00:05:19,120 --> 00:05:17,420

and blogger who who really seems to have

115

00:05:22,840 --> 00:05:19,130

his stuff together when he debates

116

00:05:25,720 --> 00:05:22,850

Christians can stumble so miserably over

117

00:05:28,510 --> 00:05:25,730

basic fundamental questions that we

118

00:05:31,330 --> 00:05:28,520

address every week on skeptical

119

00:05:33,670 --> 00:05:31,340

questions of consciousness questions of

120

00:05:35,140 --> 00:05:33,680

how do we resolve the overwhelming

121

00:05:38,470 --> 00:05:35,150

evidence that suggests that

122

00:05:41,140 --> 00:05:38,480

consciousness isn't solely a function of

123

00:05:43,720 --> 00:05:41,150

the brain I mean that data is there and

124

00:05:47,500 --> 00:05:43,730

we talked about that data a lot but the

125

00:05:50,560 --> 00:05:47,510

big gap is why doesn't that data

126

00:05:52,630 --> 00:05:50,570

penetrate why doesn't it make a

127

00:05:54,700 --> 00:05:52,640

difference and that really requires

128

00:05:56,860 --> 00:05:54,710

studying the people that you would

129

00:05:59,560 --> 00:05:56,870

expect to be in a position to know

130

00:06:02,470 --> 00:05:59,570

better who for whatever reason have not

131

00:06:03,350 --> 00:06:02,480

allowed that data to penetrate their

132

00:06:05,749 --> 00:06:03,360

worldview

133

00:06:07,939 --> 00:06:05,759

oh and one more thing to add to this

134

00:06:09,920 --> 00:06:07,949

introduction before I let it go out the

135

00:06:12,290 --> 00:06:09,930

door and by the way there's quite a bit

136

00:06:13,999 --> 00:06:12,300

I have to say at the conclusion this

137

00:06:16,459 --> 00:06:14,009

interview so do stick around for that

138

00:06:19,640 --> 00:06:16,469

but before we get there one more thing

139

00:06:22,309 --> 00:06:19,650

to add because you've heard this charge

140

00:06:25,610 --> 00:06:22,319

so many times sandbagging blindsighted

141

00:06:27,740 --> 00:06:25,620

all that stuff that these guys say over

142

00:06:30,679 --> 00:06:27,750

and over and over again whenever they

143

00:06:33,200 --> 00:06:30,689

lose so I did I almost forgot to but I

144

00:06:36,529 --> 00:06:33,210

managed to go back and look at the

145

00:06:39,800 --> 00:06:36,539

original email that i sent to john

146

00:06:43,249 --> 00:06:39,810

Loftus when I invited him on skeptic oh

147

00:06:46,760 --> 00:06:43,259

I have to read this for you because here

148

00:06:50,420 --> 00:06:46,770

is a guy who's blindsided let's see how

149

00:06:52,640 --> 00:06:50,430

I invited him on the show hi John I'd

150

00:06:55,279 --> 00:06:52,650

like to know if you'd be available for

151

00:06:58,879 --> 00:06:55,289

an interview to discuss your blog in

152

00:07:01,159 --> 00:06:58,889

recent book The Outsider test for faith

153

00:07:03,709 --> 00:07:01,169

while I've enjoyed many of your

154

00:07:06,740 --> 00:07:03,719

withering attacks on goofy Christian

155

00:07:09,140 --> 00:07:06,750

apologetics I am always left wondering

156

00:07:11,749 --> 00:07:09,150

whether the science of human

157

00:07:15,249 --> 00:07:11,759

consciousness has been brought to the

158

00:07:19,790 --> 00:07:15,259

table do people have genuine spiritual

159

00:07:24,950 --> 00:07:19,800

experiences ? is our mind purely a

160

00:07:28,490 --> 00:07:24,960

function of our brain ? are these topics

161

00:07:31,629 --> 00:07:28,500

/ questions you've examined and would

162

00:07:36,619 --> 00:07:31,639

you be open to discussing them on

163

00:07:40,429 --> 00:07:36,629

skeptic oh ? followed by my usual

164

00:07:44,499 --> 00:07:40,439

boilerplate about skeptic oh and some of

165

00:07:46,790 --> 00:07:44,509

our previous guests blindsided indeed

166

00:07:49,279 --> 00:07:46,800

okay thanks for bearing through this

167

00:07:53,629 --> 00:07:49,289

long introduction here's my dialogue

168

00:07:56,209 --> 00:07:53,639

with john Loftus today we welcome John W

169

00:07:57,829 --> 00:07:56,219

Loftus to skeptic Oh John has an

170

00:08:00,050 --> 00:07:57,839

interesting background having earned

171

00:08:02,899 --> 00:08:00,060

advanced degrees in theology and

172

00:08:05,360 --> 00:08:02,909

philosophy at Lincoln seminary and again

173

00:08:07,730 --> 00:08:05,370

at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

174

00:08:10,279 --> 00:08:07,740

where he studied under none other than

175

00:08:12,350 --> 00:08:10,289

dr. William Lane Craig all of that

176  
00:08:15,820 --> 00:08:12,360  
before leaving the Christian Church and

177  
00:08:18,280 --> 00:08:15,830  
becoming a popular atheist author and

178  
00:08:22,240 --> 00:08:18,290  
auger jon is here to talk about his new

179  
00:08:24,940 --> 00:08:22,250  
book The Outsider test for faith how to

180  
00:08:27,190 --> 00:08:24,950  
know which religion is true quite a

181  
00:08:29,760 --> 00:08:27,200  
provocative title John welcome to

182  
00:08:32,410 --> 00:08:29,770  
skeptical and thanks for joining me well

183  
00:08:35,200 --> 00:08:32,420  
thanks for having me appreciate it so

184  
00:08:38,590 --> 00:08:35,210  
can you start by telling folks what is

185  
00:08:40,660 --> 00:08:38,600  
the outsider test and how you came up

186  
00:08:45,130 --> 00:08:40,670  
with it well the outside of test for

187  
00:08:47,170 --> 00:08:45,140  
faith is a test to determine though you

188  
00:08:53,080 --> 00:08:47,180

know which religion is true if there is

189

00:08:56,170 --> 00:08:53,090

one and it asks people to test their own

190

00:08:59,440 --> 00:08:56,180

faith in with the same standards that

191

00:09:02,590 --> 00:08:59,450

they use when examining other faiths

192

00:09:05,530 --> 00:09:02,600

it's to test their own faith as if they

193

00:09:08,440 --> 00:09:05,540

were non-believers you know in their own

194

00:09:12,640 --> 00:09:08,450

because that's how they test the faith's

195

00:09:15,580 --> 00:09:12,650

that they reject and how I came up with

196

00:09:17,920 --> 00:09:15,590

it was you know with online discussions

197

00:09:21,880 --> 00:09:17,930

i run the blog debunking christianity

198

00:09:24,580 --> 00:09:21,890

and you know i was told by some

199

00:09:27,250 --> 00:09:24,590

christian apologist that you know i'm

200

00:09:29,800 --> 00:09:27,260

ignorant that i really don't understand

201

00:09:31,660 --> 00:09:29,810

the christian bait because you can't

202

00:09:35,890 --> 00:09:31,670

understand it unless you're an insider

203

00:09:38,050 --> 00:09:35,900

to it and well you know i was a former

204

00:09:40,060 --> 00:09:38,060

Christian you know you know with three

205

00:09:42,280 --> 00:09:40,070

masters degrees one of them earned under

206

00:09:44,560 --> 00:09:42,290

you know when Lane Craig I mean you know

207

00:09:49,140 --> 00:09:44,570

the ignorance charge really doesn't

208

00:09:52,180 --> 00:09:49,150

stick with me I you know and yet still

209

00:09:55,180 --> 00:09:52,190

they were right innocence because at

210

00:09:58,270 --> 00:09:55,190

that point having rejected you know my

211

00:10:02,020 --> 00:09:58,280

Christian faith I was at that point an

212

00:10:03,940 --> 00:10:02,030

outsider and I realized that there is a

213

00:10:07,180 --> 00:10:03,950

different sort of standard when you're

214

00:10:10,960 --> 00:10:07,190

an outsider to a faith as as I was

215

00:10:13,720 --> 00:10:10,970

inside I was indoctrinated to believe I

216

00:10:16,900 --> 00:10:13,730

didn't know different and so I accepted

217

00:10:20,320 --> 00:10:16,910

it and when I accepted it I prefer to be

218

00:10:24,400 --> 00:10:20,330

true and I argued that it was true from

219

00:10:27,760 --> 00:10:24,410

an insider's perspective and you know I

220

00:10:29,090 --> 00:10:27,770

just dawned on me that the proper way to

221

00:10:32,000 --> 00:10:29,100

evaluate any

222

00:10:33,680 --> 00:10:32,010

including one zone is to do so as a

223

00:10:37,130 --> 00:10:33,690

non-believer that's that's the only

224

00:10:38,950 --> 00:10:37,140

appropriate way to do so and so then now

225

00:10:42,170 --> 00:10:38,960

you know I proposed outside test faith

226

00:10:44,900 --> 00:10:42,180

you know to examine your own faith and

227

00:10:47,470 --> 00:10:44,910

with the same standards that you examine

228

00:10:50,600 --> 00:10:47,480

the other religions that you reject and

229

00:10:53,990 --> 00:10:50,610

you know I got a lot of backlash from it

230

00:10:56,450 --> 00:10:54,000

from Christian philosophers and this

231

00:10:59,420 --> 00:10:56,460

book is the culmination of a lot of

232

00:11:02,360 --> 00:10:59,430

thought on on what it entails and to a

233

00:11:05,150 --> 00:11:02,370

deal with the objections to it that

234

00:11:07,130 --> 00:11:05,160

heaven suits since that time well I have

235

00:11:08,570 --> 00:11:07,140

to say I thought it was great it's one

236

00:11:10,520 --> 00:11:08,580

of those books where the title really

237

00:11:12,710 --> 00:11:10,530

captures it pretty much you dig into it

238

00:11:14,300 --> 00:11:12,720

you go wow that makes a lot of intuitive

239

00:11:16,370 --> 00:11:14,310

sense and I have to tell you I have a

240

00:11:18,170 --> 00:11:16,380

little experience with the outsider test

241

00:11:21,050 --> 00:11:18,180

for faith because i was preparing for

242

00:11:22,880 --> 00:11:21,060

this show and i got an email from a

243

00:11:25,220 --> 00:11:22,890

listener and it was one of those emails

244

00:11:27,230 --> 00:11:25,230

we like to get you know was a guy i'll

245

00:11:29,630 --> 00:11:27,240

call him andy and he was like hey man i

246

00:11:32,300 --> 00:11:29,640

like the show i like how you square off

247

00:11:34,670 --> 00:11:32,310

against this scientific materialism and

248

00:11:36,070 --> 00:11:34,680

then he started telling me that i was a

249

00:11:38,690 --> 00:11:36,080

little bit off on my kind of

250

00:11:40,790 --> 00:11:38,700

anti-christian rhetoric and then he laid

251

00:11:42,530 --> 00:11:40,800

into me with a lot of Scripture I don't

252

00:11:45,560 --> 00:11:42,540

usually read emails that have a lot of

253

00:11:47,360 --> 00:11:45,570

Scripture I usually kind of slide past

254

00:11:50,000 --> 00:11:47,370

those but I said hey here's an

255

00:11:51,890 --> 00:11:50,010

opportunity I told him that I'm going to

256

00:11:54,650 --> 00:11:51,900

be interviewing you I said here is this

257

00:11:57,290 --> 00:11:54,660

guy outside her test for faith Andy why

258

00:12:00,590 --> 00:11:57,300

don't you take the outsider test through

259

00:12:02,600 --> 00:12:00,600

an email exchange and he did so let me

260

00:12:05,150 --> 00:12:02,610

let me ask you since you've been through

261

00:12:07,280 --> 00:12:05,160

this over and over and over again how do

262

00:12:09,380 --> 00:12:07,290

you think that went and then I'll tell

263

00:12:12,440 --> 00:12:09,390

you how it went well usually they

264

00:12:15,200 --> 00:12:12,450

initially rejected usually Christians

265

00:12:19,460 --> 00:12:15,210

will hear of it and reject it outright

266

00:12:22,790 --> 00:12:19,470

as skewed because probably because its

267

00:12:25,430 --> 00:12:22,800

proposed by an atheist and they figure

268

00:12:27,320 --> 00:12:25,440

any anyhow to any test for faith that's

269

00:12:30,680 --> 00:12:27,330

proposed by an atheist it's got to be

270

00:12:34,940 --> 00:12:30,690

skewed got to be wrong so initially my

271

00:12:37,700 --> 00:12:34,950

guess is he objected to it and you know

272

00:12:39,890 --> 00:12:37,710

maybe in the process of discussing that

273

00:12:42,830 --> 00:12:39,900

with him he may have come to realize

274

00:12:45,530 --> 00:12:42,840

well you know this is not so bad after

275

00:12:47,840 --> 00:12:45,540

and you know he probably he might claim

276

00:12:51,470 --> 00:12:47,850

well my my faith passes the test after

277

00:12:53,180 --> 00:12:51,480

all am I wrong well the last part is

278

00:12:55,430 --> 00:12:53,190

definitely where we wound up I'll give

279

00:12:58,580 --> 00:12:55,440

you a quick recap the first round was

280

00:12:59,870 --> 00:12:58,590

more scripture and I said hey Andy we

281

00:13:03,140 --> 00:12:59,880

can't really play that game I mean you

282

00:13:05,270 --> 00:13:03,150

can't use scripture to validate

283

00:13:07,580 --> 00:13:05,280

Scripture kind of get in this circular

284

00:13:10,370 --> 00:13:07,590

thing but he rallied he came around to

285

00:13:14,480 --> 00:13:10,380

that and in the second round he came

286

00:13:16,850 --> 00:13:14,490

along with I think the apologist line of

287

00:13:20,390 --> 00:13:16,860

defense which I see which is it's not as

288

00:13:22,370 --> 00:13:20,400

bad as it seems you know okay maybe we

289

00:13:24,350 --> 00:13:22,380

have some problems maybe we're not

290

00:13:27,950 --> 00:13:24,360

perfect but it's not as bad as it seems

291

00:13:30,530 --> 00:13:27,960

you know here's some rebuttals to bart

292

00:13:32,690 --> 00:13:30,540

Airmen and the rest to which I said yeah

293

00:13:35,030 --> 00:13:32,700

but that's not really the outsider test

294

00:13:38,750 --> 00:13:35,040

the outsider test would be why not

295

00:13:40,220 --> 00:13:38,760

Mormonism why not Joseph Smith which he

296

00:13:41,840 --> 00:13:40,230

got in the spirit of it but it kind of

297

00:13:43,700 --> 00:13:41,850

came back to yell but well if I really

298

00:13:46,930 --> 00:13:43,710

do it then my religion really is best

299

00:13:50,780 --> 00:13:46,940

let me show you why Jesus is better than

300

00:13:53,540 --> 00:13:50,790

everybody else kind of thing so I don't

301

00:13:56,170 --> 00:13:53,550

know what's what's how do you get

302

00:13:59,630 --> 00:13:56,180

through with the outsider test for faith

303

00:14:02,210 --> 00:13:59,640

well you know it's difficult with a the

304

00:14:04,400 --> 00:14:02,220

mind of a believer because most of them

305

00:14:08,000 --> 00:14:04,410

were never argued into their faith in

306

00:14:10,430 --> 00:14:08,010

the first place so it's unlikely we can

307

00:14:12,440 --> 00:14:10,440

argue them out of it you know that's I

308

00:14:13,790 --> 00:14:12,450

have to say that's one point that Andy

309

00:14:15,590 --> 00:14:13,800

made that I do give him credit for at

310

00:14:17,990 --> 00:14:15,600

the end and I and I appreciate you know

311

00:14:19,730 --> 00:14:18,000

it's straight-up guy he really got into

312

00:14:21,230 --> 00:14:19,740

it and exchanged this with me and I

313

00:14:23,030 --> 00:14:21,240

appreciate that but his point at the end

314

00:14:25,610 --> 00:14:23,040

he said you know one point I'd like to X

315

00:14:28,070 --> 00:14:25,620

ask Loftus is you know what's an

316

00:14:31,300 --> 00:14:28,080

outsider none of us are outsiders we all

317

00:14:35,780 --> 00:14:31,310

come to the game with some baggage and

318

00:14:37,490 --> 00:14:35,790

what would be a response to that oh well

319

00:14:41,960 --> 00:14:37,500

we know what it's like to be an outsider

320

00:14:44,330 --> 00:14:41,970

of other religious faiths and so I don't

321

00:14:48,770 --> 00:14:44,340

see a problem with you know singling out

322

00:14:51,410 --> 00:14:48,780

a religious faith from the other

323

00:14:54,380 --> 00:14:51,420

cultural you know beliefs that we might

324

00:14:55,840 --> 00:14:54,390

have and examining that you know one

325

00:14:58,120 --> 00:14:55,850

piece of our

326

00:15:01,780 --> 00:14:58,130

world you at a time I think that

327

00:15:03,939 --> 00:15:01,790

Christians misunderstand the difference

328

00:15:08,769 --> 00:15:03,949

between you know a religion and a

329

00:15:11,829 --> 00:15:08,779

worldview what they think is the case is

330

00:15:13,840 --> 00:15:11,839

is that what they believe is part of

331

00:15:16,800 --> 00:15:13,850

their total worldview such that you we

332

00:15:19,180 --> 00:15:16,810

can't extricate one's religious faith

333

00:15:22,480 --> 00:15:19,190

from that world view without subjecting

334

00:15:24,189 --> 00:15:22,490

our whole worldview you know to the test

335

00:15:27,040 --> 00:15:24,199

and you know quite frankly we can't

336

00:15:29,350 --> 00:15:27,050

really do that I mean we can't question

337

00:15:32,980 --> 00:15:29,360

everything that we believe at the same

338

00:15:35,889 --> 00:15:32,990

time we do have a multi-faceted number

339

00:15:37,629 --> 00:15:35,899

of beliefs and conclusions that we've

340

00:15:39,970 --> 00:15:37,639

arrived at that you know there's just

341

00:15:42,879 --> 00:15:39,980

impossible psychologically speaking to

342

00:15:44,319 --> 00:15:42,889

question them all at the same time but

343

00:15:45,879 --> 00:15:44,329

we know what it's like to question our

344

00:15:48,129 --> 00:15:45,889

political beliefs we know what it's like

345

00:15:50,290 --> 00:15:48,139

to you know question our ethical beliefs

346

00:15:52,930 --> 00:15:50,300

we know what it's like to you know

347

00:15:55,360 --> 00:15:52,940

question anything you know someone says

348

00:15:59,139 --> 00:15:55,370

that they levitated and we know how to

349

00:16:01,600 --> 00:15:59,149

single that you know out for scrutiny so

350

00:16:03,819 --> 00:16:01,610

they misunderstand that the you know

351

00:16:06,220 --> 00:16:03,829

one's religious belief is not equivalent

352

00:16:09,670 --> 00:16:06,230

to one's whole worldview and to get that

353

00:16:12,759 --> 00:16:09,680

point across what we do is we just

354

00:16:15,939 --> 00:16:12,769

simply you know talk about the kinds of

355

00:16:18,460 --> 00:16:15,949

things that we maintain even though we

356

00:16:21,460 --> 00:16:18,470

reject our faith now we can ask us x

357

00:16:23,499 --> 00:16:21,470

believers that question and you know I

358

00:16:25,990 --> 00:16:23,509

mean princess I didn't reject my

359

00:16:29,889 --> 00:16:26,000

language I still speak you know English

360

00:16:32,170 --> 00:16:29,899

I didn't reject the ol love I didn't

361

00:16:37,480 --> 00:16:32,180

reject you know how I negotiate the

362

00:16:39,610 --> 00:16:37,490

price of a car i I didn't reject the

363

00:16:42,819 --> 00:16:39,620

loving of my family you know there's a

364

00:16:46,240 --> 00:16:42,829

host of things that I have maintained

365

00:16:49,480 --> 00:16:46,250

throughout my you know my skeptical

366

00:16:51,629 --> 00:16:49,490

quest because you know I'm living

367

00:16:55,139 --> 00:16:51,639

testament that you can subject your

368

00:16:57,699 --> 00:16:55,149

religious states to a separate inquiry

369

00:17:00,699 --> 00:16:57,709

and still maintain everything else that

370

00:17:02,949 --> 00:17:00,709

you believe not a lot of things have

371

00:17:05,230 --> 00:17:02,959

fallen by the wayside but there's a lot

372

00:17:07,390 --> 00:17:05,240

of things that you know I still have

373

00:17:10,960 --> 00:17:07,400

maintained throughout you know that

374

00:17:15,100 --> 00:17:10,970

that quest so it's like a boat analogy

375

00:17:17,500 --> 00:17:15,110

and I write about this in my book you

376

00:17:20,770 --> 00:17:17,510

know we can we can simply can replace

377

00:17:23,290 --> 00:17:20,780

one plank in our boat at a time now the

378

00:17:26,980 --> 00:17:23,300

ones religious faith is definitely a big

379

00:17:30,280 --> 00:17:26,990

plank but you know when we're at sea if

380

00:17:32,940 --> 00:17:30,290

one plank of our boat is leaky in we can

381

00:17:35,950 --> 00:17:32,950

replace it and without you know

382

00:17:40,300 --> 00:17:35,960

replacing the whole boat hey I love that

383

00:17:43,990 --> 00:17:40,310

analogy I just wonder how that really

384

00:17:46,900 --> 00:17:44,000

holds up in this kind of culture war

385

00:17:48,840 --> 00:17:46,910

battle that we're in you know I love the

386

00:17:51,730 --> 00:17:48,850

approach that you take in terms of

387

00:17:54,040 --> 00:17:51,740

separating those world views from your

388

00:17:56,470 --> 00:17:54,050

religious views but I wonder if that's

389

00:17:58,420 --> 00:17:56,480

how the game is really played it's like

390

00:18:01,480 --> 00:17:58,430

when I hear some of these debates

391

00:18:03,340 --> 00:18:01,490

between atheists and Christians I'm like

392

00:18:06,400 --> 00:18:03,350

wow that's really kind of missing the

393

00:18:09,160 --> 00:18:06,410

point because most Christians are not

394

00:18:12,430 --> 00:18:09,170

all that Christian and most atheists are

395

00:18:14,740 --> 00:18:12,440

not all that atheists atheistic in the

396

00:18:17,290 --> 00:18:14,750

way that you're saying but on the other

397

00:18:21,160 --> 00:18:17,300

hand when I read your site debunking

398

00:18:24,760 --> 00:18:21,170

Christianity and you Chronicle and

399

00:18:27,490 --> 00:18:24,770

document how deeply woven some of these

400

00:18:31,660 --> 00:18:27,500

religious beliefs are into our culture

401  
00:18:35,590 --> 00:18:31,670  
into our society I go you know maybe we

402  
00:18:38,740 --> 00:18:35,600  
have to replace it more than one plank

403  
00:18:41,130 --> 00:18:38,750  
at a time and I wonder if that's where

404  
00:18:42,940 --> 00:18:41,140  
you're going can we really say

405  
00:18:44,410 --> 00:18:42,950  
philosophically like you're saying well

406  
00:18:46,570 --> 00:18:44,420  
I'm just going to kind of carve this

407  
00:18:49,750 --> 00:18:46,580  
religious peace out but I'm going to go

408  
00:18:52,030 --> 00:18:49,760  
forward with the other claims that

409  
00:18:54,610 --> 00:18:52,040  
Christians make about the world view

410  
00:18:57,490 --> 00:18:54,620  
don't we have to step back and say well

411  
00:18:59,800 --> 00:18:57,500  
what about the atheist claims for my

412  
00:19:02,950 --> 00:18:59,810  
worldview let me ask you do you believe

413  
00:19:06,100 --> 00:19:02,960

that modern atheism makes any claims

414

00:19:08,890 --> 00:19:06,110

about worldview kind of issues because I

415

00:19:14,830 --> 00:19:08,900

think they do um you know I think that

416

00:19:19,480 --> 00:19:14,840

the best answer is no the best answer is

417

00:19:20,850 --> 00:19:19,490

that atheism is non-belief I mean the

418

00:19:26,340 --> 00:19:20,860

word atheism means

419

00:19:29,580 --> 00:19:26,350

a theism that is non theism and by

420

00:19:32,130 --> 00:19:29,590

extension non-believer we don't believe

421

00:19:34,410 --> 00:19:32,140

just like we don't believe that you know

422

00:19:38,549 --> 00:19:34,420

some guy levitated you know who claims

423

00:19:40,110 --> 00:19:38,559

that he did we basically say you know

424

00:19:41,789 --> 00:19:40,120

show me the evidence but basically an

425

00:19:43,740 --> 00:19:41,799

atheist is someone who says you know I

426  
00:19:48,120 --> 00:19:43,750  
don't think there is enough evidence to

427  
00:19:50,640 --> 00:19:48,130  
believe this now what is the this well

428  
00:19:52,500 --> 00:19:50,650  
it's virgin births its resurrections

429  
00:19:55,289 --> 00:19:52,510  
from the dead this asses the talk is

430  
00:20:01,470 --> 00:19:55,299  
donkeys that you know talk snakes it

431  
00:20:04,950 --> 00:20:01,480  
that walk walk we don't believe that now

432  
00:20:08,700 --> 00:20:04,960  
it's those kind of things levitating

433  
00:20:11,870 --> 00:20:08,710  
Buddhist etc and so I'm you know that

434  
00:20:17,460 --> 00:20:14,370  
indoctrinated within our own culture to

435  
00:20:19,049 --> 00:20:17,470  
believe a host of things as well it's

436  
00:20:22,110 --> 00:20:19,059  
just that those are the kinds of things

437  
00:20:26,039 --> 00:20:22,120  
that we don't believe now I do think

438  
00:20:28,289 --> 00:20:26,049

that once one becomes an atheist then

439

00:20:31,919 --> 00:20:28,299

they do see the world a bit differently

440

00:20:34,799 --> 00:20:31,929

so you know that that's true as well but

441

00:20:37,620 --> 00:20:34,809

that's a gradual process I mean I I mean

442

00:20:40,440 --> 00:20:37,630

I have to face the fact that this is the

443

00:20:41,850 --> 00:20:40,450

only life I love or live that's that's a

444

00:20:45,060 --> 00:20:41,860

you know that can be a life changing

445

00:20:48,990 --> 00:20:45,070

thing for me and that I will never see

446

00:20:50,520 --> 00:20:49,000

my my dad who died in 88 again those

447

00:20:52,680 --> 00:20:50,530

kind of things and that I have to decide

448

00:20:54,560 --> 00:20:52,690

on my own how to live my life you know

449

00:20:56,850 --> 00:20:54,570

apart from a you know divine authority

450

00:20:59,100 --> 00:20:56,860

that there are a lot of things that go

451  
00:21:01,289 --> 00:20:59,110  
go with that you know I no longer have

452  
00:21:04,409 --> 00:21:01,299  
the answers you know to questions from

453  
00:21:06,150 --> 00:21:04,419  
divine authority you know so there's a

454  
00:21:07,950 --> 00:21:06,160  
lot that goes with the rejection of

455  
00:21:10,260 --> 00:21:07,960  
one's religion okay I'll grant I'll

456  
00:21:12,930 --> 00:21:10,270  
grant you that and there's a lot that an

457  
00:21:16,380 --> 00:21:12,940  
atheist will you know usually conclude

458  
00:21:18,110 --> 00:21:16,390  
you know you know as an atheist oh I'll

459  
00:21:21,030 --> 00:21:18,120  
grant that to like you said I grant that

460  
00:21:25,530 --> 00:21:21,040  
but I just think I see no reason to

461  
00:21:28,400 --> 00:21:25,540  
suppose that we can't subject you know

462  
00:21:32,100 --> 00:21:28,410  
one of our one of our culturally

463  
00:21:33,930 --> 00:21:32,110

indoctrinated beliefs to to a test now I

464

00:21:36,180 --> 00:21:33,940

would have to guess that the religion

465

00:21:38,519 --> 00:21:36,190

belief that one has is probably you know

466

00:21:41,519 --> 00:21:38,529

the biggest plank in the boat you know I

467

00:21:43,590 --> 00:21:41,529

mean I'll have to grant that and I also

468

00:21:47,100 --> 00:21:43,600

after grant that once one becomes an

469

00:21:50,070 --> 00:21:47,110

atheist then then he or she will reject

470

00:21:52,200 --> 00:21:50,080

the the the morality that they think is

471

00:21:55,379 --> 00:21:52,210

found in the Bible you know whatever

472

00:21:56,909 --> 00:21:55,389

that is but they can decide to love on

473

00:22:00,240 --> 00:21:56,919

their own you know they can decide to

474

00:22:01,680 --> 00:22:00,250

care for people on their own that's the

475

00:22:04,080 --> 00:22:01,690

problem i guess and i didn't know you're

476

00:22:06,629 --> 00:22:04,090

going to go quite that far with what

477

00:22:08,070 --> 00:22:06,639

your beliefs are because i think some of

478

00:22:09,990 --> 00:22:08,080

those beliefs are tricky i mean it would

479

00:22:12,149 --> 00:22:10,000

have to be subjected to the same kind of

480

00:22:14,549 --> 00:22:12,159

scientific criteria that we would

481

00:22:17,490 --> 00:22:14,559

subject anything to that's maybe another

482

00:22:19,649 --> 00:22:17,500

discussion but i will when you say I'm

483

00:22:21,149 --> 00:22:19,659

you're still open to love you're still

484

00:22:23,369 --> 00:22:21,159

open to some kind of morals but their

485

00:22:24,869 --> 00:22:23,379

morals of choice I mean people who

486

00:22:26,610 --> 00:22:24,879

listen this show might get tired of this

487

00:22:29,190 --> 00:22:26,620

because we just hash this out at length

488

00:22:31,499 --> 00:22:29,200

on the forum but I'd suggest you you're

489

00:22:35,909 --> 00:22:31,509

a philosopher that that's logically

490

00:22:39,840 --> 00:22:35,919

inconsistent I mean if life has no

491

00:22:44,639 --> 00:22:39,850

meaning there is no good in bad then if

492

00:22:47,460 --> 00:22:44,649

consciousness as Daniel Dennett says is

493

00:22:50,009 --> 00:22:47,470

an illusion then it's all an illusion

494

00:22:52,019 --> 00:22:50,019

right love is an illusion everything is

495

00:22:54,210 --> 00:22:52,029

an illusion good or bad is an illusion I

496

00:22:56,879 --> 00:22:54,220

don't know how we can really pick and

497

00:22:58,649 --> 00:22:56,889

choose those planks the way that you're

498

00:23:00,499 --> 00:22:58,659

you're kind of talking about isn't it

499

00:23:05,430 --> 00:23:00,509

kind of an all-or-nothing proposition

500

00:23:08,269 --> 00:23:05,440

well you know I know it's not i'm not

501  
00:23:11,430 --> 00:23:08,279  
exactly where of your previous you know

502  
00:23:14,850 --> 00:23:11,440  
podcasts and no you know where you land

503  
00:23:16,950 --> 00:23:14,860  
on these sorts of issues it is tricky i

504  
00:23:19,669 --> 00:23:16,960  
mean it is tricky i don't for instance

505  
00:23:23,810 --> 00:23:19,679  
think that that we can come to our

506  
00:23:26,879 --> 00:23:23,820  
conclusions very easily very readily

507  
00:23:30,539 --> 00:23:26,889  
maybe we don't have free will like

508  
00:23:33,330 --> 00:23:30,549  
Daniel then it says maybe consciousness

509  
00:23:36,899 --> 00:23:33,340  
is an illusion I mean you know maybe we

510  
00:23:39,539 --> 00:23:36,909  
live in a matrix to you know maybe there

511  
00:23:41,490 --> 00:23:39,549  
isn't a material world these are the

512  
00:23:44,249 --> 00:23:41,500  
kinds of questions that philosophers ask

513  
00:23:47,630 --> 00:23:44,259

but you know even if we were to live in

514

00:23:51,780 --> 00:23:47,640

an illusion say the matrix if I may

515

00:23:54,420 --> 00:23:51,790

that doesn't make any difference because

516

00:23:56,400 --> 00:23:54,430

you know we still have to live in the

517

00:23:59,370 --> 00:23:56,410

illusion I mean we still have to make

518

00:24:01,650 --> 00:23:59,380

choices in the illusion why why would

519

00:24:03,690 --> 00:24:01,660

why would we perpetuate that at all I

520

00:24:06,540 --> 00:24:03,700

mean it gets to the really deep

521

00:24:09,150 --> 00:24:06,550

philosophical question of why choose

522

00:24:10,740 --> 00:24:09,160

life at all I mean it's all it's all an

523

00:24:12,810 --> 00:24:10,750

illusion there's nothing there you're

524

00:24:14,910 --> 00:24:12,820

not doing anything nothing is happening

525

00:24:16,740 --> 00:24:14,920

you're not moving towards anything your

526

00:24:19,080 --> 00:24:16,750

parents don't matter your children don't

527

00:24:21,240 --> 00:24:19,090

matter nothing matters I mean that is a

528

00:24:24,540 --> 00:24:21,250

lot among are you playing the devil's

529

00:24:26,820 --> 00:24:24,550

advocate with me because I find that

530

00:24:29,010 --> 00:24:26,830

ludicrous you know I find it ludicrous

531

00:24:31,440 --> 00:24:29,020

to say that nothing matters I mean

532

00:24:33,870 --> 00:24:31,450

really I did too but that's it that's at

533

00:24:35,520 --> 00:24:33,880

the core of this this how then where did

534

00:24:44,460 --> 00:24:35,530

what matters then how do we decide what

535

00:24:49,400 --> 00:24:44,470

matters um it doesn't matter now in in

536

00:24:52,350 --> 00:24:49,410

August of 2013 what I do in life a

537

00:24:55,640 --> 00:24:52,360

million years from now I mean a million

538

00:24:58,220 --> 00:24:55,650

years from now nothing I have ever done

539

00:25:02,550 --> 00:24:58,230

matters it doesn't matter so ultimately

540

00:25:04,440 --> 00:25:02,560

nothing matters but it does matter to

541

00:25:07,710 --> 00:25:04,450

the people I love and the people who

542

00:25:09,570 --> 00:25:07,720

love me my friends I mean it's it's own

543

00:25:11,670 --> 00:25:09,580

so I find that ludicrous to say nothing

544

00:25:14,370 --> 00:25:11,680

matters no such thing as there's no such

545

00:25:15,870 --> 00:25:14,380

thing as love love is an illusion love

546

00:25:17,640 --> 00:25:15,880

is an illusion there's a it's this

547

00:25:20,010 --> 00:25:17,650

chemical reaction you have in your brain

548

00:25:22,800 --> 00:25:20,020

that you're programmed to do and it's

549

00:25:24,570 --> 00:25:22,810

yeah I'm your your scoffing but i scoff

550

00:25:27,540 --> 00:25:24,580

too i think the whole idea that we don't

551  
00:25:29,220 --> 00:25:27,550  
have free will is is ludicrous i think

552  
00:25:32,460 --> 00:25:29,230  
the idea that love isn't real is

553  
00:25:37,170 --> 00:25:32,470  
ludicrous but i think in that same way I

554  
00:25:39,690 --> 00:25:37,180  
think we never examine fully those

555  
00:25:41,550 --> 00:25:39,700  
claims that are being made by atheists

556  
00:25:45,660 --> 00:25:41,560  
we wind up talking about codices and

557  
00:25:47,910 --> 00:25:45,670  
empty tombs and other crazy stuff but we

558  
00:25:51,870 --> 00:25:47,920  
never talk about what's at the core of

559  
00:25:54,960 --> 00:25:51,880  
this idea that you are as Dawkins

560  
00:25:57,390 --> 00:25:54,970  
Richard Dawkins says a biological robot

561  
00:25:59,670 --> 00:25:57,400  
and I think that is at the core of this

562  
00:26:00,580 --> 00:25:59,680  
debate because Christians aren't all

563  
00:26:02,560 --> 00:26:00,590

that Christian

564

00:26:06,039 --> 00:26:02,570

and atheists aren't all that atheistic

565

00:26:09,669 --> 00:26:06,049

what people say is you guys say nothing

566

00:26:12,549 --> 00:26:09,679

and I say something you guys say

567

00:26:15,070 --> 00:26:12,559

biological robot and I say ain't no

568

00:26:17,860 --> 00:26:15,080

biological robot and you want to talk

569

00:26:19,539 --> 00:26:17,870

about free will hell yes I have free

570

00:26:22,419 --> 00:26:19,549

will of course I have free will it's

571

00:26:24,930 --> 00:26:22,429

obvious I have free will from your

572

00:26:27,190 --> 00:26:24,940

philosophical background isn't there a

573

00:26:29,560 --> 00:26:27,200

philosophical gap there aren't you kind

574

00:26:31,899 --> 00:26:29,570

of trying to place a middle ground there

575

00:26:34,779 --> 00:26:31,909

that doesn't really exist when you want

576

00:26:36,789 --> 00:26:34,789

to say I'm still about love I'm still

577

00:26:39,970 --> 00:26:36,799

about caring for the people I care about

578

00:26:43,779 --> 00:26:39,980

how is that really consistent with this

579

00:26:46,450 --> 00:26:43,789

biological robot meme that Richard

580

00:26:55,470 --> 00:26:46,460

Dawkins gives us let's put to you this

581

00:26:58,180 --> 00:26:55,480

way let's a grant with many philosophers

582

00:27:00,039 --> 00:26:58,190

materialists that we don't have free

583

00:27:01,450 --> 00:27:00,049

will just just grant it for a minute I

584

00:27:03,820 --> 00:27:01,460

know that you find that ludicrous but

585

00:27:05,889 --> 00:27:03,830

this is grant we don't have free well

586

00:27:09,610 --> 00:27:05,899

why don't you find it ludicrous to by

587

00:27:12,580 --> 00:27:09,620

the way but go ahead I'm sorry I mean I

588

00:27:14,470 --> 00:27:12,590

suspect that you find it ludicrous you

589

00:27:16,090 --> 00:27:14,480

don't live your life like you don't have

590

00:27:18,490 --> 00:27:16,100

free will of course you lived her life

591

00:27:20,590 --> 00:27:18,500

everyday look but go ahead well yeah

592

00:27:23,049 --> 00:27:20,600

right right and so uh so I so I make

593

00:27:26,769 --> 00:27:23,059

choices and these choices affect people

594

00:27:30,070 --> 00:27:26,779

and the people that matter to me and so

595

00:27:32,529 --> 00:27:30,080

I can't do any other and I I do make

596

00:27:36,760 --> 00:27:32,539

choices and you know that's that's all

597

00:27:39,370 --> 00:27:36,770

there is to it I I don't find that you

598

00:27:43,019 --> 00:27:39,380

know the idea that I mean I like let me

599

00:27:45,159 --> 00:27:43,029

just say this way my specialty isn't in

600

00:27:47,680 --> 00:27:45,169

discussions about free will I mean I

601  
00:27:50,950 --> 00:27:47,690  
have to stick to things that you know I

602  
00:27:53,049 --> 00:27:50,960  
have a specialty in but there are some

603  
00:27:55,210 --> 00:27:53,059  
brighter Minds than I who have looked at

604  
00:27:57,399 --> 00:27:55,220  
the issue you know naturalist's you know

605  
00:27:59,139 --> 00:27:57,409  
atheists materialists and they've

606  
00:28:01,840 --> 00:27:59,149  
concluded we don't have free will I find

607  
00:28:05,320 --> 00:28:01,850  
their arguments pretty persuasive

608  
00:28:07,419 --> 00:28:05,330  
actually but but that doesn't change the

609  
00:28:09,490 --> 00:28:07,429  
thing it's like it's like living in a

610  
00:28:11,080 --> 00:28:09,500  
matrix it doesn't change the thing let's

611  
00:28:12,310 --> 00:28:11,090  
say we are let's say everything is

612  
00:28:13,210 --> 00:28:12,320  
illusion let's say we have no free will

613  
00:28:16,270 --> 00:28:13,220

it does

614

00:28:17,740 --> 00:28:16,280

change a thing we still have to act and

615

00:28:20,830 --> 00:28:17,750

we still have to make choices and we

616

00:28:23,860 --> 00:28:20,840

still have to decide based on the

617

00:28:25,690 --> 00:28:23,870

evidence you know what we will believe

618

00:28:29,430 --> 00:28:25,700

now you say well all that is you know

619

00:28:32,380 --> 00:28:29,440

not not free inside you let's grant that

620

00:28:34,210 --> 00:28:32,390

what that does is it destroys

621

00:28:36,070 --> 00:28:34,220

Christianity as well and that's that's

622

00:28:38,649 --> 00:28:36,080

my point we have no free will it

623

00:28:41,370 --> 00:28:38,659

destroys Christianity as well because

624

00:28:44,020 --> 00:28:41,380

you know the free will unto salvation

625

00:28:47,620 --> 00:28:44,030

you know choice to believe in Jesus is

626

00:28:50,500 --> 00:28:47,630

gone there's no there's no hell there's

627

00:28:53,710 --> 00:28:50,510

no there's no rational basis to believe

628

00:28:55,720 --> 00:28:53,720

in in God either so but they still have

629

00:28:57,940 --> 00:28:55,730

to make the choices they do based on the

630

00:29:00,450 --> 00:28:57,950

evidence that they think is the case and

631

00:29:02,440 --> 00:29:00,460

I'm even though even though we're both

632

00:29:05,200 --> 00:29:02,450

potentially in the matrix even though

633

00:29:06,610 --> 00:29:05,210

we're we're both without free will when

634

00:29:09,970 --> 00:29:06,620

we still have these arguments and they

635

00:29:12,190 --> 00:29:09,980

still change minds and then I say oh

636

00:29:15,430 --> 00:29:12,200

mines there are no mines we are

637

00:29:17,680 --> 00:29:15,440

biological robots and rain look the

638

00:29:20,169 --> 00:29:17,690

brain look we can't we can't change

639

00:29:22,990 --> 00:29:20,179

brain's there again their robotic they

640

00:29:25,600 --> 00:29:23,000

just act according to the preconceived

641

00:29:27,130 --> 00:29:25,610

this is ludicrous like like look I

642

00:29:29,830 --> 00:29:27,140

understand where you're coming from

643

00:29:31,630 --> 00:29:29,840

you're focusing on Christianity and deep

644

00:29:33,279 --> 00:29:31,640

behind Christianity and there's a lot to

645

00:29:35,620 --> 00:29:33,289

be done there but I think you've kind of

646

00:29:38,529 --> 00:29:35,630

made my case to a certain extent this

647

00:29:40,600 --> 00:29:38,539

low correctly it logically falls apart

648

00:29:44,049 --> 00:29:40,610

and moreover like I always tell people

649

00:29:46,029 --> 00:29:44,059

is you know your philosophy isn't as

650

00:29:48,940 --> 00:29:46,039

complicated as it seems it's how you

651  
00:29:51,010 --> 00:29:48,950  
live your life you know and a point to

652  
00:29:53,470 --> 00:29:51,020  
me the person who lives their life like

653  
00:29:55,899 --> 00:29:53,480  
love isn't real like connection with

654  
00:29:58,870 --> 00:29:55,909  
people isn't real sure it's just it's

655  
00:30:01,480 --> 00:29:58,880  
silliness its absurdity in the same way

656  
00:30:05,140 --> 00:30:01,490  
that that some of this other stuff in

657  
00:30:07,510 --> 00:30:05,150  
terms of biblical inerrancy gets into

658  
00:30:11,080 --> 00:30:07,520  
the absurd really quickly when you

659  
00:30:14,260 --> 00:30:11,090  
follow it but i do think where that

660  
00:30:16,330 --> 00:30:14,270  
leads us then is to maybe re-examine

661  
00:30:20,470 --> 00:30:16,340  
some of those assumptions that are

662  
00:30:23,230 --> 00:30:20,480  
underlying atheism underlying this idea

663  
00:30:24,970 --> 00:30:23,240

that you know we are these biological

664

00:30:26,419 --> 00:30:24,980

robots but maybe that isn't something

665

00:30:30,950 --> 00:30:26,429

you've really gone into

666

00:30:33,440 --> 00:30:30,960

very far well I make I'll make an

667

00:30:36,680 --> 00:30:33,450

argument that if that's the case you

668

00:30:38,989 --> 00:30:36,690

know if that's the case then you know

669

00:30:41,779 --> 00:30:38,999

there's simply there's no other way

670

00:30:43,669 --> 00:30:41,789

around living our lives like we do and

671

00:30:45,409 --> 00:30:43,679

making the arguments that we do but hold

672

00:30:46,700 --> 00:30:45,419

on you can cut that chart and just say

673

00:30:49,759 --> 00:30:46,710

there's no reason to really live your

674

00:30:51,619 --> 00:30:49,769

life your life is an absurdity it makes

675

00:30:53,930 --> 00:30:51,629

no sense that when you get to the point

676  
00:30:56,330 --> 00:30:53,940  
of realizing that this is true to that

677  
00:30:59,480 --> 00:30:56,340  
extent there's really no the famous

678  
00:31:01,489 --> 00:30:59,490  
philosopher Albert Camus said this you

679  
00:31:05,330 --> 00:31:01,499  
know there's only one philosophical

680  
00:31:07,940 --> 00:31:05,340  
question suicide if you really believe

681  
00:31:10,489 --> 00:31:07,950  
that life is that meaningless there's no

682  
00:31:13,070 --> 00:31:10,499  
need to continue the meaninglessness

683  
00:31:15,769 --> 00:31:13,080  
there's no need for future generations

684  
00:31:18,169 --> 00:31:15,779  
or past generations or evolution it's

685  
00:31:20,659 --> 00:31:18,179  
all meaningless there's no reason to go

686  
00:31:23,299 --> 00:31:20,669  
on that's logical extension here and of

687  
00:31:25,279 --> 00:31:23,309  
course it's absurd but it's the

688  
00:31:29,149 --> 00:31:25,289

absurdity of the Atheist position i

689

00:31:31,369 --> 00:31:29,159

should say well i think it's absurd to

690

00:31:33,649 --> 00:31:31,379

end your life i think we have the will

691

00:31:35,869 --> 00:31:33,659

to survive and you know that's that's

692

00:31:38,029 --> 00:31:35,879

all there is to it and you know to live

693

00:31:39,739 --> 00:31:38,039

one's life based on a delusion that

694

00:31:43,310 --> 00:31:39,749

there's a god is going to reward you

695

00:31:44,989 --> 00:31:43,320

into into heaven I think that's uh you

696

00:31:46,840 --> 00:31:44,999

know that's even more absurd I think

697

00:31:48,859 --> 00:31:46,850

that we can do more or we can do better

698

00:31:51,739 --> 00:31:48,869

with this the only life we've been given

699

00:31:54,889 --> 00:31:51,749

I think that this universe is you know

700

00:31:57,200 --> 00:31:54,899

quite remarkable for life and you know

701  
00:31:59,450 --> 00:31:57,210  
with us this extended as long as we can

702  
00:32:01,489 --> 00:31:59,460  
let's let's not have that nuclear

703  
00:32:03,139 --> 00:32:01,499  
warfare that the might ensue if

704  
00:32:05,570 --> 00:32:03,149  
believers get their hands on the trigger

705  
00:32:07,100 --> 00:32:05,580  
and you know I do that for my posterity

706  
00:32:09,619 --> 00:32:07,110  
I do that for my kids I do that for

707  
00:32:11,149 --> 00:32:09,629  
future generations let's let's extend

708  
00:32:12,289 --> 00:32:11,159  
this let's see let's see how long we can

709  
00:32:14,960 --> 00:32:12,299  
live on earth let's see what we can

710  
00:32:18,230 --> 00:32:14,970  
accomplish now I'll never see it but you

711  
00:32:21,139 --> 00:32:18,240  
know that's that's not absurd to to want

712  
00:32:23,180 --> 00:32:21,149  
that given the fact that this is quite a

713  
00:32:27,259 --> 00:32:23,190

remarkable experiment they you know you

714

00:32:30,470 --> 00:32:27,269

you might think that that that's absurd

715

00:32:33,139 --> 00:32:30,480

but like i said it's more absurd I mean

716

00:32:35,599 --> 00:32:33,149

it's absurd to the core to live one

717

00:32:37,789 --> 00:32:35,609

one's life on a delusion I mean except

718

00:32:39,340 --> 00:32:37,799

the fact whatever the facts are there's

719

00:32:43,510 --> 00:32:39,350

no reason why any

720

00:32:46,330 --> 00:32:43,520

and should reject a conclusion if the

721

00:32:48,820 --> 00:32:46,340

evidence points to that conclusion just

722

00:32:50,620 --> 00:32:48,830

because they don't like the conclusion

723

00:32:53,440 --> 00:32:50,630

and I find a lot of Christians do that

724

00:32:56,080 --> 00:32:53,450

they simply well we reject the we reject

725

00:32:58,210 --> 00:32:56,090

the outsider test of faith or reject you

726

00:33:01,150 --> 00:32:58,220

know atheist sums conclusion that all we

727

00:33:02,110 --> 00:33:01,160

are is as biology in motion they reject

728

00:33:03,789 --> 00:33:02,120

that because they don't like the

729

00:33:05,620 --> 00:33:03,799

conclusion and the conclusion is you

730

00:33:07,630 --> 00:33:05,630

know maybe we don't have free will and

731

00:33:10,390 --> 00:33:07,640

maybe our life isn't going to be

732

00:33:12,760 --> 00:33:10,400

meaningful for you know you know in a

733

00:33:14,440 --> 00:33:12,770

million years you know that well that's

734

00:33:16,180 --> 00:33:14,450

that's rejecting the evidence for a

735

00:33:17,770 --> 00:33:16,190

conclusion based on the conclusion bite

736

00:33:20,409 --> 00:33:17,780

the bullet if the evidence is there bite

737

00:33:22,960 --> 00:33:20,419

the bullet you know that I'm sorry you

738

00:33:25,510 --> 00:33:22,970

have to live life we are thrust into

739

00:33:28,060 --> 00:33:25,520

this life come you also said and or was

740

00:33:31,029 --> 00:33:28,070

it start we're thrust into this life we

741

00:33:33,600 --> 00:33:31,039

didn't ask to be here and so make the

742

00:33:36,730 --> 00:33:33,610

best of it and that's what we're doing

743

00:33:39,250 --> 00:33:36,740

okay let's get off the philosophy

744

00:33:41,740 --> 00:33:39,260

because I think it's maybe ridden that

745

00:33:43,659 --> 00:33:41,750

horse as far as we can and I appreciate

746

00:33:47,080 --> 00:33:43,669

you you going in and digging into these

747

00:33:48,940 --> 00:33:47,090

things I understand that the main thrust

748

00:33:52,419 --> 00:33:48,950

of your work is this idea of debunking

749

00:33:55,240 --> 00:33:52,429

Christianity you do a nice job on your

750

00:33:58,659 --> 00:33:55,250

blog of really as I mentioned earlier

751

00:34:02,730 --> 00:33:58,669

bringing up all the cultural issues that

752

00:34:04,779 --> 00:34:02,740

surround Christianity and christianity's

753

00:34:07,180 --> 00:34:04,789

movement forward you know I mean I think

754

00:34:09,399 --> 00:34:07,190

there's a lot of sense among

755

00:34:11,500 --> 00:34:09,409

intellectual people and academic people

756

00:34:13,149 --> 00:34:11,510

that hey you know that's really not so

757

00:34:15,010 --> 00:34:13,159

much of an issue in our society anymore

758

00:34:17,080 --> 00:34:15,020

and there's this waning of Christianity

759

00:34:18,849 --> 00:34:17,090

but I think what you do on your website

760

00:34:21,399 --> 00:34:18,859

is point out that that's not really

761

00:34:24,399 --> 00:34:21,409

always the case and there's is still

762

00:34:29,320 --> 00:34:24,409

this strong cultural movement towards

763

00:34:31,960 --> 00:34:29,330

this very bracketed kind of view of of

764

00:34:35,290 --> 00:34:31,970

the world that comes from Christian

765

00:34:40,720 --> 00:34:35,300

dogma that's my focus yes my focus is my

766

00:34:43,810 --> 00:34:40,730

niche it's basically a destructive kind

767

00:34:46,960 --> 00:34:43,820

of a game that only use word game so

768

00:34:51,940 --> 00:34:46,970

much a strategy strategy would work my

769

00:34:52,510 --> 00:34:51,950

focus is on destroying destroying ideas

770

00:34:55,630 --> 00:34:52,520

it's

771

00:34:58,360 --> 00:34:55,640

debunking and saying this is wrong and I

772

00:35:01,870 --> 00:34:58,370

doubt it there's no evidence for it I

773

00:35:06,280 --> 00:35:01,880

don't necessarily focus on constructing

774

00:35:08,680 --> 00:35:06,290

a metaphysical a naturalist worldview

775

00:35:11,860 --> 00:35:08,690

others do that much better than I do and

776

00:35:14,380 --> 00:35:11,870

I learn from them but i have a

777

00:35:16,960 --> 00:35:14,390

single-minded purpose to debunk the

778

00:35:18,970 --> 00:35:16,970

influence of christianity in the society

779

00:35:20,560 --> 00:35:18,980

and in the world and there are many

780

00:35:23,590 --> 00:35:20,570

reasons for and that's because i think

781

00:35:26,200 --> 00:35:23,600

faith ultimately causes harm to the

782

00:35:28,360 --> 00:35:26,210

people of faith and others as they are

783

00:35:29,800 --> 00:35:28,370

involved in society and so if i can get

784

00:35:31,990 --> 00:35:29,810

rid of that influence or if i can

785

00:35:34,390 --> 00:35:32,000

minimize it and even a small way for

786

00:35:36,070 --> 00:35:34,400

future generations i think that that's a

787

00:35:37,300 --> 00:35:36,080

good thing i think that people need to

788

00:35:39,280 --> 00:35:37,310

think for themselves rather than

789

00:35:41,920 --> 00:35:39,290

mindlessly quote from the Bible or the

790

00:35:44,560 --> 00:35:41,930

theology based on it I've seen too much

791

00:35:47,140 --> 00:35:44,570

in my life that leads me to think people

792

00:35:48,730 --> 00:35:47,150

would be better off without it well I

793

00:35:51,010 --> 00:35:48,740

think we're probably in sync there I

794

00:35:54,940 --> 00:35:51,020

think I'm kind of an econo classed and a

795

00:35:56,410 --> 00:35:54,950

destroyer as well but I guess I've set

796

00:35:58,720 --> 00:35:56,420

my sights a little bit differently

797

00:36:00,280 --> 00:35:58,730

because the last topic I guess I'd bring

798

00:36:02,470 --> 00:36:00,290

up you talked about a lot of evidence

799

00:36:05,650 --> 00:36:02,480

there and that you are evidence-based

800

00:36:07,750 --> 00:36:05,660

what I really focused on is one

801  
00:36:11,410 --> 00:36:07,760  
falsifying the site this biological

802  
00:36:13,450 --> 00:36:11,420  
robot this mind equals brain idea it's

803  
00:36:17,770 --> 00:36:13,460  
falsified all over the place I mean I

804  
00:36:20,830 --> 00:36:17,780  
got dozens of very well qualified highly

805  
00:36:23,520 --> 00:36:20,840  
respected researchers who suggest that

806  
00:36:25,840 --> 00:36:23,530  
that's not the case one of the main

807  
00:36:28,660 --> 00:36:25,850  
topics we talked about in the show a lot

808  
00:36:31,480 --> 00:36:28,670  
is near death experience research

809  
00:36:33,270 --> 00:36:31,490  
science published papers a lot of people

810  
00:36:36,970 --> 00:36:33,280  
don't know that there's over a hundred

811  
00:36:39,580 --> 00:36:36,980  
peer-reviewed scientific papers under

812  
00:36:42,910 --> 00:36:39,590  
death experience I'm wondering have you

813  
00:36:44,950 --> 00:36:42,920

looked at near death experience science

814

00:36:46,840 --> 00:36:44,960

at all have you dealt with it either on

815

00:36:49,210 --> 00:36:46,850

your blog I know it's not in your book

816

00:36:52,380 --> 00:36:49,220

because I look there any thoughts on

817

00:36:56,620 --> 00:36:52,390

that well Victor Stenger wrote a chapter

818

00:37:00,820 --> 00:36:56,630

where in my anthology the end of

819

00:37:04,600 --> 00:37:00,830

Christianity where he looked at Dinesh

820

00:37:06,670 --> 00:37:04,610

D'Souza's claims of those sorts of

821

00:37:08,200 --> 00:37:06,680

things a lot of one

822

00:37:10,120 --> 00:37:08,210

Victor Stenger's been on the show I

823

00:37:11,740 --> 00:37:10,130

don't think he fared very well I don't

824

00:37:13,060 --> 00:37:11,750

think his chapter on near-death

825

00:37:15,460 --> 00:37:13,070

experience holds up he doesn't know what

826

00:37:17,410 --> 00:37:15,470

he's talking about but dinesh d'souza is

827

00:37:19,840 --> 00:37:17,420

not a near-death experience researcher

828

00:37:22,030 --> 00:37:19,850

he's a christian apologist so one of the

829

00:37:24,460 --> 00:37:22,040

things i think a lot of atheists folks

830

00:37:26,950 --> 00:37:24,470

don't understand is i'm not talking

831

00:37:29,140 --> 00:37:26,960

about people that have an axe to grind

832

00:37:30,760 --> 00:37:29,150

i'm talking about people at University

833

00:37:33,580 --> 00:37:30,770

who are publishing in peer-reviewed

834

00:37:37,660 --> 00:37:33,590

journals these are not people who have a

835

00:37:39,100 --> 00:37:37,670

preconceived idea or a thing that

836

00:37:41,650 --> 00:37:39,110

they're driving for they're saying this

837

00:37:44,080 --> 00:37:41,660

is a medical mystery the doctor says hey

838

00:37:46,330 --> 00:37:44,090

this guy got up off the table after

839

00:37:49,060 --> 00:37:46,340

being resuscitated and said this is what

840

00:37:51,310 --> 00:37:49,070

I saw that's a medical mystery i need to

841

00:37:53,890 --> 00:37:51,320

investigate anyone would be curious

842

00:37:55,930 --> 00:37:53,900

about investigating it so they have and

843

00:37:57,610 --> 00:37:55,940

this is what they found out that's

844

00:37:59,200 --> 00:37:57,620

evidence I think we have to just

845

00:38:02,710 --> 00:37:59,210

confront and deal with one way or

846

00:38:06,190 --> 00:38:02,720

another oh I agree angry you know all I

847

00:38:09,100 --> 00:38:06,200

can do is point you to the experts again

848

00:38:13,780 --> 00:38:09,110

that's not my focus you know a keith

849

00:38:16,600 --> 00:38:13,790

augustine and michael martin the atheist

850

00:38:19,470 --> 00:38:16,610

philosopher and Keith are Augustine is I

851

00:38:22,120 --> 00:38:19,480

think the executive director of secular

852

00:38:24,940 --> 00:38:22,130

the sea infidels calm what have you

853

00:38:26,680 --> 00:38:24,950

there they've done a lot of research on

854

00:38:29,170 --> 00:38:26,690

on those sorts of things and I think

855

00:38:31,510 --> 00:38:29,180

they happen but that's okay that's okay

856

00:38:32,860 --> 00:38:31,520

no it's not it's not your thing I get it

857

00:38:34,690 --> 00:38:32,870

I mean but those people have done it but

858

00:38:37,330 --> 00:38:34,700

you know what you know I mean yeah I

859

00:38:39,550 --> 00:38:37,340

have a predisposition against those

860

00:38:41,860 --> 00:38:39,560

sorts of things because I have no clue

861

00:38:43,480 --> 00:38:41,870

what the difference is between a mind

862

00:38:44,980 --> 00:38:43,490

and the brain is I don't know where the

863

00:38:47,500 --> 00:38:44,990

mind is located i don't know how the

864

00:38:49,330 --> 00:38:47,510

mind works you know i know you can have

865

00:38:51,040 --> 00:38:49,340

brain damage and all of a sudden it

866

00:38:53,590 --> 00:38:51,050

affects the mind not to explain that i

867

00:38:55,270 --> 00:38:53,600

know i know there's a lot of things you

868

00:38:57,340 --> 00:38:55,280

know that can happen a stroke of seizure

869

00:38:59,320 --> 00:38:57,350

Alzheimer's you know why is that why is

870

00:39:00,730 --> 00:38:59,330

the mind affected by those things it

871

00:39:02,650 --> 00:39:00,740

seems like if you just started whittling

872

00:39:06,100 --> 00:39:02,660

away with the brain you'd have no mind

873

00:39:08,620 --> 00:39:06,110

left now that seems to be as a

874

00:39:11,380 --> 00:39:08,630

supervening type of evidence over to

875

00:39:12,730 --> 00:39:11,390

these experiential claims and I would

876

00:39:14,410 --> 00:39:12,740

you know I I don't know I haven't done

877

00:39:16,360 --> 00:39:14,420

those sorts of researchers but I know

878

00:39:18,310 --> 00:39:16,370

that there's a lot of things that near

879

00:39:19,900 --> 00:39:18,320

neurology is now discovering about the

880

00:39:22,299 --> 00:39:19,910

brain that explains anything

881

00:39:24,720 --> 00:39:22,309

that we might want to explain now I I

882

00:39:27,849 --> 00:39:24,730

just find that sort of argument

883

00:39:29,829 --> 00:39:27,859

philosophical evidential as it is to to

884

00:39:31,930 --> 00:39:29,839

be supervening until I can see some

885

00:39:33,460 --> 00:39:31,940

clear evidence that you know ghosts

886

00:39:35,680 --> 00:39:33,470

exists and I really understand how

887

00:39:38,140 --> 00:39:35,690

ghosts can walk through walls these

888

00:39:39,730 --> 00:39:38,150

movies these movies that depict ghost

889

00:39:41,349 --> 00:39:39,740

why are they standing on the ground you

890

00:39:43,000 --> 00:39:41,359

know one of these ball into the middle

891

00:39:45,099 --> 00:39:43,010

of the earth I mean why did his floating

892

00:39:48,370 --> 00:39:45,109

in the air I mean these sorts of things

893

00:39:50,410 --> 00:39:48,380

you know they're just uh I have a

894

00:39:52,180 --> 00:39:50,420

predisposition to call them all loony

895

00:39:54,760 --> 00:39:52,190

you know before looking and I know you

896

00:39:56,620 --> 00:39:54,770

disagree that's fine disagree but until

897

00:39:58,569 --> 00:39:56,630

you could explain why neurology is

898

00:40:00,490 --> 00:39:58,579

explaining more and more about why we

899

00:40:02,470 --> 00:40:00,500

think and what I mean how we learn to

900

00:40:04,930 --> 00:40:02,480

think and what reaching so the brain we

901  
00:40:07,240 --> 00:40:04,940  
we think with and how to you know you

902  
00:40:10,359 --> 00:40:07,250  
know do brain surgery and use drugs to

903  
00:40:12,279 --> 00:40:10,369  
cure the mind then you know I honest I

904  
00:40:13,870 --> 00:40:12,289  
don't assent to the proposition that

905  
00:40:15,730 --> 00:40:13,880  
there's a mine in the first place I

906  
00:40:18,220 --> 00:40:15,740  
don't know I don't know a invisible

907  
00:40:19,900 --> 00:40:18,230  
entity that can exist outside of a

908  
00:40:21,670 --> 00:40:19,910  
physical body in the first place so

909  
00:40:24,490 --> 00:40:21,680  
where is it where's it exists this is my

910  
00:40:26,049 --> 00:40:24,500  
toes the next time I Nia you know why is

911  
00:40:28,779 --> 00:40:26,059  
it located up here why do you think the

912  
00:40:30,160 --> 00:40:28,789  
mind is here not in my nose or why is it

913  
00:40:31,750 --> 00:40:30,170

not my whole body and if it's my whole

914

00:40:33,789 --> 00:40:31,760

body well then why not identify it with

915

00:40:35,140 --> 00:40:33,799

my body I find interesting you wanted to

916

00:40:36,819 --> 00:40:35,150

interview me on the outside our test of

917

00:40:38,410 --> 00:40:36,829

faith and you have a pet peeve and you

918

00:40:39,940 --> 00:40:38,420

know free well I mean if you wanted if

919

00:40:41,170 --> 00:40:39,950

you want to interview someone about free

920

00:40:43,539 --> 00:40:41,180

will if you want to interview someone

921

00:40:45,069 --> 00:40:43,549

about near-death experiences well then

922

00:40:46,660 --> 00:40:45,079

why don't why don't you contact someone

923

00:40:49,710 --> 00:40:46,670

who wants to you know talk about dead

924

00:40:54,220 --> 00:40:49,720

who's done some research on it I have I

925

00:40:56,079 --> 00:40:54,230

am I got 200 shows you got it I mean you

926  
00:40:57,849 --> 00:40:56,089  
know I mean like you want to want to try

927  
00:40:59,829 --> 00:40:57,859  
to play inside with you with the pulse

928  
00:41:01,569 --> 00:40:59,839  
percent so that talking about something

929  
00:41:03,730 --> 00:41:01,579  
I know about and you want to talk about

930  
00:41:07,089 --> 00:41:03,740  
things that you know I haven't commented

931  
00:41:09,010 --> 00:41:07,099  
on yet watch out i can i I don't get

932  
00:41:11,890 --> 00:41:09,020  
that you know I I hear that sometimes

933  
00:41:13,990 --> 00:41:11,900  
John you can ask me you can ask me

934  
00:41:16,170 --> 00:41:14,000  
anything in this field you can ask me

935  
00:41:19,269 --> 00:41:16,180  
how Christianity you can ask me about

936  
00:41:20,950 --> 00:41:19,279  
you can ask me about anything your your

937  
00:41:24,339 --> 00:41:20,960  
view since your views intrigued me I

938  
00:41:27,069 --> 00:41:24,349

have to say well okay yeah but I don't

939

00:41:30,910 --> 00:41:27,079

understand why I told you how I came at

940

00:41:33,580 --> 00:41:30,920

this right and uh I did the outsider

941

00:41:36,400 --> 00:41:33,590

test for faith my point

942

00:41:39,250 --> 00:41:36,410

is really that this discussion is stuck

943

00:41:42,220 --> 00:41:39,260

in stupid the atheist vs christian

944

00:41:44,410 --> 00:41:42,230

debate is stuck on stupid and I'm tired

945

00:41:47,320 --> 00:41:44,420

of it I'm tired of empty tombs and

946

00:41:50,500 --> 00:41:47,330

codices and all this nonsense that

947

00:41:53,550 --> 00:41:50,510

doesn't get us to the real issue that we

948

00:41:57,250 --> 00:41:53,560

talked about of what are the claims of

949

00:41:59,650 --> 00:41:57,260

atheism if they stand up if they're the

950

00:42:01,840 --> 00:41:59,660

right claims then I'm on board I want to

951  
00:42:04,330 --> 00:42:01,850  
know what the truth is so if you can if

952  
00:42:06,580 --> 00:42:04,340  
you can defend those claims then go

953  
00:42:08,140 --> 00:42:06,590  
ahead and do it but I'm past I'm with

954  
00:42:10,360 --> 00:42:08,150  
you let me just say I'm with you I'm

955  
00:42:13,300 --> 00:42:10,370  
with you on the outsider test for faith

956  
00:42:16,510 --> 00:42:13,310  
I'm with you on debunking Christianity

957  
00:42:18,850 --> 00:42:16,520  
I'm saying dude turn the page and let's

958  
00:42:20,680 --> 00:42:18,860  
get on to the real discussion I don't

959  
00:42:24,520 --> 00:42:20,690  
know why you'd find that so offensive oh

960  
00:42:26,560 --> 00:42:24,530  
I know I I didn't say I was offended I

961  
00:42:29,230 --> 00:42:26,570  
just said that you know you want to talk

962  
00:42:31,120 --> 00:42:29,240  
about you know other things and that's

963  
00:42:34,840 --> 00:42:31,130

okay I mean let's just go with it I mean

964

00:42:37,030 --> 00:42:34,850

I i think that you know you think you

965

00:42:39,250 --> 00:42:37,040

you basically you're telling me okay now

966

00:42:41,980 --> 00:42:39,260

move on yeah Christian has been debunked

967

00:42:43,390 --> 00:42:41,990

now let's move on kinda kinda yeah I am

968

00:42:45,700 --> 00:42:43,400

saying that's finest by I mean I

969

00:42:47,970 --> 00:42:45,710

understand the criticism I'm not moving

970

00:42:51,760 --> 00:42:47,980

on though and the reason why is because

971

00:42:54,850 --> 00:42:51,770

there are still a majority of people out

972

00:42:57,280 --> 00:42:54,860

in out there who are Christians I I just

973

00:42:59,620 --> 00:42:57,290

went to the creation museum in Kentucky

974

00:43:02,860 --> 00:42:59,630

a couple days ago I wrote about it on my

975

00:43:05,470 --> 00:43:02,870

blog would be August it would be august

976  
00:43:07,240 --> 00:43:05,480  
eight you know on my blog I saw it there

977  
00:43:08,620 --> 00:43:07,250  
okay and you know I mean it's just

978  
00:43:10,180 --> 00:43:08,630  
ludicrous I mean you should see the

979  
00:43:13,630 --> 00:43:10,190  
number of people lined up for that and

980  
00:43:15,520 --> 00:43:13,640  
the money that it takes two to build

981  
00:43:16,750 --> 00:43:15,530  
that and they're building a second part

982  
00:43:18,820 --> 00:43:16,760  
to it where they're going to have a

983  
00:43:20,290 --> 00:43:18,830  
life-sized Noah's are and there are

984  
00:43:23,470 --> 00:43:20,300  
people paying twenty nine dollars you

985  
00:43:25,360 --> 00:43:23,480  
know a hit to go through that and these

986  
00:43:27,130 --> 00:43:25,370  
people throw will these people these

987  
00:43:29,830 --> 00:43:27,140  
people write letters to the Senators and

988  
00:43:31,720 --> 00:43:29,840

that their danger to society I mean and

989

00:43:33,010 --> 00:43:31,730

all I can do is argue them out of it and

990

00:43:35,950 --> 00:43:33,020

I'm going to continue doing that because

991

00:43:38,080 --> 00:43:35,960

that's my expertise now you know others

992

00:43:39,880 --> 00:43:38,090

you know I can't know everything I mean

993

00:43:42,700 --> 00:43:39,890

you gotta admit that I mean with

994

00:43:44,470 --> 00:43:42,710

yourself no one can know everything so

995

00:43:46,210 --> 00:43:44,480

I'm going to focus because I think

996

00:43:48,130 --> 00:43:46,220

that's where my

997

00:43:50,530 --> 00:43:48,140

expertise is and I'm going to continue

998

00:43:52,390 --> 00:43:50,540

doing so I think that's good as I

999

00:43:54,730 --> 00:43:52,400

mentioned before I think there's a lot

1000

00:43:56,290 --> 00:43:54,740

of work to still be done there and I

1001  
00:43:59,140 --> 00:43:56,300  
think when we move past that and say oh

1002  
00:44:01,630 --> 00:43:59,150  
wow that's that's you know handle where

1003  
00:44:03,460 --> 00:44:01,640  
we're way past that it's it's not true

1004  
00:44:04,990 --> 00:44:03,470  
and I think you point that out but i do

1005  
00:44:06,970 --> 00:44:05,000  
think as you were scrambling around

1006  
00:44:10,150 --> 00:44:06,980  
they're trying to do your mind equals

1007  
00:44:13,089 --> 00:44:10,160  
brain thing I you know I understand the

1008  
00:44:16,089 --> 00:44:13,099  
scramble let's that's fair but it

1009  
00:44:17,620 --> 00:44:16,099  
doesn't hold up okay mind equals brain

1010  
00:44:20,560 --> 00:44:17,630  
doesn't hold up the near-death

1011  
00:44:23,109 --> 00:44:20,570  
experience science is solid Vic Stanger

1012  
00:44:25,180 --> 00:44:23,119  
go listen to the interview he's quoting

1013  
00:44:26,170 --> 00:44:25,190

the wrong people just like just like you

1014

00:44:29,230 --> 00:44:26,180

are these are not people who've

1015

00:44:31,210 --> 00:44:29,240

published in peer-reviewed so uh just

1016

00:44:34,480 --> 00:44:31,220

for your listeners I mean your listeners

1017

00:44:37,750 --> 00:44:34,490

with know your views more than my

1018

00:44:41,020 --> 00:44:37,760

listeners would know your views you you

1019

00:44:43,480 --> 00:44:41,030

don't accept Christianity what do you

1020

00:44:47,740 --> 00:44:43,490

accept justjust state briefly for my

1021

00:44:50,080 --> 00:44:47,750

listeners you know on understanding well

1022

00:44:51,849 --> 00:44:50,090

I I always think that's that's a funny

1023

00:44:53,890 --> 00:44:51,859

question because it kind of gets to the

1024

00:44:57,010 --> 00:44:53,900

problem it's like okay if you're not

1025

00:44:59,920 --> 00:44:57,020

Christian what are you in terms of this

1026  
00:45:02,200 --> 00:44:59,930  
ass guys no no I'm that's especially now

1027  
00:45:04,570 --> 00:45:02,210  
that that's that's fine but I think it's

1028  
00:45:06,220 --> 00:45:04,580  
part of the problem it's like it's the

1029  
00:45:07,630 --> 00:45:06,230  
problem really that you deal with is

1030  
00:45:09,579 --> 00:45:07,640  
that that's how we think of things we

1031  
00:45:11,170 --> 00:45:09,589  
think of things in such a religious

1032  
00:45:13,030 --> 00:45:11,180  
framework that if someone doesn't

1033  
00:45:14,740 --> 00:45:13,040  
immediately sign up with one or the

1034  
00:45:18,609 --> 00:45:14,750  
other we don't know quite how to pay him

1035  
00:45:21,190 --> 00:45:18,619  
all I can say is that when we falsify

1036  
00:45:23,410 --> 00:45:21,200  
the idea that you are this biological

1037  
00:45:25,240 --> 00:45:23,420  
robot we accept that that's absurd of

1038  
00:45:27,730 --> 00:45:25,250

course I have free will I do what I I

1039

00:45:29,530 --> 00:45:27,740

can want me to raise my hand I raised my

1040

00:45:31,870 --> 00:45:29,540

hand free will I did it there I just

1041

00:45:34,540 --> 00:45:31,880

proved the test once we get past that

1042

00:45:37,540 --> 00:45:34,550

and once we get past the idea that

1043

00:45:40,030 --> 00:45:37,550

consciousness ends at death which is

1044

00:45:41,620 --> 00:45:40,040

again like you said before only I don't

1045

00:45:43,630 --> 00:45:41,630

think you want to accept it but that's

1046

00:45:45,880 --> 00:45:43,640

where the evidence points it just points

1047

00:45:48,849 --> 00:45:45,890

that way I don't know what that means

1048

00:45:52,240 --> 00:45:48,859

John but as you said with the planks

1049

00:45:55,720 --> 00:45:52,250

thing the planks in the boat when I

1050

00:45:58,089 --> 00:45:55,730

cross that chasm and I say okay that's

1051  
00:45:59,830 --> 00:45:58,099  
the evidence and I have to deal with it

1052  
00:46:02,890 --> 00:45:59,840  
a lot of things

1053  
00:46:05,650 --> 00:46:02,900  
are falling differently in terms of how

1054  
00:46:08,500 --> 00:46:05,660  
I orient myself to the world how it

1055  
00:46:11,590 --> 00:46:08,510  
orient myself to other people how I

1056  
00:46:14,890 --> 00:46:11,600  
orient myself to morals purpose meaning

1057  
00:46:17,020 --> 00:46:14,900  
in life so that is what I'm exploring

1058  
00:46:19,270 --> 00:46:17,030  
but I'm exploring it from the other side

1059  
00:46:21,670 --> 00:46:19,280  
of the chasm if you will other side of

1060  
00:46:24,100 --> 00:46:21,680  
the chasm being consciousness survives

1061  
00:46:25,510 --> 00:46:24,110  
death let's let's put that as the you

1062  
00:46:29,680 --> 00:46:25,520  
know you are not you are not a

1063  
00:46:33,190 --> 00:46:29,690

biological robot well you are you okay

1064

00:46:37,540 --> 00:46:33,200

all right fine I mean I disagree and

1065

00:46:39,880 --> 00:46:37,550

I've said why so um looks like of course

1066

00:46:43,090 --> 00:46:39,890

you guys are great you stand up and say

1067

00:46:44,890 --> 00:46:43,100

I am a biological robot I am gonna stand

1068

00:46:47,140 --> 00:46:44,900

by that well there's no evidence for

1069

00:46:49,270 --> 00:46:47,150

invisible beings or entities hey but but

1070

00:46:51,550 --> 00:46:49,280

you as you live your life you live your

1071

00:46:55,810 --> 00:46:51,560

life like a biological robot everybody

1072

00:46:58,120 --> 00:46:55,820

does some it's all there is okay well um

1073

00:47:01,690 --> 00:46:58,130

you know uh you know you have to look

1074

00:47:03,100 --> 00:47:01,700

into the philosophical quandary with the

1075

00:47:05,470 --> 00:47:03,110

you know trying to distinguish between

1076  
00:47:07,150 --> 00:47:05,480  
mind and body I mean I mean I talked in

1077  
00:47:09,100 --> 00:47:07,160  
adduction philosophy classes that you

1078  
00:47:11,920 --> 00:47:09,110  
would probably be interested in looking

1079  
00:47:14,800 --> 00:47:11,930  
at you know how they have tried to

1080  
00:47:16,270 --> 00:47:14,810  
relate the mind and the body and you

1081  
00:47:18,790 --> 00:47:16,280  
know they just really can't do it I mean

1082  
00:47:21,910 --> 00:47:18,800  
it's really ludicrous to see to how they

1083  
00:47:23,890 --> 00:47:21,920  
do then and you need to look at the

1084  
00:47:25,720 --> 00:47:23,900  
mind-body problem I mean look at it

1085  
00:47:27,790 --> 00:47:25,730  
reasonably Phil's philosophic I I know

1086  
00:47:29,320 --> 00:47:27,800  
that you say what we have evidence for

1087  
00:47:31,570 --> 00:47:29,330  
life after death but there's this

1088  
00:47:33,640 --> 00:47:31,580

contrary studies I mentioned a couple of

1089

00:47:35,530 --> 00:47:33,650

you know Michel Martin's doing and Keith

1090

00:47:37,990 --> 00:47:35,540

Augustine you don't like Victor Stenger

1091

00:47:41,290 --> 00:47:38,000

so views okay fine but but there are

1092

00:47:42,850 --> 00:47:41,300

certainly contrary you know evidence and

1093

00:47:44,530 --> 00:47:42,860

arguments that's cool hey i just talked

1094

00:47:46,060 --> 00:47:44,540

to stephen law I just talked to Stephen

1095

00:47:49,180 --> 00:47:46,070

law a couple weeks ago atheist

1096

00:47:52,090 --> 00:47:49,190

philosopher at university of london PhD

1097

00:47:54,160 --> 00:47:52,100

in philosophy from Oxford or Cambridge

1098

00:47:55,270 --> 00:47:54,170

I'm sorry which one I got wrong but you

1099

00:47:58,150 --> 00:47:55,280

know you probably like he probably

1100

00:47:59,830 --> 00:47:58,160

blindsided him too did I get this all

1101

00:48:02,140 --> 00:47:59,840

the time flying said it how are you

1102

00:48:04,180 --> 00:48:02,150

drying sided how are you blind side why

1103

00:48:07,090 --> 00:48:04,190

can't you talk about this why can't you

1104

00:48:09,490 --> 00:48:07,100

why wouldn't you be equipped to talk

1105

00:48:13,240 --> 00:48:09,500

about this I'll tell you what what it is

1106

00:48:13,630 --> 00:48:13,250

the fact that you feel blindsided says

1107

00:48:14,829 --> 00:48:13,640

you have

1108

00:48:17,589 --> 00:48:14,839

looked into this enough because these

1109

00:48:19,390 --> 00:48:17,599

are core questions core questions so

1110

00:48:21,519 --> 00:48:19,400

you're going around like a gadfly like

1111

00:48:23,230 --> 00:48:21,529

Socrates and try to ask people about

1112

00:48:26,740 --> 00:48:23,240

questions that they haven't studied up

1113

00:48:29,319 --> 00:48:26,750

on 22 well yeah all right if I may do

1114

00:48:31,089 --> 00:48:29,329

that you know you're trying to get

1115

00:48:33,339 --> 00:48:31,099

atheist to to look at the evidence that

1116

00:48:35,440 --> 00:48:33,349

you consider to be there even though you

1117

00:48:37,809 --> 00:48:35,450

reject Christianity and you know that's

1118

00:48:39,579 --> 00:48:37,819

fine but I'm not I'm not the one to ask

1119

00:48:42,190 --> 00:48:39,589

on those things I mean I said what my

1120

00:48:44,950 --> 00:48:42,200

focus is and you know i think that the

1121

00:48:47,019 --> 00:48:44,960

conclusions that that there is a mind I

1122

00:48:49,210 --> 00:48:47,029

you know just don't hold up I mean not

1123

00:48:50,890 --> 00:48:49,220

at all and from what I stayed now you

1124

00:48:52,359 --> 00:48:50,900

say well why are we excited this well I

1125

00:48:55,180 --> 00:48:52,369

don't worry a lot about politics either

1126

00:48:57,460 --> 00:48:55,190

I mean you know I have you have you what

1127

00:48:59,740 --> 00:48:57,470

if you blindsided me him by by asking me

1128

00:49:02,289 --> 00:48:59,750

about gun control in America I mean well

1129

00:49:03,940 --> 00:49:02,299

I have some ideas on and I can point you

1130

00:49:06,839 --> 00:49:03,950

to some some writings about I wouldn't

1131

00:49:09,009 --> 00:49:06,849

what if you ask me about you know

1132

00:49:12,279 --> 00:49:09,019

immigration reform what did you ask me

1133

00:49:13,630 --> 00:49:12,289

about Obamacare I mean you can do that

1134

00:49:15,279 --> 00:49:13,640

if you want but you're asking the wrong

1135

00:49:16,839 --> 00:49:15,289

person I would have to say well you know

1136

00:49:18,640 --> 00:49:16,849

you ought to talk to this expert you got

1137

00:49:20,799 --> 00:49:18,650

to talk to that expert I mean we can't

1138

00:49:22,569 --> 00:49:20,809

know everything is and it's ludicrous

1139

00:49:24,490 --> 00:49:22,579

for you to think that I'm supposed to

1140

00:49:28,319 --> 00:49:24,500

know everything John what do you feel

1141

00:49:32,049 --> 00:49:28,329

most blindsided by in this interview

1142

00:49:34,029 --> 00:49:32,059

well I believe you you would ask me to

1143

00:49:36,880 --> 00:49:34,039

talk about the outsider test for faith

1144

00:49:38,620 --> 00:49:36,890

and we're not well well but what in

1145

00:49:41,049 --> 00:49:38,630

particular did we talk about that you

1146

00:49:42,730 --> 00:49:41,059

felt most blindsided well I to attacks

1147

00:49:44,589 --> 00:49:42,740

Alex if you have if you don't have

1148

00:49:46,990 --> 00:49:44,599

anything else more to say than what

1149

00:49:48,519 --> 00:49:47,000

you've said then let's call us today now

1150

00:49:50,370 --> 00:49:48,529

don't know conclude by that that i'm

1151  
00:49:53,019 --> 00:49:50,380  
giving up don't conclude my net today Oh

1152  
00:49:54,940 --> 00:49:53,029  
Loftus couldn't answer my questions you

1153  
00:49:56,410 --> 00:49:54,950  
know that be ludicrous as well I'm just

1154  
00:49:59,529 --> 00:49:56,420  
saying are you want to talk about the

1155  
00:50:01,150 --> 00:49:59,539  
the topic or not i mean and i gather you

1156  
00:50:03,370 --> 00:50:01,160  
don't and that's okay let's just call it

1157  
00:50:06,279 --> 00:50:03,380  
a day I've got other things to do I I

1158  
00:50:08,620 --> 00:50:06,289  
hear you and I appreciate the hour and I

1159  
00:50:10,779 --> 00:50:08,630  
appreciate your work and the book thank

1160  
00:50:14,890 --> 00:50:10,789  
you so much i wish i wish you would just

1161  
00:50:16,390 --> 00:50:14,900  
tackle that that last question but if

1162  
00:50:18,609 --> 00:50:16,400  
you don't want to you don't have to but

1163  
00:50:22,240 --> 00:50:18,619

what did you feel you were most

1164

00:50:24,819 --> 00:50:22,250

blindsided by well I said I'll let the

1165

00:50:26,930 --> 00:50:24,829

listeners decide for themselves on this

1166

00:50:31,069 --> 00:50:26,940

but I don't want to discount you

1167

00:50:33,620 --> 00:50:31,079

questions I don't want to I think that

1168

00:50:37,460 --> 00:50:33,630

you might be doing a service to atheists

1169

00:50:40,579 --> 00:50:37,470

by braising these questions I you know

1170

00:50:43,490 --> 00:50:40,589

and so continue that I encouraged the

1171

00:50:45,230 --> 00:50:43,500

exploration of all the ideas let's say

1172

00:50:46,849 --> 00:50:45,240

that the you know we do have free will

1173

00:50:49,849 --> 00:50:46,859

let's say that there is an afterlife

1174

00:50:53,660 --> 00:50:49,859

let's say that sounds sort of like a

1175

00:50:55,430 --> 00:50:53,670

deist position to me now adeus I'm not

1176

00:50:57,680 --> 00:50:55,440

trying to put a label on you not

1177

00:51:02,390 --> 00:50:57,690

necessarily but go ahead keep going okay

1178

00:51:05,690 --> 00:51:02,400

fine and the disposition is I think the

1179

00:51:07,790 --> 00:51:05,700

only other reasonable position to take I

1180

00:51:11,530 --> 00:51:07,800

mean I think that it is within the realm

1181

00:51:16,089 --> 00:51:11,540

of reason in fact deism started as a

1182

00:51:19,670 --> 00:51:16,099

movement in England I think in the 1600s

1183

00:51:21,559 --> 00:51:19,680

1700s where they wanted to evaluate

1184

00:51:24,670 --> 00:51:21,569

everything based on reason you know

1185

00:51:27,559 --> 00:51:24,680

reason and evidence and you know deism

1186

00:51:30,020 --> 00:51:27,569

quickly degenerated into atheism but

1187

00:51:31,819 --> 00:51:30,030

they're still dias you know around and

1188

00:51:34,250 --> 00:51:31,829

you know Dawkins I think Christopher

1189

00:51:35,870 --> 00:51:34,260

Hitchens said that the only kind of God

1190

00:51:39,290 --> 00:51:35,880

or religion they might accept would be

1191

00:51:41,690 --> 00:51:39,300

deism as a mere possibility so that's

1192

00:51:43,490 --> 00:51:41,700

fine that's fine and pursue your if

1193

00:51:47,630 --> 00:51:43,500

that's what you are pursue those kinds

1194

00:51:49,520 --> 00:51:47,640

of questions and so but support me in my

1195

00:51:52,550 --> 00:51:49,530

work I think you do support me and my

1196

00:51:55,069 --> 00:51:52,560

work as I attack these the

1197

00:51:56,900 --> 00:51:55,079

fundamentalist Christians because you

1198

00:52:00,109 --> 00:51:56,910

and I are an agreement on this you're

1199

00:52:02,839 --> 00:52:00,119

not my enemy you are my friend as you as

1200

00:52:05,599 --> 00:52:02,849

you tackle those issues as well okay

1201  
00:52:07,670 --> 00:52:05,609  
thanks again the book is the outsider

1202  
00:52:10,040 --> 00:52:07,680  
test for faith which we didn't talk

1203  
00:52:11,660 --> 00:52:10,050  
about much you know what if for the

1204  
00:52:13,490 --> 00:52:11,670  
folks are going to tune out after the

1205  
00:52:15,950 --> 00:52:13,500  
first ten minutes take they I think they

1206  
00:52:17,839 --> 00:52:15,960  
heard a lot about it and you can find

1207  
00:52:19,309 --> 00:52:17,849  
out a lot about the outsider test

1208  
00:52:22,910 --> 00:52:19,319  
there's a lot of good material out there

1209  
00:52:26,630 --> 00:52:22,920  
there's on John's blog debunking

1210  
00:52:28,250 --> 00:52:26,640  
Christianity blogspot com he talks about

1211  
00:52:29,720 --> 00:52:28,260  
it and there's many reviews on there

1212  
00:52:31,790 --> 00:52:29,730  
there's tons reviews on Amazon it's a

1213  
00:52:34,370 --> 00:52:31,800

very popular book well received the

1214

00:52:38,510 --> 00:52:34,380

outsider test for faith how to know

1215

00:52:40,760 --> 00:52:38,520

which religion is true John W Loftus

1216

00:52:42,380 --> 00:52:40,770

thanks for joining me out of there

1217

00:52:44,660 --> 00:52:42,390

listen one of the toughest skeptical

1218

00:52:45,860 --> 00:52:44,670

interviews I've ever had man I I hope

1219

00:52:49,280 --> 00:52:45,870

the rest of your day goes better than

1220

00:52:52,310 --> 00:52:49,290

this hour I'm doing fine thank you sorry

1221

00:52:54,770 --> 00:52:52,320

buddy thanks again to John for joining

1222

00:52:57,590 --> 00:52:54,780

me today on skeptic Oh as is becoming

1223

00:52:59,830 --> 00:52:57,600

more and more my custom here on skeptic

1224

00:53:03,800 --> 00:52:59,840

oh I did have quite an interesting

1225

00:53:05,960 --> 00:53:03,810

follow-up email exchange with John and I

1226  
00:53:08,690 --> 00:53:05,970  
really can't resist sharing it with you

1227  
00:53:12,230 --> 00:53:08,700  
here goes here's my email to john a day

1228  
00:53:14,270 --> 00:53:12,240  
or two after the podcast hi john was

1229  
00:53:18,710 --> 00:53:14,280  
thinking about our interview yesterday

1230  
00:53:21,350 --> 00:53:18,720  
and how you felt blind sided now I'm not

1231  
00:53:24,230 --> 00:53:21,360  
sure how a guy with a master's degree in

1232  
00:53:28,280 --> 00:53:24,240  
philosophy who's written three books on

1233  
00:53:30,050 --> 00:53:28,290  
atheism could be blindsided by basic

1234  
00:53:33,020 --> 00:53:30,060  
questions about the philosophy of

1235  
00:53:35,330 --> 00:53:33,030  
atheism but if that's how you felt then

1236  
00:53:38,600 --> 00:53:35,340  
maybe we can fix it why don't you come

1237  
00:53:40,490 --> 00:53:38,610  
back on skip to go for a redo you'll

1238  
00:53:42,800 --> 00:53:40,500

have the advantage of knowing everything

1239

00:53:44,750 --> 00:53:42,810

i'm going to ask and you'll have plenty

1240

00:53:47,510 --> 00:53:44,760

of time to prepare your counter

1241

00:53:50,060 --> 00:53:47,520

arguments john i know these kind of

1242

00:53:52,430 --> 00:53:50,070

dialogues can be a bit uncomfortable but

1243

00:53:54,560 --> 00:53:52,440

like you say in your book we have to be

1244

00:53:57,200 --> 00:53:54,570

willing to look at our beliefs as an

1245

00:54:01,370 --> 00:53:57,210

outsider if we're ever going to nudge

1246

00:54:04,520 --> 00:54:01,380

closer to the truth Alex John's response

1247

00:54:07,160 --> 00:54:04,530

and in order to kind of shorten up this

1248

00:54:10,280 --> 00:54:07,170

podcast here I'm going to thread in his

1249

00:54:12,050 --> 00:54:10,290

response with my response back to him

1250

00:54:13,610 --> 00:54:12,060

which is the last we hear from him we

1251

00:54:16,220 --> 00:54:13,620

never hear from him after this even

1252

00:54:18,470 --> 00:54:16,230

though I asked for him to respond and

1253

00:54:20,450 --> 00:54:18,480

you'll hear what I asked for him to do

1254

00:54:23,000 --> 00:54:20,460

but there's no response from John after

1255

00:54:26,540 --> 00:54:23,010

this so here's john's email to me with

1256

00:54:29,060 --> 00:54:26,550

my response john writes your God can

1257

00:54:32,090 --> 00:54:29,070

safely be ignored as irrelevant and

1258

00:54:35,690 --> 00:54:32,100

unnecessary a hypothesis we don't have

1259

00:54:38,330 --> 00:54:35,700

any need for even if he or she exists I

1260

00:54:41,270 --> 00:54:38,340

mean why bother with the passion you

1261

00:54:43,850 --> 00:54:41,280

seem to have for the DEA's God or the

1262

00:54:46,880 --> 00:54:43,860

god of the Philosopher's why would

1263

00:54:50,590 --> 00:54:46,890

anyone care as much as you do about such

1264

00:54:53,150 --> 00:54:50,600

a god that is a mere curiosity I reply

1265

00:54:54,950 --> 00:54:53,160

where are you getting this from

1266

00:54:58,250 --> 00:54:54,960

I didn't even mention God in our

1267

00:55:01,609 --> 00:54:58,260

interview John continues you know

1268

00:55:04,460 --> 00:55:01,619

nothing about him or her God that is you

1269

00:55:07,789 --> 00:55:04,470

believe she exists in an afterlife big

1270

00:55:10,609 --> 00:55:07,799

deal you should adopt a protest theology

1271

00:55:13,970 --> 00:55:10,619

like others have done and protest her

1272

00:55:16,609 --> 00:55:13,980

existence even if she exists she clearly

1273

00:55:19,339 --> 00:55:16,619

has left nebulous evidence that she

1274

00:55:22,069 --> 00:55:19,349

exists why does she need you to make her

1275

00:55:27,559 --> 00:55:22,079

case for what difference does it make to

1276

00:55:29,270 --> 00:55:27,569

it that it exists I reply again I think

1277

00:55:32,059 --> 00:55:29,280

you've kind of missed the thrust of our

1278

00:55:35,750 --> 00:55:32,069

discussion so let me recap the three

1279

00:55:38,089 --> 00:55:35,760

main points number one atheists even

1280

00:55:39,529 --> 00:55:38,099

popular media savvy ones like you who

1281

00:55:42,799 --> 00:55:39,539

write books and give public

1282

00:55:44,690 --> 00:55:42,809

presentations often make claims example

1283

00:55:47,049 --> 00:55:44,700

we are biological robots life as

1284

00:55:50,960 --> 00:55:47,059

meaningless consciousness is an illusion

1285

00:55:53,510 --> 00:55:50,970

without realizing the implications you

1286

00:55:55,789 --> 00:55:53,520

demonstrated this in our interview when

1287

00:55:58,339 --> 00:55:55,799

you seem genuinely confused when I

1288

00:56:00,940 --> 00:55:58,349

pointed out that your love for family

1289

00:56:04,059 --> 00:56:00,950

can be nothing more than a meaningless

1290

00:56:08,000 --> 00:56:04,069

illusion according to your belief system

1291

00:56:10,730 --> 00:56:08,010

number two most atheists live their

1292

00:56:13,609 --> 00:56:10,740

lives in a way that is inconsistent with

1293

00:56:16,640 --> 00:56:13,619

their stated beliefs I think you do care

1294

00:56:19,760 --> 00:56:16,650

about your family I think you do act as

1295

00:56:22,099 --> 00:56:19,770

if your choices matter I think you do

1296

00:56:24,250 --> 00:56:22,109

think you are doing good in the world by

1297

00:56:27,289 --> 00:56:24,260

countering the negative impact of

1298

00:56:30,079 --> 00:56:27,299

fundamentalist religions but during our

1299

00:56:33,260 --> 00:56:30,089

interview you seem to be unable to

1300

00:56:36,079 --> 00:56:33,270

resolve the absurdity of your bite the

1301

00:56:40,490 --> 00:56:36,089

bullet we're all just biological robots

1302

00:56:43,339 --> 00:56:40,500

with the life you live number three new

1303

00:56:45,559 --> 00:56:43,349

atheists are in a stuck on stupid debate

1304

00:56:47,529 --> 00:56:45,569

with fundamentalist Christians when the

1305

00:56:49,930 --> 00:56:47,539

real action is whether or not

1306

00:56:52,670 --> 00:56:49,940

consciousness is an illusion if

1307

00:56:55,640 --> 00:56:52,680

consciousness is more than an epiphone

1308

00:56:58,400 --> 00:56:55,650

amin of the brain as the data suggests

1309

00:57:01,670 --> 00:56:58,410

and if consciousness survives bodily

1310

00:57:04,279 --> 00:57:01,680

death as the data suggests then we have

1311

00:57:06,370 --> 00:57:04,289

to take seriously questions about the

1312

00:57:08,770 --> 00:57:06,380

order in meaning of

1313

00:57:11,350 --> 00:57:08,780

you don't have to be an expert in

1314

00:57:14,500 --> 00:57:11,360

consciousness science to see that this

1315

00:57:18,310 --> 00:57:14,510

leaves little room for your new brand of

1316

00:57:21,280 --> 00:57:18,320

atheism now back to john's email if we

1317

00:57:24,610 --> 00:57:21,290

survive death than we do it changes

1318

00:57:27,970 --> 00:57:24,620

nothing I reply you're kind of making my

1319

00:57:30,900 --> 00:57:27,980

points for me if we survive death then

1320

00:57:34,030 --> 00:57:30,910

we are not an illusion we are not

1321

00:57:37,150 --> 00:57:34,040

biological robots this changes

1322

00:57:39,700 --> 00:57:37,160

everything for the new atheist crowd as

1323

00:57:43,300 --> 00:57:39,710

well as for the materialistic science

1324

00:57:46,630 --> 00:57:43,310

crowd in general back to john's email we

1325

00:57:48,700 --> 00:57:46,640

should still be good to people we should

1326

00:57:52,920 --> 00:57:48,710

still investigate the world through

1327

00:57:56,080 --> 00:57:52,930

science let science do its work my reply

1328

00:57:59,440 --> 00:57:56,090

why I'm surprised you keep stumbling

1329

00:58:01,510 --> 00:57:59,450

over this this is atheism 101 first off

1330

00:58:04,780 --> 00:58:01,520

how are you defining good in your

1331

00:58:09,910 --> 00:58:04,790

meaningless world / universe and second

1332

00:58:12,190 --> 00:58:09,920

why should we should anything John no I

1333

00:58:15,400 --> 00:58:12,200

must devote my time to more important

1334

00:58:18,370 --> 00:58:15,410

things I cannot accept anything based on

1335

00:58:21,580 --> 00:58:18,380

faith and that is all you have despite

1336

00:58:24,760 --> 00:58:21,590

any protestations from you solve the

1337

00:58:27,550 --> 00:58:24,770

brain mind problem first look into

1338

00:58:30,640 --> 00:58:27,560

neurology there is your answer then

1339

00:58:32,830 --> 00:58:30,650

simply bite the bullet since evolution

1340

00:58:36,820 --> 00:58:32,840

is the case then humans go we're all

1341

00:58:40,840 --> 00:58:36,830

animals go when we die we all rot in the

1342

00:58:42,670 --> 00:58:40,850

ground period if instead all animals

1343

00:58:45,160 --> 00:58:42,680

live forever then it wouldn't be

1344

00:58:47,950 --> 00:58:45,170

anything special for all of us to go

1345

00:58:51,190 --> 00:58:47,960

there that existence would be just

1346

00:58:53,350 --> 00:58:51,200

another world like ours who cares if

1347

00:58:57,550 --> 00:58:53,360

you're correct except as a mere

1348

00:59:00,400 --> 00:58:57,560

curiosity I'm all for being curious we

1349

00:59:03,550 --> 00:59:00,410

need to be curious but I intend to

1350

00:59:08,290 --> 00:59:03,560

change the religious landscape that's my

1351  
00:59:10,390 --> 00:59:08,300  
focus my response wow I'm really having

1352  
00:59:12,910 --> 00:59:10,400  
a hard time following your logic when

1353  
00:59:15,010 --> 00:59:12,920  
you say solve the brain mind problem it

1354  
00:59:16,540 --> 00:59:15,020  
makes me think that you understand the

1355  
00:59:19,450 --> 00:59:16,550  
consciousness is the fundamental

1356  
00:59:20,140 --> 00:59:19,460  
question to all this but then you slip

1357  
00:59:22,559 --> 00:59:20,150  
into this

1358  
00:59:26,890 --> 00:59:22,569  
bite the bullet were all just biological

1359  
00:59:29,740 --> 00:59:26,900  
robot stuff I agree let's not base our

1360  
00:59:32,049 --> 00:59:29,750  
beliefs on faith let's examine the data

1361  
00:59:35,079 --> 00:59:32,059  
shall we start with the near-death

1362  
00:59:37,630 --> 00:59:35,089  
experience science and I provided him

1363  
00:59:39,910 --> 00:59:37,640

two links one to my interview with Jeff

1364

00:59:42,579 --> 00:59:39,920

long and then one to my follow-up

1365

00:59:45,220 --> 00:59:42,589

interview with Jeff long takes on the

1366

00:59:47,170 --> 00:59:45,230

critics of the afterlife back to john's

1367

00:59:49,000 --> 00:59:47,180

email if you would like to interview

1368

00:59:51,640 --> 00:59:49,010

someone on the issue of free will I

1369

00:59:55,390 --> 00:59:51,650

highly recommend Jonathan Pierce author

1370

00:59:56,920 --> 00:59:55,400

of the book free will ? an investigation

1371

00:59:58,599 --> 00:59:56,930

into whether we have free will or

1372

01:00:02,890 --> 00:59:58,609

whether I was always going to write this

1373

01:00:05,109 --> 01:00:02,900

book my response sure happy to please

1374

01:00:07,920 --> 01:00:05,119

pass along my invitation and I'll wait

1375

01:00:10,839 --> 01:00:07,930

for him to contact me in order to avoid

1376

01:00:13,539 --> 01:00:10,849

blindsiding you may want to suggest the

1377

01:00:16,630 --> 01:00:13,549

following to Jonathan and I provided two

1378

01:00:19,269 --> 01:00:16,640

links episode 184 Rupert sheldrick sets

1379

01:00:21,490 --> 01:00:19,279

science free from dogma and the other

1380

01:00:24,099 --> 01:00:21,500

from my interview with dr. Mario

1381

01:00:27,069 --> 01:00:24,109

Beauregard by the way of course I have

1382

01:00:29,680 --> 01:00:27,079

yet to hear from Jonathan Pierce and I

1383

01:00:32,349 --> 01:00:29,690

doubt I ever will but imitations there

1384

01:00:34,660 --> 01:00:32,359

love to have them on back to John's

1385

01:00:37,029 --> 01:00:34,670

email if you want to interview someone

1386

01:00:39,779 --> 01:00:37,039

about life after death then find Keith

1387

01:00:43,029 --> 01:00:39,789

Augustine at internet infidels I

1388

01:00:45,220 --> 01:00:43,039

response again I'd be happy to I've

1389

01:00:47,799 --> 01:00:45,230

invited him three times but he never

1390

01:00:50,980 --> 01:00:47,809

seems to have the time please pass along

1391

01:00:52,960 --> 01:00:50,990

my invitation and I'll await his reply I

1392

01:00:56,170 --> 01:00:52,970

then mentioned that I have interviewed

1393

01:00:58,900 --> 01:00:56,180

many prominent in de skeptics including

1394

01:01:02,799 --> 01:00:58,910

the link including dr. Victor Stenger

1395

01:01:05,200 --> 01:01:02,809

and dr. Susan Blackmore again I have yet

1396

01:01:07,630 --> 01:01:05,210

to hear from Keith Augustine but Keith

1397

01:01:09,480 --> 01:01:07,640

if you're out there love to have you on

1398

01:01:12,640 --> 01:01:09,490

skeptic Oh to talk about near-death

1399

01:01:15,010 --> 01:01:12,650

experience science finally wrapping up

1400

01:01:16,359 --> 01:01:15,020

John's e-mail he writes if you want to

1401

01:01:18,279 --> 01:01:16,369

interview someone about brain mine

1402

01:01:20,650 --> 01:01:18,289

problem then contact either Paul or

1403

01:01:22,180 --> 01:01:20,660

patricia churchland I've tried if you

1404

01:01:24,069 --> 01:01:22,190

want to interview a neuroscientist on

1405

01:01:25,779 --> 01:01:24,079

the same issue then contact David

1406

01:01:28,930 --> 01:01:25,789

Eagleman already did send them the link

1407

01:01:30,970 --> 01:01:28,940

then as his final word on whether or not

1408

01:01:33,039 --> 01:01:30,980

he'd like to come on for a redo I

1409

01:01:33,840 --> 01:01:33,049

thought the very fair generous offer

1410

01:01:36,210 --> 01:01:33,850

someone who

1411

01:01:38,580 --> 01:01:36,220

deals blindsided I was willing to trash

1412

01:01:43,080 --> 01:01:38,590

this initial interview into a total redo

1413

01:01:45,630 --> 01:01:43,090

but John's response was a no now I don't

1414

01:01:48,660 --> 01:01:45,640

feel a need to do a lot more interviews

1415

01:01:50,880 --> 01:01:48,670

with these hardcore atheists or even the

1416

01:01:54,390 --> 01:01:50,890

atheists who are hardcore but don't

1417

01:01:56,670 --> 01:01:54,400

appear hardcore like Gary Marcus and dr.

1418

01:01:58,920 --> 01:01:56,680

Stephen law but again as I said in the

1419

01:02:02,490 --> 01:01:58,930

opening I think it's crucial that we

1420

01:02:05,580 --> 01:02:02,500

expose how intellectually feeble these

1421

01:02:07,920 --> 01:02:05,590

arguments are and we contrast that with

1422

01:02:11,310 --> 01:02:07,930

the way that this silliness is propped

1423

01:02:13,350 --> 01:02:11,320

up in the mainstream science media okay

1424

01:02:15,660 --> 01:02:13,360

I have one question to tee up from this

1425

01:02:18,570 --> 01:02:15,670

debate and it was the one question I was

1426

01:02:21,180 --> 01:02:18,580

hoping to get to with John but wasn't

1427

01:02:23,850 --> 01:02:21,190

able to because well you see how the

1428

01:02:27,510 --> 01:02:23,860

interview went and that is to what

1429

01:02:30,900 --> 01:02:27,520

extent does this stuck on stupid debate

1430

01:02:33,540 --> 01:02:30,910

between christian apologist and atheists

1431

01:02:37,530 --> 01:02:33,550

prevent science from making progress on

1432

01:02:39,630 --> 01:02:37,540

the most fundamental issues of life who

1433

01:02:42,690 --> 01:02:39,640

are we where did we come from where do

1434

01:02:45,540 --> 01:02:42,700

we go big picture questions to what

1435

01:02:47,700 --> 01:02:45,550

extent is the debate holding us back of

1436

01:02:50,550 --> 01:02:47,710

course the place to respond to that

1437

01:02:53,090 --> 01:02:50,560

question or formulate a question of your

1438

01:02:58,140 --> 01:02:53,100

own is through the skeptical website at

1439

01:02:59,550 --> 01:02:58,150

SK EPT I k 0 com or you can leave a

1440

01:03:01,650 --> 01:02:59,560

comment right there in the comment

1441

01:03:04,560 --> 01:03:01,660

section or click on over to the forum

1442

01:03:06,600 --> 01:03:04,570

and join the discussion there we'll have

1443

01:03:08,760 --> 01:03:06,610

a number of interesting shows coming up

1444

01:03:10,710 --> 01:03:08,770

quite a few in the hopper right don't

1445

01:03:12,990 --> 01:03:10,720

know which one I'm going to put out next

1446

01:03:16,650 --> 01:03:13,000

but you'll just have to wait and see I

1447

01:03:18,890 --> 01:03:16,660

guess until next time do take care and