

skeptiko.com

THE THINKING ATHEIST BACKS DOWN FROM SCIENCE DEBATE

183. THE THINKING ATHEIST



1
00:00:13,890 --> 00:00:11,910
on this episode of skeptic Oh Alex talks

2
00:00:18,150 --> 00:00:13,900
with the south Andrews the thinking

3
00:00:20,960 --> 00:00:18,160
atheist this silly sideshow conversation

4
00:00:24,300 --> 00:00:20,970
that always dominates center stage is

5
00:00:26,609 --> 00:00:24,310
science versus religion and to me the

6
00:00:30,569 --> 00:00:26,619
questions are much deeper than that and

7
00:00:34,020 --> 00:00:30,579
really boil down to one question is your

8
00:00:38,250 --> 00:00:34,030
mind purely a function of your brain

9
00:00:40,739 --> 00:00:38,260
because if it's not then we start having

10
00:00:43,290 --> 00:00:40,749
to introduce all these other topics that

11
00:00:46,470 --> 00:00:43,300
do kind of make us uneasy because they

12
00:00:48,389 --> 00:00:46,480
start sounding very spiritual it's not

13
00:00:51,119 --> 00:00:48,399

necessarily a new thing for people to

14

00:00:53,309 --> 00:00:51,129

say you can't understand abstract

15

00:00:55,139 --> 00:00:53,319

consciousness that's not a new argument

16

00:00:58,439 --> 00:00:55,149

but to say that the reputable science

17

00:01:02,639 --> 00:00:58,449

community is advocating that there must

18

00:01:04,380 --> 00:01:02,649

be a conduit of spirit out there that is

19

00:01:06,390 --> 00:01:04,390

responsible I don't think that's

20

00:01:08,460 --> 00:01:06,400

accurate I don't think it's reflected by

21

00:01:10,620 --> 00:01:08,470

mainstream especially secular scientists

22

00:01:12,749 --> 00:01:10,630

who are the majority and I think if you

23

00:01:14,639 --> 00:01:12,759

spend that much time you playing what if

24

00:01:17,280 --> 00:01:14,649

you'll drive yourself nuts I think you

25

00:01:19,620 --> 00:01:17,290

start the argument from elsewhere that

26

00:01:23,219 --> 00:01:19,630

is exactly why I wanted to do this

27

00:01:25,770 --> 00:01:23,229

interview in two parts because I have to

28

00:01:27,929 --> 00:01:25,780

tell you in the dialogues I've had we

29

00:01:31,709 --> 00:01:27,939

always get to this point we have to dig

30

00:01:34,380 --> 00:01:31,719

through all the opinions that we might

31

00:01:37,620 --> 00:01:34,390

have beliefs we might have and try and

32

00:01:39,599 --> 00:01:37,630

do as good a job as we can of getting

33

00:01:42,029 --> 00:01:39,609

down to the science getting down to the

34

00:01:45,899 --> 00:01:42,039

scientific evidence and understanding it

35

00:01:57,240 --> 00:01:45,909

the best we can stay with us for skeptic

36

00:02:01,240 --> 00:01:59,620

welcome to skeptic aware we explore

37

00:02:04,030 --> 00:02:01,250

controversial science with leading

38

00:02:06,250 --> 00:02:04,040

researchers thinkers and their critics

39

00:02:08,889 --> 00:02:06,260

I'm your host Alex Karras and on today's

40

00:02:10,359 --> 00:02:08,899

episode I have a dialogue with the

41

00:02:12,760 --> 00:02:10,369

thinking atheist

42

00:02:14,590 --> 00:02:12,770

Seth Andrews who's popular YouTube

43

00:02:18,070 --> 00:02:14,600

channel has nearly a hundred thousand

44

00:02:19,780 --> 00:02:18,080

subscribers and millions of views now as

45

00:02:21,880 --> 00:02:19,790

you know from listening to skeptic oh

46

00:02:24,760 --> 00:02:21,890

it's hard to book these kind of

47

00:02:27,520 --> 00:02:24,770

interviews despite their claims to the

48

00:02:30,190 --> 00:02:27,530

contrary atheists and skeptics don't

49

00:02:32,470 --> 00:02:30,200

really like to get into debates about

50

00:02:35,770 --> 00:02:32,480

science and about the evidence behind

51
00:02:39,730 --> 00:02:35,780
their beliefs so I was delighted when

52
00:02:41,710 --> 00:02:39,740
Seth agreed to come on and come on to my

53
00:02:44,590 --> 00:02:41,720
new concept I had this idea for a

54
00:02:47,050 --> 00:02:44,600
two-part format where we'd use the first

55
00:02:49,060 --> 00:02:47,060
interview to kind of map out our ideas

56
00:02:51,310 --> 00:02:49,070
map out our thoughts and then use the

57
00:02:54,030 --> 00:02:51,320
second part of the interview to really

58
00:02:57,820 --> 00:02:54,040
get into the debate so here then is my

59
00:03:01,420 --> 00:02:57,830
first interview with Seth Andrews the

60
00:03:04,210 --> 00:03:01,430
thinking atheist today we welcome Seth

61
00:03:07,509 --> 00:03:04,220
Andrews - skeptic Oh Seth is the creator

62
00:03:09,160 --> 00:03:07,519
of the thinking atheist a very popular

63
00:03:11,830 --> 00:03:09,170

website and YouTube channel

64

00:03:13,900 --> 00:03:11,840

Seth is also a former Christian and a

65

00:03:16,750 --> 00:03:13,910

former Christian broadcaster who

66

00:03:19,509 --> 00:03:16,760

challenges his listeners to assume

67

00:03:22,300 --> 00:03:19,519

nothing questioned everything and start

68

00:03:24,520 --> 00:03:22,310

thinking welcome Seth and thanks for

69

00:03:26,410 --> 00:03:24,530

joining me on skeptic Oh ants a real

70

00:03:28,270 --> 00:03:26,420

pleasure thanks for the inviting and

71

00:03:30,910 --> 00:03:28,280

thanks for allowing me to be a part of

72

00:03:33,370 --> 00:03:30,920

the show hey awesome I am really

73

00:03:36,370 --> 00:03:33,380

grateful that you've joined me I love

74

00:03:38,229 --> 00:03:36,380

your tagline on your call for deeper

75

00:03:40,300 --> 00:03:38,239

thinking about some of these issues I I

76

00:03:41,050 --> 00:03:40,310

could just have easily written that

77

00:03:43,690 --> 00:03:41,060

myself

78

00:03:45,310 --> 00:03:43,700

I just hope that our dialogue today

79

00:03:47,080 --> 00:03:45,320

lives up to that at least a little bit

80

00:03:47,410 --> 00:03:47,090

and give some folks something to think

81

00:03:50,140 --> 00:03:47,420

about

82

00:03:52,030 --> 00:03:50,150

well some people you know will say you

83

00:03:54,430 --> 00:03:52,040

know Seth are you the thinking atheist

84

00:03:57,820 --> 00:03:54,440

and I always stop for just a second I

85

00:04:00,490 --> 00:03:57,830

say well you know no you know the

86

00:04:02,319 --> 00:04:00,500

thinking the thinking atheist is a an

87

00:04:05,530 --> 00:04:02,329

outline of a guy with a light bulb in

88

00:04:07,949 --> 00:04:05,540

his head I'm just the guy who hosts and

89

00:04:10,050 --> 00:04:07,959

I I wanted a website

90

00:04:12,690 --> 00:04:10,060

and a moniker that just encouraged

91

00:04:14,580 --> 00:04:12,700

people to to think it out it was in my

92

00:04:17,999 --> 00:04:14,590

life when I stopped accepting what I was

93

00:04:19,890 --> 00:04:18,009

told and by my my family culture Society

94

00:04:22,110 --> 00:04:19,900

and I started thinking for myself

95

00:04:25,020 --> 00:04:22,120

finally I was late to that party but I

96

00:04:27,570 --> 00:04:25,030

finally decided to show up it was it was

97

00:04:29,999 --> 00:04:27,580

when I started thinking that all of a

98

00:04:33,360 --> 00:04:30,009

sudden these mysteries began to sort of

99

00:04:35,129 --> 00:04:33,370

I began to find the answers to many of

100

00:04:36,900 --> 00:04:35,139

the questions I was looking for and so

101

00:04:38,879 --> 00:04:36,910

that's really what I want I don't mean

102

00:04:41,909 --> 00:04:38,889

for it to be egotistical some people say

103

00:04:43,890 --> 00:04:41,919

it is a you and I we say no they say is

104

00:04:45,480 --> 00:04:43,900

it redundant the thinking atheist and I

105

00:04:47,850 --> 00:04:45,490

go absolutely not just because

106

00:04:50,070 --> 00:04:47,860

somebody's may theist does not mean it's

107

00:04:51,689 --> 00:04:50,080

a guarantee that they are thinking but

108

00:04:53,279 --> 00:04:51,699

we should all have our minds engaged

109

00:04:54,420 --> 00:04:53,289

anywhere we go and to try to figure it

110

00:04:56,909 --> 00:04:54,430

out as best we can

111

00:04:58,800 --> 00:04:56,919

well I think you're true to that really

112

00:05:00,540 --> 00:04:58,810

on your site and in your YouTube channel

113

00:05:02,700 --> 00:05:00,550

it's not somebody out there pushing

114

00:05:04,770 --> 00:05:02,710

themselves with their name out front and

115

00:05:07,560 --> 00:05:04,780

their image all over the place and I

116

00:05:09,990 --> 00:05:07,570

like that I think it does push someone

117

00:05:12,240 --> 00:05:10,000

to look past that given folks a little

118

00:05:14,670 --> 00:05:12,250

bit of an introduction to what you do

119

00:05:17,129 --> 00:05:14,680

and what you're about but I also want to

120

00:05:18,779 --> 00:05:17,139

let people hear a little bit from one of

121

00:05:20,969 --> 00:05:18,789

your presentations actually the one that

122

00:05:23,490 --> 00:05:20,979

led me to you it's a YouTube video you

123

00:05:25,920 --> 00:05:23,500

put together titled the afterlife it's

124

00:05:29,399 --> 00:05:25,930

really quite well done and I think it's

125

00:05:31,620 --> 00:05:29,409

quite provocative if I can let me play a

126

00:05:34,409 --> 00:05:31,630

short clip about a minute clip from that

127

00:05:36,270 --> 00:05:34,419

and then we'll roll right into you can

128

00:05:38,010 --> 00:05:36,280

tell us about that clip about the

129

00:05:40,260 --> 00:05:38,020

YouTube channel that you've put together

130

00:05:41,670 --> 00:05:40,270

and maybe more of an introduction to

131

00:05:46,200 --> 00:05:41,680

what you're doing there so that's not

132

00:05:48,779 --> 00:05:46,210

okay sounds good if you spent a lovely

133

00:05:50,820 --> 00:05:48,789

day at the beach and then returned the

134

00:05:53,820 --> 00:05:50,830

following weekend knowing that it had

135

00:05:57,210 --> 00:05:53,830

one fewer grain of sand would it seem

136

00:05:59,310 --> 00:05:57,220

like a different Beach so - with the

137

00:06:02,220 --> 00:05:59,320

universe continued in its way as if

138

00:06:07,020 --> 00:06:02,230

humanity weren't here to witness it

139

00:06:13,670 --> 00:06:07,030

the universe is absolutely massive and

140

00:06:16,230 --> 00:06:13,680

we are virtually insignificant in it I

141

00:06:18,150 --> 00:06:16,240

have on occasion that people tell me

142

00:06:20,760 --> 00:06:18,160

that my life must be so depressing

143

00:06:23,040 --> 00:06:20,770

because I'm an atheist it's doom and

144

00:06:27,060 --> 00:06:23,050

gloom once you die it's it's all over

145

00:06:31,170 --> 00:06:27,070

and it's just absurd to me how many

146

00:06:37,770 --> 00:06:31,180

people live for dying in this weird way

147

00:06:40,020 --> 00:06:37,780

I think fragile fearful humans were

148

00:06:42,870 --> 00:06:40,030

terrified of death and so they wrote

149

00:06:45,030 --> 00:06:42,880

their own ending to the story this happy

150

00:06:46,800 --> 00:06:45,040

fantasy a place where they'll be

151

00:06:50,340 --> 00:06:46,810

reunited with people they've lost

152

00:06:55,860 --> 00:06:50,350

they'll experience constant joy and of

153

00:06:59,010 --> 00:06:55,870

course they'll never ever die okay so

154

00:07:02,580 --> 00:06:59,020

that's our guest Seth Andrews so tell us

155

00:07:06,120 --> 00:07:02,590

a little bit about this particular video

156

00:07:07,590 --> 00:07:06,130

well my youtube channel started around

157

00:07:10,320 --> 00:07:07,600

the same time that I launched the

158

00:07:12,870 --> 00:07:10,330

thinking atheist calm website it was at

159

00:07:14,940 --> 00:07:12,880

the end of kind of a rough journey which

160

00:07:18,600 --> 00:07:14,950

echoes the journey of many who came out

161

00:07:21,960 --> 00:07:18,610

of religion normally and for you know

162

00:07:24,350 --> 00:07:21,970

what normally happens is if you are like

163

00:07:27,810 --> 00:07:24,360

me you were raised in the cradle of a

164

00:07:29,640 --> 00:07:27,820

religious family and culture I mean I

165

00:07:34,260 --> 00:07:29,650

went the whole the whole route you know

166

00:07:37,050 --> 00:07:34,270

I had theologian parents who you know

167

00:07:39,420 --> 00:07:37,060

took trips to the Holy Land and who were

168

00:07:42,780 --> 00:07:39,430

Bible scholars and wrote sermons for

169

00:07:43,620 --> 00:07:42,790

local pastors and and you know they were

170

00:07:45,840 --> 00:07:43,630

the real deal

171

00:07:48,600 --> 00:07:45,850

they weren't just passing Sunday

172

00:07:50,280 --> 00:07:48,610

Christians they were hardcore and so

173

00:07:54,650 --> 00:07:50,290

that was the environment in which I was

174

00:07:58,020 --> 00:07:54,660

raised and as I became an adult I

175

00:07:59,580 --> 00:07:58,030

assumed most of my thinking was well

176

00:08:01,560 --> 00:07:59,590

there was so well educated they're

177

00:08:04,950 --> 00:08:01,570

geniuses they're so smart they must know

178

00:08:07,920 --> 00:08:04,960

and I was a Christian broadcaster for a

179

00:08:10,200 --> 00:08:07,930

long time and then finally I you know I

180

00:08:11,880 --> 00:08:10,210

started to you know I don't know if what

181

00:08:14,790 --> 00:08:11,890

it is about getting older but I just

182

00:08:15,820 --> 00:08:14,800

started to become uneasy and and so

183

00:08:19,280 --> 00:08:15,830

around

184

00:08:22,159 --> 00:08:19,290

you know 2008 I was at critical mass and

185

00:08:24,260 --> 00:08:22,169

and I did I was just tired of making

186

00:08:26,840 --> 00:08:24,270

excuses for all the stuff that made no

187

00:08:28,760 --> 00:08:26,850

sense and by 2009 I was a full blown

188

00:08:30,379 --> 00:08:28,770

atheist I was just saying the word out

189

00:08:33,260 --> 00:08:30,389

loud and I wanted to help other people

190

00:08:35,180 --> 00:08:33,270

out of their particular journeys to

191

00:08:36,290 --> 00:08:35,190

remind them that they were not alone and

192

00:08:38,180 --> 00:08:36,300

to make me help give them some

193

00:08:41,360 --> 00:08:38,190

information as I was doing some of my

194

00:08:43,040 --> 00:08:41,370

own homework and to challenge some of

195

00:08:44,720 --> 00:08:43,050

the established thinking and so I I

196

00:08:47,630 --> 00:08:44,730

started I'm a professional video

197

00:08:50,120 --> 00:08:47,640

producer now and I started putting

198

00:08:53,060 --> 00:08:50,130

together just some videos and put them

199

00:08:55,760 --> 00:08:53,070

on YouTube but on the website and had a

200

00:08:57,320 --> 00:08:55,770

few hundred hits here or there and the

201
00:08:59,210 --> 00:08:57,330
first ones were nothing really to crow

202
00:09:02,620 --> 00:08:59,220
about they were just my first attempts

203
00:09:05,300 --> 00:09:02,630
but they were big steps for me they were

204
00:09:07,400 --> 00:09:05,310
the first video I ever put up was called

205
00:09:10,010 --> 00:09:07,410
the invisible God and it was a challenge

206
00:09:13,070 --> 00:09:10,020
to my first public challenge to the

207
00:09:14,660 --> 00:09:13,080
deity that I had formerly the Selena I

208
00:09:17,480 --> 00:09:14,670
had formerly been raised with and taught

209
00:09:20,720 --> 00:09:17,490
to be loyal to and in some ways afraid

210
00:09:23,300 --> 00:09:20,730
of it it was a big big deal and then I

211
00:09:25,930 --> 00:09:23,310
produced at the time I was really going

212
00:09:28,220 --> 00:09:25,940
I mean a couple of videos a month

213
00:09:29,870 --> 00:09:28,230

single-handedly just buried myself in

214

00:09:31,430 --> 00:09:29,880

the production room and just kept going

215

00:09:33,350 --> 00:09:31,440

and going and going and then before you

216

00:09:35,450 --> 00:09:33,360

know what we're doing radio podcast and

217

00:09:37,790 --> 00:09:35,460

I mean the Facebook page began to take

218

00:09:39,980 --> 00:09:37,800

off and you know now here in the year

219

00:09:42,860 --> 00:09:39,990

2012 I found myself struggling to keep

220

00:09:48,740 --> 00:09:42,870

up you know I find myself thinking man I

221

00:09:50,720 --> 00:09:48,750

need a staff oh yeah it's a good problem

222

00:09:54,350 --> 00:09:50,730

to have but that's kind of how they get

223

00:09:56,300 --> 00:09:54,360

the whole thing got going so it is quite

224

00:09:57,890 --> 00:09:56,310

an endeavor that is the thinking atheist

225

00:09:59,720 --> 00:09:57,900

I can only imagine I mean just looking

226

00:10:01,460 --> 00:09:59,730

at all the different things you've got

227

00:10:03,170 --> 00:10:01,470

you have going on so obviously I've

228

00:10:04,910 --> 00:10:03,180

watched some of your YouTube videos I've

229

00:10:06,740 --> 00:10:04,920

also read some of your blog posts and

230

00:10:08,510 --> 00:10:06,750

I've listened to some of your podcast

231

00:10:11,750 --> 00:10:08,520

which are interesting because you

232

00:10:14,540 --> 00:10:11,760

actually have people call in and I get a

233

00:10:18,290 --> 00:10:14,550

sense from that from where some of your

234

00:10:20,090 --> 00:10:18,300

audience is at and I get it you know in

235

00:10:21,050 --> 00:10:20,100

terms of the dialogue that I'd like to

236

00:10:23,840 --> 00:10:21,060

have with you today

237

00:10:24,500 --> 00:10:23,850

I guess the first thing I'd say is I do

238

00:10:28,790 --> 00:10:24,510

get that

239

00:10:31,160 --> 00:10:28,800

I mean Christianity is silly coercive

240

00:10:33,980 --> 00:10:31,170

and you despite all that still being a

241

00:10:36,139 --> 00:10:33,990

huge influence that we can all see in

242

00:10:39,079 --> 00:10:36,149

our culture or society our politics all

243

00:10:40,340 --> 00:10:39,089

that and I also get you know like we're

244

00:10:43,250 --> 00:10:40,350

just talking about and listen to your

245

00:10:45,949 --> 00:10:43,260

podcast the personal part of it you know

246

00:10:47,810 --> 00:10:45,959

how the the coercive nature of it and

247

00:10:50,960 --> 00:10:47,820

how a lot of us are indoctrinated into

248

00:10:54,290 --> 00:10:50,970

us into it at a very young age makes it

249

00:11:00,490 --> 00:10:54,300

hard to shake it makes it really messes

250

00:11:05,780 --> 00:11:03,680

unnecessary but coming there the part

251

00:11:09,160 --> 00:11:05,790

that interests me and the part that I

252

00:11:13,850 --> 00:11:09,170

really want a dialogue with you about is

253

00:11:16,639 --> 00:11:13,860

what lies behind that you know what is

254

00:11:19,220 --> 00:11:16,649

the deeper truth beyond all this

255

00:11:22,250 --> 00:11:19,230

arm-waving about science versus religion

256

00:11:25,990 --> 00:11:22,260

which to me really seems like more of a

257

00:11:29,810 --> 00:11:26,000

sideshow because to me the real question

258

00:11:31,759 --> 00:11:29,820

scientifically more or less is is that

259

00:11:34,910 --> 00:11:31,769

little voice inside our head that is our

260

00:11:38,510 --> 00:11:34,920

consciousness is that just my brain

261

00:11:43,100 --> 00:11:38,520

firing or is there something more going

262

00:11:46,670 --> 00:11:43,110

on well it's a it's a broad stroke that

263

00:11:51,590 --> 00:11:46,680

you can paint there but you know if you

264

00:11:54,860 --> 00:11:51,600

were to ask me 15 years ago where does

265

00:11:57,410 --> 00:11:54,870

consciousness come from of course I'm

266

00:11:59,329 --> 00:11:57,420

talking about the soul I'm talking about

267

00:12:01,910 --> 00:11:59,339

that you know that magic the

268

00:12:06,410 --> 00:12:01,920

unexplainable part of our of our being

269

00:12:08,630 --> 00:12:06,420

that even that that is you know it's

270

00:12:09,980 --> 00:12:08,640

spirit it is eternal it is all these

271

00:12:12,350 --> 00:12:09,990

types of things and if you were to ask

272

00:12:14,150 --> 00:12:12,360

me now after I've dug in a little deeper

273

00:12:19,460 --> 00:12:14,160

and and come to some different

274

00:12:21,740 --> 00:12:19,470

conclusions I and my mind ICS as I am my

275

00:12:24,170 --> 00:12:21,750

mind my consciousness is essentially a

276

00:12:26,500 --> 00:12:24,180

product of the electrical impulses of

277

00:12:29,120 --> 00:12:26,510

the brain I think they're physically

278

00:12:31,660 --> 00:12:29,130

explainable even if we don't have all

279

00:12:34,519 --> 00:12:31,670

the explanations yet I don't have an

280

00:12:37,360 --> 00:12:34,529

inclination to paint God into all the

281

00:12:40,490 --> 00:12:37,370

cracks into all the vacant spaces

282

00:12:42,230 --> 00:12:40,500

because every time we have done so we

283

00:12:44,930 --> 00:12:42,240

have always been wrong

284

00:12:48,199 --> 00:12:44,940

people have always when they ran into a

285

00:12:51,350 --> 00:12:48,209

wall our our ancestors would always play

286

00:12:54,019 --> 00:12:51,360

the God card and then as we have evolved

287

00:12:56,000 --> 00:12:54,029

and learned more as a species it turns

288

00:12:57,620 --> 00:12:56,010

out that the answer science provided

289

00:12:59,900 --> 00:12:57,630

were more accurate and they were

290

00:13:01,760 --> 00:12:59,910

actually more interesting I mean it

291

00:13:04,190 --> 00:13:01,770

sounds like at least we're approaching

292

00:13:06,920 --> 00:13:04,200

this somewhat from the same angle what

293

00:13:08,480 --> 00:13:06,930

I'd like to propose and I just sketch

294

00:13:11,000 --> 00:13:08,490

this out in very broad terms and the

295

00:13:13,820 --> 00:13:11,010

email that I sent you is kind of a

296

00:13:16,250 --> 00:13:13,830

two-part approach to that because what

297

00:13:18,050 --> 00:13:16,260

I've often encountered is you're out

298

00:13:20,060 --> 00:13:18,060

there you're doing your thing and have

299

00:13:21,970 --> 00:13:20,070

studied a lot of this stuff in great

300

00:13:24,110 --> 00:13:21,980

detail and I appreciate that you've also

301

00:13:26,870 --> 00:13:24,120

interviewed a lot of very smart people

302

00:13:28,579 --> 00:13:26,880

and I know from my own experience that

303

00:13:31,190 --> 00:13:28,589

you know I've grown a lot from that and

304

00:13:33,620 --> 00:13:31,200

I'm sure you have too so you're bringing

305

00:13:35,269 --> 00:13:33,630

a lot of your information to the table

306

00:13:36,949 --> 00:13:35,279

which may overlap with some of mine but

307

00:13:38,540 --> 00:13:36,959

there's obviously some stuff that you

308

00:13:41,269 --> 00:13:38,550

know that I don't know and the reverse

309

00:13:43,940 --> 00:13:41,279

is probably true so what I want to do in

310

00:13:46,250 --> 00:13:43,950

a little bit of time today is kind of

311

00:13:48,019 --> 00:13:46,260

sketch out the territory of this

312

00:13:49,819 --> 00:13:48,029

dialogue we might have and say and I'm

313

00:13:52,460 --> 00:13:49,829

gonna say hey Seth here's what I'd like

314

00:13:54,350 --> 00:13:52,470

to you know bring to it this and this in

315

00:13:56,569 --> 00:13:54,360

this and this and here's how I put these

316

00:13:59,090 --> 00:13:56,579

pieces fit together and here are some of

317

00:14:00,710 --> 00:13:59,100

the experts I've talked to and then you

318

00:14:03,350 --> 00:14:00,720

know I want you to do that likewise a

319

00:14:06,380 --> 00:14:03,360

little bit and then maybe we can

320

00:14:09,800 --> 00:14:06,390

reconvene in a week or whatever the

321

00:14:12,500 --> 00:14:09,810

timeframe is and then see where we

322

00:14:14,840 --> 00:14:12,510

really are in terms of pushing each

323

00:14:16,910 --> 00:14:14,850

other with some of this information that

324

00:14:18,650 --> 00:14:16,920

we have how does that sound I mean

325

00:14:20,810 --> 00:14:18,660

that's cool you know if it's if we're

326

00:14:22,970 --> 00:14:20,820

having a debate or even a friendly

327

00:14:23,710 --> 00:14:22,980

debate as opposed to an interview I mean

328

00:14:26,840 --> 00:14:23,720

I'm cool with that

329

00:14:28,460 --> 00:14:26,850

if we're all about trying to challenge

330

00:14:31,100 --> 00:14:28,470

each other to sharpen our ideas so that

331

00:14:33,019 --> 00:14:31,110

we are actually better tomorrow than we

332

00:14:34,910 --> 00:14:33,029

are today I'm all over that I think it's

333

00:14:37,010 --> 00:14:34,920

a fantastic idea and I'm not opposed to

334

00:14:39,860 --> 00:14:37,020

it at all great so that's what I'd like

335

00:14:42,019 --> 00:14:39,870

to do and since most the interviews

336

00:14:44,750 --> 00:14:42,029

we've done on sceptical have surrounded

337

00:14:46,519 --> 00:14:44,760

this idea of consciousness and what we

338

00:14:49,310 --> 00:14:46,529

know about consciousness and what we can

339

00:14:51,920 --> 00:14:49,320

say and what we can say is probably not

340

00:14:54,260 --> 00:14:51,930

true about consciousness that's where

341

00:14:56,030 --> 00:14:54,270

I'd like to kind of drive things because

342

00:14:57,860 --> 00:14:56,040

I think that's where it gets real

343

00:15:01,010 --> 00:14:57,870

interesting we were just talking a

344

00:15:02,690 --> 00:15:01,020

minute ago about religion and about your

345

00:15:06,740 --> 00:15:02,700

experience in what you've seen in other

346

00:15:09,140 --> 00:15:06,750

people and I guess the the maybe counter

347

00:15:12,500 --> 00:15:09,150

to that is we need to know as best we

348

00:15:16,580 --> 00:15:12,510

can whether there is anything to these

349

00:15:19,670 --> 00:15:16,590

claims of consciousness being more than

350

00:15:22,370 --> 00:15:19,680

just our brain because if they are a lot

351

00:15:26,590 --> 00:15:22,380

of these other things that we've kind of

352

00:15:30,170 --> 00:15:26,600

taken as true in terms of scientific

353

00:15:32,840 --> 00:15:30,180

materialism atheistic kind of you kind

354

00:15:34,520 --> 00:15:32,850

of become a lot harder to hold up and

355

00:15:38,300 --> 00:15:34,530

that about that I mean you know if

356

00:15:40,040 --> 00:15:38,310

consciousness is outside of our brain

357

00:15:43,300 --> 00:15:40,050

then we have to start asking questions

358

00:15:45,890 --> 00:15:43,310

like when does consciousness start and

359

00:15:48,590 --> 00:15:45,900

obviously when does consciousness end

360

00:15:51,740 --> 00:15:48,600

does it extend beyond and you don't have

361

00:15:54,800 --> 00:15:51,750

to go very far with those philosophical

362

00:15:57,380 --> 00:15:54,810

questions obviously to to the point

363

00:15:59,060 --> 00:15:57,390

where you reach some deeper spiritual

364

00:16:01,550 --> 00:15:59,070

questions like you were just mentioning

365

00:16:03,350 --> 00:16:01,560

you throw around words like soul and you

366

00:16:06,140 --> 00:16:03,360

even get to God and you get to those

367

00:16:09,050 --> 00:16:06,150

things very quickly so where I've come

368

00:16:12,170 --> 00:16:09,060

at this topic is not to address the

369

00:16:14,540 --> 00:16:12,180

questions of God and soul but to aggress

370

00:16:18,140 --> 00:16:14,550

address the questions of consciousness

371

00:16:21,680 --> 00:16:18,150

what do we really know and where is that

372

00:16:23,810 --> 00:16:21,690

research going so that's what I'd like

373

00:16:26,300 --> 00:16:23,820

to outline I guess today and I guess I'd

374

00:16:28,550 --> 00:16:26,310

like to find out more about your

375

00:16:30,260 --> 00:16:28,560

thoughts and where you're coming at and

376

00:16:33,110 --> 00:16:30,270

saying that you've come to the

377

00:16:36,410 --> 00:16:33,120

conclusion that it's brain based well

378

00:16:40,280 --> 00:16:36,420

you know I was talking to our in raw who

379

00:16:43,640 --> 00:16:40,290

is another YouTube atheist and he has

380

00:16:46,190 --> 00:16:43,650

sampled at the you know the buffet of

381

00:16:49,610 --> 00:16:46,200

consciousness of consciousness enhancing

382

00:16:53,360 --> 00:16:49,620

practices you know spiritual whatever

383

00:16:55,430 --> 00:16:53,370

you know the world of whoo and he is you

384

00:16:57,740 --> 00:16:55,440

know he's talked about how that in this

385

00:17:01,190 --> 00:16:57,750

highly subjective environment was one

386

00:17:02,930 --> 00:17:01,200

time convinced that that you know your

387

00:17:04,790 --> 00:17:02,940

he could do this he could do that he

388

00:17:06,800 --> 00:17:04,800

broke through different planes of

389

00:17:08,960 --> 00:17:06,810

consciousness and whatnot and at the end

390

00:17:09,769 --> 00:17:08,970

of the day he realized that it was all

391

00:17:14,059 --> 00:17:09,779

subjective

392

00:17:16,549 --> 00:17:14,069

it was all very much not based in

393

00:17:19,609 --> 00:17:16,559

reality was he done a sales job on his

394

00:17:21,829 --> 00:17:19,619

own mind he he had come out the other

395

00:17:27,700 --> 00:17:21,839

end realizing look this is all Justin

396

00:17:34,729 --> 00:17:27,710

and I have a I myself have a difficulty

397

00:17:39,619 --> 00:17:34,739

approaching the ideas of does

398

00:17:41,839 --> 00:17:39,629

consciousness come from without without

399

00:17:43,519 --> 00:17:41,849

a measure of real skepticism because

400

00:17:45,289 --> 00:17:43,529

perception and reality are not

401
00:17:48,229 --> 00:17:45,299
necessarily the same thing we talked

402
00:17:51,079 --> 00:17:48,239
about there's a book by Lebanon Cramer

403
00:17:53,629 --> 00:17:51,089
about about how even eyewitnesses

404
00:17:56,930 --> 00:17:53,639
perceive things when they witness a

405
00:17:59,149 --> 00:17:56,940
crime and that perception is tainted

406
00:18:02,450 --> 00:17:59,159
it's tainted by so many subjective

407
00:18:04,909 --> 00:18:02,460
things what I want to know is what you

408
00:18:07,009 --> 00:18:04,919
think you saw I want to know what the

409
00:18:08,989 --> 00:18:07,019
evidence says I don't want to start with

410
00:18:10,279 --> 00:18:08,999
everything that might be possible you

411
00:18:12,079 --> 00:18:10,289
know we talked about where consciousness

412
00:18:14,989 --> 00:18:12,089
comes from well it might come from a

413
00:18:16,519 --> 00:18:14,999

giant pink plush monkey suction-cupped

414

00:18:19,759 --> 00:18:16,529

at the back of one or two Pater's moons

415

00:18:21,619 --> 00:18:19,769

that's that's you can't disprove it but

416

00:18:23,329 --> 00:18:21,629

it's not where I want to start what I

417

00:18:26,419 --> 00:18:23,339

want to start with even with my feet on

418

00:18:29,539 --> 00:18:26,429

the ground and to say what can we see

419

00:18:33,560 --> 00:18:29,549

what can we prove and if if there are

420

00:18:37,129 --> 00:18:33,570

areas beyond that that are unexplainable

421

00:18:39,169 --> 00:18:37,139

as of yet to me that I don't get I I

422

00:18:40,969 --> 00:18:39,179

don't want to find myself wandering out

423

00:18:43,999 --> 00:18:40,979

in the weeds grasping at the first

424

00:18:45,950 --> 00:18:44,009

attractive answers that I see I I really

425

00:18:49,070 --> 00:18:45,960

would like to know even if I'd know that

426

00:18:51,769 --> 00:18:49,080

I don't know that's the information how

427

00:18:53,239 --> 00:18:51,779

we'd like moving forward so I I take a

428

00:18:55,909 --> 00:18:53,249

little bit of a harder line when it

429

00:18:58,759 --> 00:18:55,919

comes to you know are their energies and

430

00:19:02,029 --> 00:18:58,769

and and external forces guiding our

431

00:19:04,099 --> 00:19:02,039

consciousness my my skeptical nerve

432

00:19:05,690 --> 00:19:04,109

tends to start to flare up at that

433

00:19:07,489 --> 00:19:05,700

moment you know I that's something

434

00:19:10,039 --> 00:19:07,499

that's especially awakened to me in the

435

00:19:12,320 --> 00:19:10,049

last 36 months no I hear you on that and

436

00:19:14,659 --> 00:19:12,330

it also I guess would probably be a

437

00:19:15,919 --> 00:19:14,669

point where we are in congruence and

438

00:19:19,310 --> 00:19:15,929

that's that the one thing that

439

00:19:21,700 --> 00:19:19,320

aggravates me is apologetics whether it

440

00:19:23,630 --> 00:19:21,710

comes from Christian apologetics or

441

00:19:26,210 --> 00:19:23,640

scientific apologetics and

442

00:19:29,450 --> 00:19:26,220

view apologetic says you know starting

443

00:19:32,450 --> 00:19:29,460

with my end answer Jesus really was

444

00:19:35,539 --> 00:19:32,460

resurrected and then cherry picking out

445

00:19:38,450 --> 00:19:35,549

bits and pieces of science sounding

446

00:19:41,210 --> 00:19:38,460

facts archeological facts or biblical

447

00:19:43,070 --> 00:19:41,220

scholarship facts to make my case and

448

00:19:46,070 --> 00:19:43,080

try and cobble something together and

449

00:19:49,360 --> 00:19:46,080

I'm really really against that but I'm

450

00:19:53,000 --> 00:19:49,370

also against that when it comes to a

451
00:19:55,370 --> 00:19:53,010
scientific approach that does the same

452
00:19:57,230 --> 00:19:55,380
thing so I guess that's the second time

453
00:19:58,940 --> 00:19:57,240
that I've heard you play science and

454
00:20:01,340 --> 00:19:58,950
religion sort of side by side in the

455
00:20:04,730 --> 00:20:01,350
horse race and and I don't see them as

456
00:20:06,710 --> 00:20:04,740
as compatible I really think we're

457
00:20:08,630 --> 00:20:06,720
talking about I mean the scientific

458
00:20:10,490 --> 00:20:08,640
method of use correctly does not start

459
00:20:12,110 --> 00:20:10,500
with an answer it follows the chain of

460
00:20:15,530 --> 00:20:12,120
evidence it admits when it is wrong and

461
00:20:18,590 --> 00:20:15,540
fixes itself science is a process that

462
00:20:22,100 --> 00:20:18,600
is delighted to be wrong and wants to in

463
00:20:23,570 --> 00:20:22,110

its purest form wants to fix whatever is

464

00:20:25,490 --> 00:20:23,580

wrong so that it can provide better

465

00:20:27,530 --> 00:20:25,500

information I mean science is always

466

00:20:30,070 --> 00:20:27,540

updating and revising religion is

467

00:20:33,020 --> 00:20:30,080

pitching the same answers that it had

468

00:20:34,730 --> 00:20:33,030

for the last however many thousands of

469

00:20:36,590 --> 00:20:34,740

years and the apologists are now coming

470

00:20:38,630 --> 00:20:36,600

out to make excuses for and to give

471

00:20:41,419 --> 00:20:38,640

context of but their arguments largely

472

00:20:45,049 --> 00:20:41,429

hasn't changed science changes everyday

473

00:20:47,360 --> 00:20:45,059

and so I myself cannot put religion and

474

00:20:49,490 --> 00:20:47,370

science in that in that race they're

475

00:20:51,830 --> 00:20:49,500

they're they're two different breed two

476
00:20:54,530 --> 00:20:51,840
different animals totally and and I have

477
00:20:56,150 --> 00:20:54,540
a difficult time trying to correlate one

478
00:20:57,890 --> 00:20:56,160
with the other because like I believe

479
00:21:00,169 --> 00:20:57,900
they are completely incompatible and

480
00:21:03,770 --> 00:21:00,179
they operate in completely different

481
00:21:04,880 --> 00:21:03,780
ways maybe but I don't want to go there

482
00:21:07,100 --> 00:21:04,890
too far because I think we'll get

483
00:21:08,960 --> 00:21:07,110
sidetracked from the main thing that I

484
00:21:11,150 --> 00:21:08,970
wanted to try and engage with you on and

485
00:21:12,799 --> 00:21:11,160
that Juris idea of consciousness no but

486
00:21:15,320 --> 00:21:12,809
I mean that's a valid point I'd love to

487
00:21:17,090 --> 00:21:15,330
hash that out with you for an hour you

488
00:21:19,250 --> 00:21:17,100

spend do you spend every show talking

489

00:21:22,250 --> 00:21:19,260

about consciousness I mean every single

490

00:21:24,440 --> 00:21:22,260

episode consciousness related kind of

491

00:21:25,159 --> 00:21:24,450

activities yeah I mean I think that's

492

00:21:27,830 --> 00:21:25,169

where it's all at

493

00:21:30,169 --> 00:21:27,840

I mean you know I talked to a bunch of

494

00:21:32,120 --> 00:21:30,179

Christians just had a Christian fell on

495

00:21:35,030 --> 00:21:32,130

the last show guy I really enjoy talking

496

00:21:37,190 --> 00:21:35,040

to who's tried to create a this dialogue

497

00:21:39,259 --> 00:21:37,200

lecture series between

498

00:21:40,789 --> 00:21:39,269

Christians and scientists and has done a

499

00:21:42,710 --> 00:21:40,799

good job he's over in there in the UK

500

00:21:45,049 --> 00:21:42,720

but I've talked to you know some of the

501
00:21:46,759 --> 00:21:45,059
world's leading consciousness

502
00:21:49,370 --> 00:21:46,769
researchers many of them who have a

503
00:21:51,620 --> 00:21:49,380
materialistic kind of view of things but

504
00:21:56,000 --> 00:21:51,630
some of them who don't well if you'd

505
00:21:58,759 --> 00:21:56,010
speak to a Christian person who is a

506
00:22:02,029 --> 00:21:58,769
scientist and they are according to the

507
00:22:05,740 --> 00:22:02,039
to the National Institute of Sciences

508
00:22:07,879 --> 00:22:05,750
they are in the extreme minority their

509
00:22:09,830 --> 00:22:07,889
approach to your conversation will

510
00:22:14,240 --> 00:22:09,840
already be tainted by their belief in a

511
00:22:15,769 --> 00:22:14,250
deity you know they're not now they're

512
00:22:18,500 --> 00:22:15,779
not speaking as much scientifically

513
00:22:21,259 --> 00:22:18,510

there speaking theologically and if you

514

00:22:24,440 --> 00:22:21,269

speak to a scientist a secular scientist

515

00:22:26,930 --> 00:22:24,450

about consciousness you're probably

516

00:22:29,750 --> 00:22:26,940

going to be getting less I'm wrong a

517

00:22:31,430 --> 00:22:29,760

more of a nuts and bolts answer that has

518

00:22:34,070 --> 00:22:31,440

to do with body chemistry and psychology

519

00:22:35,570 --> 00:22:34,080

and and all of these other things not

520

00:22:38,419 --> 00:22:35,580

necessarily so I'll give you an example

521

00:22:40,909 --> 00:22:38,429

and this is like one of the one of the

522

00:22:43,669 --> 00:22:40,919

pieces of evidence that I'd throw on the

523

00:22:46,399 --> 00:22:43,679

table and ask that we can bring it up

524

00:22:48,440 --> 00:22:46,409

next time so you can dig into it find

525

00:22:50,419 --> 00:22:48,450

out what your position your what your

526

00:22:53,570 --> 00:22:50,429

take is on it but I'd point you to

527

00:22:54,190 --> 00:22:53,580

Jeffery Schwartz at UCLA School of

528

00:22:56,840 --> 00:22:54,200

Medicine

529

00:23:00,580 --> 00:22:56,850

what Schwartz has done and gone even

530

00:23:04,730 --> 00:23:00,590

further is said look I'm a psychiatrist

531

00:23:06,919 --> 00:23:04,740

what I've done is shown that a non

532

00:23:08,930 --> 00:23:06,929

physical thought an idea

533

00:23:11,419 --> 00:23:08,940

right which is non-physical it doesn't

534

00:23:13,370 --> 00:23:11,429

weigh anything we can't say it's over

535

00:23:14,509 --> 00:23:13,380

there in the corner I mean we could say

536

00:23:16,490 --> 00:23:14,519

all these little Thursday's little

537

00:23:19,669 --> 00:23:16,500

neurons in your brain that hold that

538

00:23:21,230 --> 00:23:19,679

idea but we understand that's not really

539

00:23:23,269 --> 00:23:21,240

that idea because I can write that I get

540

00:23:25,460 --> 00:23:23,279

down on a piece of paper and hand it to

541

00:23:27,430 --> 00:23:25,470

someone else and they can get that idea

542

00:23:30,529 --> 00:23:27,440

and at some point there's some

543

00:23:33,230 --> 00:23:30,539

immaterial non-physical transfer that

544

00:23:35,149 --> 00:23:33,240

goes on there so as a starting point we

545

00:23:37,879 --> 00:23:35,159

can say ideas are non-physical

546

00:23:41,120 --> 00:23:37,889

but what Schwartz has shown is the

547

00:23:44,269 --> 00:23:41,130

thought or an idea can actually change

548

00:23:47,869 --> 00:23:44,279

the physical structure of your brain how

549

00:23:49,900 --> 00:23:47,879

your brain works so this presents a real

550

00:23:53,530 --> 00:23:49,910

challenge for folks who

551
00:23:56,920 --> 00:23:53,540
are sticking to this mind equals brain

552
00:23:59,020 --> 00:23:56,930
kind of formula do you understand where

553
00:24:02,140 --> 00:23:59,030
I'm going there I don't know that you

554
00:24:03,880 --> 00:24:02,150
can say with as little I mean we know a

555
00:24:05,290 --> 00:24:03,890
lot about the brain but with so much we

556
00:24:07,780 --> 00:24:05,300
have to learn I don't think you can say

557
00:24:09,940 --> 00:24:07,790
that an idea is not physical I mean it

558
00:24:12,580 --> 00:24:09,950
is contained within the physical brain

559
00:24:13,990 --> 00:24:12,590
and there are properties that will that

560
00:24:17,950 --> 00:24:14,000
are even if we don't know them yet our

561
00:24:19,680 --> 00:24:17,960
our I believe anyway I think that and I

562
00:24:22,750 --> 00:24:19,690
think eventually science will prove that

563
00:24:25,920 --> 00:24:22,760

that the neural activity has a physical

564

00:24:28,300 --> 00:24:25,930

explanation wildly wildly complicated

565

00:24:31,480 --> 00:24:28,310

explanation but an explanation so the

566

00:24:33,490 --> 00:24:31,490

idea that that it because it is in our

567

00:24:35,500 --> 00:24:33,500

mind and abstract that's not a femur

568

00:24:38,050 --> 00:24:35,510

bone it's not a heart or a liver or

569

00:24:41,020 --> 00:24:38,060

spleen it's it's something else

570

00:24:43,930 --> 00:24:41,030

but it it is generated by the brain and

571

00:24:46,870 --> 00:24:43,940

and how our brain functions does affect

572

00:24:49,120 --> 00:24:46,880

it affects it affects all I mean people

573

00:24:51,820 --> 00:24:49,130

who you know it's just like people who

574

00:24:55,150 --> 00:24:51,830

hold a specific disposition tend to

575

00:24:56,740 --> 00:24:55,160

often get well from sickness faster than

576

00:24:58,390 --> 00:24:56,750

those who are more negative you know

577

00:25:00,850 --> 00:24:58,400

those who have more positive thoughts I

578

00:25:03,190 --> 00:25:00,860

honestly do believe that the brain what

579

00:25:06,310 --> 00:25:03,200

you think how you think how you see the

580

00:25:08,020 --> 00:25:06,320

world can affect you physically but I

581

00:25:11,560 --> 00:25:08,030

don't necessarily hold to the fact that

582

00:25:14,770 --> 00:25:11,570

that an idea cannot be physically

583

00:25:16,930 --> 00:25:14,780

explained okay and again you're talking

584

00:25:19,030 --> 00:25:16,940

to a guy who's not a neuroscientist and

585

00:25:20,680 --> 00:25:19,040

in my mind Alex just from listening and

586

00:25:22,510 --> 00:25:20,690

I know you know you probably deal with

587

00:25:24,760 --> 00:25:22,520

this weekly so don't let me get into

588

00:25:28,330 --> 00:25:24,770

your wheelhouse but but you seem eager

589

00:25:31,810 --> 00:25:28,340

to ascribe an external explanation for I

590

00:25:36,640 --> 00:25:31,820

mean you see does it do you believe that

591

00:25:40,960 --> 00:25:36,650

there is the force is there is there an

592

00:25:43,720 --> 00:25:40,970

entity of being you'll have power where

593

00:25:45,850 --> 00:25:43,730

are you going with the sort of the

594

00:25:47,920 --> 00:25:45,860

inference is that there's an external

595

00:25:49,540 --> 00:25:47,930

force or an unexplainable force that

596

00:25:51,730 --> 00:25:49,550

guides consciousness and are those

597

00:25:53,740 --> 00:25:51,740

consciousness is connected are you

598

00:25:55,360 --> 00:25:53,750

getting all Deepak Chopra on me here

599

00:25:56,860 --> 00:25:55,370

honking I'm just curious what your

600

00:25:58,990 --> 00:25:56,870

perspective is those did you know I

601
00:26:00,070 --> 00:25:59,000
think thing is I feel an agenda going on

602
00:26:01,600 --> 00:26:00,080
and I just want to know are you trying

603
00:26:03,790 --> 00:26:01,610
to convince me

604
00:26:05,860 --> 00:26:03,800
well I think

605
00:26:07,540 --> 00:26:05,870
kind of lay it out what I'm trying to do

606
00:26:09,400 --> 00:26:07,550
in terms of you know I want to lay out

607
00:26:11,890 --> 00:26:09,410
where I'm going to come at your from her

608
00:26:13,360 --> 00:26:11,900
ominous challenge you on or ask you to

609
00:26:15,370 --> 00:26:13,370
go yeah I don't mind being challenged

610
00:26:18,040 --> 00:26:15,380
that's cool but I mean are are you a

611
00:26:22,240 --> 00:26:18,050
believer in like is it a divine

612
00:26:26,080 --> 00:26:22,250
consciousness is it a spirit I mean

613
00:26:30,190 --> 00:26:26,090

that's the dialogue that I think we so

614

00:26:32,440 --> 00:26:30,200

often get into in our culture or just on

615

00:26:35,880 --> 00:26:32,450

the internet or wherever that really

616

00:26:39,100 --> 00:26:35,890

sidetracks us from trying to pin down

617

00:26:41,350 --> 00:26:39,110

the truth that all that stuff flows from

618

00:26:43,840 --> 00:26:41,360

if the evidence suggests that

619

00:26:47,530 --> 00:26:43,850

consciousness is solely a product of the

620

00:26:49,750 --> 00:26:47,540

brain then I would from that draw a

621

00:26:51,430 --> 00:26:49,760

whole bunch of conclusions but in

622

00:26:53,500 --> 00:26:51,440

looking at the data I see the data is

623

00:26:55,630 --> 00:26:53,510

just the opposite I mean Jeffery

624

00:26:58,450 --> 00:26:55,640

Schwartz isn't the only one here out on

625

00:27:00,820 --> 00:26:58,460

a limb I mean the idea of materialism

626

00:27:03,730 --> 00:27:00,830

being dead is floating around there at

627

00:27:06,880 --> 00:27:03,740

least with a dozen books from some very

628

00:27:08,500 --> 00:27:06,890

prominent authors we'll leave that but

629

00:27:11,650 --> 00:27:08,510

I'll just point you to this whole topic

630

00:27:13,570 --> 00:27:11,660

of neuroplasticity and Jeffery Schwartz

631

00:27:14,860 --> 00:27:13,580

and a million other people who've kind

632

00:27:17,080 --> 00:27:14,870

of looked at this thing so that the

633

00:27:19,120 --> 00:27:17,090

second place I look is I don't know if

634

00:27:21,640 --> 00:27:19,130

you're familiar with dr. Richard Wiseman

635

00:27:25,540 --> 00:27:21,650

from the UK but it's very popular on The

636

00:27:27,850 --> 00:27:25,550

Skeptical circuit on the Atheist circuit

637

00:27:30,330 --> 00:27:27,860

in terms of being a researcher in

638

00:27:33,430 --> 00:27:30,340

psychology very well-known in the UK and

639

00:27:36,160 --> 00:27:33,440

so here's the quote from him that I

640

00:27:39,610 --> 00:27:36,170

think to me is really the deal breaker

641

00:27:42,690 --> 00:27:39,620

and this is it I agree that by the

642

00:27:45,100 --> 00:27:42,700

standards of any other area of science

643

00:27:47,010 --> 00:27:45,110

sigh that is esp

644

00:27:50,470 --> 00:27:47,020

remote viewing all those things is

645

00:27:52,570 --> 00:27:50,480

proven but that begs the question do we

646

00:27:56,440 --> 00:27:52,580

need higher standards of evidence when

647

00:27:58,840 --> 00:27:56,450

we study the paranormal so what this

648

00:28:00,430 --> 00:27:58,850

quote to me and he said it more than

649

00:28:03,580 --> 00:28:00,440

once he actually said the first time and

650

00:28:05,440 --> 00:28:03,590

then someone was so in disbelief that he

651
00:28:07,240 --> 00:28:05,450
had said it the Daily Mail in the UK

652
00:28:09,340 --> 00:28:07,250
interviewed him again and they published

653
00:28:10,510 --> 00:28:09,350
his quote again and he broadened it and

654
00:28:13,570 --> 00:28:10,520
said yeah well I wasn't just talking

655
00:28:16,390 --> 00:28:13,580
about remote viewing this idea that we

656
00:28:16,870 --> 00:28:16,400
can see things with our psychic mind at

657
00:28:18,760 --> 00:28:16,880
a far

658
00:28:23,070 --> 00:28:18,770
but he said he was also talking about

659
00:28:25,330 --> 00:28:23,080
all the ESP and Siyar related research

660
00:28:28,450 --> 00:28:25,340
so you know here's the guy who's very

661
00:28:31,720 --> 00:28:28,460
skeptical if you will coming out and

662
00:28:34,720 --> 00:28:31,730
saying that this stuff is proven and of

663
00:28:37,690 --> 00:28:34,730

course the idea of ESP and remote

664

00:28:40,480 --> 00:28:37,700

viewing completely violates the mind

665

00:28:43,360 --> 00:28:40,490

equal brain formula so are you at all

666

00:28:45,730 --> 00:28:43,370

familiar with this kind of stuff I've

667

00:28:47,200 --> 00:28:45,740

never heard of him but that's alright I

668

00:28:49,990 --> 00:28:47,210

mean I hadn't heard of a great many

669

00:28:53,140 --> 00:28:50,000

people just a few years ago I'm

670

00:28:55,780 --> 00:28:53,150

certainly not familiar with anyone in

671

00:29:00,220 --> 00:28:55,790

the atheist or skeptical community who

672

00:29:03,540 --> 00:29:00,230

is in favor of promoting endorsing that

673

00:29:08,580 --> 00:29:03,550

kind of speech it doesn't sound like

674

00:29:11,920 --> 00:29:08,590

something that mainstream atheists

675

00:29:18,070 --> 00:29:11,930

scientists or researchers are embracing

676

00:29:19,660 --> 00:29:18,080

it sounds like one guy I don't want you

677

00:29:22,990 --> 00:29:19,670

to go too far on that because he's you

678

00:29:29,080 --> 00:29:23,000

know he's obviously I've got this little

679

00:29:30,190 --> 00:29:29,090

alarm you just go find all that out I

680

00:29:32,500 --> 00:29:30,200

don't want you to commit to saying

681

00:29:35,650 --> 00:29:32,510

anything but he's at you sure he's at

682

00:29:37,570 --> 00:29:35,660

skeptic on he's at the JAF he's at all

683

00:29:39,850 --> 00:29:37,580

those very very prominent in the

684

00:29:42,550 --> 00:29:39,860

skeptical community you'll I think you

685

00:29:44,020 --> 00:29:42,560

will recognize him once you see his name

686

00:29:45,910 --> 00:29:44,030

down there and but it's kind of

687

00:29:48,430 --> 00:29:45,920

interesting also to hear somebody fresh

688

00:29:50,110 --> 00:29:48,440

their first take on that says gee what

689

00:29:51,850 --> 00:29:50,120

he's really saying is that this stuff is

690

00:29:53,560 --> 00:29:51,860

proven and that is what he's saying and

691

00:29:55,600 --> 00:29:53,570

then what he's saying further of course

692

00:29:57,460 --> 00:29:55,610

is the part that people like to jump on

693

00:29:59,860 --> 00:29:57,470

and say yeah but he's saying you know we

694

00:30:03,250 --> 00:29:59,870

got to be really really really sure

695

00:30:04,780 --> 00:30:03,260

before we change everything for that and

696

00:30:06,610 --> 00:30:04,790

that to me I guess that sounds like

697

00:30:09,310 --> 00:30:06,620

apologetics you know saying hey do we

698

00:30:11,440 --> 00:30:09,320

need a higher standard of evidence than

699

00:30:13,390 --> 00:30:11,450

we normally use in science because this

700

00:30:15,790 --> 00:30:13,400

doesn't go against our belief systems so

701
00:30:17,830 --> 00:30:15,800
that would be I guess apart to dialogue

702
00:30:19,450 --> 00:30:17,840
is isn't that really apologetics when

703
00:30:20,950 --> 00:30:19,460
you start saying hey we need a different

704
00:30:22,930 --> 00:30:20,960
standard of evidence cuz on this doesn't

705
00:30:25,000 --> 00:30:22,940
quite go with the way that I want to see

706
00:30:26,560 --> 00:30:25,010
things but you can pull that apart how

707
00:30:28,840 --> 00:30:26,570
you want and then we'll see what you

708
00:30:30,850 --> 00:30:28,850
have to say well I don't you know I'm

709
00:30:35,020 --> 00:30:30,860
not again I'm not familiar with him

710
00:30:38,830 --> 00:30:35,030
if someone is saying aye you need a

711
00:30:40,690 --> 00:30:38,840
different measuring stick so that all of

712
00:30:42,520 --> 00:30:40,700
these puzzle pieces will now fit

713
00:30:43,870 --> 00:30:42,530

together the way I want them to again

714

00:30:46,870 --> 00:30:43,880

that's not science and I have a

715

00:30:48,550 --> 00:30:46,880

difficult time you know honestly

716

00:30:53,140 --> 00:30:48,560

thinking that somebody invited two

717

00:30:55,960 --> 00:30:53,150

skeptic on or a tam or what-have-you

718

00:30:58,630 --> 00:30:55,970

would be someone who would it would

719

00:31:00,010 --> 00:30:58,640

subscribe to that kind of thinking so

720

00:31:02,470 --> 00:31:00,020

that'll be an interesting one to see

721

00:31:03,970 --> 00:31:02,480

where you wind up with that I'll send

722

00:31:05,200 --> 00:31:03,980

you everything you need on that and

723

00:31:07,480 --> 00:31:05,210

we'll see where you wind up there and

724

00:31:09,550 --> 00:31:07,490

then the third area that I think I'd

725

00:31:11,970 --> 00:31:09,560

like to talk about that I think provides

726

00:31:15,820 --> 00:31:11,980

the most direct kind of in-your-face

727

00:31:18,580 --> 00:31:15,830

evidence if you will that maybe mind is

728

00:31:21,190 --> 00:31:18,590

more than brain is the whole near-death

729

00:31:23,230 --> 00:31:21,200

experience science we spent a lot of

730

00:31:25,600 --> 00:31:23,240

time with it on this show of interviewed

731

00:31:28,920 --> 00:31:25,610

some of the leading researchers in the

732

00:31:32,110 --> 00:31:28,930

field and as well have interviewed many

733

00:31:33,520 --> 00:31:32,120

people who are more skeptical of some of

734

00:31:35,500 --> 00:31:33,530

the science or the interpretation of the

735

00:31:37,630 --> 00:31:35,510

science now I don't know how familiar

736

00:31:40,030 --> 00:31:37,640

you are with the whole near-death

737

00:31:41,920 --> 00:31:40,040

experience thing but what seems to be

738

00:31:45,640 --> 00:31:41,930

pretty well-established is that number

739

00:31:49,360 --> 00:31:45,650

one it happens people wind up in the

740

00:31:52,300 --> 00:31:49,370

hospital they dive and then they come

741

00:31:55,540 --> 00:31:52,310

back are resuscitated and recall these

742

00:31:59,800 --> 00:31:55,550

amazing encounters that they had they

743

00:32:02,020 --> 00:31:59,810

are hyper conscious hyper lucid during a

744

00:32:04,990 --> 00:32:02,030

time that their brain is severely

745

00:32:09,190 --> 00:32:05,000

compromised if not completely gone and

746

00:32:11,440 --> 00:32:09,200

that's medically inexplicable are you at

747

00:32:15,430 --> 00:32:11,450

all familiar with the whole near-death

748

00:32:17,080 --> 00:32:15,440

experience thing I am and honestly you

749

00:32:21,460 --> 00:32:17,090

sound like you trying to convince me in

750

00:32:24,310 --> 00:32:21,470

in good luck again we're talking about

751
00:32:27,280 --> 00:32:24,320
perception and perception and reality do

752
00:32:29,140 --> 00:32:27,290
not necessarily intersect I mean I you

753
00:32:31,690 --> 00:32:29,150
know I was doing a podcast last year and

754
00:32:34,810 --> 00:32:31,700
I had somebody who would say a nurse we

755
00:32:36,970 --> 00:32:34,820
talked about and they and this it was a

756
00:32:38,470 --> 00:32:36,980
guy he had his own near-death experience

757
00:32:39,730 --> 00:32:38,480
he was actually dead on the table for I

758
00:32:41,320 --> 00:32:39,740
don't know how long and he talked about

759
00:32:41,800 --> 00:32:41,330
you know the white light and all of that

760
00:32:43,840 --> 00:32:41,810
and

761
00:32:46,000 --> 00:32:43,850
it's like it's hypoxia I mean you know

762
00:32:47,170 --> 00:32:46,010
you can see you can you can replicate it

763
00:32:49,570 --> 00:32:47,180

you and then when people come back and

764

00:32:53,860 --> 00:32:49,580

they say well I saw this I felt that I

765

00:32:56,170 --> 00:32:53,870

experienced whatever I you know I you

766

00:32:59,650 --> 00:32:56,180

can't tell me it didn't happen well yeah

767

00:33:04,690 --> 00:32:59,660

I can tell you that that you know that

768

00:33:07,090 --> 00:33:04,700

you saw angels and a dead relative or a

769

00:33:08,530 --> 00:33:07,100

friendly heard a friendly voice or

770

00:33:12,340 --> 00:33:08,540

floated above the room or whatnot

771

00:33:14,830 --> 00:33:12,350

yeah sure but what what you're bringing

772

00:33:18,960 --> 00:33:14,840

to me now is a subjective first-person

773

00:33:22,330 --> 00:33:18,970

account that is unbearable highly highly

774

00:33:25,350 --> 00:33:22,340

subjected to the chemical actions and

775

00:33:27,910 --> 00:33:25,360

reactions of a brain that is dying and

776

00:33:31,390 --> 00:33:27,920

you're passing it off as fact well

777

00:33:33,580 --> 00:33:31,400

that's not science and you know Stanley

778

00:33:35,530 --> 00:33:33,590

Coren and and Michael Persinger have

779

00:33:40,750 --> 00:33:35,540

replicated many of those God experiences

780

00:33:42,730 --> 00:33:40,760

using magnets in a lab so you know for

781

00:33:45,040 --> 00:33:42,740

this entire conversation while I mean

782

00:33:47,020 --> 00:33:45,050

I've certainly enjoyed myself we're

783

00:33:48,640 --> 00:33:47,030

we're starting in the abstract and then

784

00:33:50,500 --> 00:33:48,650

I'm hearing all these assertions that

785

00:33:52,090 --> 00:33:50,510

and so many scientists have come and

786

00:33:53,530 --> 00:33:52,100

proven it and so many scientists agree

787

00:33:55,450 --> 00:33:53,540

and so many scientists have written

788

00:34:00,340 --> 00:33:55,460

books well look in my circle and I'm in

789

00:34:02,380 --> 00:34:00,350

a heavy a secular circle where where the

790

00:34:05,680 --> 00:34:02,390

majority of scientists and neurologists

791

00:34:07,540 --> 00:34:05,690

and even you know people like Michael

792

00:34:09,250 --> 00:34:07,550

Shermer is a great example somebody who

793

00:34:10,600 --> 00:34:09,260

has written books like the believing

794

00:34:12,639 --> 00:34:10,610

brain in the talks about the subjective

795

00:34:14,260 --> 00:34:12,649

ways that people perceive and receive

796

00:34:16,750 --> 00:34:14,270

and why they believe these odd things

797

00:34:19,270 --> 00:34:16,760

their scientific explanations it it

798

00:34:21,760 --> 00:34:19,280

doesn't mean that any of these I saw I

799

00:34:23,830 --> 00:34:21,770

felt I heard I experienced there was a

800

00:34:26,580 --> 00:34:23,840

tingling on the back of my neck stuff

801

00:34:28,780 --> 00:34:26,590

it's not science and it doesn't

802

00:34:31,780 --> 00:34:28,790

necessarily need to be taken incredible

803

00:34:34,119 --> 00:34:31,790

seriously on its face value we need to

804

00:34:36,129 --> 00:34:34,129

look and understand that you're looking

805

00:34:38,500 --> 00:34:36,139

at somebody who is having a chemical

806

00:34:41,830 --> 00:34:38,510

reaction and and coming back and talking

807

00:34:43,570 --> 00:34:41,840

about perception and so I you know I I

808

00:34:45,310 --> 00:34:43,580

don't buy it I I think you're talking

809

00:34:47,619 --> 00:34:45,320

about something that's explainable that

810

00:34:50,500 --> 00:34:47,629

has a physical explanation that is

811

00:34:52,690 --> 00:34:50,510

certainly not proof of I don't know if

812

00:34:54,520 --> 00:34:52,700

you're going for God or just a spirit

813

00:34:55,690 --> 00:34:54,530

plane of some kind I mean are you a

814

00:34:58,930 --> 00:34:55,700

believer in the deity

815

00:35:00,069 --> 00:34:58,940

do you have a God again you know I can

816

00:35:02,319 --> 00:35:00,079

go there and I'm happy to have that

817

00:35:05,470 --> 00:35:02,329

conversation with you I mean just just

818

00:35:07,539 --> 00:35:05,480

do you believe in a God well well let me

819

00:35:09,160 --> 00:35:07,549

just answer the first part okay the way

820

00:35:12,549 --> 00:35:09,170

I want to answer it and then I'll answer

821

00:35:14,049 --> 00:35:12,559

your question directly okay well yeah

822

00:35:16,539 --> 00:35:14,059

I'm not really sure why someone would

823

00:35:19,089 --> 00:35:16,549

dodge that that particular quite an

824

00:35:20,920 --> 00:35:19,099

accusation is more of a but here's my

825

00:35:23,140 --> 00:35:20,930

point because I think this is really the

826

00:35:25,780 --> 00:35:23,150

point of this dialogue is that this is

827

00:35:27,880 --> 00:35:25,790

how things get sidetracked is we want to

828

00:35:29,079 --> 00:35:27,890

jump to the end and we want to say oh

829

00:35:31,720 --> 00:35:29,089

you know we want to start identifying

830

00:35:33,099 --> 00:35:31,730

you and saying oh you're a creationist

831

00:35:35,200 --> 00:35:33,109

or anything I'm just saying I'm not

832

00:35:38,470 --> 00:35:35,210

confusing you I'm not interested in any

833

00:35:40,780 --> 00:35:38,480

of that what I want to know is when I

834

00:35:45,880 --> 00:35:40,790

hear such a targeted line of inquiry

835

00:35:47,500 --> 00:35:45,890

that is pushing me to to really step in

836

00:35:49,000 --> 00:35:47,510

toward more of the spiritual right

837

00:35:50,920 --> 00:35:49,010

you're you're saying look so many

838

00:35:53,620 --> 00:35:50,930

scientists um so much of the evidence

839

00:35:55,809 --> 00:35:53,630

which has not been my experience then

840

00:35:59,140 --> 00:35:55,819

obviously I as the interviewee want to

841

00:36:01,150 --> 00:35:59,150

know more about you know who dialed me

842

00:36:04,569 --> 00:36:01,160

up and who wants to know more about me

843

00:36:07,150 --> 00:36:04,579

Who am I speaking with what drives you

844

00:36:09,520 --> 00:36:07,160

and so I'm not asking you to blow your

845

00:36:11,680 --> 00:36:09,530

wad I'm asking you are do you come at me

846

00:36:14,500 --> 00:36:11,690

from a deist ik or theistic

847

00:36:17,740 --> 00:36:14,510

point-of-view and are you trying to then

848

00:36:19,780 --> 00:36:17,750

convert me oh not at all and again I'm

849

00:36:21,910 --> 00:36:19,790

gonna go back to the beginning Seth

850

00:36:25,799 --> 00:36:21,920

because where I'm really coming at you

851

00:36:29,950 --> 00:36:25,809

from is exactly what I said which is

852

00:36:33,579 --> 00:36:29,960

this silly sideshow conversation that

853

00:36:36,789 --> 00:36:33,589

always dominates center stage is science

854

00:36:39,700 --> 00:36:36,799

versus religion Christianity versus non

855

00:36:42,130 --> 00:36:39,710

Christianity and to me the questions are

856

00:36:47,020 --> 00:36:42,140

much deeper than that and really boil

857

00:36:49,960 --> 00:36:47,030

down to one question is your mind purely

858

00:36:53,589 --> 00:36:49,970

a function of your brain because if it's

859

00:36:56,380 --> 00:36:53,599

not then we start having to introduce

860

00:36:58,359 --> 00:36:56,390

all these other topics that do kind of

861

00:37:01,240 --> 00:36:58,369

make us uneasy because they start

862

00:37:03,789 --> 00:37:01,250

sounding very spiritual and I think what

863

00:37:05,829 --> 00:37:03,799

we have to do is steal ourself against

864

00:37:07,780 --> 00:37:05,839

that and say wait a minute guys I want

865

00:37:08,960 --> 00:37:07,790

to push everything else off the table

866

00:37:11,660 --> 00:37:08,970

and I really want

867

00:37:14,150 --> 00:37:11,670

focus on this one question and I want to

868

00:37:16,220 --> 00:37:14,160

think deeply about it and I want to

869

00:37:18,260 --> 00:37:16,230

challenge everything I don't want to

870

00:37:20,270 --> 00:37:18,270

take anyone's word for it all these

871

00:37:23,270 --> 00:37:20,280

things right out of your PlayBook and I

872

00:37:26,270 --> 00:37:23,280

really want to be very skeptical about

873

00:37:28,490 --> 00:37:26,280

it so you know the third way that I come

874

00:37:30,109 --> 00:37:28,500

at this and yeah I mean I guess I'm

875

00:37:32,630 --> 00:37:30,119

trying to convince you in as much as

876

00:37:35,720 --> 00:37:32,640

whenever we dialogue like this we're

877

00:37:38,329 --> 00:37:35,730

trying to put our best foot forward and

878

00:37:39,380 --> 00:37:38,339

our advance our best cause but you know

879

00:37:42,319 --> 00:37:39,390

Michael Shermer

880

00:37:45,530 --> 00:37:42,329

is a is a good nice enough guy he's been

881

00:37:48,500 --> 00:37:45,540

on the show a long time ago but he's a

882

00:37:50,480 --> 00:37:48,510

historian he's not a scientist he

883

00:37:52,550 --> 00:37:50,490

certainly never studied near-death

884

00:37:54,620 --> 00:37:52,560

experience and as a matter of fact his

885

00:37:56,630 --> 00:37:54,630

history on that in terms of writing is

886

00:38:01,190 --> 00:37:56,640

quite embarrassing and that he wrote for

887

00:38:03,770 --> 00:38:01,200

Scientific American a critique of some

888

00:38:07,099 --> 00:38:03,780

of the most important research in this

889

00:38:10,880 --> 00:38:07,109

area published by a cardiologist named

890

00:38:13,579 --> 00:38:10,890

Penn van Ioml that did a 20-year very

891

00:38:15,829 --> 00:38:13,589

respected study in the Netherlands

892

00:38:17,390 --> 00:38:15,839

published it in The Lancet one of the

893

00:38:19,520 --> 00:38:17,400

most highly regarded journals and

894

00:38:22,160 --> 00:38:19,530

Shermer comes out and writes this

895

00:38:25,550 --> 00:38:22,170

article and says hey look at this this

896

00:38:26,300 --> 00:38:25,560

shows that these near-death experiences

897

00:38:29,540 --> 00:38:26,310

are nothing

898

00:38:32,000 --> 00:38:29,550

well Shermer completely got it wrong so

899

00:38:34,430 --> 00:38:32,010

much to the point that pin van Ioml took

900

00:38:38,059 --> 00:38:34,440

it upon himself to write a response and

901
00:38:40,250 --> 00:38:38,069
say hey you not only you know didn't

902
00:38:43,099 --> 00:38:40,260
capture my research correctly in your

903
00:38:45,920 --> 00:38:43,109
writing but you exactly got the wrong

904
00:38:48,829 --> 00:38:45,930
conclusion then we came to and then

905
00:38:51,859 --> 00:38:48,839
there's never any correction from short

906
00:38:54,530 --> 00:38:51,869
parts so I'll provide you it's not fair

907
00:38:56,660 --> 00:38:54,540
to say that Shermer is a historian they

908
00:39:00,500 --> 00:38:56,670
his degrees are in biology and

909
00:39:03,260 --> 00:39:00,510
psychology and and he is an expert in

910
00:39:05,870 --> 00:39:03,270
his field his PhD I thought was in

911
00:39:09,140 --> 00:39:05,880
history I'm willing to be wrong on that

912
00:39:12,470 --> 00:39:09,150
yeah he does have a PhD I want to say

913
00:39:15,740 --> 00:39:12,480

it's in I know he started in seminary he

914

00:39:18,079 --> 00:39:15,750

actually started as a believer but he he

915

00:39:21,770 --> 00:39:18,089

has a bachelor's in psychology and

916

00:39:30,800 --> 00:39:26,720

is a skeptic and his career his job his

917

00:39:35,390 --> 00:39:30,810

life's work is exploring and often

918

00:39:37,400 --> 00:39:35,400

exposing psychic phenomena and

919

00:39:39,350 --> 00:39:37,410

everything from homeopathy to you know

920

00:39:40,580 --> 00:39:39,360

to people who have these wild claims of

921

00:39:43,850 --> 00:39:40,590

miracles the bleeding

922

00:39:45,920 --> 00:39:43,860

statue of the Virgin Mary I mean he to

923

00:39:47,120 --> 00:39:45,930

to marginalize his work and I'm saying

924

00:39:49,100 --> 00:39:47,130

he's perfect but I'm saying to

925

00:39:51,040 --> 00:39:49,110

marginalize his work I mean yeah he's a

926

00:39:54,320 --> 00:39:51,050

historian of science that's what he is

927

00:39:55,990 --> 00:39:54,330

it is it's it's not necessarily a new

928

00:39:59,450 --> 00:39:56,000

thing for people to say you can't

929

00:40:01,430 --> 00:39:59,460

understand abstract consciousness that's

930

00:40:04,930 --> 00:40:01,440

not a new argument but to say that the

931

00:40:08,810 --> 00:40:04,940

reputable science community is

932

00:40:12,620 --> 00:40:08,820

advocating that there must be a conduit

933

00:40:14,690 --> 00:40:12,630

of spirit out there that is responsible

934

00:40:15,920 --> 00:40:14,700

i I don't think that's accurate I don't

935

00:40:18,050 --> 00:40:15,930

think it's reflected by mainstream

936

00:40:20,090 --> 00:40:18,060

especially secular scientists who are

937

00:40:22,010 --> 00:40:20,100

the majority and I think if you spend

938

00:40:23,930 --> 00:40:22,020

that much time you playing what if

939

00:40:25,670 --> 00:40:23,940

you'll drive yourself nuts I think you

940

00:40:27,770 --> 00:40:25,680

start the argument from elsewhere I

941

00:40:29,180 --> 00:40:27,780

think you know you start to look at

942

00:40:30,440 --> 00:40:29,190

brain chemistry you start to look at

943

00:40:31,760 --> 00:40:30,450

psychology you start to look at

944

00:40:33,200 --> 00:40:31,770

intelligence you start to look at

945

00:40:35,120 --> 00:40:33,210

culture and perception and all these

946

00:40:36,590 --> 00:40:35,130

other wildly complicated things and you

947

00:40:40,400 --> 00:40:36,600

start there and see what you come up

948

00:40:43,070 --> 00:40:40,410

with well that is exactly why I wanted

949

00:40:45,200 --> 00:40:43,080

to do this interview in two parts

950

00:40:48,290 --> 00:40:45,210

because I have to tell you in the

951
00:40:51,980 --> 00:40:48,300
dialogues I've had we always get to this

952
00:40:55,760 --> 00:40:51,990
point which is you know we have to dig

953
00:40:58,430 --> 00:40:55,770
through all the opinions that we might

954
00:41:01,670 --> 00:40:58,440
have beliefs we might have and try and

955
00:41:03,650 --> 00:41:01,680
do as good a job as we can of getting

956
00:41:06,080 --> 00:41:03,660
down to the science getting down to the

957
00:41:08,750 --> 00:41:06,090
scientific evidence and understanding it

958
00:41:10,580 --> 00:41:08,760
the best we can so you're talking to the

959
00:41:12,500 --> 00:41:10,590
wrong guy man I mean you you really do

960
00:41:13,970 --> 00:41:12,510
you need know you need psychologist you

961
00:41:15,740 --> 00:41:13,980
need neurologists you need people who

962
00:41:17,150 --> 00:41:15,750
are experts in the brain but at the end

963
00:41:18,920 --> 00:41:17,160

of the day Seth I've talked to all those

964

00:41:21,290 --> 00:41:18,930

people at the end of the day I mean I'm

965

00:41:23,630 --> 00:41:21,300

I'm an ex radio disc jockey and video

966

00:41:26,210 --> 00:41:23,640

producer and host of and I think I've

967

00:41:28,670 --> 00:41:26,220

done it a lot of digging a lot of a lot

968

00:41:30,260 --> 00:41:28,680

of digging right so on end of the day at

969

00:41:33,290 --> 00:41:30,270

the end of the day we got to bring all

970

00:41:35,540 --> 00:41:33,300

that stuff back up and see if it can

971

00:41:38,450 --> 00:41:35,550

answer these questions see

972

00:41:41,810 --> 00:41:38,460

if it can engage us in this dialogue in

973

00:41:44,150 --> 00:41:41,820

a deeper way so that's that's my point

974

00:41:45,860 --> 00:41:44,160

so I talked about Richard Wiseman you're

975

00:41:47,420 --> 00:41:45,870

not familiar with Richard Wiseman great

976
00:41:50,660 --> 00:41:47,430
go get from new earth Richard Wiseman

977
00:41:52,100 --> 00:41:50,670
see what he has to say about ESP I'm

978
00:41:53,480 --> 00:41:52,110
telling you about the near-death

979
00:41:56,030 --> 00:41:53,490
experience and I'm telling you that

980
00:41:58,250 --> 00:41:56,040
overwhelmingly hypocrisy has been

981
00:41:59,900 --> 00:41:58,260
dismissed as a possible explanation and

982
00:42:02,180 --> 00:41:59,910
that no one goes there and that I've

983
00:42:04,910 --> 00:42:02,190
interviewed sue Blackmore oh so you're a

984
00:42:07,400 --> 00:42:04,920
believer then in extrasensory perception

985
00:42:09,680 --> 00:42:07,410
you believe in ESP personally personally

986
00:42:13,100 --> 00:42:09,690
I'm not yes no question is so

987
00:42:15,380 --> 00:42:13,110
complicated for you personally is kind

988
00:42:18,610 --> 00:42:15,390

of I don't have any personal experience

989

00:42:21,110 --> 00:42:18,620

with ESP I think the over the once is

990

00:42:22,510 --> 00:42:21,120

overwhelmingly suggestive that that does

991

00:42:25,340 --> 00:42:22,520

happen that there is some form of

992

00:42:27,740 --> 00:42:25,350

extended human consciousness that does

993

00:42:29,120 --> 00:42:27,750

occur in this way I mean it just that's

994

00:42:32,240 --> 00:42:29,130

what the evidence shows I don't know

995

00:42:35,390 --> 00:42:32,250

what that means so I'm saying let's

996

00:42:37,610 --> 00:42:35,400

engage in a real dialogue a level-two

997

00:42:38,720 --> 00:42:37,620

dialogue that gets past this well this

998

00:42:40,580 --> 00:42:38,730

is what I believe and I've already

999

00:42:41,540 --> 00:42:40,590

researched it and me saying well this is

1000

00:42:44,120 --> 00:42:41,550

what I believe and I've already

1001
00:42:46,670 --> 00:42:44,130
researched it let's swap stories about

1002
00:42:49,310 --> 00:42:46,680
what we've researched and why we think

1003
00:42:52,030 --> 00:42:49,320
we know what we know and then let's get

1004
00:42:55,070 --> 00:42:52,040
back together and see to what extent

1005
00:43:01,340 --> 00:42:55,080
your worldview changes or my worldview

1006
00:43:05,330 --> 00:43:01,350
changes I'm still stuck on ESP great man

1007
00:43:08,950 --> 00:43:05,340
go go check out stuck on it I honestly

1008
00:43:11,990 --> 00:43:08,960
think if I mean I lump it ESPN with

1009
00:43:16,610 --> 00:43:12,000
astral projection with visions with

1010
00:43:18,860 --> 00:43:16,620
crystals with I myself think that this

1011
00:43:21,920 --> 00:43:18,870
is a profound waste of time and energy

1012
00:43:23,380 --> 00:43:21,930
but to me you know superstition and

1013
00:43:26,600 --> 00:43:23,390

religion they go hand in hand

1014

00:43:28,640 --> 00:43:26,610

superstition and science do not and I

1015

00:43:30,410 --> 00:43:28,650

don't place them side by side they are

1016

00:43:32,090 --> 00:43:30,420

not dead fellows they are not partners

1017

00:43:36,170 --> 00:43:32,100

they are not friends religion is

1018

00:43:39,740 --> 00:43:36,180

incompatible with science and so I cast

1019

00:43:43,250 --> 00:43:39,750

my lot with science with science is a

1020

00:43:45,140 --> 00:43:43,260

method it is not a position as my friend

1021

00:43:47,630 --> 00:43:45,150

likes to say and no truer statement has

1022

00:43:49,130 --> 00:43:47,640

ever made so we can't really wrap

1023

00:43:52,190 --> 00:43:49,140

ourselves in the cloak

1024

00:43:54,650 --> 00:43:52,200

of science it's just a sign of tools and

1025

00:43:56,779 --> 00:43:54,660

it's exact because it's a city look I

1026

00:43:59,269 --> 00:43:56,789

want to live in the cause it's a set of

1027

00:44:01,940 --> 00:43:59,279

tools that it's a set of tools it

1028

00:44:05,480 --> 00:44:01,950

doesn't mean anything it's just a way of

1029

00:44:07,849 --> 00:44:05,490

inquiry we can't say that it leads us to

1030

00:44:10,339 --> 00:44:07,859

some conclusion we can just say it's a

1031

00:44:12,650 --> 00:44:10,349

method of dissolutes science will lead

1032

00:44:14,750 --> 00:44:12,660

you to say I think you and I are simply

1033

00:44:15,890 --> 00:44:14,760

approaching the term science from

1034

00:44:17,269 --> 00:44:15,900

different perspectives and you'll need

1035

00:44:19,190 --> 00:44:17,279

to forgive me I've only got a moment but

1036

00:44:20,390 --> 00:44:19,200

I'd like to continue I informed you

1037

00:44:23,450 --> 00:44:20,400

before the interview I got a tennis

1038

00:44:24,829 --> 00:44:23,460

match so I'm not I'm not ducking the

1039

00:44:25,940 --> 00:44:24,839

conversation I want to make sure that

1040

00:44:29,269 --> 00:44:25,950

people don't think oh my God he's

1041

00:44:31,579 --> 00:44:29,279

leaving but I myself think that's

1042

00:44:32,690 --> 00:44:31,589

exactly the way you do it if I if I use

1043

00:44:34,519 --> 00:44:32,700

the cause and effect science

1044

00:44:36,259 --> 00:44:34,529

evidence-based method yeah that does

1045

00:44:38,509 --> 00:44:36,269

lead me to understanding that does help

1046

00:44:41,809 --> 00:44:38,519

me weed out the detritus and and embrace

1047

00:44:43,670 --> 00:44:41,819

what is sound has a sound foundation and

1048

00:44:45,740 --> 00:44:43,680

I think it is a great way to live one's

1049

00:44:47,930 --> 00:44:45,750

life you know to live with an

1050

00:44:50,900 --> 00:44:47,940

evidence-based perspective I think I

1051

00:44:53,420 --> 00:44:50,910

think that I I do embrace that in in

1052

00:44:55,640 --> 00:44:53,430

every area of my life that I can why

1053

00:44:57,349 --> 00:44:55,650

don't we leave it there with the promise

1054

00:44:59,870 --> 00:44:57,359

that I am going to give you some

1055

00:45:02,690 --> 00:44:59,880

evidence and hopefully you'll give me

1056

00:45:04,519 --> 00:45:02,700

some evidence in response to that and I

1057

00:45:05,749 --> 00:45:04,529

really look forward to having you know

1058

00:45:07,789 --> 00:45:05,759

reconvening because that's when I think

1059

00:45:11,269 --> 00:45:07,799

the dialogue it's interesting gets

1060

00:45:14,569 --> 00:45:11,279

beyond what we believe right now and

1061

00:45:16,099 --> 00:45:14,579

gets to where our beliefs might move in

1062

00:45:21,380 --> 00:45:16,109

the future which is I think what the

1063

00:45:23,680 --> 00:45:21,390

whole process is all about well yeah how

1064

00:45:26,870 --> 00:45:23,690

about what we know what we can prove

1065

00:45:28,940 --> 00:45:26,880

that's what I'm more interested in you

1066

00:45:30,740 --> 00:45:28,950

know and it that's saying that's

1067

00:45:32,960 --> 00:45:30,750

semantics right I mean we're saying

1068

00:45:34,789 --> 00:45:32,970

follow the evidence and then you develop

1069

00:45:37,970 --> 00:45:34,799

beliefs from that evidence I mean the

1070

00:45:40,069 --> 00:45:37,980

evidence is never going to be 100% I

1071

00:45:41,210 --> 00:45:40,079

better let you go because I'm a tennis

1072

00:45:43,130 --> 00:45:41,220

player too and you're gonna need some

1073

00:45:44,720 --> 00:45:43,140

warm-ups but after that nap well I

1074

00:45:46,279 --> 00:45:44,730

appreciate the conversation the

1075

00:45:48,349 --> 00:45:46,289

opportunity to be involved you and I

1076

00:45:49,789 --> 00:45:48,359

stand probably on opposite sides of this

1077

00:45:51,529 --> 00:45:49,799

particular topic but it has been an

1078

00:45:53,950 --> 00:45:51,539

interesting discussion and I appreciate

1079

00:45:56,599 --> 00:45:53,960

the chance to be involved in it

1080

00:45:59,120 --> 00:45:56,609

thanks again to Seth Andrews for joining

1081

00:46:02,240 --> 00:45:59,130

me today on skeptic oh well as you might

1082

00:46:05,900 --> 00:46:02,250

imagine I have quite a bit to say about

1083

00:46:07,700 --> 00:46:05,910

that first interview now I had initially

1084

00:46:09,170 --> 00:46:07,710

thought that I'd wait to get both

1085

00:46:12,770 --> 00:46:09,180

interviews and publish them both

1086

00:46:14,089 --> 00:46:12,780

together but after emailing Seth we

1087

00:46:15,559 --> 00:46:14,099

decided that I should go ahead and

1088

00:46:18,260 --> 00:46:15,569

publish this first one

1089

00:46:20,750 --> 00:46:18,270

get some listener response and then we

1090

00:46:24,230 --> 00:46:20,760

can follow up with number two hopefully

1091

00:46:27,650 --> 00:46:24,240

I say hopefully because as you've seen

1092

00:46:30,559 --> 00:46:27,660

on skeptic Oh a lot of times hardcore

1093

00:46:32,660 --> 00:46:30,569

skeptics hardcore atheists usually run

1094

00:46:35,089 --> 00:46:32,670

like heck when they're really challenged

1095

00:46:37,880 --> 00:46:35,099

in a debate but hopefully we'll get Seth

1096

00:46:39,890 --> 00:46:37,890

back on and have a good in-depth debate

1097

00:46:43,309 --> 00:46:39,900

on these points but I first want to go

1098

00:46:45,859 --> 00:46:43,319

over if I can and really tee up what my

1099

00:46:48,280 --> 00:46:45,869

points are so that Seth has a real

1100

00:46:51,589 --> 00:46:48,290

chance to respond when he comes back on

1101
00:46:54,940 --> 00:46:51,599
so here are the four points that map out

1102
00:46:59,660 --> 00:46:54,950
my territory my position in this debate

1103
00:47:03,530 --> 00:46:59,670
0.1 the core scientific question behind

1104
00:47:05,990 --> 00:47:03,540
a theorem is does mind equal brain this is

1105
00:47:08,569 --> 00:47:06,000
a simple proposition but as you heard in

1106
00:47:10,790 --> 00:47:08,579
this first discussion it's really hard

1107
00:47:12,950 --> 00:47:10,800
for a theist and a lot of folks to wrap

1108
00:47:14,540 --> 00:47:12,960
their head around this Seth wanted to

1109
00:47:16,940 --> 00:47:14,550
get sidetracked on whether I believe in

1110
00:47:18,559 --> 00:47:16,950
God or I'm hearing voices and he didn't

1111
00:47:19,910 --> 00:47:18,569
say it I'm sure he would eventually have

1112
00:47:22,250 --> 00:47:19,920
gotten around to ask me whether I

1113
00:47:24,589 --> 00:47:22,260

believe in evolution or Noah's Ark or

1114

00:47:26,690 --> 00:47:24,599

some other stuff like that but all this

1115

00:47:28,819 --> 00:47:26,700

stuff is aside you it's a distraction

1116

00:47:31,190 --> 00:47:28,829

what Seth doesn't realize is that

1117

00:47:34,099 --> 00:47:31,200

there's this implied assumption in the

1118

00:47:37,730 --> 00:47:34,109

Atheist position the implied assumption

1119

00:47:40,609 --> 00:47:37,740

is what we call materialism so I don't

1120

00:47:42,829 --> 00:47:40,619

usually go to Wikipedia for information

1121

00:47:46,099 --> 00:47:42,839

for various reasons but here is the

1122

00:47:48,349 --> 00:47:46,109

Wikipedia definition for materialism the

1123

00:47:52,190 --> 00:47:48,359

theory of materialism holds that only

1124

00:47:54,170 --> 00:47:52,200

matter or energy exists that all things

1125

00:47:56,630 --> 00:47:54,180

are composed of material and that all

1126

00:47:58,849 --> 00:47:56,640

phenomena including consciousness they

1127

00:48:01,910 --> 00:47:58,859

haven't parentheses are the result of

1128

00:48:04,370 --> 00:48:01,920

material actions now what I'm saying is

1129

00:48:07,460 --> 00:48:04,380

that everything that atheists care about

1130

00:48:09,980 --> 00:48:07,470

hinge on this assumption being true

1131

00:48:13,280 --> 00:48:09,990

here's why consider this for a second

1132

00:48:15,319 --> 00:48:13,290

what if consciousness exists that is

1133

00:48:17,359 --> 00:48:15,329

what if that little voice inside your

1134

00:48:19,640 --> 00:48:17,369

head is something more than just your

1135

00:48:22,160 --> 00:48:19,650

brain now take that one small step

1136

00:48:25,010 --> 00:48:22,170

further and ask what if it survives

1137

00:48:26,540 --> 00:48:25,020

after you die now you can say that's a

1138

00:48:29,500 --> 00:48:26,550

huge leap and we don't need to go there

1139

00:48:32,569 --> 00:48:29,510

but we do need to ask that question if

1140

00:48:34,250 --> 00:48:32,579

it's more than just your brain but we

1141

00:48:35,960 --> 00:48:34,260

don't have to ask it if that little

1142

00:48:39,020 --> 00:48:35,970

voice inside your head if consciousness

1143

00:48:40,970 --> 00:48:39,030

is all 100% your brain then we don't

1144

00:48:43,460 --> 00:48:40,980

because we know when you die your brain

1145

00:48:45,530 --> 00:48:43,470

dies and consciousness dies so that's a

1146

00:48:47,839 --> 00:48:45,540

real question and it's a question that

1147

00:48:50,780 --> 00:48:47,849

whether Seth realizes it or other

1148

00:48:53,780 --> 00:48:50,790

atheists realize it is really occupying

1149

00:48:55,460 --> 00:48:53,790

the mind of a lot of scientists so

1150

00:48:57,170 --> 00:48:55,470

during the interview I hammered Seth

1151
00:48:58,760 --> 00:48:57,180
pretty hard about mind equals brain my

1152
00:49:00,620 --> 00:48:58,770
nickles brain and he never seemed to

1153
00:49:02,660 --> 00:49:00,630
quite understand what was really at play

1154
00:49:04,460 --> 00:49:02,670
here but I think after he thinks about

1155
00:49:06,800 --> 00:49:04,470
it for a while and hopefully after he

1156
00:49:10,550 --> 00:49:06,810
listens to this interview he'll see that

1157
00:49:14,089 --> 00:49:10,560
this is really the core scientific issue

1158
00:49:16,760 --> 00:49:14,099
for atheists so let's move on to topic

1159
00:49:19,430 --> 00:49:16,770
two and actually topic two three and

1160
00:49:21,829 --> 00:49:19,440
four are all my supporting evidence for

1161
00:49:23,839 --> 00:49:21,839
the idea that mind equals brain really

1162
00:49:26,900 --> 00:49:23,849
doesn't hold up anymore and therefore

1163
00:49:29,930 --> 00:49:26,910

atheism needs to be reconsidered in

1164

00:49:32,329 --> 00:49:29,940

light of this new scientific evidence in

1165

00:49:35,559 --> 00:49:32,339

much the same way that Christianity

1166

00:49:37,819 --> 00:49:35,569

needs to be reconsidered in light of new

1167

00:49:40,520 --> 00:49:37,829

biblical scholarship or archaeological

1168

00:49:43,569 --> 00:49:40,530

evidences really had quite a parallel

1169

00:49:47,210 --> 00:49:43,579

there but let me move on to topic two

1170

00:49:49,309 --> 00:49:47,220

neuroplasticity violates mind equals

1171

00:49:50,210 --> 00:49:49,319

brain now we spend a lot of time in the

1172

00:49:52,520 --> 00:49:50,220

first-year interview talking about

1173

00:49:55,160 --> 00:49:52,530

shorts from UCLA but I want to try and

1174

00:49:56,480 --> 00:49:55,170

tackle it again in a way that Seth might

1175

00:50:00,680 --> 00:49:56,490

be able to understand

1176
00:50:03,220 --> 00:50:00,690
so what Schwartz did was he took a group

1177
00:50:05,359 --> 00:50:03,230
of patients that had

1178
00:50:06,890 --> 00:50:05,369
obsessive-compulsive disorder and he

1179
00:50:09,140 --> 00:50:06,900
sought to treat these patients by

1180
00:50:11,780 --> 00:50:09,150
teaching them how to meditate in a very

1181
00:50:13,819 --> 00:50:11,790
specific way and what he found was that

1182
00:50:16,460 --> 00:50:13,829
this not only relieved their obsessive

1183
00:50:18,740 --> 00:50:16,470
compulsive disorder their OCD but that

1184
00:50:21,390 --> 00:50:18,750
the physical structure of their brain

1185
00:50:22,830 --> 00:50:21,400
changed as a result of their

1186
00:50:24,930 --> 00:50:22,840
meditation and he did this by doing

1187
00:50:27,540 --> 00:50:24,940
brain imaging before and after and he's

1188
00:50:29,370 --> 00:50:27,550

a very careful scientist and physician

1189

00:50:32,310 --> 00:50:29,380

and he knows what he's doing

1190

00:50:34,470 --> 00:50:32,320

moreover the relationship between

1191

00:50:36,120 --> 00:50:34,480

meditation and changes in the physical

1192

00:50:38,880 --> 00:50:36,130

brain is something that has been

1193

00:50:40,950 --> 00:50:38,890

confirmed by other research other labs

1194

00:50:43,680 --> 00:50:40,960

and you can search around for that and

1195

00:50:45,630 --> 00:50:43,690

pretty quickly find that so what does

1196

00:50:50,130 --> 00:50:45,640

all this mean what's the big deal well

1197

00:50:53,070 --> 00:50:50,140

here it is thought or abstract ideas are

1198

00:50:56,040 --> 00:50:53,080

in material things they're non-physical

1199

00:50:57,840 --> 00:50:56,050

things again Seth could never quite wrap

1200

00:50:59,670 --> 00:50:57,850

his head around this but if you think

1201
00:51:01,680 --> 00:50:59,680
about it for a while you'll see it's

1202
00:51:04,470 --> 00:51:01,690
really the only conclusion that you can

1203
00:51:07,650 --> 00:51:04,480
come to and let me try again with a

1204
00:51:09,960 --> 00:51:07,660
simple thought experiment that I think

1205
00:51:13,380 --> 00:51:09,970
will drive this home let's say you have

1206
00:51:16,080 --> 00:51:13,390
an idea a really good idea and it's

1207
00:51:18,930 --> 00:51:16,090
there in your head you might even think

1208
00:51:20,760 --> 00:51:18,940
that it's physically there in your head

1209
00:51:22,830 --> 00:51:20,770
that is that it's thordan all those

1210
00:51:24,840 --> 00:51:22,840
little neurons and synapses in your

1211
00:51:26,550 --> 00:51:24,850
brain okay so you have this really great

1212
00:51:29,400 --> 00:51:26,560
idea and you don't want to lose it so

1213
00:51:31,770 --> 00:51:29,410

you write it down and then you die okay

1214

00:51:34,050 --> 00:51:31,780

where's the idea the neurons are gone

1215

00:51:36,750 --> 00:51:34,060

the synapses are gone where's the idea

1216

00:51:38,970 --> 00:51:36,760

how much does it weigh how big is it now

1217

00:51:42,560 --> 00:51:38,980

you can't really say it's in the ink on

1218

00:51:45,360 --> 00:51:42,570

the paper obviously it's not where is it

1219

00:51:46,920 --> 00:51:45,370

now we know that the idea still exists

1220

00:51:48,420 --> 00:51:46,930

because you wrote it down and like so

1221

00:51:50,580 --> 00:51:48,430

many ideas from the past that have been

1222

00:51:53,160 --> 00:51:50,590

written down someone else can pick it up

1223

00:51:55,170 --> 00:51:53,170

and get it inside their head and it's

1224

00:51:56,640 --> 00:51:55,180

not gonna be quite the same inside their

1225

00:51:58,830 --> 00:51:56,650

head but you know we could line up a

1226

00:52:00,630 --> 00:51:58,840

thousand people and get it inside all

1227

00:52:02,460 --> 00:52:00,640

their heads and then we could ask them

1228

00:52:04,920 --> 00:52:02,470

questions and we could statistically

1229

00:52:07,680 --> 00:52:04,930

show that it's pretty much the same idea

1230

00:52:09,990 --> 00:52:07,690

we could do all that stuff that science

1231

00:52:12,600 --> 00:52:10,000

and at the end of the day the only

1232

00:52:16,070 --> 00:52:12,610

conclusion we could come to is that

1233

00:52:18,930 --> 00:52:16,080

abstract ideas abstract thoughts are

1234

00:52:20,820 --> 00:52:18,940

non-physical so what what does all that

1235

00:52:22,680 --> 00:52:20,830

mean let's get back to Schwartz's

1236

00:52:25,830 --> 00:52:22,690

experiment what does it mean if a

1237

00:52:28,890 --> 00:52:25,840

non-physical idea that he taught to a

1238

00:52:30,870 --> 00:52:28,900

group of patients can lead to physical

1239

00:52:33,510 --> 00:52:30,880

changes in the structure of the brain

1240

00:52:34,680 --> 00:52:33,520

well it means that this brain thing this

1241

00:52:37,800 --> 00:52:34,690

thing that eighth

1242

00:52:40,920 --> 00:52:37,810

assumed generates consciousness is being

1243

00:52:44,490 --> 00:52:40,930

affected by non-physical things called

1244

00:52:47,760 --> 00:52:44,500

ideas it means that materialism remember

1245

00:52:50,520 --> 00:52:47,770

materialism all phenomena including

1246

00:52:53,250 --> 00:52:50,530

consciousness are the result of material

1247

00:52:56,190 --> 00:52:53,260

interactions well it means that's been

1248

00:52:59,070 --> 00:52:56,200

violated it means that mine does not

1249

00:53:01,620 --> 00:52:59,080

equal brain or maybe in this case we

1250

00:53:05,460 --> 00:53:01,630

should say brain does not equal mind

1251
00:53:07,770 --> 00:53:05,470
because if non-physical ideas can shape

1252
00:53:11,780 --> 00:53:07,780
the structure of our brain then we have

1253
00:53:15,870 --> 00:53:11,790
a major chicken or the egg problem I

1254
00:53:19,230 --> 00:53:15,880
mean what came first the idea or the

1255
00:53:21,690 --> 00:53:19,240
brain so that's point two and sets

1256
00:53:23,160 --> 00:53:21,700
shouldn't feel too bad about not getting

1257
00:53:25,620 --> 00:53:23,170
this point because as you remember

1258
00:53:29,010 --> 00:53:25,630
doctor Jerry Coyne didn't get it either

1259
00:53:31,530 --> 00:53:29,020
and he's a professor of biology at the

1260
00:53:34,320 --> 00:53:31,540
University of Chicago but but as you've

1261
00:53:36,690 --> 00:53:34,330
seen if you have some very hard core

1262
00:53:39,270 --> 00:53:36,700
cherished beliefs that you don't want to

1263
00:53:41,700 --> 00:53:39,280

violate it's really hard to do any kind

1264

00:53:43,740 --> 00:53:41,710

of thinking on this topics and I think

1265

00:53:46,860 --> 00:53:43,750

that's the roadblock here because it's

1266

00:53:49,110 --> 00:53:46,870

not a hard concept so let's move on to

1267

00:53:52,170 --> 00:53:49,120

point three prominent skeptics have

1268

00:53:55,380 --> 00:53:52,180

already admitted that ESP sigh remote

1269

00:53:58,530 --> 00:53:55,390

viewing all of which by the way violate

1270

00:54:00,630 --> 00:53:58,540

mind equal brain well these guys have

1271

00:54:03,420 --> 00:54:00,640

already admitted that this stuff is

1272

00:54:06,660 --> 00:54:03,430

scientifically proven so look this one's

1273

00:54:09,120 --> 00:54:06,670

easy Seth says he doesn't believe in ESP

1274

00:54:11,220 --> 00:54:09,130

at the same time he says he's never

1275

00:54:13,230 --> 00:54:11,230

heard of Richard Wiseman and I'm sure

1276

00:54:16,020 --> 00:54:13,240

he's never heard of Dean Radin well

1277

00:54:18,510 --> 00:54:16,030

therefore he's saying that he's formed

1278

00:54:21,210 --> 00:54:18,520

these beliefs without ever looking at

1279

00:54:23,610 --> 00:54:21,220

the data period end of story

1280

00:54:26,550 --> 00:54:23,620

because Dean Radin has done more

1281

00:54:28,470 --> 00:54:26,560

research into ESP than almost anyone and

1282

00:54:30,810 --> 00:54:28,480

he's certainly at this time the go-to

1283

00:54:33,180 --> 00:54:30,820

guy on this subject and even though I

1284

00:54:35,640 --> 00:54:33,190

don't think much of Richard Wiseman he's

1285

00:54:37,800 --> 00:54:35,650

more or less the go-to guy in terms of

1286

00:54:41,340 --> 00:54:37,810

being an ESP sigh whatever term you want

1287

00:54:43,020 --> 00:54:41,350

to use skeptic so Seth he's a smart guy

1288

00:54:45,990 --> 00:54:43,030

you know he studied a lot of other stuff

1289

00:54:46,680 --> 00:54:46,000

but when it comes to ESP we can say with

1290

00:54:47,270 --> 00:54:46,690

confidence

1291

00:54:48,890 --> 00:54:47,280

the

1292

00:54:51,380 --> 00:54:48,900

doesn't know what he's talking about

1293

00:54:54,500 --> 00:54:51,390

that he's never looked at the data never

1294

00:54:56,330 --> 00:54:54,510

read any of the research but here's the

1295

00:54:59,240 --> 00:54:56,340

interesting part if you remember from

1296

00:55:01,310 --> 00:54:59,250

our interview Seth's major pushback was

1297

00:55:04,550 --> 00:55:01,320

that he can't believe that any real

1298

00:55:06,500 --> 00:55:04,560

scientist let alone a skeptic would say

1299

00:55:08,630 --> 00:55:06,510

that since this stuff has been proven

1300

00:55:11,960 --> 00:55:08,640

that maybe we need a new standard of

1301
00:55:13,370 --> 00:55:11,970
proof Seth immediately recognized how

1302
00:55:17,780 --> 00:55:13,380
ridiculous this is

1303
00:55:20,360 --> 00:55:17,790
at least initially because let's see

1304
00:55:23,120 --> 00:55:20,370
what happens after he's infected with

1305
00:55:24,380 --> 00:55:23,130
the skeptical virus on this let's see

1306
00:55:26,870 --> 00:55:24,390
what happens after he talks to the

1307
00:55:29,000 --> 00:55:26,880
Politburo and gets the official party

1308
00:55:32,930 --> 00:55:29,010
line on this that's gonna be really

1309
00:55:35,360 --> 00:55:32,940
really interesting to see in here okay

1310
00:55:38,570 --> 00:55:35,370
point four here it is the evidence from

1311
00:55:41,630 --> 00:55:38,580
NDE research overwhelmingly suggests

1312
00:55:44,510 --> 00:55:41,640
that consciousness in some way we don't

1313
00:55:48,410 --> 00:55:44,520

fully understand survives bodily death

1314

00:55:51,410 --> 00:55:48,420

so this doesn't just violate mind equals

1315

00:55:53,780 --> 00:55:51,420

brain it shatters it it shatters it in a

1316

00:55:57,080 --> 00:55:53,790

way that probably sends chills down the

1317

00:55:59,930 --> 00:55:57,090

spine of fundamentalist atheists like

1318

00:56:03,350 --> 00:55:59,940

Seth Andrews because now it's clear if

1319

00:56:06,140 --> 00:56:03,360

consciousness survives death then we

1320

00:56:08,060 --> 00:56:06,150

have to seriously consider all the other

1321

00:56:11,210 --> 00:56:08,070

stuff that generally falls into this

1322

00:56:13,610 --> 00:56:11,220

category called the spiritual because

1323

00:56:16,280 --> 00:56:13,620

let's face it survival of consciousness

1324

00:56:19,670 --> 00:56:16,290

is one of the core beliefs of just about

1325

00:56:22,240 --> 00:56:19,680

every religion in the world so if a

1326
00:56:25,220 --> 00:56:22,250
theists have to step back and say well

1327
00:56:28,460 --> 00:56:25,230
scientifically on that point it does

1328
00:56:29,240 --> 00:56:28,470
look like religion is right and we're

1329
00:56:31,940 --> 00:56:29,250
wrong

1330
00:56:33,680 --> 00:56:31,950
well as you can imagine the whole thing

1331
00:56:37,190 --> 00:56:33,690
starts to unravel

1332
00:56:39,950 --> 00:56:37,200
now Seth's take on the NDE research is

1333
00:56:43,250 --> 00:56:39,960
that it's hypocrisy well maybe well no

1334
00:56:46,190 --> 00:56:43,260
not really maybe you see it's not epoxy

1335
00:56:48,890 --> 00:56:46,200
oh I know because pin Dan LOM all the

1336
00:56:51,170 --> 00:56:48,900
former guests ran experiments with real

1337
00:56:53,030 --> 00:56:51,180
near-death experiencers in a real

1338
00:56:55,940 --> 00:56:53,040

hospital for twenty years and he

1339

00:56:58,100 --> 00:56:55,950

concluded it's not epoxy

1340

00:56:59,839 --> 00:56:58,110

I know because Jan Holden former guest

1341

00:57:01,519 --> 00:56:59,849

and Bruce Grayson review

1342

00:57:03,469 --> 00:57:01,529

dozens of published peer-reviewed

1343

00:57:05,390 --> 00:57:03,479

studies many of which they did

1344

00:57:08,180 --> 00:57:05,400

themselves and they concluded it's not

1345

00:57:10,279 --> 00:57:08,190

epoxy I know because Jeff long former

1346

00:57:12,890 --> 00:57:10,289

guest who's a medical doctor working in

1347

00:57:14,569 --> 00:57:12,900

a hospital looked at thousands of cases

1348

00:57:18,620 --> 00:57:14,579

of near-death experience and he

1349

00:57:21,200 --> 00:57:18,630

concluded it's not epoxy so please Seth

1350

00:57:23,660 --> 00:57:21,210

come back on skeptical and tell me why

1351

00:57:26,870 --> 00:57:23,670

you think indy either explainable by

1352

00:57:29,059 --> 00:57:26,880

hypoxia oh and please don't cite Michael

1353

00:57:31,279 --> 00:57:29,069

Shermer because he's never done any

1354

00:57:33,289 --> 00:57:31,289

near-death experience research and he's

1355

00:57:35,930 --> 00:57:33,299

just gonna cite people like Susan

1356

00:57:37,819 --> 00:57:35,940

Blackmore former guest who's already

1357

00:57:39,620 --> 00:57:37,829

admitted that she doesn't have a clue

1358

00:57:41,749 --> 00:57:39,630

what current research ended near death

1359

00:57:43,279 --> 00:57:41,759

experiences says and that she's not been

1360

00:57:46,069 --> 00:57:43,289

current in the field for the last twenty

1361

00:57:48,499 --> 00:57:46,079

years and don't cite paper's like mobs

1362

00:57:50,299 --> 00:57:48,509

and wat because we've talked to Carolyn

1363

00:57:53,089 --> 00:57:50,309

Watt and she can't even explain the

1364

00:57:55,579 --> 00:57:53,099

title of her paper let alone why it's

1365

00:57:58,969 --> 00:57:55,589

littered with citation errors and has

1366

00:58:01,190 --> 00:57:58,979

some very erroneous conclusions and if

1367

00:58:03,200 --> 00:58:01,200

you really want a cite Michael Persinger

1368

00:58:05,269 --> 00:58:03,210

somebody who brought up in the interview

1369

00:58:07,670 --> 00:58:05,279

and another former guests of this show

1370

00:58:10,670 --> 00:58:07,680

and all the god helmet stuff that he's

1371

00:58:13,640 --> 00:58:10,680

done be careful because while Persinger

1372

00:58:16,579 --> 00:58:13,650

might be somewhat of an NDE skeptic he

1373

00:58:18,349 --> 00:58:16,589

also maintains that he's proven ESP in

1374

00:58:21,319 --> 00:58:18,359

his lab so you're gonna have a hard time

1375

00:58:24,200 --> 00:58:21,329

fitting him into your worldview so folks

1376

00:58:28,549 --> 00:58:24,210

those are my four points those are my

1377

00:58:30,559 --> 00:58:28,559

territory if you will and Seth really

1378

00:58:32,690 --> 00:58:30,569

hoping you come back on I'll give you

1379

00:58:35,709 --> 00:58:32,700

the straight answer that you wanted your

1380

00:58:37,430 --> 00:58:35,719

yes/no answer on do I believe in God

1381

00:58:39,709 --> 00:58:37,440

actually I'll give it to you right now

1382

00:58:42,529 --> 00:58:39,719

I'll borrow it from Raymond moody

1383

00:58:45,440 --> 00:58:42,539

another former guest and say I don't

1384

00:58:48,859 --> 00:58:45,450

believe in God but I have a relationship

1385

00:58:51,410 --> 00:58:48,869

with God now finally I've said many

1386

00:58:54,019 --> 00:58:51,420

times that skeptics don't like to debate

1387

00:58:56,029 --> 00:58:54,029

as you've seen on this show over and

1388

00:58:58,370 --> 00:58:56,039

over and over again they run from these

1389

00:59:00,769 --> 00:58:58,380

debates and when they get halfway into

1390

00:59:02,569 --> 00:59:00,779

them they run even faster because the

1391

00:59:05,809 --> 00:59:02,579

skeptical positions we're talking about

1392

00:59:08,390 --> 00:59:05,819

here are sheer nonsense and no one wants

1393

00:59:10,519 --> 00:59:08,400

to defend such silliness as for Seth

1394

00:59:12,980 --> 00:59:10,529

even though he agreed to a two-part

1395

00:59:14,930 --> 00:59:12,990

interview going into this my guess is

1396

00:59:17,290 --> 00:59:14,940

he'll back out around 2 with some

1397

00:59:21,040 --> 00:59:17,300

high-minded statement about my agenda

1398

00:59:25,870 --> 00:59:21,050

yeah I got an agenda follow the data

1399

00:59:28,460 --> 00:59:25,880

wherever it leads ok I have an update

1400

00:59:31,280 --> 00:59:28,470

seth has backed out of the second

1401
00:59:33,530 --> 00:59:31,290
interview now you know I shouldn't be

1402
00:59:35,150 --> 00:59:33,540
surprised I even said when I recorded my

1403
00:59:36,800 --> 00:59:35,160
closing to the first interview that I

1404
00:59:38,660 --> 00:59:36,810
hey this guy's gonna back out and he's

1405
00:59:41,480 --> 00:59:38,670
gonna say some high-minded stuff about

1406
00:59:43,430 --> 00:59:41,490
my agenda but I didn't think he really

1407
00:59:46,460 --> 00:59:43,440
would I mean he's the thinking atheist

1408
00:59:48,740 --> 00:59:46,470
he's the only chance we have for someone

1409
00:59:51,170 --> 00:59:48,750
who says they're really going to dig in

1410
00:59:54,050 --> 00:59:51,180
and think about this stuff and yet he's

1411
00:59:57,710 --> 00:59:54,060
backed out I have to read you some of

1412
01:00:00,680 --> 00:59:57,720
these emails it is so much of what our

1413
01:00:02,120 --> 01:00:00,690

dialogue on skeptic Oh is about so

1414

01:00:04,940 --> 01:00:02,130

here's how it transpired immediately

1415

01:00:07,160 --> 01:00:04,950

after the interview I sent Seth an email

1416

01:00:11,270 --> 01:00:07,170

I laid out just like I did for you a

1417

01:00:14,359 --> 01:00:11,280

minute ago the 4-points links to Jeffery

1418

01:00:16,820 --> 01:00:14,369

Schwartz links to Dean Radin Richard

1419

01:00:18,500 --> 01:00:16,830

Wiseman all that stuff and at the end of

1420

01:00:20,060 --> 01:00:18,510

that email I give Seth two options I

1421

01:00:22,070 --> 01:00:20,070

said look we can schedule another

1422

01:00:24,290 --> 01:00:22,080

dialogue slash debate in a couple weeks

1423

01:00:26,480 --> 01:00:24,300

or I can publish what we just did along

1424

01:00:28,430 --> 01:00:26,490

with my comments and see what listeners

1425

01:00:30,920 --> 01:00:28,440

think before we try again

1426

01:00:32,570 --> 01:00:30,930

and I asked his opinion on that so in

1427

01:00:34,099 --> 01:00:32,580

this first email response to me he's

1428

01:00:34,880 --> 01:00:34,109

already backpedaling a little bit but

1429

01:00:36,859 --> 01:00:34,890

he's still in the game

1430

01:00:38,960 --> 01:00:36,869

he says whatever it's fine play the

1431

01:00:40,760 --> 01:00:38,970

interview and let's see what happens he

1432

01:00:42,260 --> 01:00:40,770

says I think the Atheist community and

1433

01:00:44,840 --> 01:00:42,270

religious community grow frustrated

1434

01:00:46,849 --> 01:00:44,850

because your assertions attempt to

1435

01:00:48,890 --> 01:00:46,859

create a hybrid I don't know where he's

1436

01:00:50,330 --> 01:00:48,900

going with that but he says go ahead and

1437

01:00:51,080 --> 01:00:50,340

publish the first two interview and

1438

01:00:53,720 --> 01:00:51,090

we'll go from there

1439

01:00:56,000 --> 01:00:53,730

so then maybe an hour later I get the

1440

01:00:58,820 --> 01:00:56,010

next email from Seth it's not practical

1441

01:00:59,870 --> 01:00:58,830

to read the whole thing to you here but

1442

01:01:02,810 --> 01:00:59,880

I'll give you some of the highlights

1443

01:01:04,550 --> 01:01:02,820

he's as Alex my tennis match just got

1444

01:01:06,410 --> 01:01:04,560

canceled a few minutes ago due to rain

1445

01:01:07,700 --> 01:01:06,420

go figure I do appreciate the

1446

01:01:10,880 --> 01:01:07,710

opportunity to be a guest on your show

1447

01:01:13,130 --> 01:01:10,890

if I can be honest and that's been the

1448

01:01:15,260 --> 01:01:13,140

case all evening I guess I feel like

1449

01:01:17,420 --> 01:01:15,270

I've been participating in a religious

1450

01:01:19,550 --> 01:01:17,430

show he goes on to say personally I

1451

01:01:22,220 --> 01:01:19,560

can't participate on the same tier as

1452

01:01:25,340 --> 01:01:22,230

you because I see your measuring sticks

1453

01:01:26,690 --> 01:01:25,350

as suspect near death experiences

1454

01:01:29,420 --> 01:01:26,700

reports of es

1455

01:01:33,020 --> 01:01:29,430

peas and copious amounts of chatter on

1456

01:01:35,720 --> 01:01:33,030

external consciousness I've come from a

1457

01:01:37,819 --> 01:01:35,730

belief in such things and rejected them

1458

01:01:39,050 --> 01:01:37,829

send me the name of the ESP scientist

1459

01:01:41,000 --> 01:01:39,060

guy and I'm gonna have to think about

1460

01:01:44,660 --> 01:01:41,010

whether or not I'm up for another hour

1461

01:01:46,760 --> 01:01:44,670

of this so now next hour emails are kind

1462

01:01:48,560 --> 01:01:46,770

of crossing each other I'm sending him

1463

01:01:50,750 --> 01:01:48,570

and he's sending me at the same time and

1464

01:01:51,410 --> 01:01:50,760

in the process of me sending this next

1465

01:01:59,120 --> 01:01:51,420

email

1466

01:02:01,339 --> 01:01:59,130

just saw the part about part two that is

1467

01:02:02,930 --> 01:02:01,349

my email exchange with them initially

1468

01:02:04,520 --> 01:02:02,940

that said we're gonna do this in two

1469

01:02:06,470 --> 01:02:04,530

parts we're never two part thing which I

1470

01:02:08,089 --> 01:02:06,480

explained the whole thing to him he says

1471

01:02:11,900 --> 01:02:08,099

I just saw the part about talked to my

1472

01:02:16,069 --> 01:02:11,910

apologies I'll do the second interview

1473

01:02:17,510 --> 01:02:16,079

as I agreed remember that so in the

1474

01:02:20,859 --> 01:02:17,520

meantime while he was sending me that

1475

01:02:24,109 --> 01:02:20,869

short little email I sent him this email

1476

01:02:26,540 --> 01:02:24,119

Seth I think there's plenty of fire to

1477

01:02:29,240 --> 01:02:26,550

make for a good follow-up debate smiley

1478

01:02:32,720 --> 01:02:29,250

face I think many atheists despite a lot

1479

01:02:34,940 --> 01:02:32,730

of bluster are lazy thinkers if you want

1480

01:02:36,710 --> 01:02:34,950

to know about NDE research go to the

1481

01:02:39,170 --> 01:02:36,720

guys who publish in peer reviewed

1482

01:02:40,880 --> 01:02:39,180

journals not popular professional

1483

01:02:42,950 --> 01:02:40,890

skeptics like Michael Shermer

1484

01:02:44,960 --> 01:02:42,960

who get slapped around by researchers

1485

01:02:47,150 --> 01:02:44,970

like Penn van Ioml if you want to

1486

01:02:49,790 --> 01:02:47,160

understand ESP look at Dean Radin

1487

01:02:52,520 --> 01:02:49,800

published more than anyone not jesters

1488

01:02:55,460 --> 01:02:52,530

like James Randi you think I'm driving

1489

01:02:57,589 --> 01:02:55,470

an agenda I think you are that makes for

1490

01:02:59,630 --> 01:02:57,599

a good debate smiley face but that's

1491

01:03:02,150 --> 01:02:59,640

also why we have to get beyond what you

1492

01:03:05,150 --> 01:03:02,160

think and what I think and hash out the

1493

01:03:07,010 --> 01:03:05,160

data so here's the next email I get from

1494

01:03:08,900 --> 01:03:07,020

Seth and here's where things really go

1495

01:03:11,270 --> 01:03:08,910

off the rails you've heard this before

1496

01:03:13,400 --> 01:03:11,280

if you listen to skeptic oh so here's

1497

01:03:16,069 --> 01:03:13,410

the email i received from Seth the

1498

01:03:19,220 --> 01:03:16,079

following morning well I did some

1499

01:03:21,950 --> 01:03:19,230

digging and I apparently confused you

1500

01:03:24,170 --> 01:03:21,960

with skeptic oh that's CEO and it would

1501
01:03:26,960 --> 01:03:24,180
appear that I'm not the only one who got

1502
01:03:28,910 --> 01:03:26,970
caught in that oversight talk about

1503
01:03:31,550 --> 01:03:28,920
being infected with the Atheist

1504
01:03:33,890 --> 01:03:31,560
skeptical virus he's obviously read some

1505
01:03:35,569 --> 01:03:33,900
stuff on the internet now right I was

1506
01:03:38,240 --> 01:03:35,579
also given the impression that we were

1507
01:03:39,740 --> 01:03:38,250
going to discuss my former faith and the

1508
01:03:41,870 --> 01:03:39,750
often soft approach

1509
01:03:44,180 --> 01:03:41,880
take towards believers among the

1510
01:03:47,230 --> 01:03:44,190
hardliners instead we spent an hour

1511
01:03:49,640 --> 01:03:47,240
walking down a path of psychobabble

1512
01:03:52,400 --> 01:03:49,650
interesting and seeing you lead me

1513
01:03:55,820 --> 01:03:52,410

towards validating your own agenda

1514

01:03:59,330 --> 01:03:55,830

it was disingenuous and poor form I'm

1515

01:04:01,370 --> 01:03:59,340

not interested in reappearing Seth okay

1516

01:04:03,290 --> 01:04:01,380

so we slept on things and he's read some

1517

01:04:07,220 --> 01:04:03,300

blog posts and he's read some comments

1518

01:04:09,590 --> 01:04:07,230

good deal my response Seth come on you

1519

01:04:12,860 --> 01:04:09,600

look silly here you confused me with

1520

01:04:14,780 --> 01:04:12,870

skeptic oh really how I sent you the

1521

01:04:17,360 --> 01:04:14,790

link to my site I sent you a list of my

1522

01:04:20,960 --> 01:04:17,370

former guests your statement is not

1523

01:04:23,540 --> 01:04:20,970

credible moreover my original email made

1524

01:04:25,460 --> 01:04:23,550

clear my intentions and then I quote him

1525

01:04:27,170 --> 01:04:25,470

the original email that I sent and I

1526

01:04:29,330 --> 01:04:27,180

highlighted the part we've hosted many

1527

01:04:32,000 --> 01:04:29,340

debates with prominent atheist

1528

01:04:34,280 --> 01:04:32,010

Christians and consciousness researchers

1529

01:04:36,800 --> 01:04:34,290

what would have to add that this wasn't

1530

01:04:38,420 --> 01:04:36,810

just one email he sent me back and then

1531

01:04:40,010 --> 01:04:38,430

I send the part about the two-part

1532

01:04:41,810 --> 01:04:40,020

interview and he was in agreement of all

1533

01:04:44,660 --> 01:04:41,820

that so it is completely not credible

1534

01:04:47,330 --> 01:04:44,670

back to my email to him again your claim

1535

01:04:49,160 --> 01:04:47,340

that I misled you is not credible look

1536

01:04:51,350 --> 01:04:49,170

Seth we don't have to be buddies to

1537

01:04:53,480 --> 01:04:51,360

debate this stuff but running from an

1538

01:04:56,060 --> 01:04:53,490

honest debate gets us nowhere

1539

01:04:58,790 --> 01:04:56,070

you wind up looking exactly like the

1540

01:05:01,460 --> 01:04:58,800

dogmatic Christians you rail against for

1541

01:05:03,920 --> 01:05:01,470

not being willing to think hope you'll

1542

01:05:05,930 --> 01:05:03,930

reconsider you twice agreed to come back

1543

01:05:08,030 --> 01:05:05,940

on both before and after the initial

1544

01:05:10,460 --> 01:05:08,040

interview you're gonna look pretty silly

1545

01:05:13,040 --> 01:05:10,470

if you back down now - which Seth

1546

01:05:14,990 --> 01:05:13,050

responded rather tersely no it's my

1547

01:05:17,540 --> 01:05:15,000

fault for not doing due diligence I

1548

01:05:20,390 --> 01:05:17,550

think you've got plenty of material I'm

1549

01:05:22,580 --> 01:05:20,400

out to which I replied you're just

1550

01:05:24,500 --> 01:05:22,590

ducking a debate parenthetically because

1551

01:05:25,280 --> 01:05:24,510

you're afraid to lose I've seen it over

1552

01:05:27,740 --> 01:05:25,290

and over again

1553

01:05:30,530 --> 01:05:27,750

atheism is as much about don't challenge

1554

01:05:33,050 --> 01:05:30,540

my cherished beliefs as Christianity

1555

01:05:36,410 --> 01:05:33,060

you're not gonna look good on this one

1556

01:05:39,380 --> 01:05:36,420

- which Seth replied I think this is the

1557

01:05:41,930 --> 01:05:39,390

tone that most alarms me the painting

1558

01:05:44,390 --> 01:05:41,940

the insinuation of cowardice the

1559

01:05:47,360 --> 01:05:44,400

schoolyard taunts an attempt to elicit

1560

01:05:50,150 --> 01:05:47,370

the desired reaction this is not how

1561

01:05:52,820 --> 01:05:50,160

mature people conduct themselves it's

1562

01:05:53,720 --> 01:05:52,830

certainly not a mindset or tactic I'm

1563

01:05:58,040 --> 01:05:53,730

public

1564

01:06:01,340 --> 01:05:58,050

to entertain that is all Seth my

1565

01:06:03,170 --> 01:06:01,350

response again not credible we talk for

1566

01:06:05,150 --> 01:06:03,180

an hour we found many points of

1567

01:06:07,640 --> 01:06:05,160

agreement some points of disagreement it

1568

01:06:09,260 --> 01:06:07,650

was a civil pleasant conversation

1569

01:06:12,050 --> 01:06:09,270

the follow-up would be the same no

1570

01:06:13,880 --> 01:06:12,060

shouting down of your ideas no cutting

1571

01:06:17,000 --> 01:06:13,890

off of your opportunity to make your

1572

01:06:19,790 --> 01:06:17,010

case regarding insinuations of cowardice

1573

01:06:21,950 --> 01:06:19,800

well Seth you're ducking out of a debate

1574

01:06:24,650 --> 01:06:21,960

because you don't have a good response

1575

01:06:26,780 --> 01:06:24,660

to my points you can call that whatever

1576

01:06:29,630 --> 01:06:26,790

you will we don't agree on some stuff

1577

01:06:31,880 --> 01:06:29,640

it's not always gonna be pretty but I

1578

01:06:34,849 --> 01:06:31,890

don't see how you can so blatantly

1579

01:06:37,849 --> 01:06:34,859

trample all over your stated mission

1580

01:06:40,820 --> 01:06:37,859

statement of challenge the opposition

1581

01:06:43,690 --> 01:06:40,830

and start thinking your excuses for not

1582

01:06:46,280 --> 01:06:43,700

coming back on are going to look pretty

1583

01:06:48,290 --> 01:06:46,290

transparent you've already contradicted

1584

01:06:51,050 --> 01:06:48,300

yourself several times in this email

1585

01:06:53,570 --> 01:06:51,060

exchange I'm not trying to be nasty but

1586

01:06:55,970 --> 01:06:53,580

then again these are hard conversations

1587

01:07:00,320 --> 01:06:55,980

to have and a certain amount of brutal

1588

01:07:04,609 --> 01:07:00,330

honesty is necessary and that's the last

1589

01:07:08,510 --> 01:07:04,619

I heard from Seth Andrews so at this

1590

01:07:10,160 --> 01:07:08,520

point I have to ask for some help if

1591

01:07:11,930 --> 01:07:10,170

you're an atheist or a skeptic

1592

01:07:14,450 --> 01:07:11,940

materialist reductionist whatever you

1593

01:07:16,310 --> 01:07:14,460

call yourself and you know someone who

1594

01:07:18,680 --> 01:07:16,320

can pick up the gauntlet who can make

1595

01:07:21,859 --> 01:07:18,690

the case who can respond to the points

1596

01:07:23,750 --> 01:07:21,869

that I've made get him on sceptical or

1597

01:07:28,000 --> 01:07:23,760

ask them to invite me on their show

1598

01:07:30,440 --> 01:07:28,010

again anywhere anytime with anyone

1599

01:07:33,500 --> 01:07:30,450

anyone as long as they're a serious

1600

01:07:36,500 --> 01:07:33,510

public figure I mean Seth Andrews the

1601
01:07:39,440 --> 01:07:36,510
thinking atheist has 96 thousand

1602
01:07:41,420 --> 01:07:39,450
followers on YouTube that makes him

1603
01:07:44,630 --> 01:07:41,430
someone worth talking to

1604
01:07:46,730 --> 01:07:44,640
so anyone like that I'm willing to talk

1605
01:07:48,890 --> 01:07:46,740
to why aren't they willing to debate me

1606
01:07:50,090 --> 01:07:48,900
what are they afraid of or if you don't

1607
01:07:53,599 --> 01:07:50,100
want to do that here's another

1608
01:07:56,030 --> 01:07:53,609
suggestion okay stop being a freaking

1609
01:07:57,800 --> 01:07:56,040
atheist for a minute and look at the

1610
01:08:00,590 --> 01:07:57,810
data look at the evidence

1611
01:08:03,170 --> 01:08:00,600
stop being led around by a group of

1612
01:08:06,380 --> 01:08:03,180
people who promise to cure you of your

1613
01:08:07,530 --> 01:08:06,390

Christian brainwashing only to infect

1614

01:08:10,650 --> 01:08:07,540

you with the

1615

01:08:14,640 --> 01:08:10,660

he is enviros be a freethinker

1616

01:08:18,000 --> 01:08:14,650

do SF Andrew says as opposed to what he

1617

01:08:21,660 --> 01:08:18,010

really does and think okay

1618

01:08:23,610 --> 01:08:21,670

enough of that hey thanks for joining me

1619

01:08:26,610 --> 01:08:23,620

it's been an interesting little ride

1620

01:08:28,680 --> 01:08:26,620

here with the thinking atheist if you

1621

01:08:30,690 --> 01:08:28,690

would like to join in a dialogue on this

1622

01:08:33,090 --> 01:08:30,700

show and I really hope you will but what

1623

01:08:35,340 --> 01:08:33,100

your take is as long as you're civil and

1624

01:08:37,230 --> 01:08:35,350

want to have a real dialogue we'd love

1625

01:08:39,960 --> 01:08:37,240

to have that dialogue with you the place

1626

01:08:44,490 --> 01:08:39,970

to do that is The Skeptical website it's

1627

01:08:46,920 --> 01:08:44,500

at ske PTI k.o don't get confused like

1628

01:08:48,780 --> 01:08:46,930

Seth and put a C in there it's a K and

1629

01:08:50,700 --> 01:08:48,790

there you'll find our forum where you

1630

01:08:52,740 --> 01:08:50,710

can engage in this dialogue also have

1631

01:08:54,599 --> 01:08:52,750

the comment section of the website which

1632

01:08:57,930 --> 01:08:54,609

has this new format which I really think

1633

01:08:59,910 --> 01:08:57,940

is quite nice from discuss that well I

1634

01:09:02,039 --> 01:08:59,920

think engage people more and allow us to

1635

01:09:04,920 --> 01:09:02,049

have more of a dialogue and then finally

1636

01:09:07,020 --> 01:09:04,930

you can email or Facebook me from the

1637

01:09:09,480 --> 01:09:07,030

website you'll also find their links to

1638

01:09:12,360 --> 01:09:09,490

all our previous shows over 180 of them

1639

01:09:14,760 --> 01:09:12,370

you can download them all for free many

1640

01:09:17,400 --> 01:09:14,770

more shows coming up stay with me for