

# Philip Goff

## Skeptiko 409



### GALILEO'S ERROR

FOUNDATIONS FOR  
A NEW SCIENCE OF  
CONSCIOUSNESS

PHILIP GOFF

#### Skeptiko Topics:

Consciousness Science  
Parapsychology  
Near-Death Experience  
Spirituality  
Skeptics/Skepticism  
Psi  
Psychics & Mediums  
Atheism  
UFO  
Neuroscience  
Conspiracy Theories  
Contactee Experience  
OBE

1  
00:00:10,629 --> 00:00:09,039  
I spent my last dollar getting here when

2  
00:00:13,150 --> 00:00:10,639  
we kick it and you're talking to me

3  
00:00:14,770 --> 00:00:13,160  
about healing through belief you're a

4  
00:00:16,240 --> 00:00:14,780  
man looking at the world through a

5  
00:00:19,089 --> 00:00:16,250  
keyhole and you spent your whole life

6  
00:00:22,030 --> 00:00:19,099  
trying to widen that keyhole to see more

7  
00:00:24,540 --> 00:00:22,040  
to know more and now on hearing that it

8  
00:00:27,460 --> 00:00:24,550  
can be widened in ways you can't imagine

9  
00:00:29,319 --> 00:00:27,470  
you reject the possibility I reject it

10  
00:00:31,929 --> 00:00:29,329  
because I do not believe in fairy tales

11  
00:00:34,930 --> 00:00:31,939  
about chakras or energy or the power

12  
00:00:38,590 --> 00:00:34,940  
belief there is no such thing as spirit

13  
00:00:41,919 --> 00:00:38,600

that's a clip from the 2016 mega sci-fi

14

00:00:45,400 --> 00:00:41,929

hit Doctor Strange and this scene really

15

00:00:49,299 --> 00:00:45,410

captures the scientist at the tipping

16

00:00:52,540 --> 00:00:49,309

point we are made of matter nothing more

17

00:00:54,639 --> 00:00:52,550

it's just another tiny momentary speck

18

00:00:56,739 --> 00:00:54,649

within an indifferent universe you think

19

00:00:59,709 --> 00:00:56,749

too little of yourself oh you think you

20

00:01:06,340 --> 00:00:59,719

see through me doing what you don't but

21

00:01:07,990 --> 00:01:06,350

I see through you I pushed your astral

22

00:01:13,480 --> 00:01:08,000

form out of your physical what's in that

23

00:01:16,480 --> 00:01:13,490

tea psilocybin LSD tea with a little

24

00:01:20,890 --> 00:01:16,490

honey of course wouldn't it be great if

25

00:01:24,220 --> 00:01:20,900

it was that simple but the reality is as

26

00:01:27,250 --> 00:01:24,230

we know the transition from the

27

00:01:32,940 --> 00:01:27,260

materialistic scientific paradigm that

28

00:01:36,220 --> 00:01:32,950

were in meshed in to what lies beyond is

29

00:01:39,550 --> 00:01:36,230

anything but clean and there's a lot of

30

00:01:41,940 --> 00:01:39,560

hanger honors as today's guest dr.

31

00:01:43,870 --> 00:01:41,950

Philip Goff has experienced a

32

00:01:47,470 --> 00:01:43,880

philosopher who's very good friend of

33

00:01:49,540 --> 00:01:47,480

mine a very warm and pathetic guy very

34

00:01:52,270 --> 00:01:49,550

kind cares about the world but he

35

00:01:53,740 --> 00:01:52,280

doesn't think consciousness exists it's

36

00:01:56,320 --> 00:01:53,750

always incredible to me that it you know

37

00:01:59,170 --> 00:01:56,330

in a sense he thinks you know no one has

38

00:02:00,430 --> 00:01:59,180

ever really felt pain on earth I think

39

00:02:03,010 --> 00:02:00,440

one of the big problems in that position

40

00:02:05,350 --> 00:02:03,020

is all of scientific knowledge is

41

00:02:08,259 --> 00:02:05,360

mediated through consciousness right you

42

00:02:10,660 --> 00:02:08,269

only know that electrons because you

43

00:02:12,520 --> 00:02:10,670

have conscious experiences of cloud

44

00:02:14,020 --> 00:02:12,530

chambers and things thinking that you

45

00:02:15,640 --> 00:02:14,030

could have scientific evidence the

46

00:02:17,979 --> 00:02:15,650

consciousness doesn't exist is a bit

47

00:02:18,470 --> 00:02:17,989

like thinking astronomy can tell us that

48

00:02:20,510 --> 00:02:18,480

there are

49

00:02:23,210 --> 00:02:20,520

telescopes but I guess one of the

50

00:02:26,240 --> 00:02:23,220

questions for me is how much of this

51  
00:02:29,150 --> 00:02:26,250  
hang around our stuff should we tolerate

52  
00:02:32,720 --> 00:02:29,160  
should we accept as just part of the

53  
00:02:36,470 --> 00:02:32,730  
change process versus calling it for

54  
00:02:37,220 --> 00:02:36,480  
what it is you know in academia it's

55  
00:02:38,780 --> 00:02:37,230  
really easy

56  
00:02:40,910 --> 00:02:38,790  
who gets the grants who gets promoted

57  
00:02:43,309 --> 00:02:40,920  
who doesn't get promoted who doesn't get

58  
00:02:44,990 --> 00:02:43,319  
tenure and they get pruned off the tree

59  
00:02:46,250 --> 00:02:45,000  
and at the end of the day you wind up

60  
00:02:48,559 --> 00:02:46,260  
with what we have now

61  
00:02:50,660 --> 00:02:48,569  
you know we wind up with you debating

62  
00:02:53,360 --> 00:02:50,670  
with Jerry Coyne which again I I know I

63  
00:02:55,940 --> 00:02:53,370

push back when I say this but he's just

64

00:02:58,880 --> 00:02:55,950

really incompetent I mean I've had him

65

00:03:00,650 --> 00:02:58,890

on the show and he just blows like you

66

00:03:03,860 --> 00:03:00,660

pointed out in your debate with him he

67

00:03:04,940 --> 00:03:03,870

just gets major things wrong that he's

68

00:03:07,940 --> 00:03:04,950

supposed to know about

69

00:03:09,979 --> 00:03:07,950

and yet he's put forward and propped up

70

00:03:12,470 --> 00:03:09,989

University of Chicago been around

71

00:03:13,729 --> 00:03:12,480

forever and this goes on and on so that

72

00:03:15,979 --> 00:03:13,739

that's the social engineering project

73

00:03:19,009 --> 00:03:15,989

not that people don't legitimately

74

00:03:21,350 --> 00:03:19,019

believe you know they believe it's just

75

00:03:24,170 --> 00:03:21,360

that the people who are really thinking

76

00:03:28,940 --> 00:03:24,180

this thing through are not presented as

77

00:03:31,550 --> 00:03:28,950

credible this was a very fun chat with a

78

00:03:34,580 --> 00:03:31,560

very bright guy who's doing some great

79

00:03:37,810 --> 00:03:34,590

work I hope you enjoy my conversation

80

00:03:44,350 --> 00:03:37,820

with dr. Phillip golf

81

00:03:49,520 --> 00:03:46,539

[Music]

82

00:03:52,250 --> 00:03:49,530

today we welcome dr. Philip Goff to

83

00:03:54,500 --> 00:03:52,260

skeptic Oh Philip is a philosopher and

84

00:03:57,399 --> 00:03:54,510

consciousness researcher at Durham

85

00:03:59,750 --> 00:03:57,409

University in the UK he's the author of

86

00:04:02,240 --> 00:03:59,760

consciousness and fundamental reality

87

00:04:05,629 --> 00:04:02,250

he's got a new book coming out titled

88

00:04:08,420 --> 00:04:05,639

Galileo's air a manifesto for a new

89

00:04:12,020 --> 00:04:08,430

science of consciousness he blogs at

90

00:04:15,379 --> 00:04:12,030

conscious and consciousness if you see a

91

00:04:17,569 --> 00:04:15,389

theme here hey this guy is all about

92

00:04:20,240 --> 00:04:17,579

consciousness and that just makes him a

93

00:04:22,339 --> 00:04:20,250

perfect guest for what we love to talk

94

00:04:24,260 --> 00:04:22,349

about here on skeptic Oh Philip I'm

95

00:04:26,390 --> 00:04:24,270

really glad we were able to make this

96

00:04:26,980 --> 00:04:26,400

happen finally and thanks so much for

97

00:04:32,089 --> 00:04:26,990

joining me

98

00:04:41,740 --> 00:04:32,099

great let's get the chest so let's start

99

00:04:48,740 --> 00:04:44,180

worked in a lot of different places over

100

00:04:51,260 --> 00:04:48,750

the last 10 or 11 years and I guess my

101  
00:04:52,730 --> 00:04:51,270  
main focus is consciousness I guess more

102  
00:04:56,600 --> 00:04:52,740  
generally I've just you know I'm just

103  
00:04:59,540 --> 00:04:56,610  
really fascinated by things that don't

104  
00:05:01,159 --> 00:04:59,550  
seem to fit into our standard scientific

105  
00:05:03,040 --> 00:05:01,169  
picture of the world or the thing things

106  
00:05:05,420 --> 00:05:03,050  
that it's really hard to fit in the

107  
00:05:07,640 --> 00:05:05,430  
consciousness being at the obvious one

108  
00:05:09,680 --> 00:05:07,650  
but also you know other things like

109  
00:05:13,879 --> 00:05:09,690  
value for example we tend to think there

110  
00:05:15,560 --> 00:05:13,889  
are you know facts about value can to

111  
00:05:17,120 --> 00:05:15,570  
see how they fit in with the kind of

112  
00:05:20,779 --> 00:05:17,130  
facts we know about for the natural

113  
00:05:23,390 --> 00:05:20,789

science or abstract objects like

114

00:05:25,850 --> 00:05:23,400

mathematicians tell us all sorts of cool

115

00:05:27,290 --> 00:05:25,860

things about numbers and sets you know

116

00:05:29,689 --> 00:05:27,300

what the hell is the connection between

117

00:05:32,420 --> 00:05:29,699

that kind of abstract realm and a

118

00:05:34,279 --> 00:05:32,430

concrete world of tables and chairs so

119

00:05:36,649 --> 00:05:34,289

you know I guess I'm just interested in

120

00:05:38,560 --> 00:05:36,659

how how all these things fit together

121

00:05:41,300 --> 00:05:38,570

and I you know how we can have a a

122

00:05:44,120 --> 00:05:41,310

worldview that can accommodate you know

123

00:05:46,339 --> 00:05:44,130

not just the things that empirical

124

00:05:47,779 --> 00:05:46,349

science that observation experiment tell

125

00:05:49,189 --> 00:05:47,789

us about but other things we have a

126

00:05:51,080 --> 00:05:49,199

reason to believe in my consciousness

127

00:05:53,629 --> 00:05:51,090

for example how we can fit them all

128

00:05:56,629 --> 00:05:53,639

together there I guess that's my the big

129

00:05:57,950 --> 00:05:56,639

thing I try to do really yeah I like as

130

00:05:59,930 --> 00:05:57,960

I was preparing for the unit

131

00:06:02,840 --> 00:05:59,940

I forget where I ran across this but I

132

00:06:05,390 --> 00:06:02,850

love this story early you know early

133

00:06:07,400 --> 00:06:05,400

childhood story you know you say I asked

134

00:06:08,600 --> 00:06:07,410

my parents where are we you know you say

135

00:06:10,580 --> 00:06:08,610

hey I was always interested in

136

00:06:12,650 --> 00:06:10,590

big-picture questions I asked my parents

137

00:06:14,659 --> 00:06:12,660

where are we and then you have a great

138

00:06:16,279 --> 00:06:14,669

sense of humor and you added but maybe

139

00:06:20,749 --> 00:06:16,289

that's because we just moved into a new

140

00:06:22,360 --> 00:06:20,759

house about this in preparation for

141

00:06:24,620 --> 00:06:22,370

Cynthia did you know did I show any

142

00:06:26,390 --> 00:06:24,630

signs of early interest in philosophy I

143

00:06:27,800 --> 00:06:26,400

guess I've been interested in full of

144

00:06:29,499 --> 00:06:27,810

simple questions as long as I can

145

00:06:32,210 --> 00:06:29,509

remember really and I was asking my dad

146

00:06:33,680 --> 00:06:32,220

how far back that went and yet she said

147

00:06:35,270 --> 00:06:33,690

to me when I was far I think he was five

148

00:06:38,510 --> 00:06:35,280

I can't remember now what I said in

149

00:06:42,020 --> 00:06:38,520

light and yeah I asked why we're here

150

00:06:44,060 --> 00:06:42,030

but it was as I say I have to confess it

151  
00:06:45,409 --> 00:06:44,070  
was we just moved to in you know so it

152  
00:06:48,529 --> 00:06:45,419  
could have been connected to that I

153  
00:06:50,029 --> 00:06:48,539  
don't know but well I think it's I think

154  
00:06:53,240 --> 00:06:50,039  
it's a great story especially the way

155  
00:06:57,260 --> 00:06:53,250  
things turn out I mean it is interesting

156  
00:07:00,230 --> 00:06:57,270  
because a lot of people do not have a

157  
00:07:02,899 --> 00:07:00,240  
passion for these kind of questions

158  
00:07:04,999 --> 00:07:02,909  
which to me always seemed fundamental

159  
00:07:06,950 --> 00:07:05,009  
even in my life when I was running off

160  
00:07:08,960 --> 00:07:06,960  
doing other things business primarily

161  
00:07:11,149 --> 00:07:08,970  
chasing money and doing that kind of

162  
00:07:12,890 --> 00:07:11,159  
stuff I always had in the back of my

163  
00:07:15,469 --> 00:07:12,900

mind that I'd like to get around to

164

00:07:18,529 --> 00:07:15,479

answering these fundamental questions do

165

00:07:21,080 --> 00:07:18,539

you ever wonder why more people don't

166

00:07:23,240 --> 00:07:21,090

seem to have this on the top of their

167

00:07:28,969 --> 00:07:23,250

to-do list that is to get to the bottom

168

00:07:32,240 --> 00:07:28,979

of this yeah I guess it's partly to do

169

00:07:34,189 --> 00:07:32,250

with the very kind of scientific

170

00:07:35,629 --> 00:07:34,199

culture we're living in I mean people

171

00:07:38,480 --> 00:07:35,639

don't really know what philosophy is

172

00:07:41,749 --> 00:07:38,490

they think no it's the job of science to

173

00:07:43,610 --> 00:07:41,759

tell us you know what the universe is

174

00:07:45,200 --> 00:07:43,620

like maybe it's a job of philosophers to

175

00:07:47,749 --> 00:07:45,210

make us feel a bit better about it or

176

00:07:49,040 --> 00:07:47,759

something but you know it's the job of

177

00:07:50,600 --> 00:07:49,050

science' tell us what the world is like

178

00:07:53,200 --> 00:07:50,610

and I guess I think we're going through

179

00:07:56,089 --> 00:07:53,210

a phase of history where people are

180

00:07:58,459 --> 00:07:56,099

rightly you know blown away by the

181

00:08:00,649 --> 00:07:58,469

success of physical science you know and

182

00:08:02,749 --> 00:08:00,659

the extraordinary technology it's

183

00:08:04,969 --> 00:08:02,759

produced and you know that leads you to

184

00:08:07,550 --> 00:08:04,979

think oh this works right we've got

185

00:08:11,300 --> 00:08:07,560

something that works and to put all your

186

00:08:11,890 --> 00:08:11,310

faith in that whereas as we might get

187

00:08:14,860 --> 00:08:11,900

onto I

188

00:08:17,499 --> 00:08:14,870

in my view the reason physical science

189

00:08:19,570 --> 00:08:17,509

has been so successful is because it's

190

00:08:22,810 --> 00:08:19,580

it's always been focused on on a quite

191

00:08:25,390 --> 00:08:22,820

narrow task you know roughly telling us

192

00:08:27,999 --> 00:08:25,400

how things behave and it's done very

193

00:08:30,490 --> 00:08:28,009

well focusing on that narrow task but

194

00:08:32,079 --> 00:08:30,500

there's lots of other things we know

195

00:08:35,110 --> 00:08:32,089

about the world that you know don't

196

00:08:36,880 --> 00:08:35,120

quite fit in there such as consciousness

197

00:08:40,269 --> 00:08:36,890

I mean you know consciousness is that is

198

00:08:42,159 --> 00:08:40,279

the most interesting because on the one

199

00:08:43,990 --> 00:08:42,169

hand it's so hard to fit into our

200

00:08:46,570 --> 00:08:44,000

standard scientific picture of reality

201

00:08:48,820 --> 00:08:46,580

but on the other hand it's so hard to

202

00:08:51,790 --> 00:08:48,830

deny it exists you know you're nothing

203

00:08:54,400 --> 00:08:51,800

is more evident than the reality of our

204

00:08:56,500 --> 00:08:54,410

feelings and experiences so you know we

205

00:08:58,269 --> 00:08:56,510

have to account for it somehow it has to

206

00:09:00,550 --> 00:08:58,279

fit in there somehow you know but it's

207

00:09:02,740 --> 00:09:00,560

so hard to make it fit so you know I

208

00:09:05,380 --> 00:09:02,750

mean things have changed a lot I'd say

209

00:09:08,620 --> 00:09:05,390

you know but hold on hold on full stop

210

00:09:12,250 --> 00:09:08,630

because I always worry that even casting

211

00:09:15,160 --> 00:09:12,260

it that way is I think conceding too

212

00:09:18,370 --> 00:09:15,170

much to materialistic science from a

213

00:09:21,910 --> 00:09:18,380

philosophical standpoint consciousness

214

00:09:24,940 --> 00:09:21,920

your consciousness is really the only

215

00:09:27,000 --> 00:09:24,950

thing you can be sure of and contrasting

216

00:09:30,040 --> 00:09:27,010

that with this theory out there this

217

00:09:33,220 --> 00:09:30,050

unproven and in a lot of ways falsified

218

00:09:35,860 --> 00:09:33,230

theory that the world is out there that

219

00:09:38,530 --> 00:09:35,870

the world is measurable that the rule

220

00:09:41,260 --> 00:09:38,540

there's a consensus among all of us I

221

00:09:44,920 --> 00:09:41,270

mean that is just falsified over and

222

00:09:46,720 --> 00:09:44,930

over again so do we even from the

223

00:09:49,000 --> 00:09:46,730

beginning because of the power of

224

00:09:52,120 --> 00:09:49,010

science in our society do we concede too

225

00:09:54,579 --> 00:09:52,130

much even at the beginning yeah

226

00:09:58,240 --> 00:09:54,589

certainly agree with you to the extent

227

00:10:02,440 --> 00:09:58,250

that I think what is known with greater

228

00:10:05,829 --> 00:10:02,450

certainty is the reality of my own

229

00:10:09,850 --> 00:10:05,839

consciousness you know is there a really

230

00:10:11,710 --> 00:10:09,860

a table out there that's questionable is

231

00:10:13,509 --> 00:10:11,720

certainly known with certainty but if

232

00:10:16,179 --> 00:10:13,519

I'm in pain

233

00:10:18,340 --> 00:10:16,189

it's very hard to deny the reality of my

234

00:10:21,639 --> 00:10:18,350

pain that I'm immediately aware of in my

235

00:10:24,069 --> 00:10:21,649

experience so I think you know decart

236

00:10:25,869 --> 00:10:24,079

you know the start of modern philosophy

237

00:10:27,489 --> 00:10:25,879

back in the Scientific Revolution got

238

00:10:28,809 --> 00:10:27,499

that completely right although I don't

239

00:10:32,889 --> 00:10:28,819

agree with them about a lot of other

240

00:10:33,850 --> 00:10:32,899

things but I suppose it depends what you

241

00:10:38,040 --> 00:10:33,860

mean by science

242

00:10:40,809 --> 00:10:38,050

I tend to distinguish physical science

243

00:10:43,600 --> 00:10:40,819

from a more expansive conception of

244

00:10:47,290 --> 00:10:43,610

science physical science being focused

245

00:10:52,989 --> 00:10:47,300

on obsession and experiment

246

00:10:55,449 --> 00:10:52,999

and quantitative analysis in intuitive

247

00:10:58,389 --> 00:10:55,459

vocabulary mathema I don't think those

248

00:10:59,679 --> 00:10:58,399

resources are much good at least for

249

00:11:01,030 --> 00:10:59,689

giving a complete account of

250

00:11:03,850 --> 00:11:01,040

consciousness and I think they were

251  
00:11:06,189 --> 00:11:03,860  
never designed for that purpose but what

252  
00:11:08,799 --> 00:11:06,199  
I like to move towards is expansive

253  
00:11:12,910 --> 00:11:08,809  
conception of science sometimes called

254  
00:11:15,299 --> 00:11:12,920  
the boost gala AIIMS where we where we

255  
00:11:17,379 --> 00:11:15,309  
take your observation environment

256  
00:11:20,230 --> 00:11:17,389  
uncertain as they don't think they're

257  
00:11:23,350 --> 00:11:20,240  
important for informing our theory of

258  
00:11:25,539 --> 00:11:23,360  
the world but we also take the reality

259  
00:11:28,179 --> 00:11:25,549  
of consciousness as we immediately

260  
00:11:31,509 --> 00:11:28,189  
experience it as a datum at least equal

261  
00:11:32,980 --> 00:11:31,519  
if not more important than observation

262  
00:11:35,410 --> 00:11:32,990  
experiment and we try to put them both

263  
00:11:38,049 --> 00:11:35,420

together and try to find a theory a

264

00:11:40,569 --> 00:11:38,059

reality that can account for both and I

265

00:11:42,160 --> 00:11:40,579

don't people are really in the mindset

266

00:11:44,619 --> 00:11:42,170

of thinking of science like that they

267

00:11:46,660 --> 00:11:44,629

think of Sciences the job of science is

268

00:11:47,980 --> 00:11:46,670

account for the data of observation

269

00:11:50,769 --> 00:11:47,990

experiment you know once you've done

270

00:11:51,819 --> 00:11:50,779

that job done but I think that you know

271

00:11:54,910 --> 00:11:51,829

know there's something else there's

272

00:11:56,439 --> 00:11:54,920

something else we know is real and if we

273

00:11:58,299 --> 00:11:56,449

can't account for that then our theory

274

00:12:00,970 --> 00:11:58,309

is incomplete so I think we need to move

275

00:12:03,639 --> 00:12:00,980

to an expansive conception of science

276

00:12:04,600 --> 00:12:03,649

where we take consciousness as a datum

277

00:12:08,379 --> 00:12:04,610

and it's so right

278

00:12:11,679 --> 00:12:08,389

yeah I hear you I keep wanting to go

279

00:12:14,799 --> 00:12:11,689

further and I guess that's been one of

280

00:12:17,350 --> 00:12:14,809

my aims on this show because well I

281

00:12:19,660 --> 00:12:17,360

started with believing there was this

282

00:12:22,150 --> 00:12:19,670

legitimate divide you know and this

283

00:12:24,369 --> 00:12:22,160

legitimate question about the hard

284

00:12:26,049 --> 00:12:24,379

problem of consciousness which you know

285

00:12:27,280 --> 00:12:26,059

now I come to understand is such a

286

00:12:29,170 --> 00:12:27,290

misnomer I mean what's

287

00:12:31,420 --> 00:12:29,180

easy problem of consciousness it kind of

288

00:12:34,509 --> 00:12:31,430

misses the point from the beginning but

289

00:12:38,050 --> 00:12:34,519

that led me to an investigation of

290

00:12:41,590 --> 00:12:38,060

frontier science parapsychology here are

291

00:12:43,840 --> 00:12:41,600

folks saying wait I can take I can play

292

00:12:46,449 --> 00:12:43,850

by the rules of the game that is the

293

00:12:49,960 --> 00:12:46,459

scientific method and I can show you

294

00:12:53,319 --> 00:12:49,970

that consciousness doesn't work the way

295

00:12:55,930 --> 00:12:53,329

you think it does that an epiphenomena

296

00:12:59,100 --> 00:12:55,940

of the brain model of brain based

297

00:13:01,780 --> 00:12:59,110

consciousness falls apart from these

298

00:13:04,180 --> 00:13:01,790

parapsychology experiments and then when

299

00:13:06,189 --> 00:13:04,190

you start pulling all that apart and

300

00:13:08,439 --> 00:13:06,199

there's all this bobbling back and forth

301  
00:13:10,740 --> 00:13:08,449  
hey take it one step further go to the

302  
00:13:12,610 --> 00:13:10,750  
near-death experience science

303  
00:13:14,920 --> 00:13:12,620  
experiments published in peer-reviewed

304  
00:13:16,689 --> 00:13:14,930  
journals and now you're totally off the

305  
00:13:17,590 --> 00:13:16,699  
reservation there's no way we can get

306  
00:13:21,129 --> 00:13:17,600  
back to that

307  
00:13:25,420 --> 00:13:21,139  
don't be materialistic science brain

308  
00:13:27,340 --> 00:13:25,430  
based neurology nonsense what about what

309  
00:13:30,480 --> 00:13:27,350  
about that path what about it-- so my

310  
00:13:33,040 --> 00:13:30,490  
poke at you is I don't see Phillip Gough

311  
00:13:36,160 --> 00:13:33,050  
parapsychology I don't see dr. Phillip

312  
00:13:38,949 --> 00:13:36,170  
Goff near-death experience aren't these

313  
00:13:41,579 --> 00:13:38,959

probably the best examples we have of

314

00:13:47,019 --> 00:13:41,589

science that undermines this

315

00:13:50,290 --> 00:13:47,029

materialistic consciousness idea I guess

316

00:13:54,660 --> 00:13:50,300

I guess you're critiquing materialism

317

00:13:56,800 --> 00:13:54,670

perhaps from a different angle I mean I

318

00:14:00,340 --> 00:13:56,810

mean my protamine I guess my

319

00:14:04,180 --> 00:14:00,350

philosophical education we were told

320

00:14:07,509 --> 00:14:04,190

that the the only options you know you

321

00:14:10,480 --> 00:14:07,519

had to be a materialist or a dualist you

322

00:14:12,009 --> 00:14:10,490

had to you had to think you know like a

323

00:14:13,720 --> 00:14:12,019

materia so you could just explain

324

00:14:16,540 --> 00:14:13,730

consciousness in terms of the chemistry

325

00:14:19,240 --> 00:14:16,550

of the brain oh you're a dualist and you

326

00:14:21,250 --> 00:14:19,250

think consciousness is outside of the

327

00:14:22,870 --> 00:14:21,260

physical body and brain which is maybe

328

00:14:24,460 --> 00:14:22,880

from what you've just said that more the

329

00:14:28,019 --> 00:14:24,470

direction you're a man perhaps

330

00:14:31,840 --> 00:14:28,029

I guess I've always found both of these

331

00:14:33,309 --> 00:14:31,850

problematic and you know for a long time

332

00:14:34,689 --> 00:14:33,319

I was kind of disillusioned with it all

333

00:14:38,379 --> 00:14:34,699

and thought you know none of these

334

00:14:40,690 --> 00:14:38,389

options work but I guess what what I'm

335

00:14:43,960 --> 00:14:40,700

just interested in is is

336

00:14:47,920 --> 00:14:43,970

general picture of reality that is able

337

00:14:50,050 --> 00:14:47,930

to bring together you know what we know

338

00:14:52,290 --> 00:14:50,060

about reality from observation and

339

00:14:54,940 --> 00:14:52,300

experiment and what we know about

340

00:14:58,000 --> 00:14:54,950

consciousness from the inside as it were

341

00:15:00,040 --> 00:14:58,010

you know a general theory of reality and

342

00:15:01,690 --> 00:15:00,050

then you know obviously we want to do

343

00:15:04,180 --> 00:15:01,700

empirical work to fill out the details

344

00:15:09,240 --> 00:15:04,190

and people will argue over that and you

345

00:15:13,030 --> 00:15:11,320

you know I guess the more conventional

346

00:15:14,650 --> 00:15:13,040

scientists for better or worse I don't

347

00:15:16,360 --> 00:15:14,660

mean to say conventional in a positive

348

00:15:18,700 --> 00:15:16,370

or a negative way will push in the

349

00:15:21,760 --> 00:15:18,710

opposite direction I want a general

350

00:15:24,840 --> 00:15:21,770

framework that can fit in consciousness

351

00:15:27,040 --> 00:15:24,850

whatever the science tells us you know

352

00:15:28,180 --> 00:15:27,050

so I guess I'm working you know

353

00:15:32,050 --> 00:15:28,190

different people work on different

354

00:15:35,680 --> 00:15:32,060

things I'm working at a at that general

355

00:15:37,240 --> 00:15:35,690

framework and you know part of the

356

00:15:40,330 --> 00:15:37,250

reason you know my last book the new

357

00:15:42,640 --> 00:15:40,340

consciousness but man reality was a very

358

00:15:44,740 --> 00:15:42,650

academic book it's probably a bit more

359

00:15:46,870 --> 00:15:44,750

accessible than a normal academic book

360

00:15:48,970 --> 00:15:46,880

but it's still pretty you know it

361

00:15:51,010 --> 00:15:48,980

inaccessible in some ways so the the

362

00:15:53,050 --> 00:15:51,020

purpose of my new book is very different

363

00:15:55,720 --> 00:15:53,060

kind of book very much aimed at a

364

00:15:59,080 --> 00:15:55,730

general audience very much trying to get

365

00:16:00,670 --> 00:15:59,090

this general framework out there that's

366

00:16:02,770 --> 00:16:00,680

getting more known and causing a lot of

367

00:16:04,330 --> 00:16:02,780

excitement in academic philosophy for

368

00:16:07,330 --> 00:16:04,340

trying to get it out there to a broader

369

00:16:08,980 --> 00:16:07,340

audience to scientists to think is more

370

00:16:11,770 --> 00:16:08,990

broadly so that you know we can start to

371

00:16:13,630 --> 00:16:11,780

try and or fill in the details of this

372

00:16:15,160 --> 00:16:13,640

view you know bringing in more of the

373

00:16:18,250 --> 00:16:15,170

empirical science but I guess I'm

374

00:16:21,190 --> 00:16:18,260

working at that more abstract level that

375

00:16:23,770 --> 00:16:21,200

abstracts from those specificities that

376

00:16:25,570 --> 00:16:23,780

make sense maybe I'm gonna push you a

377

00:16:27,160 --> 00:16:25,580

little bit on that for a second but tell

378

00:16:30,190 --> 00:16:27,170

us about that book it sounds interesting

379

00:16:34,030 --> 00:16:30,200

Galileo's air that immediately draws us

380

00:16:38,860 --> 00:16:34,040

in what's the general premise so I guess

381

00:16:40,750 --> 00:16:38,870

the big argument is that the reason we

382

00:16:42,340 --> 00:16:40,760

have a problem of consciousness is

383

00:16:44,860 --> 00:16:42,350

because of the way

384

00:16:48,010 --> 00:16:44,870

Galileo designed physical science and

385

00:16:49,360 --> 00:16:48,020

hence if we want to solve the problem of

386

00:16:53,200 --> 00:16:49,370

consciousness you know we need to

387

00:16:54,190 --> 00:16:53,210

rethink what what science is so you know

388

00:16:55,660 --> 00:16:54,200

that I mean the

389

00:17:00,220 --> 00:16:55,670

key moment in the Scientific Revolution

390

00:17:02,250 --> 00:17:00,230

is when Galileo says mathematics is to

391

00:17:05,050 --> 00:17:02,260

be the language of the new science right

392

00:17:07,990 --> 00:17:05,060

and but what is that and forgotten is

393

00:17:10,750 --> 00:17:08,000

the philosophical work he had to do to

394

00:17:14,050 --> 00:17:10,760

get to that stage right because before

395

00:17:17,500 --> 00:17:14,060

Galileo people thought the world was

396

00:17:19,329 --> 00:17:17,510

full of qualities thought the physical

397

00:17:21,970 --> 00:17:19,339

world was you know they were colours on

398

00:17:24,939 --> 00:17:21,980

the surfaces of objects and smells

399

00:17:27,790 --> 00:17:24,949

floating through the air and tastes in

400

00:17:29,440 --> 00:17:27,800

food and this is a problem for Galileo

401  
00:17:32,460 --> 00:17:29,450  
because he wanna it's hard to see how

402  
00:17:34,450 --> 00:17:32,470  
you can capture these qualities in

403  
00:17:37,000 --> 00:17:34,460  
mathematical language you know how can

404  
00:17:38,530 --> 00:17:37,010  
you capture what you know the redness of

405  
00:17:41,800 --> 00:17:38,540  
red in the abstract language of

406  
00:17:43,480 --> 00:17:41,810  
mathematics so what Galileo did and this

407  
00:17:46,210 --> 00:17:43,490  
is you know this is the start of modern

408  
00:17:48,610 --> 00:17:46,220  
science what Galileo did was he he gave

409  
00:17:51,640 --> 00:17:48,620  
a philosophical reinterpretation of

410  
00:17:53,920 --> 00:17:51,650  
reality right you know he said I don't

411  
00:17:55,930 --> 00:17:53,930  
think those qualities are really out

412  
00:17:59,230 --> 00:17:55,940  
there in reality I think they're in the

413  
00:18:01,270 --> 00:17:59,240

soul they're in consciousness they're

414

00:18:03,910 --> 00:18:01,280

outside of the domain of science and

415

00:18:07,540 --> 00:18:03,920

then the job of science is to focus on

416

00:18:09,370 --> 00:18:07,550

the quantitative aspects of matter what

417

00:18:11,590 --> 00:18:09,380

you can capture in mathematics eyes

418

00:18:13,150 --> 00:18:11,600

shape motion they're they're the only

419

00:18:15,910 --> 00:18:13,160

things that are really in the physical

420

00:18:20,130 --> 00:18:15,920

scientific domain so he introduces this

421

00:18:23,320 --> 00:18:20,140

dualism this radical division between

422

00:18:26,800 --> 00:18:23,330

you know between consciousness and its

423

00:18:30,000 --> 00:18:26,810

qualities outside of science and the

424

00:18:32,320 --> 00:18:30,010

quantitative mathematical physical world

425

00:18:34,270 --> 00:18:32,330

and so this is the start of mathematical

426

00:18:36,450 --> 00:18:34,280

physics and it's been you know

427

00:18:40,720 --> 00:18:36,460

incredibly successful at what it does

428

00:18:42,820 --> 00:18:40,730

but you know it was never intended to be

429

00:18:46,630 --> 00:18:42,830

a complete theory of reality and it was

430

00:18:48,220 --> 00:18:46,640

always premise on taking consciousness

431

00:18:51,580 --> 00:18:48,230

in the qualities of consciousness

432

00:18:54,160 --> 00:18:51,590

outside of science and so you know if we

433

00:18:55,960 --> 00:18:54,170

need to if we if we want a complete

434

00:18:58,150 --> 00:18:55,970

theory of reality that includes

435

00:18:59,950 --> 00:18:58,160

consciousness you know we have to find a

436

00:19:01,390 --> 00:18:59,960

way of bringing it back in so I think

437

00:19:03,760 --> 00:19:01,400

you know like if Galileo is to

438

00:19:05,980 --> 00:19:03,770

time-travel to the present day and hear

439

00:19:07,630 --> 00:19:05,990

about this problem of giving a physical

440

00:19:08,860 --> 00:19:07,640

explanation of consciousness

441

00:19:10,840 --> 00:19:08,870

he'd say you know of course that's

442

00:19:13,690 --> 00:19:10,850

impossible I designed science to deal

443

00:19:15,280 --> 00:19:13,700

with quantities not qualities so I think

444

00:19:16,960 --> 00:19:15,290

you know it's been the problem of

445

00:19:18,940 --> 00:19:16,970

consciousness has been written in from

446

00:19:22,180 --> 00:19:18,950

the start really so that's the kind of

447

00:19:24,940 --> 00:19:22,190

starting point of the book yeah you know

448

00:19:27,190 --> 00:19:24,950

I always point to the famous quote

449

00:19:28,930 --> 00:19:27,200

that's attributed to Richard Feynman but

450

00:19:32,800 --> 00:19:28,940

I think it was actually someone else but

451  
00:19:34,900 --> 00:19:32,810  
you know in the early 1900's when the

452  
00:19:37,570 --> 00:19:34,910  
great quantum physicists are really

453  
00:19:39,250 --> 00:19:37,580  
trying to solve that problem and they

454  
00:19:43,060 --> 00:19:39,260  
get to it and they go hey you know what

455  
00:19:45,820 --> 00:19:43,070  
we can't its consciousness there's there

456  
00:19:48,700 --> 00:19:45,830  
we've run right up against the wall of

457  
00:19:51,580 --> 00:19:48,710  
consciousness right and then find Minh

458  
00:19:53,170 --> 00:19:51,590  
and his group go off and say the shut up

459  
00:19:55,750 --> 00:19:53,180  
and calculate things do you know that

460  
00:19:59,050 --> 00:19:55,760  
story where they just kind of go yeah so

461  
00:20:02,800 --> 00:19:59,060  
shut up and calculate to me is what we

462  
00:20:05,560 --> 00:20:02,810  
live in now and what the right the only

463  
00:20:08,170 --> 00:20:05,570

the only problem with that is that we

464

00:20:10,540 --> 00:20:08,180

kind of ignore the fact that we took a

465

00:20:13,150 --> 00:20:10,550

philosophical side step to the problem

466

00:20:15,220 --> 00:20:13,160

right so we we ran into the wall and we

467

00:20:17,080 --> 00:20:15,230

said okay it's perfectly fine to say

468

00:20:19,030 --> 00:20:17,090

well we'll just step around it for now

469

00:20:21,460 --> 00:20:19,040

and see what kind of iPhones we can make

470

00:20:23,740 --> 00:20:21,470

out of this but then you do have to come

471

00:20:26,070 --> 00:20:23,750

back at some point and go we did kind of

472

00:20:28,690 --> 00:20:26,080

sidestep the fact that none of this

473

00:20:30,700 --> 00:20:28,700

really makes any sense from a

474

00:20:32,890 --> 00:20:30,710

measurement standpoint and that's where

475

00:20:36,910 --> 00:20:32,900

I guess I feel like we're still kind of

476

00:20:39,790 --> 00:20:36,920

tiptoeing around the dilemma with

477

00:20:42,010 --> 00:20:39,800

science in general and I'm not even

478

00:20:44,980 --> 00:20:42,020

willing to concede that you know we have

479

00:20:48,400 --> 00:20:44,990

to compartmentalize it here there if we

480

00:20:51,390 --> 00:20:48,410

can't measure then science is out of

481

00:20:54,400 --> 00:20:51,400

business and everything we know about

482

00:20:57,700 --> 00:20:54,410

quantum physics tells us that at the

483

00:21:00,610 --> 00:20:57,710

fundamental level that we know of we are

484

00:21:04,390 --> 00:21:00,620

no longer able to really measure things

485

00:21:07,030 --> 00:21:04,400

so I just wonder if if we're really

486

00:21:08,890 --> 00:21:07,040

there and I listened to your interview

487

00:21:11,190 --> 00:21:08,900

your excellent interview with Michael

488

00:21:13,150 --> 00:21:11,200

Shermer and I sent you a copy of my

489

00:21:16,390 --> 00:21:13,160

interview with Michael Shermer who is

490

00:21:19,770 --> 00:21:16,400

one of my favorite favorite frenemies in

491

00:21:21,640 --> 00:21:19,780

this whole thing because he sounds so

492

00:21:23,890 --> 00:21:21,650

brilliant and yet

493

00:21:26,230 --> 00:21:23,900

it's total gobbly what he says and

494

00:21:28,510 --> 00:21:26,240

when you push it to any degree it just

495

00:21:30,430 --> 00:21:28,520

doesn't hold up it doesn't make any

496

00:21:33,460 --> 00:21:30,440

sense it's like listening to Neil

497

00:21:36,250 --> 00:21:33,470

deGrasse Tyson talk about consciousness

498

00:21:39,220 --> 00:21:36,260

it's just silliness I mean it just

499

00:21:42,070 --> 00:21:39,230

doesn't make any sense so I guess one of

500

00:21:44,680 --> 00:21:42,080

the questions I posed is is this worth

501  
00:21:47,160 --> 00:21:44,690  
saving can this be recovered in the way

502  
00:21:49,810 --> 00:21:47,170  
that you're talking about or is this

503  
00:21:51,610 --> 00:21:49,820  
fundamental shift that we're talking

504  
00:21:53,170 --> 00:21:51,620  
about really lead us in a whole

505  
00:21:55,450 --> 00:21:53,180  
different direction and I guess I'd have

506  
00:21:58,960 --> 00:21:55,460  
to add one more problem is I always feel

507  
00:22:00,760 --> 00:21:58,970  
like philosophers and philosophy at this

508  
00:22:02,560 --> 00:22:00,770  
point you know philosophy supposed to be

509  
00:22:05,470 --> 00:22:02,570  
keen philosophy supposed to be on top

510  
00:22:08,140 --> 00:22:05,480  
and I think they've been pushed down for

511  
00:22:11,290 --> 00:22:08,150  
so long that they're kind of careful

512  
00:22:14,080 --> 00:22:11,300  
about saying these kind of things like

513  
00:22:15,340 --> 00:22:14,090

hey you guys are all nincompoops what

514

00:22:17,160 --> 00:22:15,350

you're saying doesn't make any sense

515

00:22:19,390 --> 00:22:17,170

consciousness is an illusion is

516

00:22:21,010 --> 00:22:19,400

laughable to a first-grader

517

00:22:24,010 --> 00:22:21,020

if you went and said you know your

518

00:22:26,590 --> 00:22:24,020

entire experience of your mom your dad

519

00:22:28,570 --> 00:22:26,600

your classmates your family that's all

520

00:22:31,300 --> 00:22:28,580

an illusion they would laugh in your

521

00:22:33,460 --> 00:22:31,310

face and yet we sit around and have

522

00:22:35,680 --> 00:22:33,470

conferences where we debate this you

523

00:22:37,660 --> 00:22:35,690

know and Sam Harris and Chalmers are

524

00:22:39,490 --> 00:22:37,670

sitting there well do you think Dan

525

00:22:41,880 --> 00:22:39,500

Dennett really believes that I mean

526

00:22:50,260 --> 00:22:41,890

we're giving legitimacy to just these

527

00:22:52,780 --> 00:22:50,270

wildly insane ideas yeah does people who

528

00:22:55,630 --> 00:22:52,790

deny the existence of consciousness yeah

529

00:22:57,760 --> 00:22:55,640

I mean a very close friend of me to use

530

00:22:59,650 --> 00:22:57,770

the same term on Keith Frankish who's a

531

00:23:03,280 --> 00:22:59,660

philosopher who's very good friend of

532

00:23:05,350 --> 00:23:03,290

mine a very warm empathetic guy very

533

00:23:08,020 --> 00:23:05,360

kind cares about the world but he

534

00:23:09,700 --> 00:23:08,030

doesn't think consciousness exists it

535

00:23:12,220 --> 00:23:09,710

was incredible to me that it you know in

536

00:23:16,090 --> 00:23:12,230

a sense he thinks you know no one has

537

00:23:19,140 --> 00:23:16,100

ever really felt pain or no so I guess

538

00:23:22,660 --> 00:23:19,150

I'm how do people get to that position

539

00:23:25,330 --> 00:23:22,670

and I think one of the big problems in

540

00:23:28,090 --> 00:23:25,340

that position that I often put to keep

541

00:23:29,470 --> 00:23:28,100

is you know all of cut all of scientific

542

00:23:31,450 --> 00:23:29,480

knowledge is mediated through

543

00:23:35,590 --> 00:23:31,460

consciousness right New York you only

544

00:23:38,110 --> 00:23:35,600

know that electrons because you have

545

00:23:39,910 --> 00:23:38,120

you know conscious experiences of cloud

546

00:23:43,420 --> 00:23:39,920

chambers and things you know you only

547

00:23:45,340 --> 00:23:43,430

know any scientific experimental data

548

00:23:49,360 --> 00:23:45,350

because you have conscious experience of

549

00:23:51,520 --> 00:23:49,370

your instruments you know so in a way

550

00:23:53,140 --> 00:23:51,530

thinking that you could have scientific

551  
00:23:55,390 --> 00:23:53,150  
evidence the consciousness doesn't exist

552  
00:23:56,890 --> 00:23:55,400  
is a bit like thinking astronomy can

553  
00:23:59,860 --> 00:23:56,900  
tell us that there aren't any telescopes

554  
00:24:02,650 --> 00:23:59,870  
you know or it's like it's kind of like

555  
00:24:04,030 --> 00:24:02,660  
another analogy it's like believing

556  
00:24:05,530 --> 00:24:04,040  
someone who tells you that they never

557  
00:24:06,640 --> 00:24:05,540  
tell the truth you know it's sort of

558  
00:24:10,210 --> 00:24:06,650  
self-defeating

559  
00:24:13,300 --> 00:24:10,220  
so I think there is you know I always

560  
00:24:15,960 --> 00:24:13,310  
think of that Albert Albert Camus quote

561  
00:24:19,840 --> 00:24:15,970  
there's only one philosophical question

562  
00:24:22,300 --> 00:24:19,850  
suicide so I mean if you really believe

563  
00:24:24,580 --> 00:24:22,310

I mean it I don't mean to to be too

564

00:24:26,260 --> 00:24:24,590

harsh on that and I'm not sure you know

565

00:24:28,030 --> 00:24:26,270

exactly how he meant it but the way it's

566

00:24:32,170 --> 00:24:28,040

interpreted I think is beautiful which

567

00:24:35,410 --> 00:24:32,180

is if you really believe that there is

568

00:24:38,500 --> 00:24:35,420

no such thing is your experience then

569

00:24:41,200 --> 00:24:38,510

you're living in a complete worthless

570

00:24:43,750 --> 00:24:41,210

meaningless existence and you can't even

571

00:24:45,700 --> 00:24:43,760

cop out by saying well you know maybe my

572

00:24:47,050 --> 00:24:45,710

kids will be different no there's none

573

00:24:50,200 --> 00:24:47,060

of it you know that why would you

574

00:24:52,120 --> 00:24:50,210

persist in the game you know yeah it's

575

00:24:53,530 --> 00:24:52,130

it's very hard to get in the mindset of

576

00:24:54,970 --> 00:24:53,540

but people say about quite a big

577

00:24:58,840 --> 00:24:54,980

philosophy of the 20th century

578

00:25:02,590 --> 00:24:58,850

Quine was a huge influence and yeah

579

00:25:03,910 --> 00:25:02,600

people he kind of famously towards the

580

00:25:05,590 --> 00:25:03,920

end of these pretty much denied the

581

00:25:07,930 --> 00:25:05,600

reality conscious consciousness but then

582

00:25:11,380 --> 00:25:07,940

people said actually when you read his

583

00:25:15,730 --> 00:25:11,390

autobiography just about his life and it

584

00:25:18,700 --> 00:25:15,740

seemed like he was startlingly lacking

585

00:25:21,610 --> 00:25:18,710

in introspection you know he never seems

586

00:25:24,630 --> 00:25:21,620

to mention anything subjective so maybe

587

00:25:26,920 --> 00:25:24,640

in a sense he somehow wasn't aware or he

588

00:25:29,920 --> 00:25:26,930

didn't attend to consciousness very

589

00:25:31,840 --> 00:25:29,930

often but uh so yeah I think he famously

590

00:25:33,460 --> 00:25:31,850

said actually if there's such a thing as

591

00:25:34,120 --> 00:25:33,470

consciousness I'm not conscious of it or

592

00:25:36,970 --> 00:25:34,130

something

593

00:25:38,740 --> 00:25:36,980

witty thing like anyway but you know why

594

00:25:40,600 --> 00:25:38,750

are people led to that I think is the

595

00:25:42,010 --> 00:25:40,610

question we need to ask now I get into

596

00:25:43,900 --> 00:25:42,020

the about the detail techie

597

00:25:45,880 --> 00:25:43,910

philosophical arguments but at the end

598

00:25:48,050 --> 00:25:45,890

of the day they don't really convince

599

00:25:50,030 --> 00:25:48,060

people you got it you got to get the big

600

00:25:51,320 --> 00:25:50,040

and narrative why people are in that

601  
00:25:52,880 --> 00:25:51,330  
mindset and that's really what I'm

602  
00:25:55,370 --> 00:25:52,890  
trying to do with this new book that's

603  
00:25:57,080 --> 00:25:55,380  
why it's framed in terms of going back

604  
00:25:59,210 --> 00:25:57,090  
to the start of the Scientific

605  
00:26:02,980 --> 00:25:59,220  
Revolution because I think people have

606  
00:26:05,420 --> 00:26:02,990  
this idea what why is Keith Frankish or

607  
00:26:08,120 --> 00:26:05,430  
other people Daniel Dennett led to that

608  
00:26:10,160 --> 00:26:08,130  
because they're blown away by how

609  
00:26:12,320 --> 00:26:10,170  
successful science is you ain't got

610  
00:26:14,540 --> 00:26:12,330  
lights and hair dryers and men on the

611  
00:26:17,150 --> 00:26:14,550  
moon and they you know they're impressed

612  
00:26:19,520 --> 00:26:17,160  
by that and it is impressive but it's

613  
00:26:21,200 --> 00:26:19,530

drawing the right moral from that so

614

00:26:23,690 --> 00:26:21,210

they think oh it's it's so impressive

615

00:26:26,510 --> 00:26:23,700

that must mean it can tell us everything

616

00:26:28,070 --> 00:26:26,520

whereas I say it's so impressive because

617

00:26:30,230 --> 00:26:28,080

it was never supposed to tell us

618

00:26:32,930 --> 00:26:30,240

everything because it was always focused

619

00:26:34,940 --> 00:26:32,940

on this very narrow task and I think it

620

00:26:37,550 --> 00:26:34,950

you know he can persuade people of that

621

00:26:39,800 --> 00:26:37,560

narrative you know that that big picture

622

00:26:42,710 --> 00:26:39,810

of yes physical sides has been

623

00:26:45,700 --> 00:26:42,720

successful book do you enjoy a different

624

00:26:49,670 --> 00:26:45,710

implication from its can start to change

625

00:26:50,720 --> 00:26:49,680

but yeah I don't think I agree with you

626

00:26:52,310 --> 00:26:50,730

that I don't want to take these people

627

00:26:56,120 --> 00:26:52,320

seriously though right you know I think

628

00:26:57,890 --> 00:26:56,130

I think there's I don't know these

629

00:27:02,030 --> 00:26:57,900

questions apart these questions are very

630

00:27:04,250 --> 00:27:02,040

abstract I'm happy for all sorts of

631

00:27:07,610 --> 00:27:04,260

people to defend all sorts of different

632

00:27:10,940 --> 00:27:07,620

things and you know see where we end up

633

00:27:13,430 --> 00:27:10,950

okay let me kind of come at it a

634

00:27:15,290 --> 00:27:13,440

different way cuz I don't disagree with

635

00:27:18,290 --> 00:27:15,300

you on that and and I certainly agree

636

00:27:20,540 --> 00:27:18,300

with you that the the accomplishments of

637

00:27:22,970 --> 00:27:20,550

engineering over the last century

638

00:27:25,160 --> 00:27:22,980

certainly are mind-blowing and you just

639

00:27:26,510 --> 00:27:25,170

can't get past them and they are

640

00:27:28,700 --> 00:27:26,520

overwhelming but I think there's two

641

00:27:30,890 --> 00:27:28,710

other things at play that we have to

642

00:27:32,960 --> 00:27:30,900

consider I would I think they're at play

643

00:27:36,410 --> 00:27:32,970

and we can talk about whether they are

644

00:27:39,590 --> 00:27:36,420

or not but one is our understanding of

645

00:27:43,160 --> 00:27:39,600

consciousness this limited understanding

646

00:27:45,680 --> 00:27:43,170

this an income poopourri about

647

00:27:48,880 --> 00:27:45,690

consciousness as a social engineering

648

00:27:51,200 --> 00:27:48,890

project so I sent you a link right

649

00:27:52,910 --> 00:27:51,210

before the show on I apologize for not

650

00:27:54,500 --> 00:27:52,920

sending it you too too far in advance

651

00:27:56,780 --> 00:27:54,510

but I didn't think about it but there's

652

00:27:59,870 --> 00:27:56,790

recently been a huge dump of CIA

653

00:28:01,370 --> 00:27:59,880

documents related to their projects

654

00:28:04,100 --> 00:28:01,380

related to

655

00:28:05,300 --> 00:28:04,110

psychic spying Project Star Gate which

656

00:28:08,180 --> 00:28:05,310

we've talked a lot about on this show

657

00:28:09,440 --> 00:28:08,190

but other projects as well grill flame

658

00:28:11,330 --> 00:28:09,450

and there's all these other ones the

659

00:28:14,630 --> 00:28:11,340

minutes the men that stare at goats

660

00:28:18,530 --> 00:28:14,640

thing the point of all that is that for

661

00:28:21,170 --> 00:28:18,540

the last 50 years those organizations

662

00:28:24,410 --> 00:28:21,180

and operations both in the US and in

663

00:28:25,670 --> 00:28:24,420

other countries have never have gone way

664

00:28:28,220 --> 00:28:25,680

past all this

665

00:28:30,530 --> 00:28:28,230

well that's silliness of course we know

666

00:28:33,530 --> 00:28:30,540

that consciousness is real we know that

667

00:28:36,440 --> 00:28:33,540

extended consciousness in these ways

668

00:28:39,710 --> 00:28:36,450

that science clearly can't understand we

669

00:28:41,630 --> 00:28:39,720

know that's real so is there a game a

670

00:28:44,930 --> 00:28:41,640

little bit of gaming of this system

671

00:28:48,190 --> 00:28:44,940

going on let's let all these folks just

672

00:28:51,650 --> 00:28:48,200

go along with that idea and let's not

673

00:28:53,870 --> 00:28:51,660

necessarily introduce this new idea to

674

00:28:56,330 --> 00:28:53,880

the general public and that is that we

675

00:28:59,600 --> 00:28:56,340

know that consciousness is much more

676

00:29:03,320 --> 00:28:59,610

expansive so let's start there is there

677

00:29:05,930 --> 00:29:03,330

potentially a social engineering aspect

678

00:29:08,840 --> 00:29:05,940

to our limited understanding of

679

00:29:13,550 --> 00:29:08,850

consciousness that's a very interesting

680

00:29:15,910 --> 00:29:13,560

proposition it's not I guess in I I

681

00:29:18,200 --> 00:29:15,920

spent a lot of time arguing with

682

00:29:19,850 --> 00:29:18,210

materialists and people who don't

683

00:29:22,340 --> 00:29:19,860

believe in consciousness and people who

684

00:29:25,520 --> 00:29:22,350

have waited to use me I guess I ain't

685

00:29:28,430 --> 00:29:25,530

really persuaded that people actually

686

00:29:30,020 --> 00:29:28,440

believe that and and I think I

687

00:29:32,540 --> 00:29:30,030

understand why they believe that it's

688

00:29:34,420 --> 00:29:32,550

something to do with being blown away by

689

00:29:37,370 --> 00:29:34,430

the success of Technology or something

690

00:29:38,980 --> 00:29:37,380

so you're saying now that that just to

691

00:29:40,880 --> 00:29:38,990

be clear I mean the two are not mutually

692

00:29:43,940 --> 00:29:40,890

exclusive I mean the way social

693

00:29:46,430 --> 00:29:43,950

engineering works is we do not let the

694

00:29:48,350 --> 00:29:46,440

game play and we just lay down the

695

00:29:50,750 --> 00:29:48,360

cheese where we want the rats to go in

696

00:29:51,380 --> 00:29:50,760

the maze so you know in academia it's

697

00:29:53,060 --> 00:29:51,390

really easy

698

00:29:55,220 --> 00:29:53,070

who gets the grants who gets promoted

699

00:29:57,590 --> 00:29:55,230

who doesn't get promoted who doesn't get

700

00:29:59,240 --> 00:29:57,600

tenure and they get pruned off the tree

701  
00:30:00,530 --> 00:29:59,250  
and at the end of the day you wind up

702  
00:30:02,990 --> 00:30:00,540  
with what we have now

703  
00:30:05,270 --> 00:30:03,000  
you know we wind up with with you

704  
00:30:06,529 --> 00:30:05,280  
arguing with who's the kind of religion

705  
00:30:08,959 --> 00:30:06,539  
guy that

706  
00:30:11,089 --> 00:30:08,969  
Jerry Coyne it winds up with you

707  
00:30:13,249 --> 00:30:11,099  
debating with Jerry Coyne which again I

708  
00:30:15,979 --> 00:30:13,259  
I know I people pushback when I say this

709  
00:30:18,649 --> 00:30:15,989  
but he's just really incompetent I mean

710  
00:30:20,569 --> 00:30:18,659  
I've had him on the show and he just

711  
00:30:22,459 --> 00:30:20,579  
blows like you pointed out in your

712  
00:30:25,489 --> 00:30:22,469  
debate with him he just gets major

713  
00:30:25,969 --> 00:30:25,499

things wrong that he's supposed to know

714

00:30:28,839 --> 00:30:25,979

about

715

00:30:30,859 --> 00:30:28,849

and yet he's put forward and propped up

716

00:30:33,349 --> 00:30:30,869

University of Chicago been around

717

00:30:34,609 --> 00:30:33,359

forever and this goes on and on so that

718

00:30:36,939 --> 00:30:34,619

that's the social engineering project

719

00:30:39,859 --> 00:30:36,949

not that people don't legitimately

720

00:30:42,559 --> 00:30:39,869

believe you know they believe it's just

721

00:30:45,109 --> 00:30:42,569

that the people who are really thinking

722

00:30:47,689 --> 00:30:45,119

this thing through are not presented as

723

00:30:49,369 --> 00:30:47,699

credible clean might be good I don't

724

00:30:50,539 --> 00:30:49,379

know in particularly his work but I

725

00:30:52,669 --> 00:30:50,549

guess he might be good at what he's

726

00:30:54,979 --> 00:30:52,679

doing like I mean you know like Dawkins

727

00:30:56,719 --> 00:30:54,989

and Tyson and these people I mean as far

728

00:30:58,669 --> 00:30:56,729

as I know I'm you know I'm not an expert

729

00:31:00,709 --> 00:30:58,679

in their field but I think you know

730

00:31:04,789 --> 00:31:00,719

they're good at what they're doing but

731

00:31:06,739 --> 00:31:04,799

they get a platform to speak on issues

732

00:31:09,769 --> 00:31:06,749

why are we have to side a barrier

733

00:31:12,139 --> 00:31:09,779

expertise and I think that's part of

734

00:31:16,339 --> 00:31:12,149

this not understanding what philosophy

735

00:31:19,099 --> 00:31:16,349

is you know this scientific culture and

736

00:31:22,459 --> 00:31:19,109

I guess look I'll read the things you

737

00:31:26,119 --> 00:31:22,469

sent I haven't I hadn't you know at time

738

00:31:27,949 --> 00:31:26,129

you know it since without reading those

739

00:31:29,839 --> 00:31:27,959

Philip in general you want you

740

00:31:31,729 --> 00:31:29,849

understand the proposition is that this

741

00:31:34,849 --> 00:31:31,739

stuff goes on like so the remote viewing

742

00:31:36,709 --> 00:31:34,859

research this the MKULTRA research is

743

00:31:38,809 --> 00:31:36,719

all about consciousness so all this

744

00:31:41,180 --> 00:31:38,819

stuff has been going on for 50 years at

745

00:31:44,680 --> 00:31:41,190

this deep level of consciousness that

746

00:31:47,239 --> 00:31:44,690

totally is stands in contrast to

747

00:31:50,209 --> 00:31:47,249

academic understanding of consciousness

748

00:31:53,299 --> 00:31:50,219

I just don't love to look into it I mean

749

00:31:56,569 --> 00:31:53,309

I guess I feel like I have a decent

750

00:31:59,930 --> 00:31:56,579

explanation of why people like Jerry

751  
00:32:01,849 --> 00:31:59,940  
Cohen like Tyson are believing the

752  
00:32:04,759 --> 00:32:01,859  
things they believe even though to my

753  
00:32:05,899 --> 00:32:04,769  
mind they seem crazy and so but then

754  
00:32:09,619 --> 00:32:05,909  
you're now telling me that this other

755  
00:32:11,839 --> 00:32:09,629  
explanation involving things that are

756  
00:32:13,609 --> 00:32:11,849  
just generally accepted that it's sort

757  
00:32:14,989 --> 00:32:13,619  
of being hidden or something I mean I

758  
00:32:20,000 --> 00:32:14,999  
guess I just have to look into that I

759  
00:32:22,580 --> 00:32:20,010  
just I I guess I it's not something I

760  
00:32:26,060 --> 00:32:22,590  
I had a great deal of experience though

761  
00:32:27,769 --> 00:32:26,070  
so yeah I don't know what there is

762  
00:32:29,769 --> 00:32:27,779  
really to look into what well I mean

763  
00:32:32,779 --> 00:32:29,779

because we'll never know right I mean

764

00:32:34,789 --> 00:32:32,789

we'll never know to what to what extent

765

00:32:37,070 --> 00:32:34,799

these people are propped up or to what

766

00:32:39,289 --> 00:32:37,080

extent there's another agenda to me it's

767

00:32:41,330 --> 00:32:39,299

kind of like back to the parapsychology

768

00:32:43,310 --> 00:32:41,340

and near-death experience science stuff

769

00:32:46,519 --> 00:32:43,320

you know like near-death experience

770

00:32:49,120 --> 00:32:46,529

science at this point over 200 papers

771

00:32:52,549 --> 00:32:49,130

published in peer-reviewed journals a

772

00:32:56,149 --> 00:32:52,559

literal almost complete consensus among

773

00:32:58,159 --> 00:32:56,159

people researchers mainly in the medical

774

00:33:01,820 --> 00:32:58,169

field who studied near-death experience

775

00:33:03,440 --> 00:33:01,830

a yep by the best way we can look at the

776

00:33:05,600 --> 00:33:03,450

data the only way we can look at the

777

00:33:08,240 --> 00:33:05,610

data consciousness seems to survive

778

00:33:10,129 --> 00:33:08,250

bodily death and if you're not

779

00:33:13,220 --> 00:33:10,139

comfortable with bodily death it seems

780

00:33:15,049 --> 00:33:13,230

to survive these brain states that we do

781

00:33:19,159 --> 00:33:15,059

not understand how they could possibly

782

00:33:21,889 --> 00:33:19,169

produce consciousness so you know we're

783

00:33:23,740 --> 00:33:21,899

in no-man's land here it doesn't make

784

00:33:28,240 --> 00:33:23,750

sense to come back and talk about

785

00:33:31,250 --> 00:33:28,250

neuroscience quote-unquote until that

786

00:33:33,889 --> 00:33:31,260

problem if you will or that question is

787

00:33:35,960 --> 00:33:33,899

resolved and yet we continue to do that

788

00:33:37,940 --> 00:33:35,970

and not only that there's this huge

789

00:33:40,129 --> 00:33:37,950

backlash which on one hand is

790

00:33:42,350 --> 00:33:40,139

understandable that you know anything

791

00:33:46,039 --> 00:33:42,360

that's gonna totally change the paradigm

792

00:33:47,840 --> 00:33:46,049

and cause you to lose your long history

793

00:33:50,810 --> 00:33:47,850

of research is going to be rebelled

794

00:33:58,730 --> 00:33:50,820

against but they're all the same to me

795

00:34:00,470 --> 00:33:58,740

I'm whether they're very related so at

796

00:34:04,850 --> 00:34:00,480

the end of the day what neuroscience

797

00:34:06,759 --> 00:34:04,860

gives you correlations between certain

798

00:34:09,079 --> 00:34:06,769

things happening in the brain and

799

00:34:11,180 --> 00:34:09,089

certain thing and certain kinds of

800

00:34:13,280 --> 00:34:11,190

conscious experience you know so you can

801  
00:34:15,319 --> 00:34:13,290  
scan people's brain and you can ask them

802  
00:34:17,569 --> 00:34:15,329  
how they're feeling and we can get some

803  
00:34:20,540 --> 00:34:17,579  
data about correlations and then we can

804  
00:34:21,919 --> 00:34:20,550  
start to think about that I take it well

805  
00:34:23,389 --> 00:34:21,929  
I'll ask you in a minute I mean I take

806  
00:34:25,760 --> 00:34:23,399  
it maybe you can agree with that

807  
00:34:29,720 --> 00:34:25,770  
understanding of your aside and maybe

808  
00:34:32,869 --> 00:34:29,730  
maybe you disagree but so I just think

809  
00:34:33,669 --> 00:34:32,879  
that's completely neutral on any sort of

810  
00:34:35,770 --> 00:34:33,679  
philosophic

811  
00:34:37,119 --> 00:34:35,780  
theoria consciousness because i mean

812  
00:34:39,430 --> 00:34:37,129  
that people have this idea that

813  
00:34:42,790 --> 00:34:39,440

neuroscience is supporting materialism

814

00:34:45,790 --> 00:34:42,800

but and your your querying that from one

815

00:34:48,669 --> 00:34:45,800

angle but actually it's a non-starter

816

00:34:52,690 --> 00:34:48,679

anyway because neuroscience just gives

817

00:34:53,980 --> 00:34:52,700

you correlations at best let's say and

818

00:34:56,559 --> 00:34:53,990

that's not a theory of consciousness

819

00:34:58,390 --> 00:34:56,569

right because to get a theory of

820

00:35:01,720 --> 00:34:58,400

consciousness we want to explain those

821

00:35:04,510 --> 00:35:01,730

correlations you know why is it that you

822

00:35:06,880 --> 00:35:04,520

know certain things going on in the

823

00:35:09,040 --> 00:35:06,890

brain sometimes at least correspond to

824

00:35:10,540 --> 00:35:09,050

consciousness certain conscious states

825

00:35:11,980 --> 00:35:10,550

know the dualist can give one

826

00:35:13,720 --> 00:35:11,990

explanation the materialists given

827

00:35:15,730 --> 00:35:13,730

over-the-pants I kissed my own favorite

828

00:35:18,430 --> 00:35:15,740

you can give another and we can fight

829

00:35:19,690 --> 00:35:18,440

over it but but neuroscience in itself I

830

00:35:21,640 --> 00:35:19,700

would just say it's neutral so I don't

831

00:35:22,870 --> 00:35:21,650

think you meter so I would say back to

832

00:35:24,150 --> 00:35:22,880

you I guess I don't think you need to

833

00:35:27,910 --> 00:35:24,160

worry about neuroscience because

834

00:35:30,400 --> 00:35:27,920

properly understood it's just neutral

835

00:35:31,900 --> 00:35:30,410

data right it's not a theory it's not it

836

00:35:32,710 --> 00:35:31,910

doesn't depend on materialism or

837

00:35:34,660 --> 00:35:32,720

anything like that

838

00:35:37,380 --> 00:35:34,670

yeah but that's not what neuroscience

839

00:35:39,460 --> 00:35:37,390

thinks that's not what neuroscience

840

00:35:42,520 --> 00:35:39,470

neuroscience is built in on the idea

841

00:35:45,160 --> 00:35:42,530

that consciousness is a property of the

842

00:35:47,200 --> 00:35:45,170

brain it's an epiphenomena than I don't

843

00:35:51,160 --> 00:35:47,210

agree I think who are you pointing to I

844

00:35:53,500 --> 00:35:51,170

mean I you know Sam Harris who I mean

845

00:35:55,450 --> 00:35:53,510

all the people I've interviewed but it

846

00:35:57,359 --> 00:35:55,460

put that aside for a second because a

847

00:35:59,890 --> 00:35:57,369

near-death experience

848

00:36:01,180 --> 00:35:59,900

we're totally off reservation on that

849

00:36:03,549 --> 00:36:01,190

right because we no longer have those

850

00:36:04,990 --> 00:36:03,559

correlates we have consciousness and we

851

00:36:08,260 --> 00:36:05,000

no longer have the correlates right

852

00:36:10,630 --> 00:36:08,270

right so the brain is now measurably

853

00:36:12,700 --> 00:36:10,640

dead by the way that we define it and

854

00:36:16,059 --> 00:36:12,710

people are having these profound

855

00:36:18,130 --> 00:36:16,069

conscious experiences and we know that

856

00:36:21,430 --> 00:36:18,140

because when we carefully study it

857

00:36:23,380 --> 00:36:21,440

they're recalling things more

858

00:36:24,910 --> 00:36:23,390

significantly than people that don't

859

00:36:28,180 --> 00:36:24,920

have near-death experiences and

860

00:36:30,059 --> 00:36:28,190

impossibly if it's true things that

861

00:36:33,130 --> 00:36:30,069

occurred when their brain was

862

00:36:34,510 --> 00:36:33,140

essentially dead so if the whole thing

863

00:36:37,450 --> 00:36:34,520

is shattered I just don't think we can

864

00:36:39,819 --> 00:36:37,460

put all the pieces back together so two

865

00:36:41,530 --> 00:36:39,829

things I guess I mean one thing you know

866

00:36:42,910 --> 00:36:41,540

this might sound like a pedantic point

867

00:36:45,130 --> 00:36:42,920

but I don't think that challenges in

868

00:36:46,470 --> 00:36:45,140

neuroscience you know I think that

869

00:36:49,020 --> 00:36:46,480

challenges

870

00:36:51,510 --> 00:36:49,030

certain theories that people might

871

00:36:54,330 --> 00:36:51,520

extract from neuroscience they might say

872

00:36:55,859 --> 00:36:54,340

no they might say that they think you

873

00:36:57,599 --> 00:36:55,869

know consciousness is never like you're

874

00:36:59,849 --> 00:36:57,609

just giving a different area of the

875

00:37:01,560 --> 00:36:59,859

correlations you're saying sometimes you

876

00:37:03,030 --> 00:37:01,570

have consciousness when you don't have

877

00:37:05,910 --> 00:37:03,040

anything in the brain so that's a

878

00:37:07,800 --> 00:37:05,920

different kind of view of the empirical

879

00:37:09,900 --> 00:37:07,810

equipment but you know the neuroscience

880

00:37:11,280 --> 00:37:09,910

is I would say it's neutral on that yeah

881

00:37:13,109 --> 00:37:11,290

I think you could say I'm firing

882

00:37:16,440 --> 00:37:13,119

neuroscience I just disagree with

883

00:37:19,200 --> 00:37:16,450

materialism which some people I guess

884

00:37:20,760 --> 00:37:19,210

many neuroscientists are materialists

885

00:37:22,859 --> 00:37:20,770

but I want to say that separate from

886

00:37:24,390 --> 00:37:22,869

their what they're officially doing is

887

00:37:25,859 --> 00:37:24,400

neuroscientists which is building

888

00:37:27,870 --> 00:37:25,869

correlations I think you know you could

889

00:37:30,210 --> 00:37:27,880

agree even if you think consciousness

890

00:37:31,560 --> 00:37:30,220

can exist outside of a brain you can

891

00:37:33,750 --> 00:37:31,570

still agree that you know there are many

892

00:37:35,820 --> 00:37:33,760

correlations like feelings of hunger

893

00:37:37,830 --> 00:37:35,830

tend to be correlated with you know

894

00:37:38,970 --> 00:37:37,840

certain bits of the brain and so on so I

895

00:37:40,590 --> 00:37:38,980

don't think you need to deny your

896

00:37:43,530 --> 00:37:40,600

assigned anyway that's maybe a slightly

897

00:37:45,240 --> 00:37:43,540

pedantic point though I it's good I like

898

00:37:47,520 --> 00:37:45,250

it I just I just looked up on our

899

00:37:49,890 --> 00:37:47,530

friends at Wikipedia the most untrusted

900

00:37:52,590 --> 00:37:49,900

source on the Internet neuroscience the

901  
00:37:55,609 --> 00:37:52,600  
understanding of the biological basis of

902  
00:37:59,670 --> 00:37:55,619  
learning memory behavior perception and

903  
00:38:02,609 --> 00:37:59,680  
consciousness described as the ultimate

904  
00:38:07,010 --> 00:38:02,619  
challenge of biological sciences no I

905  
00:38:10,170 --> 00:38:07,020  
think these guys claim that they are

906  
00:38:12,120 --> 00:38:10,180  
understanding the biological basis of

907  
00:38:14,370 --> 00:38:12,130  
consciousness along with learning memory

908  
00:38:16,950 --> 00:38:14,380  
behavior and everything else well I mean

909  
00:38:18,690 --> 00:38:16,960  
that way of describing it is in tension

910  
00:38:20,400 --> 00:38:18,700  
with how I think of neuroscience or

911  
00:38:22,770 --> 00:38:20,410  
maybe there's a fight out here over what

912  
00:38:23,190 --> 00:38:22,780  
neuroscience is I you know I would call

913  
00:38:28,700 --> 00:38:23,200

neuro

914

00:38:31,520 --> 00:38:28,710

up-to-date as possible but you know

915

00:38:33,570 --> 00:38:31,530

conscious consciousness itself is

916

00:38:35,970 --> 00:38:33,580

unobservable you know you can't look

917

00:38:37,590 --> 00:38:35,980

inside I've never had anyone deny that

918

00:38:39,330 --> 00:38:37,600

who believes in consciousness you can't

919

00:38:41,460 --> 00:38:39,340

look inside someone's head and see their

920

00:38:43,200 --> 00:38:41,470

feelings and experiences all the

921

00:38:45,359 --> 00:38:43,210

neuroscientists can do is see what's

922

00:38:47,310 --> 00:38:45,369

going on in the brain and so it seems to

923

00:38:49,470 --> 00:38:47,320

me to follow from that but really what

924

00:38:51,960 --> 00:38:49,480

what they're accessing if you're just

925

00:38:53,820 --> 00:38:51,970

focusing on what they can get up through

926  
00:38:57,210 --> 00:38:53,830  
observation it seems to me all they can

927  
00:38:59,760 --> 00:38:57,220  
get as correlations they might then you

928  
00:39:03,210 --> 00:38:59,770  
know take themselves to offer some

929  
00:39:05,220 --> 00:39:03,220  
the area of you know how consciousness

930  
00:39:07,200 --> 00:39:05,230  
is explained in terms of brain processes

931  
00:39:10,440 --> 00:39:07,210  
and I you know I would question that on

932  
00:39:12,150 --> 00:39:10,450  
philosophical grounds but yeah I mean

933  
00:39:13,410 --> 00:39:12,160  
maybe maybe there's a fight here that

934  
00:39:19,160 --> 00:39:13,420  
needs to be had Oh over what

935  
00:39:23,520 --> 00:39:19,170  
neurosciences but uh yeah look I guess

936  
00:39:25,470 --> 00:39:23,530  
we're both challenging materialism from

937  
00:39:27,570 --> 00:39:25,480  
different angles right you're

938  
00:39:30,000 --> 00:39:27,580

challenging it on empirical grounds

939

00:39:32,190 --> 00:39:30,010

you're saying there's this evidence but

940

00:39:33,510 --> 00:39:32,200

it's false you know I don't know about

941

00:39:35,940 --> 00:39:33,520

that that's not something I've looked

942

00:39:37,290 --> 00:39:35,950

into a great deal you know you can send

943

00:39:39,270 --> 00:39:37,300

me stuff on it and I'll look into it and

944

00:39:41,910 --> 00:39:39,280

think about it I guess I'm challenging

945

00:39:45,500 --> 00:39:41,920

it on on on philosophical grounds I just

946

00:39:49,470 --> 00:39:45,510

think for me the essential issue is that

947

00:39:51,890 --> 00:39:49,480

consciousness is a purely sorry physical

948

00:39:55,380 --> 00:39:51,900

science works with a purely quantitative

949

00:39:57,420 --> 00:39:55,390

vocabulary whereas consciousness is an

950

00:39:59,970 --> 00:39:57,430

essentially qualitative phenomenon it

951  
00:40:02,280 --> 00:39:59,980  
involves qualities the redness of a red

952  
00:40:04,980 --> 00:40:02,290  
experience you know the smell of coffee

953  
00:40:08,190 --> 00:40:04,990  
the taste of men and it you can't

954  
00:40:09,990 --> 00:40:08,200  
capture those kind of qualities in the

955  
00:40:11,940 --> 00:40:10,000  
purely quantitative of Cabul area

956  
00:40:14,270 --> 00:40:11,950  
physical science so I think you know

957  
00:40:17,040 --> 00:40:14,280  
that I think really materialism in

958  
00:40:20,190 --> 00:40:17,050  
incoherent on philosophical grounds

959  
00:40:22,080 --> 00:40:20,200  
because it's trying to you know if you

960  
00:40:23,760 --> 00:40:22,090  
if you're gonna have a purely

961  
00:40:25,440 --> 00:40:23,770  
quantitative vocabulary

962  
00:40:27,300 --> 00:40:25,450  
you're never gonna capture those kind of

963  
00:40:29,280 --> 00:40:27,310

qualities so I returned yet on

964

00:40:31,410 --> 00:40:29,290

philosophical grounds whereas I guess

965

00:40:34,470 --> 00:40:31,420

you're challenging it from addition more

966

00:40:36,330 --> 00:40:34,480

empirical angle no I like that and I

967

00:40:38,580 --> 00:40:36,340

like what you bring forward with that

968

00:40:40,920 --> 00:40:38,590

and hey you like you say we are really

969

00:40:43,140 --> 00:40:40,930

in the same side here in terms of

970

00:40:44,400 --> 00:40:43,150

throwing stones that scientific

971

00:40:47,490 --> 00:40:44,410

materialism as it applies to

972

00:40:49,110 --> 00:40:47,500

consciousness it's just a good chat to

973

00:40:51,270 --> 00:40:49,120

have you know and we've kind of covered

974

00:40:52,710 --> 00:40:51,280

some ground here in terms of

975

00:40:54,570 --> 00:40:52,720

understanding the pushback on

976  
00:40:57,570 --> 00:40:54,580  
materialism when we say first we

977  
00:40:59,970 --> 00:40:57,580  
understand that people are scientists if

978  
00:41:01,380 --> 00:40:59,980  
you will and to a certain extent the

979  
00:41:03,030 --> 00:41:01,390  
general public although I think the

980  
00:41:05,520 --> 00:41:03,040  
general public is really kind of more on

981  
00:41:08,340 --> 00:41:05,530  
our side when you really break it down

982  
00:41:11,220 --> 00:41:08,350  
and start asking the questions about do

983  
00:41:13,349 --> 00:41:11,230  
you believe in love do you believe in

984  
00:41:15,180 --> 00:41:13,359  
the connection you have with

985  
00:41:17,309 --> 00:41:15,190  
other people you know even if you ask

986  
00:41:19,229 --> 00:41:17,319  
people if they believe in ghosts and

987  
00:41:21,329 --> 00:41:19,239  
spirits which are way outside you know

988  
00:41:23,069 --> 00:41:21,339

there's a significant number of people

989

00:41:25,229 --> 00:41:23,079

believe in that so I think the public is

990

00:41:27,950 --> 00:41:25,239

really kind of on our side who are

991

00:41:32,339 --> 00:41:27,960

really who's outside of this loop is a

992

00:41:34,859 --> 00:41:32,349

relatively small group of materialist

993

00:41:35,640 --> 00:41:34,869

scientists who we don't understand and

994

00:41:37,829 --> 00:41:35,650

that's one of things we've been

995

00:41:40,410 --> 00:41:37,839

processing here is what's the agenda and

996

00:41:42,829 --> 00:41:40,420

you've suggested that part of the agenda

997

00:41:44,759 --> 00:41:42,839

is just they're just blown away by the

998

00:41:47,099 --> 00:41:44,769

accomplishments of engineering and the

999

00:41:49,200 --> 00:41:47,109

iPhone is freaking fantastic even though

1000

00:41:51,960 --> 00:41:49,210

I'm an Android guy that's fantastic so

1001  
00:41:54,509 --> 00:41:51,970  
great hats off and then number two we

1002  
00:41:56,519 --> 00:41:54,519  
said there's also the potential for

1003  
00:41:58,799 --> 00:41:56,529  
social engineering and that's I'm

1004  
00:42:01,529 --> 00:41:58,809  
definitely on board with that and you

1005  
00:42:03,359 --> 00:42:01,539  
not so much the third thing I think that

1006  
00:42:06,120 --> 00:42:03,369  
I want to bring up because you do have

1007  
00:42:07,680 --> 00:42:06,130  
an excellent blog and it's people should

1008  
00:42:10,620 --> 00:42:07,690  
check it out you talk about not only

1009  
00:42:13,200 --> 00:42:10,630  
consciousness but then you roll that in

1010  
00:42:16,049 --> 00:42:13,210  
to social issues and political issues

1011  
00:42:17,970 --> 00:42:16,059  
and stuff that's going on there so the

1012  
00:42:21,420 --> 00:42:17,980  
third thing I want to point out there is

1013  
00:42:23,120 --> 00:42:21,430

I think part of the reactionary thing

1014

00:42:25,349 --> 00:42:23,130

that we get from mainstream

1015

00:42:27,870 --> 00:42:25,359

materialistic science I think is on

1016

00:42:30,059 --> 00:42:27,880

religious grounds and you touched on

1017

00:42:32,809 --> 00:42:30,069

this in a recent blog post that I was

1018

00:42:35,579 --> 00:42:32,819

alluding to because it raised the ire of

1019

00:42:37,979 --> 00:42:35,589

head priest Jerry Coyne at University of

1020

00:42:41,700 --> 00:42:37,989

Chicago one of the last remaining raging

1021

00:42:44,370 --> 00:42:41,710

atheists but you titled it religion but

1022

00:42:46,799 --> 00:42:44,380

not as we know it so I thought that

1023

00:42:49,019 --> 00:42:46,809

would be an interesting maybe final

1024

00:42:50,999 --> 00:42:49,029

topic to talk about here today and then

1025

00:42:52,739 --> 00:42:51,009

we can get back and talk some more about

1026

00:42:54,690 --> 00:42:52,749

your books but tell me what you were

1027

00:42:57,079 --> 00:42:54,700

going for there and and how it relates

1028

00:43:00,239 --> 00:42:57,089

to these issues of consciousness yeah

1029

00:43:03,029 --> 00:43:00,249

that was the title of the blog post and

1030

00:43:05,759 --> 00:43:03,039

that was my response to Jerry cone Jerry

1031

00:43:08,130 --> 00:43:05,769

Coyne sorry but and it was following on

1032

00:43:09,930 --> 00:43:08,140

from an article I published in that

1033

00:43:13,650 --> 00:43:09,940

Times Literary Supplement last week

1034

00:43:17,059 --> 00:43:13,660

called believers without belief so I was

1035

00:43:20,220 --> 00:43:17,069

exploring alternative approaches to

1036

00:43:23,279 --> 00:43:20,230

engaging with conventional Western

1037

00:43:26,640 --> 00:43:23,289

religion like Christianity Judaism Islam

1038

00:43:28,380 --> 00:43:26,650

and so one of them for example what

1039

00:43:32,040 --> 00:43:28,390

what's known as religious fictional ISM

1040

00:43:34,890 --> 00:43:32,050

so the the religious fiction is someone

1041

00:43:39,620 --> 00:43:34,900

who you know goes to church or temple

1042

00:43:41,520 --> 00:43:39,630

pray they think the contentious

1043

00:43:43,920 --> 00:43:41,530

propositions of religion like I don't

1044

00:43:44,370 --> 00:43:43,930

know God exists or Jesus rose from the

1045

00:43:46,410 --> 00:43:44,380

dead

1046

00:43:48,690 --> 00:43:46,420

they think they're false strictly

1047

00:43:51,060 --> 00:43:48,700

speaking right so it sounds like a kind

1048

00:43:54,630 --> 00:43:51,070

of contradiction but but the thought is

1049

00:43:56,700 --> 00:43:54,640

that the certain a certain value certain

1050

00:44:00,660 --> 00:43:56,710

people and as individuals or in a

1051  
00:44:02,730 --> 00:44:00,670  
community maybe get out of religious

1052  
00:44:04,830 --> 00:44:02,740  
practice that is independent of whether

1053  
00:44:07,620 --> 00:44:04,840  
these you know the discourse is

1054  
00:44:09,810 --> 00:44:07,630  
literally true so like there are

1055  
00:44:11,550 --> 00:44:09,820  
stronger and weaker forms of this you

1056  
00:44:12,960 --> 00:44:11,560  
know a really strong form would be

1057  
00:44:14,880 --> 00:44:12,970  
someone who has to know the same

1058  
00:44:16,770 --> 00:44:14,890  
worldview as Richard Dawkins but still

1059  
00:44:18,120 --> 00:44:16,780  
goes to church and though you know there

1060  
00:44:20,040 --> 00:44:18,130  
are there are there are people like that

1061  
00:44:22,860 --> 00:44:20,050  
although it's may be difficult to see

1062  
00:44:25,520 --> 00:44:22,870  
the motivation but you know a more and

1063  
00:44:28,410 --> 00:44:25,530

more moderate form would be someone who

1064

00:44:32,220 --> 00:44:28,420

believes in some kind of transcendent

1065

00:44:34,050 --> 00:44:32,230

spiritual reality but doesn't believe in

1066

00:44:36,990 --> 00:44:34,060

a personal God doesn't believe in that

1067

00:44:40,850 --> 00:44:37,000

God has traditionally construed and so

1068

00:44:43,950 --> 00:44:40,860

they you know they they engage in

1069

00:44:46,950 --> 00:44:43,960

Christian on Judaic ritual and discourse

1070

00:44:49,680 --> 00:44:46,960

but they take they take that as as as

1071

00:44:52,560 --> 00:44:49,690

non-literal as metaphorical you know

1072

00:44:56,390 --> 00:44:52,570

conceiving of the transcendent

1073

00:44:58,740 --> 00:44:56,400

as a loving parent for example as a

1074

00:45:02,040 --> 00:44:58,750

person and that's understood as an

1075

00:45:04,620 --> 00:45:02,050

important part of the practice even if

1076

00:45:06,660 --> 00:45:04,630

it's not literally true and actually you

1077

00:45:12,090 --> 00:45:06,670

know that this this is this historically

1078

00:45:14,460 --> 00:45:12,100

was a very mainstream in Christianity

1079

00:45:16,440 --> 00:45:14,470

certainly a very mainstream position you

1080

00:45:18,390 --> 00:45:16,450

know Aquinas as view comes close to this

1081

00:45:21,210 --> 00:45:18,400

and it sort of been forgotten about I

1082

00:45:22,410 --> 00:45:21,220

think you know since the Scientific

1083

00:45:23,940 --> 00:45:22,420

Revolution and the Protestant

1084

00:45:26,880 --> 00:45:23,950

Reformation where we start to get these

1085

00:45:29,550 --> 00:45:26,890

wars with science and so now I just like

1086

00:45:32,940 --> 00:45:29,560

to remind people that you know it's

1087

00:45:34,770 --> 00:45:32,950

having a lot of people who think a lot

1088

00:45:36,510 --> 00:45:34,780

of people call themselves spiritual but

1089

00:45:39,510 --> 00:45:36,520

not religious because they think you

1090

00:45:41,490 --> 00:45:39,520

know I don't believe this sort of

1091

00:45:45,120 --> 00:45:41,500

God has traditionally construed in

1092

00:45:47,310 --> 00:45:45,130

Christianity say but you know there are

1093

00:45:49,800 --> 00:45:47,320

these alternative ways of understanding

1094

00:45:51,540 --> 00:45:49,810

what's going on in there that you know

1095

00:45:54,360 --> 00:45:51,550

might be helpful for some people who

1096

00:45:57,450 --> 00:45:54,370

could you know fit with a way of fitting

1097

00:45:59,900 --> 00:45:57,460

with their own personal religious views

1098

00:46:02,670 --> 00:45:59,910

while still perhaps engaging with a

1099

00:46:04,710 --> 00:46:02,680

cultural form that you know it's

1100

00:46:06,480 --> 00:46:04,720

familiar to them and you know more

1101  
00:46:08,900 --> 00:46:06,490  
suited to them maybe I thought that was

1102  
00:46:11,850 --> 00:46:08,910  
that was the broad spoken like a true

1103  
00:46:14,930 --> 00:46:11,860  
academic philosopher you're kind of on

1104  
00:46:17,150 --> 00:46:14,940  
the outside looking in here people are

1105  
00:46:19,790 --> 00:46:17,160  
drawn to religion

1106  
00:46:22,410 --> 00:46:19,800  
because they have an underlying

1107  
00:46:24,120 --> 00:46:22,420  
spiritually transformative experience

1108  
00:46:25,980 --> 00:46:24,130  
and they have it in all sorts of

1109  
00:46:29,850 --> 00:46:25,990  
different ways and then they try and

1110  
00:46:32,430 --> 00:46:29,860  
relate it to these organs in stitute

1111  
00:46:34,470 --> 00:46:32,440  
that are propped up I mean do you

1112  
00:46:37,110 --> 00:46:34,480  
believe there are such things as

1113  
00:46:38,960 --> 00:46:37,120

spiritually transformative experiences

1114

00:46:41,520 --> 00:46:38,970

do you believe there are such things as

1115

00:46:44,430 --> 00:46:41,530

extended consciousness realms where

1116

00:46:45,900 --> 00:46:44,440

spirits exist and I'm not gonna pick on

1117

00:46:47,910 --> 00:46:45,910

you if you say one way or another but

1118

00:46:50,070 --> 00:46:47,920

that seems to be the fundamental

1119

00:46:51,870 --> 00:46:50,080

question well let me say this I mean I

1120

00:46:54,860 --> 00:46:51,880

guess to some extent I'm agnostic I'm

1121

00:46:57,230 --> 00:46:54,870

definitely an atheist about the

1122

00:46:59,460 --> 00:46:57,240

traditional conception of God

1123

00:47:01,020 --> 00:46:59,470

all-knowing all-powerful perfectly good

1124

00:47:04,650 --> 00:47:01,030

just because it's the problem of evil

1125

00:47:06,390 --> 00:47:04,660

and suffering problem of reconciling the

1126

00:47:09,510 --> 00:47:06,400

suffering we find in the world with an

1127

00:47:14,100 --> 00:47:09,520

all-powerful and loving God yeah I find

1128

00:47:16,590 --> 00:47:14,110

that to be very overwhelming case but in

1129

00:47:18,000 --> 00:47:16,600

terms of let me say one thing that

1130

00:47:19,920 --> 00:47:18,010

actually I could talk it so I talked a

1131

00:47:23,490 --> 00:47:19,930

little bit of in my new in my new book

1132

00:47:25,080 --> 00:47:23,500

about mystical experiences now I've

1133

00:47:26,870 --> 00:47:25,090

never had a mystical experience I guess

1134

00:47:29,010 --> 00:47:26,880

it's partly what you're talking about

1135

00:47:32,100 --> 00:47:29,020

spiritually transformative experiences

1136

00:47:35,700 --> 00:47:32,110

so I've never had one myself a lie I

1137

00:47:40,140 --> 00:47:35,710

meditate every day but I'm still waiting

1138

00:47:43,320 --> 00:47:40,150

but so I guess to that extent I've got

1139

00:47:46,560 --> 00:47:43,330

to be somewhat agnostic but what I do

1140

00:47:48,750 --> 00:47:46,570

want to say so I'm upon psychist which I

1141

00:47:50,700 --> 00:47:48,760

can Rita that much about but I'm you

1142

00:47:52,380 --> 00:47:50,710

know I think the fundamental nature of

1143

00:47:54,930 --> 00:47:52,390

the material universe

1144

00:47:55,710 --> 00:47:54,940

in is in some sense constituted of

1145

00:47:57,120 --> 00:47:55,720

consciousness

1146

00:47:59,309 --> 00:47:57,130

so I'm upon Cyprus but on a pond

1147

00:48:00,930 --> 00:47:59,319

psychist you know not for spiritual

1148

00:48:04,200 --> 00:48:00,940

reasons but because I think it's you

1149

00:48:06,150 --> 00:48:04,210

know the best account of consciousness

1150

00:48:13,620 --> 00:48:06,160

the best way of bringing consciousness

1151

00:48:18,210 --> 00:48:13,630

into our worldview but what I was think

1152

00:48:21,120 --> 00:48:18,220

if you're a pun psychist so let me

1153

00:48:24,180 --> 00:48:21,130

rephrase this so I don't know whether

1154

00:48:26,999 --> 00:48:24,190

these spiritual experiences are genuine

1155

00:48:29,009 --> 00:48:27,009

insights into reality or whether they're

1156

00:48:32,670 --> 00:48:29,019

had delusions caused by something going

1157

00:48:36,180 --> 00:48:32,680

wrong in the brain but if you're have a

1158

00:48:38,249 --> 00:48:36,190

pun psychist worldview there's much less

1159

00:48:41,489 --> 00:48:38,259

pressure to say they're delusions right

1160

00:48:43,470 --> 00:48:41,499

that's what I want to say so like you

1161

00:48:46,440 --> 00:48:43,480

know a lot of people having people

1162

00:48:49,950 --> 00:48:46,450

having mystical experiences claim that

1163

00:48:52,559 --> 00:48:49,960

it becomes apparent to them that there

1164

00:48:55,470 --> 00:48:52,569

is this pure universal consciousness

1165

00:48:58,019 --> 00:48:55,480

that underlies all things right now if

1166

00:48:59,460 --> 00:48:58,029

you're a materialist there's a lot of

1167

00:49:01,529 --> 00:48:59,470

pressure to say that must be a delusion

1168

00:49:02,910 --> 00:49:01,539

right that's just something funny gone

1169

00:49:03,660 --> 00:49:02,920

in the brain but if you're a pun

1170

00:49:07,349 --> 00:49:03,670

psychist

1171

00:49:09,329 --> 00:49:07,359

and you already think the fundamental

1172

00:49:11,339 --> 00:49:09,339

nature of physical reality is made up of

1173

00:49:16,289 --> 00:49:11,349

consciousness well you know there's not

1174

00:49:18,509 --> 00:49:16,299

more of a further step just a well maybe

1175

00:49:20,430 --> 00:49:18,519

this universal consciousness somehow

1176

00:49:23,279 --> 00:49:20,440

underlies these more mundane forms of

1177

00:49:24,420 --> 00:49:23,289

consciousness so you're much more opens

1178

00:49:27,089 --> 00:49:24,430

eyes upon psychist

1179

00:49:29,880 --> 00:49:27,099

and much more open to that possibility

1180

00:49:33,749 --> 00:49:29,890

and you know I think in general that

1181

00:49:35,670 --> 00:49:33,759

it's pump cycles and is a lot better for

1182

00:49:38,910 --> 00:49:35,680

our kind of spiritual health as a

1183

00:49:41,609 --> 00:49:38,920

worldview so I'm much more open in that

1184

00:49:44,430 --> 00:49:41,619

regard but and I guess I have I guess I

1185

00:49:47,400 --> 00:49:44,440

would say I have I've had fleeting

1186

00:49:49,200 --> 00:49:47,410

experiences when you you know certain

1187

00:49:50,759 --> 00:49:49,210

deep experience of beauty where you do

1188

00:49:54,359 --> 00:49:50,769

seem to have a fleeting awareness of

1189

00:49:56,700 --> 00:49:54,369

something like that but I guess I'm

1190

00:49:58,890 --> 00:49:56,710

still somewhat agnostic but very much

1191

00:50:00,269 --> 00:49:58,900

more open than I would be if I were a

1192

00:50:02,519 --> 00:50:00,279

materialist so I think that's an

1193

00:50:02,999 --> 00:50:02,529

important it's not the reason I am pants

1194

00:50:05,770 --> 00:50:03,009

I guess

1195

00:50:07,300 --> 00:50:05,780

it's a

1196

00:50:11,020 --> 00:50:07,310

interesting and important implications

1197

00:50:12,670 --> 00:50:11,030

of you you know that's interesting you

1198

00:50:15,850 --> 00:50:12,680

know it's interesting how people come at

1199

00:50:18,190 --> 00:50:15,860

this stuff I have not had the firework

1200

00:50:20,770 --> 00:50:18,200

kind of spiritually transformative

1201  
00:50:23,530 --> 00:50:20,780  
experience either I'm you know

1202  
00:50:24,670 --> 00:50:23,540  
meditation kind of guy like you and I'm

1203  
00:50:26,590 --> 00:50:24,680  
open to it

1204  
00:50:28,150 --> 00:50:26,600  
I'm waiting like you said I don't know

1205  
00:50:30,040 --> 00:50:28,160  
if I'm waiting I've because we're we

1206  
00:50:31,390 --> 00:50:30,050  
can't really wait right that's part of

1207  
00:50:33,180 --> 00:50:31,400  
the thing about meditating right we're

1208  
00:50:35,710 --> 00:50:33,190  
not waiting we're just being present but

1209  
00:50:37,420 --> 00:50:35,720  
analyse yourself a little bit you know

1210  
00:50:40,300 --> 00:50:37,430  
because I think there's a lot of folks

1211  
00:50:44,070 --> 00:50:40,310  
like like you Philip and like me as well

1212  
00:50:47,410 --> 00:50:44,080  
especially guys we need to think it and

1213  
00:50:49,810 --> 00:50:47,420

understand it really before we can feel

1214

00:50:51,520 --> 00:50:49,820

it in some ways and before we can

1215

00:50:53,140 --> 00:50:51,530

experience it and it sounds like that's

1216

00:50:56,500 --> 00:50:53,150

where you're coming from you know you

1217

00:50:59,560 --> 00:50:56,510

need to kind of grok pant psychism

1218

00:51:01,300 --> 00:50:59,570

versus materialism before you're willing

1219

00:51:02,980 --> 00:51:01,310

to venture in do you have any any

1220

00:51:07,060 --> 00:51:02,990

thoughts does that ring true to you at

1221

00:51:11,530 --> 00:51:07,070

all or yeah yeah I guess some I guess

1222

00:51:13,600 --> 00:51:11,540

I'm always always thinking how things

1223

00:51:16,030 --> 00:51:13,610

fit together oh I want to I want a

1224

00:51:18,370 --> 00:51:16,040

complete world view where everything

1225

00:51:19,570 --> 00:51:18,380

fits nicely even sometimes women you

1226

00:51:22,300 --> 00:51:19,580

know I've got a young child and I

1227

00:51:24,100 --> 00:51:22,310

watched lots of you know kids films and

1228

00:51:25,270 --> 00:51:24,110

they often don't make sense okay you

1229

00:51:27,190 --> 00:51:25,280

know that doesn't make sense that you

1230

00:51:29,500 --> 00:51:27,200

have to tell myself to stop these stupid

1231

00:51:31,690 --> 00:51:29,510

and stuff I suppose I'm you know I'm a

1232

00:51:33,850 --> 00:51:31,700

kind of logical guy I want to know how

1233

00:51:38,980 --> 00:51:33,860

it all fits into a logical coherent

1234

00:51:41,980 --> 00:51:38,990

worldview so yeah I guess I don't know

1235

00:51:43,690 --> 00:51:41,990

so I guess yeah a lot of people may

1236

00:51:45,340 --> 00:51:43,700

think of like sam harris or something

1237

00:51:49,510 --> 00:51:45,350

who's really into meditation and

1238

00:51:51,130 --> 00:51:49,520

spiritual experiences and but you know

1239

00:51:55,590 --> 00:51:51,140

he wants to think about that in a way

1240

00:51:58,480 --> 00:51:55,600

that fits with his general worldview and

1241

00:52:00,370 --> 00:51:58,490

yeah i suppose i said that's fine

1242

00:52:02,920 --> 00:52:00,380

depending on on your worldview generally

1243

00:52:05,080 --> 00:52:02,930

it's maybe gonna affect how are you on

1244

00:52:07,150 --> 00:52:05,090

the standard and what you're open to and

1245

00:52:09,150 --> 00:52:07,160

you know it could be fakes at some point

1246

00:52:11,560 --> 00:52:09,160

and you just have such an overwhelming

1247

00:52:14,890 --> 00:52:11,570

spiritual experience that that changes

1248

00:52:16,930 --> 00:52:14,900

your worldview but I guess because I'm

1249

00:52:18,670 --> 00:52:16,940

already at pants I kissed it you know it

1250

00:52:19,900 --> 00:52:18,680

wouldn't be much of a change to my

1251

00:52:22,299 --> 00:52:19,910

worldview if

1252

00:52:24,160 --> 00:52:22,309

Italy came into direct contact with

1253

00:52:27,370 --> 00:52:24,170

universal consciousness than sorry

1254

00:52:28,599 --> 00:52:27,380

underlied it underlies all things you

1255

00:52:30,999 --> 00:52:28,609

know that wouldn't be much of a change

1256

00:52:33,819 --> 00:52:31,009

to my worldview but you know we've just

1257

00:52:37,329 --> 00:52:33,829

I already think you know consciousness

1258

00:52:40,839 --> 00:52:37,339

is kind of everywhere yeah hey Philip

1259

00:52:42,640 --> 00:52:40,849

when is the Galileo's aerbook when is

1260

00:52:44,470 --> 00:52:42,650

that coming out Galileo's err a

1261

00:52:45,940 --> 00:52:44,480

manifesto for a new science of

1262

00:52:48,339 --> 00:52:45,950

consciousness is that definitely going

1263

00:52:50,650 --> 00:52:48,349

to be the title is that the subtitle has

1264

00:52:52,480 --> 00:52:50,660

changed two foundations for a new

1265

00:52:54,519 --> 00:52:52,490

science consciousness but yeah the type

1266

00:53:00,069 --> 00:52:54,529

of thing yeah it's coming out August the

1267

00:53:02,950 --> 00:53:00,079

15th in the US and the UK yeah I'm just

1268

00:53:04,509 --> 00:53:02,960

doing the proofs right now so I mean if

1269

00:53:06,309 --> 00:53:04,519

I could just say bleep it so the other

1270

00:53:08,710 --> 00:53:06,319

thing that focuses on so the Galileo

1271

00:53:10,720 --> 00:53:08,720

stuff is why we have a problem of

1272

00:53:14,609 --> 00:53:10,730

consciousness and why we need to rethink

1273

00:53:18,789 --> 00:53:14,619

science but there's also positive story

1274

00:53:21,819 --> 00:53:18,799

which is the rediscovery of certain

1275

00:53:24,309 --> 00:53:21,829

views defender by person Russell the

1276

00:53:26,859 --> 00:53:24,319

philosopher and Arthur Eddington in the

1277

00:53:28,480 --> 00:53:26,869

1920s the scientist incidentally the

1278

00:53:30,789 --> 00:53:28,490

first scientist to confirm general

1279

00:53:33,039 --> 00:53:30,799

relativity so that there's been a recent

1280

00:53:35,769 --> 00:53:33,049

rediscovery of their ideas from the

1281

00:53:38,140 --> 00:53:35,779

1920s which is causing a lot of

1282

00:53:41,740 --> 00:53:38,150

excitement in academic philosophy and as

1283

00:53:43,900 --> 00:53:41,750

I kind of hold new or rapid approach to

1284

00:53:46,150 --> 00:53:43,910

consciousness that's part of what I'm

1285

00:53:48,730 --> 00:53:46,160

trying to promote in the book gives us

1286

00:53:50,140 --> 00:53:48,740

is another problem with materialism so

1287

00:53:52,450 --> 00:53:50,150

you've talked about what you see is

1288

00:53:54,400 --> 00:53:52,460

empirical problems with materialism I've

1289

00:53:57,460 --> 00:53:54,410

talked about the problems as with

1290

00:54:00,240 --> 00:53:57,470

consciousness but you know what Russell

1291

00:54:03,400 --> 00:54:00,250

and Eddington realized in the 1920s is

1292

00:54:06,069 --> 00:54:03,410

that actually physical science isn't

1293

00:54:09,220 --> 00:54:06,079

really telling us what stuff is anyway

1294

00:54:11,410 --> 00:54:09,230

so you know in the public mind physical

1295

00:54:13,720 --> 00:54:11,420

science is giving us this complete story

1296

00:54:16,900 --> 00:54:13,730

of the nature of space and time and

1297

00:54:19,809 --> 00:54:16,910

matter but what Russell and Eddington

1298

00:54:22,599 --> 00:54:19,819

realized in the 1920s is that when you

1299

00:54:24,430 --> 00:54:22,609

reflect on what the information you're

1300

00:54:26,140 --> 00:54:24,440

getting from physical science it's

1301

00:54:28,269 --> 00:54:26,150

really just telling us about the

1302

00:54:30,700 --> 00:54:28,279

behavior of stuff you know what stuff

1303

00:54:32,170 --> 00:54:30,710

does and that's you know that's why it's

1304

00:54:33,900 --> 00:54:32,180

so useful for like engineering

1305

00:54:36,510 --> 00:54:33,910

technology because if you

1306

00:54:38,010 --> 00:54:36,520

how stuff behaves and you can predict

1307

00:54:39,750 --> 00:54:38,020

how it's gonna behave you can get an

1308

00:54:41,700 --> 00:54:39,760

incredible technology but it doesn't

1309

00:54:44,100 --> 00:54:41,710

really tell us what philosophers like to

1310

00:54:46,640 --> 00:54:44,110

call the intrinsic nature of matter you

1311

00:54:49,500 --> 00:54:46,650

know what it is in and of itself

1312

00:54:50,880 --> 00:54:49,510

independently of how it behaves so this

1313

00:54:52,830 --> 00:54:50,890

is you know this is another problem

1314

00:54:54,810 --> 00:54:52,840

materialism even before you get to

1315

00:54:57,120 --> 00:54:54,820

consciousness it's not really telling us

1316

00:55:01,170 --> 00:54:57,130

what matter is it's just telling us what

1317

00:55:02,280 --> 00:55:01,180

it does and so that so the what what's

1318

00:55:06,750 --> 00:55:02,290

the hell is got this got to do with

1319

00:55:08,640 --> 00:55:06,760

consciousness you know you can see the

1320

00:55:10,980 --> 00:55:08,650

problem of consciousness is the problem

1321

00:55:12,330 --> 00:55:10,990

of finding a place for consciousness in

1322

00:55:15,570 --> 00:55:12,340

our worldview you know how does

1323

00:55:18,270 --> 00:55:15,580

consciousness fit in and Russell and

1324

00:55:21,060 --> 00:55:18,280

Eddington say well actually there's this

1325

00:55:23,280 --> 00:55:21,070

huge hole in our scientific picture that

1326

00:55:27,480 --> 00:55:23,290

physics doesn't tell us what matter is

1327

00:55:30,120 --> 00:55:27,490

and so there's a potential for a way of

1328

00:55:32,610 --> 00:55:30,130

solving both these problems at once what

1329

00:55:35,760 --> 00:55:32,620

we say is that consciousness is the

1330

00:55:38,460 --> 00:55:35,770

intrinsic nature of matter so you know

1331

00:55:40,080 --> 00:55:38,470

there's just matter physics describes it

1332

00:55:43,020 --> 00:55:40,090

from the outside it tells us what it

1333

00:55:45,480 --> 00:55:43,030

does but in its in its intrinsic nature

1334

00:55:50,430 --> 00:55:45,490

its constituted a consciousness so this

1335

00:55:53,010 --> 00:55:50,440

is the positive positive aspect of the

1336

00:55:55,230 --> 00:55:53,020

book that's rediscovering this really

1337

00:55:57,120 --> 00:55:55,240

you know what I think is what is one of

1338

00:55:59,640 --> 00:55:57,130

the most promising solutions for moving

1339

00:56:02,820 --> 00:55:59,650

forward consciousness so yeah that's the

1340

00:56:04,680 --> 00:56:02,830

other aspect so that would be no no

1341

00:56:08,160 --> 00:56:04,690

that's awesome that's perfect that's

1342

00:56:10,380 --> 00:56:08,170

great and so what is going what will we

1343

00:56:15,480 --> 00:56:10,390

find over at the blog what's coming up

1344

00:56:17,220 --> 00:56:15,490

what are you working on what am i

1345

00:56:18,960 --> 00:56:17,230

working on I don't know I think about

1346

00:56:20,910 --> 00:56:18,970

the blog from month to month really and

1347

00:56:22,170 --> 00:56:20,920

what's annoying me or what's I don't

1348

00:56:24,630 --> 00:56:22,180

know I probably should write something

1349

00:56:26,820 --> 00:56:24,640

that breaks it which is or dominates the

1350

00:56:28,880 --> 00:56:26,830

whole news here yeah I was reading I was

1351

00:56:31,380 --> 00:56:28,890

reading a little bit about brexit I just

1352

00:56:34,620 --> 00:56:31,390

didn't even want to go there why would

1353

00:56:36,660 --> 00:56:34,630

you concede back to those idiots who are

1354

00:56:39,450 --> 00:56:36,670

trying to I mean the people voted let's

1355

00:56:41,760 --> 00:56:39,460

let the people's vote matter for once I

1356

00:56:43,080 --> 00:56:41,770

don't know one of the things that struck

1357

00:56:45,300 --> 00:56:43,090

me coming back to Jerry Coyne

1358

00:56:46,870 --> 00:56:45,310

you know I was proposing the benefits of

1359

00:56:49,540 --> 00:56:46,880

religion and he say

1360

00:56:50,950 --> 00:56:49,550

people are fine communities are fine as

1361

00:56:53,470 --> 00:56:50,960

they are but you know I think we're

1362

00:56:56,140 --> 00:56:53,480

living in a pretty messed-up world in

1363

00:56:58,900 --> 00:56:56,150

all sorts of ways you know that this the

1364

00:57:01,150 --> 00:56:58,910

far right all over Europe this you know

1365

00:57:05,080 --> 00:57:01,160

brexit crisis here you know I think I

1366

00:57:06,640 --> 00:57:05,090

think this is partly because people are

1367

00:57:09,520 --> 00:57:06,650

lacking these shared structures is

1368

00:57:11,560 --> 00:57:09,530

meaning lacking a worldview that makes

1369

00:57:14,080 --> 00:57:11,570

sense of their lives and the self

1370

00:57:15,280 --> 00:57:14,090

understanding so and this is yeah

1371

00:57:16,600 --> 00:57:15,290

because as part of what I try to do in

1372

00:57:19,870 --> 00:57:16,610

the final chapter of the book actually

1373

00:57:21,760 --> 00:57:19,880

go think about what implications can

1374

00:57:23,230 --> 00:57:21,770

psychism has to how we think about the

1375

00:57:25,870 --> 00:57:23,240

world how we think about the environment

1376

00:57:29,380 --> 00:57:25,880

and how we live our lives you know

1377

00:57:33,670 --> 00:57:29,390

spiritually and practically so yeah this

1378

00:57:35,740 --> 00:57:33,680

is you know so many philosophers are you

1379

00:57:37,390 --> 00:57:35,750

know so kind of cold blooded abstract

1380

00:57:39,760 --> 00:57:37,400

focused on a specific issue or not

1381

00:57:45,910 --> 00:57:39,770

forgotten how to look at the big picture

1382

00:57:48,100 --> 00:57:45,920

which is kind of crucial but yeah well

1383

00:57:49,750 --> 00:57:48,110

excellent it's been absolutely terrific

1384

00:57:52,570 --> 00:57:49,760

chatting and I appreciate you going

1385

00:57:54,190 --> 00:57:52,580

through such as allowing me to just kind

1386

00:57:56,080 --> 00:57:54,200

of free flow it here and talk about so

1387

00:57:58,210 --> 00:57:56,090

many different things so I do hope

1388

00:58:01,450 --> 00:57:58,220

people check out the new book it sounds

1389

00:58:03,430 --> 00:58:01,460

fantastic and the the first book is much

1390

00:58:05,500 --> 00:58:03,440

more academically earning it but this is

1391

00:58:07,690 --> 00:58:05,510

cool will be the first one out on

1392

00:58:10,300 --> 00:58:07,700

talking about the new book and your

1393

00:58:16,360 --> 00:58:10,310

website as well and I hope people follow

1394

00:58:17,980 --> 00:58:16,370

your work so thanks again Phillip thanks

1395

00:58:19,870 --> 00:58:17,990

again to Phillip Gough for joining me

1396

00:58:21,970 --> 00:58:19,880

today on skeptic oh I guess the one

1397

00:58:25,300 --> 00:58:21,980

question I'd have to tee up from this

1398

00:58:28,540 --> 00:58:25,310

interview is the question of acceptance

1399

00:58:31,870 --> 00:58:28,550

we all get that biological robot in a

1400

00:58:34,330 --> 00:58:31,880

meaningless universe is an absurd idea

1401  
00:58:36,610 --> 00:58:34,340  
but how much do we need to pound that

1402  
00:58:39,910 --> 00:58:36,620  
over the head of stuck in the mud

1403  
00:58:43,270 --> 00:58:39,920  
academics and other ordained holders of

1404  
00:58:44,980 --> 00:58:43,280  
power and influence boy I'm tempted to

1405  
00:58:47,050 --> 00:58:44,990  
answer that question but I'm not going

1406  
00:58:49,030 --> 00:58:47,060  
to because I want you to answer it and

1407  
00:58:51,070 --> 00:58:49,040  
tell me what you think the best place to

1408  
00:58:53,110 --> 00:58:51,080  
do it is on the skeptical forum but you

1409  
00:58:55,720 --> 00:58:53,120  
can reach out and connect with me any

1410  
00:58:58,090 --> 00:58:55,730  
way you like email Facebook which I

1411  
00:59:00,840 --> 00:58:58,100  
never get over to but anyway the

1412  
00:59:03,550 --> 00:59:00,850  
important thing is that we find a way to

1413  
00:59:07,870 --> 00:59:03,560

again I always say this but it's so true

1414

00:59:10,840 --> 00:59:07,880

this amazing thing that's going on of me

1415

00:59:14,650 --> 00:59:10,850

sitting in this room talking into the

1416

00:59:16,840 --> 00:59:14,660

mic and you popping those earbuds on and

1417

00:59:20,290 --> 00:59:16,850

walking around and hearing this

1418

00:59:23,590 --> 00:59:20,300

conversation is such a cool amazing

1419

00:59:24,130 --> 00:59:23,600

thing so let's close the loop a little

1420

00:59:26,620 --> 00:59:24,140

bit

1421

00:59:29,140 --> 00:59:26,630

let's send an email back and forth let's

1422

00:59:31,210 --> 00:59:29,150

jump on a forum and talk about what's

1423

00:59:34,330 --> 00:59:31,220

happening when we do make this

1424

00:59:37,300 --> 00:59:34,340

connection I hope you do that I'm ready

1425

00:59:39,880 --> 00:59:37,310

for it I'm waiting I hope you take the

1426  
00:59:42,790 --> 00:59:39,890  
next step of course do stay with me for

1427  
00:59:44,560 --> 00:59:42,800  
upcoming skeptical episodes and be sure

1428  
00:59:47,470 --> 00:59:44,570  
to check out the back catalog all

1429  
00:59:52,000 --> 00:59:47,480  
available for free download at skeptic

1430  
00:59:53,750 --> 00:59:52,010  
accom until next time take care and bye

1431  
01:00:00,240 --> 00:59:53,760  
for now

1432  
01:00:11,429 --> 01:00:07,240  
[Music]

1433  
01:00:13,289 --> 01:00:11,439  
so thanks for watching this video if it

1434  
01:00:15,900 --> 01:00:13,299  
wasn't really a video but just an audio

1435  
01:00:17,459 --> 01:00:15,910  
stored as a video I apologize but

1436  
01:00:19,380 --> 01:00:17,469  
there's more videos out there as well

1437  
01:00:21,239 --> 01:00:19,390  
but please check out the skeptic Oh

1438  
01:00:22,589 --> 01:00:21,249

website you can see it here we cover a

1439

01:00:25,410 --> 01:00:22,599

lot of different stuff you might be

1440

01:00:28,739 --> 01:00:25,420

interested in relating to controversial

1441

01:00:31,529 --> 01:00:28,749

science and spirituality a lot of shows

1442

01:00:34,289 --> 01:00:31,539

up there over 350 of them are so all

1443

01:00:36,630 --> 01:00:34,299

free all available for download so do