

Replacement Theories and ESP

- Replacement theory must yield equal or better explanatory power than the theory being replaced. *If not...*
- It is best to stick with an imperfect or false theory in absence of better theory.
- There is no good theory for psi/ESP.

1
00:00:03,270 --> 00:00:01,829
um

2
00:00:05,670 --> 00:00:03,280
my wife tells me never to start with a

3
00:00:07,510 --> 00:00:05,680
bad joke so i ignore her advice the kind

4
00:00:09,270 --> 00:00:07,520
of paradigm i'm going to talk about

5
00:00:11,669 --> 00:00:09,280
today doesn't have anything to do with

6
00:00:13,030 --> 00:00:11,679
20 cents

7
00:00:14,950 --> 00:00:13,040
yeah i know that was even worse than i

8
00:00:17,349 --> 00:00:14,960
thought so anyway okay

9
00:00:19,590 --> 00:00:17,359
paradigm argument against psi

10
00:00:20,390 --> 00:00:19,600
oh i can do this with this can't i

11
00:00:22,870 --> 00:00:20,400
okay

12
00:00:24,230 --> 00:00:22,880
so why do i call it the paradigm

13
00:00:25,509 --> 00:00:24,240

argument i'm gonna give you a little bit

14

00:00:27,189 --> 00:00:25,519

of background

15

00:00:28,310 --> 00:00:27,199

some most of this will be familiar but

16

00:00:30,230 --> 00:00:28,320

it doesn't hurt to have a little bit of

17

00:00:32,229 --> 00:00:30,240

a review

18

00:00:34,389 --> 00:00:32,239

the term paradigm was introduced into

19

00:00:37,270 --> 00:00:34,399

the scientific literature really

20

00:00:39,270 --> 00:00:37,280

by tom back in 1962 with his book

21

00:00:41,590 --> 00:00:39,280

structure scientific revolutions

22

00:00:44,389 --> 00:00:41,600

and the kind of paradigms he generally

23

00:00:45,750 --> 00:00:44,399

is talking about

24

00:00:47,990 --> 00:00:45,760

prevalent science involved the

25

00:00:49,350 --> 00:00:48,000

integration exploration

26

00:00:50,549 --> 00:00:49,360

integration of exploration and

27

00:00:51,270 --> 00:00:50,559

explanation

28

00:00:53,510 --> 00:00:51,280

in

29

00:00:56,310 --> 00:00:53,520

the science community they provide the

30

00:00:58,709 --> 00:00:56,320

context of discovery the form the

31

00:01:01,590 --> 00:00:58,719

forum the boundaries within which

32

00:01:03,590 --> 00:01:01,600

science discoveries are are conducted

33

00:01:05,189 --> 00:01:03,600

or made actually

34

00:01:07,830 --> 00:01:05,199

they put these boundaries around what is

35

00:01:09,510 --> 00:01:07,840

considered to be possible

36

00:01:11,830 --> 00:01:09,520

direct energies in efficient organized

37

00:01:13,510 --> 00:01:11,840

ways that's important because there is

38

00:01:15,270 --> 00:01:13,520

no matter how much money the government

39

00:01:18,149 --> 00:01:15,280

may give you for research there's never

40

00:01:20,149 --> 00:01:18,159

actually enough is there

41

00:01:22,070 --> 00:01:20,159

and you have to have some way of

42

00:01:23,590 --> 00:01:22,080

organizing your research research in

43

00:01:26,469 --> 00:01:23,600

order to accomplish

44

00:01:27,749 --> 00:01:26,479

as much as possible with it and

45

00:01:30,149 --> 00:01:27,759

paradigms

46

00:01:32,390 --> 00:01:30,159

tend to resist departures from

47

00:01:33,830 --> 00:01:32,400

established theory and practice i want

48

00:01:36,630 --> 00:01:33,840

to say a little bit more about that last

49

00:01:39,749 --> 00:01:36,640

bullet okay because in doing that they

50

00:01:41,109 --> 00:01:39,759

also establish an orthodoxy

51

00:01:43,429 --> 00:01:41,119

now

52

00:01:45,109 --> 00:01:43,439

orthodoxy has a bad connotation in

53

00:01:46,950 --> 00:01:45,119

society today everybody thinks that's

54

00:01:49,670 --> 00:01:46,960

what we should be getting away from but

55

00:01:51,190 --> 00:01:49,680

in fact orthodoxy in most cases is

56

00:01:54,389 --> 00:01:51,200

useful and valuable

57

00:01:55,830 --> 00:01:54,399

orthodoxy and of itself is not bad

58

00:01:57,990 --> 00:01:55,840

it can establish principles that are

59

00:02:00,789 --> 00:01:58,000

actually effective and helpful and and

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00:02:02,789 --> 00:02:00,799

promote good goals and and particularly

61

00:02:04,709 --> 00:02:02,799

in research however there are times when

62

00:02:07,030 --> 00:02:04,719

orthodoxy gets out of control and we'll

63

00:02:10,070 --> 00:02:07,040

talk about that a little bit later

64

00:02:12,949 --> 00:02:10,080

so um unfortunately one of the things

65

00:02:14,630 --> 00:02:12,959

about that orthodoxy is it does um

66

00:02:16,630 --> 00:02:14,640

result in kind of comments like this at

67

00:02:18,390 --> 00:02:16,640

least as far as esp or psy is concerned

68

00:02:20,150 --> 00:02:18,400

but most of you know of or know

69

00:02:21,830 --> 00:02:20,160

personally richard wiseman and are

70

00:02:23,510 --> 00:02:21,840

familiar with this statement he says i

71

00:02:26,869 --> 00:02:23,520

agree that by the standards of any other

72

00:02:28,550 --> 00:02:26,879

area of science esp is proven but it

73

00:02:30,150 --> 00:02:28,560

begs the question do we need higher

74

00:02:31,430 --> 00:02:30,160

standards of evidence when we study the

75

00:02:33,030 --> 00:02:31,440

paranormal

76

00:02:36,309 --> 00:02:33,040

i think we do

77

00:02:38,229 --> 00:02:36,319

okay and he of course is one of a large

78

00:02:39,270 --> 00:02:38,239

chorus of people making the kind of same

79

00:02:42,630 --> 00:02:39,280

sort of

80

00:02:44,309 --> 00:02:42,640

demand brings to mind marcelo troussy's

81

00:02:46,869 --> 00:02:44,319

extraordinary claims require

82

00:02:49,830 --> 00:02:46,879

extraordinary proof

83

00:02:54,470 --> 00:02:49,840

so why do many scientists find psi or

84

00:02:56,630 --> 00:02:55,670

so

85

00:02:58,229 --> 00:02:56,640

first

86

00:03:00,550 --> 00:02:58,239

it's the old idea if it ain't broke

87

00:03:03,110 --> 00:03:00,560

don't fix it our current scientific

88

00:03:04,949 --> 00:03:03,120

paradigm works really well

89

00:03:07,910 --> 00:03:04,959

in fact arguably it's the most

90

00:03:09,350 --> 00:03:07,920

successful research paradigm

91

00:03:10,949 --> 00:03:09,360

ever

92

00:03:12,949 --> 00:03:10,959

in effect in the world's history as far

93

00:03:16,710 --> 00:03:12,959

as we know right

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00:03:18,949 --> 00:03:16,720

it's amazing what the paradigm overall

95

00:03:20,390 --> 00:03:18,959

the general paradigm has accomplished in

96

00:03:21,990 --> 00:03:20,400

a relatively short period of time in

97

00:03:23,190 --> 00:03:22,000

human history

98

00:03:24,630 --> 00:03:23,200

so

99

00:03:25,910 --> 00:03:24,640

there's a kind of a tendency not to want

100

00:03:28,070 --> 00:03:25,920

to tinker with something that's

101
00:03:29,350 --> 00:03:28,080
producing good results

102
00:03:31,750 --> 00:03:29,360
second

103
00:03:36,390 --> 00:03:31,760
esp

104
00:03:38,229 --> 00:03:36,400
seems to violate laws of nature and

105
00:03:40,229 --> 00:03:38,239
that's upsetting

106
00:03:41,910 --> 00:03:40,239
and of course

107
00:03:44,470 --> 00:03:41,920
esp may

108
00:03:45,990 --> 00:03:44,480
itself be evidence of some non-physical

109
00:03:47,670 --> 00:03:46,000
phenomena in the universe or some

110
00:03:49,910 --> 00:03:47,680
non-physical force some

111
00:03:51,270 --> 00:03:49,920
physical aspect of the universe

112
00:03:52,470 --> 00:03:51,280
all of that

113
00:03:54,550 --> 00:03:52,480

gives

114

00:03:57,270 --> 00:03:54,560

some certain scientists a

115

00:03:59,030 --> 00:03:57,280

fit of the quivers i guess you could say

116

00:04:01,990 --> 00:03:59,040

and it doesn't help when the folks who

117

00:04:04,070 --> 00:04:02,000

are in favor of esp and psy

118

00:04:06,309 --> 00:04:04,080

make statements like this let's let's

119

00:04:07,910 --> 00:04:06,319

get together and change the paradigm

120

00:04:10,070 --> 00:04:07,920

let's create a new paradigm let's get

121

00:04:11,910 --> 00:04:10,080

beyond science let's leave all that old

122

00:04:13,670 --> 00:04:11,920

friday thinking behind

123

00:04:14,949 --> 00:04:13,680

that's bound to scare scientists as well

124

00:04:17,189 --> 00:04:14,959

and in fact

125

00:04:18,870 --> 00:04:17,199

this in itself is almost as misguided

126

00:04:21,909 --> 00:04:18,880

this whole attitude is almost as

127

00:04:24,390 --> 00:04:21,919

misguided as the orthodoxy is in

128

00:04:26,469 --> 00:04:24,400

resisting it and we'll i'll talk a

129

00:04:29,110 --> 00:04:26,479

little bit more about that later okay

130

00:04:32,150 --> 00:04:29,120

so this is the argument that the

131

00:04:33,189 --> 00:04:32,160

paradigm argument attacks

132

00:04:34,150 --> 00:04:33,199

got that

133

00:04:35,830 --> 00:04:34,160

okay

134

00:04:37,270 --> 00:04:35,840

this is the one that generally most of

135

00:04:38,950 --> 00:04:37,280

us i think support

136

00:04:40,550 --> 00:04:38,960

if there is a

137

00:04:44,629 --> 00:04:40,560

if there is the right kind of evidence

138

00:04:46,310 --> 00:04:44,639

for esp then esp must be real

139

00:04:47,510 --> 00:04:46,320

there is the right kind of evidence for

140

00:04:51,990 --> 00:04:47,520

esp

141

00:04:53,670 --> 00:04:52,000

okay

142

00:04:55,189 --> 00:04:53,680

it's very straightforward makes a lot of

143

00:04:57,510 --> 00:04:55,199

sense most people think it seems

144

00:04:58,950 --> 00:04:57,520

plausible why is why would that be wrong

145

00:05:01,590 --> 00:04:58,960

the paradigm argument generally

146

00:05:03,430 --> 00:05:01,600

specified goes like this though

147

00:05:05,909 --> 00:05:03,440

if even if you have good evidence for

148

00:05:07,670 --> 00:05:05,919

esp there's no explanatory framework for

149

00:05:08,870 --> 00:05:07,680

it if you don't have an explanatory

150

00:05:10,790 --> 00:05:08,880

framework for it it doesn't have its own

151

00:05:13,350 --> 00:05:10,800

paradigm and if it did it would be in

152

00:05:15,590 --> 00:05:13,360

conflict with the current paradigm right

153

00:05:18,230 --> 00:05:15,600

so you can't explain it

154

00:05:20,950 --> 00:05:18,240

and without that kind of a theory

155

00:05:23,670 --> 00:05:20,960

science can legitimately

156

00:05:26,230 --> 00:05:23,680

not take it seriously

157

00:05:27,990 --> 00:05:26,240

so if you have an explanation for it

158

00:05:29,590 --> 00:05:28,000

we'll let it into the club

159

00:05:31,909 --> 00:05:29,600

if you don't have an explanation for it

160

00:05:34,469 --> 00:05:31,919

it really doesn't matter how good it is

161

00:05:36,550 --> 00:05:34,479

we're going to hold it at arm's length

162

00:05:37,830 --> 00:05:36,560

so how many have heard something along

163

00:05:39,590 --> 00:05:37,840

these lines from some scientists or

164

00:05:41,110 --> 00:05:39,600

skeptics somewhere

165

00:05:42,629 --> 00:05:41,120

yeah this

166

00:05:45,430 --> 00:05:42,639

even though oftentimes it's not

167

00:05:47,990 --> 00:05:45,440

explicitly stated this is the implicit

168

00:05:51,029 --> 00:05:48,000

argument that is behind many many many

169

00:05:52,230 --> 00:05:51,039

skeptical arguments against espn psi

170

00:05:54,950 --> 00:05:52,240

okay so let's go into this little bit

171

00:05:57,590 --> 00:05:54,960

more detail first off a real phenomenon

172

00:05:59,029 --> 00:05:57,600

must be in principle from a principle

173

00:06:00,790 --> 00:05:59,039

explainable okay so i'm just breaking

174

00:06:04,150 --> 00:06:00,800

this argument down into

175

00:06:06,469 --> 00:06:04,160

into its constituent parts

176

00:06:09,350 --> 00:06:06,479

if a phenomenon is unexplainable there

177

00:06:12,629 --> 00:06:09,360

are two possibilities either the current

178

00:06:18,230 --> 00:06:12,639

paradigm is either incomplete or wrong

179

00:06:22,150 --> 00:06:20,469

it's wrong to abandon a successful

180

00:06:23,510 --> 00:06:22,160

paradigm

181

00:06:25,830 --> 00:06:23,520

just because

182

00:06:28,550 --> 00:06:25,840

you have some data that it can't manage

183

00:06:30,870 --> 00:06:28,560

every scientific theory has some anomaly

184

00:06:33,830 --> 00:06:30,880

anomalous data associated with it

185

00:06:36,070 --> 00:06:33,840

particularly relatively new ones

186

00:06:37,749 --> 00:06:36,080

and the idea is that science works on

187

00:06:42,309 --> 00:06:37,759

reconciling those anomalies with the

188

00:06:43,670 --> 00:06:42,319

base theory classic example is is

189

00:06:45,670 --> 00:06:43,680

orbit was it

190

00:06:47,590 --> 00:06:45,680

neptune i think the order of neptune

191

00:06:48,790 --> 00:06:47,600

whichever one it was had an aberration

192

00:06:50,710 --> 00:06:48,800

in it that wasn't explainable by

193

00:06:52,309 --> 00:06:50,720

copernican theory

194

00:06:53,909 --> 00:06:52,319

it was an anomaly but with further

195

00:06:55,749 --> 00:06:53,919

research they discovered why that was

196

00:06:57,189 --> 00:06:55,759

and it fit right into the model okay it

197

00:07:00,469 --> 00:06:57,199

had to do with another planet they

198

00:07:02,309 --> 00:07:00,479

didn't know was there okay

199

00:07:04,070 --> 00:07:02,319

but just because you have some data that

200

00:07:05,189 --> 00:07:04,080

doesn't work

201
00:07:07,110 --> 00:07:05,199
doesn't necessarily mean that your

202
00:07:09,189 --> 00:07:07,120
paradigm is wrong okay

203
00:07:10,950 --> 00:07:09,199
it's more reasonable to reject that data

204
00:07:12,870 --> 00:07:10,960
instead if you can't find an explanation

205
00:07:15,270 --> 00:07:12,880
for it

206
00:07:17,830 --> 00:07:15,280
and so since evidence for psi is not

207
00:07:19,990 --> 00:07:17,840
explained in fact contradicts current

208
00:07:22,469 --> 00:07:20,000
paradigmatic science say that very

209
00:07:24,390 --> 00:07:22,479
quickly several times

210
00:07:26,790 --> 00:07:24,400
we should reject the psi evidence even

211
00:07:28,070 --> 00:07:26,800
if it is scientifically produced

212
00:07:30,469 --> 00:07:28,080
okay

213
00:07:32,390 --> 00:07:30,479

it's really kind of a plausible argument

214

00:07:34,550 --> 00:07:32,400

but there's this further added thing

215

00:07:36,390 --> 00:07:34,560

that ought to be there which is until

216

00:07:38,070 --> 00:07:36,400

such a time as we can either find a way

217

00:07:39,909 --> 00:07:38,080

to fit it within the current paradigm or

218

00:07:41,029 --> 00:07:39,919

can conclusively prove the evidence is

219

00:07:43,189 --> 00:07:41,039

wrong

220

00:07:45,270 --> 00:07:43,199

or of course the outside possibility

221

00:07:46,710 --> 00:07:45,280

that the paradigm is wrong

222

00:07:49,990 --> 00:07:46,720

but when

223

00:07:52,309 --> 00:07:50,000

critics of psy and esp research

224

00:07:53,189 --> 00:07:52,319

formulate this argument

225

00:08:00,469 --> 00:07:53,199

they

226

00:08:02,070 --> 00:08:00,479

ignore the rest of it

227

00:08:04,710 --> 00:08:02,080

and so essentially the bottom line is

228

00:08:05,749 --> 00:08:04,720

ignore the esp evidence

229

00:08:08,710 --> 00:08:05,759

okay

230

00:08:09,749 --> 00:08:08,720

so here's an example not of ignoring esp

231

00:08:12,070 --> 00:08:09,759

but of

232

00:08:13,749 --> 00:08:12,080

the reasoning behind this okay so

233

00:08:16,950 --> 00:08:13,759

everybody's familiar with the geocentric

234

00:08:18,390 --> 00:08:16,960

the ptolemaic worldview cosmology idea

235

00:08:20,230 --> 00:08:18,400

the planets and the sun and everything

236

00:08:22,309 --> 00:08:20,240

went around the earth and because there

237

00:08:23,350 --> 00:08:22,319

were some strange movements in the way

238

00:08:25,270 --> 00:08:23,360

the planets sometimes seem to go

239

00:08:27,749 --> 00:08:25,280

retrograde they built

240

00:08:29,510 --> 00:08:27,759

they built in these epicycles where

241

00:08:33,269 --> 00:08:29,520

it was very convoluted kind of a complex

242

00:08:35,190 --> 00:08:33,279

system but it worked mostly

243

00:08:36,870 --> 00:08:35,200

and then the heliocentric

244

00:08:40,949 --> 00:08:36,880

theory came along and at first was

245

00:08:43,509 --> 00:08:40,959

rejected okay and uh for a long time it

246

00:08:45,350 --> 00:08:43,519

was it was kind of

247

00:08:49,350 --> 00:08:45,360

it was

248

00:08:51,590 --> 00:08:49,360

geocentric theory was continued to be

249

00:08:53,590 --> 00:08:51,600

promoted and taught

250

00:08:55,430 --> 00:08:53,600

and in fact one philosopher thinks that

251

00:08:57,190 --> 00:08:55,440

was a good thing sort of

252

00:08:59,030 --> 00:08:57,200

it says for a long time the most

253

00:09:00,310 --> 00:08:59,040

rational thing was to keep geocentrism

254

00:09:02,389 --> 00:09:00,320

warts and all it would have been

255

00:09:04,230 --> 00:09:02,399

wrong-headed to abandon geocentrism and

256

00:09:07,110 --> 00:09:04,240

its epicycles without its copernican

257

00:09:08,630 --> 00:09:07,120

replacement so just because you have an

258

00:09:10,310 --> 00:09:08,640

alternate theory

259

00:09:13,030 --> 00:09:10,320

if the theory you actually currently

260

00:09:14,870 --> 00:09:13,040

subscribe to works better in explaining

261

00:09:16,310 --> 00:09:14,880

what you've been able to observe so far

262

00:09:17,750 --> 00:09:16,320

you should keep a hold of the current

263

00:09:19,590 --> 00:09:17,760

one even though you know it may be

264

00:09:22,550 --> 00:09:19,600

essentially wrong and so this is

265

00:09:24,949 --> 00:09:22,560

elicited by this philosopher he says

266

00:09:27,350 --> 00:09:24,959

a false theory with high vera similitude

267

00:09:29,590 --> 00:09:27,360

may be the only hope to guide research

268

00:09:32,070 --> 00:09:29,600

it is better that is than no theory at

269

00:09:34,470 --> 00:09:32,080

all refutation at t requires rejection

270

00:09:35,910 --> 00:09:34,480

in principle but not rejection at t so

271

00:09:37,590 --> 00:09:35,920

in other words at a specific time you

272

00:09:39,990 --> 00:09:37,600

know your theory is wrong

273

00:09:41,509 --> 00:09:40,000

you're still better off using it

274

00:09:43,990 --> 00:09:41,519

until you have something that really

275

00:09:46,389 --> 00:09:44,000

does answer the questions

276

00:09:47,990 --> 00:09:46,399

and so under this certain this just

277

00:09:50,389 --> 00:09:48,000

underlies the idea if you don't have an

278

00:09:52,630 --> 00:09:50,399

explanation for esp then

279

00:09:53,990 --> 00:09:52,640

you don't pay much attention to it until

280

00:09:54,790 --> 00:09:54,000

you do

281

00:09:56,630 --> 00:09:54,800

okay

282

00:09:57,990 --> 00:09:56,640

so let's talk about replacement theories

283

00:09:59,750 --> 00:09:58,000

which ties right into the previous

284

00:10:00,710 --> 00:09:59,760

statement so replacement theory has to

285

00:10:02,870 --> 00:10:00,720

give you

286

00:10:04,389 --> 00:10:02,880

better explanatory power than the theory

287

00:10:06,550 --> 00:10:04,399

that it's going to replace or there's no

288

00:10:07,590 --> 00:10:06,560

point in replacing it

289

00:10:10,389 --> 00:10:07,600

okay

290

00:10:12,630 --> 00:10:10,399

and in fact if if the other theory isn't

291

00:10:14,310 --> 00:10:12,640

as good then you're better to stick with

292

00:10:16,829 --> 00:10:14,320

one you have

293

00:10:20,230 --> 00:10:16,839

there is no good theory for psi or

294

00:10:22,069 --> 00:10:20,240

esp therefore esp evidence cannot count

295

00:10:23,670 --> 00:10:22,079

against physicalism and i'm going to

296

00:10:26,150 --> 00:10:23,680

elaborate on what physicalism really

297

00:10:27,030 --> 00:10:26,160

means here shortly

298

00:10:28,790 --> 00:10:27,040

so

299

00:10:30,710 --> 00:10:28,800

statement from hails again

300

00:10:32,470 --> 00:10:30,720

esp is not consistent with either our

301
00:10:34,389 --> 00:10:32,480
best empirical theories or with our best

302
00:10:36,630 --> 00:10:34,399
philosophical theories about the mind

303
00:10:38,310 --> 00:10:36,640
keep this quote in mind it's not

304
00:10:40,710 --> 00:10:38,320
consistent with your albert either our

305
00:10:42,710 --> 00:10:40,720
best empirical theories or with our best

306
00:10:43,750 --> 00:10:42,720
philosophical some philosophical

307
00:10:45,829 --> 00:10:43,760
theories

308
00:10:47,829 --> 00:10:45,839
okay and so we should prefer any

309
00:10:50,550 --> 00:10:47,839
hypothesis consistent with except with

310
00:10:52,550 --> 00:10:50,560
the accepted paradigm instead and he uh

311
00:10:53,509 --> 00:10:52,560
he gets carried away on this one he says

312
00:10:55,030 --> 00:10:53,519
in fact

313
00:10:57,030 --> 00:10:55,040

and he specifically addresses

314

00:10:58,470 --> 00:10:57,040

reincarnation he says

315

00:11:00,949 --> 00:10:58,480

um

316

00:11:03,269 --> 00:11:00,959

reincarnation the the non-material and

317

00:11:06,790 --> 00:11:03,279

non-physical view of reincarnation

318

00:11:08,550 --> 00:11:06,800

should be rejected he says any theory in

319

00:11:10,949 --> 00:11:08,560

that has a physical explanation is

320

00:11:13,269 --> 00:11:10,959

better than the non-material explanation

321

00:11:14,870 --> 00:11:13,279

so for example he uses this example

322

00:11:16,790 --> 00:11:14,880

let's suppose you have you have this

323

00:11:18,310 --> 00:11:16,800

group of aliens that likes to abduct

324

00:11:20,470 --> 00:11:18,320

people and mess with their minds just

325

00:11:21,829 --> 00:11:20,480

because it's fun to do right and they

326

00:11:23,190 --> 00:11:21,839

implant they implant all these false

327

00:11:24,870 --> 00:11:23,200

memories and stuff and then they plug

328

00:11:26,389 --> 00:11:24,880

the people back into their society and

329

00:11:27,750 --> 00:11:26,399

the people go around claiming all these

330

00:11:29,910 --> 00:11:27,760

things

331

00:11:30,949 --> 00:11:29,920

he says that may be a bizarre theory but

332

00:11:32,790 --> 00:11:30,959

it's actually better than the

333

00:11:34,870 --> 00:11:32,800

non-material version because at least

334

00:11:36,230 --> 00:11:34,880

it's explainable in the physical context

335

00:11:39,030 --> 00:11:36,240

there's reason to believe there might be

336

00:11:40,630 --> 00:11:39,040

aliens it could conceivably be possible

337

00:11:43,509 --> 00:11:40,640

in a physical way to conduct those kind

338

00:11:45,430 --> 00:11:43,519

of experiments therefore even as hair

339

00:11:48,069 --> 00:11:45,440

brain design ideas it's better than

340

00:11:52,150 --> 00:11:48,079

postulating a non-physical non-material

341

00:11:57,829 --> 00:11:53,030

so

342

00:12:00,949 --> 00:11:57,839

i should prefer any hypothesis no matter

343

00:12:03,430 --> 00:12:00,959

how ridiculous it is and we see that

344

00:12:07,190 --> 00:12:03,440

oftentimes in skeptical debates

345

00:12:08,790 --> 00:12:07,200

whoa i better talk really fast okay

346

00:12:10,389 --> 00:12:08,800

uh where the paradigm argument goes

347

00:12:12,069 --> 00:12:10,399

wrong the first thing is

348

00:12:14,150 --> 00:12:12,079

oftentimes it presumes presumes that the

349

00:12:16,069 --> 00:12:14,160

available evidence is trivial current

350

00:12:17,590 --> 00:12:16,079

talks about in his paradigm

351

00:12:19,030 --> 00:12:17,600

research that

352

00:12:20,790 --> 00:12:19,040

when you get if you get a big enough

353

00:12:22,150 --> 00:12:20,800

body of evidence you can actually cause

354

00:12:23,750 --> 00:12:22,160

the paradigm to be changed you have a

355

00:12:25,990 --> 00:12:23,760

scientific revolution

356

00:12:27,750 --> 00:12:26,000

the folks who argue against psy presume

357

00:12:28,629 --> 00:12:27,760

it has or at least argue that it has

358

00:12:30,310 --> 00:12:28,639

less

359

00:12:31,910 --> 00:12:30,320

substantial evidence that has as little

360

00:12:35,269 --> 00:12:31,920

substantial evidence as many of the

361

00:12:37,350 --> 00:12:35,279

other bizarre kinds of uh claims about

362

00:12:40,389 --> 00:12:37,360

you know fringe science claims and such

363

00:12:42,870 --> 00:12:40,399

okay but the fact is they're wrong about

364

00:12:44,550 --> 00:12:42,880

this in my own research my dissertation

365

00:12:46,310 --> 00:12:44,560

i was i tried to integrate just four

366

00:12:48,550 --> 00:12:46,320

different paragraph research paradigms

367

00:12:51,030 --> 00:12:48,560

in parapsychology

368

00:12:53,030 --> 00:12:51,040

presented dean rayden pioneered this

369

00:12:54,310 --> 00:12:53,040

there i found 23 stages at the time i

370

00:12:56,310 --> 00:12:54,320

finished there's been a couple more come

371

00:12:57,670 --> 00:12:56,320

out since of those 12 were significant

372

00:12:59,269 --> 00:12:57,680

three were in a positive direction but

373

00:13:01,430 --> 00:12:59,279

non-significant

374

00:13:03,190 --> 00:13:01,440

the rest were not significant

375

00:13:04,870 --> 00:13:03,200

where if by chance there should only be

376

00:13:08,230 --> 00:13:04,880

one successful one so this shows there's

377

00:13:09,750 --> 00:13:08,240

something going on all right uh just

378

00:13:12,550 --> 00:13:09,760

direct mental interaction with living

379

00:13:14,550 --> 00:13:12,560

systems 68 studies 40 significant six

380

00:13:16,230 --> 00:13:14,560

mixed bag

381

00:13:18,230 --> 00:13:16,240

eight positive but not significant

382

00:13:19,990 --> 00:13:18,240

eleven were non-significant but some of

383

00:13:21,829 --> 00:13:20,000

those eleven were actually testing

384

00:13:24,389 --> 00:13:21,839

boundary conditions and they they almost

385

00:13:26,150 --> 00:13:24,399

don't count as replications because you

386

00:13:27,590 --> 00:13:26,160

test parameters that you don't know if

387

00:13:28,629 --> 00:13:27,600

they're actually going to work or not

388

00:13:29,829 --> 00:13:28,639

and so some of those are just

389

00:13:31,670 --> 00:13:29,839

exploratory

390

00:13:33,829 --> 00:13:31,680

so in chance for this number you would

391

00:13:35,670 --> 00:13:33,839

expect three and they actually have 40.

392

00:13:38,069 --> 00:13:35,680

remote viewing i can't even tabulate it

393

00:13:40,470 --> 00:13:38,079

there's so much material here in one

394

00:13:42,790 --> 00:13:40,480

report in 1988

395

00:13:45,910 --> 00:13:42,800

recently in class declassified

396

00:13:48,389 --> 00:13:45,920

almost 26 000 trials odds against chance

397

00:13:50,389 --> 00:13:48,399

of the successful results was 2 times 10

398

00:13:52,790 --> 00:13:50,399

to the 20th that's 2

399

00:13:55,750 --> 00:13:52,800

followed by 20 zeros

400

00:13:57,910 --> 00:13:55,760

to 1 against chance of course the pair

401
00:13:58,949 --> 00:13:57,920
pair trial 653 and you see that they got

402
00:14:01,509 --> 00:13:58,959
a great

403
00:14:02,790 --> 00:14:01,519
result as well and arv you heard some

404
00:14:05,590 --> 00:14:02,800
about that yesterday there's even more

405
00:14:07,910 --> 00:14:05,600
to say about arv they don't have time

406
00:14:10,069 --> 00:14:07,920
okay uh paradigm argues that science has

407
00:14:11,910 --> 00:14:10,079
alternative explanations to psy

408
00:14:14,310 --> 00:14:11,920
and some of those are fraud flaws

409
00:14:16,710 --> 00:14:14,320
misinterpretation of data the fact is if

410
00:14:18,550 --> 00:14:16,720
you can discount those as i think has

411
00:14:20,230 --> 00:14:18,560
been done in a number of cases

412
00:14:21,910 --> 00:14:20,240
if you eliminate them science doesn't

413
00:14:23,350 --> 00:14:21,920

have an explanation so remember go back

414

00:14:26,230 --> 00:14:23,360

to your best theories

415

00:14:28,949 --> 00:14:26,240

the reason there are best theories

416

00:14:30,710 --> 00:14:28,959

is because they have ignored the data

417

00:14:31,829 --> 00:14:30,720

and so they remain our best theories

418

00:14:33,590 --> 00:14:31,839

because they haven't dealt with the

419

00:14:34,870 --> 00:14:33,600

elephant in the room

420

00:14:36,550 --> 00:14:34,880

okay

421

00:14:38,230 --> 00:14:36,560

physicalism is different than physics

422

00:14:40,069 --> 00:14:38,240

that's the final problem they associate

423

00:14:41,670 --> 00:14:40,079

physicalism with science and it's not

424

00:14:42,629 --> 00:14:41,680

necessarily the case because here's

425

00:14:44,389 --> 00:14:42,639

physics

426

00:14:45,750 --> 00:14:44,399

the examination of physical entities

427

00:14:46,949 --> 00:14:45,760

properties and relations in their

428

00:14:48,310 --> 00:14:46,959

interactions

429

00:14:50,310 --> 00:14:48,320

physicalism is the doctrine that

430

00:14:51,910 --> 00:14:50,320

everything in the universe is physical

431

00:14:54,230 --> 00:14:51,920

or as a consequence of physical facts

432

00:14:55,509 --> 00:14:54,240

alone they are significantly different

433

00:15:00,310 --> 00:14:55,519

in import

434

00:15:02,389 --> 00:15:00,320

so physics covers physical things

435

00:15:03,670 --> 00:15:02,399

chemistry could be you know there's

436

00:15:05,030 --> 00:15:03,680

already through reduction you end up

437

00:15:06,790 --> 00:15:05,040

fitting a lot of these sciences within

438

00:15:09,189 --> 00:15:06,800

physics in the greater picture that's

439

00:15:11,750 --> 00:15:09,199

why i'm going to lay it out here biology

440

00:15:14,790 --> 00:15:11,760

geology psychology all the other ologies

441

00:15:16,230 --> 00:15:14,800

and such they all can fit within physics

442

00:15:19,030 --> 00:15:16,240

but physics and all of these other

443

00:15:21,990 --> 00:15:19,040

things fit within physicalism

444

00:15:24,230 --> 00:15:22,000

so physical is kind of umbrella doctrine

445

00:15:26,629 --> 00:15:24,240

that embraces all of these things it

446

00:15:28,870 --> 00:15:26,639

adds something additional to them okay

447

00:15:30,629 --> 00:15:28,880

so physicals is a metaphysical claim it

448

00:15:32,389 --> 00:15:30,639

deals with theories about what there is

449

00:15:35,110 --> 00:15:32,399

what is real

450

00:15:37,269 --> 00:15:35,120

fundamental nature of what exists

451
00:15:39,110 --> 00:15:37,279
okay it is asserted it's not explanatory

452
00:15:40,790 --> 00:15:39,120
it states it specifies

453
00:15:42,069 --> 00:15:40,800
everything is physical

454
00:15:44,150 --> 00:15:42,079
it doesn't give

455
00:15:45,829 --> 00:15:44,160
proof of that it gives some evidence but

456
00:15:47,189 --> 00:15:45,839
the fact is without knowing everything

457
00:15:49,110 --> 00:15:47,199
in the universe you can't know that

458
00:15:50,790 --> 00:15:49,120
everything is physical

459
00:15:52,470 --> 00:15:50,800
and since it's metaphysical and

460
00:15:55,430 --> 00:15:52,480
assertive not experimental it's actually

461
00:15:57,350 --> 00:15:55,440
not a scientific paradigm okay

462
00:15:59,990 --> 00:15:57,360
so what i claim is that accepting psi

463
00:16:01,829 --> 00:16:00,000

esp data or whatever as real requires

464

00:16:03,189 --> 00:16:01,839

little change in current scientific

465

00:16:04,710 --> 00:16:03,199

paradigms

466

00:16:07,350 --> 00:16:04,720

why okay so

467

00:16:08,389 --> 00:16:07,360

if if non let's presumably let's say

468

00:16:09,509 --> 00:16:08,399

because that's the worst case here's

469

00:16:12,790 --> 00:16:09,519

where our science is concerned if

470

00:16:14,550 --> 00:16:12,800

presumably non-physical entities exist

471

00:16:16,389 --> 00:16:14,560

it doesn't affect physics physics is

472

00:16:17,590 --> 00:16:16,399

only about what's what's physical it

473

00:16:20,550 --> 00:16:17,600

doesn't affect chemistry it doesn't

474

00:16:23,430 --> 00:16:20,560

affect geology it has exactly no impact

475

00:16:25,829 --> 00:16:23,440

on any of these sciences

476

00:16:30,470 --> 00:16:28,230

but it does on physicalism the doctrine

477

00:16:32,389 --> 00:16:30,480

that everything is physical so here's

478

00:16:34,389 --> 00:16:32,399

current formulation some things may be

479

00:16:36,150 --> 00:16:34,399

non-physical that's what we think or

480

00:16:38,790 --> 00:16:36,160

potential many of us think okay

481

00:16:41,590 --> 00:16:38,800

physicalism is everything is physical

482

00:16:42,629 --> 00:16:41,600

these are incompatible

483

00:16:44,310 --> 00:16:42,639

however

484

00:16:46,389 --> 00:16:44,320

this is all that physics as a science

485

00:16:48,470 --> 00:16:46,399

requires that some things are physical

486

00:16:50,710 --> 00:16:48,480

it's perfectly harmonious harmonious

487

00:16:52,790 --> 00:16:50,720

with the existence of psi and esp no

488

00:16:54,629 --> 00:16:52,800

paradigms need to be changed there okay

489

00:16:55,829 --> 00:16:54,639

so here's the model that i showed you

490

00:16:58,710 --> 00:16:55,839

earlier

491

00:17:00,949 --> 00:16:58,720

without the sciences physicalism kind of

492

00:17:02,069 --> 00:17:00,959

loses its force

493

00:17:03,590 --> 00:17:02,079

however

494

00:17:05,110 --> 00:17:03,600

here's the sciences with physicalism

495

00:17:07,750 --> 00:17:05,120

without physicalism the science has

496

00:17:08,630 --> 00:17:07,760

remained unchanged

497

00:17:11,110 --> 00:17:08,640

so

498

00:17:13,270 --> 00:17:11,120

as i say here no paradigms were highly

499

00:17:15,029 --> 00:17:13,280

harm the production of this presentation

500

00:17:16,470 --> 00:17:15,039

only physicalism is a dogma is

501
00:17:19,029 --> 00:17:16,480
threatened and only because of its

502
00:17:20,630 --> 00:17:19,039
universal claim everything is physical

503
00:17:22,230 --> 00:17:20,640
versus some or even most things are

504
00:17:24,230 --> 00:17:22,240
physical we can live with some or even

505
00:17:25,350 --> 00:17:24,240
most things are physical that's not an

506
00:17:29,830 --> 00:17:25,360
issue

507
00:17:29,840 --> 00:17:34,870
okay how did i do on time

508
00:17:38,310 --> 00:17:35,830
thanks

509
00:17:40,870 --> 00:17:38,320
thank you very much

510
00:17:42,710 --> 00:17:40,880
for those who would like to ask dr smith

511
00:17:51,669 --> 00:17:42,720
a question please come up front and

512
00:17:57,029 --> 00:17:53,590
i've been trying to get a remote viewer

513
00:18:00,150 --> 00:17:57,039

to talk about spotis woods uh findings

514

00:18:02,630 --> 00:18:00,160

and they're relevant right now because

515

00:18:04,950 --> 00:18:02,640

uh spotless word showed that that there

516

00:18:09,029 --> 00:18:04,960

is a negative correlation between

517

00:18:12,230 --> 00:18:09,039

geomagnetic activity and the success of

518

00:18:13,830 --> 00:18:12,240

of uh remote viewing okay uh well he did

519

00:18:16,870 --> 00:18:13,840

talk about lst has he talked about

520

00:18:17,990 --> 00:18:16,880

geomagnetism too yours has he okay all

521

00:18:18,789 --> 00:18:18,000

right

522

00:18:26,390 --> 00:18:18,799

well

523

00:18:28,070 --> 00:18:26,400

spikes and geomagnetic activity and

524

00:18:29,190 --> 00:18:28,080

well that's all i want to do okay all

525

00:18:32,470 --> 00:18:29,200

right

526

00:18:36,390 --> 00:18:35,110

i want to make three uh three brief

527

00:18:37,590 --> 00:18:36,400

comments here

528

00:18:39,270 --> 00:18:37,600

um

529

00:18:40,950 --> 00:18:39,280

the first one is that steven brush has

530

00:18:42,950 --> 00:18:40,960

done a lot of studies of people's

531

00:18:44,630 --> 00:18:42,960

acceptance or non-acceptance of

532

00:18:46,710 --> 00:18:44,640

scientific theories not necessarily

533

00:18:48,710 --> 00:18:46,720

scientific data and what he's shown is

534

00:18:50,470 --> 00:18:48,720

that basically at any given time there's

535

00:18:51,750 --> 00:18:50,480

a whole range of different

536

00:18:53,190 --> 00:18:51,760

feelings on the part of people about

537

00:18:54,870 --> 00:18:53,200

what theories are true and why they're

538

00:18:57,270 --> 00:18:54,880

through what parts of them are true and

539

00:18:58,150 --> 00:18:57,280

so on and so forth really good terrific

540

00:19:00,710 --> 00:18:58,160

stuff

541

00:19:03,029 --> 00:19:00,720

very very rigorous and

542

00:19:04,470 --> 00:19:03,039

in a variety of different disciplines

543

00:19:06,230 --> 00:19:04,480

the second thing is in the meteorite

544

00:19:08,470 --> 00:19:06,240

controversy which i did make a special

545

00:19:09,909 --> 00:19:08,480

study of myself one of the arguments was

546

00:19:11,909 --> 00:19:09,919

we shouldn't accept meteorites unless we

547

00:19:13,590 --> 00:19:11,919

can explain them so as soon as they

548

00:19:14,870 --> 00:19:13,600

realize that meteorites must come from

549

00:19:16,549 --> 00:19:14,880

the moon

550

00:19:18,549 --> 00:19:16,559

they accepted that

551
00:19:20,310 --> 00:19:18,559
in other words the wrong explanation was

552
00:19:22,470 --> 00:19:20,320
actually what allowed them to feel good

553
00:19:24,310 --> 00:19:22,480
about yeah even the wrong explanation is

554
00:19:25,110 --> 00:19:24,320
better than no explanation at all yes

555
00:19:25,990 --> 00:19:25,120
yeah

556
00:19:27,669 --> 00:19:26,000
um

557
00:19:29,270 --> 00:19:27,679
and that's psychology this isn't science

558
00:19:31,430 --> 00:19:29,280
and psychology right human psychology

559
00:19:33,110 --> 00:19:31,440
you want that go ahead yes and number

560
00:19:35,270 --> 00:19:33,120
three is you should see what happens

561
00:19:36,870 --> 00:19:35,280
with the ball lightning people and they

562
00:19:38,710 --> 00:19:36,880
as they struggle to figure out which one

563
00:19:40,870 --> 00:19:38,720

of the dozens of explanations that

564

00:19:42,470 --> 00:19:40,880

people have are possibly correct and it

565

00:19:44,150 --> 00:19:42,480

seems to me absolutely ridiculous to

566

00:19:46,470 --> 00:19:44,160

reject the

567

00:19:47,990 --> 00:19:46,480

existence of phenomenon observations

568

00:19:49,990 --> 00:19:48,000

until you can come up with a decent

569

00:19:52,549 --> 00:19:50,000

theory yeah i think

570

00:19:54,630 --> 00:19:52,559

the right thing is to try to collect the

571

00:19:56,390 --> 00:19:54,640

observations and then keep working and

572

00:19:57,590 --> 00:19:56,400

trying to come over right and that's the

573

00:19:59,909 --> 00:19:57,600

problem if

574

00:20:02,230 --> 00:19:59,919

it's not important that they accept that

575

00:20:05,270 --> 00:20:02,240

the science and and the skeptics accept

576

00:20:06,630 --> 00:20:05,280

esp data is relevant but they also quash

577

00:20:07,990 --> 00:20:06,640

research into it that's where they will

578

00:20:10,230 --> 00:20:08,000

problem-wise they'll allow you to look

579

00:20:14,230 --> 00:20:10,240

into it okay sorry am i done

580

00:20:17,190 --> 00:20:15,669

thank you very much for a great talk i

581

00:20:18,870 --> 00:20:17,200

really loved your conclusion in the

582

00:20:20,789 --> 00:20:18,880

middle i was starting to go nuts because

583

00:20:22,789 --> 00:20:20,799

some of the things that you were saying

584

00:20:24,870 --> 00:20:22,799

directly contradict my training in

585

00:20:26,950 --> 00:20:24,880

science which is that's although science

586

00:20:28,149 --> 00:20:26,960

is an interplay between empiricism and

587

00:20:30,470 --> 00:20:28,159

theory

588

00:20:32,549 --> 00:20:30,480

it has to be driven by data so if the

589

00:20:34,070 --> 00:20:32,559

data are reliable and reproducible

590

00:20:36,070 --> 00:20:34,080

theory has to change in order to

591

00:20:38,070 --> 00:20:36,080

accommodate that and not have the data

592

00:20:40,789 --> 00:20:38,080

be thrown away because the theory can't

593

00:20:43,110 --> 00:20:40,799

handle it so physicalism borders on an

594

00:20:45,510 --> 00:20:43,120

ideology or even a religion rather than

595

00:20:47,110 --> 00:20:45,520

a theory because it's not responsive to

596

00:20:48,870 --> 00:20:47,120

the data-driven natures

597

00:20:50,710 --> 00:20:48,880

of course whether your data drives the

598

00:20:52,549 --> 00:20:50,720

train depends on which school of

599

00:20:53,830 --> 00:20:52,559

philosophy in science that you adhere to

600

00:20:55,750 --> 00:20:53,840

there's arguments between both

601
00:20:58,149 --> 00:20:55,760
directions go ahead york i'm almost

602
00:21:00,230 --> 00:20:58,159
scared to hear this one go ahead

603
00:21:03,270 --> 00:21:00,240
actually i just wanted to ask if you had

604
00:21:05,190 --> 00:21:03,280
noticed that the various uh

605
00:21:06,630 --> 00:21:05,200
theory-driven arguments you were

606
00:21:08,390 --> 00:21:06,640
presenting that you've obviously run

607
00:21:09,190 --> 00:21:08,400
across in your research

608
00:21:12,230 --> 00:21:09,200
uh

609
00:21:14,950 --> 00:21:12,240
really have a strong isomorphism with

610
00:21:16,870 --> 00:21:14,960
the scientific creationist justification

611
00:21:18,390 --> 00:21:16,880
for discarding fossil evidence because

612
00:21:20,630 --> 00:21:18,400
it conflicts with the literal truth of

613
00:21:22,549 --> 00:21:20,640

the bible uh it might be useful for

614

00:21:23,750 --> 00:21:22,559

polemical purposes to point out to these

615

00:21:26,390 --> 00:21:23,760

guys that they're

616

00:21:30,870 --> 00:21:26,400

exactly like creationists

617

00:21:34,630 --> 00:21:32,470

my dissertation i actually talked about

618

00:21:37,029 --> 00:21:34,640

you know in id there's this idea of the

619

00:21:38,549 --> 00:21:37,039

god of the gaps where you know we don't

620

00:21:39,750 --> 00:21:38,559

have evidence of god in certain areas so

621

00:21:40,870 --> 00:21:39,760

but there's probably some hiding out

622

00:21:43,430 --> 00:21:40,880

there because we don't know everything

623

00:21:45,190 --> 00:21:43,440

about science and in fact

624

00:21:47,270 --> 00:21:45,200

really the skeptical side uses the same

625

00:21:48,710 --> 00:21:47,280

kind of gap argument to justify many

626

00:21:50,789 --> 00:21:48,720

other claims so yeah you're exactly

627

00:21:53,510 --> 00:21:50,799

right thank you for not uh scaring me to

628

00:21:59,110 --> 00:21:56,710

yes uh paul i wanted to ask you um what

629

00:22:01,029 --> 00:21:59,120

your thoughts were on the fact that

630

00:22:03,909 --> 00:22:01,039

current orthodox scientists and

631

00:22:08,310 --> 00:22:05,510

reject psi because it doesn't have an

632

00:22:11,750 --> 00:22:08,320

adequate theoretical explanation but yet

633

00:22:13,990 --> 00:22:11,760

they demand in medical research that

634

00:22:16,710 --> 00:22:14,000

all medical research be conducted uh

635

00:22:19,110 --> 00:22:16,720

with randomized placebo control trials

636

00:22:20,870 --> 00:22:19,120

even though the placebo effect has never

637

00:22:22,789 --> 00:22:20,880

had an adequate explanation or a

638

00:22:23,669 --> 00:22:22,799

theoretical basis so what are your

639

00:22:25,510 --> 00:22:23,679

thoughts on that it's kind of

640

00:22:29,029 --> 00:22:25,520

schizophrenic almost within the it

641

00:22:30,470 --> 00:22:29,039

doesn't have to be rational does it

642

00:22:32,149 --> 00:22:30,480

yes that you know that's of course now

643

00:22:33,669 --> 00:22:32,159

that's that's practical science it's

644

00:22:35,830 --> 00:22:33,679

application science oriented in that

645

00:22:37,590 --> 00:22:35,840

case and when you start dealing with the

646

00:22:39,510 --> 00:22:37,600

real world

647

00:22:41,190 --> 00:22:39,520

oftentimes

648

00:22:42,630 --> 00:22:41,200

the theory gets a little fuzzy and and

649

00:22:44,870 --> 00:22:42,640

they start doing going with what works

650

00:22:47,029 --> 00:22:44,880

than necessarily what's doctrine

651

00:22:49,270 --> 00:22:47,039

by the way if any of you have some great

652

00:22:50,310 --> 00:22:49,280

quotes that support the paradigm

653

00:22:52,390 --> 00:22:50,320

argument

654

00:22:53,909 --> 00:22:52,400

i'd love to have them i want to collect

655

00:22:56,149 --> 00:22:53,919

all of the you know quotes and such