



**DAVID
WILSON**

**EVOLUTIONARY
BIOLOGY**

1
00:00:03,270 --> 00:00:01,910
a group that functions well basically

2
00:00:05,749 --> 00:00:03,280
can behave selfishly

3
00:00:07,269 --> 00:00:05,759
with respect to other groups you haven't

4
00:00:09,430 --> 00:00:07,279
pro you haven't solved the problem of

5
00:00:11,430 --> 00:00:09,440
selfishness you just elevated it

6
00:00:13,110 --> 00:00:11,440
to the level of the group where it can

7
00:00:13,990 --> 00:00:13,120
take place with more destructive force

8
00:00:17,990 --> 00:00:14,000
than

9
00:00:21,830 --> 00:00:19,910
professor david sloane wilson is one of

10
00:00:23,269 --> 00:00:21,840
the world's foremost kanyasenti's in

11
00:00:25,509 --> 00:00:23,279
evolutionary theory

12
00:00:27,349 --> 00:00:25,519
he's almost single-handedly responsible

13
00:00:27,990 --> 00:00:27,359

for the resurgence of the idea of group

14

00:00:29,429 --> 00:00:28,000

selection

15

00:00:31,429 --> 00:00:29,439

at least he's responsible for the

16

00:00:32,150 --> 00:00:31,439

popularization of it versus individual

17

00:00:36,150 --> 00:00:32,160

selection

18

00:00:37,670 --> 00:00:36,160

dominant paradigm of the 20th century

19

00:00:39,110 --> 00:00:37,680

although he's made some amendments to

20

00:00:40,069 --> 00:00:39,120

group selection and now calls it

21

00:00:42,709 --> 00:00:40,079

multi-level

22

00:00:44,869 --> 00:00:42,719

selection theory as usual these are

23

00:00:46,150 --> 00:00:44,879

often technically dense and i expect

24

00:00:47,750 --> 00:00:46,160

that there's a certain level of

25

00:00:50,069 --> 00:00:47,760

familiarity with the material

26

00:00:50,869 --> 00:00:50,079

or the terminology such as existential

27

00:00:53,590 --> 00:00:50,879

security

28

00:00:55,029 --> 00:00:53,600

victor huang's innovation oasis as it

29

00:00:56,470 --> 00:00:55,039

relates to evolutionary theory and then

30

00:00:57,670 --> 00:00:56,480

if for whatever reason you don't know

31

00:00:59,189 --> 00:00:57,680

the material you don't know the

32

00:01:00,389 --> 00:00:59,199

terminology then i expect that you'll

33

00:01:02,389 --> 00:01:00,399

look it up because

34

00:01:03,590 --> 00:01:02,399

you're far brighter than most podcasts

35

00:01:04,950 --> 00:01:03,600

give you credit for

36

00:01:06,789 --> 00:01:04,960

this conversation was filmed

37

00:01:07,750 --> 00:01:06,799

approximately a year and a half ago way

38

00:01:09,510 --> 00:01:07,760

before kovid

39

00:01:10,950 --> 00:01:09,520

for a documentary called better left

40

00:01:12,789 --> 00:01:10,960

unsaid which is all about

41

00:01:14,310 --> 00:01:12,799

when does the left go too far

42

00:01:15,429 --> 00:01:14,320

politically speaking because it seems

43

00:01:17,190 --> 00:01:15,439

like

44

00:01:18,870 --> 00:01:17,200

the right it's fairly clear when the

45

00:01:21,030 --> 00:01:18,880

right goes too far this documentary is

46

00:01:22,310 --> 00:01:21,040

slated for release in 2021 and if you

47

00:01:22,950 --> 00:01:22,320

want to follow it the links are in the

48

00:01:25,030 --> 00:01:22,960

description

49

00:01:26,789 --> 00:01:25,040

generally speaking if there's a product

50

00:01:28,469 --> 00:01:26,799

of mine like i helped create it and it's

51

00:01:31,350 --> 00:01:28,479

more than six months old

52

00:01:33,109 --> 00:01:31,360

then i'm abjectly mortified by it

53

00:01:34,870 --> 00:01:33,119

because i can only see the flaws in it i

54

00:01:35,590 --> 00:01:34,880

wasn't happy with the quality of it so i

55

00:01:37,109 --> 00:01:35,600

took it down

56

00:01:39,270 --> 00:01:37,119

but many of you have emailed me as well

57

00:01:40,149 --> 00:01:39,280

as reviewing some of the comments it

58

00:01:42,149 --> 00:01:40,159

seems like

59

00:01:43,270 --> 00:01:42,159

plenty of you enjoyed it a significant

60

00:01:44,789 --> 00:01:43,280

amount

61

00:01:46,069 --> 00:01:44,799

maybe it's one of the better

62

00:01:47,670 --> 00:01:46,079

conversations out there with david

63

00:01:49,109 --> 00:01:47,680

sloane wilson so

64

00:01:50,550 --> 00:01:49,119

hopefully you enjoy it just as much now

65

00:01:51,910 --> 00:01:50,560

there's a bit of extra footage that i've

66

00:01:55,109 --> 00:01:51,920

included

67

00:01:56,950 --> 00:01:55,119

enjoy hello professor thank you

68

00:01:58,310 --> 00:01:56,960

thank you for coming i appreciate you

69

00:02:01,109 --> 00:01:58,320

inviting us into your home

70

00:02:01,910 --> 00:02:01,119

no problem my pleasure all right let's

71

00:02:05,190 --> 00:02:01,920

get straight to it

72

00:02:06,709 --> 00:02:05,200

do you think that we're losing values in

73

00:02:09,669 --> 00:02:06,719

the west

74

00:02:11,430 --> 00:02:09,679

i think we're in a crisis condition so

75

00:02:14,390 --> 00:02:11,440

that's a loss of something

76
00:02:15,670 --> 00:02:14,400
but whether we call that loss of values

77
00:02:18,630 --> 00:02:15,680
i think is

78
00:02:20,070 --> 00:02:18,640
are probably too simplistic we still

79
00:02:22,710 --> 00:02:20,080
have values of course

80
00:02:24,229 --> 00:02:22,720
and i think that uh those values appear

81
00:02:27,670 --> 00:02:24,239
to be threatened

82
00:02:30,550 --> 00:02:27,680
and so uh that's why we're in in uh

83
00:02:31,270 --> 00:02:30,560
in crisis mode but i think to go further

84
00:02:34,550 --> 00:02:31,280
than that

85
00:02:36,150 --> 00:02:34,560
we need to probe questions such as

86
00:02:39,030 --> 00:02:36,160
the west what is it what does it

87
00:02:41,350 --> 00:02:39,040
represent what values does it represent

88
00:02:45,030 --> 00:02:41,360

are we talking about democracy are we

89

00:02:49,589 --> 00:02:46,949

enlightenment values are we talking

90

00:02:52,949 --> 00:02:49,599

about individuals

91

00:02:55,589 --> 00:02:52,959

such concepts of freedom and so on

92

00:02:57,430 --> 00:02:55,599

what can be said i think is that the

93

00:03:00,630 --> 00:02:57,440

western system

94

00:03:03,110 --> 00:03:00,640

is in some sense not working and it's

95

00:03:07,509 --> 00:03:03,120

ceasing to become an exemplar for

96

00:03:09,110 --> 00:03:07,519

others and so that is very concerning

97

00:03:10,790 --> 00:03:09,120

can you explain what are some of the

98

00:03:13,030 --> 00:03:10,800

values that you see that are

99

00:03:15,110 --> 00:03:13,040

essential that are going away i'm just

100

00:03:17,430 --> 00:03:15,120

going to move this guy this will fly

101
00:03:18,949 --> 00:03:17,440
yeah right disrupting your full thought

102
00:03:21,910 --> 00:03:18,959
right

103
00:03:22,869 --> 00:03:21,920
um oh it's still it likes you likes you

104
00:03:24,949 --> 00:03:22,879
it's group selected

105
00:03:26,390 --> 00:03:24,959
let's see if we we can try to terminate

106
00:03:29,030 --> 00:03:26,400
it if we need to but uh

107
00:03:29,509 --> 00:03:29,040
not very that's not very group selected

108
00:03:32,710 --> 00:03:29,519
over here

109
00:03:34,789 --> 00:03:32,720
oh yes it is um so

110
00:03:36,229 --> 00:03:34,799
that question was what again okay what

111
00:03:37,030 --> 00:03:36,239
are these values so you mentioned that

112
00:03:38,949 --> 00:03:37,040
we're losing

113
00:03:40,710 --> 00:03:38,959

some values maybe it's democracy opposed

114

00:03:43,190 --> 00:03:40,720

maybe maybe it's enlightenment values

115

00:03:44,550 --> 00:03:43,200

what do you see are the values that when

116

00:03:47,750 --> 00:03:44,560

we lose them we're put in a

117

00:03:49,190 --> 00:03:47,760

crisis mode as you put it

118

00:03:51,270 --> 00:03:49,200

well at some point i know we're going to

119

00:03:55,589 --> 00:03:51,280

get to multi-level

120

00:03:57,990 --> 00:03:55,599

selection which has to do with basically

121

00:03:59,990 --> 00:03:58,000

how do we envision society do we

122

00:04:03,110 --> 00:04:00,000

envision it expansively such as

123

00:04:03,750 --> 00:04:03,120

the whole world are we nationalistic do

124

00:04:09,270 --> 00:04:03,760

we view it

125

00:04:11,589 --> 00:04:09,280

in a more factional sense our party

126
00:04:14,789 --> 00:04:11,599
first for example

127
00:04:16,310 --> 00:04:14,799
or perhaps even smaller and

128
00:04:17,830 --> 00:04:16,320
a lot of what we mean by the left and

129
00:04:21,349 --> 00:04:17,840
the right actually

130
00:04:24,790 --> 00:04:21,359
means our choice of unit

131
00:04:27,990 --> 00:04:24,800
the right nowadays is restricting itself

132
00:04:31,830 --> 00:04:28,000
to some tribe basically

133
00:04:34,390 --> 00:04:31,840
and and the so-called left is

134
00:04:36,150 --> 00:04:34,400
you might say more expansive more global

135
00:04:38,710 --> 00:04:36,160
in its thinking but even globalism

136
00:04:41,590 --> 00:04:38,720
itself is problematic because

137
00:04:43,110 --> 00:04:41,600
i think that there's types of globalism

138
00:04:44,710 --> 00:04:43,120

and the type of globalism that's

139

00:04:47,749 --> 00:04:44,720

represented by capitalism

140

00:04:49,670 --> 00:04:47,759

global capitalism is one which

141

00:04:51,110 --> 00:04:49,680

is not working it's global but it's not

142

00:04:53,830 --> 00:04:51,120

working for the benefit

143

00:04:56,150 --> 00:04:53,840

of everyone so i think that's part of

144

00:04:56,710 --> 00:04:56,160

the crisis is that capitalism which is

145

00:05:00,390 --> 00:04:56,720

the

146

00:05:03,189 --> 00:05:00,400

is

147

00:05:04,870 --> 00:05:03,199

become deeply problematic when we talk

148

00:05:06,230 --> 00:05:04,880

about such things as socialism and

149

00:05:09,110 --> 00:05:06,240

capitalism

150

00:05:10,870 --> 00:05:09,120

um these are the modes of political

151

00:05:13,749 --> 00:05:10,880

philosophy in the in the past

152

00:05:14,710 --> 00:05:13,759

there's a sense in which neither one

153

00:05:16,230 --> 00:05:14,720

works

154

00:05:18,310 --> 00:05:16,240

and we need to come upon something

155

00:05:19,510 --> 00:05:18,320

that's new that

156

00:05:21,909 --> 00:05:19,520

does work and i believe that

157

00:05:25,990 --> 00:05:21,919

evolutionary theory provides the key

158

00:05:29,029 --> 00:05:26,000

to a form of governance which can work

159

00:05:30,870 --> 00:05:29,039

at the global scale and all smaller

160

00:05:32,550 --> 00:05:30,880

scales that's part of what multi-level

161

00:05:34,070 --> 00:05:32,560

selection is about can you explain the

162

00:05:34,390 --> 00:05:34,080

difference between multi-level selection

163

00:05:39,430 --> 00:05:34,400

and

164

00:05:41,270 --> 00:05:39,440

so let's talk about the difference

165

00:05:43,909 --> 00:05:41,280

between multi-level selection and

166

00:05:44,390 --> 00:05:43,919

and group selection and in the process

167

00:05:48,870 --> 00:05:44,400

let's

168

00:05:50,870 --> 00:05:48,880

define for viewers who are not

169

00:05:51,990 --> 00:05:50,880

already knowledgeable about this kind of

170

00:05:55,350 --> 00:05:52,000

stuff what some of the issues

171

00:05:57,430 --> 00:05:55,360

are at stake and so going all the way

172

00:06:00,230 --> 00:05:57,440

back to darwin darwin thought

173

00:06:01,749 --> 00:06:00,240

that his theory could explain all

174

00:06:04,710 --> 00:06:01,759

aspects of design

175

00:06:06,629 --> 00:06:04,720

that had been attributed to a creator

176
00:06:07,510 --> 00:06:06,639
everything that works has a functional

177
00:06:09,749 --> 00:06:07,520
basis

178
00:06:10,629 --> 00:06:09,759
he thought that had been attributed to

179
00:06:12,710 --> 00:06:10,639
creator

180
00:06:14,950 --> 00:06:12,720
uh he thought he could explain with his

181
00:06:17,749 --> 00:06:14,960
theory of natural selection

182
00:06:18,950 --> 00:06:17,759
but upon further thought he came against

183
00:06:21,270 --> 00:06:18,960
a dilemma

184
00:06:23,350 --> 00:06:21,280
which is if you think of anything that

185
00:06:25,590 --> 00:06:23,360
we associate with morality

186
00:06:27,029 --> 00:06:25,600
if i asked you to define the morally

187
00:06:28,629 --> 00:06:27,039
perfect individual

188
00:06:31,029 --> 00:06:28,639

you would use adjectives such as

189

00:06:34,070 --> 00:06:31,039

altruistic loving giving honest

190

00:06:36,469 --> 00:06:34,080

brave all of these are

191

00:06:37,510 --> 00:06:36,479

things that benefit others and one

192

00:06:40,790 --> 00:06:37,520

society

193

00:06:44,070 --> 00:06:40,800

as a whole and often involve some cost

194

00:06:45,830 --> 00:06:44,080

to the moral individual

195

00:06:47,350 --> 00:06:45,840

and so when darwin contemplated the

196

00:06:50,150 --> 00:06:47,360

moral individual

197

00:06:52,070 --> 00:06:50,160

compared to his or her opposite the

198

00:06:55,510 --> 00:06:52,080

immoral individual

199

00:06:57,830 --> 00:06:55,520

has the advantage

200

00:06:59,670 --> 00:06:57,840

in the struggle for existence there's

201
00:07:00,629 --> 00:06:59,680
something associated with all forms of

202
00:07:05,990 --> 00:07:00,639
goodness

203
00:07:09,670 --> 00:07:06,000
that's vulnerable to all forms of

204
00:07:12,790 --> 00:07:09,680
evil and so darwin could not explain

205
00:07:14,230 --> 00:07:12,800
everything associated with virtue as a

206
00:07:17,110 --> 00:07:14,240
product of natural

207
00:07:18,629 --> 00:07:17,120
selection unless he added something and

208
00:07:20,150 --> 00:07:18,639
that something was to think about

209
00:07:24,070 --> 00:07:20,160
natural selection

210
00:07:26,790 --> 00:07:24,080
at a slightly larger scale so while

211
00:07:28,790 --> 00:07:26,800
altruism is vulnerable to selfishness

212
00:07:30,309 --> 00:07:28,800
within any given social group

213
00:07:32,870 --> 00:07:30,319

it's also the case that a group of

214

00:07:36,150 --> 00:07:32,880

altruists a group of virtuous

215

00:07:37,589 --> 00:07:36,160

people will robustly outcompete a group

216

00:07:41,029 --> 00:07:37,599

of

217

00:07:43,270 --> 00:07:41,039

people who cannot cohere and so now we

218

00:07:43,990 --> 00:07:43,280

do have a process of natural selection

219

00:07:45,670 --> 00:07:44,000

that can favor

220

00:07:47,110 --> 00:07:45,680

virtue but it's a process that takes

221

00:07:50,390 --> 00:07:47,120

place at the level of

222

00:07:52,390 --> 00:07:50,400

groups not at the level of competition

223

00:07:54,950 --> 00:07:52,400

among individuals within groups

224

00:07:56,230 --> 00:07:54,960

and so there's group selection is two

225

00:07:58,550 --> 00:07:56,240

level selection

226

00:08:00,309 --> 00:07:58,560

it looks at what's what happens within

227

00:08:01,589 --> 00:08:00,319

groups competition among individuals

228

00:08:03,430 --> 00:08:01,599

within groups

229

00:08:04,710 --> 00:08:03,440

and then what happens with competitions

230

00:08:07,830 --> 00:08:04,720

among groups

231

00:08:10,390 --> 00:08:07,840

in some kind of multi-group population

232

00:08:12,070 --> 00:08:10,400

a group inhabited by many tribes as

233

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

darwin

234

00:08:15,670 --> 00:08:13,759

talked about it so you could call that

235

00:08:18,710 --> 00:08:15,680

two level selection

236

00:08:20,710 --> 00:08:18,720

now multi-level selection simply expands

237

00:08:23,589 --> 00:08:20,720

that it goes up and down

238

00:08:24,629 --> 00:08:23,599

going down we can talk about genes

239

00:08:27,270 --> 00:08:24,639

within individual

240

00:08:28,869 --> 00:08:27,280

so a gene can succeed at the expense of

241

00:08:32,230 --> 00:08:28,879

other genes within the same

242

00:08:33,909 --> 00:08:32,240

organism we call that cancer

243

00:08:35,829 --> 00:08:33,919

and there's many examples of that kind

244

00:08:39,750 --> 00:08:35,839

of selfish gene

245

00:08:42,070 --> 00:08:39,760

or genes can evolve by cooperating

246

00:08:42,870 --> 00:08:42,080

with other genes in the organism in

247

00:08:45,350 --> 00:08:42,880

which case

248

00:08:47,750 --> 00:08:45,360

natural selection is taking place at the

249

00:08:49,750 --> 00:08:47,760

level of organisms out competing other

250

00:08:51,269 --> 00:08:49,760

organisms so it's the same dynamic that

251
00:08:54,470 --> 00:08:51,279
i just described

252
00:08:56,550 --> 00:08:54,480
except it's genes in organisms then we

253
00:08:58,150 --> 00:08:56,560
get to organisms in groups

254
00:09:00,150 --> 00:08:58,160
and do you know there's groups of groups

255
00:09:01,269 --> 00:09:00,160
of groups so we could talk about

256
00:09:03,750 --> 00:09:01,279
ecosystems

257
00:09:05,590 --> 00:09:03,760
for example our microbiomes it turns out

258
00:09:08,230 --> 00:09:05,600
that you are not just

259
00:09:08,870 --> 00:09:08,240
a homogenous collection of genes you are

260
00:09:11,910 --> 00:09:08,880
a planet

261
00:09:13,670 --> 00:09:11,920
inhabited by many thousands of of

262
00:09:14,710 --> 00:09:13,680
microbial species numbering in the

263
00:09:17,430 --> 00:09:14,720

trillions

264

00:09:17,990 --> 00:09:17,440

of individuals and when you're selected

265

00:09:21,910 --> 00:09:18,000

when you

266

00:09:23,590 --> 00:09:21,920

than others in part it's due not to your

267

00:09:25,670 --> 00:09:23,600

genes but to your

268

00:09:27,350 --> 00:09:25,680

microbiome and the good microbiomes are

269

00:09:29,670 --> 00:09:27,360

being selected

270

00:09:30,870 --> 00:09:29,680

along with the good genes and they're

271

00:09:34,389 --> 00:09:30,880

interacting

272

00:09:36,230 --> 00:09:34,399

with uh each other in other words

273

00:09:38,150 --> 00:09:36,240

what we think of as individual selection

274

00:09:39,430 --> 00:09:38,160

is actually group selection when you

275

00:09:41,670 --> 00:09:39,440

think about the collection of

276

00:09:42,470 --> 00:09:41,680

it turns out the microbiomes is a game

277

00:09:44,470 --> 00:09:42,480

changer because

278

00:09:46,470 --> 00:09:44,480

before we were kind of on to that

279

00:09:49,829 --> 00:09:46,480

concept of microbiomes

280

00:09:52,710 --> 00:09:49,839

it seemed that we were a

281

00:09:55,590 --> 00:09:52,720

relatively uniform collection of of

282

00:09:57,350 --> 00:09:55,600

genes we start out as a single egg

283

00:09:58,710 --> 00:09:57,360

and then those cells divide and divide

284

00:09:59,269 --> 00:09:58,720

and divide but they all have the same

285

00:10:00,790 --> 00:09:59,279

genes

286

00:10:02,870 --> 00:10:00,800

well not really because actually

287

00:10:05,030 --> 00:10:02,880

mutations are occurring with every

288

00:10:06,470 --> 00:10:05,040

cell division and by the time you get to

289

00:10:09,829 --> 00:10:06,480

my age do you know

290

00:10:11,750 --> 00:10:09,839

you know i'm a very diverse entity

291

00:10:12,949 --> 00:10:11,760

at this point even my genes the extra

292

00:10:15,750 --> 00:10:12,959

mutations

293

00:10:17,190 --> 00:10:15,760

have resulted in all sorts of of uh

294

00:10:18,790 --> 00:10:17,200

they're called neoplasms but they're

295

00:10:22,630 --> 00:10:18,800

basically cell lines that have

296

00:10:25,910 --> 00:10:22,640

proliferated more than the normal

297

00:10:26,470 --> 00:10:25,920

uh cell lines and that's what cancers

298

00:10:29,750 --> 00:10:26,480

are based

299

00:10:33,269 --> 00:10:29,760

basically so but anyhow

300

00:10:37,670 --> 00:10:33,279

so for the most part except for that

301
00:10:39,750 --> 00:10:37,680
then all of our all of our genes are

302
00:10:41,350 --> 00:10:39,760
are identical in all of our cells so

303
00:10:43,829 --> 00:10:41,360
that makes us a pretty potent

304
00:10:45,110 --> 00:10:43,839
unit of selection that made individual

305
00:10:48,389 --> 00:10:45,120
level selection

306
00:10:50,949 --> 00:10:48,399
to be a very very strong uh

307
00:10:53,030 --> 00:10:50,959
force okay well it still is i mean

308
00:10:55,910 --> 00:10:53,040
nothing has changed except the

309
00:10:57,670 --> 00:10:55,920
the realization that uh we're not such

310
00:11:00,470 --> 00:10:57,680
homogeneous entities after all we're

311
00:11:02,069 --> 00:11:00,480
some kind of ecosystem

312
00:11:04,150 --> 00:11:02,079
and it's actually hard to know who's

313
00:11:07,509 --> 00:11:04,160

calling the shots so

314

00:11:09,110 --> 00:11:07,519

you know this is um one of the very

315

00:11:10,550 --> 00:11:09,120

interesting developments that have taken

316

00:11:14,069 --> 00:11:10,560

place over the last

317

00:11:15,750 --> 00:11:14,079

30 years which have revolutionized uh

318

00:11:17,670 --> 00:11:15,760

the study of uh

319

00:11:19,269 --> 00:11:17,680

evolution that's just one that we'll be

320

00:11:20,710 --> 00:11:19,279

covering during this conversation

321

00:11:22,550 --> 00:11:20,720

you mentioned that the difference

322

00:11:25,910 --> 00:11:22,560

between the right and the left is which

323

00:11:27,750 --> 00:11:25,920

level of group should we select for

324

00:11:29,509 --> 00:11:27,760

can you give me some examples something

325

00:11:32,949 --> 00:11:29,519

else about the right and the left

326

00:11:33,910 --> 00:11:32,959

the the standard definition of the right

327

00:11:37,829 --> 00:11:33,920

and the left is

328

00:11:41,110 --> 00:11:37,839

conservative progressive

329

00:11:43,750 --> 00:11:41,120

keeping the old ways or doing something

330

00:11:47,269 --> 00:11:43,760

new that's the standard definition

331

00:11:49,430 --> 00:11:47,279

if you go back 30 years ago

332

00:11:51,670 --> 00:11:49,440

then the debates would not be about

333

00:11:52,550 --> 00:11:51,680

levels everyone would be an american the

334

00:11:54,710 --> 00:11:52,560

question is

335

00:11:56,150 --> 00:11:54,720

what should america do or what should

336

00:11:58,550 --> 00:11:56,160

the world do should we

337

00:11:59,750 --> 00:11:58,560

stick to the old ways or should we do

338

00:12:05,110 --> 00:11:59,760

something new

339

00:12:08,150 --> 00:12:05,120

and so this um this fragmentation

340

00:12:09,350 --> 00:12:08,160

of social identities is something which

341

00:12:11,590 --> 00:12:09,360

i think

342

00:12:13,590 --> 00:12:11,600

is you might even question whether it

343

00:12:17,030 --> 00:12:13,600

falls along

344

00:12:17,990 --> 00:12:17,040

left right lines i think to an extent it

345

00:12:20,150 --> 00:12:18,000

would but

346

00:12:22,310 --> 00:12:20,160

when you look at the left for example

347

00:12:23,750 --> 00:12:22,320

and identity politics and so on then

348

00:12:26,069 --> 00:12:23,760

what you find is

349

00:12:28,389 --> 00:12:26,079

also a fragmentation of social

350

00:12:31,430 --> 00:12:28,399

identities it's along different lines

351

00:12:34,629 --> 00:12:31,440

but it's still you know lgbt or

352

00:12:39,590 --> 00:12:38,150

all these various interest groups

353

00:12:41,509 --> 00:12:39,600

that uh or you might say social

354

00:12:42,629 --> 00:12:41,519

identities in which you identity

355

00:12:44,069 --> 00:12:42,639

we do have to do something about this

356

00:12:45,670 --> 00:12:44,079

fly don't we yeah we can't get rid of it

357

00:12:46,230 --> 00:12:45,680

but don't worry we can get rid of it

358

00:12:48,389 --> 00:12:46,240

actually

359

00:12:49,750 --> 00:12:48,399

we can't yeah hold on to spin it can i

360

00:12:51,750 --> 00:12:49,760

get up yeah sure

361

00:12:54,550 --> 00:12:51,760

yeah i have actually multiple ways of

362

00:12:54,560 --> 00:13:00,150

demonetized instantly

363

00:13:04,150 --> 00:13:02,230

you were defining what identity politics

364

00:13:05,829 --> 00:13:04,160

is and then you were about to say what

365

00:13:06,710 --> 00:13:05,839

the problems were can we get back to

366

00:13:08,790 --> 00:13:06,720

defining what

367

00:13:09,829 --> 00:13:08,800

identity politics is to people who are

368

00:13:11,590 --> 00:13:09,839

unfamiliar

369

00:13:13,190 --> 00:13:11,600

and you said something interesting which

370

00:13:13,670 --> 00:13:13,200

is that it doesn't seem like it's the

371

00:13:15,350 --> 00:13:13,680

left

372

00:13:16,790 --> 00:13:15,360

and i also want you to explain what do

373

00:13:19,190 --> 00:13:16,800

you mean by it doesn't fall on the left

374

00:13:22,710 --> 00:13:19,200

right spectrum identity politics

375

00:13:25,110 --> 00:13:22,720

okay so identity politics

376

00:13:27,030 --> 00:13:25,120

is when a person has a very strong

377

00:13:30,310 --> 00:13:27,040

social identity

378

00:13:32,389 --> 00:13:30,320

that trumps other identities

379

00:13:33,910 --> 00:13:32,399

actually we all have many identities one

380

00:13:35,350 --> 00:13:33,920

thing you can say about our species

381

00:13:36,550 --> 00:13:35,360

which stretches back to the very

382

00:13:38,710 --> 00:13:36,560

beginning

383

00:13:41,269 --> 00:13:38,720

is that people have always functioned in

384

00:13:42,790 --> 00:13:41,279

multiple groupings

385

00:13:44,629 --> 00:13:42,800

back in the old days it was called

386

00:13:46,829 --> 00:13:44,639

fission fusion

387

00:13:50,069 --> 00:13:46,839

societies i'm talking about the

388

00:13:51,829 --> 00:13:50,079

hunter-gatherer our ancestral

389

00:13:53,590 --> 00:13:51,839

environments we might be in family

390

00:13:55,189 --> 00:13:53,600

groups we might be in hunting groups we

391

00:13:59,509 --> 00:13:55,199

might be in gathering groups

392

00:14:02,629 --> 00:13:59,519

we might gather in tribes always we do

393

00:14:04,230 --> 00:14:02,639

things in different

394

00:14:07,189 --> 00:14:04,240

groupings and do you know we're so good

395

00:14:08,870 --> 00:14:07,199

at that that we can adopt the identity

396

00:14:10,389 --> 00:14:08,880

of that grouping when i go to church

397

00:14:11,509 --> 00:14:10,399

then i'm adopting a certain set of

398

00:14:14,629 --> 00:14:11,519

values and

399

00:14:15,590 --> 00:14:14,639

norms if then i go bowling i'll there'll

400

00:14:18,150 --> 00:14:15,600

be another

401
00:14:19,829 --> 00:14:18,160
set if i'm gonna go to church if uh no

402
00:14:21,910 --> 00:14:19,839
no i'm not religious at all

403
00:14:23,189 --> 00:14:21,920
if i'm uh if i'm in the military then

404
00:14:26,550 --> 00:14:23,199
that will be

405
00:14:29,269 --> 00:14:26,560
uh something else and so uh

406
00:14:30,389 --> 00:14:29,279
we always have had multiple identities

407
00:14:33,269 --> 00:14:30,399
and must

408
00:14:35,590 --> 00:14:33,279
because we live in so many different

409
00:14:38,870 --> 00:14:35,600
contexts but when we talk about identity

410
00:14:41,990 --> 00:14:38,880
politics then a particular identity

411
00:14:43,910 --> 00:14:42,000
sort of trumps the others and

412
00:14:45,829 --> 00:14:43,920
when that identity is a relatively

413
00:14:48,949 --> 00:14:45,839

narrow identity

414

00:14:52,470 --> 00:14:48,959

such as i don't identify myself as a

415

00:14:56,829 --> 00:14:52,480

as a white american or

416

00:14:59,910 --> 00:14:56,839

a lgbt or a

417

00:15:00,949 --> 00:14:59,920

democrat uh whatever if that's my

418

00:15:03,670 --> 00:15:00,959

primary

419

00:15:04,550 --> 00:15:03,680

identity then it's very easy to see

420

00:15:07,509 --> 00:15:04,560

other

421

00:15:08,629 --> 00:15:07,519

well that basically creates an us and

422

00:15:11,030 --> 00:15:08,639

separates the us from

423

00:15:12,310 --> 00:15:11,040

them and very little good can come of

424

00:15:13,670 --> 00:15:12,320

that okay

425

00:15:15,350 --> 00:15:13,680

here's something interesting one you

426

00:15:17,990 --> 00:15:15,360

said that it was a narrow

427

00:15:19,189 --> 00:15:18,000

identity i want to know why is some

428

00:15:21,030 --> 00:15:19,199

people who

429

00:15:22,550 --> 00:15:21,040

pride themselves as being gay or pride

430

00:15:23,670 --> 00:15:22,560

themselves as being black or

431

00:15:25,590 --> 00:15:23,680

pride themselves as being white would

432

00:15:26,870 --> 00:15:25,600

say that's not narrow at all why are you

433

00:15:27,829 --> 00:15:26,880

calling it narrow so i want to know why

434

00:15:30,629 --> 00:15:27,839

are you calling it narrow

435

00:15:31,910 --> 00:15:30,639

and second you said that it's us versus

436

00:15:33,269 --> 00:15:31,920

them but

437

00:15:35,110 --> 00:15:33,279

as far as i know and you can correct me

438

00:15:37,749 --> 00:15:35,120

if i'm wrong in group selection group

439

00:15:39,350 --> 00:15:37,759

selection works when the group

440

00:15:41,430 --> 00:15:39,360

pressures are higher than the individual

441

00:15:43,189 --> 00:15:41,440

pressures for selection but this

442

00:15:44,870 --> 00:15:43,199

this sounds like us versus them is good

443

00:15:48,470 --> 00:15:44,880

for group selection

444

00:15:50,629 --> 00:15:48,480

small scale

445

00:15:53,590 --> 00:15:50,639

but part of the dynamic of multi-level

446

00:15:55,749 --> 00:15:53,600

selection is that when i talked about

447

00:15:56,790 --> 00:15:55,759

selfishness within groups being bad for

448

00:15:58,310 --> 00:15:56,800

the group

449

00:15:59,910 --> 00:15:58,320

and the need for group selection for the

450

00:16:03,509 --> 00:15:59,920

group to function well

451
00:16:05,350 --> 00:16:03,519
that gets repeated up the multi-level

452
00:16:07,350 --> 00:16:05,360
hierarchy so a group that functions well

453
00:16:09,829 --> 00:16:07,360
basically can behave selfishly

454
00:16:11,350 --> 00:16:09,839
with respect to other groups you haven't

455
00:16:13,509 --> 00:16:11,360
pro you haven't solved the problem of

456
00:16:15,590 --> 00:16:13,519
selfishness you just elevated it

457
00:16:17,189 --> 00:16:15,600
to the level of the group where it can

458
00:16:18,150 --> 00:16:17,199
take place with more destructive force

459
00:16:22,069 --> 00:16:18,160
than

460
00:16:24,790 --> 00:16:22,079
if your primary identity

461
00:16:25,829 --> 00:16:24,800
is x and that's what you're most eager

462
00:16:29,030 --> 00:16:25,839
to preserve

463
00:16:30,710 --> 00:16:29,040

and to advance then that can cause you

464

00:16:33,590 --> 00:16:30,720

to become opposed

465

00:16:35,670 --> 00:16:33,600

to other identities and now you're back

466

00:16:38,710 --> 00:16:35,680

into a conflictual

467

00:16:41,030 --> 00:16:38,720

situation the only solution to that is

468

00:16:43,670 --> 00:16:41,040

to have a primary identity

469

00:16:45,749 --> 00:16:43,680

which is global ultimately global that's

470

00:16:48,310 --> 00:16:45,759

why at the end of the day

471

00:16:49,350 --> 00:16:48,320

this speaks to the need of creating a

472

00:16:51,829 --> 00:16:49,360

whole earth ethic

473

00:16:52,870 --> 00:16:51,839

basically our group our primary group

474

00:16:55,189 --> 00:16:52,880

should be

475

00:16:56,870 --> 00:16:55,199

the whole earth and our smaller

476
00:16:59,269 --> 00:16:56,880
identities don't disappear

477
00:17:01,110 --> 00:16:59,279
but they need to be coordinated for the

478
00:17:04,470 --> 00:17:01,120
benefit of the largest

479
00:17:06,630 --> 00:17:04,480
entity if our main entity the thing we

480
00:17:07,189 --> 00:17:06,640
care most about is anything smaller than

481
00:17:09,510 --> 00:17:07,199
that

482
00:17:12,549 --> 00:17:09,520
and trump is a great example my america

483
00:17:16,789 --> 00:17:15,029
uh and of course he'd have to add on any

484
00:17:18,309 --> 00:17:16,799
kind of world stage that if every nation

485
00:17:21,110 --> 00:17:18,319
tries to put themselves first then that

486
00:17:23,110 --> 00:17:21,120
will work out well for the whole planet

487
00:17:24,870 --> 00:17:23,120
he has to say that or otherwise he'd

488
00:17:28,710 --> 00:17:24,880

just be immoral

489

00:17:31,430 --> 00:17:28,720

on the world uh state but the fact is

490

00:17:33,190 --> 00:17:31,440

is that if you have a smaller identity

491

00:17:34,150 --> 00:17:33,200

no matter how large or small if it's

492

00:17:36,950 --> 00:17:34,160

below the

493

00:17:38,950 --> 00:17:36,960

global planetary level and that's the

494

00:17:41,510 --> 00:17:38,960

thing that you truly care about

495

00:17:43,029 --> 00:17:41,520

then almost always that's going to be

496

00:17:46,230 --> 00:17:43,039

disruptive

497

00:17:48,470 --> 00:17:46,240

planet

498

00:17:49,430 --> 00:17:48,480

and almost always is there instances in

499

00:17:52,070 --> 00:17:49,440

which it's not

500

00:17:54,070 --> 00:17:52,080

uh theoretically it is possible for you

501
00:17:56,230 --> 00:17:54,080
to do something which

502
00:17:57,430 --> 00:17:56,240
which benefits you compared to everyone

503
00:18:00,070 --> 00:17:57,440
else in your group

504
00:18:01,669 --> 00:18:00,080
and benefits the group at the same time

505
00:18:03,590 --> 00:18:01,679
that can happen

506
00:18:06,230 --> 00:18:03,600
but it's very seldom because of the

507
00:18:07,750 --> 00:18:06,240
basic nature of trade-offs

508
00:18:10,150 --> 00:18:07,760
in order to benefit the group it

509
00:18:11,909 --> 00:18:10,160
requires doing certain things

510
00:18:13,510 --> 00:18:11,919
and those things are typically very

511
00:18:16,950 --> 00:18:13,520
different than

512
00:18:18,390 --> 00:18:16,960
what it takes to maximize your relative

513
00:18:20,230 --> 00:18:18,400

position within the group

514

00:18:21,909 --> 00:18:20,240

and i often say this one of my favorite

515

00:18:24,549 --> 00:18:21,919

ways of

516

00:18:26,390 --> 00:18:24,559

explaining this is with the game of

517

00:18:28,789 --> 00:18:26,400

monopoly we all know

518

00:18:29,990 --> 00:18:28,799

the game of monopoly so imagine playing

519

00:18:31,590 --> 00:18:30,000

that game

520

00:18:33,430 --> 00:18:31,600

and of course the goal there is to

521

00:18:36,470 --> 00:18:33,440

capture all the real estate

522

00:18:39,190 --> 00:18:36,480

and drive everyone else bankrupt

523

00:18:40,470 --> 00:18:39,200

that's the goal of monopoly is to

524

00:18:42,950 --> 00:18:40,480

maximize your

525

00:18:44,710 --> 00:18:42,960

relative advantage within the group so

526

00:18:47,270 --> 00:18:44,720

imagine playing that game

527

00:18:48,230 --> 00:18:47,280

and now imagine playing a monopoly

528

00:18:50,549 --> 00:18:48,240

tournament

529

00:18:52,549 --> 00:18:50,559

so now many games are in play and the

530

00:18:54,549 --> 00:18:52,559

trophy goes to the team

531

00:18:56,789 --> 00:18:54,559

that collectively develops their

532

00:18:58,150 --> 00:18:56,799

property the fastest i've changed the

533

00:18:59,750 --> 00:18:58,160

goals of the game

534

00:19:01,830 --> 00:18:59,760

and when i do this in front of an

535

00:19:05,350 --> 00:19:01,840

audience i ask them

536

00:19:08,150 --> 00:19:05,360

and i'll ask the viewers of this of this

537

00:19:09,190 --> 00:19:08,160

of this video so imagine playing that

538

00:19:11,830 --> 00:19:09,200

tournament

539

00:19:13,830 --> 00:19:11,840

and isn't it the case that almost every

540

00:19:16,230 --> 00:19:13,840

decision you make

541

00:19:17,110 --> 00:19:16,240

playing in a tournament would be

542

00:19:18,950 --> 00:19:17,120

different

543

00:19:20,549 --> 00:19:18,960

than the decisions you would make

544

00:19:23,350 --> 00:19:20,559

playing the single game

545

00:19:23,990 --> 00:19:23,360

of monopoly there's your trade-off right

546

00:19:25,750 --> 00:19:24,000

there

547

00:19:28,390 --> 00:19:25,760

that which is required for the group to

548

00:19:30,710 --> 00:19:28,400

function as a coordinated unit

549

00:19:31,830 --> 00:19:30,720

is different than that which is required

550

00:19:34,070 --> 00:19:31,840

for you

551
00:19:35,350 --> 00:19:34,080
to maximize your relative advantage

552
00:19:38,470 --> 00:19:35,360
within the group so it's

553
00:19:39,029 --> 00:19:38,480
seldom the case that the same behavior

554
00:19:41,990 --> 00:19:39,039
would

555
00:19:43,270 --> 00:19:42,000
contribute to both goals that's the

556
00:19:45,460 --> 00:19:43,280
sense in which

557
00:19:46,630 --> 00:19:45,470
in which becoming

558
00:19:49,909 --> 00:19:46,640
[Music]

559
00:19:50,390 --> 00:19:49,919
basically serving one identity is going

560
00:19:53,510 --> 00:19:50,400
to

561
00:19:57,270 --> 00:19:53,520
create problems for

562
00:20:00,470 --> 00:19:57,280
the higher the still higher level good

563
00:20:05,110 --> 00:20:00,480

so there's a very very strong

564

00:20:08,549 --> 00:20:05,120

scientific argument for a whole earth

565

00:20:13,350 --> 00:20:08,559

ethic and i think that all by itself

566

00:20:15,669 --> 00:20:13,360

is a profound insight that emerges from

567

00:20:17,190 --> 00:20:15,679

uh evolution would that work if only

568

00:20:19,990 --> 00:20:17,200

america adopted or only

569

00:20:21,750 --> 00:20:20,000

one country or one continent adopted the

570

00:20:23,590 --> 00:20:21,760

whole earth ethic would that still work

571

00:20:25,270 --> 00:20:23,600

if everybody else is acting selfishly

572

00:20:27,990 --> 00:20:25,280

only one did no and here's

573

00:20:30,149 --> 00:20:28,000

here's another insight that when we talk

574

00:20:32,230 --> 00:20:30,159

about these large large-scale things

575

00:20:34,310 --> 00:20:32,240

like global things

576

00:20:36,310 --> 00:20:34,320

we can get a lot of insight by shrinking

577

00:20:38,710 --> 00:20:36,320

them down

578

00:20:40,870 --> 00:20:38,720

and seeing their similarity to the

579

00:20:42,470 --> 00:20:40,880

dynamics of individuals in small groups

580

00:20:45,029 --> 00:20:42,480

so i'll put your question

581

00:20:46,789 --> 00:20:45,039

i'm going to shrink your question how do

582

00:20:48,710 --> 00:20:46,799

you

583

00:20:51,029 --> 00:20:48,720

in this in a small group if there's only

584

00:20:54,149 --> 00:20:51,039

one cooperator

585

00:20:55,909 --> 00:20:54,159

and everyone else is a defector uh

586

00:20:58,310 --> 00:20:55,919

can cooperation succeed under those

587

00:21:00,630 --> 00:20:58,320

conditions no it cannot

588

00:21:01,990 --> 00:21:00,640

but how many cooperatives do you need

589

00:21:04,549 --> 00:21:02,000

and game theory tells us

590

00:21:05,510 --> 00:21:04,559

there's a whole literature on this that

591

00:21:09,430 --> 00:21:05,520

actually you don't need

592

00:21:11,830 --> 00:21:09,440

too many cooperators to swing things

593

00:21:12,470 --> 00:21:11,840

in the direction of cooperation why is

594

00:21:15,990 --> 00:21:12,480

that

595

00:21:17,990 --> 00:21:16,000

well for one thing the cooperators can

596

00:21:19,430 --> 00:21:18,000

cluster they can interact with each

597

00:21:21,630 --> 00:21:19,440

other

598

00:21:22,950 --> 00:21:21,640

and avoid the depredations of

599

00:21:26,470 --> 00:21:22,960

non-cooperators

600

00:21:28,870 --> 00:21:26,480

they can establish norms and very often

601
00:21:30,630 --> 00:21:28,880
people are willing to do something

602
00:21:32,630 --> 00:21:30,640
that's for the good of the group as long

603
00:21:37,669 --> 00:21:32,640
as they can establish norms

604
00:21:40,149 --> 00:21:37,679
um that um that punish non-cooperative

605
00:21:41,669 --> 00:21:40,159
behavior it's like i'm not willing

606
00:21:43,430 --> 00:21:41,679
here's a good example

607
00:21:45,029 --> 00:21:43,440
let's say that there's something

608
00:21:48,230 --> 00:21:45,039
dangerous that needs to be done by one

609
00:21:49,909 --> 00:21:48,240
person in order to save the group

610
00:21:52,470 --> 00:21:49,919
maybe someone will volunteer but if they

611
00:21:55,190 --> 00:21:52,480
don't let's draw straws

612
00:21:56,630 --> 00:21:55,200
with strong straws it randomizes the

613
00:21:57,669 --> 00:21:56,640

probability that you're going to be the

614

00:22:00,549 --> 00:21:57,679

one

615

00:22:02,310 --> 00:22:00,559

that has to do the dangerous task it's

616

00:22:05,830 --> 00:22:02,320

fair

617

00:22:08,149 --> 00:22:05,840

draw straws

618

00:22:09,510 --> 00:22:08,159

even if we might not agree just to

619

00:22:11,590 --> 00:22:09,520

volunteer to

620

00:22:14,549 --> 00:22:11,600

to do something and so there's all kinds

621

00:22:16,470 --> 00:22:14,559

of things that can be established

622

00:22:19,029 --> 00:22:16,480

even at the level of small groups that

623

00:22:20,870 --> 00:22:19,039

can cause everyone to cooperate

624

00:22:22,630 --> 00:22:20,880

even if you're starting out with a

625

00:22:26,230 --> 00:22:22,640

relatively small fraction

626
00:22:28,230 --> 00:22:26,240
of cooperators now we can have having

627
00:22:29,830 --> 00:22:28,240
having thought about this at the small

628
00:22:32,390 --> 00:22:29,840
scale we can

629
00:22:33,750 --> 00:22:32,400
enlarge it back up to the global scale

630
00:22:35,510 --> 00:22:33,760
and you ask the question if only one

631
00:22:36,149 --> 00:22:35,520
nation does this will it work no it

632
00:22:38,390 --> 00:22:36,159
won't

633
00:22:39,909 --> 00:22:38,400
but if there's a critical mass if

634
00:22:40,789 --> 00:22:39,919
there's only one corporation will it

635
00:22:43,190 --> 00:22:40,799
work

636
00:22:45,029 --> 00:22:43,200
no but if there's a critical mass if

637
00:22:46,630 --> 00:22:45,039
there's b corpse

638
00:22:49,190 --> 00:22:46,640

we just learned now that the business

639

00:22:52,470 --> 00:22:49,200

council this this group of uh

640

00:22:55,590 --> 00:22:52,480

of business ceos from all of the

641

00:22:59,110 --> 00:22:55,600

global corporations has met

642

00:23:01,350 --> 00:22:59,120

and made a very important decision

643

00:23:03,270 --> 00:23:01,360

they've decided that they'll no longer

644

00:23:05,669 --> 00:23:03,280

behave just to maximize short-term

645

00:23:07,190 --> 00:23:05,679

profits for their shareholders

646

00:23:09,430 --> 00:23:07,200

they've decided that that actually maybe

647

00:23:10,710 --> 00:23:09,440

wasn't such a good idea maybe they

648

00:23:11,990 --> 00:23:10,720

should have some more sense of

649

00:23:14,870 --> 00:23:12,000

responsibility

650

00:23:16,149 --> 00:23:14,880

towards their stakeholders not their

651
00:23:19,270 --> 00:23:16,159
shareholders their

652
00:23:21,270 --> 00:23:19,280
employees their supply chain their

653
00:23:23,750 --> 00:23:21,280
customers

654
00:23:24,710 --> 00:23:23,760
this fiction that by maximizing the

655
00:23:27,590 --> 00:23:24,720
profits for their

656
00:23:29,270 --> 00:23:27,600
shareholders then that that's some

657
00:23:29,750 --> 00:23:29,280
invisible hand thing takes place and

658
00:23:31,430 --> 00:23:29,760
that

659
00:23:31,430 --> 00:23:33,270
works out for the global good it's just

660
00:23:38,070 --> 00:23:34,870
which we've known scientifically for a

661
00:23:40,549 --> 00:23:38,080
long time finally the business council

662
00:23:41,750 --> 00:23:40,559
has decided maybe that's that's right

663
00:23:45,190 --> 00:23:41,760

maybe they should

664

00:23:46,950 --> 00:23:45,200

have some people that are

665

00:23:48,870 --> 00:23:46,960

willing to function excuse me some

666

00:23:49,750 --> 00:23:48,880

corporations that are willing to

667

00:23:52,950 --> 00:23:49,760

function in

668

00:23:53,750 --> 00:23:52,960

in cooperation or maybe something can

669

00:23:56,390 --> 00:23:53,760

come of that

670

00:23:57,430 --> 00:23:56,400

and the same thing with nations is there

671

00:23:59,269 --> 00:23:57,440

something different about

672

00:24:01,269 --> 00:23:59,279

humans or different about our times that

673

00:24:02,710 --> 00:24:01,279

we need this whole earth ethic

674

00:24:04,310 --> 00:24:02,720

because looking outside right now maybe

675

00:24:05,430 --> 00:24:04,320

there's a cricket and it's not thinking

676
00:24:06,870 --> 00:24:05,440
about

677
00:24:08,549 --> 00:24:06,880
the whole earth it's just thinking it

678
00:24:10,310 --> 00:24:08,559
might be thinking about how do i have

679
00:24:11,669 --> 00:24:10,320
sex and how do i

680
00:24:13,110 --> 00:24:11,679
selfishly i don't care about my

681
00:24:14,230 --> 00:24:13,120
neighbors i just want to i want to

682
00:24:16,789 --> 00:24:14,240
procreate

683
00:24:17,990 --> 00:24:16,799
is there something about us now in our

684
00:24:19,430 --> 00:24:18,000
times that we need a whole earth

685
00:24:20,710 --> 00:24:19,440
ethic because that guy doesn't have a

686
00:24:21,029 --> 00:24:20,720
whole earth ethic so what's different

687
00:24:25,190 --> 00:24:21,039
about

688
00:24:26,710 --> 00:24:25,200

us just our power our nuclear power

689

00:24:28,549 --> 00:24:26,720

so there's a number of important things

690

00:24:30,630 --> 00:24:28,559

to uh say about that by the way

691

00:24:31,669 --> 00:24:30,640

is your questions going to be part of

692

00:24:39,269 --> 00:24:31,679

the video yeah

693

00:24:43,029 --> 00:24:42,070

hello hello testing great okay and that

694

00:24:46,149 --> 00:24:43,039

one's there

695

00:24:48,149 --> 00:24:46,159

and that's great great that's your phone

696

00:24:50,070 --> 00:24:48,159

there's that peter's that's my phone

697

00:24:52,149 --> 00:24:50,080

yeah oh that's your phone okay okay

698

00:24:53,269 --> 00:24:52,159

okay so the question was what the heck

699

00:24:56,470 --> 00:24:53,279

is different about

700

00:24:57,029 --> 00:24:56,480

us compared to some animals because i'm

701
00:24:58,549 --> 00:24:57,039
sure

702
00:25:00,390 --> 00:24:58,559
animals aren't thinking how do i

703
00:25:01,830 --> 00:25:00,400
benevolently help the earth they don't

704
00:25:02,470 --> 00:25:01,840
even have a conception of the earth but

705
00:25:03,830 --> 00:25:02,480
yet

706
00:25:06,070 --> 00:25:03,840
you're advocating for a whole earth

707
00:25:07,830 --> 00:25:06,080
ethic for us so there's

708
00:25:09,990 --> 00:25:07,840
i think two main things to say about

709
00:25:10,710 --> 00:25:10,000
that there's a number of major ideas

710
00:25:14,630 --> 00:25:10,720
that are still

711
00:25:17,190 --> 00:25:14,640
quite prevalent but are pre-darwinian

712
00:25:18,470 --> 00:25:17,200
they're false ideas one idea in

713
00:25:20,390 --> 00:25:18,480

economics

714

00:25:22,310 --> 00:25:20,400

is that there's some kind of natural

715

00:25:25,110 --> 00:25:22,320

order

716

00:25:25,909 --> 00:25:25,120

that if everyone just pursues their

717

00:25:27,430 --> 00:25:25,919

self-interest

718

00:25:30,149 --> 00:25:27,440

and they're led as if by an invisible

719

00:25:31,830 --> 00:25:30,159

hand to benefit the common

720

00:25:34,230 --> 00:25:31,840

good that implies that there's some kind

721

00:25:36,470 --> 00:25:34,240

of self-organized

722

00:25:38,070 --> 00:25:36,480

system that works well and that we

723

00:25:41,269 --> 00:25:38,080

unknowingly play our parts

724

00:25:43,350 --> 00:25:41,279

so so that's one idea but

725

00:25:45,350 --> 00:25:43,360

there's a parallel idea in biology which

726
00:25:46,870 --> 00:25:45,360
is sort of harmony in nature that nature

727
00:25:48,789 --> 00:25:46,880
left by itself

728
00:25:51,269 --> 00:25:48,799
strikes some kind of balance and so

729
00:25:54,710 --> 00:25:51,279
ecosystems for example

730
00:25:57,029 --> 00:25:54,720
have some sort of design or harmony

731
00:25:58,149 --> 00:25:57,039
to them that's an idea in biology which

732
00:26:01,430 --> 00:25:58,159
is quite

733
00:26:03,110 --> 00:26:01,440
similar to ideas and economics and

734
00:26:06,230 --> 00:26:03,120
they're both profoundly

735
00:26:06,630 --> 00:26:06,240
false false um evolution doesn't make

736
00:26:09,350 --> 00:26:06,640
any

737
00:26:10,149 --> 00:26:09,360
everything nice and so if you look out

738
00:26:13,510 --> 00:26:10,159

there

739

00:26:16,789 --> 00:26:13,520

at the great outdoors what you find is

740

00:26:18,549 --> 00:26:16,799

ecosystems collection of species

741

00:26:19,830 --> 00:26:18,559

and those species are all pursuing their

742

00:26:21,510 --> 00:26:19,840

adaptive strategies

743

00:26:23,430 --> 00:26:21,520

all the crickets are trying to get laid

744

00:26:24,870 --> 00:26:23,440

and the fish are trying to get laid and

745

00:26:25,909 --> 00:26:24,880

the birds and the bees are trying to get

746

00:26:27,750 --> 00:26:25,919

laid and

747

00:26:29,269 --> 00:26:27,760

and survive and so on and so forth how

748

00:26:30,230 --> 00:26:29,279

does that settle out at the level of the

749

00:26:34,950 --> 00:26:30,240

whole collective

750

00:26:37,269 --> 00:26:34,960

the ecosystem not necessarily harmonious

751
00:26:39,350 --> 00:26:37,279
and nowadays and so the balance of

752
00:26:42,230 --> 00:26:39,360
nature that concept

753
00:26:43,430 --> 00:26:42,240
is something which has been rejected and

754
00:26:47,190 --> 00:26:43,440
what

755
00:26:50,870 --> 00:26:47,200
is more true is often called

756
00:26:53,190 --> 00:26:50,880
ecological regimes and that

757
00:26:55,590 --> 00:26:53,200
i think is so evocative because if you

758
00:26:56,549 --> 00:26:55,600
look at what the word regime means in

759
00:26:58,470 --> 00:26:56,559
human

760
00:27:00,149 --> 00:26:58,480
social systems when we call something a

761
00:27:02,390 --> 00:27:00,159
regime

762
00:27:04,470 --> 00:27:02,400
there has to be a bit of stability about

763
00:27:04,789 --> 00:27:04,480

it a regime is something which is going

764

00:27:06,789 --> 00:27:04,799

to

765

00:27:08,950 --> 00:27:06,799

hang around a while we wouldn't call it

766

00:27:12,230 --> 00:27:08,960

a regime if it was just transient

767

00:27:14,789 --> 00:27:12,240

so it's stable but is it a good regime

768

00:27:16,230 --> 00:27:14,799

a bad regime is it a corrupt regime a

769

00:27:19,510 --> 00:27:16,240

despotic regime

770

00:27:22,470 --> 00:27:19,520

an enlightened regime its stability

771

00:27:23,350 --> 00:27:22,480

does not tell us about its quality as

772

00:27:26,470 --> 00:27:23,360

some kind of

773

00:27:28,070 --> 00:27:26,480

system that we might want to live in and

774

00:27:29,830 --> 00:27:28,080

so what you find in nature

775

00:27:31,350 --> 00:27:29,840

are regimes there's collections of

776

00:27:34,710 --> 00:27:31,360

species that are

777

00:27:37,430 --> 00:27:34,720

kind of stable

778

00:27:39,510 --> 00:27:37,440

but are they good do they recycle

779

00:27:41,830 --> 00:27:39,520

nutrients well or poorly

780

00:27:44,310 --> 00:27:41,840

and what you find is is that many

781

00:27:48,230 --> 00:27:44,320

ecological regimes many communities

782

00:27:50,389 --> 00:27:48,240

are out there are despotic in

783

00:27:52,549 --> 00:27:50,399

human terms there's one dominant species

784

00:27:56,549 --> 00:27:52,559

that's bullying the other

785

00:27:57,990 --> 00:27:56,559

species poisoning its environment

786

00:27:59,909 --> 00:27:58,000

let us say and the same is true for

787

00:28:02,230 --> 00:27:59,919

single species societies many

788

00:28:05,110 --> 00:28:02,240

social species if you look at their

789

00:28:07,830 --> 00:28:05,120

societies they're horrible societies and

790

00:28:09,110 --> 00:28:07,840

in human terms they're just dominated by

791

00:28:11,909 --> 00:28:09,120

individuals trying to

792

00:28:13,990 --> 00:28:11,919

they're like the single game of monopoly

793

00:28:17,430 --> 00:28:14,000

we'd never want to live in those

794

00:28:20,389 --> 00:28:17,440

in those societies and so

795

00:28:21,909 --> 00:28:20,399

nature does not provide some kind of

796

00:28:25,430 --> 00:28:21,919

simplistic

797

00:28:28,310 --> 00:28:25,440

model of harmony and cooperation

798

00:28:29,110 --> 00:28:28,320

not single species social systems and

799

00:28:32,630 --> 00:28:29,120

not

800

00:28:33,110 --> 00:28:32,640

multi-species communities there are in

801
00:28:35,990 --> 00:28:33,120
nature

802
00:28:37,990 --> 00:28:36,000
some ecosystems and some single species

803
00:28:38,310 --> 00:28:38,000
communities that work extraordinarily

804
00:28:41,669 --> 00:28:38,320
well

805
00:28:43,269 --> 00:28:41,679
as societies we have our microbiomes

806
00:28:44,950 --> 00:28:43,279
we also have the social insects that

807
00:28:48,389 --> 00:28:44,960
we've known about for a long time your

808
00:28:53,269 --> 00:28:48,399
ants your bees your termites

809
00:28:55,510 --> 00:28:53,279
your wasps those function as colonies

810
00:28:56,470 --> 00:28:55,520
extremely well because they've been

811
00:29:00,389 --> 00:28:56,480
selected as

812
00:29:02,950 --> 00:29:00,399
at the colony at the colony level

813
00:29:04,470 --> 00:29:02,960

and so i think really if we if we search

814

00:29:06,470 --> 00:29:04,480

for a religious doctrine it should be

815

00:29:08,549 --> 00:29:06,480

the buddhist doctrine

816

00:29:10,710 --> 00:29:08,559

the four noble truths which begins with

817

00:29:12,950 --> 00:29:10,720

life is suffering

818

00:29:16,310 --> 00:29:12,960

if we look out there in human life and

819

00:29:19,350 --> 00:29:16,320

in the biological world we see primarily

820

00:29:22,149 --> 00:29:19,360

suffering why

821

00:29:23,669 --> 00:29:22,159

because of greed and striving we're all

822

00:29:27,269 --> 00:29:23,679

striving to

823

00:29:30,310 --> 00:29:27,279

accomplish our lower level goals

824

00:29:32,870 --> 00:29:30,320

and that's what's producing suffering

825

00:29:34,549 --> 00:29:32,880

higher up the scale is there a solution

826

00:29:37,990 --> 00:29:34,559

yes is there a path

827

00:29:41,909 --> 00:29:38,000

yes there is and what might that be

828

00:29:44,789 --> 00:29:41,919

it is basically a recognition

829

00:29:45,830 --> 00:29:44,799

that if we want to benefit the whole

830

00:29:47,830 --> 00:29:45,840

system

831

00:29:49,029 --> 00:29:47,840

then we have to lose our attachment to

832

00:29:52,230 --> 00:29:49,039

the self

833

00:29:55,830 --> 00:29:52,240

okay and we have to work on behalf

834

00:29:58,710 --> 00:29:55,840

of the whole system is actually quite a

835

00:29:59,830 --> 00:29:58,720

impressive mapping of buddhist thought

836

00:30:02,549 --> 00:29:59,840

onto

837

00:30:04,310 --> 00:30:02,559

evolutionary thought that's very

838

00:30:13,350 --> 00:30:04,320

interesting thing to uh

839

00:30:19,190 --> 00:30:16,789

got him wow oh i wish that on camera

840

00:30:22,950 --> 00:30:20,630

okay so let's get back to this so you

841

00:30:23,909 --> 00:30:22,960

said that if i'm hearing correctly there

842

00:30:27,029 --> 00:30:23,919

are regimes

843

00:30:29,110 --> 00:30:27,039

in other words stable groups and just

844

00:30:30,230 --> 00:30:29,120

because they have lasted for a long time

845

00:30:34,070 --> 00:30:30,240

it doesn't mean

846

00:30:35,110 --> 00:30:34,080

good is defined as the opposite of bad

847

00:30:36,950 --> 00:30:35,120

and bad is defined as

848

00:30:39,029 --> 00:30:36,960

selfishly power hungry something like

849

00:30:43,990 --> 00:30:39,039

that if you look at human history

850

00:30:47,990 --> 00:30:46,549

multi-level selection operating at

851
00:30:51,269 --> 00:30:48,000
various

852
00:30:53,110 --> 00:30:51,279
scales what defines us as a species

853
00:30:55,269 --> 00:30:53,120
is our ability to cooperate at the scale

854
00:30:58,710 --> 00:30:55,279
of small groups i think that

855
00:31:01,190 --> 00:30:58,720
one of the amazing discoveries of

856
00:31:03,590 --> 00:31:01,200
recent evolutionary thought is that we

857
00:31:07,590 --> 00:31:06,310
a a eu social species in a sense or an

858
00:31:09,590 --> 00:31:07,600
ultra-social

859
00:31:11,350 --> 00:31:09,600
species in some ways we are like a

860
00:31:14,470 --> 00:31:11,360
beehive

861
00:31:18,789 --> 00:31:14,480
that's how cooperative we are in small

862
00:31:19,669 --> 00:31:18,799
and small small group so we achieved a

863
00:31:23,190 --> 00:31:19,679

degree of

864

00:31:25,350 --> 00:31:23,200

of within group harmony uh

865

00:31:27,430 --> 00:31:25,360

always protected always guarded and

866

00:31:29,509 --> 00:31:27,440

vigilant it's not as if we're noble

867

00:31:30,470 --> 00:31:29,519

savages it's that we're able to hold

868

00:31:32,870 --> 00:31:30,480

each other

869

00:31:34,710 --> 00:31:32,880

in check we have a very strong sense

870

00:31:36,230 --> 00:31:34,720

that we're moral equals basically and

871

00:31:38,950 --> 00:31:36,240

that therefore you shouldn't

872

00:31:40,710 --> 00:31:38,960

beat up on me that's a bad thing to do

873

00:31:41,990 --> 00:31:40,720

and we have the collective ability to

874

00:31:45,269 --> 00:31:42,000

gang up

875

00:31:46,950 --> 00:31:45,279

on would-be bullies and so now that puts

876

00:31:48,950 --> 00:31:46,960

us into team mode

877

00:31:50,630 --> 00:31:48,960

and the whole concept of morality the

878

00:31:52,549 --> 00:31:50,640

whole concept of morality could be

879

00:31:55,990 --> 00:31:52,559

understood as a set of mechanisms

880

00:31:59,590 --> 00:31:56,000

that cause us to function cooperatively

881

00:32:03,110 --> 00:31:59,600

in relatively small groups

882

00:32:04,470 --> 00:32:03,120

and so nevertheless

883

00:32:06,549 --> 00:32:04,480

when it came to between group

884

00:32:07,269 --> 00:32:06,559

interactions anything goes and anything

885

00:32:11,029 --> 00:32:07,279

means

886

00:32:13,750 --> 00:32:11,039

not just warfare but trade and

887

00:32:15,509 --> 00:32:13,760

and forms of cooperation and the full

888

00:32:17,269 --> 00:32:15,519

range of ecological interactions that

889

00:32:20,710 --> 00:32:17,279

take place between species

890

00:32:24,470 --> 00:32:20,720

also took place among small human groups

891

00:32:26,950 --> 00:32:24,480

including warfare big time warfare so

892

00:32:28,070 --> 00:32:26,960

so competition between groups violent or

893

00:32:31,110 --> 00:32:28,080

otherwise

894

00:32:32,950 --> 00:32:31,120

is joined at the hip with cooperation

895

00:32:34,149 --> 00:32:32,960

within groups so suffering didn't go

896

00:32:36,070 --> 00:32:34,159

away

897

00:32:37,909 --> 00:32:36,080

it just took place more at the level of

898

00:32:40,950 --> 00:32:37,919

between group interactions

899

00:32:42,389 --> 00:32:40,960

than within group interactions

900

00:32:44,389 --> 00:32:42,399

can you explain that suffering didn't go

901
00:32:46,149 --> 00:32:44,399
away just took place at the level of

902
00:32:47,509 --> 00:32:46,159
between group interactions so the

903
00:32:48,870 --> 00:32:47,519
individual wasn't suffering what do you

904
00:32:53,110 --> 00:32:48,880
mean

905
00:32:57,269 --> 00:32:55,909
there's one person involved in this uh

906
00:32:59,669 --> 00:32:57,279
richard mangum who's

907
00:33:01,990 --> 00:32:59,679
one of the anthropologists who studied

908
00:33:03,669 --> 00:33:02,000
chimpanzees for a long long

909
00:33:05,430 --> 00:33:03,679
time has a new book out called the

910
00:33:07,100 --> 00:33:05,440
goodness paradox

911
00:33:08,950 --> 00:33:07,110
a great book and

912
00:33:10,950 --> 00:33:08,960
[Music]

913
00:33:11,990 --> 00:33:10,960

not as good as this view of life thank

914

00:33:15,750 --> 00:33:12,000

you thank you

915

00:33:17,669 --> 00:33:15,760

um but um and he talks among other

916

00:33:19,590 --> 00:33:17,679

things about self-domestication

917

00:33:22,389 --> 00:33:19,600

which is a fascinating topic in its own

918

00:33:25,190 --> 00:33:22,399

right so when we domesticate species we

919

00:33:26,630 --> 00:33:25,200

select them mostly for their tameness

920

00:33:28,070 --> 00:33:26,640

but do you know a lot of other stuff

921

00:33:29,909 --> 00:33:28,080

comes along with it and there's a whole

922

00:33:32,710 --> 00:33:29,919

fascinating story

923

00:33:33,750 --> 00:33:32,720

about how selecting for the behavior of

924

00:33:36,830 --> 00:33:33,760

tameness

925

00:33:39,509 --> 00:33:36,840

also selects for all sorts of

926

00:33:43,190 --> 00:33:39,519

physiological uh

927

00:33:43,990 --> 00:33:43,200

traits so and that's a that's kind of

928

00:33:45,990 --> 00:33:44,000

another

929

00:33:48,950 --> 00:33:46,000

uh story but in the same the same way

930

00:33:51,029 --> 00:33:48,960

that we've domesticated many species

931

00:33:53,509 --> 00:33:51,039

uh we've also domesticated ourselves

932

00:33:55,350 --> 00:33:53,519

basically we've selected ourselves for

933

00:33:56,870 --> 00:33:55,360

tameness another way to retell the story

934

00:33:59,269 --> 00:33:56,880

that i just told

935

00:34:00,950 --> 00:33:59,279

is that in a group where people are able

936

00:34:02,549 --> 00:34:00,960

there's a relatively equal balance of

937

00:34:04,389 --> 00:34:02,559

power people to

938

00:34:06,149 --> 00:34:04,399

hold each other in check then if you're

939

00:34:08,550 --> 00:34:06,159

a big bastard

940

00:34:11,109 --> 00:34:08,560

that's trying to get your way ultimately

941

00:34:12,470 --> 00:34:11,119

we'll just kill you

942

00:34:13,909 --> 00:34:12,480

and before that we'll have other

943

00:34:15,669 --> 00:34:13,919

sanctions which are going to limit your

944

00:34:18,069 --> 00:34:15,679

reproductive success and that's like

945

00:34:21,829 --> 00:34:18,079

selecting ourselves for tameness

946

00:34:26,230 --> 00:34:21,839

okay so now we are docile in a way

947

00:34:28,710 --> 00:34:26,240

um that chimps aren't so

948

00:34:30,389 --> 00:34:28,720

rangham who should know says that if you

949

00:34:32,230 --> 00:34:30,399

look at the level of aggression within

950

00:34:32,629 --> 00:34:32,240

groups the kind of interaction where i

951
00:34:35,990 --> 00:34:32,639

just

952
00:34:38,710 --> 00:34:36,000

out of you

953
00:34:40,069 --> 00:34:38,720

and we're a member of the same community

954
00:34:42,310 --> 00:34:40,079

that happens

955
00:34:44,710 --> 00:34:42,320

in a chimp community a hundred or a

956
00:34:46,629 --> 00:34:44,720

thousand times more frequently

957
00:34:47,990 --> 00:34:46,639

than in a small scale society if you

958
00:34:50,869 --> 00:34:48,000

live within a small scale

959
00:34:53,349 --> 00:34:50,879

human society you'd never see that you

960
00:34:55,430 --> 00:34:53,359

see people getting along pretty

961
00:34:57,349 --> 00:34:55,440

well and so that means they're not

962
00:35:01,030 --> 00:34:57,359

imposing suffering on each other

963
00:35:02,710 --> 00:35:01,040

within groups very much very much

964

00:35:05,109 --> 00:35:02,720

yet they're still suffering when we go

965

00:35:07,030 --> 00:35:05,119

on a raid

966

00:35:08,470 --> 00:35:07,040

to another group and we kill somebody

967

00:35:10,870 --> 00:35:08,480

and steal their women and

968

00:35:12,790 --> 00:35:10,880

we do all that kind of or maybe

969

00:35:14,470 --> 00:35:12,800

exterminate them

970

00:35:16,390 --> 00:35:14,480

entirely so yes they're suffering and

971

00:35:18,230 --> 00:35:16,400

it's self-imposed suffering but it's

972

00:35:20,390 --> 00:35:18,240

being imposed at the level

973

00:35:22,630 --> 00:35:20,400

of groups now if you look at the last

974

00:35:24,790 --> 00:35:22,640

ten thousand years of human history

975

00:35:28,550 --> 00:35:24,800

and here my colleague peter turchen

976
00:35:31,349 --> 00:35:28,560
takes over with his book ultra society

977
00:35:31,990 --> 00:35:31,359
the last 10 000 years of what's it

978
00:35:34,710 --> 00:35:32,000
called again

979
00:35:36,870 --> 00:35:34,720
it's called ultra society how ten

980
00:35:39,589 --> 00:35:36,880
thousand years of warfare turned us into

981
00:35:41,589 --> 00:35:39,599
the greatest cooperators on earth

982
00:35:43,670 --> 00:35:41,599
uh what you find is basically the same

983
00:35:47,430 --> 00:35:43,680
thing at ever increasing

984
00:35:48,710 --> 00:35:47,440
scales with the advent of agriculture

985
00:35:51,670 --> 00:35:48,720
and the fact that we're a cultural

986
00:35:54,310 --> 00:35:51,680
species of the whole

987
00:35:55,750 --> 00:35:54,320
genetic evolution of cultural evolution

988
00:35:57,190 --> 00:35:55,760

and we actually need to be getting to

989

00:35:58,470 --> 00:35:57,200

that because it gets to such things as

990

00:36:00,470 --> 00:35:58,480

archetypes and

991

00:36:02,069 --> 00:36:00,480

memes and the whole fact that in our

992

00:36:04,310 --> 00:36:02,079

species

993

00:36:06,470 --> 00:36:04,320

there's a cultural stream of evolution

994

00:36:09,670 --> 00:36:06,480

in addition to a genetic

995

00:36:11,910 --> 00:36:09,680

stream of evolution and all of that is

996

00:36:13,190 --> 00:36:11,920

a matter of cooperation also so if we

997

00:36:14,150 --> 00:36:13,200

didn't evolve to be a cooperative

998

00:36:15,829 --> 00:36:14,160

species

999

00:36:17,430 --> 00:36:15,839

but could we could not have evolved the

1000

00:36:19,109 --> 00:36:17,440

ability to transmit

1001
00:36:20,470 --> 00:36:19,119
large amounts of learned information

1002
00:36:23,750 --> 00:36:20,480
across generations

1003
00:36:25,670 --> 00:36:23,760
through symbolic systems

1004
00:36:28,069 --> 00:36:25,680
systems of symbolic thought so

1005
00:36:29,109 --> 00:36:28,079
everything distinctive about our species

1006
00:36:31,829 --> 00:36:29,119
including our

1007
00:36:33,589 --> 00:36:31,839
capacity for symbolic thought and our

1008
00:36:35,030 --> 00:36:33,599
ability to transmit large amounts of

1009
00:36:37,670 --> 00:36:35,040
information across cultures

1010
00:36:39,910 --> 00:36:37,680
all of that was only made possible

1011
00:36:40,790 --> 00:36:39,920
thanks to the fact that we became highly

1012
00:36:43,190 --> 00:36:40,800
cooperative

1013
00:36:45,349 --> 00:36:43,200

we cooperate in physical activities and

1014

00:36:47,430 --> 00:36:45,359

we cooperate in mental activities

1015

00:36:48,470 --> 00:36:47,440

as a result we began to generate our own

1016

00:36:51,910 --> 00:36:48,480

resources

1017

00:36:54,870 --> 00:36:51,920

scale of human society increased and now

1018

00:36:56,630 --> 00:36:54,880

that's been a process um that's taken us

1019

00:37:00,069 --> 00:36:56,640

to the present

1020

00:37:01,430 --> 00:37:00,079

moment of huge societies of hundreds of

1021

00:37:02,630 --> 00:37:01,440

millions and even billions of

1022

00:37:05,829 --> 00:37:02,640

individuals

1023

00:37:08,950 --> 00:37:05,839

operating in a way that is um

1024

00:37:12,390 --> 00:37:08,960

amazingly cooperative on an average day

1025

00:37:15,589 --> 00:37:12,400

if you go out luckily for us

1026
00:37:16,710 --> 00:37:15,599
you won't see people imposing a lot of

1027
00:37:17,750 --> 00:37:16,720
suffering

1028
00:37:20,950 --> 00:37:17,760
well you won't see anything because

1029
00:37:24,390 --> 00:37:20,960
there's nothing for miles out here

1030
00:37:26,550 --> 00:37:24,400
so so um

1031
00:37:28,950 --> 00:37:26,560
so another answer to your question is

1032
00:37:31,670 --> 00:37:28,960
that the scale of society has become so

1033
00:37:34,069 --> 00:37:31,680
big that that basically we're now having

1034
00:37:36,790 --> 00:37:34,079
a planetary impact that we didn't have

1035
00:37:37,430 --> 00:37:36,800
before there's no escape from that and

1036
00:37:44,230 --> 00:37:37,440
so

1037
00:37:45,910 --> 00:37:44,240
uh cultural evolution has been building

1038
00:37:49,589 --> 00:37:45,920

towards

1039

00:37:50,790 --> 00:37:49,599

but uh now more than ever before we are

1040

00:37:53,430 --> 00:37:50,800

uh

1041

00:37:55,109 --> 00:37:53,440

having a planetary impact that requires

1042

00:37:57,510 --> 00:37:55,119

us to have a whole earth ethic before

1043

00:37:59,829 --> 00:37:57,520

that there would be externalities

1044

00:38:02,550 --> 00:37:59,839

and then and that would not be quite as

1045

00:38:06,150 --> 00:38:02,560

dominating as they are now but now we're

1046

00:38:07,829 --> 00:38:06,160

we're really in a situation where if we

1047

00:38:09,750 --> 00:38:07,839

don't act at the planetary scale then

1048

00:38:13,510 --> 00:38:09,760

we're toast

1049

00:38:15,030 --> 00:38:13,520

so that is what's in front of us

1050

00:38:16,950 --> 00:38:15,040

i'm just going to try and restate what

1051

00:38:18,550 --> 00:38:16,960

you said we grew up in

1052

00:38:20,390 --> 00:38:18,560

small social groups so we've been

1053

00:38:23,270 --> 00:38:20,400

selected somewhat for

1054

00:38:24,630 --> 00:38:23,280

cooperative behavior now our small

1055

00:38:26,470 --> 00:38:24,640

groups became medium-sized groups and

1056

00:38:28,790 --> 00:38:26,480

then large groups and now we're so

1057

00:38:30,550 --> 00:38:28,800

technologically powerful that our

1058

00:38:32,150 --> 00:38:30,560

mistakes are causing the destruction of

1059

00:38:33,030 --> 00:38:32,160

the entire planet and therefore we need

1060

00:38:36,390 --> 00:38:33,040

to adopt

1061

00:38:38,230 --> 00:38:36,400

a new ethic is that

1062

00:38:39,990 --> 00:38:38,240

a good summation or is there something

1063

00:38:41,990 --> 00:38:40,000

that's missing it's not a bad summation

1064

00:38:44,630 --> 00:38:42,000

a new ethic is basically a more global

1065

00:38:46,230 --> 00:38:44,640

ethic i think that

1066

00:38:48,870 --> 00:38:46,240

quite an important thing to say because

1067

00:38:50,870 --> 00:38:48,880

it's in contrast to

1068

00:38:53,750 --> 00:38:50,880

orthodox economic thought if you take

1069

00:38:56,790 --> 00:38:53,760

someone like friedrich hayek

1070

00:38:59,109 --> 00:38:56,800

he would say that that who was actually

1071

00:39:01,270 --> 00:38:59,119

very evolutionary for his day

1072

00:39:02,870 --> 00:39:01,280

that there was basically we have our

1073

00:39:04,630 --> 00:39:02,880

tribal values you know we operate in

1074

00:39:05,910 --> 00:39:04,640

small groups and we have that whole kind

1075

00:39:07,990 --> 00:39:05,920

of system but

1076

00:39:10,069 --> 00:39:08,000

a modern economic system has to be

1077

00:39:13,349 --> 00:39:10,079

something very different

1078

00:39:14,710 --> 00:39:13,359

and that's what the market economy is

1079

00:39:16,870 --> 00:39:14,720

and that's where the invisible hand

1080

00:39:18,630 --> 00:39:16,880

comes from the idea that

1081

00:39:20,150 --> 00:39:18,640

we can all pursue our lower level

1082

00:39:23,510 --> 00:39:20,160

self-interest and it'll

1083

00:39:26,550 --> 00:39:23,520

magically uh benefit the

1084

00:39:28,710 --> 00:39:26,560

common uh good now

1085

00:39:30,230 --> 00:39:28,720

although market economies are huge and

1086

00:39:31,510 --> 00:39:30,240

very important and so on although they

1087

00:39:34,069 --> 00:39:31,520

have to be much better much better

1088

00:39:36,870 --> 00:39:34,079

regulated make no mistake

1089

00:39:38,550 --> 00:39:36,880

really what it seems is that we need to

1090

00:39:42,710 --> 00:39:38,560

take those tribal values

1091

00:39:45,829 --> 00:39:42,720

that and we need to scale them up

1092

00:39:46,710 --> 00:39:45,839

scale them up they're not different they

1093

00:39:48,630 --> 00:39:46,720

just have to be

1094

00:39:50,790 --> 00:39:48,640

operating at a larger scale at the level

1095

00:39:53,270 --> 00:39:50,800

of nations and global corporations

1096

00:39:54,950 --> 00:39:53,280

within the global village for example

1097

00:39:57,430 --> 00:39:54,960

so their interactions are a little

1098

00:39:59,030 --> 00:39:57,440

different than

1099

00:40:00,630 --> 00:39:59,040

interactions of individuals in our

1100

00:40:02,069 --> 00:40:00,640

groups as i said earlier

1101

00:40:03,910 --> 00:40:02,079

in this conversation let's take these

1102

00:40:06,790 --> 00:40:03,920

big problems and shrink them down

1103

00:40:09,030 --> 00:40:06,800

see what they look like for individuals

1104

00:40:10,870 --> 00:40:09,040

in a small group then we can expand them

1105

00:40:12,150 --> 00:40:10,880

back up and what you see they're the

1106

00:40:15,190 --> 00:40:12,160

same problems

1107

00:40:17,109 --> 00:40:15,200

and so so we need to we we have to have

1108

00:40:18,230 --> 00:40:17,119

a moral system that moral system has to

1109

00:40:21,109 --> 00:40:18,240

include all of us

1110

00:40:23,190 --> 00:40:21,119

it has to be a planetary moral system we

1111

00:40:24,630 --> 00:40:23,200

have to be solid citizens

1112

00:40:26,630 --> 00:40:24,640

ourselves and then we have to hold

1113

00:40:28,390 --> 00:40:26,640

others in

1114

00:40:30,950 --> 00:40:28,400

check and we have to do that as nations

1115

00:40:33,270 --> 00:40:30,960

and and multinational corporations and

1116

00:40:34,710 --> 00:40:33,280

we use the genius of the of technology

1117

00:40:37,190 --> 00:40:34,720

and the internet to give us a nervous

1118

00:40:41,990 --> 00:40:40,150

we need it it's essential for for that

1119

00:40:43,190 --> 00:40:42,000

uh yes there has to be market processes

1120

00:40:45,349 --> 00:40:43,200

but they have to be much better

1121

00:40:48,550 --> 00:40:45,359

regulated and oriented towards the

1122

00:40:50,870 --> 00:40:48,560

common uh common good so it's the same

1123

00:40:54,470 --> 00:40:50,880

way of thinking the same values

1124

00:40:57,349 --> 00:40:54,480

the great challenge is to expand their

1125

00:40:58,309 --> 00:40:57,359

scale this may sound foolish but why is

1126

00:41:00,790 --> 00:40:58,319

it a challenge

1127

00:41:05,430 --> 00:41:00,800

if we were selected for it why isn't it

1128

00:41:05,440 --> 00:41:08,470

that is um

1129

00:41:12,230 --> 00:41:09,990

actually a deeper question than you

1130

00:41:13,430 --> 00:41:12,240

might think or maybe you thought i

1131

00:41:14,150 --> 00:41:13,440

already thought it was a deep question

1132

00:41:15,270 --> 00:41:14,160

but

1133

00:41:17,910 --> 00:41:15,280

i think all my questions are deep

1134

00:41:23,190 --> 00:41:17,920

questions here's i think our

1135

00:41:27,430 --> 00:41:25,030

question that might seem tangential but

1136

00:41:29,750 --> 00:41:27,440

can relate

1137

00:41:32,790 --> 00:41:29,760

do women have breast do women have

1138

00:41:34,230 --> 00:41:32,800

instincts for breastfeeding

1139

00:41:36,150 --> 00:41:34,240

isn't it curious that when bottle

1140

00:41:38,230 --> 00:41:36,160

feeding became available so many women

1141

00:41:39,589 --> 00:41:38,240

jumped say well that's a good idea

1142

00:41:42,069 --> 00:41:39,599

and they didn't have any sort of

1143

00:41:44,150 --> 00:41:42,079

instinct for breastfeeding it

1144

00:41:45,750 --> 00:41:44,160

it seems well that actually makes sense

1145

00:41:49,190 --> 00:41:45,760

when you realize that there was never

1146

00:41:50,550 --> 00:41:49,200

any alternative

1147

00:41:52,790 --> 00:41:50,560

so why do you need an instinct for

1148

00:41:55,670 --> 00:41:52,800

something where there's no

1149

00:41:56,950 --> 00:41:55,680

alternative there's a sense where uh

1150

00:42:00,150 --> 00:41:56,960

life in small groups

1151

00:42:02,309 --> 00:42:00,160

do we have instincts for for living in

1152

00:42:03,750 --> 00:42:02,319

in small groups in a sense yes but

1153

00:42:05,990 --> 00:42:03,760

there's also a sense in which

1154

00:42:06,870 --> 00:42:06,000

there was never any alternative until

1155

00:42:09,910 --> 00:42:06,880

the last

1156

00:42:11,510 --> 00:42:09,920

10 000 years and so now

1157

00:42:14,390 --> 00:42:11,520

and this is what i spend most of my time

1158

00:42:16,069 --> 00:42:14,400

doing scientifically is studying

1159

00:42:17,430 --> 00:42:16,079

groups of all sizes including small

1160

00:42:20,069 --> 00:42:17,440

groups but do you know that if you look

1161

00:42:23,109 --> 00:42:20,079

at small groups in modern life

1162

00:42:25,910 --> 00:42:23,119

and you ask how old do they function um

1163

00:42:27,270 --> 00:42:25,920

they vary hugely they don't all function

1164

00:42:30,069 --> 00:42:27,280

well if you put people in a small

1165

00:42:33,190 --> 00:42:30,079

group they don't always function they

1166

00:42:35,589 --> 00:42:33,200

don't just click like that as if we have

1167

00:42:36,630 --> 00:42:35,599

as if we have as we're naturally

1168

00:42:38,069 --> 00:42:36,640

predisposed to it

1169

00:42:39,910 --> 00:42:38,079

what's that as if we're naturally

1170

00:42:41,109 --> 00:42:39,920

predisposed as if we're not now we are

1171

00:42:43,109 --> 00:42:41,119

make no mistake

1172

00:42:47,829 --> 00:42:43,119

when we get to archetypes and and

1173

00:42:51,829 --> 00:42:50,150

this is i mean it's not a black and

1174

00:42:52,470 --> 00:42:51,839

white thing yes we do have instincts

1175

00:42:54,630 --> 00:42:52,480

that

1176
00:42:55,829 --> 00:42:54,640
are brought into play we do have a

1177
00:42:58,390 --> 00:42:55,839
strong sense of

1178
00:43:00,470 --> 00:42:58,400
morality for example of egalitarianism

1179
00:43:01,910 --> 00:43:00,480
we don't like to be pushed around

1180
00:43:03,829 --> 00:43:01,920
when we see this behavior we tend to

1181
00:43:06,550 --> 00:43:03,839
punish italy some of us

1182
00:43:08,150 --> 00:43:06,560
do and these things are to some extent

1183
00:43:09,829 --> 00:43:08,160
sort of out of the box

1184
00:43:11,349 --> 00:43:09,839
okay so we have a very complicated

1185
00:43:14,550 --> 00:43:11,359
evolved

1186
00:43:16,150 --> 00:43:14,560
psychology that includes the psychology

1187
00:43:19,270 --> 00:43:16,160
of moral systems and

1188
00:43:22,870 --> 00:43:19,280

so on and so forth but for some reason

1189

00:43:26,069 --> 00:43:22,880

that is not enough for when you compose

1190

00:43:27,109 --> 00:43:26,079

a group in in in modern life where it's

1191

00:43:33,990 --> 00:43:27,119

just to

1192

00:43:36,150 --> 00:43:34,000

um one reason is of course is that

1193

00:43:37,349 --> 00:43:36,160

we've always been playing the

1194

00:43:40,630 --> 00:43:37,359

multi-level

1195

00:43:43,670 --> 00:43:40,640

game our evolve psychology basically

1196

00:43:45,510 --> 00:43:43,680

puts us in the position of of

1197

00:43:47,430 --> 00:43:45,520

functioning in cooperative mode of

1198

00:43:49,670 --> 00:43:47,440

exploitation

1199

00:43:51,990 --> 00:43:49,680

well there's more than one way to

1200

00:43:53,670 --> 00:43:52,000

survive and reproduce by cooperating or

1201
00:43:55,990 --> 00:43:53,680
by exploiting

1202
00:43:57,750 --> 00:43:56,000
so everyone to some extent has plan a

1203
00:43:59,990 --> 00:43:57,760
and plan

1204
00:44:01,829 --> 00:44:00,000
b and when you see a group isn't

1205
00:44:03,109 --> 00:44:01,839
functioning well it's often because some

1206
00:44:07,349 --> 00:44:03,119
individuals within the group

1207
00:44:10,069 --> 00:44:07,359
are getting their way working for them

1208
00:44:12,069 --> 00:44:10,079
it's just not working for everyone else

1209
00:44:14,950 --> 00:44:12,079
and so that's the dynamic of

1210
00:44:15,510 --> 00:44:14,960
multi-level selection weighing in favor

1211
00:44:18,230 --> 00:44:15,520
of

1212
00:44:20,550 --> 00:44:18,240
the lower level disruptive process

1213
00:44:22,309 --> 00:44:20,560

basically people are playing and winning

1214

00:44:25,510 --> 00:44:22,319

the single game of monopoly they're not

1215

00:44:29,270 --> 00:44:25,520

playing in a monopoly

1216

00:44:32,870 --> 00:44:29,280

tournament but

1217

00:44:36,069 --> 00:44:32,880

it's sufficiently unstated

1218

00:44:39,109 --> 00:44:36,079

unexamined basically that you

1219

00:44:40,230 --> 00:44:39,119

can go to any kind of group and you can

1220

00:44:41,349 --> 00:44:40,240

examine it you could look at the

1221

00:44:42,870 --> 00:44:41,359

variation

1222

00:44:45,829 --> 00:44:42,880

and then you could make it function

1223

00:44:48,710 --> 00:44:45,839

better by

1224

00:44:50,950 --> 00:44:48,720

by basically cultivating a more explicit

1225

00:44:52,950 --> 00:44:50,960

awareness about evolution

1226
00:44:53,990 --> 00:44:52,960
multi-level selection and so on and so

1227
00:44:59,910 --> 00:44:54,000
forth to

1228
00:45:05,109 --> 00:45:03,109
get the group to function in in

1229
00:45:07,030 --> 00:45:05,119
monopoly tournament mode more than a

1230
00:45:08,950 --> 00:45:07,040
single game of monopoly mode

1231
00:45:11,670 --> 00:45:08,960
i have a couple questions one is a

1232
00:45:14,550 --> 00:45:11,680
slightly union question you was asked

1233
00:45:14,870 --> 00:45:14,560
i think it was carl jung why can't i

1234
00:45:17,910 --> 00:45:14,880
just

1235
00:45:19,430 --> 00:45:17,920
do what's good for me at the expense of

1236
00:45:20,470 --> 00:45:19,440
others and then carly was like what give

1237
00:45:22,470 --> 00:45:20,480
me an example he can't

1238
00:45:23,990 --> 00:45:22,480

he said you can't do that he said that

1239

00:45:25,190 --> 00:45:24,000

you have the more you realize that

1240

00:45:27,430 --> 00:45:25,200

you're

1241

00:45:29,109 --> 00:45:27,440

inextricably linked with the world well

1242

00:45:30,790 --> 00:45:29,119

actually that's correct the more you

1243

00:45:31,430 --> 00:45:30,800

realize that the better your life will

1244

00:45:33,349 --> 00:45:31,440

be

1245

00:45:34,710 --> 00:45:33,359

that person said why why can't i just

1246

00:45:38,550 --> 00:45:34,720

eat cheetos

1247

00:45:40,230 --> 00:45:38,560

and play video games and then he said

1248

00:45:41,589 --> 00:45:40,240

that's not actually good for you that's

1249

00:45:43,510 --> 00:45:41,599

good for you maybe

1250

00:45:45,270 --> 00:45:43,520

for one week or maybe two weeks or maybe

1251

00:45:46,870 --> 00:45:45,280

a month but the longer you look out in

1252

00:45:48,550 --> 00:45:46,880

time you have to take into account other

1253

00:45:49,030 --> 00:45:48,560

people because you're going to interact

1254

00:45:50,550 --> 00:45:49,040

with them

1255

00:45:51,910 --> 00:45:50,560

and then you also have to take into

1256

00:45:53,510 --> 00:45:51,920

account your environment because you're

1257

00:45:55,270 --> 00:45:53,520

going to interact with your environment

1258

00:45:56,950 --> 00:45:55,280

and so you have to act in what would

1259

00:45:58,870 --> 00:45:56,960

traditionally be seen as noble or what

1260

00:46:00,790 --> 00:45:58,880

you call virtuous

1261

00:46:02,550 --> 00:46:00,800

if you want to benefit yourself across

1262

00:46:03,910 --> 00:46:02,560

time so just matters

1263

00:46:05,910 --> 00:46:03,920

like you were talking about the

1264

00:46:07,510 --> 00:46:05,920

corporations if they prioritize

1265

00:46:08,309 --> 00:46:07,520

short-term profits that not that's not

1266

00:46:10,390 --> 00:46:08,319

necessarily good

1267

00:46:11,430 --> 00:46:10,400

but you included in a key word

1268

00:46:12,870 --> 00:46:11,440

short-term

1269

00:46:14,710 --> 00:46:12,880

so what if you think about long-term so

1270

00:46:17,589 --> 00:46:14,720

then the question is how long is long

1271

00:46:18,390 --> 00:46:17,599

but my question is in this union sense

1272

00:46:20,069 --> 00:46:18,400

what he was saying

1273

00:46:21,990 --> 00:46:20,079

you look out across time let's say your

1274

00:46:22,790 --> 00:46:22,000

life span let's say 60 years maybe even

1275

00:46:25,349 --> 00:46:22,800

100 you

1276

00:46:27,030 --> 00:46:25,359

incorporate your grandchildren into it

1277

00:46:29,030 --> 00:46:27,040

then is it not true

1278

00:46:30,630 --> 00:46:29,040

that the self the more the more

1279

00:46:32,470 --> 00:46:30,640

selfishly we act

1280

00:46:34,630 --> 00:46:32,480

the more it jives with what's good for

1281

00:46:35,829 --> 00:46:34,640

the group because i can't just screw you

1282

00:46:38,710 --> 00:46:35,839

that's actually not good for me i'm

1283

00:46:40,790 --> 00:46:38,720

gonna have a bad reputation

1284

00:46:42,069 --> 00:46:40,800

okay there's a lot to unpack here you're

1285

00:46:45,270 --> 00:46:42,079

attributing to

1286

00:46:48,069 --> 00:46:45,280

jung something which actually gets

1287

00:46:51,190 --> 00:46:48,079

replicated again and again and again

1288

00:46:52,390 --> 00:46:51,200

this idea that the uh

1289

00:46:54,630 --> 00:46:52,400

the most enlightened form of

1290

00:46:56,390 --> 00:46:54,640

self-interest is cooperation

1291

00:46:57,990 --> 00:46:56,400

then if you're selfish in the pejorative

1292

00:46:58,790 --> 00:46:58,000

sense of the word benefiting yourself at

1293

00:47:00,550 --> 00:46:58,800

the expense of

1294

00:47:02,309 --> 00:47:00,560

others well that's not even going to

1295

00:47:04,309 --> 00:47:02,319

work out for you over the long term so

1296

00:47:05,829 --> 00:47:04,319

really you should be cooperating

1297

00:47:08,069 --> 00:47:05,839

and so that's a line of thought which

1298

00:47:09,030 --> 00:47:08,079

has been replicated again and again and

1299

00:47:12,390 --> 00:47:09,040

again

1300

00:47:14,790 --> 00:47:12,400

and of course it's very normative

1301
00:47:17,030 --> 00:47:14,800
most recently i've encountered this in

1302
00:47:19,270 --> 00:47:17,040
the writing of alexi de tocqueville

1303
00:47:21,510 --> 00:47:19,280
the french social theorist who visited

1304
00:47:23,750 --> 00:47:21,520
america in the 1830s

1305
00:47:25,190 --> 00:47:23,760
and commented compared his nation of

1306
00:47:28,069 --> 00:47:25,200
france with the new

1307
00:47:29,190 --> 00:47:28,079
democratic uh experiment and his phrase

1308
00:47:31,829 --> 00:47:29,200
was self-interest

1309
00:47:33,030 --> 00:47:31,839
rightly understood and it was quite

1310
00:47:34,950 --> 00:47:33,040
fascinating because he

1311
00:47:36,230 --> 00:47:34,960
he was he actually was noting a cultural

1312
00:47:38,470 --> 00:47:36,240
trend it was very

1313
00:47:40,309 --> 00:47:38,480

prescient that um in the old

1314

00:47:41,750 --> 00:47:40,319

aristocratic days when people talked

1315

00:47:43,670 --> 00:47:41,760

about virtue and

1316

00:47:45,750 --> 00:47:43,680

sacrifice and things like that they

1317

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

actually did not frame it in terms of

1318

00:47:49,270 --> 00:47:48,000

enlightened self-interest but now

1319

00:47:51,750 --> 00:47:49,280

tocqueville said with all of the

1320

00:47:54,549 --> 00:47:51,760

democratic revolutions in america and

1321

00:47:56,390 --> 00:47:54,559

france and so on increasingly everything

1322

00:47:58,870 --> 00:47:56,400

was being

1323

00:48:00,630 --> 00:47:58,880

framed in terms of self-interest we

1324

00:48:01,870 --> 00:48:00,640

don't do anything unless we see it as a

1325

00:48:04,549 --> 00:48:01,880

form of

1326

00:48:06,150 --> 00:48:04,559

self-interest and that being the case we

1327

00:48:08,870 --> 00:48:06,160

have to distinguish between

1328

00:48:10,950 --> 00:48:08,880

self-interest rightly understood which

1329

00:48:12,630 --> 00:48:10,960

is cooperation

1330

00:48:14,150 --> 00:48:12,640

as opposed to self-interest wrongly

1331

00:48:16,230 --> 00:48:14,160

understood which leads to all kind of

1332

00:48:18,230 --> 00:48:16,240

shitty

1333

00:48:20,950 --> 00:48:18,240

outcomes outcomes so toqueville was

1334

00:48:24,069 --> 00:48:20,960

saying exactly the same thing that you

1335

00:48:25,670 --> 00:48:24,079

represented jung is saying and it's been

1336

00:48:26,390 --> 00:48:25,680

said a thousand times before so

1337

00:48:28,870 --> 00:48:26,400

basically

1338

00:48:30,309 --> 00:48:28,880

is there something wrong with it it's uh

1339

00:48:32,309 --> 00:48:30,319

hold on it's an argument of

1340

00:48:34,230 --> 00:48:32,319

it's an argument for cooperation framed

1341

00:48:35,589 --> 00:48:34,240

in terms of self-interest

1342

00:48:37,510 --> 00:48:35,599

and in order to do that it must

1343

00:48:39,349 --> 00:48:37,520

distinguish between for

1344

00:48:41,750 --> 00:48:39,359

between different kinds of self-interest

1345

00:48:43,430 --> 00:48:41,760

the rightly understood kind

1346

00:48:44,870 --> 00:48:43,440

and the wrongly understood kind even

1347

00:48:46,470 --> 00:48:44,880

iran the

1348

00:48:48,470 --> 00:48:46,480

high priestess of selfishness

1349

00:48:50,230 --> 00:48:48,480

distinguished between rational and

1350

00:48:52,790 --> 00:48:50,240

irrational forms

1351

00:48:54,710 --> 00:48:52,800

of self-interest you can't talk about

1352

00:48:57,510 --> 00:48:54,720

self-interest on the

1353

00:48:59,109 --> 00:48:57,520

on any kind of stage without actually

1354

00:49:01,270 --> 00:48:59,119

making this distinction and talking

1355

00:49:03,190 --> 00:49:01,280

about moral forms of self-interest

1356

00:49:04,549 --> 00:49:03,200

as opposed to immoral forms of

1357

00:49:06,549 --> 00:49:04,559

self-interest so

1358

00:49:07,829 --> 00:49:06,559

so it's good advice you might say that

1359

00:49:09,349 --> 00:49:07,839

if everyone took it then they'd be

1360

00:49:14,870 --> 00:49:09,359

cooperate

1361

00:49:17,990 --> 00:49:17,030

i mean if it fails in a number of ways

1362

00:49:22,630 --> 00:49:18,000

other than a

1363

00:49:25,670 --> 00:49:22,640

story a nice aspirational narrative

1364

00:49:28,950 --> 00:49:25,680

it fails in a whole bunch of

1365

00:49:30,309 --> 00:49:28,960

a whole bunch of of of ways and let me

1366

00:49:33,750 --> 00:49:30,319

try to begin to

1367

00:49:36,790 --> 00:49:33,760

to uh list them for one thing

1368

00:49:41,109 --> 00:49:36,800

it ignores the fact that

1369

00:49:42,790 --> 00:49:41,119

evolution is based on relative fitness

1370

00:49:44,950 --> 00:49:42,800

when it comes to evolution it does not

1371

00:49:48,630 --> 00:49:44,960

matter how well you survive

1372

00:49:51,990 --> 00:49:48,640

and reproduce in absolute terms

1373

00:49:55,670 --> 00:49:52,000

only compared to others

1374

00:49:57,030 --> 00:49:55,680

in your vicinity and the whole appeal of

1375

00:49:58,390 --> 00:49:57,040

enlightened self-interest as you

1376

00:49:59,910 --> 00:49:58,400

described it

1377

00:50:02,230 --> 00:49:59,920

if you're young i describe it through

1378

00:50:03,190 --> 00:50:02,240

toefl it's basically framed in terms of

1379

00:50:05,670 --> 00:50:03,200

absolute

1380

00:50:07,270 --> 00:50:05,680

self-interest if you're self-interested

1381

00:50:07,670 --> 00:50:07,280

and rightly understood this will work

1382

00:50:09,589 --> 00:50:07,680

out

1383

00:50:10,950 --> 00:50:09,599

better for you than if it's

1384

00:50:12,790 --> 00:50:10,960

self-interest wrongly

1385

00:50:14,790 --> 00:50:12,800

understood you if you do this will do

1386

00:50:17,589 --> 00:50:14,800

better than you if you don't do

1387

00:50:19,109 --> 00:50:17,599

that that's not relative fitness the

1388

00:50:21,750 --> 00:50:19,119

question is how well am i going to do

1389

00:50:24,790 --> 00:50:21,760

compared to my competitors

1390

00:50:26,069 --> 00:50:24,800

others in my vicinity that's the

1391

00:50:27,430 --> 00:50:26,079

question we should be asking

1392

00:50:29,349 --> 00:50:27,440

no it's the question of the way the

1393

00:50:32,150 --> 00:50:29,359

human mind is

1394

00:50:33,670 --> 00:50:32,160

and so when people actually operate very

1395

00:50:35,829 --> 00:50:33,680

often they're trying to get positional

1396

00:50:38,950 --> 00:50:35,839

advantage

1397

00:50:41,510 --> 00:50:38,960

okay that's how we operate

1398

00:50:44,230 --> 00:50:41,520

and it's not wrong i mean basically we

1399

00:50:45,910 --> 00:50:44,240

do need to worry about our relative

1400

00:50:47,589 --> 00:50:45,920

fitness that means that if i what's

1401

00:50:49,430 --> 00:50:47,599

enlightened is to make sure

1402

00:50:50,870 --> 00:50:49,440

that we all do something that's

1403

00:50:52,710 --> 00:50:50,880

cooperative okay

1404

00:50:55,030 --> 00:50:52,720

we're all working towards cooperative

1405

00:50:57,430 --> 00:50:55,040

solutions make no mistake

1406

00:50:58,950 --> 00:50:57,440

about that but when you look at how the

1407

00:51:02,150 --> 00:50:58,960

human mind actually

1408

00:51:03,030 --> 00:51:02,160

operates there's two things you can say

1409

00:51:07,270 --> 00:51:03,040

about it

1410

00:51:11,270 --> 00:51:07,280

it privileges positional advantage

1411

00:51:13,030 --> 00:51:11,280

and short-term

1412

00:51:16,390 --> 00:51:13,040

gain as opposed to long-term gain we've

1413

00:51:20,069 --> 00:51:16,400

all learned about discounting the future

1414

00:51:23,190 --> 00:51:20,079

that a benefit now is going to be

1415

00:51:25,910 --> 00:51:23,200

more important than that same benefit

1416

00:51:27,670 --> 00:51:25,920

delayed in time why is it is because i

1417

00:51:29,349 --> 00:51:27,680

might not live that long

1418

00:51:30,950 --> 00:51:29,359

and so especially when you put people in

1419

00:51:33,670 --> 00:51:30,960

precarious situations

1420

00:51:34,470 --> 00:51:33,680

existentially insecure situations their

1421

00:51:37,910 --> 00:51:34,480

minds

1422

00:51:41,109 --> 00:51:37,920

are going to privilege

1423

00:51:45,109 --> 00:51:43,030

and if you tell them immediate relative

1424

00:51:46,630 --> 00:51:45,119

gain immediate relative

1425

00:51:48,150 --> 00:51:46,640

gain and if you tell them they'll be

1426

00:51:51,030 --> 00:51:48,160

better in the long term

1427

00:51:52,390 --> 00:51:51,040

as far as what they need to do

1428

00:51:52,870 --> 00:51:52,400

and what their minds are telling them to

1429

00:51:55,510 --> 00:51:52,880

do

1430

00:51:57,510 --> 00:51:55,520

in order to survive another day in order

1431

00:52:00,309 --> 00:51:57,520

to survive another day

1432

00:52:01,270 --> 00:52:00,319

and one of my colleagues robert frank an

1433

00:52:04,950 --> 00:52:01,280

economist

1434

00:52:09,349 --> 00:52:07,589

wrote a book called the darwin economy

1435

00:52:12,309 --> 00:52:09,359

in which he makes this

1436

00:52:13,750 --> 00:52:12,319

very uh point he says a hundred years

1437

00:52:14,390 --> 00:52:13,760

from now i hope it doesn't take that

1438

00:52:17,670 --> 00:52:14,400

long

1439

00:52:18,950 --> 00:52:17,680

darwin not adam smith will be regarded

1440

00:52:21,750 --> 00:52:18,960

as the father

1441

00:52:22,870 --> 00:52:21,760

of economics and the main difference is

1442

00:52:26,309 --> 00:52:22,880

that economists as

1443

00:52:29,349 --> 00:52:26,319

i've just said they posit

1444

00:52:31,349 --> 00:52:29,359

the national actor homo economicus

1445

00:52:33,430 --> 00:52:31,359

the utility maximizer only wants to

1446

00:52:36,069 --> 00:52:33,440

maximize its absolute utility

1447

00:52:37,910 --> 00:52:36,079

not in reference to anyone else as if we

1448

00:52:38,470 --> 00:52:37,920

only want to be wealthy in some absolute

1449

00:52:41,030 --> 00:52:38,480

sense

1450

00:52:42,790 --> 00:52:41,040

not in comparison to anyone else well no

1451

00:52:44,069 --> 00:52:42,800

one works like that

1452

00:52:45,910 --> 00:52:44,079

the only reason you want to have a

1453

00:52:49,670 --> 00:52:45,920

thousand dollar suit is to look better

1454

00:52:55,750 --> 00:52:53,589

suit life is about relative

1455

00:52:57,270 --> 00:52:55,760

advantage and yet economic theory has

1456

00:53:00,390 --> 00:52:57,280

not framed that

1457

00:53:02,309 --> 00:53:00,400

that way so that's the sense in which an

1458

00:53:04,309 --> 00:53:02,319

appeal to enlighten self-interest

1459

00:53:05,349 --> 00:53:04,319

it's it's a nice aspirational message

1460

00:53:08,230 --> 00:53:05,359

but really it

1461

00:53:10,470 --> 00:53:08,240

it it it misses all of the complications

1462

00:53:12,870 --> 00:53:10,480

that we've just been talking about

1463

00:53:14,470 --> 00:53:12,880

do you mean to say it's correct in that

1464

00:53:15,109 --> 00:53:14,480

if we followed it it would be great it's

1465

00:53:19,190 --> 00:53:15,119

just not

1466

00:53:25,910 --> 00:53:22,630

he said it sounds nice in terms of

1467

00:53:28,230 --> 00:53:25,920

aspirations or inspirations but it's not

1468

00:53:30,150 --> 00:53:28,240

it's not it doesn't capture it in game

1469

00:53:32,150 --> 00:53:30,160

theory terms and this this

1470

00:53:33,750 --> 00:53:32,160

this holds for all efforts to make

1471

00:53:35,349 --> 00:53:33,760

people more cooperative whether you

1472

00:53:36,950 --> 00:53:35,359

frame it in terms of self-interest or

1473

00:53:39,750 --> 00:53:36,960

not

1474

00:53:41,109 --> 00:53:39,760

if we encourage people to be altruistic

1475

00:53:43,190 --> 00:53:41,119

or cooperative

1476
00:53:45,109 --> 00:53:43,200
and we motivate it in any way that moves

1477
00:53:46,309 --> 00:53:45,119
them it might be an appeal to

1478
00:53:48,790 --> 00:53:46,319
self-interest

1479
00:53:50,630 --> 00:53:48,800
or it might be some other appeal to

1480
00:53:52,950 --> 00:53:50,640
empathy or

1481
00:53:53,910 --> 00:53:52,960
whatever so then they go out in the

1482
00:53:57,030 --> 00:53:53,920
world

1483
00:53:59,670 --> 00:53:57,040
and they're nice but it turns out

1484
00:54:01,910 --> 00:53:59,680
that the people with whom they interact

1485
00:54:05,270 --> 00:54:01,920
are not necessarily

1486
00:54:06,950 --> 00:54:05,280
nice so what happens then

1487
00:54:08,470 --> 00:54:06,960
what happens on the basis of the advice

1488
00:54:11,829 --> 00:54:08,480

that you

1489

00:54:13,750 --> 00:54:11,839

gave them they're going to become losers

1490

00:54:15,910 --> 00:54:13,760

because they're you you release them

1491

00:54:17,750 --> 00:54:15,920

into a social environment in which

1492

00:54:19,030 --> 00:54:17,760

in which cooperation is not the most

1493

00:54:21,270 --> 00:54:19,040

successful

1494

00:54:22,549 --> 00:54:21,280

strategy and so we have to be smarter

1495

00:54:24,790 --> 00:54:22,559

than that it's actually unethical to

1496

00:54:25,990 --> 00:54:24,800

counsel someone to be nice

1497

00:54:28,069 --> 00:54:26,000

and then put them in a social

1498

00:54:30,309 --> 00:54:28,079

environment where niceness doesn't

1499

00:54:32,390 --> 00:54:30,319

pay so this is why we have to be much

1500

00:54:33,589 --> 00:54:32,400

more systemic we have to create social

1501
00:54:36,829 --> 00:54:33,599
environments

1502
00:54:38,710 --> 00:54:36,839
that actually causes niceness to win the

1503
00:54:42,309 --> 00:54:38,720
darwinian

1504
00:54:44,150 --> 00:54:42,319
contest and if we don't do that we go

1505
00:54:45,750 --> 00:54:44,160
my colleagues and i call this declawing

1506
00:54:48,069 --> 00:54:45,760
the cat the alley cat

1507
00:54:49,430 --> 00:54:48,079
you don't take an alley cat remove its

1508
00:54:52,470 --> 00:54:49,440
claws and put it back in an

1509
00:54:53,910 --> 00:54:52,480
alley why would you do something like

1510
00:54:57,349 --> 00:54:53,920
that and why would the cat

1511
00:54:58,870 --> 00:54:57,359
actually take your advice and yet if you

1512
00:55:00,549 --> 00:54:58,880
create a social environment that

1513
00:55:02,710 --> 00:55:00,559

actually protects niceness which is what

1514

00:55:04,789 --> 00:55:02,720

a moral system does

1515

00:55:05,829 --> 00:55:04,799

then most people will take a look at

1516

00:55:07,510 --> 00:55:05,839

that and they'll say

1517

00:55:09,109 --> 00:55:07,520

okay it's safe to be nice now and

1518

00:55:11,109 --> 00:55:09,119

they'll be safe that's really nice

1519

00:55:13,349 --> 00:55:11,119

are you using nice as a synonym for

1520

00:55:16,470 --> 00:55:13,359

virtue or using nice just

1521

00:55:18,950 --> 00:55:16,480

let me give cooperative strategies

1522

00:55:21,109 --> 00:55:18,960

nice means is that i'm going to do well

1523

00:55:22,710 --> 00:55:21,119

by you

1524

00:55:24,309 --> 00:55:22,720

i'll be a cooperator because it could

1525

00:55:26,309 --> 00:55:24,319

also mean courage

1526

00:55:27,510 --> 00:55:26,319

standing up for what you think is right

1527

00:55:29,349 --> 00:55:27,520

not being a pushover

1528

00:55:31,670 --> 00:55:29,359

all of those giving when you think about

1529

00:55:32,470 --> 00:55:31,680

nice is not like a patsy strategy nice

1530

00:55:34,950 --> 00:55:32,480

can be

1531

00:55:36,470 --> 00:55:34,960

there's tough forms of niceness but uh

1532

00:55:39,510 --> 00:55:36,480

but no it's what's it's what's

1533

00:55:41,190 --> 00:55:39,520

what's best for all of us it's my wife

1534

00:55:42,950 --> 00:55:41,200

sorry that's all right do you want to

1535

00:55:46,309 --> 00:55:42,960

see if you can get that flying

1536

00:55:47,430 --> 00:55:46,319

sure because you're an expert at that so

1537

00:55:49,670 --> 00:55:47,440

i think that's your true color actually

1538

00:55:51,829 --> 00:55:49,680

it's my wife who's the real expert but

1539

00:55:53,750 --> 00:55:51,839

and you know she studies birds and she

1540

00:55:54,230 --> 00:55:53,760

actually catches birds in nets like this

1541

00:55:56,069 --> 00:55:54,240

and

1542

00:55:57,510 --> 00:55:56,079

it's like quidditch it's just amazing i

1543

00:56:00,230 --> 00:55:57,520

was wondering about the books

1544

00:56:05,349 --> 00:56:00,240

i said the bird books yeah why do we

1545

00:56:10,470 --> 00:56:08,710

you mentioned that we would need to

1546

00:56:13,349 --> 00:56:10,480

take our tribalism and apply to the

1547

00:56:14,069 --> 00:56:13,359

globe now when i hear people say what's

1548

00:56:16,950 --> 00:56:14,079

wrong with us

1549

00:56:18,230 --> 00:56:16,960

it's tribalism that the left the radical

1550

00:56:21,030 --> 00:56:18,240

left and the alt-right

1551
00:56:22,470 --> 00:56:21,040
are taking us to our tribal roots but

1552
00:56:23,910 --> 00:56:22,480
you're saying tribalism

1553
00:56:25,030 --> 00:56:23,920
might be the answer so are we using the

1554
00:56:26,549 --> 00:56:25,040
same word to describe two different

1555
00:56:30,390 --> 00:56:26,559
things or do you have a different view i

1556
00:56:33,109 --> 00:56:30,400
i mean there's many ways to skin the

1557
00:56:34,789 --> 00:56:33,119
somatic cat but i think that tribalism

1558
00:56:36,549 --> 00:56:34,799
is just fine as long as we regard

1559
00:56:37,589 --> 00:56:36,559
ourselves as part of a global tribe then

1560
00:56:40,390 --> 00:56:37,599
there we are

1561
00:56:41,349 --> 00:56:40,400
we do need a strong sense of us but let

1562
00:56:44,950 --> 00:56:41,359
it be everyone

1563
00:56:48,230 --> 00:56:44,960

and also um nature

1564

00:56:49,829 --> 00:56:48,240

as well so let that be our tribe i think

1565

00:56:51,109 --> 00:56:49,839

that might be one of the most intuitive

1566

00:56:53,349 --> 00:56:51,119

ways to

1567

00:56:55,190 --> 00:56:53,359

to um to describe it and we're so

1568

00:56:57,430 --> 00:56:55,200

flexible about our social identities

1569

00:56:59,750 --> 00:56:57,440

that's another thing that needs to be

1570

00:57:01,190 --> 00:56:59,760

said all of our social identities are

1571

00:57:03,349 --> 00:57:01,200

socially

1572

00:57:04,950 --> 00:57:03,359

constructed we imagine our groups and

1573

00:57:07,109 --> 00:57:04,960

then we function

1574

00:57:09,670 --> 00:57:07,119

within them and so that means it's not

1575

00:57:12,710 --> 00:57:09,680

so much of a stretch of the imagination

1576

00:57:15,910 --> 00:57:12,720

to think of ourselves as part of

1577

00:57:17,910 --> 00:57:15,920

a global tribe

1578

00:57:18,789 --> 00:57:17,920

not hard you mentioned that you had some

1579

00:57:20,630 --> 00:57:18,799

problems with the social

1580

00:57:22,069 --> 00:57:20,640

constructionists and i want to know

1581

00:57:24,309 --> 00:57:22,079

first of all if you could define what

1582

00:57:27,430 --> 00:57:24,319

social constructivism is and then

1583

00:57:29,109 --> 00:57:27,440

what do you see as its problems

1584

00:57:30,549 --> 00:57:29,119

well i wrote an essay a while back

1585

00:57:32,710 --> 00:57:30,559

called evolutionary social

1586

00:57:35,829 --> 00:57:32,720

constructivism

1587

00:57:38,150 --> 00:57:35,839

isn't wrong

1588

00:57:39,349 --> 00:57:38,160

it just has to be approached from an

1589

00:57:42,950 --> 00:57:39,359

evolutionary

1590

00:57:43,910 --> 00:57:42,960

perspective most social constructivists

1591

00:57:48,630 --> 00:57:43,920

see themselves

1592

00:57:50,349 --> 00:57:48,640

as opposed to evolutionary

1593

00:57:53,190 --> 00:57:50,359

thinking this goes back to the days of

1594

00:57:56,950 --> 00:57:53,200

sociobiology when ed wilson

1595

00:58:01,910 --> 00:57:56,960

wrote the book sociobiology in 1975

1596

00:58:04,549 --> 00:58:01,920

and he was branded as

1597

00:58:06,390 --> 00:58:04,559

being a genetic determinist and the

1598

00:58:09,030 --> 00:58:06,400

alternative to sociobiology

1599

00:58:11,190 --> 00:58:09,040

was social constructivism it was the

1600

00:58:13,670 --> 00:58:11,200

idea that we are a cultural species that

1601
00:58:15,910 --> 00:58:13,680
we um

1602
00:58:17,910 --> 00:58:15,920
were very flexible basically were

1603
00:58:18,789 --> 00:58:17,920
capable of coming up with any behavior

1604
00:58:21,109 --> 00:58:18,799
any

1605
00:58:23,589 --> 00:58:21,119
social arrangement and this was thought

1606
00:58:26,870 --> 00:58:23,599
to be an opposition

1607
00:58:28,710 --> 00:58:26,880
to sociobiology

1608
00:58:31,030 --> 00:58:28,720
now what we can say is yes we are a

1609
00:58:33,589 --> 00:58:31,040
cultural species

1610
00:58:35,829 --> 00:58:33,599
and we do construct our social

1611
00:58:39,190 --> 00:58:35,839
environments so we are very flexible not

1612
00:58:41,910 --> 00:58:39,200
infinitely flexible but very flexible in

1613
00:58:42,390 --> 00:58:41,920

what we can become as individuals and

1614

00:58:45,190 --> 00:58:42,400

and

1615

00:58:47,670 --> 00:58:45,200

societies but all of that is a matter of

1616

00:58:49,829 --> 00:58:47,680

cultural evolution

1617

00:58:52,230 --> 00:58:49,839

and so we need to expand evolutionary

1618

00:58:55,270 --> 00:58:52,240

thinking beyond genetic evolution

1619

00:58:56,470 --> 00:58:55,280

to include cultural evolution and it's

1620

00:58:59,829 --> 00:58:56,480

at that point that

1621

00:59:03,270 --> 00:58:59,839

social constructivism will be seen

1622

00:59:05,030 --> 00:59:03,280

as a evolutionary topic and the term

1623

00:59:07,510 --> 00:59:05,040

niche construction

1624

00:59:08,710 --> 00:59:07,520

which is a term that originated within

1625

00:59:10,710 --> 00:59:08,720

evolutionary

1626
00:59:13,109 --> 00:59:10,720
theory is basically another word for

1627
00:59:16,230 --> 00:59:13,119
social

1628
00:59:19,589 --> 00:59:16,240
construction at least in the human

1629
00:59:21,910 --> 00:59:19,599
human case so yes we are

1630
00:59:24,150 --> 00:59:21,920
cultural species we do construct our

1631
00:59:25,910 --> 00:59:24,160
societies but please don't think that

1632
00:59:27,670 --> 00:59:25,920
as something which is somehow outside

1633
00:59:30,150 --> 00:59:27,680
the orbit of

1634
00:59:31,309 --> 00:59:30,160
evolutionary thinking what are the

1635
00:59:35,190 --> 00:59:31,319
problems that you have with

1636
00:59:39,270 --> 00:59:35,200
post-modernists if any

1637
00:59:41,109 --> 00:59:39,280
i think that i actually look for

1638
00:59:42,470 --> 00:59:41,119

the baby in the bathwater of most

1639

00:59:44,150 --> 00:59:42,480

traditions

1640

00:59:47,990 --> 00:59:44,160

one phrase that i like from an

1641

00:59:50,150 --> 00:59:48,000

evolutionist named aj kane is that

1642

00:59:52,549 --> 00:59:50,160

only the simplest mind can believe that

1643

00:59:56,470 --> 00:59:52,559

in a great controversy one side is mere

1644

01:00:00,069 --> 00:59:56,480

folly and so when smart people disagree

1645

01:00:02,549 --> 01:00:00,079

then there's probably a baby somewhere

1646

01:00:03,829 --> 01:00:02,559

in the bath water but then of course

1647

01:00:07,589 --> 01:00:03,839

there's also

1648

01:00:09,270 --> 01:00:07,599

the bathwater and so postmodernism

1649

01:00:12,150 --> 01:00:09,280

social constructivism

1650

01:00:13,109 --> 01:00:12,160

all of these things i think part of the

1651
01:00:16,230 --> 01:00:13,119
baby

1652
01:00:17,910 --> 01:00:16,240
what's legitimate is

1653
01:00:19,990 --> 01:00:17,920
what's called a thick description of a

1654
01:00:22,309 --> 01:00:20,000
given culture

1655
01:00:23,430 --> 01:00:22,319
recognition that a culture is something

1656
01:00:25,829 --> 01:00:23,440
which is very com

1657
01:00:27,030 --> 01:00:25,839
complicated and has to be understood in

1658
01:00:31,030 --> 01:00:27,040
some kind of

1659
01:00:32,789 --> 01:00:31,040
contextual way and all of that is great

1660
01:00:36,150 --> 01:00:32,799
because it's true

1661
01:00:39,430 --> 01:00:36,160
so i love that part but also there's

1662
01:00:41,910 --> 01:00:39,440
in some ways often the bath water

1663
01:00:43,190 --> 01:00:41,920

is a denial of anything that can count

1664

01:00:45,750 --> 01:00:43,200

as objective

1665

01:00:47,589 --> 01:00:45,760

reality that there's no such thing as

1666

01:00:50,950 --> 01:00:47,599

objective facts for example

1667

01:00:56,309 --> 01:00:50,960

that the the kind of body of facts that

1668

01:01:00,789 --> 01:00:56,319

we associate with science has no more

1669

01:01:06,390 --> 01:01:04,069

construction and so i think that when we

1670

01:01:08,870 --> 01:01:06,400

talk about now in the post-truth society

1671

01:01:10,150 --> 01:01:08,880

and and fake news and a president that

1672

01:01:13,430 --> 01:01:10,160

basically lies

1673

01:01:16,150 --> 01:01:13,440

every day of his life um

1674

01:01:17,349 --> 01:01:16,160

is in some sense attributed to the

1675

01:01:21,910 --> 01:01:17,359

postmodern

1676

01:01:23,990 --> 01:01:21,920

tradition which became anti-anti-science

1677

01:01:28,150 --> 01:01:24,000

and you know in in

1678

01:01:30,549 --> 01:01:28,160

um in the humanities in anthropology and

1679

01:01:33,430 --> 01:01:30,559

and linguistics and and cultural studies

1680

01:01:35,670 --> 01:01:33,440

uh very much cleaves along lines of uh

1681

01:01:36,870 --> 01:01:35,680

of a branch that is more or less science

1682

01:01:40,789 --> 01:01:36,880

friendly

1683

01:01:45,190 --> 01:01:40,799

and and a branch which is uh science uh

1684

01:01:49,349 --> 01:01:45,200

um unfriendly and and so what we've lost

1685

01:01:52,789 --> 01:01:49,359

what we've lost not everywhere but um

1686

01:01:56,230 --> 01:01:52,799

um in many in many contexts

1687

01:01:57,910 --> 01:01:56,240

is this idea that there's um

1688

01:02:00,630 --> 01:01:57,920

there's facts of the world that we have

1689

01:02:04,630 --> 01:02:00,640

to that we have to discover and

1690

01:02:07,029 --> 01:02:04,640

and and hold each other uh

1691

01:02:09,430 --> 01:02:07,039

accountable to um i have another quote

1692

01:02:12,870 --> 01:02:09,440

from the dalai lama that i love

1693

01:02:16,789 --> 01:02:14,710

anyone who defies the authority of

1694

01:02:19,589 --> 01:02:16,799

empirical evidence is not worthy of

1695

01:02:21,029 --> 01:02:19,599

critical engagement in a dialogue

1696

01:02:23,270 --> 01:02:21,039

if you're just making stuff up and if

1697

01:02:24,549 --> 01:02:23,280

you're denying

1698

01:02:27,670 --> 01:02:24,559

what's out there you're not worth

1699

01:02:29,430 --> 01:02:27,680

talking to is what that

1700

01:02:31,190 --> 01:02:29,440

is what that means and so i need we need

1701

01:02:32,470 --> 01:02:31,200

to recover the idea that there is a

1702

01:02:34,069 --> 01:02:32,480

world out there

1703

01:02:36,470 --> 01:02:34,079

it's independent of our own meaning

1704

01:02:39,029 --> 01:02:36,480

systems our own symbolic systems and

1705

01:02:42,309 --> 01:02:39,039

that creates a challenge of somehow

1706

01:02:44,069 --> 01:02:42,319

our meaning systems whatever they are

1707

01:02:46,630 --> 01:02:44,079

whether they're religious or not

1708

01:02:48,390 --> 01:02:46,640

everyone has one

1709

01:02:50,150 --> 01:02:48,400

and it is not a direct reflection of the

1710

01:02:51,589 --> 01:02:50,160

real world but nevertheless there is a

1711

01:02:53,589 --> 01:02:51,599

real world out there

1712

01:02:55,510 --> 01:02:53,599

and we can apprehend it using the tools

1713

01:02:58,309 --> 01:02:55,520

that we typically associate with

1714

01:02:59,430 --> 01:02:58,319

science and so and so that has to be

1715

01:03:06,870 --> 01:02:59,440

part of the

1716

01:03:08,390 --> 01:03:06,880

rules for our for our discourse it has

1717

01:03:10,150 --> 01:03:08,400

to be science based

1718

01:03:11,990 --> 01:03:10,160

but it also has to be smart about how

1719

01:03:15,349 --> 01:03:12,000

difficult it is for us to

1720

01:03:16,870 --> 01:03:15,359

um apprehend the the real world and how

1721

01:03:19,990 --> 01:03:16,880

tempted we are

1722

01:03:21,190 --> 01:03:20,000

at a deep psychological level in making

1723

01:03:25,109 --> 01:03:21,200

stuff up

1724

01:03:27,109 --> 01:03:25,119

that supports our world

1725

01:03:29,109 --> 01:03:27,119

views there's a deep statement there

1726
01:03:30,390 --> 01:03:29,119
about epistemology basically the nature

1727
01:03:32,950 --> 01:03:30,400
of knowledge from

1728
01:03:35,109 --> 01:03:32,960
an evolutionary perspective evolution as

1729
01:03:38,069 --> 01:03:35,119
transformative things to say about

1730
01:03:39,910 --> 01:03:38,079
about ethics and morality and

1731
01:03:41,750 --> 01:03:39,920
epistemology all of the major branches

1732
01:03:43,589 --> 01:03:41,760
of philosophy

1733
01:03:45,430 --> 01:03:43,599
what do you think of the post-modern

1734
01:03:46,549 --> 01:03:45,440
inspired fields like women's studies

1735
01:03:49,589 --> 01:03:46,559
gender studies

1736
01:03:51,190 --> 01:03:49,599
sex fat studies sexual studies what do

1737
01:03:53,990 --> 01:03:51,200
you think of

1738
01:03:54,789 --> 01:03:54,000

the idea that they're putting forth that

1739

01:03:58,069 --> 01:03:54,799

separates us

1740

01:03:59,829 --> 01:03:58,079

into different groups and then therefore

1741

01:04:01,190 --> 01:03:59,839

our tribal circuitry quote-unquote

1742

01:04:03,190 --> 01:04:01,200

tribal circuitry is being

1743

01:04:04,710 --> 01:04:03,200

hijacked and now it's us versus them in

1744

01:04:06,549 --> 01:04:04,720

different groups i know we've talked

1745

01:04:07,750 --> 01:04:06,559

about this earlier

1746

01:04:09,349 --> 01:04:07,760

what do you think of that is that true

1747

01:04:10,069 --> 01:04:09,359

what is this tribal circuitry that's

1748

01:04:12,230 --> 01:04:10,079

being

1749

01:04:14,230 --> 01:04:12,240

triggered can you first expand on the

1750

01:04:17,510 --> 01:04:14,240

tribal circuitry that some

1751

01:04:19,109 --> 01:04:17,520

evolutionary biologists talk about

1752

01:04:21,029 --> 01:04:19,119

obviously we can't speak for them but

1753

01:04:23,670 --> 01:04:21,039

whatever you think that term means

1754

01:04:24,230 --> 01:04:23,680

what is this tribal circuitry and how

1755

01:04:28,150 --> 01:04:24,240

are these

1756

01:04:32,150 --> 01:04:30,069

utilizing that for something that's not

1757

01:04:34,230 --> 01:04:32,160

necessarily good for the whole

1758

01:04:35,910 --> 01:04:34,240

so again let's talk about the baby

1759

01:04:39,430 --> 01:04:35,920

before we talk about the

1760

01:04:42,470 --> 01:04:39,440

bath water the baby of these

1761

01:04:46,870 --> 01:04:42,480

identities is that they're pointing out

1762

01:04:50,950 --> 01:04:46,880

that the mainstream worldview

1763

01:04:53,430 --> 01:04:50,960

is in fact extremely provincial

1764

01:04:54,470 --> 01:04:53,440

it's the world view of a certain

1765

01:04:58,710 --> 01:04:54,480

privileged

1766

01:05:01,029 --> 01:04:58,720

culture say white european male

1767

01:05:02,150 --> 01:05:01,039

culture is interpreting reality for

1768

01:05:04,950 --> 01:05:02,160

everyone

1769

01:05:05,349 --> 01:05:04,960

when in fact it's extremely provincial

1770

01:05:08,549 --> 01:05:05,359

and

1771

01:05:10,630 --> 01:05:08,559

ultimately self-serving

1772

01:05:13,349 --> 01:05:10,640

and you know i think you know that

1773

01:05:18,630 --> 01:05:13,359

there's an acronym that's been coined

1774

01:05:22,309 --> 01:05:18,640

weird a white educated industrial

1775

01:05:24,870 --> 01:05:22,319

rich and democratic which is

1776

01:05:27,109 --> 01:05:24,880

the dominating culture that's what i

1777

01:05:30,230 --> 01:05:27,119

think you're referring to as western

1778

01:05:34,630 --> 01:05:30,240

culture and it interprets itself

1779

01:05:37,349 --> 01:05:34,640

as human nature and the human condition

1780

01:05:39,349 --> 01:05:37,359

and this term was coined by my colleague

1781

01:05:41,750 --> 01:05:39,359

joseph penric at harvard

1782

01:05:42,950 --> 01:05:41,760

university and it's getting a lot of

1783

01:05:45,750 --> 01:05:42,960

attention now because

1784

01:05:48,069 --> 01:05:45,760

so much research that's done primarily

1785

01:05:50,390 --> 01:05:48,079

in western nations

1786

01:05:52,390 --> 01:05:50,400

and in with college students or even

1787

01:05:53,750 --> 01:05:52,400

when it's done internationally

1788

01:05:55,270 --> 01:05:53,760

it's done in those segments of the

1789

01:05:57,510 --> 01:05:55,280

population that have thoroughly bought

1790

01:06:00,549 --> 01:05:57,520

into western market

1791

01:06:00,789 --> 01:06:00,559

economies so much psychological research

1792

01:06:03,109 --> 01:06:00,799

and

1793

01:06:04,630 --> 01:06:03,119

research of all kinds has been done on

1794

01:06:08,630 --> 01:06:04,640

this narrow slice

1795

01:06:10,470 --> 01:06:08,640

of humanity and and it's not general

1796

01:06:11,990 --> 01:06:10,480

it's not general at all and so it's a

1797

01:06:14,789 --> 01:06:12,000

major

1798

01:06:16,230 --> 01:06:14,799

initiative now which is gaining steam is

1799

01:06:18,549 --> 01:06:16,240

that if you want to say something about

1800

01:06:21,589 --> 01:06:18,559

human nature you cannot confine it

1801
01:06:24,069 --> 01:06:21,599
to weird people

1802
01:06:25,029 --> 01:06:24,079
people weird societies so just now on

1803
01:06:27,750 --> 01:06:25,039
twitter you get

1804
01:06:29,109 --> 01:06:27,760
for example a result that came out of

1805
01:06:32,309 --> 01:06:29,119
research is that

1806
01:06:33,750 --> 01:06:32,319
you know in any population x percent our

1807
01:06:37,270 --> 01:06:33,760
cooperators

1808
01:06:40,870 --> 01:06:37,280
y presenter defectors whatever

1809
01:06:47,829 --> 01:06:44,230
did you get it oh i thought i did

1810
01:06:49,109 --> 01:06:47,839
man i should have no that's all right

1811
01:06:51,430 --> 01:06:49,119
um so you're saying that there's

1812
01:06:52,950 --> 01:06:51,440
research on twitter not on twitter it's

1813
01:06:54,390 --> 01:06:52,960

being reported on

1814

01:06:56,390 --> 01:06:54,400

on twitter this was thought to be very

1815

01:06:58,309 --> 01:06:56,400

very general many many studies show that

1816

01:07:01,109 --> 01:06:58,319

there's the same kind of breakdown of

1817

01:07:03,029 --> 01:07:01,119

cooperators and defectors and uh and uh

1818

01:07:06,150 --> 01:07:03,039

hold on a minute

1819

01:07:08,710 --> 01:07:06,160

and um this is too terribly distracting

1820

01:07:10,390 --> 01:07:08,720

isn't it oh it's okay you can do it

1821

01:07:12,150 --> 01:07:10,400

come on little guy i'll just move a

1822

01:07:17,510 --> 01:07:12,160

little bit

1823

01:07:21,029 --> 01:07:19,349

got him so there's some research that's

1824

01:07:22,710 --> 01:07:21,039

popularized on twitter as being

1825

01:07:24,390 --> 01:07:22,720

also the ultimate also the ultimatum

1826
01:07:26,710 --> 01:07:24,400
game the famous ultimating game i give

1827
01:07:29,910 --> 01:07:26,720
you ten dollars

1828
01:07:31,270 --> 01:07:29,920
and you can share a portion with a

1829
01:07:35,029 --> 01:07:31,280
second person

1830
01:07:37,910 --> 01:07:35,039
is to accept your offer

1831
01:07:39,910 --> 01:07:37,920
or to or to reject it in which case

1832
01:07:41,990 --> 01:07:39,920
nobody gets anything

1833
01:07:43,029 --> 01:07:42,000
and economic wisdom held that the first

1834
01:07:45,829 --> 01:07:43,039
person should

1835
01:07:47,510 --> 01:07:45,839
should share as little as possible but

1836
01:07:47,829 --> 01:07:47,520
knowing that the second person would

1837
01:07:50,230 --> 01:07:47,839
take

1838
01:07:51,589 --> 01:07:50,240

anything over nothing at all that's the

1839

01:07:53,670 --> 01:07:51,599

economic wisdom

1840

01:07:55,750 --> 01:07:53,680

uh the result of the actual experiment

1841

01:07:56,789 --> 01:07:55,760

is is that no people have a sense of

1842

01:07:59,510 --> 01:07:56,799

fairness

1843

01:08:01,589 --> 01:07:59,520

and unless the offer is fair the person

1844

01:08:04,950 --> 01:08:01,599

would rather have nothing

1845

01:08:07,349 --> 01:08:04,960

than to accept an unfair offer

1846

01:08:09,270 --> 01:08:07,359

and so this was the new normal was that

1847

01:08:12,630 --> 01:08:09,280

that's the way homo

1848

01:08:13,990 --> 01:08:12,640

sapiens is well come to find out and

1849

01:08:14,789 --> 01:08:14,000

this is actually the work of joseph

1850

01:08:16,229 --> 01:08:14,799

henrik

1851

01:08:18,870 --> 01:08:16,239

is that when he played that same

1852

01:08:21,110 --> 01:08:18,880

ultimatum game in societies around the

1853

01:08:24,789 --> 01:08:21,120

world including small-scale

1854

01:08:26,229 --> 01:08:24,799

societies he found tons of variation

1855

01:08:28,550 --> 01:08:26,239

all kinds of variation that was

1856

01:08:32,229 --> 01:08:28,560

unexplained and so that was what it

1857

01:08:35,910 --> 01:08:32,239

meant to go beyond weird societies

1858

01:08:39,269 --> 01:08:35,920

to sample the richness of

1859

01:08:41,269 --> 01:08:39,279

human cultural diversity

1860

01:08:42,950 --> 01:08:41,279

so if we get back to identity politics

1861

01:08:44,470 --> 01:08:42,960

what you have is basically members of

1862

01:08:47,510 --> 01:08:44,480

the population

1863

01:08:48,229 --> 01:08:47,520

which are marginalized they might come

1864

01:08:50,630 --> 01:08:48,239

from

1865

01:08:52,229 --> 01:08:50,640

cultural traditions historically that

1866

01:08:53,749 --> 01:08:52,239

are not part of western culture or they

1867

01:08:55,749 --> 01:08:53,759

might come from western

1868

01:08:57,749 --> 01:08:55,759

cultural traditions but marginalized

1869

01:09:01,189 --> 01:08:57,759

people such as women or

1870

01:09:03,349 --> 01:09:01,199

or gays or or anyone who's being

1871

01:09:04,870 --> 01:09:03,359

shamed or whatever okay and their

1872

01:09:06,950 --> 01:09:04,880

experience is very

1873

01:09:09,669 --> 01:09:06,960

different and they want you to know that

1874

01:09:12,550 --> 01:09:09,679

so basically they are claiming

1875

01:09:14,470 --> 01:09:12,560

authentically that the world as seen

1876

01:09:17,990 --> 01:09:14,480

through the eyes of

1877

01:09:19,430 --> 01:09:18,000

privileged people is not actually the

1878

01:09:21,030 --> 01:09:19,440

world that they experience and they're

1879

01:09:25,829 --> 01:09:21,040

also

1880

01:09:29,430 --> 01:09:25,839

claiming justice that

1881

01:09:32,789 --> 01:09:29,440

they they need to be more

1882

01:09:35,430 --> 01:09:32,799

fully participants in a moral society

1883

01:09:37,590 --> 01:09:35,440

and both of those things can be

1884

01:09:39,110 --> 01:09:37,600

correct so that's a pretty big baby in

1885

01:09:44,070 --> 01:09:39,120

the bathwater

1886

01:09:46,870 --> 01:09:44,080

identity politics

1887

01:09:49,990 --> 01:09:46,880

if it becomes highly divisive there has

1888

01:09:53,749 --> 01:09:50,000

to be some sense in which there's a we

1889

01:09:55,510 --> 01:09:53,759

that we can become a part of and if you

1890

01:09:56,950 --> 01:09:55,520

lose out of that then it becomes only

1891

01:10:00,229 --> 01:09:56,960

conflictual

1892

01:10:05,590 --> 01:10:00,239

so there must be some working towards

1893

01:10:12,310 --> 01:10:09,510

a larger scale of of uh of cooperation

1894

01:10:13,910 --> 01:10:12,320

so can you describe this tribal

1895

01:10:16,070 --> 01:10:13,920

circuitry

1896

01:10:17,350 --> 01:10:16,080

what is it when certain biologists say

1897

01:10:19,669 --> 01:10:17,360

there's a tribal

1898

01:10:21,430 --> 01:10:19,679

part of our brain and when we're divided

1899

01:10:22,950 --> 01:10:21,440

up into groups we are

1900

01:10:24,709 --> 01:10:22,960

hijacking that or we're turning it on

1901

01:10:26,790 --> 01:10:24,719

and now we're against them

1902

01:10:28,229 --> 01:10:26,800

what is that what do they mean well i

1903

01:10:30,550 --> 01:10:28,239

think that i would be

1904

01:10:32,310 --> 01:10:30,560

more or less in agreement with what many

1905

01:10:34,310 --> 01:10:32,320

people would say to that that

1906

01:10:36,229 --> 01:10:34,320

we're such a group living species that

1907

01:10:39,750 --> 01:10:36,239

we're always looking for

1908

01:10:41,270 --> 01:10:39,760

who's us who's the what is the group

1909

01:10:43,110 --> 01:10:41,280

that i'm in

1910

01:10:44,630 --> 01:10:43,120

and that i'm supposed to be a member of

1911

01:10:48,550 --> 01:10:44,640

and supposed to be

1912

01:10:51,030 --> 01:10:48,560

cooperating that's what

1913

01:10:53,910 --> 01:10:51,040

and we all we all need that just in

1914

01:10:57,669 --> 01:10:53,920

order to function in any particular

1915

01:10:59,189 --> 01:10:57,679

in any particular context the salience

1916

01:11:03,189 --> 01:10:59,199

of the tribe

1917

01:11:06,390 --> 01:11:03,199

grows with the stakes basically for

1918

01:11:08,950 --> 01:11:06,400

survival and and reproduction so

1919

01:11:11,350 --> 01:11:08,960

if you're uh if you in a really

1920

01:11:13,189 --> 01:11:11,360

existentially insecure situation

1921

01:11:15,430 --> 01:11:13,199

where your own life is threatened for

1922

01:11:18,229 --> 01:11:15,440

example or the life of your people

1923

01:11:18,950 --> 01:11:18,239

is threatened then that psychology of

1924

01:11:22,950 --> 01:11:18,960

being

1925

01:11:27,270 --> 01:11:22,960

threatened

1926

01:11:29,189 --> 01:11:27,280

is becomes more and more and more uh

1927

01:11:31,910 --> 01:11:29,199

salient and my colleague michelle

1928

01:11:35,990 --> 01:11:33,669

wrote a book called rulemakers rule

1929

01:11:39,110 --> 01:11:36,000

breakers and she does research on

1930

01:11:39,430 --> 01:11:39,120

on a continuum of cultural variation

1931

01:11:42,709 --> 01:11:39,440

which

1932

01:11:44,550 --> 01:11:42,719

from tight to loose so a tight culture

1933

01:11:45,350 --> 01:11:44,560

is one that has very strong norms that

1934

01:11:47,830 --> 01:11:45,360

are

1935

01:11:49,270 --> 01:11:47,840

enforced by punishment if you're a

1936

01:11:51,030 --> 01:11:49,280

member of that culture then you are

1937

01:11:51,830 --> 01:11:51,040

expected to do certain things and if you

1938

01:11:54,950 --> 01:11:51,840

don't

1939

01:11:56,709 --> 01:11:54,960

then there will be big consequences

1940

01:11:58,790 --> 01:11:56,719

okay a loose culture is much more

1941

01:12:00,870 --> 01:11:58,800

flexibility in what you can

1942

01:12:03,750 --> 01:12:00,880

do a lot more elbow room in which you

1943

01:12:07,590 --> 01:12:03,760

want to do to explore your own options

1944

01:12:09,270 --> 01:12:07,600

and so on and that continuum from tight

1945

01:12:11,030 --> 01:12:09,280

to loose

1946

01:12:13,189 --> 01:12:11,040

more or less is adapted to an

1947

01:12:14,550 --> 01:12:13,199

environmental continuum of existential

1948

01:12:16,870 --> 01:12:14,560

security

1949

01:12:18,550 --> 01:12:16,880

so if life is safe and secure life is

1950

01:12:22,229 --> 01:12:18,560

good nobody's threatening

1951

01:12:25,669 --> 01:12:22,239

us then why shouldn't we explore our

1952

01:12:28,149 --> 01:12:25,679

options the optimal social arrangement

1953

01:12:29,430 --> 01:12:28,159

for a safe and secure environment is a

1954

01:12:33,350 --> 01:12:29,440

loose

1955

01:12:36,390 --> 01:12:33,360

culture but if it's really life or death

1956

01:12:38,630 --> 01:12:36,400

then we have to have extreme solidarity

1957

01:12:40,310 --> 01:12:38,640

and what you do you've got to do this

1958

01:12:41,990 --> 01:12:40,320

you have to be part of us and so on and

1959

01:12:43,189 --> 01:12:42,000

so forth you also have to prepare to

1960

01:12:46,310 --> 01:12:43,199

sacrifice

1961

01:12:50,229 --> 01:12:46,320

your life if if

1962

01:12:53,910 --> 01:12:50,239

necessary and so you're not free to

1963

01:12:57,750 --> 01:12:53,920

to do this or or or that

1964

01:13:02,830 --> 01:12:57,760

and so um that

1965

01:13:08,390 --> 01:13:05,030

environmental

1966

01:13:11,590 --> 01:13:08,400

basis explains a lot it also explains

1967

01:13:15,030 --> 01:13:13,189

things go wrong in modern life that's

1968

01:13:17,830 --> 01:13:15,040

essentially insecure

1969

01:13:20,790 --> 01:13:17,840

things are the more we become tight in

1970

01:13:24,470 --> 01:13:22,550

orientation and we find it very

1971

01:13:26,470 --> 01:13:24,480

difficult to be flexible accepting of

1972

01:13:28,709 --> 01:13:26,480

other positions and so on

1973

01:13:29,590 --> 01:13:28,719

and so forth so paradoxically if we want

1974

01:13:33,510 --> 01:13:29,600

to

1975

01:13:35,510 --> 01:13:33,520

cultivate a safe and secure environment

1976

01:13:37,510 --> 01:13:35,520

and a loose culture which in some ways i

1977

01:13:39,189 --> 01:13:37,520

think you could say a loose culture

1978

01:13:41,510 --> 01:13:39,199

is better than a tight culture because

1979

01:13:43,350 --> 01:13:41,520

of the environmental condition that's

1980

01:13:46,310 --> 01:13:43,360

a safe and secure environment is better

1981

01:13:49,510 --> 01:13:46,320

than a dangerous

1982

01:13:51,189 --> 01:13:49,520

environment so uh

1983

01:13:52,790 --> 01:13:51,199

so one reason why things have become

1984

01:13:56,310 --> 01:13:52,800

worse

1985

01:13:57,910 --> 01:13:56,320

culturally and more divisive culturally

1986

01:13:59,590 --> 01:13:57,920

is because they've become more

1987

01:14:02,149 --> 01:13:59,600

existentially

1988

01:14:02,790 --> 01:14:02,159

insecure and that i think this explains

1989

01:14:05,830 --> 01:14:02,800

for example

1990

01:14:08,229 --> 01:14:05,840

when we talk about the right um

1991

01:14:09,750 --> 01:14:08,239

and nationalistic movements and so on

1992

01:14:11,110 --> 01:14:09,760

and so forth i mean the reasons are

1993

01:14:13,030 --> 01:14:11,120

plain enough

1994

01:14:14,870 --> 01:14:13,040

members of many societies feel that

1995

01:14:16,709 --> 01:14:14,880

they're not they're not sharing the

1996

01:14:20,630 --> 01:14:16,719

benefits of the

1997

01:14:23,590 --> 01:14:20,640

of the society if you're in france or

1998

01:14:25,590 --> 01:14:23,600

england or or whatever and you're just a

1999

01:14:27,590 --> 01:14:25,600

an average bloke in the

2000

01:14:29,189 --> 01:14:27,600

and and then you see immigrants coming

2001
01:14:30,550 --> 01:14:29,199
in and taking jobs and you don't have a

2002
01:14:33,350 --> 01:14:30,560
very good

2003
01:14:36,470 --> 01:14:33,360
job it's what's not working for you the

2004
01:14:38,630 --> 01:14:36,480
global european union's not working for

2005
01:14:40,310 --> 01:14:38,640
for you why shouldn't you stand up for

2006
01:14:41,350 --> 01:14:40,320
something that's more recognizable as

2007
01:14:48,229 --> 01:14:41,360
your

2008
01:14:49,669 --> 01:14:48,239
many ways and this is not original a lot

2009
01:14:50,950 --> 01:14:49,679
of the problems associated with this

2010
01:14:53,430 --> 01:14:50,960
fragmentation is

2011
01:14:55,270 --> 01:14:53,440
is based on such things as extreme

2012
01:14:58,149 --> 01:14:55,280
inequality

2013
01:14:59,430 --> 01:14:58,159

the global order including the european

2014

01:15:03,030 --> 01:14:59,440

union and

2015

01:15:04,950 --> 01:15:03,040

and and all of that it's not it's not

2016

01:15:07,590 --> 01:15:04,960

it's not working well for the average

2017

01:15:10,950 --> 01:15:07,600

why should they be invested

2018

01:15:12,790 --> 01:15:10,960

in it what's in it for them and so

2019

01:15:13,990 --> 01:15:12,800

there's some sense in which the solution

2020

01:15:17,189 --> 01:15:14,000

has to be

2021

01:15:20,070 --> 01:15:17,199

um a uh

2022

01:15:20,950 --> 01:15:20,080

result in in some of these global

2023

01:15:24,310 --> 01:15:20,960

problems of

2024

01:15:26,310 --> 01:15:24,320

of uh income inequality of

2025

01:15:27,350 --> 01:15:26,320

unregulated capitalism if we don't solve

2026

01:15:29,910 --> 01:15:27,360

that problem

2027

01:15:31,590 --> 01:15:29,920

then we shouldn't expect these solutions

2028

01:15:33,910 --> 01:15:31,600

to these other

2029

01:15:34,870 --> 01:15:33,920

problems you mentioned existential

2030

01:15:37,510 --> 01:15:34,880

security

2031

01:15:39,350 --> 01:15:37,520

and you're saying that the higher the

2032

01:15:41,830 --> 01:15:39,360

level of inequality

2033

01:15:42,550 --> 01:15:41,840

the less existential security we have

2034

01:15:44,709 --> 01:15:42,560

yes

2035

01:15:46,149 --> 01:15:44,719

and that's in part because back to

2036

01:15:47,910 --> 01:15:46,159

relative fitness it doesn't really

2037

01:15:51,189 --> 01:15:47,920

matter that we're

2038

01:15:52,709 --> 01:15:51,199

affluent we compare ourselves

2039

01:15:54,790 --> 01:15:52,719

with others there's a lot of research

2040

01:15:59,189 --> 01:15:54,800

knowing that how

2041

01:16:01,520 --> 01:15:59,199

how good you feel with your about your

2042

01:16:02,709 --> 01:16:01,530

life it depends on

2043

01:16:05,910 --> 01:16:02,719

[Music]

2044

01:16:07,750 --> 01:16:05,920

your lot compared to others a lot of

2045

01:16:09,669 --> 01:16:07,760

ills are attributed

2046

01:16:11,350 --> 01:16:09,679

to so how do we get over that if that's

2047

01:16:13,590 --> 01:16:11,360

so ingrained in us

2048

01:16:15,430 --> 01:16:13,600

and also why was that selected for if we

2049

01:16:18,310 --> 01:16:15,440

were selected in these small groups

2050

01:16:20,709 --> 01:16:18,320

where cooperation was the norm well in

2051
01:16:24,709 --> 01:16:20,719
those groups there was there was

2052
01:16:26,229 --> 01:16:24,719
a um wasn't the kind of unfair

2053
01:16:29,590 --> 01:16:26,239
inequality

2054
01:16:30,709 --> 01:16:29,600
that uh that exists today in the first

2055
01:16:34,149 --> 01:16:30,719
place there's a strong sense of

2056
01:16:37,189 --> 01:16:34,159
egalitarianism where we're all

2057
01:16:38,950 --> 01:16:37,199
equal i'm not better than you and

2058
01:16:41,189 --> 01:16:38,960
also there wasn't a lot of difference in

2059
01:16:43,750 --> 01:16:41,199
material

2060
01:16:45,430 --> 01:16:43,760
wealth at that time and if someone was

2061
01:16:46,950 --> 01:16:45,440
given a leadership role it was based on

2062
01:16:48,790 --> 01:16:46,960
their contribution

2063
01:16:50,310 --> 01:16:48,800

to the group yes you'll be your leader

2064

01:16:50,950 --> 01:16:50,320

and yet that might make you wealthier

2065

01:16:54,550 --> 01:16:50,960

and

2066

01:16:57,510 --> 01:16:54,560

actually serving us in some

2067

01:16:57,990 --> 01:16:57,520

in some sense then then we won't follow

2068

01:16:59,830 --> 01:16:58,000

you

2069

01:17:01,669 --> 01:16:59,840

anymore much more bottom-up control of

2070

01:17:03,350 --> 01:17:01,679

those societies than you might

2071

01:17:05,030 --> 01:17:03,360

than you might think and even big man

2072

01:17:06,390 --> 01:17:05,040

societies and societies that look

2073

01:17:09,590 --> 01:17:06,400

hierarchical

2074

01:17:11,189 --> 01:17:09,600

actually it was like a a almost like a

2075

01:17:13,350 --> 01:17:11,199

banking system in which the wealth of

2076

01:17:16,070 --> 01:17:13,360

the society was accumulated

2077

01:17:17,910 --> 01:17:16,080

in certain families for example or

2078

01:17:20,709 --> 01:17:17,920

temples or something like that

2079

01:17:21,990 --> 01:17:20,719

but it was shared out it was almost like

2080

01:17:23,510 --> 01:17:22,000

a distribution

2081

01:17:25,590 --> 01:17:23,520

and that worked in the small scale

2082

01:17:28,870 --> 01:17:25,600

system that worked for those

2083

01:17:32,149 --> 01:17:28,880

times in and

2084

01:17:35,189 --> 01:17:32,159

and and places so so

2085

01:17:38,550 --> 01:17:35,199

um if you look at modern nations

2086

01:17:40,470 --> 01:17:38,560

and um the ones that work best and the

2087

01:17:41,270 --> 01:17:40,480

nordic countries come up again and again

2088

01:17:44,950 --> 01:17:41,280

as the

2089

01:17:46,709 --> 01:17:44,960

nations that function best in in

2090

01:17:48,709 --> 01:17:46,719

modern life and whenever this gets

2091

01:17:50,709 --> 01:17:48,719

discussed then americans are

2092

01:17:52,870 --> 01:17:50,719

insist that there's no way that you can

2093

01:17:54,950 --> 01:17:52,880

compare those countries with

2094

01:17:56,870 --> 01:17:54,960

america they're too homogenous all this

2095

01:17:58,630 --> 01:17:56,880

kind of stuff which is that

2096

01:18:01,030 --> 01:17:58,640

why is that not a good critique that

2097

01:18:05,590 --> 01:18:01,040

they're too homogeneous

2098

01:18:09,510 --> 01:18:05,600

homogeneity i mean might play some

2099

01:18:12,630 --> 01:18:09,520

goal but it's small

2100

01:18:13,590 --> 01:18:12,640

compared to the equality that's built

2101
01:18:15,270 --> 01:18:13,600
into those

2102
01:18:17,669 --> 01:18:15,280
countries in the first place they're not

2103
01:18:20,950 --> 01:18:17,679
culturally homogenous i

2104
01:18:23,270 --> 01:18:20,960
i study norway quite extensively

2105
01:18:25,110 --> 01:18:23,280
norway is a mountainous country and

2106
01:18:27,270 --> 01:18:25,120
mountainous countries

2107
01:18:28,310 --> 01:18:27,280
always have the effect of cultural

2108
01:18:30,390 --> 01:18:28,320
diversity

2109
01:18:32,149 --> 01:18:30,400
right look at new guinea every valley

2110
01:18:33,350 --> 01:18:32,159
and so if you look at norway

2111
01:18:35,189 --> 01:18:33,360
two or three hundred years ago there

2112
01:18:36,550 --> 01:18:35,199
were so many little dialects

2113
01:18:37,910 --> 01:18:36,560

in each and every one of those little

2114

01:18:39,350 --> 01:18:37,920

mountains they weren't even speaking the

2115

01:18:41,030 --> 01:18:39,360

same language

2116

01:18:42,709 --> 01:18:41,040

someone from southern norway couldn't

2117

01:18:46,229 --> 01:18:42,719

understand someone in

2118

01:18:48,630 --> 01:18:46,239

northern how's that culturally

2119

01:18:49,830 --> 01:18:48,640

homogeneous and you had the vikings and

2120

01:18:52,229 --> 01:18:49,840

all these things they're all warring

2121

01:18:54,950 --> 01:18:52,239

with each other

2122

01:18:55,669 --> 01:18:54,960

so it makes a little sense to say that

2123

01:18:58,870 --> 01:18:55,679

there's some

2124

01:19:02,310 --> 01:18:58,880

mysterious kind of cultural um

2125

01:19:03,030 --> 01:19:02,320

homogeneity uh again it's not as if that

2126

01:19:04,790 --> 01:19:03,040

that's

2127

01:19:06,950 --> 01:19:04,800

there's nothing to that but for the most

2128

01:19:07,669 --> 01:19:06,960

part it has to do with the fact that

2129

01:19:10,870 --> 01:19:07,679

there's

2130

01:19:13,990 --> 01:19:10,880

that they've managed to scale up the

2131

01:19:18,229 --> 01:19:14,000

equality and

2132

01:19:20,470 --> 01:19:18,239

and uh well there's much to say but

2133

01:19:21,590 --> 01:19:20,480

we can leave it there for the moment

2134

01:19:22,070 --> 01:19:21,600

earlier we were doing a thought

2135

01:19:23,430 --> 01:19:22,080

experiment

2136

01:19:25,430 --> 01:19:23,440

we're trying to solve the large scale

2137

01:19:26,070 --> 01:19:25,440

problems by by imagining it in a small

2138

01:19:29,430 --> 01:19:26,080

scale

2139

01:19:31,110 --> 01:19:29,440

well if we were to imagine our

2140

01:19:33,030 --> 01:19:31,120

some of our problems with regard to

2141

01:19:34,310 --> 01:19:33,040

income inequality on the global scale

2142

01:19:36,630 --> 01:19:34,320

then we shrink it down to the small

2143

01:19:38,149 --> 01:19:36,640

scale and we think about how did this

2144

01:19:40,550 --> 01:19:38,159

work when it was

2145

01:19:41,830 --> 01:19:40,560

with tribes but then we said we just

2146

01:19:43,510 --> 01:19:41,840

established actually that doesn't work

2147

01:19:44,149 --> 01:19:43,520

because there are no examples of it

2148

01:19:47,030 --> 01:19:44,159

working

2149

01:19:48,709 --> 01:19:47,040

there are no examples of extreme

2150

01:19:50,709 --> 01:19:48,719

inequality within a group of

2151
01:19:52,709 --> 01:19:50,719
well what you find in very small scale

2152
01:19:53,590 --> 01:19:52,719
societies is that they don't allow that

2153
01:19:56,870 --> 01:19:53,600
kind of

2154
01:19:59,830 --> 01:19:56,880
income disparity if somebody

2155
01:20:00,470 --> 01:19:59,840
has a windfall or like especially like

2156
01:20:02,310 --> 01:20:00,480
they

2157
01:20:04,229 --> 01:20:02,320
kill a large game or something like that

2158
01:20:06,149 --> 01:20:04,239
it's scrupulously

2159
01:20:09,189 --> 01:20:06,159
shared but it was with the advent of

2160
01:20:12,629 --> 01:20:09,199
agriculture that that began to change

2161
01:20:14,470 --> 01:20:12,639
and um and as a result

2162
01:20:17,430 --> 01:20:14,480
societies became more despotic this was

2163
01:20:20,709 --> 01:20:17,440

something that peter turchin

2164

01:20:22,709 --> 01:20:20,719

chronicles in his book ultra

2165

01:20:24,070 --> 01:20:22,719

ultra society so that whenever you do

2166

01:20:27,510 --> 01:20:24,080

have an

2167

01:20:29,189 --> 01:20:27,520

a large imbalance of power then it does

2168

01:20:32,390 --> 01:20:29,199

tend to

2169

01:20:33,830 --> 01:20:32,400

corrupt the ability to cooperate within

2170

01:20:39,110 --> 01:20:33,840

that

2171

01:20:40,550 --> 01:20:39,120

it happens all the time there's a

2172

01:20:43,750 --> 01:20:40,560

inevitable

2173

01:20:46,470 --> 01:20:43,760

tendency for it to happen power corrupts

2174

01:20:49,510 --> 01:20:46,480

and absolute power corrupts

2175

01:20:49,990 --> 01:20:49,520

absolutely and the main preventative for

2176

01:20:53,350 --> 01:20:50,000

that

2177

01:20:56,149 --> 01:20:53,360

is between group competition

2178

01:20:57,910 --> 01:20:56,159

a despotic society can work to a degree

2179

01:20:58,229 --> 01:20:57,920

but there's a point at which you cannot

2180

01:21:01,270 --> 01:20:58,239

just

2181

01:21:02,790 --> 01:21:01,280

bully people into cooperating with you

2182

01:21:04,390 --> 01:21:02,800

and so if there's some other society

2183

01:21:05,830 --> 01:21:04,400

over here that offers a better deal to

2184

01:21:09,590 --> 01:21:05,840

its

2185

01:21:12,229 --> 01:21:09,600

members and they will collectively beat

2186

01:21:14,229 --> 01:21:12,239

the more despotic society and that's

2187

01:21:15,350 --> 01:21:14,239

true to this day if you measure modern

2188

01:21:17,750 --> 01:21:15,360

societies

2189

01:21:18,550 --> 01:21:17,760

for their degree of equality there's

2190

01:21:20,629 --> 01:21:18,560

books like

2191

01:21:22,870 --> 01:21:20,639

the spirit level these are famous books

2192

01:21:25,590 --> 01:21:22,880

and political science

2193

01:21:26,870 --> 01:21:25,600

why nations fail these are books that

2194

01:21:28,550 --> 01:21:26,880

show

2195

01:21:30,709 --> 01:21:28,560

that nations vary in their degree of

2196

01:21:32,390 --> 01:21:30,719

inclusiveness

2197

01:21:34,390 --> 01:21:32,400

and the inclusive ones work better than

2198

01:21:38,790 --> 01:21:34,400

the

2199

01:21:42,149 --> 01:21:38,800

immigration

2200

01:21:44,709 --> 01:21:42,159

is tighter than americas so

2201

01:21:47,510 --> 01:21:44,719

first we have to look at the societies

2202

01:21:49,830 --> 01:21:47,520

as they exist as

2203

01:21:51,430 --> 01:21:49,840

societies before we talk about the very

2204

01:21:54,950 --> 01:21:51,440

recent problem

2205

01:21:56,709 --> 01:21:54,960

of of uh immigration and i'm not

2206

01:21:58,629 --> 01:21:56,719

romanticizing those countries in fact

2207

01:22:02,870 --> 01:21:58,639

there's a very close affinity

2208

01:22:05,430 --> 01:22:02,880

between the nordic countries and germany

2209

01:22:07,830 --> 01:22:05,440

and there's a strong thread of racial

2210

01:22:12,149 --> 01:22:07,840

superiority in the kind of the aryan

2211

01:22:15,270 --> 01:22:12,159

uh mentality that exists in those um

2212

01:22:16,950 --> 01:22:15,280

in those countries and so there's a

2213

01:22:18,229 --> 01:22:16,960

whole modern set of problems about

2214

01:22:22,830 --> 01:22:18,239

immigration and also

2215

01:22:22,840 --> 01:22:26,470

um

2216

01:22:30,790 --> 01:22:29,030

immigrants so i mean these are real

2217

01:22:32,390 --> 01:22:30,800

issues that have to be taken

2218

01:22:34,709 --> 01:22:32,400

taken very seriously the point i want to

2219

01:22:36,310 --> 01:22:34,719

make about norway or the scandinavian

2220

01:22:38,950 --> 01:22:36,320

countries and not just them but you can

2221

01:22:40,550 --> 01:22:38,960

count switzerland and switzerland is not

2222

01:22:43,270 --> 01:22:40,560

culturally homogenous they speak four

2223

01:22:46,229 --> 01:22:43,280

languages within the same

2224

01:22:48,470 --> 01:22:46,239

nation the netherlands japan pick any

2225

01:22:51,910 --> 01:22:48,480

country that works well

2226

01:22:52,550 --> 01:22:51,920

often with histories which were highly

2227

01:22:56,070 --> 01:22:52,560

unequal

2228

01:22:57,189 --> 01:22:56,080

take japan as a feudal so i took england

2229

01:23:01,030 --> 01:22:57,199

as a

2230

01:23:03,750 --> 01:23:01,040

feudal society before it became

2231

01:23:05,350 --> 01:23:03,760

democratic but if you understand why

2232

01:23:05,669 --> 01:23:05,360

they're working well it's because they

2233

01:23:11,189 --> 01:23:05,679

have

2234

01:23:13,110 --> 01:23:11,199

relatively egalitarian relationship

2235

01:23:14,149 --> 01:23:13,120

which in a modern context means that

2236

01:23:17,910 --> 01:23:14,159

basically

2237

01:23:23,270 --> 01:23:17,920

labor capital

2238

01:23:26,790 --> 01:23:23,280

and government all have a lot of power

2239

01:23:28,390 --> 01:23:26,800

and work cooperatively collaboratively

2240

01:23:30,550 --> 01:23:28,400

for the common good that's what you see

2241

01:23:32,229 --> 01:23:30,560

a strong labor sector strong capital

2242

01:23:34,790 --> 01:23:32,239

sector strong government sector

2243

01:23:36,470 --> 01:23:34,800

and a cooperative spirit that for what

2244

01:23:40,550 --> 01:23:36,480

are we going to do as a

2245

01:23:43,270 --> 01:23:40,560

as a nation those are the ingredients

2246

01:23:44,470 --> 01:23:43,280

and they're the same shrinking back down

2247

01:23:46,229 --> 01:23:44,480

as a group whose members have a

2248

01:23:48,870 --> 01:23:46,239

relatively equal balance of power

2249

01:23:49,750 --> 01:23:48,880

and are trying to do well for the whole

2250

01:23:51,750 --> 01:23:49,760

group

2251

01:23:53,350 --> 01:23:51,760

that's what's needed and that's what

2252

01:23:54,310 --> 01:23:53,360

actually describes the best periods of

2253

01:23:57,510 --> 01:23:54,320

american history

2254

01:24:00,149 --> 01:23:57,520

the new deal the so-called era of good

2255

01:24:01,830 --> 01:24:00,159

feelings in the 1980s

2256

01:24:03,510 --> 01:24:01,840

i mean there really is a formula that's

2257

01:24:06,870 --> 01:24:03,520

not hard to understand

2258

01:24:10,390 --> 01:24:06,880

about the need for equality to force

2259

01:24:12,709 --> 01:24:10,400

for cooperation to to work at any scale

2260

01:24:14,709 --> 01:24:12,719

is there a connection between a whole

2261

01:24:16,149 --> 01:24:14,719

earth ethic or this cooperation

2262

01:24:17,830 --> 01:24:16,159

idea that you're putting forward

2263

01:24:19,910 --> 01:24:17,840

cooperation is essentially

2264

01:24:21,830 --> 01:24:19,920

is there a connection between that and

2265

01:24:23,750 --> 01:24:21,840

communism as some people might say

2266

01:24:25,030 --> 01:24:23,760

i know that now i don't know too much

2267

01:24:25,430 --> 01:24:25,040

about this but i know that some people

2268

01:24:28,310 --> 01:24:25,440

were

2269

01:24:29,270 --> 01:24:28,320

suggesting that group selection group

2270

01:24:33,350 --> 01:24:29,280

favorite selection

2271

01:24:34,070 --> 01:24:33,360

is evidence towards communism being the

2272

01:24:36,790 --> 01:24:34,080

correct

2273

01:24:37,750 --> 01:24:36,800

political mode versus capitalism which

2274

01:24:40,470 --> 01:24:37,760

sounds to be

2275

01:24:41,350 --> 01:24:40,480

more individual yeah so uh i think that

2276

01:24:43,990 --> 01:24:41,360

that's actually

2277

01:24:46,229 --> 01:24:44,000

not the right way to think about it and

2278

01:24:48,709 --> 01:24:46,239

why is that not correct

2279

01:24:50,709 --> 01:24:48,719

because every system whether it's a

2280

01:24:54,790 --> 01:24:50,719

socialist system or a

2281

01:24:56,830 --> 01:24:54,800

capitalist system is

2282

01:24:57,990 --> 01:24:56,840

or should be designed to work well as a

2283

01:25:00,629 --> 01:24:58,000

system

2284

01:25:01,510 --> 01:25:00,639

and so capitalism claims to be better as

2285

01:25:04,870 --> 01:25:01,520

a system

2286

01:25:05,510 --> 01:25:04,880

for the benefit of all capitalism does

2287

01:25:07,590 --> 01:25:05,520

not say

2288

01:25:09,910 --> 01:25:07,600

who cares about the benefit of all i'm

2289

01:25:13,110 --> 01:25:09,920

just going to go rich

2290

01:25:14,870 --> 01:25:13,120

right and so in that sense

2291

01:25:17,110 --> 01:25:14,880

everyone's a socialist in the sense that

2292

01:25:19,350 --> 01:25:17,120

if they argue for some kind of political

2293

01:25:20,870 --> 01:25:19,360

philosophy it has to work well at the

2294

01:25:22,550 --> 01:25:20,880

society

2295

01:25:24,709 --> 01:25:22,560

level otherwise you couldn't call it you

2296

01:25:28,790 --> 01:25:24,719

could even

2297

01:25:31,990 --> 01:25:28,800

discuss it if it if you weren't

2298

01:25:33,669 --> 01:25:32,000

presenting something that worked well at

2299

01:25:35,270 --> 01:25:33,679

the societal

2300

01:25:37,669 --> 01:25:35,280

level and so what we have to do is we

2301
01:25:38,390 --> 01:25:37,679
have to compare the societies that have

2302
01:25:41,030 --> 01:25:38,400
been

2303
01:25:42,629 --> 01:25:41,040
guided by capitalism and societies that

2304
01:25:45,270 --> 01:25:42,639
have been guided by

2305
01:25:46,950 --> 01:25:45,280
communism and we have to ask how well do

2306
01:25:49,590 --> 01:25:46,960
they work

2307
01:25:50,629 --> 01:25:49,600
as societies and what you discovered

2308
01:25:53,669 --> 01:25:50,639
there

2309
01:25:57,189 --> 01:25:53,679
is that the

2310
01:26:01,350 --> 01:25:57,199
socialist experiments actually

2311
01:26:04,950 --> 01:26:01,360
work very poorly very poorly

2312
01:26:07,350 --> 01:26:04,960
all the way up to venezuela uh

2313
01:26:09,669 --> 01:26:07,360

in the current in the current time so

2314

01:26:13,189 --> 01:26:09,679

why do they work so badly

2315

01:26:15,750 --> 01:26:13,199

for two main reasons

2316

01:26:16,470 --> 01:26:15,760

uh and here i'm relying on a great

2317

01:26:19,990 --> 01:26:16,480

scholar of

2318

01:26:21,750 --> 01:26:20,000

economics and and uh

2319

01:26:23,110 --> 01:26:21,760

and political theory named jeffrey

2320

01:26:27,350 --> 01:26:23,120

hodgson

2321

01:26:29,750 --> 01:26:27,360

in the um in the um in the uk

2322

01:26:32,070 --> 01:26:29,760

um so one reason they work poorly is

2323

01:26:35,110 --> 01:26:32,080

that centralized planning

2324

01:26:38,310 --> 01:26:35,120

uh they rejected the idea of

2325

01:26:38,790 --> 01:26:38,320

of market economies which uh hayek got

2326

01:26:40,870 --> 01:26:38,800

something

2327

01:26:43,830 --> 01:26:40,880

right basically and the market economy

2328

01:26:48,149 --> 01:26:43,840

is a a great way for adjusting prices

2329

01:26:51,990 --> 01:26:48,159

um to accommodate values to a

2330

01:26:54,550 --> 01:26:52,000

to a degree and if you actually try to

2331

01:26:57,350 --> 01:26:54,560

plan everything centrally it will never

2332

01:27:00,070 --> 01:26:57,360

work because the society is too complex

2333

01:27:02,950 --> 01:27:00,080

so here complexity comes in as a as an

2334

01:27:05,430 --> 01:27:02,960

important body of theory in addition to

2335

01:27:06,070 --> 01:27:05,440

in addition to evolution centralized

2336

01:27:09,350 --> 01:27:06,080

planning

2337

01:27:11,669 --> 01:27:09,360

doesn't work because the systems are too

2338

01:27:12,870 --> 01:27:11,679

complex for any group of experts to work

2339

01:27:14,950 --> 01:27:12,880

out and implement

2340

01:27:15,910 --> 01:27:14,960

a grand plan centralized planning

2341

01:27:17,270 --> 01:27:15,920

doesn't work

2342

01:27:19,590 --> 01:27:17,280

it doesn't even work at the level of a

2343

01:27:21,669 --> 01:27:19,600

small company not to speak of an

2344

01:27:23,189 --> 01:27:21,679

of a nation and the other problem with

2345

01:27:24,950 --> 01:27:23,199

socialism is that power gets

2346

01:27:28,149 --> 01:27:24,960

concentrated in the hands of

2347

01:27:29,669 --> 01:27:28,159

an elite a small group of elites

2348

01:27:32,149 --> 01:27:29,679

and whenever you get an imbalance of

2349

01:27:33,590 --> 01:27:32,159

power then basically you get that kind

2350

01:27:35,189 --> 01:27:33,600

of corruption where they

2351

01:27:37,030 --> 01:27:35,199

they run the country for their benefit

2352

01:27:39,110 --> 01:27:37,040

not for the benefit of the whole

2353

01:27:40,550 --> 01:27:39,120

country so between power being

2354

01:27:43,669 --> 01:27:40,560

concentrated

2355

01:27:45,189 --> 01:27:43,679

and centralized planning um all social

2356

01:27:49,510 --> 01:27:45,199

all experiments they're

2357

01:27:54,390 --> 01:27:49,520

called socialists have failed miserably

2358

01:27:58,149 --> 01:27:54,400

okay so now let's look at capitalism

2359

01:28:01,510 --> 01:27:58,159

and they also fail

2360

01:28:03,830 --> 01:28:01,520

do they fail as badly well i don't care

2361

01:28:07,669 --> 01:28:03,840

they fail in ways that we need to

2362

01:28:10,709 --> 01:28:07,679

correct and they fail basically

2363

01:28:15,110 --> 01:28:13,430

buying into the invisible hand metaphor

2364

01:28:16,390 --> 01:28:15,120

by thinking that the pursuit of lower

2365

01:28:18,790 --> 01:28:16,400

level self-interest

2366

01:28:20,870 --> 01:28:18,800

in an ugly unregulated economy if we

2367

01:28:22,629 --> 01:28:20,880

just try to maximize our wealth

2368

01:28:24,470 --> 01:28:22,639

and corporations just trying to maximize

2369

01:28:25,830 --> 01:28:24,480

their their

2370

01:28:28,470 --> 01:28:25,840

their profits that's their only

2371

01:28:31,030 --> 01:28:28,480

responsibility as friedman said the only

2372

01:28:35,030 --> 01:28:31,040

social responsibility of a company is to

2373

01:28:36,950 --> 01:28:35,040

earn profits for its uh

2374

01:28:38,550 --> 01:28:36,960

shareholders that's a recipe for

2375

01:28:41,110 --> 01:28:38,560

disaster

2376

01:28:43,350 --> 01:28:41,120

so both of those don't work and now we

2377

01:28:45,830 --> 01:28:43,360

have to then we can discuss what can

2378

01:28:47,189 --> 01:28:45,840

can work when we were talking about

2379

01:28:49,350 --> 01:28:47,199

existential security

2380

01:28:51,669 --> 01:28:49,360

you were saying that there's titan loose

2381

01:28:53,030 --> 01:28:51,679

which i associate with totalitarianism

2382

01:28:55,270 --> 01:28:53,040

and liberalism is that a wrong

2383

01:29:00,229 --> 01:28:55,280

association

2384

01:29:04,709 --> 01:29:02,470

okay is strong existential security

2385

01:29:05,510 --> 01:29:04,719

needed for liberalism or does liberalism

2386

01:29:09,189 --> 01:29:05,520

produce

2387

01:29:09,199 --> 01:29:17,510

i would like to think that um

2388

01:29:21,030 --> 01:29:19,270

what we associate with liberalism and

2389

01:29:23,030 --> 01:29:21,040

democratic governance and so on can

2390

01:29:25,430 --> 01:29:23,040

function in very harsh environments

2391

01:29:26,550 --> 01:29:25,440

in some ways it's needed more than ever

2392

01:29:29,990 --> 01:29:26,560

and uh

2393

01:29:33,030 --> 01:29:30,000

actually there's great um um

2394

01:29:34,390 --> 01:29:33,040

uh destroyers to be

2395

01:29:36,470 --> 01:29:34,400

to be told there i mentioned the book

2396

01:29:39,669 --> 01:29:36,480

why nations fail by uh

2397

01:29:42,229 --> 01:29:39,679

asimoglu and uh and robinson

2398

01:29:44,870 --> 01:29:42,239

and they begin with a story of the

2399

01:29:48,550 --> 01:29:44,880

colonization of the new world

2400

01:29:53,030 --> 01:29:51,510

let's see how much detail do i want to

2401

01:29:55,110 --> 01:29:53,040

tell the story so when this when the

2402

01:29:57,030 --> 01:29:55,120

spaniards in the portuguese colonize

2403

01:30:00,390 --> 01:29:57,040

central and south america

2404

01:30:01,669 --> 01:30:00,400

they encountered very hierarchical

2405

01:30:05,430 --> 01:30:01,679

societies

2406

01:30:06,950 --> 01:30:05,440

might you might say

2407

01:30:08,470 --> 01:30:06,960

and so they could succeed just by

2408

01:30:10,070 --> 01:30:08,480

lopping off the head of

2409

01:30:11,669 --> 01:30:10,080

these hierarchical societies and

2410

01:30:13,110 --> 01:30:11,679

becoming the gruelers

2411

01:30:14,709 --> 01:30:13,120

they didn't have to bring any women they

2412

01:30:16,709 --> 01:30:14,719

didn't have to bring any farmers they

2413

01:30:20,709 --> 01:30:16,719

could just become the rulers of these

2414

01:30:22,950 --> 01:30:20,719

hierarchical societies

2415

01:30:25,030 --> 01:30:22,960

and um and the british when they

2416

01:30:26,870 --> 01:30:25,040

colonized north america they wanted to

2417

01:30:30,390 --> 01:30:26,880

do the same thing

2418

01:30:32,070 --> 01:30:30,400

and so the jamestown colony came without

2419

01:30:34,149 --> 01:30:32,080

any farmers without any women they were

2420

01:30:35,270 --> 01:30:34,159

going to conquer the indians and get

2421

01:30:37,030 --> 01:30:35,280

gold and

2422

01:30:39,110 --> 01:30:37,040

do the same thing well that wasn't going

2423

01:30:41,910 --> 01:30:39,120

to work for a whole

2424

01:30:43,750 --> 01:30:41,920

bunch of reasons and so the next thought

2425

01:30:45,910 --> 01:30:43,760

was to import british laborers and

2426

01:30:48,709 --> 01:30:45,920

recreate a feudal

2427

01:30:51,669 --> 01:30:48,719

society they were housed in barracks

2428

01:30:53,990 --> 01:30:51,679

they couldn't run away on pain of death

2429

01:30:55,350 --> 01:30:54,000

and and so that didn't work either

2430

01:30:56,790 --> 01:30:55,360

because actually they could run away and

2431

01:30:59,270 --> 01:30:56,800

there was nothing

2432

01:31:00,390 --> 01:30:59,280

to do about it and so then this little

2433

01:31:02,870 --> 01:31:00,400

colony

2434

01:31:04,390 --> 01:31:02,880

was forced by circumstances by adverse

2435

01:31:06,470 --> 01:31:04,400

circumstances so this was very

2436

01:31:09,270 --> 01:31:06,480

existentially insecure

2437

01:31:10,950 --> 01:31:09,280

they were forced to become more fair in

2438

01:31:13,110 --> 01:31:10,960

order to

2439

01:31:15,030 --> 01:31:13,120

survive only when they instituted rules

2440

01:31:17,270 --> 01:31:15,040

that gave a better deal

2441

01:31:18,390 --> 01:31:17,280

do everyone in the colony could it

2442

01:31:22,629 --> 01:31:18,400

survive

2443

01:31:24,709 --> 01:31:22,639

as a colony so there's a sense in which

2444

01:31:26,229 --> 01:31:24,719

democratic governance and equality and

2445

01:31:29,350 --> 01:31:26,239

so on actually

2446

01:31:33,270 --> 01:31:29,360

was necessary for survival

2447

01:31:39,030 --> 01:31:36,790

environments what was this better deal

2448

01:31:41,750 --> 01:31:39,040

well um if you were to become part of it

2449

01:31:46,629 --> 01:31:41,760

you'd be given your own landform

2450

01:31:48,550 --> 01:31:46,639

example you wouldn't be a just a serve

2451

01:31:50,070 --> 01:31:48,560

working on the estate of a rich people

2452

01:31:51,990 --> 01:31:50,080

you were given your own plot of land and

2453

01:31:52,790 --> 01:31:52,000

so on you were given a voice in decision

2454

01:31:54,629 --> 01:31:52,800

making

2455

01:31:56,310 --> 01:31:54,639

i wanted to know what are the

2456

01:31:58,470 --> 01:31:56,320

preconditions for liberalism

2457

01:32:00,629 --> 01:31:58,480

i was thinking about this i was thinking

2458

01:32:02,390 --> 01:32:00,639

was it was you mentioned which was

2459

01:32:04,070 --> 01:32:02,400

existential security well no because you

2460

01:32:06,310 --> 01:32:04,080

just flipped that you said actually

2461

01:32:07,430 --> 01:32:06,320

liberalism can thrive and then produce

2462

01:32:09,590 --> 01:32:07,440

some security

2463

01:32:10,470 --> 01:32:09,600

even harsh environments and then i was

2464

01:32:13,189 --> 01:32:10,480

wondering well

2465

01:32:13,990 --> 01:32:13,199

are there memetic preconditions are

2466

01:32:16,790 --> 01:32:14,000

there memes

2467

01:32:17,350 --> 01:32:16,800

that need to be dispersed in the society

2468

01:32:19,189 --> 01:32:17,360

and

2469

01:32:21,110 --> 01:32:19,199

adopted before liberalism could come

2470

01:32:21,510 --> 01:32:21,120

about and if so what would those memes

2471

01:32:23,910 --> 01:32:21,520

be

2472

01:32:26,629 --> 01:32:23,920

do you have any ideas well other other

2473

01:32:31,030 --> 01:32:26,639

people can

2474

01:32:34,629 --> 01:32:32,470

history of this but i'll do the best

2475

01:32:37,830 --> 01:32:34,639

that i can

2476

01:32:41,590 --> 01:32:39,430

the cultural evolution of european

2477

01:32:45,110 --> 01:32:41,600

society can definitely be seen as a

2478

01:32:53,030 --> 01:32:48,149

selection basically competition between

2479

01:32:54,709 --> 01:32:53,040

polities resulting in larger and larger

2480

01:32:56,470 --> 01:32:54,719

polities ultimately the scale of

2481

01:32:57,350 --> 01:32:56,480

european nations you go back far enough

2482

01:32:59,750 --> 01:32:57,360

and you find all these little

2483

01:33:01,510 --> 01:32:59,760

city-states hundreds and hundreds

2484

01:33:03,910 --> 01:33:01,520

of them why don't they exist anymore

2485

01:33:06,550 --> 01:33:03,920

it's because they had to amalgamate

2486

01:33:08,790 --> 01:33:06,560

in order to fight each other and so

2487

01:33:09,510 --> 01:33:08,800

that's what resulted in nations the size

2488

01:33:15,270 --> 01:33:09,520

of

2489

01:33:16,629 --> 01:33:15,280

that's when when it comes to nation

2490

01:33:17,990 --> 01:33:16,639

building and things like that and we go

2491

01:33:18,470 --> 01:33:18,000

to other parts of the world such as

2492

01:33:20,790 --> 01:33:18,480

africa

2493

01:33:23,830 --> 01:33:20,800

the middle east afghanistan which never

2494

01:33:25,510 --> 01:33:23,840

actually ever achieved that scale of

2495

01:33:27,590 --> 01:33:25,520

governance and then we expect them to

2496

01:33:29,350 --> 01:33:27,600

adopt a european

2497

01:33:31,669 --> 01:33:29,360

model that typically doesn't work

2498

01:33:35,430 --> 01:33:31,679

because they never achieved that

2499

01:33:35,990 --> 01:33:35,440

scale of uh that scale of governance so

2500

01:33:38,950 --> 01:33:36,000

what you ended

2501

01:33:40,149 --> 01:33:38,960

up with were very large societies that

2502

01:33:44,070 --> 01:33:40,159

ultimately became

2503

01:33:48,149 --> 01:33:44,080

autocratic and

2504

01:33:51,669 --> 01:33:48,159

once again ceased to work for the common

2505

01:33:53,030 --> 01:33:51,679

uh good and then democratic forms of

2506

01:33:56,070 --> 01:33:53,040

governance

2507

01:33:58,870 --> 01:33:56,080

emerged from their liberalism

2508

01:33:59,830 --> 01:33:58,880

the enlightenment values emerged from

2509

01:34:03,350 --> 01:33:59,840

there

2510

01:34:07,669 --> 01:34:03,360

and why and then

2511

01:34:11,750 --> 01:34:07,679

that then asserted greater equality

2512

01:34:13,510 --> 01:34:11,760

and uh ultimately resulted in more

2513

01:34:15,750 --> 01:34:13,520

powerful

2514

01:34:17,990 --> 01:34:15,760

nations if you look for example at the

2515

01:34:21,590 --> 01:34:18,000

at the competition between england and

2516

01:34:23,270 --> 01:34:21,600

france england is a quarter the size of

2517

01:34:24,790 --> 01:34:23,280

france but managed to punch above its

2518

01:34:27,030 --> 01:34:24,800

weight in part because

2519

01:34:28,709 --> 01:34:27,040

of such things as the industrial

2520

01:34:29,590 --> 01:34:28,719

revolution why did that take place in

2521

01:34:31,189 --> 01:34:29,600

england and not

2522

01:34:33,750 --> 01:34:31,199

france is because actually if you're an

2523

01:34:36,229 --> 01:34:33,760

inventor some kind of craftsman or

2524

01:34:37,430 --> 01:34:36,239

or watchmaker or something like that in

2525

01:34:39,910 --> 01:34:37,440

england and you came up with an

2526

01:34:42,550 --> 01:34:39,920

investment you had a way to develop that

2527

01:34:44,830 --> 01:34:42,560

investment in a way that you would share

2528

01:34:51,109 --> 01:34:48,709

benefits of it was it was enough

2529

01:34:52,709 --> 01:34:51,119

equality so that the merchant class for

2530

01:34:53,590 --> 01:34:52,719

example had had enough so that they

2531

01:34:55,270 --> 01:34:53,600

could actually

2532

01:34:57,590 --> 01:34:55,280

benefit from this sort of thing then in

2533

01:34:59,990 --> 01:34:57,600

a more aristocratic

2534

01:35:01,590 --> 01:35:00,000

uh society and you didn't have to have

2535

01:35:03,350 --> 01:35:01,600

many decades of that before you would

2536

01:35:04,709 --> 01:35:03,360

have technological advances and so on

2537

01:35:06,229 --> 01:35:04,719

and so forth in which you could punch

2538

01:35:09,270 --> 01:35:06,239

above your

2539

01:35:11,590 --> 01:35:09,280

of your uh your wage

2540

01:35:13,510 --> 01:35:11,600

so so and if you look at the actual

2541

01:35:17,669 --> 01:35:13,520

religion of these democratic

2542

01:35:23,189 --> 01:35:21,030

the masons the freemasons become

2543

01:35:25,590 --> 01:35:23,199

a very interesting story here i don't

2544

01:35:28,950 --> 01:35:25,600

know if we want to go into it but

2545

01:35:32,709 --> 01:35:28,960

freemason societies started out

2546

01:35:34,310 --> 01:35:32,719

as actually societies of of uh

2547

01:35:37,350 --> 01:35:34,320

architects basically the people that

2548

01:35:41,270 --> 01:35:37,360

built the great cathedrals and

2549

01:35:43,910 --> 01:35:41,280

and so on so it was building and and

2550

01:35:46,310 --> 01:35:43,920

and architects but then it morphed into

2551

01:35:48,870 --> 01:35:46,320

a kind of a philosophical society

2552

01:35:49,990 --> 01:35:48,880

that could accommodate more sectors of

2553

01:35:54,229 --> 01:35:50,000

the

2554

01:35:58,149 --> 01:35:54,239

society than normal aristocratic society

2555

01:36:01,750 --> 01:35:58,159

so you could become a freemason

2556

01:36:03,350 --> 01:36:01,760

and mingle with people

2557

01:36:05,189 --> 01:36:03,360

that you couldn't do otherwise out of

2558

01:36:08,229 --> 01:36:05,199

your uh

2559

01:36:10,629 --> 01:36:08,239

station and then

2560

01:36:12,709 --> 01:36:10,639

and then they were the first ones to

2561

01:36:15,109 --> 01:36:12,719

form a actually written constitution

2562

01:36:17,109 --> 01:36:15,119

that's a long story i'm sure it but it's

2563

01:36:19,189 --> 01:36:17,119

um it's really quite fascinating that

2564

01:36:20,229 --> 01:36:19,199

once again in small groups this became

2565

01:36:23,990 --> 01:36:20,239

incubated

2566

01:36:27,270 --> 01:36:24,000

and then expanded and uh led to the

2567

01:36:28,629 --> 01:36:27,280

um to the democratic revolutions in

2568

01:36:31,350 --> 01:36:28,639

france and

2569

01:36:32,790 --> 01:36:31,360

and um america and all through all

2570

01:36:34,149 --> 01:36:32,800

through europe in some ways was a

2571

01:36:36,470 --> 01:36:34,159

scaling up

2572

01:36:37,350 --> 01:36:36,480

of a form of governance that originated

2573

01:36:39,830 --> 01:36:37,360

in um

2574

01:36:41,430 --> 01:36:39,840

in these little tiny societies i

2575

01:36:42,470 --> 01:36:41,440

remember in this view of life you were

2576

01:36:45,590 --> 01:36:42,480

talking about

2577

01:36:47,590 --> 01:36:45,600

how the europeans used to go and

2578

01:36:49,430 --> 01:36:47,600

study other cultures and rate them

2579

01:36:50,229 --> 01:36:49,440

essentially on a scale of civilized to

2580

01:36:52,390 --> 01:36:50,239

savage

2581

01:36:53,990 --> 01:36:52,400

and that was the wrong way of obviously

2582

01:36:57,350 --> 01:36:54,000

the wrong way of going about it

2583

01:36:59,030 --> 01:36:57,360

a better way was to be would be

2584

01:37:00,550 --> 01:36:59,040

something akin to looking at the inuit

2585

01:37:02,229 --> 01:37:00,560

and seeing how they're accustomed to the

2586

01:37:03,030 --> 01:37:02,239

cold and they have their own practices

2587

01:37:05,350 --> 01:37:03,040

to deal with it

2588

01:37:06,390 --> 01:37:05,360

and then we can say oh they're not

2589

01:37:08,950 --> 01:37:06,400

savage they're

2590

01:37:10,950 --> 01:37:08,960

adapted to that environment okay so then

2591

01:37:12,390 --> 01:37:10,960

my question was

2592

01:37:14,870 --> 01:37:12,400

they're adapted because they survive

2593

01:37:16,790 --> 01:37:14,880

well in that environment

2594

01:37:17,910 --> 01:37:16,800

then the europeans came along and

2595

01:37:19,910 --> 01:37:17,920

invented cities and

2596

01:37:21,510 --> 01:37:19,920

technology and now they can survive in

2597

01:37:25,030 --> 01:37:21,520

alaska and

2598

01:37:27,189 --> 01:37:25,040

the coldest parts of the world maybe

2599

01:37:28,310 --> 01:37:27,199

better but that's a question i want to

2600

01:37:29,109 --> 01:37:28,320

ask you is what does it mean to be

2601
01:37:31,430 --> 01:37:29,119
adapted

2602
01:37:32,550 --> 01:37:31,440
and if and if these white europeans

2603
01:37:33,430 --> 01:37:32,560
let's just call them white europeans

2604
01:37:35,910 --> 01:37:33,440
came and settled

2605
01:37:37,030 --> 01:37:35,920
and now made brick houses with fire and

2606
01:37:38,950 --> 01:37:37,040
electricity that

2607
01:37:40,470 --> 01:37:38,960
goes right through are they not more

2608
01:37:43,510 --> 01:37:40,480
adapted than

2609
01:37:45,030 --> 01:37:43,520
the inuit then because they're able to

2610
01:37:47,430 --> 01:37:45,040
survive better in these colder

2611
01:37:49,350 --> 01:37:47,440
environments

2612
01:37:51,590 --> 01:37:49,360
oh you there's a whole bunch of things

2613
01:37:51,990 --> 01:37:51,600

you raised there so let's try to unpack

2614

01:37:55,910 --> 01:37:52,000

them

2615

01:37:58,390 --> 01:37:55,920

one by one uh i'm lucky

2616

01:37:59,750 --> 01:37:58,400

to be trained as an evolutionary

2617

01:38:03,750 --> 01:37:59,760

biologist a lot of people that are

2618

01:38:07,830 --> 01:38:06,070

were trained in some of the human

2619

01:38:09,030 --> 01:38:07,840

related disciplines and they picked up

2620

01:38:12,229 --> 01:38:09,040

their

2621

01:38:14,950 --> 01:38:12,239

evolutionary theory playing what game uh

2622

01:38:16,470 --> 01:38:14,960

well the whole thinking of all aspects

2623

01:38:19,189 --> 01:38:16,480

of humanity from an evolutionary

2624

01:38:21,910 --> 01:38:19,199

perspective basically this view of life

2625

01:38:23,510 --> 01:38:21,920

um extending evolutionary thinking to

2626

01:38:25,750 --> 01:38:23,520

explain all aspects of

2627

01:38:27,109 --> 01:38:25,760

of humanity that's the game that i'm

2628

01:38:28,629 --> 01:38:27,119

sorry you mean to say that you have the

2629

01:38:30,310 --> 01:38:28,639

advantage in that you were

2630

01:38:31,910 --> 01:38:30,320

in constant evolutionary thinking first

2631

01:38:33,750 --> 01:38:31,920

then started to apply it out where yeah

2632

01:38:35,030 --> 01:38:33,760

other people yeah and actually yeah and

2633

01:38:37,910 --> 01:38:35,040

i'm a bit unusual

2634

01:38:38,470 --> 01:38:37,920

uh that way the reason i mention it is

2635

01:38:43,590 --> 01:38:38,480

that

2636

01:38:46,950 --> 01:38:43,600

um sophisticated evolutionary thinking

2637

01:38:50,070 --> 01:38:46,960

includes basically showcases

2638

01:38:50,950 --> 01:38:50,080

adaptation but there's a lot of other

2639

01:38:53,189 --> 01:38:50,960

stuff

2640

01:38:54,950 --> 01:38:53,199

as well and so when we look at things

2641

01:38:56,550 --> 01:38:54,960

that are out there

2642

01:38:59,430 --> 01:38:56,560

sometimes they're adaptive sometimes

2643

01:39:02,149 --> 01:38:59,440

they're not even when they're adaptive

2644

01:39:03,910 --> 01:39:02,159

then what counts as adaptive in the

2645

01:39:05,350 --> 01:39:03,920

evolutionary sense of the word doesn't

2646

01:39:06,629 --> 01:39:05,360

necessarily correspond to in the

2647

01:39:09,669 --> 01:39:06,639

normative

2648

01:39:12,870 --> 01:39:09,679

sense of the word so back to the way we

2649

01:39:15,510 --> 01:39:12,880

should be looking at cultures

2650

01:39:16,709 --> 01:39:15,520

and during the victorian victorian era

2651
01:39:20,149 --> 01:39:16,719
it was

2652
01:39:22,550 --> 01:39:20,159
very difficult for darwin along with his

2653
01:39:24,629 --> 01:39:22,560
colleagues to not to think of european

2654
01:39:29,189 --> 01:39:24,639
culture as superior in some sense

2655
01:39:31,750 --> 01:39:29,199
to all other cultures yet a more true

2656
01:39:33,830 --> 01:39:31,760
evolutionary approach as you just said

2657
01:39:36,950 --> 01:39:33,840
would be that most cultures

2658
01:39:39,030 --> 01:39:36,960
are at least to some degree well adapted

2659
01:39:42,470 --> 01:39:39,040
to their

2660
01:39:43,910 --> 01:39:42,480
circumstances and so uh that's a more

2661
01:39:45,590 --> 01:39:43,920
respectful

2662
01:39:48,229 --> 01:39:45,600
way to approach cultures and one which

2663
01:39:51,109 --> 01:39:48,239

is truer to evolutionary

2664

01:39:52,790 --> 01:39:51,119

uh theories so in that sense the inuits

2665

01:39:53,669 --> 01:39:52,800

are better adapted to an arctic climate

2666

01:39:57,830 --> 01:39:53,679

than

2667

01:40:00,870 --> 01:39:57,840

you're saying

2668

01:40:07,350 --> 01:40:03,990

such modern conveniences is housing and

2669

01:40:09,109 --> 01:40:07,360

and heating and

2670

01:40:11,510 --> 01:40:09,119

so on is well adapted and of course

2671

01:40:13,830 --> 01:40:11,520

those have been

2672

01:40:17,270 --> 01:40:13,840

adopted by inuits they don't live in

2673

01:40:20,470 --> 01:40:19,270

but if they did let's imagine that there

2674

01:40:21,990 --> 01:40:20,480

are some that still do

2675

01:40:24,790 --> 01:40:22,000

well i mean that's not imaginary there's

2676

01:40:27,430 --> 01:40:24,800

all kinds of uh of uh

2677

01:40:30,070 --> 01:40:27,440

indigenous people that uh actually want

2678

01:40:33,430 --> 01:40:30,080

to want to stick to their indigenous

2679

01:40:37,270 --> 01:40:33,440

uh ways and

2680

01:40:39,109 --> 01:40:37,280

to to a greater or lesser degree and and

2681

01:40:41,109 --> 01:40:39,119

one point to make i think is that that

2682

01:40:44,229 --> 01:40:41,119

should be their choice

2683

01:40:47,030 --> 01:40:44,239

so uh and you see

2684

01:40:47,669 --> 01:40:47,040

very interesting regions such as ecuador

2685

01:40:51,590 --> 01:40:47,679

which have

2686

01:40:54,390 --> 01:40:51,600

still a large indigenous

2687

01:40:56,310 --> 01:40:54,400

and diverse you know many tribes in

2688

01:40:57,350 --> 01:40:56,320

ecuador that are now being represented

2689

01:41:03,750 --> 01:40:57,360

in

2690

01:41:05,750 --> 01:41:03,760

and so it's like our choice what do we

2691

01:41:09,270 --> 01:41:05,760

want to do do we want to

2692

01:41:10,470 --> 01:41:09,280

modernize our or not often they might i

2693

01:41:12,790 --> 01:41:10,480

mean such things as

2694

01:41:16,830 --> 01:41:12,800

as medicine i mean who wants to do

2695

01:41:23,030 --> 01:41:20,310

people so so

2696

01:41:25,350 --> 01:41:23,040

it's a it's a very complex situation but

2697

01:41:28,390 --> 01:41:25,360

one which needs to be handled

2698

01:41:30,950 --> 01:41:28,400

in a uh egalitarian

2699

01:41:34,870 --> 01:41:30,960

fashion that acquires respect to all of

2700

01:41:39,109 --> 01:41:36,550

stakeholders there's a sense in which

2701

01:41:40,870 --> 01:41:39,119

and this is once again the egalitarian

2702

01:41:42,470 --> 01:41:40,880

impulse no matter who i am what culture

2703

01:41:44,550 --> 01:41:42,480

i represent

2704

01:41:46,470 --> 01:41:44,560

uh there's some sense in which i need to

2705

01:41:50,709 --> 01:41:46,480

be a moral equal

2706

01:41:52,629 --> 01:41:50,719

and that my existence counts

2707

01:41:55,350 --> 01:41:52,639

i have some kind of say in the

2708

01:41:58,470 --> 01:41:55,360

decision-making process based on

2709

01:42:02,390 --> 01:41:58,480

my values and so

2710

01:42:05,990 --> 01:42:02,400

that's the that's the concept of moral

2711

01:42:10,390 --> 01:42:06,000

um equality which i think is pretty much

2712

01:42:13,350 --> 01:42:10,400

uh culturally universal

2713

01:42:14,310 --> 01:42:13,360

not restricted to weird societies is

2714

01:42:17,350 --> 01:42:14,320

that uh

2715

01:42:21,430 --> 01:42:17,360

however the us gets defined then

2716

01:42:25,189 --> 01:42:21,440

um then there's some uh

2717

01:42:26,229 --> 01:42:25,199

feeling of of equality and that that has

2718

01:42:35,350 --> 01:42:26,239

a

2719

01:42:38,550 --> 01:42:35,360

resist you

2720

01:42:39,669 --> 01:42:38,560

if you infringe upon infringe upon that

2721

01:42:41,669 --> 01:42:39,679

so if we're going to do something

2722

01:42:45,350 --> 01:42:41,679

together it has to be in some sense

2723

01:42:47,189 --> 01:42:45,360

why with my acquiescence

2724

01:42:49,510 --> 01:42:47,199

i have to i have to be able to say yes

2725

01:42:52,229 --> 01:42:49,520

to that

2726

01:42:53,590 --> 01:42:52,239

speaking on that you mentioned most of

2727

01:42:55,510 --> 01:42:53,600

the time when we're doing studies it's

2728

01:42:58,070 --> 01:42:55,520

on weird quote unquote people

2729

01:42:59,910 --> 01:42:58,080

and we can't necessarily generalize and

2730

01:43:00,550 --> 01:42:59,920

say that that's a human universal when

2731

01:43:02,390 --> 01:43:00,560

we talked about

2732

01:43:04,390 --> 01:43:02,400

moralistic behavior being virtuous and

2733

01:43:08,149 --> 01:43:04,400

courageous or virtue being

2734

01:43:11,270 --> 01:43:08,159

virtually encouraged virtue being

2735

01:43:12,550 --> 01:43:11,280

courage and honesty and forthrightness

2736

01:43:16,470 --> 01:43:12,560

and so on and so forth

2737

01:43:20,870 --> 01:43:19,669

um close i think would be part of the

2738

01:43:24,709 --> 01:43:20,880

human repertoire

2739

01:43:26,709 --> 01:43:24,719

um i'm just wondering because

2740

01:43:28,310 --> 01:43:26,719

i don't know and i'm curious i don't

2741

01:43:29,590 --> 01:43:28,320

know if certain tribes or certain other

2742

01:43:32,390 --> 01:43:29,600

places in the world would say

2743

01:43:33,990 --> 01:43:32,400

well actually to be a moral person is to

2744

01:43:34,790 --> 01:43:34,000

cut the head off your enemy and put it

2745

01:43:38,149 --> 01:43:34,800

on your fence

2746

01:43:39,750 --> 01:43:38,159

well yeah that that that too i mean

2747

01:43:41,270 --> 01:43:39,760

as soon as you talk about how we behave

2748

01:43:45,430 --> 01:43:41,280

towards them

2749

01:43:47,910 --> 01:43:45,440

then um anything can go as we've already

2750

01:43:49,669 --> 01:43:47,920

as republicans said the world is full of

2751

01:43:53,510 --> 01:43:49,679

situations in which we

2752

01:43:56,629 --> 01:43:53,520

the group are threatened by them

2753

01:43:58,870 --> 01:43:56,639

and the moral thing for us to do is to

2754

01:44:00,709 --> 01:43:58,880

cut off their heads and put it on a

2755

01:44:02,470 --> 01:44:00,719

stake it could also be moral that line

2756

01:44:03,910 --> 01:44:02,480

could also be moral

2757

01:44:05,430 --> 01:44:03,920

what's that so i'm just going to cut

2758

01:44:06,470 --> 01:44:05,440

that line the moral thing for us to do

2759

01:44:08,629 --> 01:44:06,480

is

2760

01:44:10,229 --> 01:44:08,639

by taking stone wilson thank you very

2761

01:44:11,270 --> 01:44:10,239

much yeah that's it that's all that's

2762

01:44:13,270 --> 01:44:11,280

going online

2763

01:44:15,109 --> 01:44:13,280

thank you it can also be moral it could

2764

01:44:16,470 --> 01:44:15,119

also be moral to take the deviant within

2765

01:44:18,310 --> 01:44:16,480

the society and cut off their head and

2766

01:44:20,950 --> 01:44:18,320

put it on a

2767

01:44:23,189 --> 01:44:20,960

honest day these things are the only the

2768

01:44:28,790 --> 01:44:23,199

way we think these are immoral

2769

01:44:32,790 --> 01:44:30,550

it's okay just continue i don't know if

2770

01:44:34,550 --> 01:44:32,800

you know who janice fiomingo is

2771

01:44:37,270 --> 01:44:34,560

she's a professor of english when i was

2772

01:44:39,430 --> 01:44:37,280

interviewing her she her cat just came

2773

01:44:41,270 --> 01:44:39,440

right right upon her list you can sit up

2774

01:44:42,550 --> 01:44:41,280

here if you want

2775

01:44:44,629 --> 01:44:42,560

i don't think that's gonna that'll keep

2776

01:44:49,510 --> 01:44:44,639

you silent and i can take you leave

2777

01:44:51,750 --> 01:44:49,520

boom yeah

2778

01:44:53,750 --> 01:44:51,760

now your your viewership will go way up

2779

01:44:55,910 --> 01:44:53,760

if you include the dog in the picture

2780

01:44:57,590 --> 01:44:55,920

okay okay so where are we so these

2781

01:44:59,669 --> 01:44:57,600

things appear immoral to us because

2782

01:45:01,510 --> 01:44:59,679

we're taking a third person stance we're

2783

01:45:04,870 --> 01:45:01,520

we're not

2784

01:45:08,149 --> 01:45:04,880

that

2785

01:45:11,430 --> 01:45:08,159

looking at these between group

2786

01:45:13,270 --> 01:45:11,440

behaviors and also the the the policing

2787

01:45:15,350 --> 01:45:13,280

the policing behaviors which cause us to

2788

01:45:16,790 --> 01:45:15,360

be cruel to members of our own

2789

01:45:18,550 --> 01:45:16,800

group and we're seeing this in some kind

2790

01:45:21,590 --> 01:45:18,560

of third person vantage

2791

01:45:24,149 --> 01:45:21,600

which makes it appear immoral so much

2792

01:45:27,350 --> 01:45:24,159

depends upon the perspective

2793

01:45:29,270 --> 01:45:27,360

are you a moral relativist would you

2794

01:45:31,590 --> 01:45:29,280

consider yourself to be that

2795

01:45:33,030 --> 01:45:31,600

how would you define moral relativism

2796

01:45:36,470 --> 01:45:33,040

that

2797

01:45:39,189 --> 01:45:36,480

there are no objective moral standards

2798

01:45:40,390 --> 01:45:39,199

pretty much what every culture has is

2799

01:45:42,830 --> 01:45:40,400

good for them no i'm not

2800

01:45:45,590 --> 01:45:42,840

at all a moral relativist i think that

2801
01:45:48,390 --> 01:45:45,600
that morality

2802
01:45:49,830 --> 01:45:48,400
axiomatically is about the welfare of

2803
01:45:53,990 --> 01:45:49,840
others

2804
01:45:56,629 --> 01:45:54,000
and society as a whole as defined by the

2805
01:45:59,189 --> 01:45:56,639
by the community and there's nothing

2806
01:46:01,669 --> 01:45:59,199
arbitrary about what counts as moral or

2807
01:46:02,950 --> 01:46:01,679
immoral uh from the perspective of

2808
01:46:06,870 --> 01:46:02,960
members of the

2809
01:46:09,350 --> 01:46:06,880
moral uh well you said as defined as

2810
01:46:10,830 --> 01:46:09,360
by the community so if they define it

2811
01:46:14,149 --> 01:46:10,840
any way they want is that

2812
01:46:18,070 --> 01:46:14,159
okay are there some

2813
01:46:21,750 --> 01:46:20,709

well typically one of my favorite

2814

01:46:25,510 --> 01:46:21,760

authors as a

2815

01:46:28,870 --> 01:46:25,520

novelist is joseph conrad who wrote

2816

01:46:29,510 --> 01:46:28,880

many books about the sea and he once

2817

01:46:31,189 --> 01:46:29,520

said that

2818

01:46:34,790 --> 01:46:31,199

he likes writing books about the sea

2819

01:46:37,669 --> 01:46:34,800

because they're so morally simple

2820

01:46:39,030 --> 01:46:37,679

very simply if you're on a ship then

2821

01:46:42,229 --> 01:46:39,040

what you need to do is to

2822

01:46:44,470 --> 01:46:42,239

stay afloat you know who the group is

2823

01:46:45,669 --> 01:46:44,480

and you know what they need to do they

2824

01:46:48,629 --> 01:46:45,679

need to stay afloat

2825

01:46:49,669 --> 01:46:48,639

and so that provides a clarity a moral

2826

01:46:53,189 --> 01:46:49,679

clarity

2827

01:46:54,550 --> 01:46:53,199

which does not exist in other situations

2828

01:46:55,990 --> 01:46:54,560

where we don't really know who the group

2829

01:46:57,830 --> 01:46:56,000

is and we don't really know what we need

2830

01:47:00,950 --> 01:46:57,840

to do to stay afloat

2831

01:47:03,990 --> 01:47:00,960

right that makes things complex

2832

01:47:05,990 --> 01:47:04,000

but if you take a ship then

2833

01:47:08,310 --> 01:47:06,000

that moral clarity i think argues

2834

01:47:09,830 --> 01:47:08,320

against relativism

2835

01:47:12,390 --> 01:47:09,840

at least on a ship there's nothing

2836

01:47:15,590 --> 01:47:12,400

relative about what counts as

2837

01:47:17,910 --> 01:47:15,600

moral or who's in or who's out or

2838

01:47:19,270 --> 01:47:17,920

or anything like that that's why space

2839

01:47:22,310 --> 01:47:19,280

fantasy is so

2840

01:47:25,109 --> 01:47:22,320

compelling for the same uh

2841

01:47:26,070 --> 01:47:25,119

for the same uh reason whenever we think

2842

01:47:29,750 --> 01:47:26,080

of ourselves as

2843

01:47:31,669 --> 01:47:29,760

in the same boat then

2844

01:47:33,510 --> 01:47:31,679

and and when we think about like

2845

01:47:38,709 --> 01:47:33,520

survival as being really

2846

01:47:40,390 --> 01:47:38,719

salient then things become morally clear

2847

01:47:42,470 --> 01:47:40,400

that's there's an important insight

2848

01:47:44,229 --> 01:47:42,480

let's let's let's let's acknowledge

2849

01:47:45,750 --> 01:47:44,239

progress where it exists to be able to

2850

01:47:48,709 --> 01:47:45,760

say that i think

2851
01:47:49,510 --> 01:47:48,719
is then helpful when we now consider

2852
01:47:53,990 --> 01:47:49,520
more

2853
01:47:57,830 --> 01:47:55,669
i wanted to know if you think that what

2854
01:47:59,750 --> 01:47:57,840
happens in the universities is

2855
01:48:01,109 --> 01:47:59,760
isolated from society or not isolated

2856
01:48:03,350 --> 01:48:01,119
and i'll explain what i mean

2857
01:48:04,390 --> 01:48:03,360
someone like stephen hicks a philosopher

2858
01:48:06,950 --> 01:48:04,400
says well

2859
01:48:08,390 --> 01:48:06,960
you shouldn't you should be people who

2860
01:48:09,990 --> 01:48:08,400
are a part of the general public should

2861
01:48:11,830 --> 01:48:10,000
be concerned about

2862
01:48:13,189 --> 01:48:11,840
the quote-unquote corruption of the

2863
01:48:14,950 --> 01:48:13,199

humanities by the

2864

01:48:16,229 --> 01:48:14,960

post-modernist now i'm not having you

2865

01:48:18,790 --> 01:48:16,239

take a stance on that but

2866

01:48:20,470 --> 01:48:18,800

he would say you should be concerned

2867

01:48:24,470 --> 01:48:20,480

even though it seems like it's

2868

01:48:26,950 --> 01:48:24,480

a relatively obscure isolated

2869

01:48:28,470 --> 01:48:26,960

part of the whole country it's just one

2870

01:48:29,830 --> 01:48:28,480

part of the university

2871

01:48:31,510 --> 01:48:29,840

you should be concerned because what

2872

01:48:33,270 --> 01:48:31,520

happens in the university spreads

2873

01:48:34,870 --> 01:48:33,280

outwards to the rest of society

2874

01:48:37,030 --> 01:48:34,880

and i wanted to know what are your

2875

01:48:38,390 --> 01:48:37,040

thoughts on that is it true that what

2876

01:48:40,229 --> 01:48:38,400

happens in the universities

2877

01:48:41,830 --> 01:48:40,239

spread out to the rest of society so we

2878

01:48:45,510 --> 01:48:41,840

better be careful as to

2879

01:48:47,430 --> 01:48:45,520

i certainly hope so i certainly hope so

2880

01:48:49,430 --> 01:48:47,440

are these intellectuals sorry i mean to

2881

01:48:49,910 --> 01:48:49,440

say even in fields that one might not

2882

01:48:51,669 --> 01:48:49,920

think

2883

01:48:53,270 --> 01:48:51,679

have anything to do with society so for

2884

01:48:55,750 --> 01:48:53,280

example

2885

01:48:56,950 --> 01:48:55,760

english well english probably does have

2886

01:48:58,830 --> 01:48:56,960

something to do with society given that

2887

01:49:02,149 --> 01:48:58,840

we speak it but

2888

01:49:05,350 --> 01:49:02,159

english linguistics

2889

01:49:07,030 --> 01:49:05,360

women's studies gender studies so i

2890

01:49:08,870 --> 01:49:07,040

think i think that

2891

01:49:11,830 --> 01:49:08,880

higher education universities and

2892

01:49:16,550 --> 01:49:11,840

colleges are a fascinating

2893

01:49:22,550 --> 01:49:19,830

right and

2894

01:49:24,229 --> 01:49:22,560

all things considered of course higher

2895

01:49:24,709 --> 01:49:24,239

colleges and universities would not

2896

01:49:26,310 --> 01:49:24,719

exist

2897

01:49:28,149 --> 01:49:26,320

and also the branches of academic

2898

01:49:31,189 --> 01:49:28,159

knowledge wouldn't exist

2899

01:49:33,910 --> 01:49:31,199

if they didn't have some impact on the

2900

01:49:35,750 --> 01:49:33,920

rest of life often that's quite indirect

2901

01:49:38,629 --> 01:49:35,760

i think it was

2902

01:49:39,830 --> 01:49:38,639

keynes the economist who said that even

2903

01:49:41,510 --> 01:49:39,840

someone who doesn't think that they're

2904

01:49:43,350 --> 01:49:41,520

influenced by economists actually are

2905

01:49:44,870 --> 01:49:43,360

they're being influenced by some defunct

2906

01:49:48,470 --> 01:49:44,880

economist

2907

01:49:52,149 --> 01:49:48,480

from long uh

2908

01:49:55,189 --> 01:49:52,159

from long ego so these ideas do matter

2909

01:49:59,030 --> 01:49:55,199

even though it seems that they might

2910

01:50:00,470 --> 01:49:59,040

not so there's one point to be uh

2911

01:50:03,189 --> 01:50:00,480

one point to be made we should care

2912

01:50:05,990 --> 01:50:03,199

about what they say but another point

2913

01:50:08,830 --> 01:50:06,000

that needs to be made is that is that

2914

01:50:13,270 --> 01:50:08,840

all of the branches of academia

2915

01:50:16,790 --> 01:50:13,280

um need to become much more unified

2916

01:50:18,870 --> 01:50:16,800

than they are

2917

01:50:21,109 --> 01:50:18,880

and so the fragmentation of knowledge i

2918

01:50:22,470 --> 01:50:21,119

think is a problem that needs to be

2919

01:50:24,550 --> 01:50:22,480

acknowledged and i actually have a

2920

01:50:28,310 --> 01:50:24,560

biological kind of metaphor

2921

01:50:29,430 --> 01:50:28,320

for for that back to my training as a

2922

01:50:34,870 --> 01:50:29,440

biologist

2923

01:50:37,589 --> 01:50:34,880

so if you actually look at a archipelago

2924

01:50:38,870 --> 01:50:37,599

which is a collection of islands you

2925

01:50:41,270 --> 01:50:38,880

find they're biologically

2926
01:50:43,270 --> 01:50:41,280
extremely diverse many species on

2927
01:50:46,229 --> 01:50:43,280
archipelagos why is that

2928
01:50:47,830 --> 01:50:46,239
well it's because of barriers to gene

2929
01:50:50,790 --> 01:50:47,840
flow

2930
01:50:51,990 --> 01:50:50,800
so if you're isolated on an island then

2931
01:50:53,990 --> 01:50:52,000
there's no gene flow with other

2932
01:50:55,589 --> 01:50:54,000
islands and so those populations tend to

2933
01:50:57,109 --> 01:50:55,599
drift apart before they become

2934
01:50:58,709 --> 01:50:57,119
different species

2935
01:51:00,629 --> 01:50:58,719
and they can't there couldn't any breed

2936
01:51:02,709 --> 01:51:00,639
even if they were

2937
01:51:04,629 --> 01:51:02,719
brought together also on single islands

2938
01:51:06,310 --> 01:51:04,639

there's species that occupy different

2939

01:51:07,270 --> 01:51:06,320

niches and so they become different for

2940

01:51:11,189 --> 01:51:07,280

that

2941

01:51:14,310 --> 01:51:11,199

very

2942

01:51:19,669 --> 01:51:14,320

diverse okay got that now

2943

01:51:22,950 --> 01:51:19,679

think of academia as an archipelago

2944

01:51:24,790 --> 01:51:22,960

in which with many islands of

2945

01:51:26,629 --> 01:51:24,800

of knowledge so basically you have all

2946

01:51:29,910 --> 01:51:26,639

of these different

2947

01:51:32,709 --> 01:51:29,920

groups schools of thought

2948

01:51:34,390 --> 01:51:32,719

that are developing their ideas largely

2949

01:51:36,790 --> 01:51:34,400

in isolation

2950

01:51:38,310 --> 01:51:36,800

from each other and this includes not

2951
01:51:40,470 --> 01:51:38,320
just the major disciplines but all the

2952
01:51:41,990 --> 01:51:40,480
schools of thought within any given

2953
01:51:43,589 --> 01:51:42,000
discipline they're not talking to each

2954
01:51:44,950 --> 01:51:43,599
other so what happens

2955
01:51:46,950 --> 01:51:44,960
well they begin to develop different

2956
01:51:48,629 --> 01:51:46,960
vocabularies use the same words in

2957
01:51:49,430 --> 01:51:48,639
different ways it goes this way it goes

2958
01:51:51,510 --> 01:51:49,440
there

2959
01:51:53,350 --> 01:51:51,520
pretty soon what you get is like a form

2960
01:51:57,189 --> 01:51:53,360
of cultural speciation

2961
01:52:01,589 --> 01:51:59,589
no one can understand each other it's a

2962
01:52:05,189 --> 01:52:01,599
tower of babel you might

2963
01:52:06,629 --> 01:52:05,199

so so that's not a good thing so

2964

01:52:08,310 --> 01:52:06,639

that's that's the kind of diversity

2965

01:52:09,030 --> 01:52:08,320

that's not worth wanting diversity is

2966

01:52:11,830 --> 01:52:09,040

not good

2967

01:52:13,510 --> 01:52:11,840

per se there's forms of diversity that

2968

01:52:15,830 --> 01:52:13,520

are not worth

2969

01:52:17,910 --> 01:52:15,840

wanting and that's one of them so there

2970

01:52:20,310 --> 01:52:17,920

needs to have some sense in which

2971

01:52:21,350 --> 01:52:20,320

in which people can communicate with

2972

01:52:23,030 --> 01:52:21,360

each other

2973

01:52:25,030 --> 01:52:23,040

and that's not happening that's one

2974

01:52:25,589 --> 01:52:25,040

major goal evolutionary theory plays is

2975

01:52:29,109 --> 01:52:25,599

to

2976

01:52:30,870 --> 01:52:29,119

of knowledge

2977

01:52:32,550 --> 01:52:30,880

as it already has in the biological

2978

01:52:34,550 --> 01:52:32,560

sciences and can

2979

01:52:35,750 --> 01:52:34,560

for all things human okay i was just

2980

01:52:38,149 --> 01:52:35,760

about to ask so how

2981

01:52:40,070 --> 01:52:38,159

do you see it being unified but you said

2982

01:52:43,109 --> 01:52:40,080

it would probably start from

2983

01:52:44,950 --> 01:52:43,119

evolutionary sciences and this is a hard

2984

01:52:48,310 --> 01:52:44,960

point to make because it seems

2985

01:52:49,510 --> 01:52:48,320

um self-serving it seems uh

2986

01:52:53,030 --> 01:52:49,520

what's the word i want to use

2987

01:52:56,390 --> 01:52:53,040

proprietary or or um

2988

01:52:57,270 --> 01:52:56,400

totalizing as is often put but there's

2989

01:52:58,709 --> 01:52:57,280

um

2990

01:53:01,109 --> 01:52:58,719

hold on a second what the heck is

2991

01:53:02,790 --> 01:53:01,119

totalizing totalizing yeah

2992

01:53:04,470 --> 01:53:02,800

what do you mean by that uh what's the

2993

01:53:05,189 --> 01:53:04,480

word of totalizing it's a postmodern

2994

01:53:08,709 --> 01:53:05,199

term it's

2995

01:53:11,990 --> 01:53:08,719

it's basically that you're kind of

2996

01:53:15,350 --> 01:53:12,000

imposing a world view on others

2997

01:53:17,750 --> 01:53:15,360

and privileging it okay so

2998

01:53:18,870 --> 01:53:17,760

and of course there's a trigger

2999

01:53:22,310 --> 01:53:18,880

sensitivity

3000

01:53:23,750 --> 01:53:22,320

to to that which we can appreciate but

3001

01:53:31,030 --> 01:53:23,760

that loses the fact that

3002

01:53:31,040 --> 01:53:35,750

that when you go back to

3003

01:53:40,950 --> 01:53:38,870

the way darwin approached different

3004

01:53:42,470 --> 01:53:40,960

people back then before evolution we had

3005

01:53:43,510 --> 01:53:42,480

naturalists they studied plants and

3006

01:53:44,629 --> 01:53:43,520

animals

3007

01:53:48,790 --> 01:53:44,639

all these different branches of

3008

01:53:54,070 --> 01:53:52,390

biogeography all the different

3009

01:53:56,870 --> 01:53:54,080

contrivances of plants and animals

3010

01:53:58,550 --> 01:53:56,880

natural natural history

3011

01:53:59,990 --> 01:53:58,560

and what darwin did was he actually

3012

01:54:01,990 --> 01:54:00,000

managed to put these

3013

01:54:03,589 --> 01:54:02,000

together a single theory that made sense

3014

01:54:07,030 --> 01:54:03,599

of all of these branches

3015

01:54:07,990 --> 01:54:07,040

of knowledge so and that didn't

3016

01:54:10,629 --> 01:54:08,000

eliminate them

3017

01:54:12,709 --> 01:54:10,639

it organized them so that's what can

3018

01:54:16,280 --> 01:54:12,719

take place now is taking place now

3019

01:54:17,669 --> 01:54:16,290

quite rapidly in historical terms um so

3020

01:54:20,790 --> 01:54:17,679

[Music]

3021

01:54:23,109 --> 01:54:20,800

so that's that's a great thing when do

3022

01:54:28,070 --> 01:54:23,119

you think the left goes too far

3023

01:54:35,910 --> 01:54:32,550

i think that anyone goes too far

3024

01:54:37,589 --> 01:54:35,920

when they uh let me just try to think

3025

01:54:48,830 --> 01:54:37,599

about this for

3026

01:54:48,840 --> 01:54:59,750

so

3027

01:55:04,390 --> 01:55:01,750

i think that anyone goes through fire

3028

01:55:07,589 --> 01:55:04,400

when they when they

3029

01:55:10,390 --> 01:55:07,599

deny the authority of empirical evidence

3030

01:55:13,350 --> 01:55:10,400

if they're not being science-based

3031

01:55:14,950 --> 01:55:13,360

uh trying to work out what's actually

3032

01:55:16,709 --> 01:55:14,960

out there the facts of the matter

3033

01:55:20,550 --> 01:55:16,719

and then proceeding on that basis then

3034

01:55:23,510 --> 01:55:20,560

they become unmoored from

3035

01:55:24,229 --> 01:55:23,520

from reality and then the second problem

3036

01:55:32,870 --> 01:55:24,239

is

3037

01:55:34,070 --> 01:55:32,880

as the orion these little academic

3038

01:55:36,790 --> 01:55:34,080

tribes that we've

3039

01:55:39,030 --> 01:55:36,800

talked about i think is when they become

3040

01:55:41,430 --> 01:55:39,040

just universes in their own

3041

01:55:42,390 --> 01:55:41,440

in their own right then that becomes

3042

01:55:44,149 --> 01:55:42,400

part of the problem

3043

01:55:46,550 --> 01:55:44,159

sometimes it becomes a problem with like

3044

01:55:49,030 --> 01:55:46,560

you know

3045

01:55:49,990 --> 01:55:49,040

fighting between tribes but even without

3046

01:55:54,550 --> 01:55:50,000

that

3047

01:55:55,589 --> 01:55:54,560

each other

3048

01:55:58,870 --> 01:55:55,599

and it's that point they become

3049

01:56:01,589 --> 01:55:58,880

irrelevant and nobody should care other

3050

01:56:04,229 --> 01:56:01,599

than

3051
01:56:05,750 --> 01:56:04,239
their own their own kind and they wink

3052
01:56:07,910 --> 01:56:05,760
out of existence

3053
01:56:09,510 --> 01:56:07,920
you know after a period of after a

3054
01:56:11,350 --> 01:56:09,520
period of time so there has to be some

3055
01:56:12,950 --> 01:56:11,360
sense of remaining connected there's

3056
01:56:15,109 --> 01:56:12,960
some kind of common

3057
01:56:17,910 --> 01:56:15,119
project so that when we communicate we

3058
01:56:21,990 --> 01:56:17,920
actually are trying to do something

3059
01:56:24,390 --> 01:56:22,000
uh important at a large scale

3060
01:56:25,990 --> 01:56:24,400
which involves communicating with other

3061
01:56:28,629 --> 01:56:26,000
uh

3062
01:56:29,270 --> 01:56:28,639
people other other perspectives and so

3063
01:56:31,109 --> 01:56:29,280

on

3064

01:56:33,589 --> 01:56:31,119

and then actually working towards those

3065

01:56:35,430 --> 01:56:33,599

those solutions

3066

01:56:37,109 --> 01:56:35,440

i was going to ask you about the meme

3067

01:56:39,350 --> 01:56:37,119

gene interaction

3068

01:56:41,430 --> 01:56:39,360

so when is it or what are examples of

3069

01:56:43,430 --> 01:56:41,440

memes that have lasted so long i guess

3070

01:56:45,270 --> 01:56:43,440

we can only talk about human society

3071

01:56:47,270 --> 01:56:45,280

what memes have lasted so long such that

3072

01:56:50,790 --> 01:56:47,280

they affect

3073

01:56:54,229 --> 01:56:50,800

our genes the direction of evolution

3074

01:56:57,990 --> 01:56:54,239

maybe sexual selection portion of time

3075

01:57:01,109 --> 01:56:58,000

talking about memes and let's begin with

3076

01:57:02,629 --> 01:57:01,119

the derivation of the term and the

3077

01:57:04,470 --> 01:57:02,639

person who claimed it

3078

01:57:05,669 --> 01:57:04,480

of course it was richard dawkins and it

3079

01:57:08,149 --> 01:57:05,679

was

3080

01:57:10,070 --> 01:57:08,159

part of his book the selfish gene and

3081

01:57:10,629 --> 01:57:10,080

and then meme was some kind of cultural

3082

01:57:14,390 --> 01:57:10,639

analog

3083

01:57:16,229 --> 01:57:14,400

to gene and so you can't really

3084

01:57:18,070 --> 01:57:16,239

understand memes the way dawkins

3085

01:57:20,709 --> 01:57:18,080

introduce the term

3086

01:57:21,750 --> 01:57:20,719

without thinking also about genes the

3087

01:57:24,149 --> 01:57:21,760

way

3088

01:57:26,950 --> 01:57:24,159

dawkins conceptualize that term which is

3089

01:57:29,350 --> 01:57:26,960

really kind of esoteric for dawkins

3090

01:57:30,310 --> 01:57:29,360

a gene was actually not a physical

3091

01:57:33,270 --> 01:57:30,320

entity

3092

01:57:35,030 --> 01:57:33,280

it was some kind of unit for information

3093

01:57:36,229 --> 01:57:35,040

he thought about genes in an extremely

3094

01:57:39,990 --> 01:57:36,239

atomistic

3095

01:57:42,709 --> 01:57:40,000

sense he gave genes agency

3096

01:57:45,430 --> 01:57:42,719

he called them selfish and when in fact

3097

01:57:47,270 --> 01:57:45,440

genes are part of a biological system

3098

01:57:48,870 --> 01:57:47,280

they always interact with other genes

3099

01:57:50,310 --> 01:57:48,880

and they always interact with the other

3100

01:57:52,629 --> 01:57:50,320

components of the

3101
01:57:54,550 --> 01:57:52,639
organism so there's a systemic approach

3102
01:57:57,750 --> 01:57:54,560
to evolution

3103
01:57:58,629 --> 01:57:57,760
which includes genes in a more systemic

3104
01:58:02,070 --> 01:57:58,639
way

3105
01:58:02,470 --> 01:58:02,080
than dawkins did and without giving them

3106
01:58:05,430 --> 01:58:02,480
such

3107
01:58:06,470 --> 01:58:05,440
agency as selfish entities in their own

3108
01:58:09,350 --> 01:58:06,480
right

3109
01:58:09,910 --> 01:58:09,360
and so given the fact that dawkins

3110
01:58:14,070 --> 01:58:09,920
concept

3111
01:58:17,830 --> 01:58:14,080
of a gene was actually quite problematic

3112
01:58:20,550 --> 01:58:17,840
and and biology has moved beyond it

3113
01:58:21,910 --> 01:58:20,560

then we should be suspicious from the

3114

01:58:25,910 --> 01:58:21,920

beginning about

3115

01:58:27,750 --> 01:58:25,920

his concept of meme which inherited

3116

01:58:30,550 --> 01:58:27,760

most of the same properties he thought

3117

01:58:33,270 --> 01:58:30,560

of memes as as very atomistic

3118

01:58:33,990 --> 01:58:33,280

kind of evolving on their own he didn't

3119

01:58:35,910 --> 01:58:34,000

think of

3120

01:58:37,430 --> 01:58:35,920

complexes of memes he actually had a

3121

01:58:38,470 --> 01:58:37,440

term for them he called them meme

3122

01:58:41,510 --> 01:58:38,480

complexes

3123

01:58:43,510 --> 01:58:41,520

but never much thought about them um

3124

01:58:45,350 --> 01:58:43,520

he emphasized mostly the possibility

3125

01:58:46,870 --> 01:58:45,360

that memes can become parasitic

3126

01:58:48,629 --> 01:58:46,880

sorry complexes of memes are just

3127

01:58:50,790 --> 01:58:48,639

collections of memes yeah they're like

3128

01:58:53,990 --> 01:58:50,800

like complexes of genes if there's a

3129

01:58:57,750 --> 01:58:54,000

genotype why can't there be a memo type

3130

01:59:00,870 --> 01:58:57,760

well memo type doesn't exist as a term

3131

01:59:02,790 --> 01:59:00,880

meme complexes does but hardly anything

3132

01:59:05,270 --> 01:59:02,800

is done

3133

01:59:06,950 --> 01:59:05,280

with it and so we're left with the idea

3134

01:59:08,709 --> 01:59:06,960

that there's little bits of information

3135

01:59:09,750 --> 01:59:08,719

little cultural units that are kind of

3136

01:59:13,270 --> 01:59:09,760

evolving in some

3137

01:59:15,189 --> 01:59:13,280

soup on their own um

3138

01:59:16,950 --> 01:59:15,199

and you know some examples are like the

3139

01:59:18,709 --> 01:59:16,960

phrase of a song you know the first

3140

01:59:19,830 --> 01:59:18,719

phrase of happy birthday to you is a

3141

01:59:23,270 --> 01:59:19,840

meme

3142

01:59:24,229 --> 01:59:23,280

that spreads and so on and and so forth

3143

01:59:27,910 --> 01:59:24,239

and so

3144

01:59:29,510 --> 01:59:27,920

evolution

3145

01:59:31,030 --> 01:59:29,520

as it's developed i mean there are lots

3146

01:59:32,149 --> 01:59:31,040

of people that became entranced by the

3147

01:59:34,070 --> 01:59:32,159

concept of memes

3148

01:59:35,910 --> 01:59:34,080

and tried to do something with it there

3149

01:59:37,830 --> 01:59:35,920

were journals there was the whole field

3150

01:59:39,350 --> 01:59:37,840

of mimetics and so on and

3151
01:59:41,109 --> 01:59:39,360
and do you know those have tended to

3152
01:59:42,790 --> 01:59:41,119
peter groud

3153
01:59:45,510 --> 01:59:42,800
while the field of cultural evolution as

3154
01:59:47,430 --> 01:59:45,520
a whole as virgin

3155
01:59:49,350 --> 01:59:47,440
and so how can we talk about cultural

3156
01:59:52,070 --> 01:59:49,360
evolution

3157
01:59:53,750 --> 01:59:52,080
in some sense without buying into the

3158
01:59:56,550 --> 01:59:53,760
concept of memes is

3159
01:59:58,070 --> 01:59:56,560
we still use the word meme as a kind of

3160
02:00:00,310 --> 01:59:58,080
a shorthand for

3161
02:00:01,990 --> 02:00:00,320
some trade since we don't know the

3162
02:00:03,270 --> 02:00:02,000
mechanistic basis really what we're

3163
02:00:04,790 --> 02:00:03,280

talking about is some trait at the

3164

02:00:06,870 --> 02:00:04,800

phenotypic level

3165

02:00:08,470 --> 02:00:06,880

so when we want to talk about it a trait

3166

02:00:10,149 --> 02:00:08,480

that's learned and culturally

3167

02:00:12,390 --> 02:00:10,159

transmitted we call it a meme

3168

02:00:14,470 --> 02:00:12,400

that's fine but don't associate it with

3169

02:00:18,229 --> 02:00:14,480

some of these other things that

3170

02:00:21,510 --> 02:00:18,239

that is part of the dawkins

3171

02:00:23,990 --> 02:00:21,520

terminology now um

3172

02:00:25,750 --> 02:00:24,000

in a video that you asked me to watch

3173

02:00:27,189 --> 02:00:25,760

when jordan peterson he talked about

3174

02:00:30,470 --> 02:00:27,199

jungian

3175

02:00:33,270 --> 02:00:30,480

archetypes and if you go back to

3176
02:00:35,510 --> 02:00:33,280
some of the early psychological thinkers

3177
02:00:38,830 --> 02:00:35,520
such as jung and freud

3178
02:00:43,430 --> 02:00:38,840
you have to appreciate how

3179
02:00:47,830 --> 02:00:45,270
how primitive the evolutionary thinking

3180
02:00:49,350 --> 02:00:47,840
was at that time so although they were

3181
02:00:50,870 --> 02:00:49,360
big thinkers and they were trying to

3182
02:00:53,189 --> 02:00:50,880
apprehend something

3183
02:00:54,629 --> 02:00:53,199
uh fred's concept of the unconscious and

3184
02:00:58,390 --> 02:00:54,639
the id and

3185
02:00:59,750 --> 02:00:58,400
his basic concepts and jungian concepts

3186
02:01:02,470 --> 02:00:59,760
such as the archetype

3187
02:01:02,790 --> 02:01:02,480
i mean there were reaching for something

3188
02:01:05,910 --> 02:01:02,800

but

3189

02:01:08,229 --> 02:01:05,920

we really have to evaluate it

3190

02:01:09,350 --> 02:01:08,239

critically from a modern evolutionary

3191

02:01:11,510 --> 02:01:09,360

perspective

3192

02:01:12,709 --> 02:01:11,520

again there was a baby in the bathwater

3193

02:01:14,790 --> 02:01:12,719

but there was also

3194

02:01:16,070 --> 02:01:14,800

quite a lot of bath water and we it's up

3195

02:01:18,070 --> 02:01:16,080

to us to

3196

02:01:19,910 --> 02:01:18,080

sort it out i think there is an

3197

02:01:22,950 --> 02:01:19,920

intriguing correspondence with what

3198

02:01:24,870 --> 02:01:22,960

jung talked about his archetypes with

3199

02:01:27,109 --> 02:01:24,880

what evolutionary psychologists talk

3200

02:01:28,790 --> 02:01:27,119

about as modules

3201

02:01:30,470 --> 02:01:28,800

and that's i think a better match than

3202

02:01:33,990 --> 02:01:30,480

memes

3203

02:01:37,189 --> 02:01:34,000

so evolutionary psychologists properly

3204

02:01:42,070 --> 02:01:37,199

say that that our evolved psychology is

3205

02:01:43,990 --> 02:01:42,080

highly adapted to solve the problems of

3206

02:01:45,189 --> 02:01:44,000

survival and reproduction in ancestral

3207

02:01:47,830 --> 02:01:45,199

environments and

3208

02:01:49,750 --> 02:01:47,840

often they take the form of of modules

3209

02:01:52,550 --> 02:01:49,760

specialized circuits that

3210

02:01:53,910 --> 02:01:52,560

that are dedicated to solving this

3211

02:01:57,750 --> 02:01:53,920

problem or that

3212

02:01:58,470 --> 02:01:57,760

and so um and so we could imagine for

3213

02:02:01,750 --> 02:01:58,480

example

3214

02:02:04,070 --> 02:02:01,760

an us them psychology which is like

3215

02:02:05,109 --> 02:02:04,080

built into us that gets triggered under

3216

02:02:07,270 --> 02:02:05,119

appropriate

3217

02:02:08,470 --> 02:02:07,280

uh circuits of mating psychology all of

3218

02:02:11,750 --> 02:02:08,480

these sorts of

3219

02:02:16,070 --> 02:02:11,760

so

3220

02:02:16,950 --> 02:02:16,080

modules of evolutionary psychologists

3221

02:02:22,149 --> 02:02:16,960

and

3222

02:02:24,550 --> 02:02:22,159

reaching for with archives yeah maybe

3223

02:02:25,910 --> 02:02:24,560

maybe that's worth that's worth

3224

02:02:29,669 --> 02:02:25,920

exploring

3225

02:02:33,270 --> 02:02:29,679

also one of the things that's happened

3226

02:02:35,750 --> 02:02:33,280

recently is that a lot of what's been

3227

02:02:37,830 --> 02:02:35,760

attributed to genetic evolution

3228

02:02:39,510 --> 02:02:37,840

is now needs to be attributed to

3229

02:02:41,750 --> 02:02:39,520

cultural evolution

3230

02:02:43,430 --> 02:02:41,760

which is and take language for example

3231

02:02:47,350 --> 02:02:43,440

if you look at what chomsky

3232

02:02:49,350 --> 02:02:47,360

people like noel chomsky noam chomsky

3233

02:02:51,030 --> 02:02:49,360

thought about language and also steve

3234

02:02:54,470 --> 02:02:51,040

pinker it was

3235

02:02:57,910 --> 02:02:54,480

like a product of genetic evolution

3236

02:03:00,149 --> 02:02:57,920

there's a module for language

3237

02:03:01,750 --> 02:03:00,159

that kind of that kind of thing the

3238

02:03:05,189 --> 02:03:01,760

language instinct is

3239

02:03:07,030 --> 02:03:05,199

steve pinker put it there's a universal

3240

02:03:08,950 --> 02:03:07,040

grammar that we need to

3241

02:03:10,550 --> 02:03:08,960

decipher all of which makes it sound as

3242

02:03:11,990 --> 02:03:10,560

if language was something that evolved

3243

02:03:15,270 --> 02:03:12,000

directly by

3244

02:03:18,310 --> 02:03:15,280

genetic evolution but now it seems uh

3245

02:03:21,830 --> 02:03:18,320

to an amazing degree that language

3246

02:03:24,149 --> 02:03:21,840

is much more of a cultural construction

3247

02:03:26,310 --> 02:03:24,159

that has arisen more than once in

3248

02:03:28,229 --> 02:03:26,320

different geographical regions by

3249

02:03:30,870 --> 02:03:28,239

cultural evolution and the grammars that

3250

02:03:34,870 --> 02:03:30,880

evolved by cultural evolution actually

3251

02:03:36,229 --> 02:03:34,880

need not be universal no need

3252

02:03:37,990 --> 02:03:36,239

for that there's so many different

3253

02:03:40,470 --> 02:03:38,000

cultural

3254

02:03:42,070 --> 02:03:40,480

experiments and that many aspects of

3255

02:03:44,870 --> 02:03:42,080

human psychology

3256

02:03:47,589 --> 02:03:44,880

which we would think because they're so

3257

02:03:50,310 --> 02:03:47,599

unconscious and intuitive and so on

3258

02:03:51,270 --> 02:03:50,320

we'd think that there would be a a

3259

02:03:52,950 --> 02:03:51,280

modulus

3260

02:03:54,950 --> 02:03:52,960

evolutionary a genetically evolved

3261

02:03:58,470 --> 02:03:54,960

module

3262

02:03:59,910 --> 02:03:58,480

maybe not um maybe they're cultural

3263

02:04:00,950 --> 02:03:59,920

gadgets that have been around for so

3264

02:04:04,790 --> 02:04:00,960

long that

3265

02:04:06,149 --> 02:04:04,800

they've uh they seem less

3266

02:04:08,709 --> 02:04:06,159

they seem like first nature actually

3267

02:04:10,229 --> 02:04:08,719

they're second nature so

3268

02:04:11,910 --> 02:04:10,239

a lot which has been attributed to

3269

02:04:13,990 --> 02:04:11,920

genetic evolution

3270

02:04:15,589 --> 02:04:14,000

might need to be attributed to cultural

3271

02:04:16,550 --> 02:04:15,599

evolution that's how deep cultural

3272

02:04:21,030 --> 02:04:16,560

evolution

3273

02:04:23,030 --> 02:04:21,040

goes and that's pretty darn interesting

3274

02:04:24,870 --> 02:04:23,040

you mentioned in your book this view of

3275

02:04:27,990 --> 02:04:24,880

life that there's

3276

02:04:30,390 --> 02:04:28,000

innovation oasises which are like

3277

02:04:31,270 --> 02:04:30,400

geographic regions where innovation

3278

02:04:33,270 --> 02:04:31,280

happens

3279

02:04:35,350 --> 02:04:33,280

yeah and that there's some principles

3280

02:04:37,910 --> 02:04:35,360

that guide the growth of such a

3281

02:04:39,189 --> 02:04:37,920

oasis and then you outline seven i don't

3282

02:04:40,390 --> 02:04:39,199

know if you came up with the seven or

3283

02:04:43,350 --> 02:04:40,400

someone else did

3284

02:04:44,790 --> 02:04:43,360

well that was uh based on the work of

3285

02:04:48,629 --> 02:04:44,800

victor huang

3286

02:04:48,950 --> 02:04:48,639

who is a uh a leader in entrepreneurship

3287

02:04:53,189 --> 02:04:48,960

and

3288

02:04:57,910 --> 02:04:53,199

trying to make there

3289

02:05:00,550 --> 02:04:57,920

is that has to do with adaptability

3290

02:05:01,430 --> 02:05:00,560

um so many cultures are well adapted to

3291

02:05:03,589 --> 02:05:01,440

their environments

3292

02:05:05,910 --> 02:05:03,599

but how how adaptable are they to change

3293

02:05:07,830 --> 02:05:05,920

how how are they capable of actually

3294

02:05:11,109 --> 02:05:07,840

changing and adapting to

3295

02:05:11,990 --> 02:05:11,119

new circumstances that requires some

3296

02:05:15,830 --> 02:05:12,000

features

3297

02:05:19,189 --> 02:05:15,840

of a culture that don't always

3298

02:05:21,109 --> 02:05:19,199

exist and so i provided

3299

02:05:23,189 --> 02:05:21,119

a couple of examples from the business

3300

02:05:24,550 --> 02:05:23,199

world of companies that are not just

3301

02:05:27,750 --> 02:05:24,560

well adapted

3302

02:05:29,830 --> 02:05:27,760

but actually are capable of adapting

3303

02:05:31,910 --> 02:05:29,840

to new circumstances one of which was

3304

02:05:35,430 --> 02:05:31,920

toyota which is famous

3305

02:05:38,550 --> 02:05:35,440

as an adaptable corporation

3306

02:05:40,149 --> 02:05:38,560

and in the case of huang's work he

3307

02:05:41,430 --> 02:05:40,159

points out that isn't it interesting

3308

02:05:43,830 --> 02:05:41,440

that

3309

02:05:46,069 --> 02:05:43,840

i mean innovation is the name of the

3310

02:05:46,790 --> 02:05:46,079

game every region of the world every

3311

02:05:50,790 --> 02:05:46,800

university

3312

02:05:53,830 --> 02:05:50,800

every city wants to be entrepreneurial

3313

02:05:56,310 --> 02:05:53,840

and to be able to change

3314

02:05:57,350 --> 02:05:56,320

for the better but there's huge

3315

02:06:00,629 --> 02:05:57,360

variation

3316

02:06:03,910 --> 02:06:00,639

as hwang points out in

3317

02:06:04,790 --> 02:06:03,920

their ability to do so and silicon

3318

02:06:06,709 --> 02:06:04,800

valley

3319

02:06:07,830 --> 02:06:06,719

is an example what is it what's the

3320

02:06:11,669 --> 02:06:07,840

magic

3321

02:06:14,870 --> 02:06:11,679

ingredient and in a nutshell

3322

02:06:17,910 --> 02:06:14,880

and this is so very interesting

3323

02:06:20,950 --> 02:06:17,920

he says that there's two vital

3324

02:06:22,550 --> 02:06:20,960

ingredients one is

3325

02:06:24,709 --> 02:06:22,560

the need to cooperate it has to be

3326

02:06:28,950 --> 02:06:24,719

really cooperative culture

3327

02:06:33,589 --> 02:06:30,470

and those two things don't go together

3328

02:06:37,109 --> 02:06:33,599

typically we cooperate in our in groups

3329

02:06:39,589 --> 02:06:37,119

right and our in-groups are relatively

3330

02:06:40,149 --> 02:06:39,599

homogeneous so it's kind of a special

3331

02:06:43,830 --> 02:06:40,159

thing

3332

02:06:44,550 --> 02:06:43,840

to have a culture where you cooperate

3333

02:06:48,149 --> 02:06:44,560

with

3334

02:06:51,030 --> 02:06:48,159

diverse people and that is

3335

02:06:51,589 --> 02:06:51,040

what takes place happens to take place

3336

02:06:56,229 --> 02:06:51,599

in

3337

02:06:58,470 --> 02:06:56,239

of the world what are some other

3338

02:07:01,589 --> 02:06:58,480

innovation oasises besides

3339

02:07:03,910 --> 02:07:01,599

silicon valley he points to israel and

3340

02:07:06,870 --> 02:07:03,920

of course right away you have to

3341

02:07:08,629 --> 02:07:06,880

qualify what we mean by being inclusive

3342

02:07:09,589 --> 02:07:08,639

and diverse because israel is the very

3343

02:07:14,229 --> 02:07:09,599

opposite

3344

02:07:18,069 --> 02:07:16,149

for example so what does he mean he

3345

02:07:21,750 --> 02:07:18,079

means very narrowly

3346

02:07:23,669 --> 02:07:21,760

that the compulsory draft in israel

3347

02:07:25,510 --> 02:07:23,679

takes people from all sectors of an of

3348

02:07:28,950 --> 02:07:25,520

israeli society

3349

02:07:30,629 --> 02:07:28,960

and throws them together okay and so now

3350

02:07:31,750 --> 02:07:30,639

they're cooperating in a military

3351

02:07:33,750 --> 02:07:31,760

context

3352

02:07:35,750 --> 02:07:33,760

and then when they leave the military

3353

02:07:38,870 --> 02:07:35,760

then they're able to cooperate in other

3354

02:07:41,350 --> 02:07:38,880

contexts so it it takes the

3355

02:07:42,709 --> 02:07:41,360

diversity that exists within israeli

3356

02:07:46,510 --> 02:07:42,719

society

3357

02:07:47,830 --> 02:07:46,520

and it causes that to be

3358

02:07:50,310 --> 02:07:47,840

[Music]

3359

02:07:51,270 --> 02:07:50,320

cooperative and in the case of silicon

3360

02:07:55,910 --> 02:07:51,280

valley

3361

02:07:59,030 --> 02:07:58,229

maybe a little bit surprisingly much

3362

02:08:02,390 --> 02:07:59,040

more

3363

02:08:04,870 --> 02:08:02,400

easy going than you might think that

3364

02:08:06,390 --> 02:08:04,880

if you're an entrepreneur you're not

3365

02:08:07,589 --> 02:08:06,400

guarded of your ideas you're not

3366

02:08:10,790 --> 02:08:07,599

actually

3367

02:08:13,430 --> 02:08:10,800

out just to make a pile of money often

3368

02:08:16,870 --> 02:08:13,440

you have some kind of vision

3369

02:08:19,350 --> 02:08:16,880

and you're quite generous in in

3370

02:08:21,430 --> 02:08:19,360

sharing it people you know will invest

3371

02:08:23,350 --> 02:08:21,440

money on a handshake

3372

02:08:24,550 --> 02:08:23,360

a lawyer that juan quote says that if

3373

02:08:26,390 --> 02:08:24,560

you're a really good businessman you

3374

02:08:28,149 --> 02:08:26,400

don't need a lawyer at all

3375

02:08:30,790 --> 02:08:28,159

because you have trusting relationships

3376

02:08:35,270 --> 02:08:30,800

and and then actually if somebody

3377

02:08:35,910 --> 02:08:35,280

um acts selfishly in a context like that

3378

02:08:37,510 --> 02:08:35,920

because it's

3379

02:08:40,069 --> 02:08:37,520

quite a closed community everyone knows

3380

02:08:43,830 --> 02:08:40,079

each other well soon enough it

3381

02:08:45,270 --> 02:08:43,840

gets out that so-and-so didn't

3382

02:08:47,910 --> 02:08:45,280

behave right and nobody wants to do

3383

02:08:50,709 --> 02:08:47,920

business with them and so there's a

3384

02:08:51,030 --> 02:08:50,719

a very informal level of policing which

3385

02:08:54,870 --> 02:08:51,040

is

3386

02:08:58,229 --> 02:08:54,880

require legal

3387

02:09:00,069 --> 02:08:58,239

uh uh restrictions and then once again

3388

02:09:02,069 --> 02:09:00,079

that's diverse in a sense but it leaves

3389

02:09:04,709 --> 02:09:02,079

all sorts of people out of the system

3390

02:09:05,430 --> 02:09:04,719

as well it could be very clubby and and

3391

02:09:07,510 --> 02:09:05,440

so on

3392

02:09:09,270 --> 02:09:07,520

uh so when we talk about being diverse

3393

02:09:13,109 --> 02:09:09,280

we have to qualify it

3394

02:09:15,430 --> 02:09:13,119

quite heavily well i was thinking

3395

02:09:17,510 --> 02:09:15,440

selfishly one of my goals i have a

3396

02:09:20,229 --> 02:09:17,520

company called indie film teo which is

3397

02:09:21,030 --> 02:09:20,239

a non-profit and it helps filmmakers

3398

02:09:22,550 --> 02:09:21,040

with their arts

3399

02:09:24,629 --> 02:09:22,560

so that they can be profitable with it

3400

02:09:27,350 --> 02:09:24,639

one of my goals is to make

3401

02:09:27,830 --> 02:09:27,360

toronto possibly the silicon valley of

3402

02:09:29,910 --> 02:09:27,840

film

3403

02:09:31,510 --> 02:09:29,920

yeah okay and then i was thinking oh

3404

02:09:32,950 --> 02:09:31,520

that's so cool that this guy

3405

02:09:34,790 --> 02:09:32,960

david stone wilson evolutionary

3406

02:09:35,430 --> 02:09:34,800

biologist outlined for me great thank

3407

02:09:37,510 --> 02:09:35,440

you

3408

02:09:39,189 --> 02:09:37,520

seven principles that need to be

3409

02:09:39,830 --> 02:09:39,199

engendered in this society in order to

3410

02:09:43,589 --> 02:09:39,840

induce

3411

02:09:45,189 --> 02:09:43,599

such such a oasis of innovation

3412

02:09:47,669 --> 02:09:45,199

right and then i was thinking wait a

3413

02:09:49,669 --> 02:09:47,679

second seek fairness not advantage

3414

02:09:51,430 --> 02:09:49,679

was one of the principles if i'm not

3415

02:09:52,310 --> 02:09:51,440

mistaken and then i was thinking wait

3416

02:09:54,790 --> 02:09:52,320

but that

3417

02:09:56,310 --> 02:09:54,800

in my opinion i used to live in san fran

3418

02:09:57,030 --> 02:09:56,320

and i know a little bit of the business

3419

02:09:58,950 --> 02:09:57,040

world

3420

02:10:00,229 --> 02:09:58,960

i don't know if that characterizes

3421

02:10:02,709 --> 02:10:00,239

silicon valley because

3422

02:10:03,510 --> 02:10:02,719

there is a bit of and a bit is a bit of

3423

02:10:05,910 --> 02:10:03,520

an understatement

3424

02:10:07,510 --> 02:10:05,920

there's a bit of bullying and and

3425

02:10:10,550 --> 02:10:07,520

corporate bullying

3426

02:10:13,109 --> 02:10:10,560

that happens now let's go to

3427

02:10:14,790 --> 02:10:13,119

hollywood seek fairness not advantage

3428

02:10:15,990 --> 02:10:14,800

definitely not equality that hollywood

3429

02:10:17,910 --> 02:10:16,000

has nor

3430

02:10:19,669 --> 02:10:17,920

does it have does it have the second

3431

02:10:23,270 --> 02:10:19,679

trait which is open doors and listen

3432

02:10:25,750 --> 02:10:23,280

well there's um i was very cliquey

3433

02:10:26,950 --> 02:10:25,760

i wish that i could channel my friend

3434

02:10:30,229 --> 02:10:26,960

victor

3435

02:10:31,910 --> 02:10:30,239

to have this conversation and there's

3436

02:10:35,109 --> 02:10:31,920

one dynamic that goes on that might

3437

02:10:39,830 --> 02:10:35,119

explain some of this which is like super

3438

02:10:44,310 --> 02:10:42,229

and it has to do with once a company

3439

02:10:48,870 --> 02:10:44,320

succeeds

3440

02:10:51,510 --> 02:10:48,880

and and then becomes proprietary

3441

02:10:53,990 --> 02:10:51,520

so there's i've become fascinated with

3442

02:10:57,109 --> 02:10:54,000

the open source software

3443

02:10:59,030 --> 02:10:57,119

development and all of its analogs

3444

02:11:00,790 --> 02:10:59,040

the linux development and stuff like

3445

02:11:02,229 --> 02:11:00,800

that by the way this movie that you're

3446

02:11:05,109 --> 02:11:02,239

in is an open source movie

3447

02:11:06,470 --> 02:11:05,119

it's the first of its kind at this scale

3448

02:11:07,510 --> 02:11:06,480

all the footage is being released for

3449

02:11:09,910 --> 02:11:07,520

people to see

3450

02:11:11,830 --> 02:11:09,920

so the dynamic is is that is that the

3451

02:11:13,910 --> 02:11:11,840

real creativity comes with this open

3452

02:11:16,870 --> 02:11:13,920

source process it's there that you get

3453

02:11:19,430 --> 02:11:16,880

victories seven ingredients people are

3454

02:11:21,910 --> 02:11:19,440

operating in a really cooperative mode

3455

02:11:24,069 --> 02:11:21,920

so on and so forth and that's

3456

02:11:25,430 --> 02:11:24,079

tremendously creative

3457

02:11:27,990 --> 02:11:25,440

and then you get companies such as

3458

02:11:29,750 --> 02:11:28,000

microsoft or apple

3459

02:11:31,510 --> 02:11:29,760

or so on that become really successful

3460

02:11:33,669 --> 02:11:31,520

they try to capture it all

3461

02:11:35,669 --> 02:11:33,679

and they're able to do so and once they

3462

02:11:37,270 --> 02:11:35,679

capture it then all the creativity

3463

02:11:39,830 --> 02:11:37,280

drains

3464

02:11:41,189 --> 02:11:39,840

out of it and then you have the open

3465

02:11:44,149 --> 02:11:41,199

source part of it

3466

02:11:44,709 --> 02:11:44,159

kind of sometimes it's just squelched

3467

02:11:46,390 --> 02:11:44,719

okay

3468

02:11:48,950 --> 02:11:46,400

and that capture is permanent but

3469

02:11:51,750 --> 02:11:48,960

sometimes as with linux

3470

02:11:52,310 --> 02:11:51,760

it actually flourishes and become so

3471

02:11:56,790 --> 02:11:52,320

good

3472

02:12:00,709 --> 02:11:56,800

that it beats out the proprietary

3473

02:12:02,470 --> 02:12:00,719

competition and so as soon as you get

3474

02:12:03,830 --> 02:12:02,480

corporate basically as soon as things

3475

02:12:06,629 --> 02:12:03,840

turn corporate

3476

02:12:08,470 --> 02:12:06,639

then they tend to deviate away from

3477

02:12:10,470 --> 02:12:08,480

these principles that victor

3478

02:12:11,589 --> 02:12:10,480

was talking about what do you define as

3479

02:12:15,910 --> 02:12:11,599

becoming corporate

3480

02:12:18,149 --> 02:12:15,920

you become an entity that becomes profit

3481

02:12:21,589 --> 02:12:18,159

maximizing

3482

02:12:23,669 --> 02:12:21,599

and more interested in your own profit

3483

02:12:25,750 --> 02:12:23,679

instead of vision driven or then vision

3484

02:12:28,149 --> 02:12:25,760

driven and so on and

3485

02:12:29,109 --> 02:12:28,159

and so forth and in a book i recently

3486

02:12:32,390 --> 02:12:29,119

read called

3487

02:12:33,990 --> 02:12:32,400

the master switch by timothy wu

3488

02:12:35,750 --> 02:12:34,000

i believe his name is these are

3489

02:12:37,109 --> 02:12:35,760

well-known books that i'm just kind of

3490

02:12:39,030 --> 02:12:37,119

channeling

3491

02:12:40,629 --> 02:12:39,040

he talks about this dynamic again and

3492

02:12:42,149 --> 02:12:40,639

again and again

3493

02:12:43,669 --> 02:12:42,159

stretching all the way back to the

3494

02:12:46,950 --> 02:12:43,679

telegraph the telephone

3495

02:12:50,870 --> 02:12:46,960

radio television cable television

3496

02:12:53,750 --> 02:12:50,880

all communication

3497

02:12:54,950 --> 02:12:53,760

innovations that began in this open

3498

02:12:57,910 --> 02:12:54,960

source

3499

02:13:00,229 --> 02:12:57,920

fashion with this wonderful diversity

3500

02:13:01,669 --> 02:13:00,239

and then became captured

3501

02:13:03,270 --> 02:13:01,679

in some sense that was a good thing

3502

02:13:05,510 --> 02:13:03,280

because like you don't want more than

3503

02:13:07,350 --> 02:13:05,520

one telephone system frankly

3504

02:13:08,790 --> 02:13:07,360

i mean there's some sense in which one

3505

02:13:15,350 --> 02:13:08,800

big system

3506

02:13:20,069 --> 02:13:18,310

eliminates innovation and in so many of

3507

02:13:23,830 --> 02:13:20,079

these cases once you become a

3508

02:13:26,870 --> 02:13:23,840

monopoly you don't want the next thing

3509

02:13:29,030 --> 02:13:26,880

you definitely don't want the next thing

3510

02:13:30,950 --> 02:13:29,040

and then the final version of this was

3511

02:13:34,310 --> 02:13:30,960

was hollywood

3512

02:13:36,069 --> 02:13:34,320

basically now being captured by a few

3513

02:13:40,229 --> 02:13:36,079

giant studios

3514

02:13:42,229 --> 02:13:40,239

churning out superhero movies and

3515

02:13:43,910 --> 02:13:42,239

but where is the diversity i mean

3516

02:13:45,510 --> 02:13:43,920

actually it does exist it exists with

3517

02:13:47,910 --> 02:13:45,520

the indie films and with

3518

02:13:49,109 --> 02:13:47,920

netflix and so on and so forth but the

3519

02:13:53,109 --> 02:13:49,119

dynamic

3520

02:13:55,910 --> 02:13:53,119

of this open source-y kind of

3521

02:13:57,030 --> 02:13:55,920

process in which those seven principles

3522

02:14:00,069 --> 02:13:57,040

that

3523

02:14:02,390 --> 02:14:00,079

victor talks about are present is

3524

02:14:04,149 --> 02:14:02,400

competing in a sense with these

3525

02:14:07,189 --> 02:14:04,159

leviathans

3526

02:14:09,109 --> 02:14:07,199

which do not have those properties

3527

02:14:10,950 --> 02:14:09,119

and cease to be innovative so i think

3528

02:14:14,149 --> 02:14:10,960

victor is right

3529

02:14:17,830 --> 02:14:14,159

um but that said you can point to

3530

02:14:21,990 --> 02:14:17,840

aspects of hollywood or silicon valley

3531

02:14:27,189 --> 02:14:25,350

are counting against that and even given

3532

02:14:29,510 --> 02:14:27,199

hollywood as it is i think

3533

02:14:31,910 --> 02:14:29,520

if you were to look at the assembly of a

3534

02:14:35,589 --> 02:14:31,920

of whatever team gets assembled for

3535

02:14:37,270 --> 02:14:35,599

any particular uh movie

3536

02:14:38,950 --> 02:14:37,280

with all of those credits at the end of

3537

02:14:41,430 --> 02:14:38,960

the movie

3538

02:14:43,669 --> 02:14:41,440

i mean it is a symphony of cooperation

3539

02:14:45,589 --> 02:14:43,679

and if you're the first grip or the

3540

02:14:47,109 --> 02:14:45,599

cameraman or something like that how you

3541

02:14:49,430 --> 02:14:47,119

come together

3542

02:14:51,589 --> 02:14:49,440

uh for something i'll bet is based on

3543

02:14:52,550 --> 02:14:51,599

your reputation the spirit of generosity

3544

02:14:55,270 --> 02:14:52,560

so and so

3545

02:14:56,629 --> 02:14:55,280

somewhere within the system i think that

3546

02:14:57,350 --> 02:14:56,639

those ingredients that victor was

3547

02:15:01,750 --> 02:14:57,360

talking about

3548

02:15:04,950 --> 02:15:03,350

so what do you say to people who claim

3549

02:15:05,510 --> 02:15:04,960

that there's no such thing as biological

3550

02:15:06,950 --> 02:15:05,520

sex

3551

02:15:08,550 --> 02:15:06,960

for example i sent i don't know if you

3552

02:15:09,910 --> 02:15:08,560

got a chance to look at the video there

3553

02:15:12,149 --> 02:15:09,920

was a professor who said

3554

02:15:13,830 --> 02:15:12,159

there is no such thing as biological sex

3555

02:15:14,629 --> 02:15:13,840

i'm a historian of medicine and i can

3556

02:15:17,430 --> 02:15:14,639

debunk that

3557

02:15:19,189 --> 02:15:17,440

but then he didn't go on to debunk it

3558

02:15:20,870 --> 02:15:19,199

well i think that that's not correct

3559

02:15:23,189 --> 02:15:20,880

that there is such a thing as biological

3560

02:15:26,310 --> 02:15:23,199

sense but where we draw the line

3561

02:15:26,320 --> 02:15:30,390

and where it's been drawn before by

3562

02:15:36,550 --> 02:15:34,310

scientists and doctors is

3563

02:15:38,390 --> 02:15:36,560

pretty shameful and has been revealed to

3564

02:15:41,589 --> 02:15:38,400

be false in

3565

02:15:44,550 --> 02:15:41,599

in retrospect i think that uh anne is in

3566

02:15:46,470 --> 02:15:44,560

my wife ann is in earshot but uh uh

3567

02:15:47,030 --> 02:15:46,480

she'll tell you that back in the 70s

3568

02:15:48,950 --> 02:15:47,040

when

3569

02:15:50,790 --> 02:15:48,960

she was a young woman it was received

3570

02:15:52,149 --> 02:15:50,800

scientific wisdom that women's bodies

3571

02:15:53,669 --> 02:15:52,159

would fall apart if they were to run a

3572

02:15:57,350 --> 02:15:53,679

marathon

3573

02:15:58,470 --> 02:15:57,360

how's that and so what is essentially

3574

02:16:01,430 --> 02:15:58,480

male and female

3575

02:16:03,109 --> 02:16:01,440

i think so often is socially constructed

3576

02:16:07,350 --> 02:16:03,119

for the benefit of

3577

02:16:09,510 --> 02:16:07,360

the powerful members of of um

3578

02:16:11,350 --> 02:16:09,520

of societies and so more often than not

3579

02:16:16,470 --> 02:16:11,360

we have to pay attention to

3580

02:16:21,189 --> 02:16:19,830

aspects so but at the end of the day

3581

02:16:23,750 --> 02:16:21,199

we just have to let the chips follow

3582

02:16:25,189 --> 02:16:23,760

where they where they may

3583

02:16:26,709 --> 02:16:25,199

earlier i was talking about the inuit

3584

02:16:28,229 --> 02:16:26,719

and i think my question could be more

3585

02:16:31,030 --> 02:16:28,239

simply asked

3586

02:16:32,309 --> 02:16:31,040

it's a rudimentary question what is

3587

02:16:34,790 --> 02:16:32,319

adaptive defined as

3588

02:16:36,150 --> 02:16:34,800

is it simply your propensity to

3589

02:16:37,750 --> 02:16:36,160

reproduce is it that you're not

3590

02:16:39,669 --> 02:16:37,760

experiencing pain in your environment

3591

02:16:41,110 --> 02:16:39,679

what is the definition of adaptiveness

3592

02:16:43,190 --> 02:16:41,120

that's such that we can say this is more

3593

02:16:45,270 --> 02:16:43,200

adaptive than this well the narrow

3594

02:16:46,150 --> 02:16:45,280

definition of adaptedness is something

3595

02:16:48,230 --> 02:16:46,160

which

3596

02:16:50,950 --> 02:16:48,240

uh survives and we produce better than

3597

02:16:54,150 --> 02:16:50,960

its alternatives

3598

02:16:57,110 --> 02:16:54,160

right and so that's true for genes

3599

02:16:58,629 --> 02:16:57,120

uh drift is not adaptation if we have a

3600

02:16:59,830 --> 02:16:58,639

case of genetic drift where they have

3601
02:17:02,870 --> 02:16:59,840
two things that

3602
02:17:04,950 --> 02:17:02,880
have the same survival and reproduction

3603
02:17:06,549 --> 02:17:04,960
well chance is going to cause one to

3604
02:17:08,629 --> 02:17:06,559
become more frequent than the other but

3605
02:17:10,150 --> 02:17:08,639
that doesn't count as an adaptation

3606
02:17:11,750 --> 02:17:10,160
so it's not the case that anything that

3607
02:17:13,669 --> 02:17:11,760
evolves is adaptive

3608
02:17:16,230 --> 02:17:13,679
nevertheless if something becomes more

3609
02:17:18,389 --> 02:17:16,240
common based on its properties

3610
02:17:19,669 --> 02:17:18,399
then it counts as adaptive in the

3611
02:17:22,870 --> 02:17:19,679
evolutionary

3612
02:17:25,910 --> 02:17:22,880
sense of the word and so

3613
02:17:26,709 --> 02:17:25,920

that's the definition that is standard

3614

02:17:29,830 --> 02:17:26,719

in

3615

02:17:32,309 --> 02:17:29,840

for genetic evolution and to a

3616

02:17:34,950 --> 02:17:32,319

pretty large degree it also counts not

3617

02:17:37,509 --> 02:17:34,960

just for cultural evolution but also

3618

02:17:39,349 --> 02:17:37,519

um learning if you look at the

3619

02:17:42,549 --> 02:17:39,359

schenerian process of

3620

02:17:43,429 --> 02:17:42,559

of operant conditioning and you you put

3621

02:17:50,230 --> 02:17:43,439

the

3622

02:17:52,709 --> 02:17:50,240

lever and gets some food and

3623

02:17:54,309 --> 02:17:52,719

ends up pressing the lever because that

3624

02:17:57,990 --> 02:17:54,319

was the behavior that

3625

02:17:59,589 --> 02:17:58,000

that delivered rewards more than other

3626

02:18:01,349 --> 02:17:59,599

behaviors what's called the matching

3627

02:18:02,950 --> 02:18:01,359

laws basically a comparison of

3628

02:18:04,230 --> 02:18:02,960

alternative behaviors

3629

02:18:07,750 --> 02:18:04,240

and it's saying the one that's most

3630

02:18:11,349 --> 02:18:07,760

rewarding it gets amped up

3631

02:18:13,429 --> 02:18:11,359

so it's adaptive do you believe in free

3632

02:18:15,910 --> 02:18:13,439

will

3633

02:18:18,150 --> 02:18:15,920

yeah i do i think that on that i side

3634

02:18:20,870 --> 02:18:18,160

with the early daniel bennett

3635

02:18:21,910 --> 02:18:20,880

daniel dennett and i don't agree on many

3636

02:18:25,429 --> 02:18:21,920

things but

3637

02:18:28,709 --> 02:18:25,439

he wrote a book called elbow room

3638

02:18:32,070 --> 02:18:28,719

varieties of free will worth wanting

3639

02:18:36,230 --> 02:18:32,080

that basically uh equates free will with

3640

02:18:42,950 --> 02:18:39,990

to make choices and so i think that's a

3641

02:18:43,509 --> 02:18:42,960

a common sense definition of free will

3642

02:18:45,589 --> 02:18:43,519

that

3643

02:18:47,830 --> 02:18:45,599

both exists and worth wanting but to

3644

02:18:49,669 --> 02:18:47,840

elaborate on that just a bit

3645

02:18:51,349 --> 02:18:49,679

uh you told me earlier about your

3646

02:18:52,469 --> 02:18:51,359

physics background and the theory of

3647

02:18:55,589 --> 02:18:52,479

everything which is

3648

02:18:57,190 --> 02:18:55,599

basically very reductionistic

3649

02:18:58,870 --> 02:18:57,200

concept that knowing only about the

3650

02:19:00,070 --> 02:18:58,880

physical world we might be able to

3651

02:19:01,990 --> 02:19:00,080

explain

3652

02:19:03,110 --> 02:19:02,000

everything and i think that there's

3653

02:19:06,950 --> 02:19:03,120

something

3654

02:19:09,910 --> 02:19:06,960

profoundly false about that and

3655

02:19:11,190 --> 02:19:09,920

which is revealed by evolution and that

3656

02:19:14,469 --> 02:19:11,200

evolution

3657

02:19:17,669 --> 02:19:14,479

is not at all deterministic there's

3658

02:19:21,589 --> 02:19:20,230

not probabilistic but uh basically

3659

02:19:26,230 --> 02:19:21,599

evolution

3660

02:19:30,469 --> 02:19:26,240

um results in in

3661

02:19:36,629 --> 02:19:34,070

they exist by virtue of of their

3662

02:19:39,190 --> 02:19:36,639

adaptedness

3663

02:19:40,790 --> 02:19:39,200

and and you can't predict them on the

3664

02:19:42,230 --> 02:19:40,800

basis of their physical

3665

02:19:44,790 --> 02:19:42,240

properties there's this concept of

3666

02:19:47,110 --> 02:19:44,800

downward causation

3667

02:19:49,270 --> 02:19:47,120

that when something evolves on the basis

3668

02:19:55,270 --> 02:19:49,280

of

3669

02:19:56,950 --> 02:19:55,280

the parts permitted it to happen but

3670

02:19:58,550 --> 02:19:56,960

they didn't cause it to happen as long

3671

02:20:00,070 --> 02:19:58,560

as the physical material results in

3672

02:20:02,070 --> 02:20:00,080

heritable variation

3673

02:20:03,670 --> 02:20:02,080

then it's the environmental forces which

3674

02:20:06,950 --> 02:20:03,680

cause something to be

3675

02:20:09,270 --> 02:20:06,960

brought into being and so

3676
02:20:10,790 --> 02:20:09,280
the theory of everything has to include

3677
02:20:12,389 --> 02:20:10,800
evolutionary

3678
02:20:14,230 --> 02:20:12,399
theory and there's a large portion of

3679
02:20:15,670 --> 02:20:14,240
evolutionary theory which is amazingly

3680
02:20:18,870 --> 02:20:15,680
detached from

3681
02:20:20,389 --> 02:20:18,880
physical processes at all

3682
02:20:23,030 --> 02:20:20,399
i mean everything that evolves has a

3683
02:20:25,270 --> 02:20:23,040
physical process but that physical

3684
02:20:27,110 --> 02:20:25,280
process did not determine

3685
02:20:28,550 --> 02:20:27,120
what he wanted all it provided was the

3686
02:20:31,670 --> 02:20:28,560
raw material of

3687
02:20:33,670 --> 02:20:31,680
heritable variation and so

3688
02:20:35,030 --> 02:20:33,680

all of that i think is really provides a

3689

02:20:38,150 --> 02:20:35,040

lot of christopher

3690

02:20:41,349 --> 02:20:38,160

for thinking about uh free will

3691

02:20:41,990 --> 02:20:41,359

okay now my last question this is just

3692

02:20:43,270 --> 02:20:42,000

one that i've

3693

02:20:45,190 --> 02:20:43,280

been thinking about my last questions

3694

02:20:49,110 --> 02:20:45,200

are killers i want to say my last

3695

02:20:53,830 --> 02:20:52,469

i'm a scientist so i i'm a scientist

3696

02:20:55,830 --> 02:20:53,840

at heart but i always like to critique

3697

02:20:58,630 --> 02:20:55,840

and critique critique so i was thinking

3698

02:21:00,070 --> 02:20:58,640

i was thinking i have this document of

3699

02:21:01,670 --> 02:21:00,080

theories that i feel like undermine

3700

02:21:03,349 --> 02:21:01,680

themselves and post-modernism is one of

3701
02:21:04,469 --> 02:21:03,359
them because it says there are no truths

3702
02:21:05,590 --> 02:21:04,479
and therefore any

3703
02:21:07,429 --> 02:21:05,600
claims to truth is power

3704
02:21:08,550 --> 02:21:07,439
self-contradictory but yeah exactly

3705
02:21:11,190 --> 02:21:08,560
because that's

3706
02:21:12,630 --> 02:21:11,200
a truth that you've claimed the power

3707
02:21:13,190 --> 02:21:12,640
truth the proud power narrative in other

3708
02:21:14,870 --> 02:21:13,200
words

3709
02:21:16,790 --> 02:21:14,880
okay then i was thinking about evolution

3710
02:21:18,870 --> 02:21:16,800
the evolution is interesting because

3711
02:21:23,270 --> 02:21:18,880
in a sense it can undermine itself and

3712
02:21:26,469 --> 02:21:26,150
we're selected not for our interaction

3713
02:21:29,110 --> 02:21:26,479

with

3714

02:21:30,150 --> 02:21:29,120

reality as such or the objective world

3715

02:21:33,590 --> 02:21:30,160

but we're selected

3716

02:21:35,750 --> 02:21:33,600

for what allows us to reproduce and that

3717

02:21:37,110 --> 02:21:35,760

may not necessarily match up to reality

3718

02:21:38,870 --> 02:21:37,120

so another philosopher and i don't

3719

02:21:41,270 --> 02:21:38,880

remember his name said that even

3720

02:21:42,710 --> 02:21:41,280

this world that we think is solid is we

3721

02:21:45,190 --> 02:21:42,720

should think of it more like

3722

02:21:46,230 --> 02:21:45,200

a computer icon that says that looks

3723

02:21:48,150 --> 02:21:46,240

like

3724

02:21:50,150 --> 02:21:48,160

a mail and then we don't confuse that

3725

02:21:51,190 --> 02:21:50,160

mail icon with the mail itself that's a

3726

02:21:54,790 --> 02:21:51,200

user interface

3727

02:21:55,750 --> 02:21:54,800

because that's all the evolution

3728

02:21:57,110 --> 02:21:55,760

provides you is

3729

02:21:58,309 --> 02:21:57,120

the ability to interact with the world

3730

02:22:00,230 --> 02:21:58,319

such that you get what you want and

3731

02:22:02,950 --> 02:22:00,240

hopefully that's something like survival

3732

02:22:04,950 --> 02:22:02,960

okay so then that means that we don't

3733

02:22:08,389 --> 02:22:04,960

we're not selected necessarily

3734

02:22:10,710 --> 02:22:08,399

for our relationship with reality

3735

02:22:12,710 --> 02:22:10,720

which means that whatever we think of as

3736

02:22:15,830 --> 02:22:12,720

real might not necessarily be real

3737

02:22:17,750 --> 02:22:15,840

including the theory of evolution so if

3738

02:22:19,590 --> 02:22:17,760

the theory of evolution is true

3739

02:22:21,349 --> 02:22:19,600

which obviously like i i believe you

3740

02:22:23,750 --> 02:22:21,359

believe i would

3741

02:22:25,270 --> 02:22:23,760

then we can use it to undermine itself

3742

02:22:26,389 --> 02:22:25,280

by saying the theory of evolution would

3743

02:22:28,469 --> 02:22:26,399

say that we don't

3744

02:22:29,590 --> 02:22:28,479

we're not selected to match with reality

3745

02:22:31,750 --> 02:22:29,600

including

3746

02:22:32,870 --> 02:22:31,760

our own theory of evolution and i want

3747

02:22:34,070 --> 02:22:32,880

to know what you think of that because

3748

02:22:35,750 --> 02:22:34,080

this is just something i thought about

3749

02:22:37,429 --> 02:22:35,760

for five minutes well that line of

3750

02:22:39,990 --> 02:22:37,439

reasoning would undermine

3751

02:22:46,950 --> 02:22:40,000

any theory so uh but i think the the

3752

02:22:53,110 --> 02:22:49,990

is that you're right what we

3753

02:22:54,870 --> 02:22:53,120

perceive as reality has is based on its

3754

02:22:57,349 --> 02:22:54,880

survival value

3755

02:23:02,830 --> 02:22:57,359

not on a direct apprehension of of

3756

02:23:06,870 --> 02:23:04,070

fortunately

3757

02:23:08,070 --> 02:23:06,880

i would qualify that a bit to say that

3758

02:23:10,870 --> 02:23:08,080

that

3759

02:23:13,590 --> 02:23:10,880

the relationship between objective

3760

02:23:16,230 --> 02:23:13,600

reality and survival value

3761

02:23:16,830 --> 02:23:16,240

is sometimes positive and sometimes

3762

02:23:19,349 --> 02:23:16,840

negative

3763

02:23:20,950 --> 02:23:19,359

sometimes knowing the world as it really

3764

02:23:23,270 --> 02:23:20,960

is

3765

02:23:24,389 --> 02:23:23,280

helps us survive in that world and

3766

02:23:26,309 --> 02:23:24,399

sometimes

3767

02:23:27,510 --> 02:23:26,319

flagrant departures from reality helps

3768

02:23:28,790 --> 02:23:27,520

us survive

3769

02:23:31,190 --> 02:23:28,800

in the world what that means is that

3770

02:23:32,950 --> 02:23:31,200

we're able to function in both modes

3771

02:23:34,309 --> 02:23:32,960

that we actually have a module you might

3772

02:23:36,510 --> 02:23:34,319

say

3773

02:23:40,710 --> 02:23:36,520

we have ways of thinking that that are

3774

02:23:47,910 --> 02:23:44,830

and that's proto-religious

3775

02:23:50,230 --> 02:23:47,920

uh let's put it to bitter cooler so that

3776

02:23:54,150 --> 02:23:50,240

we do have a capacity to function as

3777

02:23:57,510 --> 02:23:54,160

in scientific objective reasoning

3778

02:23:59,110 --> 02:23:57,520

modes to to decide upon

3779

02:24:01,910 --> 02:23:59,120

what's out there and then science is an

3780

02:24:05,030 --> 02:24:01,920

elaboration of that but the

3781

02:24:06,550 --> 02:24:05,040

the point to make is that is that even

3782

02:24:08,790 --> 02:24:06,560

if we didn't evolve to

3783

02:24:10,790 --> 02:24:08,800

apprehend reality luckily we have a

3784

02:24:11,830 --> 02:24:10,800

procedure which we call the scientific

3785

02:24:15,429 --> 02:24:11,840

method

3786

02:24:17,670 --> 02:24:15,439

which actually is capable of

3787

02:24:18,870 --> 02:24:17,680

doing that it doesn't come too naturally

3788

02:24:20,630 --> 02:24:18,880

for us

3789

02:24:22,469 --> 02:24:20,640

and it has to be a social process it's

3790

02:24:24,389 --> 02:24:22,479

not an individual process

3791

02:24:26,830 --> 02:24:24,399

but are we lucky that there's a social

3792

02:24:28,230 --> 02:24:26,840

process that enables us to actually

3793

02:24:31,750 --> 02:24:28,240

determine

3794

02:24:38,630 --> 02:24:36,070

and that's why we need to we need to

3795

02:24:40,150 --> 02:24:38,640

protect science and make it the

3796

02:24:42,389 --> 02:24:40,160

centerpiece of what we do

3797

02:24:44,469 --> 02:24:42,399

in a modern world because more and more

3798

02:24:46,950 --> 02:24:44,479

our survival does depend on knowing

3799

02:24:50,389 --> 02:24:46,960

the world as it really is so we need

3800

02:25:00,150 --> 02:24:50,399

science more than we ever did before

3801
02:25:04,150 --> 02:25:02,550
i think there's a pattern with this and

3802
02:25:06,950 --> 02:25:04,160
you're familiar with daniel bennett's

3803
02:25:08,710 --> 02:25:06,960
second endosymbiotic revolution right

3804
02:25:12,309 --> 02:25:08,720
where we get memes

3805
02:25:14,710 --> 02:25:12,319
yeah right so what struck me

3806
02:25:16,309 --> 02:25:14,720
in when i was i studied both my major in

3807
02:25:18,870 --> 02:25:16,319
history and biology

3808
02:25:20,790 --> 02:25:18,880
minored in philosophy and what struck me

3809
02:25:25,429 --> 02:25:20,800
was so many similarities between

3810
02:25:28,790 --> 02:25:25,439
these disciplines one of which was

3811
02:25:32,150 --> 02:25:28,800
in biops just starting with

3812
02:25:35,830 --> 02:25:32,160
prokaryotes you have these vessels

3813
02:25:37,670 --> 02:25:35,840

that have a coat and that coat

3814

02:25:38,950 --> 02:25:37,680

you know is the inflates or helps the

3815

02:25:39,590 --> 02:25:38,960

interface between themselves and the

3816

02:25:41,830 --> 02:25:39,600

environment

3817

02:25:43,110 --> 02:25:41,840

navigates them through life the ones

3818

02:25:46,150 --> 02:25:43,120

that make it

3819

02:25:49,270 --> 02:25:46,160

continue ones that die die

3820

02:25:50,550 --> 02:25:49,280

right then miracle occurs and this is

3821

02:25:51,110 --> 02:25:50,560

going really well and then a miracle

3822

02:25:53,750 --> 02:25:51,120

occurs

3823

02:25:55,270 --> 02:25:53,760

first endosymbiotic revolution they're

3824

02:25:58,309 --> 02:25:55,280

trapped together as one

3825

02:26:01,910 --> 02:25:58,319

and in being trapped they externalize

3826
02:26:03,910 --> 02:26:01,920
their internal codes into a new system

3827
02:26:05,510 --> 02:26:03,920
still within the boundary of the the new

3828
02:26:08,230 --> 02:26:05,520
wall which is called that

3829
02:26:08,710 --> 02:26:08,240
the new wall and this new externalized

3830
02:26:12,469 --> 02:26:08,720
code

3831
02:26:16,630 --> 02:26:12,479
becomes the interface or let's say

3832
02:26:18,070 --> 02:26:16,640
tailors the interface of the new wall

3833
02:26:20,469 --> 02:26:18,080
and runs you know what is kind of the

3834
02:26:23,270 --> 02:26:20,479
face of their evolution

3835
02:26:27,750 --> 02:26:23,280
to be i know i'm being a bit yeah you

3836
02:26:33,670 --> 02:26:31,030
the next question i had was

3837
02:26:35,349 --> 02:26:33,680
okay does the pattern contain do they

3838
02:26:36,790 --> 02:26:35,359

gather together

3839

02:26:39,910 --> 02:26:36,800

a bunch of eukaryotic cells do they

3840

02:26:41,510 --> 02:26:39,920

gather together externalize their code

3841

02:26:43,270 --> 02:26:41,520

and that code changes the interface of

3842

02:26:44,870 --> 02:26:43,280

that new wall

3843

02:26:47,110 --> 02:26:44,880

and thus governs their evolution in that

3844

02:26:48,710 --> 02:26:47,120

hierarchy and of course this is daniel

3845

02:26:51,830 --> 02:26:48,720

then it's memes

3846

02:26:53,349 --> 02:26:51,840

right uh i mean daniel dada i don't want

3847

02:26:55,990 --> 02:26:53,359

to disparage him but but

3848

02:26:57,750 --> 02:26:56,000

i mean this has a whole literature that

3849

02:26:59,590 --> 02:26:57,760

doesn't depend on daniel dennett

3850

02:27:05,510 --> 02:26:59,600

absolutely major transitions of

3851
02:27:09,510 --> 02:27:07,590
so anyhow i'm not sure i haven't read

3852
02:27:12,710 --> 02:27:09,520
dan's take on it but uh

3853
02:27:18,790 --> 02:27:12,720
but whatever i mean listen we say memes

3854
02:27:25,270 --> 02:27:21,830
do memes gather together

3855
02:27:27,349 --> 02:27:25,280
externalize their code

3856
02:27:29,030 --> 02:27:27,359
and then have that code govern some

3857
02:27:31,270 --> 02:27:29,040
larger interface

3858
02:27:32,550 --> 02:27:31,280
which governs their evolution my

3859
02:27:35,750 --> 02:27:32,560
question to you is

3860
02:27:37,270 --> 02:27:35,760
is that what history is that we come up

3861
02:27:40,469 --> 02:27:37,280
with the law

3862
02:27:41,110 --> 02:27:40,479
or written text and this externalized

3863
02:27:44,230 --> 02:27:41,120

text

3864

02:27:46,309 --> 02:27:44,240
governs our evolutions and thus

3865

02:27:47,270 --> 02:27:46,319
the evolution of our of our first our

3866

02:27:51,830 --> 02:27:47,280
ideas

3867

02:27:55,190 --> 02:27:51,840
then of our gen our dna then of our rna

3868

02:27:58,150 --> 02:27:55,200
and does that code then take on new life

3869

02:27:59,270 --> 02:27:58,160
and become for example computer code

3870

02:28:02,710 --> 02:27:59,280
which

3871

02:28:04,550 --> 02:28:02,720
acting upon itself ever trying this is

3872

02:28:06,389 --> 02:28:04,560
the new push getting it to evolve upon

3873

02:28:08,790 --> 02:28:06,399
itself

3874

02:28:10,230 --> 02:28:08,800
is this going to be the next level of

3875

02:28:12,550 --> 02:28:10,240
consciousness

3876

02:28:13,590 --> 02:28:12,560

the next code that is externalized from

3877

02:28:16,870 --> 02:28:13,600

us that

3878

02:28:19,030 --> 02:28:16,880

governs our lives our evolution and that

3879

02:28:19,910 --> 02:28:19,040

computers in this way your code is alive

3880

02:28:23,429 --> 02:28:19,920

follows this

3881

02:28:25,510 --> 02:28:23,439

matryoshka russian nesting gold trend

3882

02:28:26,550 --> 02:28:25,520

well that's my set of questions okay

3883

02:28:29,670 --> 02:28:26,560

well i mean

3884

02:28:30,710 --> 02:28:29,680

broadly uh yes to that last one believe

3885

02:28:34,710 --> 02:28:30,720

it or not

3886

02:28:38,790 --> 02:28:34,720

and uh i think quite a lot about that

3887

02:28:41,590 --> 02:28:38,800

and uh so i think that you're

3888

02:28:42,469 --> 02:28:41,600

traveling in a good direction one of my

3889

02:28:45,590 --> 02:28:42,479

projects

3890

02:28:47,349 --> 02:28:45,600

uh with uh

3891

02:28:49,110 --> 02:28:47,359

funded by one of the templeton

3892

02:28:51,990 --> 02:28:49,120

foundations is to actually

3893

02:28:52,950 --> 02:28:52,000

create to first do interviews and then

3894

02:28:56,309 --> 02:28:52,960

to

3895

02:28:58,150 --> 02:28:56,319

create a documentary series on

3896

02:29:00,469 --> 02:28:58,160

major transitions from the origins of

3897

02:29:02,870 --> 02:29:00,479

life to the internet age

3898

02:29:04,389 --> 02:29:02,880

so it's really that story that you were

3899

02:29:07,590 --> 02:29:04,399

saying that we're

3900

02:29:10,790 --> 02:29:07,600

documenting by interviewing experts

3901
02:29:13,190 --> 02:29:10,800
and i'm working with a documentary

3902
02:29:15,510 --> 02:29:13,200
filmmaker named ellen honik

3903
02:29:17,429 --> 02:29:15,520
who has really immersed himself in this

3904
02:29:19,190 --> 02:29:17,439
and so he's achieved

3905
02:29:22,790 --> 02:29:19,200
expert's level of knowledge with a lot

3906
02:29:25,590 --> 02:29:22,800
of creative input

3907
02:29:26,950 --> 02:29:25,600
on his own and we're interviewing people

3908
02:29:31,030 --> 02:29:26,960
like

3909
02:29:32,630 --> 02:29:31,040
a spot murray athena octopus who studies

3910
02:29:34,389 --> 02:29:32,640
cancer from an

3911
02:29:36,389 --> 02:29:34,399
evolutionary perspective rich michoud

3912
02:29:37,190 --> 02:29:36,399
who's contributed to this all the way up

3913
02:29:41,030 --> 02:29:37,200

to

3914

02:29:44,550 --> 02:29:41,040

internet folks like tim o'reilly and and

3915

02:29:47,590 --> 02:29:44,560

and and the like as to how

3916

02:29:50,150 --> 02:29:47,600

there's uh we're at the point now where

3917

02:29:51,429 --> 02:29:50,160

we need to have a the final transition

3918

02:29:52,950 --> 02:29:51,439

up to a global

3919

02:29:54,950 --> 02:29:52,960

consciousness if you've read my book

3920

02:29:57,990 --> 02:29:54,960

this year of life you know that i

3921

02:30:00,150 --> 02:29:58,000

accurate with pierre gel de chardin his

3922

02:30:03,590 --> 02:30:00,160

concept of the amiga point

3923

02:30:05,030 --> 02:30:03,600

um and and so on so it sounds like

3924

02:30:07,190 --> 02:30:05,040

science fiction

3925

02:30:09,190 --> 02:30:07,200

um and these transitions are very much

3926

02:30:12,550 --> 02:30:09,200

transitions of information

3927

02:30:14,950 --> 02:30:12,560

as you say so um

3928

02:30:16,309 --> 02:30:14,960

and it ends up with a symbiosis that's

3929

02:30:17,670 --> 02:30:16,319

going to be thoroughly entwined with

3930

02:30:19,910 --> 02:30:17,680

technology

3931

02:30:22,230 --> 02:30:19,920

and so on i mean the internet will be

3932

02:30:23,910 --> 02:30:22,240

the global nervous system but

3933

02:30:25,670 --> 02:30:23,920

it does not self-organize there's one

3934

02:30:28,790 --> 02:30:25,680

point that needs to be made

3935

02:30:31,110 --> 02:30:28,800

it's not happening no it cannot it has

3936

02:30:33,349 --> 02:30:31,120

to be guided by a selection process

3937

02:30:35,590 --> 02:30:33,359

and it's here that we have to be

3938

02:30:38,630 --> 02:30:35,600

targeting the global good

3939

02:30:40,150 --> 02:30:38,640

uh making that the target of selection

3940

02:30:41,670 --> 02:30:40,160

and if we don't do that then it won't

3941

02:30:43,910 --> 02:30:41,680

happen for sure

3942

02:30:46,870 --> 02:30:43,920

so this is where the idea of managing

3943

02:30:50,550 --> 02:30:46,880

cultural evolution what does that mean

3944

02:30:52,309 --> 02:30:50,560

it means managing all three components

3945

02:30:53,429 --> 02:30:52,319

of an evolutionary process those three

3946

02:30:56,950 --> 02:30:53,439

components are

3947

02:30:58,950 --> 02:30:56,960

selection variation and replication

3948

02:31:02,389 --> 02:30:58,960

what does it mean to manage them it

3949

02:31:05,670 --> 02:31:04,230

decide the target of selection the

3950

02:31:08,790 --> 02:31:05,680

global good

3951

02:31:12,550 --> 02:31:08,800

orient variation around the target

3952

02:31:14,070 --> 02:31:12,560

and then replicate best practices

3953

02:31:15,910 --> 02:31:14,080

that's what needs to be done all with

3954

02:31:19,190 --> 02:31:15,920

the global good uh

3955

02:31:19,910 --> 02:31:19,200

in mind and nothing less will do so it's

3956

02:31:22,070 --> 02:31:19,920

uh

3957

02:31:23,910 --> 02:31:22,080

pretty amazing that you could actually

3958

02:31:27,270 --> 02:31:23,920

make a strong statement like that and

3959

02:31:30,150 --> 02:31:27,280

yeah i thought about it in my undergrad

3960

02:31:31,110 --> 02:31:30,160

um i discovered dennett i don't know if

3961

02:31:33,590 --> 02:31:31,120

you'll believe me

3962

02:31:35,750 --> 02:31:33,600

afterwards and when i found about your

3963

02:31:39,110 --> 02:31:35,760

powdered light revolution institute

3964

02:31:41,429 --> 02:31:39,120

i was very very excited

3965

02:31:42,950 --> 02:31:41,439

to speak well that's that's awesome and

3966

02:31:46,389 --> 02:31:42,960

i hope that you can get involved

3967

02:31:47,990 --> 02:31:46,399

and so we'll uh well what i'm

3968

02:31:52,630 --> 02:31:48,000

one of the things i'm trying to do is

3969

02:31:57,110 --> 02:31:55,830

literally build a movement which is uh

3970

02:31:59,990 --> 02:31:57,120

you're building an army

3971

02:32:00,550 --> 02:32:00,000

and i i love it well not yet influx not

3972

02:32:03,270 --> 02:32:00,560

yet but

3973

02:32:04,309 --> 02:32:03,280

uh but hopefully and has the same kind

3974

02:32:07,030 --> 02:32:04,319

of

3975

02:32:07,750 --> 02:32:07,040

energy as a political movement but with

3976

02:32:10,870 --> 02:32:07,760

uh

3977

02:32:12,230 --> 02:32:10,880

worldview rather than a political

3978

02:32:14,870 --> 02:32:12,240

ideology