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Subject: Re: Why did you vote for Obama?

Posted by [Spoony](#) on Tue, 09 Dec 2008 14:41:52 GMT

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You guys make this so easy.

Darkknight wrote on Mon, 08 December 2008 20:41 I find it amusing listening to and reading from atheist. To them there can't possibly be a God so they have to figure out some way to make it all makes sense.

I don't say "there can't possibly be a God". I do say that it is a staggeringly unlikely hypothesis, and I do say there is absolutely no evidence for it. Still, in science you can never absolutely disprove the existence of something. You cannot prove the tooth fairy doesn't exist; we would still shake our head sadly at an adult who seriously believed in it.

As for "have to figure out some way to make it all make sense"... what a strange way of putting it. Science is about looking at the world, trying to figure out how it works, and testing your ideas against the facts, and developing your ideas when they are not correct. Religion is more along the lines of "this book was written over a thousand years ago, we aren't sure who by, we aren't sure exactly when, we don't know how they knew what to write, we don't know whether they had an agenda which influenced their writing... therefore it's true"

Finally, I would repeat something I have said several times already. I am open to the idea that there may be a God. If you prove to me there is a God and that every word of the Bible was true, I would accept it. But I would not worship him and I would not become a Christian. I have already said that the main reason I am not a Christian isn't because I find it all very difficult to believe (although that's part of it). The main reason is that I find many of its moral teachings absolutely despicable. If the Bible was true, God would be the most staggeringly evil entity that ever existed. But then, unlike you I've actually read the Bible.

Darkknight wrote on Mon, 08 December 2008 20:41 They have such a hard time believing in God but have absolutely no problem believing there was nothing then one day all the nothingness banged and everything accidently fell into perfect order, the fish jumped out of the sea, turned into monkeys and one day decided to stand up and talk, boom we have man. That they have no problem believing.

Quite clearly you have not been properly taught evolution or the origin of life. I'll come back to that.

Darkknight wrote on Mon, 08 December 2008 20:41 Atheist in a way worship science. They follow science as the end all knowledge of everything.

Science is the pursuit of things you don't know yet, and the understanding of things we see. You're just using biased wording.

Darkknight wrote on Mon, 08 December 2008 20:41 If science has no proof then it cannot possibly be true. Science once believed the earth was flat until it was proven otherwise.

Like I keep saying, the whole point about science is that it develops as we learn more. Religion doesn't. See my post earlier. When the Bible was written, we didn't know fuck all about the world. Now we know about the shape and composition of the planet, that it is still cooling with a molten core and fissures in its crust, and a turbulent weather system. These are completely valid explanations for hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanoes etc. We also know about bacteria, germs etc; which explains most diseases. When the Bible was written, we knew none of the above, so when

the shit hits the fan and a city gets flattened, why not think it was the wrath of a celestial super-bully? Quite probably nobody could think of a better explanation.

Now, we can!

What's more (and very revealing) is the fact that religion has always stood in the way of scientific discovery, and still does. It makes me chuckle to hear religious people talk about how "LOL YOU USED TO THINK THE EARTH WAS FLAT". It took arduous scientific study from dedicated people to understand things about the world and universe we live in; the shape and nature of the world, what things are made of and how they work. There are countless examples of scientific discovery which were fanatically opposed by religion; Darwin, Newton, Galileo, Democritus, Einstein...

Yes, science used to think the earth was flat. If religion had its way, we probably still would.

Darkknight wrote on Mon, 08 December 2008 20:41 I'm sure Spooky and some others will rip this apart to and show the true hatred they have toward Christians while they say we lack tolerance toward their views.

No, I'll rip it apart to show you how wrong you are in a great many places. That's the point of an argument, and if you can't handle it, don't join one.

As for hatred towards Christians, I've already said it and I'll say it again. I find your beliefs ludicrous and in many cases horribly barbaric, but if all you do is believe what you want to believe and leave other people alone, I've no issue with you. Sadly the religious never seem capable of doing this, but I have no gripe at all with the man on the street who prays once a week, so long as I'm not the one paying for it. (which I am)

Darkknight wrote on Mon, 08 December 2008 20:41 u6795 wrote on Mon, 08 December 2008 05:41 and then use the excuse OH IT'S ONLY UNTIL YOU'RE 18 AND THEN YOU CAN MAKE YOUR OWN CHOICES. That's absolutely stupid. By the time you turn 18 most kids are brainwashed, and never had a choice whatsoever. It's disgusting.

You can say this about any parent whether they are atheist or religious. Every parent "brainwashes" his or her children into their belief system. When you turn 18 go out and make your own choices.

My parents didn't, not in the least. They happen to be atheists, but they never encouraged me to be an atheist or told me God didn't exist. As for "brainwashing", you clearly haven't followed the debate. Read my earlier posts about my secondary school. The religious myths of the Bible were taught to me and my fellows with absolute certainty. Nobody ever said "there's no proof any of this happened". Nobody ever said "there's a lot of proof indicating that bits of it DIDN'T happen". Nobody ever addressed the fact that huge chunks of it contradict the rest of it. And nobody pointed out that huge amounts of blood has been spilled in its name.

Children are impressionable, which is the whole basis of education. These myths were taught to me with the same certainty as the maths teacher who explained that if you put two and two together you get four and if you don't believe me, test it with apples or get a calculator. It is incredibly dishonest to present religion in such a "factual" way. Children tend to believe what their teachers tell them; it doesn't usually occur to children to ask the teacher how they know this? A science or maths teacher could answer that question; a religious teacher never could, not truthfully.

Darkknight wrote on Mon, 08 December 2008 20:41 you either believe or you don't and you want to convince the other side to change just from reading the forums.

Like I said, you go ahead and believe your Bible myths for all I care. I hope, however, that if you have children you won't lie to them; you'll respect their right to have an unbrainwashed education.

Darkknight wrote on Mon, 08 December 2008 20:41 Christians are being called nut jobs cause we believe in God, but those who don't seem to think it's totally sane to believe the universe all happened from nothing that went bang and formed life in perfect order all by accident. There are a few words here which prove beyond all doubt that you know absolutely nothing about the theory of evolution.

"in perfect order all by accident"

Firstly, "in perfect order". The origin of life was the most simple thing imaginable. It took MILLIONS OF YEARS for the first spark of life to appear. From there it took MILLIONS OF YEARS for it to develop and evolve into the most primitive example of life that still exists today, never mind the intelligent creatures we are now.

As for the original spark of life, it was (looking at it in isolation) an improbable event. One in a million, for all I care. Thankfully there are billions and billions and billions of planets in the universe, even assuming this universe is the only one (which is disputed). Looking at the numbers, it is not improbable at all that it would happen eventually. Over time (millions of years to work with, remember), nigh-impossible becomes improbable, improbable becomes feasible, feasible becomes likely, likely becomes nearly certain.

Secondly, "all by accident". WHAT THE FUCK? Do you know ANYTHING about evolution? Natural selection is the EXACT OPPOSITE of accident. It could not be further from an "accident" if it tried. The original spark of life was an accident, but an accident that was probably going to happen. Evolution is the exact opposite of an accident; it is the survival of successful creatures while less successful creatures die out, the genetic information of the successful creatures being passed on and developing over millennia.

Like I said, you have not been properly taught what evolution is, and it really does disappoint me that your educational system is obviously letting you down. Either that or your parents are brainwashing you.

Jecht wrote Jecht

There are a number of ways actually, and they take many mediums.

-School, in that I am taught things believed untrue, or not the full truth.

What things "believed untrue" are you taught and what does it have to do with secularism? Do you know what the word means? I've given examples of things "believed untrue" that I was taught, with absolute certainty on the part of the teacher.

Jecht wrote-Television, shows are becoming much more graphic, where some things are...unnecessary. There is a shock factor that I think some shows try to adhere to. Which is fine, it draws viewers so I can understand why they do it.

What does this have to do with secularism? Do you know what the word means?

Jecht wrote-Internet, let's face it, sometimes we come across images we'd rather not have and

had no intention of seeing.

What does this have to do with secularism? Do you know what the word means?

Jecht wrote-Radio, on stations I listen to, there can often be vulgar things. Luckily the radio came with a dial and a power button when I think it's too much

What does this have to do with secularism? Do you know what the word means?

Jecht wrote-Advertising, Ever walk through a mall? Some images there that are...unnecessary to say the least. I'm not at all what you'd call a prude, so I personally am not offended by them.

What does this have to do with secularism? Do you know what the word means?

Jecht wrote-I'm just saying that according to Luke, it's a sin for me to look at them.

And if someone unidentified wrote a book thousands of years ago saying it is a sin for you not to look at them, surely it would occur to you that they might be lying or crazy or just plain wrong?

Jecht wrote-Everywhere, there are various things that test faith. I have to have a strong enough will to overcome them though

Or a feeble enough imagination, or a closed enough mind, or a startling blend of gullibility and crackpot scepticism. Call it what you like.

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