

Distinguished Lecture Series at Caltech

Topics

1. TOP PICKS
2. PSEUDOSCIENCE
3. PSYCHICS & MAGIC
4. ENVIRONMENT & GLOBAL WARMING
5. EVOLUTION & CREATIONISM
6. RELIGION:
BIBLE HISTORY/SCHOLARSHIP,
RELIGIOUS ANTHROPOLOGY,
RELIGIOUS PSYCHOLOGY
7. THE NATURE OF HUMAN NATURE
(THE SCIENCE OF WHO WE ARE)
8. THE COSMOS:
SPACE EXPLORATION
9. THE COSMOS:
OUR ORIGINS—PHYSICS
10. SCIENCE HISTORY,
SCIENCE PHILOSOPHY
& SCIENCE ETHICS
11. SCIENCE & RELIGION
12. EXTREMISM,
RACE ISSUES, CULTS
13. MATH & STATISTICS
14. SATIRE/SONGS

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SALE! VHS tapes Only \$7.99 each while they last!

We are closing out the VIDEO TAPE (VHS) versions of all of our lectures. Order now while we still have a wide selection in stock
For some lectures there is neither a VHS or a DVD available. DVDs will eventually be produced.

1. Top picks

RICHARD DAWKINS

av036DVD (DVD); av036CD (audio CD); av036AT (audio)--River Out of Eden: A Darwinian View of Life. Evolutionary reasoning from Evolutionary Biologist Richard Dawkins' best-selling works. Point after point showing why creationism is simply and obviously wrong. Also, African Eve theory.

RICHARD DAWKINS

av139DVD (DVD); av139AT (audio tape) av139CD (audio CD)--The Ancestor's Tale: A Pilgrimage to the Dawn of Evolution Dawkins presents a comprehensive look at evolution, ranging from the latest developments in the field to his own provocative views. View the connections between ourselves and all other life in a bracingly novel way. A fascinating history of all living things.

RICHARD DAWKINS-GOD DELUSION

av169C (audio cassette); av169DVD (DVD); av169CD (audio CD)--The God Delusion. A direct no holds barred salvo against organized religion arguing that belief in “The God Hypothesis” is both intellectually wrong, and a divisive and oppressive force that contributes to social backwardness and bigotry. Entertaining and insightful.

DANIEL DENNETT

av157C (audio cassette); av157DVD (DVD); av157CD (audio CD)--Breaking the Spell: Religion As A Natural Phenomenon. Why do people believe in God and what purpose does it serve? How does religion shape our lives and our future. Is religion a blind evolutionary compulsion or a rational choice? How organized religion evolved from folk beliefs and why it is such a potent force today. Deftly and lucidly, he contends that the “belief in belief” has fogged any attempt to rationally consider the existence of God and the relationship between divinity and human need.

DANIEL DENNETT

av119VHS(video); av119C (audio cassette); av119DVD (DVD); av119CD (audio CD)-- Freedom Evolves: Free Will, Determinism, and Evolution by renowned philosopher and public intellectual Dr. Daniel C. Dennett. Draws on evolutionary biology, cognitive neuroscience, economics and philosophy, demonstrates that free will exists in a deterministic world for humans only, and that this gives us morality, meaning, and moral culpability. A sequel to his bestseller Darwin's Dangerous Idea.

JARED DIAMOND

av015DVD (DVD); av015C (audio cassette)--The Great Leap Forward: The Evolution of Human Creativity and Language by Dr. Jared Diamond. Presents his controversial theory that it was language that triggered the "Great Leap Forward" about 35,000 years ago that led to human culture & set us apart from Neanderthals. A brilliant and masterful lecture by one of the greatest scientists of our generation.

JARED DIAMOND

av055DVD (DVD)-TAPE III-'97 • 1997 AWARDS. JARED DIAMOND: Guns, Germs and Steel: A masterpiece! Why did Europeans conquer Native Americans, Africans & Aborigines, rather than the reverse? Biology, zoology, biogeography, botany, linguistics, archeology, & genetics are used to answer one of the most perplexing questions of history. (ALSO ON THIS TAPE: MICHAEL SHERMER: How to Bridge the Science Gap. Shermer defined the "Science Gap" & regaled the audience with stories of his media experiences.)

JARED DIAMOND

av077DVD (DVD); av077C (audio cassette)--How to be Rich and Successful: Lessons from History's Experiments in Organizing Human Groups Diamond continues the discussion started in his Pulitzer Prize-winning Guns, Germs, and Steel on the evolutionary and historical fates of human societies, to consider the current implications of his research for the fates of Microsoft, silicon valley, the European Union, German Beer, and Japanese food. Another brilliant lecture.

JARED DIAMOND

av142C (cassette tape); av142DVD (DVD); av142CD (audio CD)--COLLAPSE! How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed Dr. Jared Diamond now asks: "What causes the collapse of great civilizations, and what can we learn from their fates?" he weaves an all-encompassing global thesis through a series of fascinating historical-cultural narratives. From Polynesia to ecologically robust areas like Montana, he traces the fundamental pattern of catastrophe: environmental damage, climate change, rapid population growth, and unwise political choices—and offers solutions. Brilliant, illuminating, and immensely absorbing.

STEPHEN JAYGOULD

av095DVD (DVD); av095CD (audio CD)-Evolution Revolution: Keynote Address by Gould. Festschrift 2000 for Stephen Jay Gould. Part III Gould is one of the best known and most highly decorated scientists of our age. he delivers a remarkable lecture filled with wit, charm, and historical anecdote, tracing the history of Western culture's uneasy relationship with the shattering discoveries of science. Don't miss this one!

MICHIO KAKU

av143C (audio cassette); av143DVD (DVD); av143CD (2 audio CDs) PARALLEL WORLDS: The Science of Creation, Black Holes, Superstrings, and Higher Dimensions Michio Kaku. professor of Theoretical Physics at City University of New York and bestselling author, presents a fascinating tour of cosmology, including M-theory, inflationary universe theory, & parallel universes. Describes extraordinary advances that have transformed cosmology over the last decade.

STEVEN PINKER

THE BLANK SLATE: The Modern Denial of Human Nature av113C (audio cassette); av113DVD (DVD); av113CD (audio CD) Evolutionary psychologist and linguistic theorist Dr. Steven Pinker argues for a new scientific understanding of human nature. This brilliant reexamination of human nature, addresses the fear that a biological understanding of the mind will be used to justify inequality, subvert social change, dissolve personal responsibility, and strip life of meaning and purpose. Pinker is at his best in this lecture.

STEVEN PINKER

THE STUFF OF THOUGHT: Language as a Window into Human Nature av178DVD (DVD); av178CD (audio CD) By one of the most influential thinkers of our time—Dr. Steven Pinker—on what language reveals about human nature. For example, what swearing reveals about our emotions; what innuendo discloses about relationships; how our use of prepositions and tenses taps into peculiarly human concepts of space and time; and how our nouns and verbs speak to our notions of matter; and even what baby names say about our relations to our children and society.

JAMES RANDI

av001DVD (DVD); av001C (audio cassette)--**Pseudoscience and the Paranormal** by James “The Amazing” Randi. Inaugural Skeptics Society Lecture! The irrepressible and always entertaining James Randi details his travels in newly liberated eastern Europe and Russia, and speculates on human nature, gullibility, and how to investigate the paranormal. Plus, the Amazing one dazzles the audience with a little magic, bending spoons & reading playing cards.

JAMES RANDI

av066DVD (DVD)-- James Randi’s Solved Mysteries Workshop 1. Conference 1998, Part III Randi Covers “psychics” and detecting their tactics. Lots of visual demonstrations. Excellent! Randi at his best.

JAMES RANDI

av067DVD (DVD)-- James Randi’s Solved Mysteries Workshop 2. Conference 1998, Part IV by James “The Amazing” Randi. Randi demonstrates controlled scientific testing of water Dowzers. Also Randi’s elaborate “Carlos Hoax.” Powerful video clips show how proper scientific tests are conducted. Priceless!

JAMES RANDI

av068DVD (DVD)-- James Randi’s Solved Mysteries Workshop 3 Conference 1998, Part V Final part of Randi’s day-long seminar on solving mysteries through science includes more of his memorable investigations, such as testing Russian psychics when he traveled to Russia shortly after the fall of the

Soviet Union, plus testing the claims of homeopathy, and a special airing of Randi’s famous PBS Nova documentary. A Classic!

RICHARD WISEMAN

av152C (audio cassette); av152DVD (DVD);--**Luck, ESP, and Magic: How Science Tests the Unusual.** By magician, author, and psychologist Dr. Richard Wiseman. Great tape for students and groups. Enlightening and entertaining! He focuses on his Luck Project (what traits make one person luckier than others), the psychology of magic, and the reliability of eyewitness testimony. Wiseman heads the psychology lab at the University of Hertfordshire, England and has done many TV programs.

STUDY OF EVIL- ZIMBARDO

av175DVD (DVD); av175CD (audio CD)-- **The Lucifer Effect: Understanding How Good People Turn Evil** By Dr. Philip Zimbardo, who ran the famous “Stanford Prison Experiment” in the late 1960s, shows how ordinary people become perpetrators of evil. He reviews the research on conformity, obedience to authority, role-playing, dehumanization, deindividuation and moral disengagement, and asserts that situational power is stronger than we appreciate. Zimbardo applies his theories to understanding the Inquisition, the massacre in Rwanda, the rape of Nanking, and the abuse and torture in Iraq’s infamous Abu Ghraib prison. He suggests that by awareness of the Lucifer Effect we may choose between inaction and the heroism of resisting evil.

EVOLUTION OF IDEA OF GOD

ROBERT WRIGHT. THE EVOLUTION OF GOD. av203DVD (DVD) av203CD (audio CD)-- In this sweeping story that takes us from the Stone Age to the Information Age, bestselling author Robert Wright unveils an astonishing discovery: there is a hidden pattern that the great monotheistic faiths have followed as they have evolved. Through the prisms of archaeology, theology, and evolutionary psychology, Wright’s findings overturn basic assumptions about Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and are sure to cause controversy. He explains why spirituality has a role today, and why science, contrary to conventional wisdom, affirms the validity of the religious quest. And this previously unrecognized evolutionary logic points not toward continued

religious extremism, but future harmony.

Robert Wright introduced the world to evolutionary psychology through his wildly popular best-selling book *The Moral Animal: Why We Are the Way We Are*. His most controversial book, *Nonzero: The Logic of Human Destiny*, put forth the theory that human evolution and the history

of civilization contain within them an inevitable trend toward more and more win-win nonzero game exchanges between people and groups that has led humans to dominate the planet. In his new book, *The Evolution of God*, Wright reveals his new theory about the power of globalization and cultural integration.

2. PSEUDOSCIENCE

CRYONICS

av002VHS (video); av002C (audio cassette)-- Can Science Cheat Death? Cryonics Life Extension by Mike Darwin of Alcor Life Extension Foundation, makes a scientific case for life extension through cryonic suspension. Can people frozen now be revived in the far future? This engrossing lecture covers the technical aspects and problems of cryogenic suspension, as well as addressing the ethical and social issues.

PSEUDOSCIENCE & THE PARANORMAL

FACTS BEHIND THE FICTION — 1/2 DAY SEMINAR av018C (audio cassette) av018VHS (video-only 4 left) By Dr. Michael Shermer. Facts behind extraordinary claims such as: ESP, UFOs, alien abductions, dowsing, cryonics, creationism, firewalking, cults, faith healing, hallucinations and hypnosis, holocaust denial, and many more. Discusses the power of belief systems that convince almost anyone of almost anything, from the sublime (e.g., God) to the ridiculous (e.g., alien abductions) to the unbelievable (e.g., the Holocaust never happened).

FACILITATED COMMUNICATION

av020C (audio cassette)-- Facilitated Communication: Mental Miracle or Sleight of Hand? by Dr. Gina Green, Director of Research, New England Center for Autism. Green examines the claims a new therapy that allows formerly non-verbal autistic patients to speak through the typing of a facilitator who holds their hand. How the claim was scientifically tested to show it was nothing more than a cruel self-deception on the part of caring therapists. Discusses the sex abuse angle.

DOES QUANTUM PHYSICS

SUPPORT ESP, PSYCHIC POWER, ETC.

av043C (audio cassette)-- Quantum Quackery: Physics, Metaphysics, and Flapdoodle by Dr. Victor J. Stenger, physicist. Dr. Stenger shows that because quantum mechanics is obscure it is often misused to explain the “unexplainable”—ESP, psychic power, etc. But quantum mechanical hypotheses fit the facts of material reality quite well without any need at all to call upon mysticism.

CAN HISTORY BE A SCIENCE?

av054VHS (video); ; av054DVD (DVD)-- Can History be a Science? Conference 1997, Part II. Plus: Randi Dr. Frank Sullo way demonstrates how to make history a Science. Shows how historians can practice scientific history and test their ideas. Fascinating examples include a statistical “content analysis” he performed on Darwin’s Beagle notes and Darwin’s letters. • James “the Amazing” Randi on his Million Dollar Challenge and his new organization, the James Randi Educational Foundation. Always entertaining

URBAN LEGENDS

DR. JAN HAROLD BRUNVAND

av088DVD (DVD); av088C (audio cassette)-- Urban Legends The world’s leading scholar of urban legends and myths, shows how and why we have all fallen for such stories as alligators in the sewers, fake warnings, humor, sex and horror stories. Learn to spot an Urban Legend from the King of Urban Legends himself. Witty, wise, & enjoyable.

MESMERISM

av098VHS (video-only one left); av098C (audio cassette)-- Mesmerized! by Caltech science historian Dr. Allison Winter. Explores the amazing history of Mesmerism, which was a compelling experience for thousands of entranced Victorians—and yet it became a powerful example of social delusion. Explores the relationship between pseudoscience and science, demonstrating the often blurry line between the two.

Dr. MICHAEL SHERMER

av102DVD (DVD); av102C (audio cassette)-- *The Borderlands Of Science: Where Sense Meets Nonsense* by Dr. Michael Shermer. Explores the murky borderland between science and pseudo-science, where it is not clear whether a claim will be the next scientific revolution or the next pseudoscientific blunder. Examples include superstring theory, inflationary cosmology, theories of consciousness, SETI, hypnosis, chiropractic, acupuncture.

Dr. PHILIP PLAIT

av107C (audio cassette); AV107DVD (DVD)-- *Bad Astronomy* by Dr. Philip Plait, creator of the highly acclaimed www.badastronomy.com, addresses popular astronomical misunderstandings including: claims that we never went to the moon, claims that eggs stand on end only during the equinox, and other astronomical anomalies. Delightful, educational. Plait is smart, entertaining, and hilarious.

CUTTING-EDGE SCIENCE & TECH

av116VHS (video); av116DVD (DVD); av116C (audio cassette tape) *Cutting-Edge Science and Technologies: What is a Skeptic to Believe?* by aerospace engineer David Naiditch. Bacteria-sized robots (nanobots) and stealthy nano-assassins. A space elevator of lightweight carbon nanotubes. Robo spy flies. Computer-to-brain interfaces. Naiditch reviews some potentially revolutionary technologies and discusses the hazards of predicting their futures.

JAMES RANDI

av147DVD (DVD)-- *An Evening with James Randi* also featuring: singer/satirist Roy Zimmerman in a performance that brought the skeptical house down with encore demands for more of his musical social commentaries; a video tribute to Randi with clips of highlights from his remarkable career; a dialogue with Michael Shermer and Randi on skepticism, science, and magic; and a lively audience Q & A.

ALIEN ABDUCTION

av153VHS (video-only one left); av153DVD (DVD); av153CD (audio CD)-- *Abducted! How People Come to Believe They Were Kidnapped by Aliens*. By psychologist Dr. Susan Clancy. Why do people believe they are abducted by aliens? Key differences between people making abduction claims and people who have

suffered real trauma. How sane and intelligent people have unwittingly created vivid false memories from a toxic mix of nightmares, popular culture, and a powerful drive for meaning that science is unable to satisfy. For them, otherworldly terror can become a transforming, even inspiring experience. Surprising and fascinating.

TESTING THE UNUSUAL**Dr. RICHARD WISEMAN**

av152DVD (DVD); av152CD (audio CD)--*Luck, ESP, and Magic: How Science Tests the Unusual*. By magician, author, and psychologist Dr. Richard Wiseman. Great tape for students and groups. Enlightening and entertaining! He focuses on his Luck Project (what traits make one person luckier than others), the psychology of magic, and the reliability of eyewitness testimony, Wiseman heads the psychology lab at the University of Hertfordshire, England and has been featured in many television programs.

da VINCI CODE

av160DVD (DVD); av160CD (audio CD)--*Decoding the da Vinci Code, The Gospel of Judas & Other Biblical Mysteries* by Tim Callahan. Is the best selling novel *The da Vinci Code* based on historical facts as author Dan Brown claims? Did Jesus and Mary Magdalene produce a royal bloodline that continues to this day? What about the extra-biblical Gospel of Judas? Does Christianity need to be revised? Callahan delivers the facts.

KAKU: PHYSICS OF THE IMPOSSIBLE

av183DVD (DVD); av183CD (audio CD)--*Physics of the Impossible* by Dr. Michio Kaku. Explores to what extent impossible seeming technologies and devices from the world of science fiction might become reality: teleportation, force fields, simulated invisibility; mind reading using the science of optics, electromagnetism, light, MRI devices, magnetic fields, superconductors, and nanotechnology. Explores the fundamentals—and the limits—of the laws of physics as we know them today.

SUPERSTITION v. SCIENCE

SUPERSTITION: *Belief in the Age of Science* av195DVD (DVD) av195CD (audio CD)-- By DR. Robert Park. From uttering a prayer before boarding a plane, to exploring past lives through hypnosis, why has superstition become so pervasive in an age of science? Robert Park, the University of Maryland physics professor and the best-selling author of *Voodoo Science*, asks why

people persist in superstitious convictions long after science has shown them to be ill-founded. He takes on supernatural beliefs from religion and the afterlife to New Age spiritualism and faith-based medical claims. He examines recent controversies and concludes that science is the only way we have of understanding the world. In this lecture based on his new book, Park discusses parapsychology, homeopathy, and acupuncture; he questions the existence of souls, the founda-

tions of intelligent design, and the power of prayer; he asks for evidence of reincarnation and astral projections; and he challenges the idea of heaven. Throughout, he demonstrates how people's blind faith, and their confidence in suspect phenomena and remedies, are manipulated for political ends. Park shows that science prevails when people stop fooling themselves.

3. PSYCHICS ESP & MAGIC

SORRY--ALL LECTURES
IN THIS CATEGORY ARE CURRENTLY
SOLD OUT OF VHS TAPES.

EXCEPT FOR AV126, AND AV097 DVDS ARE
NOT YET AVAILABLE —BUT THEY WILL
EVENTUALLY BE PRODUCED.

MENTALISM/PSYCHIC POWER

av126DVD (DVD)- Mind Power: Fact, Fiction & Fakery by mentalist and author of *The Full Facts Book of Cold Reading*. Rowland demonstrates a wide range of seemingly psychic and impossible effects (no magician secrets revealed!) while outlining what he refers to as 'real' mind power. A very funny, entertaining, and education show.

SCIENCE-BASED MAGIC TRICKS II

av097DVD (DVD)-THE MADMAN OF MAGIC by Bob Friedhoffer. In a wonderful presentation that had adults and children laughing and learning at the same time, professional magician, science educator and writer Bob Freidhoffer uses the normal perception mistakes everyone makes that allow magicians to practice their craft, to teach about the psychology of deception. His tricks are designed to take advantage of, and to teach about physics, chemistry, & physiology.

MENTALISM/PSYCHIC HOUDINI SEANCE DEMONSTRATED

av006 -- A Skeptical Seance: Magic & the Paranormal Magic Castle mentalist Mark Edward tests Houdini's promise to make contact after death on future Halloweens. Classic mentalism expertly demonstrated. Many techniques shown used in other contexts to create belief in paranormal powers. Edward adroitly demonstrates that when conditions are right (dim light, psychological states of expectation), it is simple to get people to believe that they have experienced the paranormal.

PSYCHIC POWER DEMONSTRATED

av016 The Magic of the Psychic & the Psychology of the Believer Mark Edward, professional mentalist and magician, shows through his magic how to convince people you've just met that you know everything about them. He also offers reasons for why people believe in psychics, and how an understanding of magic reveals the basics of human nature. An astonishing and entertaining lecture.

PSYCHIC STING OPERATION

av027-The Alpha Project and The Magic of Steve Shaw by Steve Shaw, professional magician. The Alpha Project has been called "The Greatest Sting Operation in the History of the Skeptics." In the 1970s the field of parapsychology blossomed as "psychics" bent spoons and levitated objects. Scientists fell for these tricks, publishing articles about "psi power." Then James Randi trained Steve Shaw in the ways of magic and sent him into a parapsychology lab. Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime experience as Steve Shaw, now a professional magician, recounts his experiences with the Alpha Project. He also performs his highly acclaimed magic show.

ESP DEMONSTRATED

062- ESP Demonstration. Magician & skeptical author Bob Steiner has convinced millions of people that he is psychic, yet he has never taken one penny from believers. Steiner demonstrates what passes for ESP, then reveals the secrets behind ESP-- cold reading & manipulative psychology.

SCIENCE-BASED MAGIC TRICKS I

073-Magic Tricks & Science Facts by Bob Friedhoffer, "The Madman of Magic." Shows how to construct and perform science-based magic tricks with materials found around the house. As kids learn magic, they will learn the scientific principles behind the tricks. Friedhoffer has authored a series of science magic books. Fun for the kids, family, & especially adults!

4. ENVIRONMENT & GLOBAL WARMING

WARMING EXAGGERATED

av103C (audio cassettes Two tapes \$19.95); av103DVD (DVD) The Great Environmental Debate: Are ecological problems exaggerated? by Dr. Bjorn Lomborg and Frank Miele. Dr. Lomborg, statistician and author of *The Skeptical Environmentalist* says the claims of the environmental movement are exaggerated and using the same data used by alarmists, shows an improving environment. SKEPTIC Sr. Editor Frank Miele provides an alternative view, particularly focusing on the looming disaster that will be caused by the mass extinction we are currently experiencing. A very lively audience Q & A.

HUMAN CLIMATE CHANGE HISTORY

av149DVD (DVD); av149CD (audio CD)--Global Warming, Climate Change, and the Future of the Environment--Ploughs, Plagues, and Petroleum. By climate scientist Dr. William Ruddman. Humankind's active involvement in climate change began 8,000 years ago with the discovery of agriculture. Greenhouse-gas levels from agriculture may have even forestalled a new ice age, and plagues, by depleting human populations, affected reforestation and thus climate. He concludes by looking to the future and critiquing the impact of special interest money on the global warming debate.

WARMING IS SERIOUS

DR. TIM FLANNERY

av159VHS (video); av159DVD (DVD)--The Weather Makers: How Humans are Changing the Climate and What it Means for Life on Earth by environmental

scientist Dr. Tim Flannery. Sometime this century human influence on climate will overwhelm all other natural factors. Flannery outlines the history of climate change, how it will unfold over the next century, and what we can do to prevent a cataclysmic future, including what every one of us can do right now to reduce deadly CO₂ emissions by as much as 70%. With one out of every five living things on this planet committed to extinction by rising levels of greenhouse gases in the next few decades, we are reaching a global climatic tipping point.

ENVIRONMENTAL WARS CONFERENCE

av161VHS (video); av161DVD (DVD); av161CD (audio CD)-Environmental Wars Part 1: Dr. Michael Shermer: "Conversion of an Environmental Skeptic" Why he abandoned his skepticism of global warming, and why the environmental wars are so heated. Dr. David Caltech president and Nobel Laureate Baltimore: "Science & Politics: An Uneasy Relationship" Dr. David Goodstein: "Out of Gas: The End of the Age of Oil" David Goodstein is Vice Provost and Professor of Physics and Applied Physics at Caltech.. Dr. Tapio Schneider: "Global Climate Change: Known & Unknown" Tapio Schneider is Assistant Professor of Environmental Science and Engineering at Caltech.

ENVIRONMENTAL WARS CONFERENCE

AV162VHS (video); av162C (audio cassette); av162DVD (DVD);-Environmental Wars Part 2: DEBATE: Chris Mooney v. Ronald Bailey "Distorting Science: Who is Worse—the Left or Right?" Chris Mooney is Washington correspondent for *Seed* magazine and a senior correspondent for the *American Prospect* and author of the bestselling *The Republican War on Science*. Ronald Bailey is the science correspondent for *Reason* magazine and the author *ECOSCAM: The False Prophets of Ecological Apocalypse*, *Global Warming and other Eco Myths*. This tape includes a panel discussion and Q & A with the two speakers above, and Dr. Tapio Schneider from Part 1.

ENVIRONMENTAL WARS CONFERENCE

av163VHS (video); av163DVD (DVD); av163CD (audio CD)-Environmental Wars Part 3: Dr. Donald Prothero: "Catastrophes that Shape the Planet" Prothero is Professor of Geology, Occidental College, LA, and Lecturer in Geobiology at Caltech, Pasadena. He has authored, co-authored, edited, or co-edited 21 books and almost 200 scientific papers.

Dr. Brian Fagan: "Climate Change and Ancient Societies" Dr. Brian Fagan is Emeritus Professor of Anthropology at the University of California, Santa Barbara. His many books include *The Little Ice Age*, and *The Long Summer*. Dr. Gregory Benford: "Stabilizing the Future Greenhouse Earth" Dr. Gregory Benford has published over 30 books. His fiction includes the Nebula Award winning novel *Timescape*. He is a professor of physics at the University of California, Irvine. *Includes a panel discussion and Q & A.*

ENVIRONMENTAL WARS CONFERENCE

av164VHS (video); av164DVD (DVD); av164CD (audio CD)-Environmental Wars Part 4: Jonathan H. Adler: "Fables of Federal Environmental Regulation" Adler is Associate Professor & Associate Director of the Center for Business Law & Regulation at Case Western Reserve Un. where he teaches courses in Environmental Law, International Environmental Law, and Constitutional Law. He authored *Ecology, Liberty, and Property: A Free Market Environmental Reader*. Gregory Arnold "Can Markets Save the Planet?": Market-based Solutions to Environmental Problems Arnold is Managing Partner of an investment firm specializing in trading in environmental markets including those for emission credits, renewable energy credits, and greenhouse gas credits. He has a MBA from Harvard Business School. Dr. Paul MacCready: "Doing More with Less for a World that Works" MacCready is an aeronautics engineer voted Engineer of the Century by the Am. Society of Mechanical Engineers, and listed as one of the 100 most influential people of the century by *Time* for his pioneering work in low energy vehicles, etc. *Includes a panel discussion and Q & A.*

ENVIRONMENTAL WARS CONFERENCE

av165VHS (video); av165DVD (DVD); av165CD (audio CD)-Environmental Wars Part 5: News correspondent JOHN STOSSEL is co-anchor of ABCNEWS' 20/20. He has received 19 Emmys, the George Foster

Peabody Award, and has been honored five times for excellence in consumer reporting by the National Press Club. MICHAEL CRICHTON, known as "the father of the techno-thriller" has written *The Andromeda Strain*, *Congo*, *Jurassic Park*, *Prey*, and *State of Fear*. He has won an Emmy, a Peabody, and a Writer's Guild of America award for the TV series ER.

ENVIRONMENTAL WARS CONFERENCE

-ORDER THE WHOLE SET av167VHS (video); av167DVD (DVD); av167CD (audio CD) Set of five: 161, 162, 163, 164 and 165- \$79.95 for the DVD set (instead of \$119.75. WOW!) \$69.95 for the VHS set (instead of \$99.75) \$64.95 for the CD set (instead of \$79.75) \$39.95 for the audio cassette set (instead of \$49.75)

GEOLOGICAL CLIMATE CHANGE EVIDENCE GREENHOUSE OF THE DINOSAURS:

Evolution, Extinction, and the Future of Our Planet av207DVD (DVD)-Dr. Donald R. Prothero brings his trademark style to an increasingly relevant subject of concern—climate change. Prothero's science books combine straightforward research with first-person narratives of discovery, injecting warmth and familiarity into a profession that desperately needs a more appealing approach to nonspecialists. Prothero discusses the climate changes that have occurred over the past 200 million years, discusses what might have caused them, links these changes to their effects on plants and animals. He then contrasts them to both the extinctions that ended the Cretaceous period, which wiped out the dinosaurs, and the later Eocene and Oligocene epochs. He begins with the "greenhouse of the dinosaurs," the global-warming episode that dominated the Age of Dinosaurs and the early Age of Mammals, and concludes with observations about Nisqually Glacier and other locations that prove global warming is happening much quicker than previously predicted, irrevocably changing the balance of the earth's thermostat. Dr. Prothero is a professor of geology and paleontology at Occidental College and the author of the wildly successful bestseller *Evolution: What the Fossils Say and Why it Matters*.

MASS EXTINCTIONS CAUSED BY LIFE ITSELF
THE MEDEA HYPOTHESIS: Is Life on Earth Ultimately Self-Destructive? av200DVD (DVD) av200CD (audio CD)-- DR. Peter Ward. In *The Medea Hypothesis*, renowned paleontologist Dr. Peter Ward proposes a revolutionary and provocative vision of life's relationship with the Earth's biosphere, one that has frightening implications for our future—yet also offers hope. Using the latest discoveries from the geological record, he argues that life might be its own worst enemy. This stands in stark contrast to James Lovelock's Gaia hypothesis—the idea that life sustains habitable conditions on earth. In answer to Gaia, which draws on the idea of the “good mother”

who nurtures life, Ward invokes Medea, the mythical mother who killed her own children. Could life by its very nature threaten its own existence? Ward demonstrates that all but one of the mass extinctions that have struck Earth were caused by life itself. He looks at our planet's history in a new way, revealing an Earth that is witnessing an alarming decline of diversity and biomass—a decline brought on by life's own “biocidal” tendencies. And the Medea hypothesis applies not just to our planet—its dire prognosis extends to all potential life in the universe. Breathtaking in scope, *The Medea Hypothesis* is certain to arouse fierce debate and radically transform our worldview.

5. EVOLUTION & CREATIONISM

Dr. DONALD PROTHERO

AV025C (audio cassette)- *Evolution?-The Fossils Say Yes!* by Dr. Donald Prothero. Occidental College geologist and paleontologist Dr. Donald Prothero refutes creationist flood geology. An expert on creationism and the fossil record, Prothero presents an excellent summary of compelling fossil evidence for evolution. Answers Creationist challenge that there are “no transitional forms” by presenting dozens of slides showing transitional fossil forms.

RICHARD DAWKINS

av036DVD (DVD); av036CD (audio CD); av036C (audio cassette)-- *River Out of Eden: A Darwinian View of Life*. By Evolutionary Biologist Richard Dawkins continues his train of evolutionary reasoning from his previous best-selling works, *The Selfish Gene* & *The Blind Watchmaker*. Dawkins hammers home point after point showing why creationism is simply and obviously wrong. Also, African Eve theory.

Dr. JACK HORNER and Dr. DONALD PROTHERO

av080DVD (DVD)-*Reinventing Evolution: Dinosaurs and Punctuated Equilibrium*. Conference 1999. Tape II Fascinating fossil lore from world-renowned dinosaur hunter Dr. John R. “Jack” Horner; how the outdated

Linnaean system influenced the misclassification of dinosaurs as reptiles; how the Greek's mythical Griffin was inspired by hook-nosed protoceratops fossils, etc. • Paleontologist Dr. Donald Prothero on 30 years of evolutionary theory and the heated debates about the meaning of the fossil record evidence. The evidence for Eldredge's and Gould's theory of punctuated equilibrium. How controversy in science is a good thing, not the weakness that creationists claim it to be.

Dr. EUGENIE SCOTT and Dr. MICHAEL SHERMER

AV079DVD (DVD)-- *Reinventing Evolution: Creationism and Contingency*. Conference 1999. Tape I by Dr. Eugenie Scott and Dr. Michael Shermer. Dr. Eugenie Scott of the National Center for Science Education describes the battle for quality science education in America's schools. Her presentation is funny, frightening, and clear. She warns the audience about the rising movement of “intelligent-design” creationism and explains why so many people are scared enough of evolution to keep it out of public schools. • Were humans destined to evolve into being? Skeptic Publisher Dr. Michael Shermer presents the case for evolutionary contingency—if evolution started over, the appearance of humans would not be a certainty; in fact, it would probably never happen again. Evolutionary histories are not random, but they are not strictly predictable either. He presents his “model of contingent-necessity” with vivid examples to explain how and when contingencies matter in historical sequences.

Dr. ROBERT PENNOCK

av096DVD (DVD); av096CD (audio CD); AV096C (audio cassette)--The New Creationism: Intelligent Design Theory Dr. Pennock has written the most authoritative book on the new creationism, and he delivers a superbly organized lecture and a thorough analysis and refutation of the latest new arguments from the new creationists. Covers Intelligent Design theory, Irreducible Complexity, and makes a brilliant analogy between the evolution of life and the evolution of language (neither one had a top-down designer), to show the deep flaws in creationists' reasoning.

EVOLUTION REVOLUTION

FESTSCHRIFT 2000 FOR STEPHEN JAY GOULD
PART III av093DVD (DVD); DR. DONALD PROTHERO

Prothero discusses how Gould helped launch a revolution in paleontology that continues to this day. His fact-filled slide lecture is one of the finest summaries of how evolution works ever given. • Dr. Michael Shermer presents an exhaustive literary taxonomy and content analysis of all 300 of Gould's essays. • Dr. Frank J. Sulloway focuses on the science of biography, using Gould's dual metaphor "Time's Arrow, Time's Cycle" and shows how both Darwin and Gould used this and other themes in their evolutionary theories..

Dr. MICHAEL SHERMER

av115DVD (DVD)-- In Darwin's Shadow: The Life and Science of Alfred Russel Wallace by Michael Shermer. Wallace, co-discoverer of natural selection & the greatest naturalist of his age was also involved in spiritualism & seances & theorized that human intelligence was not a result of natural selection. Shermer explains this apparent contradiction with modern psychological theories.

RICHARD DAWKINS

av139DV (DVD); av139C (audio cassette); av139CD (audio CD)--The Ancestor's Tale: A Pilgrimage to the Dawn of Evolution Renowned Evolutionary Biologist, Richard Dawkins presents his most expansive work yet: a comprehensive look at evolution, ranging from the latest developments in the field to his own provocative views. Dawkins's brilliant, inventive approach allows us to view the connections between ourselves and all other life in a bracingly novel way. The Ancestor's Tale is at once a far-reaching survey of

the latest, best thinking on biology & a fascinating history of all living things.

Dr. DONALD PROTHERO

av154DVD (DVD); av154CD (audio CD)-- Evolution: How We Know it Happened and Why it Matters. By paleontologist and geologist Dr. Donald Prothero. Is the theory of evolution is serious trouble as promoters of Intelligent Design claim? Is the evidence for evolution so weak, and the gaps in the theory so huge that these flaws should be taught to students? In this brilliant synthesis of scientific data and theory, evolutionary theorist Dr. Donald Prothero presents the best evidence we have that evolution happened, why Darwin's theory still matters, and what the real controversies are in evolutionary biology. Packed with information.

EVOLUTIONARY ORIGIN OF LOVE

Dr. WALTER GOLDSCHMIDT av158DVD (DVD)
--The Bridge to Humanity: How Affect Hunger Trumps the Selfish Gene. Anthropologist Goldschmidt argues for a separate evolutionary origin of what we call love:—a nurturant need as opposed to a sexual need—two very different forms of behavior. One is essentially competitive, and the other concerned with mutuality. Underlying nurturance is the phenomenon of "affect hunger," an urge to seek the affection that is needed for the proper development of the neurological system in humans and other social mammals. Affect hunger not only provides a reward system for learning language and other cultural information, but also remains a motive for social behavior throughout life.

Dr. MICHAEL SHERMER

av168VHS (video); av168C (audio cassette); av168DVD (DVD); av168CD (audio CD)--Why Darwin Matters: the Case for Evolution and Against Intelligent Design By Dr. Michael Shermer. Why do half of all Americans reject evolution, one of the most well founded theories in all of science? What evolution really is, how we know it happened, and how to test it. Why creationism and Intelligent Design are not science. An insider's guide to the evolution-creation debate, and why science should be embraced by people of all faiths.

EVOLUTION/CREATIONISM

av181DVD (DVD)-DONALD PROTHERO
Geology, Creationism, and Evolution: The Breathtaking Inanity of Flood Geology One of the

world's most respected paleontologists. Have you ever had to deal with a Creationist who takes Genesis literally, and insists that Noah's flood created all geologic features of the earth. Prothero discusses the biblical and logistical problems with "flood geology," and show how creationists' conception of the geologic record would mean that we would never find coal, oil, gas or other natural resources. Engaging and richly illustrated with a wealth of evidence and answers to creationist challenges to science. If you are interested in defending science education don't miss this entertaining and intellectually rigorous history of the geological and fossil record.

EVOLUTION OF INTELLIGENCE

av184DVD (DVD)-Beautiful Minds: The Parallel Lives of Great Apes and Dolphins by Dr. Craig Stanford, co-director of the Jane Goodall Primate Research Center and professor of anthropology and biological sciences. What research into the big brains of apes and dolphins teaches us about another large-brained mammal: Homo sapiens. Describes the parallel evolution that gave rise to their intelligence and behavior: the ability to develop family bonds, form alliances, and care for their young, culture, politics, social structure, personality, and capacity for emotion.

HOW VIRUSES EVOLVE

H1N1: The Evolution of a Deadly Virus: What Evolution Tells Us About Disease av206DVD (DVD) av206CD (audio CD)-- Carl Zimmer, an award-winning science writer for the New York Times, Discover magazine, *Scientific American*, and others takes readers on a fascinating tour of the H1N1 flu virus, how it evolved, and what deadly diseases tell us about how evolution works. Reviewing the history of influenza going back over a century, including a complete analysis of the 1918 influenza outbreak that killed tens of millions of people around the world, Zimmer includes remarkable graphics demonstrating exactly what happens from the moment a virus enters a body to the death of its human host. Along the way Zimmer reveals how vital evolution is to all branches of modern biology—from the fight against deadly antibiotic-resistant bacteria to the analysis of the human genome.

EVOLUTION OF IDEA OF GOD

ROBERT WRIGHT. THE EVOLUTION OF GOD. av203DVD (DVD) av203CD (audio CD)--

In this sweeping story that takes us from the Stone Age to the Information Age, bestselling author Robert Wright unveils an astonishing discovery: there is a hidden pattern that the great monotheistic faiths have followed as they have evolved. Through the prisms of archaeology, theology, and evolutionary psychology, Wright's findings overturn basic assumptions about Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and are sure to cause controversy. He explains why spirituality has a role today, and why science, contrary to conventional wisdom, affirms the validity of the religious quest. And this previously unrecognized evolutionary logic points not toward continued religious extremism, but future harmony.

Robert Wright introduced the world to evolutionary psychology through his wildly popular best-selling book *The Moral Animal: Why We Are the Way We Are*. His most controversial book, *Nonzero: The Logic of Human Destiny*, put forth the theory that human evolution and the history of civilization contain within them an inevitable trend toward more and more win-win nonzero game exchanges between people and groups that has led humans to dominate the planet. In his new book, *The Evolution of God*, Wright reveals his new theory about the power of globalization and cultural integration.

DARWIN & CHANGING EVOLUTIONARY THEORY A DARWIN DAY CELEBRATION

av197DVD (DVD)-- Dr. Donald Prothero, Dr. Michael Shermer, & Dr. Joel Smith. 2009 marks the 200th anniversary of Charles Darwin's birth on February 12, 1809—the same day as Abraham Lincoln—and the 150th anniversary of the publication of *On the Origin of Species* on November 24, 1859. Come join us for a special celebration of the life and science of one of the greatest scientists in history. Historian of science Dr. Michael Shermer will review the remarkable life of Darwin and explain how he arrived at his theory of evolution. Paleontologist and geologist Dr. Donald Prothero will give a brief overview of how evolutionary theory has changed since Darwin's time. And Dr. Joel Smith of Caltech will discuss the latest in "Evo-devo"—Evolutionary Development—and the evolutionary experiments that can be run using the precise and detailed information of Systems Biology's Regulatory Networks.

6. RELIGION: BIBLE ANALYSIS RELIGIOUS HISTORY, ANTHROPOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGY

NEAR-DEATH EXPERIENCES; ALTERED STATES

av004C (audio cassette)-- Altered States and the Quest For Transcendence. Dr. Michael Shermer discusses the brain chemistry of altered states of consciousness, out-of-body and near-death experiences, hypnosis, and shares his personal experiences with hallucinations through sensory deprivation tanks and sleep deprivation. Shermer considers the implications, both philosophically and metaphysically, if all such experiences are nothing more than the product of brain chemistry and stimulation.

CHRISTMAS STAR: SCIENCE V. RELIGION
av008C (audio cassette)--The Christmas Star: Science and Religion in the Modern Age by John Mosley, Griffith Observatory. Astronomer John Mosley explains the probable origins of the Christmas star, and discusses how there is opposition from both religious and non-religious group to the presentation of his popular annual planetary show. Christmas Star shows are a staple of planetariums around the world.

SCIENCE SUPPORTS WITCHCRAFT?

av009VHS (video); av009C (audio cassette)-- Witches, Spirits, & Science Historian of science Dr. Richard Olson shows that, ironically, the rise of the scientific method and rationalism increased belief in witchcraft. Believing in the reality of the Devil and witches was proof of God's existence in an era of increasing skepticism. No spirits, no witches; no witches, no demons; no demons, no devil; no devil, no God.

CAN SCIENCE PROVE GOD?

(A DVD will eventually be produced for this category)-- Can Science Prove God? Conference 1995, Part I by Dr. Frank Tipler, Dr. Kip Thorne, Dr. Bernard Leikind, Dr. Michael Kerze. One of the hottest topics of our time. Cosmologist Dr. Frank Tipler, Plasma Physicist Dr. Bernard Leikind, and Historian of Religion and Science Dr. Michael Kerze debate the topic. Plus

a surprise appearance by Caltech Cosmologist Kip Thorne in rebuttal of Tipler's God hypothesis. The Tipler-Thorne showdown is a classic event.

SEPARATING CHURCH & STATE

av035VHS (video-only two left); av035C (audio cassette)--Does the Wall Still Stand? Creationism, The Religious Right, Prayer in School, & Other Breaches of the Wall Separating Church and State by Attorney Edward Tabash. Tabash will cover controversies involving the religion clauses of the First Amendment and make suggestions about what you can do to fight these attacks on science, rationality, and individual freedom. Attorney Tabash is a member of the Board of Trustees of Americans United for Separation of Church and State and has worked on First Amendment issues for the American Civil Liberties Union.

PURPOSE, ORIGIN OF SATAN

av037C (audio cassette)-- The Devil and Demonology: Who Needs Satan? by Dr. Henry Ansgar Kelly, a historian of religion at UCLA. Dr. Kelly discusses the origins and importance of Satan in Western thought and modern culture. Who is the Devil, where do Demons come from, and how did Halloween traditions start? Dr. Kelly shows what purpose Satan serves in modern society.

HISTORICAL JESUS--Dr. BURTON MACK
av040VHS (video-one left); av040C (audio cassette)-- The Search for the Historical Jesus. By Dr. Burton Mack, Professor of Religion at Claremont Graduate School addresses one of the most important and controversial subjects in the history of religion: who was Jesus? Modern scholarship paints a surprising picture of the historical Jesus that suggests Jesus was a popular philosopher in the Cynic tradition. Early Christian texts, such as the Gospel of Thomas and the lost Book of Q, are central to this new history. Mack speaks with authority and insight, and gives the audience the tools with which to analyze the historical claims about Jesus.

ACCURACY OF BIBLE PROPHECY

av050C (audio cassette)-- Bible Prophecy. by SKEPTIC Religion Editor Tim Callahan. Examines the accuracy of the biblical prophets. Are modern events fulfillment of things described in Revelation? Callahan dissects modern end-of-the-world prophets like Hal Lindsey and examines the connections between millenarian scenarios and secular conspiracy theories, such as those involving black helicopters and the New World Order.

FAITH OF OUR FOREFATHERS

IN (the) GOD (ess) WE TRUST (ed)

av059C (audio cassette)--By Frank Miele. Religious fundamentalists often hold American Revolution leaders up as exemplars of whatever viewpoints they are seeking to 'reestablish' in society. Miele shows us how inaccurate this picture is with a slide tour of religion and politics as the leaders of the American Revolution really saw them, and as exemplified through the symbols they choose to represent the fledgling nation. For example, early currency displayed the Goddess Liberty, Mithra's sun rays, the fasces, and even the 'All Seeing Eye' of the Novus Ordo Seclorum rather than "In God We Trust."

ANCIENT COSMIC POWER SITES

av057VHS (video); av057C (audio cassette)-- The Archaeology of Power: Shamans, Kings, & Sky-watchers. Astronomer Dr. E. C. Krupp visits ancient sanctuaries, shrines & "New Age" power sites to show how people attempt to acquire cosmic power by studying the sky. Architecture reflects this attempt to access celestial messages, from ancient China, to South-western pueblos & even the corner of Hollywood & Vine.

ATTRACTION OF RELIGION, CULTS

av064VHS (video-only one left);--God, Myth, and Religion. Conference 1998, Part I by Dr. J. Gordon Melton and Dr. Donald Johanson. Religious scholar Dr. J. Gordon Melton presents theories on why religion is expanding in the U.S. & why Americans believe in God more than Europeans. He also examines the difference between a religion & a cult, & how cults typically either go extinct after the death of their founder, or they evolve into world religions. Dr. Donald Johanson, discoverer of Lucy, lectures on the many myths & misconceptions in the study of human evolution, such as man the meat eater, man the hunter, man the pacifist, etc. Johanson also reveals the very human and social side of science by recounting his many varied and interesting experiences as a professional paleo-anthropologist in dealing with scientists from different cultures and different backgrounds.

WHO WROTE THE ANONYMOUS GOSPELS & WHY

av065VHS (video only 4 left)--God, Myth, and Religion. Conference 1998, Part II by Dr. Michael

Shermer, Dr. Randel Helms. Biblical scholar Dr. Randel Helms explains how, when, and why the anonymous gospels were written and what motivated the authors. Hint: the gospels were not written by men named Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Dr. Michael Shermer explores what we can learn from recurring myths, such as the "destruction/redemption" myth appears in Christianity, the 19th century American Indian Ghost Dance, and Louis Farrakhan's modern Mother Ship myth.

THE HEBREW BIBLES

ODD TALES EXPLAINED by JONATHAN KIRSCH

av074DVD (DVD); av074C (audio cassette); av074CD (audio CD)-- Forbidden Tales In The Bible by bestselling author Jonathan Kirsch. In this brilliant and witty lecture, Kirsch recounts tales of violence, sex, and scandal in the Bible that have been historically suppressed by religious authorities, and discusses the meaning these tales may have had for the people who wrote them. A different view of the Bible than most people get.

Dr. RICHARD ELLIOTT FRIEDMAN

av076C (audio cassette) av076DVD (DVD); av076CD (audio CD)-- The Hidden Book In The Bible by Dr. Richard Elliott Friedman. In a lively and fascinating lecture, renowned biblical scholar, Friedman, author of the bestselling book *Who Wrote the Bible?*, reveals his most startling and revolutionary discovery: embedded within the Bible is a continuous narrative that had been sliced apart by ancient editors who interlaced it with other stories, laws, and poetry. A great example of how modern biblical scholarship is done, by one of the leading biblical scholars of our time.

BELIEF IN GOD

Dr. MICHAEL SHERMER

av083C (audio cassette);av083CD (audio CD)--WHY PEOPLE BELIEVE IN GOD by Dr. Michael Shermer. Data from an empirical study of 10,000 Americans— why do people believe in God? Why is belief in God increasing, not decreasing as predicted? How people assume others believe in God for different reasons than they do and the fact that we live in an age of science influences the reason people give for their faith. The psychology of rationalizing beliefs arrived at for non-rational reasons.

MYTHIC ORIGINS OF BIBLE STORIES

av110C (audio cassette); av110DVD (DVD)-- The Secret Origins of the Bible. Tim Callahan uses comparative mythology, literary analysis, history, & archaeological comparisons to show that Bible stories that don't make literal sense can be understood on a deeper mythic level. Demonstrates what purposes these stories served for the original cultures that gave rise to them.

RATIONAL MYSTICISM

The Border between Science & Spirituality

av120VHS (video); av120C (audio cassette); av120DVD (DVD); av120CD (audio CD) By John Horgan. How do trances, visions, prayer, satori, and other mystical manifestations "work"? What are their neurological mechanisms and psychological implications? investigates a wide range of fields—chemistry, physics, psychology, radiology, theology, and more—to narrow the gap between reason and spiritual enlightenment.

SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF THE SOUL

av128VHS (video); av128C (audio cassette); av128DVD (DVD); av128CD (audio CD)--The End Of The Soul: Atheism and Anthropology by science historian and science author Dr. Jennifer Michael Hecht. Dr. Hecht, recounts the story of how in 1876 scientists formed an unusual group called the Society of Mutual Autopsy, to prove that souls do not exist. This strange scientific pact and what we have come to think of as anthropology, had its genesis in aggressive, evangelical atheism. Hecht shows that anthropology grew out of the struggle between forces of tradition, especially religion, and freethinking modernism, especially science, which for many became a secular religion.

HISTORY OF MONOTHEISM

JONATHAN KIRSCH

av136C (audio cassette); av136DVD (DVD); av136CD (audio CD)--GOD AGAINST THE GODS. by bestselling author Jonathan Kirsch. Kirsch reveals how monotheism triumphed over polytheism and paganism, but in the process he shows how it was monotheism that introduced the terrors of true belief, including holy war, martyrdom, inquisitions, and crusades. Religious liberty and diversity were core values of classical paganism—how would the modern world look today if the worship of many gods had been tolerated instead of persecuted? Excellent! Kirsch is a brilliant storyteller.

ATHEIST ACTIVIST

Dr. MIKE NEWDOW

av141C (audio cassette); av141DVD (DVD); av141CD (audio CD) The Church, the State, the Pledge, and the Law: Adventures in Skeptical Activism. The story of the man who single handedly got the words "under God" removed from the Pledge of Allegiance, only to have it overturned by the United States Supreme Court, in front of which he argued his case. Now hear the story of Mike Newdow from the man himself, as he recounts his adventures in this and other causes he champions in the name of skepticism, rationality, and science.

REALITY BEHIND SOME MYTHS

av144C (audio cassette); av144DVD (DVD); av144CD (audio CD)-HOW THE HUMAN MINDSHAPES MYTH. Dr. Elizabeth Wayland Barber, professor of Linguistics and Archaeology, Occidental College, CA, shows how myths can transmit real information in nonliterate societies, preserving it for millennia. The Klamath Indians, for example, preserved the story of the creation of Oregon's Crater Lake for nearly 8,000 years. Recent studies of how our brains work, have helped Barber deduce the characteristic principles by which such tales both develop and degrade through time.

HISTORY OF UNBELIEF

av151C (audio cassette); av151DVD (DVD); av151CD (audio CD)-DOUBT: A HISTORY. History usually focuses on belief systems, but those who doubt were often engines of creativity and social advances. Dr. Jennifer Michael Hecht shows that doubt has a vibrant story and tradition with its own saints, martyrs, and sages. Hecht blends her wide-ranging historical expertise, passionate admiration of the great doubters, and poet's sensibility to tell a stimulating story that is part intellectual history and part showcase of ordinary people asking themselves the difficult questions that confront us all.

PURPOSE OF RELIGION

Dr. DANIEL DENNETT

av157DVD (DVD); av157CD (audio CD); --Breaking the Spell: Religion As A Natural Phenomenon. By Dr. Daniel Dennett. One of the greatest thinkers of our age tackles one of the most important questions of our time: why people believe in God and how religion shapes our lives and our future. Dennett asks: Where does our devotion to God come from and what purpose does it

serve? Is religion a blind evolutionary compulsion or a rational choice? He explores how organized religion evolved from folk beliefs and why it is such a potent force today. Deftly and lucidly, he contends that the “belief in belief” has fogged any attempt to rationally consider the existence of God and the relationship between divinity and human need.

MOTIVES FOR SOCIAL BEHAVIOR

av158DVD (DVD)--The Bridge to Humanity: How Affect Hunger Trumps the Selfish Gene. Dr. Walter Goldschmidt, anthropologist, argues for a separate evolutionary origin of what we call love: sexual and nurturant needs — two very different forms of behavior. One is essentially competitive, and the other concerned with mutuality. Underlying nurturance is the phenomenon of “affect hunger,” an urge to seek the affection that is needed for the proper development of the neurological system in humans and other social mammals. Affect hunger not only provides a reward system for learning language and other cultural information, but also remains a motive for social behavior throughout life.

DA VINCI CODE, JUDAS GOSPEL

av160DVD (DVD); av160CD (audio CD)--Decoding the da Vinci Code, The Gospel of Judas & Other Biblical Mysteries by Tim Callahan. Is the best selling novel *The da Vinci Code* based on historical facts as author Dan Brown claims? Did Jesus and Mary Magdalene produce a royal bloodline that continues to this day? What about the extra-biblical Gospel of Judas? Does Christianity need to be revised? Callahan delivers the facts.

RICHARD DAWKINS-GOD DELUSION

av169C (audio cassette); av169DVD (DVD); av169CD (audio CD)-The God Delusion. Richard Dawkins fires a direct no holds barred salvo against organized religion arguing that belief in “The God Hypothesis” is both intellectually wrong, and a divisive and oppressive force that contributes to social backwardness and bigotry. “It teaches us not to change our minds.... It subverts science and saps the intellect.” A carefully-reasoned, yet entertaining and insightful analysis by one of the great minds of our time will give both atheists and believers something to think about.

STUDY OF EVIL- ZIMBARDO

av175DVD (DVD); av175CD (audio CD)--The

Lucifer Effect: Understanding How Good People Turn Evil By Dr. Philip Zimbardo, who ran the famous “Stanford Prison Experiment” in the late 1960s, shows how ordinary people become perpetrators of evil. He reviews the research on conformity, obedience to authority, role-playing, dehumanization, deindividuation and moral disengagement, and asserts that situational power is stronger than we appreciate. Zimbardo applies his theories to understanding the Inquisition, the massacre in Rwanda, the rape of Nanking, and the abuse and torture in Iraq’s infamous Abu Ghraib prison. He suggests that by awareness of the Lucifer Effect we may choose between inaction and the heroism of resisting evil.

BOOK OF REVELATION-KIRSCH

av171C (audio cassette); av171DVD (DVD); av171CD (audio CD) A History of the End of the World: How the Most Controversial Book in the Bible Changed the Course of Western Civilization. Best selling author Jonathan Kirsch examines the sobering history of how church and armchair Bible interpreters promote political, social and religious agendas based on the belief that the Book of Revelation predicts the world’s end. 2,000-years of interpretation has created whole societies and inspired war, and influenced present day U.S. politics. Kirsch treats his material with both sobriety and a healthy sense of the ironic.

WHY THE BIBLE CONTRADICTS ITSELF

av173DVD (DVD); av173CD (audio CD); The Bible Against Itself: Who Wrote the Bible and Why it Seems to Contradict Itself. by Dr. Randel Helms. Before the sacred authors were declared sacred, they were fair game for attack or revision. The Bible was not written as a coherent whole, with a single purpose in mind. Helms explains why the Bible is repetitious and often contradicts itself and looks at the cultural and historical factors that motivated Bible book authors, who often wanted to challenge or correct those who had written before them.

DEBATE: CAN PHYSICS PROVE GOD?

av177C (audio cassette); av177DVD (DVD); av177CD (audio CD) Debate: Can Physics Prove God and Christianity? With physicists Dr. Frank Tipler v. Dr. Lawrence Krauss Tipler argues that the God—the Uncaused First Cause—is completely consistent with the Cosmological Singularity, an entity whose existence is required by physical law and makes the case for the scientific possibility of miracles, including the Virgin Birth, the Resurrection, and the Incarnation.

Krauss cogently argues that the scientific evidence does not confirm the central tenets of Christianity or any other religion, and that attempts to employ science in the service of religion are doomed to failure.

DEBATE: DINESH D'SOUZA

v. MICHAEL SHERMER

IS RELIGION A FORCE FOR GOOD OR EVIL?

av180DVD (DVD); av180CD (audio CD) In this debate on what are arguably two of the most important questions in the culture wars today—Is Religion a Force for Good or Evil? and Can you be Good without God?—the conservative Christian author and cultural scholar Dinesh D'Souza and the libertarian skeptic writer and social scientist Michael Shermer, square off to resolve these and related issues, such as the relationship between science and religion and the nature and existence of God. This event promises to be one of the liveliest ever hosted by the Skeptics Society at Caltech, mixing science, religion, politics, and culture.

STUART KAUFFMAN

A NEW VIEW OF RELIGION

av186DVD (DVD); av186CD (audio CD); ; Reinventing the Sacred: A New View of Science, Reason, and Religion. World-renowned complexity theorist Dr. Stuart Kauffman argues that people inherently need a sense of the sacred and spirituality. Kauffman proposes something new: a unified culture where we see God in the creativity of the universe, biosphere, and humanity. He also suggests a new ethic for an emerging civilization, and a reinterpretation of the divine that will change the way we think about the evolution of humanity, the universe, faith, and reason.

JONATHAN KIRSCH

TERROR IN THE NAME OF GOD

av187DVD (DVD)--The Grand Inquisitor's Handbook: A History of Terror in the Name of God by best-selling author Jonathan Kirsch. A sweeping and provocative history of the Inquisition and its ever-widening circle of victims. Kirsch discusses the relevance of the lessons of the Inquisition for contemporary society—use of torture and terror and what happens when absolute power corrupts.

ORIGINS/THE BIG QUESTIONS

LIFE, COMPLEX LIFE & CONSCIOUSNESS

av188DVD (DVD)-Dr. Michael Shermer introduces

the big questions: Is there divine action in the world and if so can science detect it?, Does science make belief in God obsolete?, and Does God exist? Dr. Donald Prothero delivered a fast-paced fact-filled lecture on the latest research on the origins of life and complex life. Dr. Christof Koch presented cutting edge research on the origins of consciousness.

ORIGINS/THE BIG QUESTIONS

ORIGIN OF UNIVERSE, LAWS OF NATURE, TIME av189DVD (DVD)-Dr. Leonard Susskind on the origin of the universe, what might have triggered the big bang, and string theory. Dr. Paul Davies on the origin of the laws of nature, how they appear fine-tuned, but why the god hypothesis is not needed. Dr. Sean Carroll on the origin of time and time's arrow, why the universe can only go in one direction (time cannot flow backwards) because of entropy, and what this all means for understanding the nature of the deity (nothing, because science can say nothing useful about the supernatural).

ORIGINS/THE BIG QUESTIONS

SCIENCE V. RELIGION CONFLICT?

av190DVD (DVD)-Dr. Kenneth Miller gave an insider's look at the Dover Intelligent Design trial—he was one of the expert witnesses and the author of the biology textbook that led to the controversy in the first place. A leading cell biologist and practicing Catholic, he feels there is no conflict between science and religion. Dr. Nancey Murphy gave a brief history of the religious debate about belief in God and the relationship with science, as well as her passionate belief that God actively responds to prayer, even though there is nothing God does that could not have happened by natural means. Dr. Michael Shermer countered both Miller and Murphy by explaining why supernatural explanations do not explain anything because by definition science only operates in the natural world.

ORIGINS/THE BIG QUESTIONS

DOES SCIENCE SUPPORT BELIEF IN GOD?

av191DVD (DVD) Moderated by Dr. Philip Clayton, Professor of Religion and Philosophy at Claremont Graduate University and Claremont School of Theology. Hugh Ross, an evangelical Christian cosmologist, makes his case for why science leads to the inevitable conclusion that the Judeo-Christian God exists. Dr. Victor Stenger countered that the universe, laws of nature, and life do not need a supernatural explanation, and that, in fact, the scientific evidence points to there being no God at all. Don't miss the lively Q & A.

ORIGINS/THE BIG QUESTIONS

THE MAKING OF "MR. DEITY"

av192DVD (DVD) -"Mr. Deity" is a hit series of inter-

net video clips (www.mrdeity.com) that offer a humorous (and slightly irreverent) look at the day-to-day operations of the universe and the Big Man in charge. Brian Dalton, Mr. Deity's creator, and his cast performed a series of live skits, including a new episode developed specifically for the conference. The performances were interspersed with discussion by Dalton and the rest of the cast about how the series was developed and written. Dalton and his cast also considered a few of the more serious theological issues and discussed the reactions they have gotten from both supporters and critics, and believers and skeptics. A very lively question and answer session concluded the evening. A must have for Mr. Deity fans.

ORIGINS/THE BIG QUESTIONS
SAVE ON A SET OF ALL 5 ORIGINS DVDS
 av193DVD (DVD) -Only \$79.95 plus \$4.50 shipping and handling for a set of all 5 Origins DVDs (Nos.188, 189, 190,191 and 192).

EVOLUTION OF IDEA OF GOD

ROBERT WRIGHT. THE EVOLUTION OF GOD. av203DVD (DVD) av203CD (audio CD)-- In this sweeping story that takes us from the Stone Age to the Information Age, bestselling author Robert Wright unveils an astonishing discovery: there is a hidden pattern that the great monotheistic faiths have followed as they have evolved. Through the prisms of archaeology, theology, and evolutionary psychology, Wright's findings overturn basic assumptions about Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and are sure to cause controversy. He explains why spirituality has a role today, and why science, contrary to conventional wisdom, affirms the validity of the religious quest. And this previously unrecognized evolutionary logic points not toward continued religious extremism, but future harmony.

Robert Wright introduced the world to evolutionary psychology through his wildly popular best-selling book *The Moral Animal: Why We Are the Way We Are*. His most controversial book, *Nonzero: The Logic of Human Destiny*, put forth the theory that human evolution and the history of civilization contain within them an inevitable trend toward more and more win-win nonzero game exchanges between people and groups that has led humans to dominate the planet. In his new book, *The Evolution of God*, Wright reveals his new theory about the power of globalization and

cultural integration.

PSYCHOLOGY OF EVIL

WHY PEOPLE BEHAVE BADLY. av201DVD (DVD) av201CD (audio CD)-- **DR. BARBARA OAKLEY.** One of the most difficult problems in the social sciences is understanding why some people intentionally inflict emotional and physical pain on others. Such intentional pain occurs not only on a local level—within families, with “friends,” or in work situations, but also on a national and international scale—Hitler's Holocaust, Stalin's purges, and Chairman Mao's slaughter of millions. Neuroscience is providing the potential for a revolution in our understanding of why “bad” people do what they do. Professor Barbara Oakley uses evolutionary theory—as well as an unusually adventurous background that has earned her the nickname of the “Female Indiana Jones,” to knit together disparate pieces of research that point toward answers to some of the most compelling questions in the social sciences and humanities. Dr. Oakley's work at Oakland University involves bioengineering in many different contexts, such as the effects of electric fields on cells and the complex relationship between neurocircuitry and social behavior. She worked for several years as a Russian translator on Soviet trawlers in the Bering Sea; she met her husband while working as a radio operator at the South Pole station in Antarctica; and she has gone from private to regular Army Captain in the U.S. military. Her critically acclaimed, tongue-in-cheek titled book *Evil Genes: Why Rome Fell, Hitler Rose, Enron Failed, and My Sister Stole My Mother's Boyfriend* takes readers on a provocative exploration of the darkest recesses of the human personality.

7. THE NATURE OF HUMAN NATURE

(THE SCIENCE OF WHO WE ARE)

GENDER DIFFERENCES;

LEFT HANDED INFLUENCE

011AT (Audio cassette)-- Sex, Brains, and Hands: Sex Differences in Cognitive Abilities by Dr. Diane Halpern. Cognitive psychologist Dr. Diane Halpern asks: What are the real differences between the sexes. How does social bias influence their perception? She also explores causes of handedness and sexual orientation. Are there differences between men and women in their cognitive abilities? "It depends" Halpern answers. It depends on a whole host of genetic and environmental conditions, which she brilliantly discusses in this comprehensive lecture.

EVOLUTION OF CREATIVITY & LANGUAGE

DR. JARED DIAMOND

av015C (audio cassette): av015DVD (DVD)-- The Great Leap Forward: The Evolution of Human Creativity and Language by Dr. Jared Diamond. Dr. Diamond, physiologist at the UCLA Medical School and author of the best selling *The Third Chimpanzee* and *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, presents his controversial theory that it was language that triggered the "Great Leap Forward" about 35,000 years ago that led to human culture and set us apart from Neanderthals, who went extinct shortly thereafter. A brilliant and masterful lecture by one of the greatest scientists of our generation.

FALSE MEMORY & RECOVERED MEMORY

017AT (audio)-- False Memory Syndrome and the Recovered Memory Movement by Dr. John Hochman. False Memory Syndrome and the Recovered Memory Movement. Dr. John Hochman, Forensic Psychiatrist, explores the phenomenon of Repressed Memories, False Memories, and Therapy Cults, asking, what fuels the false memory fad? He

explains the therapeutic context in which false sexual abuse memories are planted. Hard hitting, straight forward. A no-holds barred skeptical debunking of a dangerous mass hysteria.

NATURE V. NURTURE TWIN STUDIES

av039C (audio cassette); av039CD (audio CD)-- The Myths of Twins by Dr. Nancy Segal, Director of the Twin Studies Center at California State University, Fullerton. Dr. Segal answers questions such as: How similar are twins? How much alike are their personalities and habits? Are twins' IQs the same? What do twin studies teach us about the relative influence of heredity and environment, nature and nurture? A comprehensive and informative lecture by one of the world's leading experts on twins.

EVOLUTIONARY PSYCHOLOGY, INTELLIGENCE

av041VHS (video-only two left)-- Evolutionary Psychology: The Evolution of Intelligence and Consciousness. Conference 1996, Part I by Dr. Paul Churchland, Dr. Patricia Churchland, Dr. Donald Symons, Roger Bingham; plus James Randi's update on Pseudoscience in Asia. Did Intelligence & Consciousness Evolve? By Paul & Patricia Churchland, Profs. of Philosophy at U.C., San Diego and authorities on the nature and evolution of consciousness. • The Evolution of Consciousness by Roger Bingham, creator and host of the highly acclaimed PBS series, *The Human Quest*. • The Evolution of Female Sexual Attractiveness. By Donald Symons, Prof. of Anthropology at U.C. Santa Barbara, famous for his comprehensive survey of human sexual behavior from a Darwinian perspective.

EVOLUTIONARY PSYCHOLOGY, ETHICS

av042VHS (video only three left)-- Evolutionary Psychology: The Evolution of Ethics. Conference 1996 Part II by Dr. Nancy Segal, Dr. Napoleon Chagnon, Dr. John Hartung, Dr. Michael Shermer. Twin-Based Insights Into the Genetics of Human Behavior. By Dr. Nancy Segal, behavior genetics authority, Prof. of Developmental Psychology, Director of the Twin Studies Center at CSU, Fullerton, and involved in the famous Minnesota Twins study. • The Myth of the Noble Savage: the Yanomamö People of the Amazon. By controversial Dr. Napoleon Chagnon, Prof. of Anthropology at U.C. Santa Barbara. Lively Q & A • Prospects for Morality: God, Women, and Evolution. By John Hartung. • The Secular Sphinx: The Riddle of Morality Without Religion. By Dr. Michael Shermer.

MULTIPLE PERSONALITY DISORDER

av046VHS (video); av046C (audio cassette)-- Multiple Personality Disorder: Is it Real? by forensic psychiatrist Dr. John Hochman. Formerly very rare, "Multiple Personality Disorder" has suddenly reached epidemic proportions. Dr. Hochman explains how it became an official "disorder" and incisively outlines many hard hitting reasons why this latest "Disorder" is really a culturally driven phenomena.

BIRTH ORDER AND PERSONALITY

av047C (audio cassette)-- Born to Rebel: Birth Order and Personality by Dr. Frank Sulloway. With unprecedented statistical evidence Dr. Frank Sulloway shows that birth order and personality determine who leads revolutions and who resists. Evolutionary theorist E. O. Wilson calls Sulloway's theory: "The most authoritative & important treatise in the history of the social sciences." Harvard evolutionary biologist Ernst Mayr says it will change "a whole field of scholarship and everyone's thinking." Excellent! Long overdue!

HOMOSEXUALITY**DETERMINED OR CHOSEN?**

av048VHS (video-only one left); av048C (audio cassette)-- Queer Science: Is Homosexuality Determined or Chosen? by Biologist Dr. Simon LeVay. Dr. LeVay, who discovered the controversial brain structure differences between gays and straights, discusses recent biological findings concerning the development of sexual orientation, shows how scientific research in this field has been used in the past, and how it may be used in the future both to oppress and to defend gays.

GUNS, GERMS & STEEL**JARED DIAMOND**

av055VHS (video-only one left); av055DVD (DVD)-TAPE III-'97 1997 SKEPTIC MAGAZINE AWARDS. JARED DIAMOND: *Guns, Germs and Steel*: A masterpiece! Why did Europeans conquer Native Americans, Africans & Aborigines, rather than the reverse? Biology, zoology, biogeography, botany, linguistics, archeology, & genetics are used to answer one of the most perplexing questions of history. (ALSO ON THIS TAPE: MICHAEL SHERMER: *How to Bridge the Science Gap*. Shermer defined the "Science Gap" & regaled the audience with stories of his media experiences.)

WHY IS SEX FUN?**DR. JARED DIAMOND**

av058DVD (DVD); av058C (audio cassette); av058VHS (video);-- Why is Sex Fun? by Dr. Jared Diamond. With wit and a wealth of fascinating examples Dr. Diamond explains how sexuality has been as crucial as large brains and upright posture in our evolutionary history. Why do we, unlike most other mammals have males that help raise children? Why do humans have menopause, sex in private, and sex any time in the fertility cycle? Diamond answers these questions with his usual brilliance and scientific insight.

RECOVERED V. FALSE MEMORY

av070VHS (video); 070C (audio cassette)-- Recovered v. False Memory by Dr. Pamela Freyd and Eleanor Goldstein. Pioneering activists and foremost authorities in the field, Dr. Pamela Freyd and Eleanor Goldstein lead the fight against false accusations of child molestation. They explore the ongoing controversy over the nature of memory, particularly the theory that memories can be "repressed" and later "recovered" through special therapeutic techniques such as hypnotic regression, fantasy role playing, and dream interpretation.

WEALTH-HISTORY'S EXPERIMENTS**DR. JARED DIAMOND**

av077DVD (DVD); av077C (audio cassette)-- How to be Rich and Successful: Lessons from History's Experiments in Organizing Human Groups by Dr. Jared Diamond. Dr. Diamond continues the discussion started in his Pulitzer Prize-winning *Guns, Germs, and Steel* on the evolutionary and historical fates of human societies, to consider the current implications of his research for the fates of Microsoft, silicon valley, the European Union, German Beer, and Japanese food. Another brilliant lecture by the amazing Diamond.

MEMES & CULTURE**DR. SUSAN BLACKMORE**

av078VHS (video-only one left); av078DVD (DVD); av078CD (audio CD); av078C (audio cassette)-- The Meme Machine by Dr. Susan Blackmore. Are "memes" the idea replicators in culture? Do they propagate like genes as ideas compete to fill the limited number of niches in the mind available to them, so that they will get passed on to succeeding generations? Psychologist Dr. Susan Blackmore takes a meme's eye view of human evolution and history with a theory of evolution by memetic selection, showing how ideas are selected for and against within minds, much like natural selection operates in nature.

EXPLOITING FEAR

av084C (audio cassette)-- The Culture Of Fear by USC Sociologist Dr. Barry Glassner. Dr. Glassner reveals why Americans are burdened with overblown fears, and exposes those who manipulate our perceptions and profit from our anxieties: politicians; fundraisers; TV newsmagazines seeking higher ratings. Along the way Glassner debunks many current misperceptions and scares.

NEANDERTHALS V. HOMO SAPIENS

av108DVD (DVD); av108C (audio cassette)-- The Dawn Of human Culture by paleoanthropologist Dr. Richard Klein. Dr. Klein lectures on his new book of the same title, exploring what caused the extinction of the Neanderthals and the sudden rise of human culture. Klien contrasts Homo Sapiens culture with that of other hominids, and theorizes that it was a genetic change in brain structure that allowed for symbolic communication and our ancestor's "great leap forward" from hominid to human, from mere existence to rich culture.

LINGUISTIC EVOLUTION

av109DVD (DVD); av109C (audio cassette)-- Power of Babel: A Natural History of Language by linguist Dr. John McWhorter. Dr. McWhorter begins by considering how the approximately 6,000 languages on earth developed. What happened to the first language? In this lecture, based on his book, Dr. McWhorter combines linguistic theory, geography, history, and pop culture to tell the fascinating story of linguistic evolution.

UNDERSTANDING THE BIOLOGICAL MIND STEVEN PINKER

av113DVD (DVD); av113CD (audio CD); av113C (audio cassette)-- The Blank Slate: The Modern Denial of Human Nature by evolutionary psychologist and linguistic theorist Dr. Steven Pinker. Dr. Pinker argues that this is a golden age of new scientific understanding of human nature. Pinker brilliantly reexamines human nature, and addresses the fears raised that a biological understanding of the mind will be used to justify inequality, subvert social change, dissolve personal responsibility, and strip life of meaning and purpose. Pinker is one of the most influential public intellectuals of our time, and he is at his best in this lecture.

NEUROBIOLOGICAL APPROACH TO CONSCIOUSNESS

av122DVD (DVD); av122C (audio cassette)-- The Quest for Consciousness: A Neurobiological Approach by Caltech neuroscientist Dr. Christof Koch. Dr. Koch asks: what are the biophysical and neurophysiological operations that give rise to specific conscious perceptions? How can the brain, a physical system, express subjective states such as emotions? How can neural activity give rise to sensations like pain? What is consciousness? Koch presents the best scientific answer to this question.

ANTHROPOLOGY ON EASTER ISLAND

av124VHS (video-only three left); av124DVD (DVD); av124V (audio cassette)-- A Skeptic On Easter Island: Sex, Lies & Fieldnotes by UCLS archeologist Dr. Joanne van Tilburg. Dr. Tilburg explores the mysteries of the remarkable Easter Island through the story of the brilliant and quirky Katherine Routledge, whose collection of myths and legends forms the cornerstone of Easter island research. Set against the drama of ecological devastation, social upheaval, war, and the island's mystifying stone giants.

LATEST RESEARCH INTO MALENESS

av125VHS (video); av125DVD (DVD); av125C (audio cassette)-- "Y": The Descent Of Men, Revealing the Mysteries Of Maleness by British geneticist and science author Dr. Steve Jones. Dr. Jones presents a lively and witty look at the latest research into the Y chromosome and what it takes to make a male. Highly quotable. Jones marshals the most recent scientific research to reach conclusions that many women (and some men) have long held: males are the weaker—the second—sex, as well as evolutionary and biological latecomers.

AUDITORY ILLUSIONS

av129CD (audio CD); av129DVD (DVD); av129C (audio cassette)-- PHANTOM WORDS & AUDITORY ILLUSIONS. Phantom Words and Auditory Illusions by music perception expert Dr. Diana Deutsch. Dr. Deutsch demonstrates striking auditory illusions and curiosities of sound perception. Examples: when a recording of a single spoken phrase is repeatedly played, our brains suddenly perceive it as sung instead of spoken; when listening to repeating nonsense sounds people may falsely "hear" words associated with their interests (sex, food), or hear the voice of a recently lost loved one. One of the weirdest experiences one can have. Don't miss it.

DR. DAVID BRIN-SCIENCE FACT & FICTION

av130VHS (video-only one left); av130DVD (DVD); av130CD (audio CD); av130C (audio cassette)--**SCIENCE FACT AND SCIENCE FICTION** by Scientist and author of works of both nonfiction and science fiction Dr. David Brin. Dr. David Brin explores a range of possible changes and challenges that we may face in the near future...and some plausible visions of the territory just beyond. A look at the influence of technology on today's society and the future. Witty and wide ranging.

BRAIN RESEARCH & SOCIAL ADAPTATION

av131VHS (video); av131DVD (DVD); av131C (audio cassette)--**NEW BRAIN SCIENCE** by Caltech neuroscientist Dr. Stephen Quartz. Dr. Quartz outlines the latest research on how brains change during social interactions, and how they may have evolved as a product of social evolution. Examples: different areas of brain used during cooperation and conflict; evolutionary adaptive value of hormones; e.g., oxytocin during sex, especially orgasm, as well as during breastfeeding, may play a powerful role in bonding and attachment.

LSD & SPIRITUALITY

av132VHS (video-only two left); av132DVD (DVD); av132C (audio cassette)--**LSD SPIRITUALITY, CREATIVITY** by medical anthropologist Dr. Marlene Dobkin de Rios. Dr. Dobkin de Rios presents the results of one of the longest clinical studies of LSD ever undertaken (8 years, 950 subjects) and considers the implications for LSD's influence on creativity, imagination, and spirituality, and for what it teaches us about how the mind works. Also explores the use of hallucinogens in indigenous peoples, particularly those she worked with in the Amazon, and the role they play in shamanic healing, animism, and spirituality.

GOOD & EVIL-DR. MICHAEL SHERMER

av134VHS (video); av134DVD (DVD); av134CD (audio CD); av134C (audio cassette)-- **The Science of Good & Evil: Why People Cheat, Gossip, Share, Care & Follow the Golden Rule** by Dr. Michael Shermer. What are the origins of morality? What are the foundations of ethics? Is it human nature to be moral? If we live in a determined universe, then how can we make free moral choices? How evolutionary heritage and cultural history generated an ethical system.

WHY WE LIE

av138DVD (DVD); av138CD (audio CD); av138C (audio cassette)--**Why We Lie: The Evolutionary Roots of Deception & the Unconscious Mind** by Dr. David Livingstone Smith. Deceit, lying, and falsehoods lie at the very heart of our cultural heritage. The ever-present possibility of deceit is a crucial dimension of all human relationships. Philosopher and evolutionary psychologist Smith elucidates the essential role that deception and self-deception have played in human—and animal—evolution and shows that the very structure of our minds has been shaped by the need to deceive. Smith shows that by examining the stories we tell and the unconscious signals we send, we can learn how our minds work.

REALITY BEHIND MYTH

av144C (audio cassette); av144DVD (DVD); av144CD (audio CD)--**HOW THE HUMAN MIND SHAPES MYTH**. Dr. Elizabeth Wayland Barber, professor of Linguistics and Archaeology, Occidental College, CA, shows how myths can transmit real information in nonliterate societies, preserving it for millennia. The Klamath Indians, for example, preserved the story of the creation of Oregon's Crater Lake for nearly 8,000 years. Recent studies of how our brains work, have helped Barber deduce the characteristic principles by which such tales both develop and degrade through time.

**NATURE V. NURTURE
EXTRAORDINARY TWINS**

av148VHS (video); av148DVD (DVD); av148CD (audio CD)--**Indivisible by Two: Lives of Extraordinary Twins (and What They Teach Us About Human Nature)** by leading expert on twins Dr. Nancy Segal relates the stories behind her research: the "Fireman Twins"—reared apart but astonishingly alike; twin sisters who became a brother-sister pair when one was surgically transformed into a man; and identical triplet brothers, one who is gay while the other two are straight. These real-life stories remind us how incompletely any theory explains the variety of individual, or dual, or triple, or quadruple, lives.

**SOCIETIES IN CRISIS
DR. JARED DIAMOND**

av155C (audio cassette); av155 DVD (DVD); av155CD (audio CD)--**Crisis Management by People and Nations: How Individuals and Societies in Crisis**

Do (or Don't) Reappraise Core Values. By Dr. Jared Diamond, physiologist and evolutionary ecologist, and Pulitzer Prize winning best selling author.. How do societies or groups respond to a serious crisis? Meiji Japan, the modern Navajo, and post-World-War-2 western Europe did set about to recast themselves, while the Greenland Norse didn't. It remains to be seen if the U.S. of today will succeed. What can we learn from individuals and societies that did embrace new values?

STRANGE PSYCHOLOGY BEHIND ALIEN ABDUCTION

av153VHS (video-only one left); av153DVD (DVD); av153CD (audio CD)--Abducted! How People Come to Believe They Were Kidnapped by Aliens. By psychologist Dr. Susan Clancy. Why do people believe they are abducted by aliens? What is the key difference between people making abduction claims and people who have suffered real trauma? From her interviews with abductees, Clancy argues that they are sane and intelligent people who have unwittingly created vivid false memories from a toxic mix of nightmares, popular culture, and a powerful drive for meaning that science is unable to satisfy. For them, otherworldly terror can become a transforming, even inspiring experience.

FOOD MYTHS

av172DVD (DVD)--The Gospel of Food. Sociologist Barry Glassner examines sensational headlines and scientific controversies that spawned food myths about obesity, fast food, and food safety. Glassner's well-researched and wide-ranging commentary on American eating habits casts a critical gaze on restaurant reviewers, nutrition reformers, McDonald's critics, and corporate food marketers. Makes a persuasive case that Americans take their concern over healthy eating to unnecessarily extreme levels. He is author of the highly acclaimed bestseller *The Culture of Fear*.

UNDERSTANDING EVIL - DR. PHILIP ZIMBARDO

av175DVD (DVD) av175CD (audio CD);-- The Lucifer Effect: Understanding How Good People Turn Evil By Dr. Philip Zimbardo, who ran the famous "Stanford Prison Experiment" in the late 1960s, shows how ordinary people become perpetrators of evil. He reviews the research on conformity, obedience to authority, role-playing, dehumanization,

deindividuation and moral disengagement, and asserts that situational power is stronger than we appreciate. Zimbardo applies his theories to understanding the Inquisition, the massacre in Rwanda, the rape of Nanking, and the abuse and torture in Iraq's infamous Abu Ghraib prison. He suggests that by awareness of the Lucifer Effect we may choose between inaction and the heroism of resisting evil.

WHY WE JUSTIFY BAD DECISIONS- DR. CAROL TAVRIS

av176C (audio cassette); av176DVD (DVD); av176CD (audio CD) Mistakes Were Made (But Not by Me): Why We Justify Foolish Beliefs, Bad Decisions, and Hurtful Acts. Renowned social psychologist Dr. Carol Tavris takes a compelling look into how the brain is wired for self-justification. Why do people dodge responsibility and refuse to own up when they screw up? Are we all liars? Or do we really believe the stories we tell? When we make mistakes, we must calm the cognitive dissonance that jars our feelings of self-worth and create fictions that absolve us of responsibility, restoring our belief that we are smart, moral, and right—a belief that often keeps us on a course that is dumb, immoral, and wrong.

THE STUFF OF THOUGHT DR. STEVEN PINKER

av178DVD (DVD); av178CD (audio CD); THE STUFF OF THOUGHT: LANGUAGE AS A WINDOW INTO HUMAN NATURE By one of the most influential thinkers of our time, Dr. Steven Pinker on what language reveals about human nature. For example, what swearing reveals about our emotions; what innuendo discloses about relationships; how our use of prepositions and tenses taps into peculiarly human concepts of space and time; and how our nouns and verbs speak to our notions of matter; and even what baby names say about our relations to our children and society.

MORAL MARKETS

av182DVD (DVD); MORAL MARKETS & THE MIND OF THE MARKET. Economist Dr. Paul Zak and Dr. Michael Shermerr debunk two myths: (1) that "economic man" is rational, free and selfish and (2) that evolution and economics are based almost entirely on cutthroat competition and self-maximizing greed. They demonstrate that people are as irrational with money as they are in all other aspects of

life, and that the “greed is good” characterization of capitalism are woefully incomplete in understanding how evolution and economics works. Dr. Zak is at the Center for Neuroeconomics, Claremont Graduate University, where he conducts research on the neurobiology of trust.

EVOLUTION OF INTELLIGENCE

av184DVD (DVD)-Beautiful Minds: The Parallel Lives of Great Apes and Dolphins by Dr. Craig Stanford, co-director of the Jane Goodall Primate Research Center and professor of anthropology and biological sciences. What research into the big brains of apes and dolphins teaches us about another large-brained mammal: Homo sapiens. Describes the parallel evolution that gave rise to their intelligence and behavior: the ability to develop family bonds, form alliances, and care for their young, culture, politics, social structure, personality, and capacity for emotion.

ROBOTS AND CYBORGS

av185DVD (DVD)- Beyond Human: Living with Robots and Cyborgs with biologist Dr. Elisabeth Malartre and physicist and award winning fiction author Dr. Greg Benford. Concepts once purely fiction—robots, cyborg parts, artificial intelligence—will soon be everywhere, performing surgery, exploring hazardous places, making rescues, fighting fires, and handling heavy goods. Cyborgs—additions to the human body—rebuilt joints, elbows, and hearts—now mostly inferior will soon cross the line between repair and augmentation. Controversy will arise, Benford and Malartre speculate on surprising things already possible and what may be done in the future.

HOW VIRUSES EVOLVE

H1N1: The Evolution of a Deadly Virus: What Evolution Tells Us About Disease av206DVD (DVD) av206CD (audio CD)-- Carl Zimmer, an award-winning science writer for the New York Times, Discover magazine, *Scientific American*, and others takes readers on a fascinating tour of the H1N1 flu virus, how it evolved, and what deadly diseases tell us about how evolution works. Reviewing the history of influenza going back over a century, including a complete analysis of the 1918 influenza outbreak that killed tens of millions of people around the world, Zimmer includes remarkable graphics demonstrating exactly what happens from the moment a virus enters a body to the death of its human host.

Along the way Zimmer reveals how vital evolution is to all branches of modern biology—from the fight against deadly antibiotic-resistant bacteria to the analysis of the human genome.

ECOLOGY FROM A POLITICAL PERSPECTIVE WHOLE EARTH DISCIPLINE: An

Ecopragmatist Manifesto. av205DVD (DVD) av205CD (audio CD)-- According to Stewart Brand, a lifelong environmentalist (and creator of the *Whole Earth Catalog*) who sees everything in terms of solvable design problems, three profound transformations are under way on Earth right now. Climate change is real and is pushing us toward managing the planet as a whole. Urbanization—half the world’s population now lives in cities, and 80% will by midcentury—is altering humanity’s land impact and wealth. And biotechnology is becoming the world’s dominant engineering tool. In light of these changes, Brand suggests that environmentalists are going to have to reverse some long held opinions and embrace tools that they have traditionally distrusted. Only a radical rethinking of traditional green pieties will allow us to forestall the cataclysmic deterioration of the earth’s resources. Whole Earth Discipline challenges a number of myths and presents counterintuitive observations on why cities are actually greener than countryside, how nuclear power is the future of energy, and why genetic engineering is the key to crop and land management. Brand suggests a bold and inventive set of policies and solutions for creating a more sustainable society.

HOW INFANTS THINK

THE PHILOSOPHICAL BABY: What Children’s Minds Tell Us About Truth, Love, and the Meaning of Life. av204DVD (DVD) av204CD (audio CD)-- In her latest book, leading child psychologist and philosopher Dr. Alison Gopnik examines children’s imaginations, their consciousness, and their ideas about love and morality, and finds that the way they play, pretend, and explore are actually part of the most profound and fundamental aspects of human nature. It is through play and imagination that children solve problems of morality, learn about the world

around them, and create bonds with other people. Dr. Gopnik, a professor of psychology at the University of California at Berkeley, is also the author of *The Scientist in the Crib*.

PSYCHOLOGY OF EVIL

WHY PEOPLE BEHAVE BADLY. av201DVD (DVD) av201CD (audio CD)-- DR. BARBARA OAKLEY. One of the most difficult problems in the social sciences is understanding why some people intentionally inflict emotional and physical pain on others. Such intentional pain occurs not only on a local level—within families, with “friends,” or in work situations, but also on a national and international scale—Hitler’s Holocaust, Stalin’s purges, and Chairman Mao’s slaughter of millions. Neuroscience is providing the potential for a revolution in our understanding of why “bad” people do what they do. Professor Barbara Oakley uses evolutionary theory—as well as an unusually adventurous background that has earned her the nickname of the “Female Indiana Jones,” to knit together disparate pieces of research that point toward answers to some of the most compelling questions in the social sciences and humanities. Dr. Oakley’s work at Oakland University involves bioengineering in many different contexts, such as the effects of electric fields on cells and the complex relationship between neurocircuitry and social behavior. She worked for several years as a Russian translator on Soviet trawlers in the Bering Sea; she met her husband while working as a radio operator at the South Pole station in Antarctica; and she has gone from private to regular Army

Captain in the U.S. military. Her critically acclaimed, tongue-in-cheek titled book *Evil Genes: Why Rome Fell, Hitler Rose, Enron Failed, and My Sister Stole My Mother’s Boyfriend* takes readers on a provocative exploration of the darkest recesses of the human personality.

PSYCHOLOGY OF THE WITCH HUNT

THE ENEMY WITHIN: 2,000 Years of Witch-Hunting in the Western World. av195DVD (DVD) av195CD (audio CD)-- DR. John Demos explains that the term “witch-hunt” is used today to describe everything from political scandals to school board shake-ups. Long before the Salem witch trials, women and men were rounded up by neighbors, accused of committing horrific crimes using supernatural powers, scrutinized by priests and juries, and promptly executed. The belief in witchcraft—and the deep fear of evil it instilled in communities—led to a cycle of accusation, anger, and purging that has occurred repeatedly in the West for centuries. Award-winning historian and Professor of History at Yale University, John Demos puts this cultural paranoia in context. He takes readers from the early Christians persecuted in Rome through the Salem witch trials, McCarthy’s hunt for communists, and the hysteria around child sex-abuse cases and satanic cults in the 1980s. An original and fascinating look at the cultural, societal, and psychological practice of witch-hunts, Demos illuminates the dark side of communities driven to rid themselves of “evil,” no matter what the cost.

8. THE COSMOS: SPACE EXPLORATION

SEARCH FOR ET

av005VHS (video-only three left); av005C (audio cassette)-- Is E.T. Out There? The Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence by Dr. Thomas McDonough. Is E.T. Out There? The Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence. McDonough of Caltech and the Planetary Society, shows what scientists are doing to detect possible communications from other planets, the methods used to analyze the data collected, and the funding and

politics behind the search. This is an excellent summation of the state of the science of searching for E.T.s.

CARL SAGAN TRIBUTES

av086DVD (DVD); av086C (audio cassette)-- Carl Sagan: A Tribute by Sagan biographers Key Davidson, William Poundstone; and by Michael Shermer who analyze and celebrate Sagan’s brilliant life. Davidson and Poundstone, discuss their recent books. Shermer empirically answers such formerly subjective questions as “was Sagan’s science popularizing done at the expense of his science?”

THE CASE FOR GOING TO MARS

DR. ROBERT ZUBRIN

av087VHS (video); av087DVD (DVD); *Entering Space: From Mars to the Stars* by Dr. Robert Zubrin. Dr. Zubrin presents the case for going to Mars...and beyond. Covers new satellite-launch technology; rational for colonizing space; untapped technologies such as rocket planes, solar and magnetic sails, controlled fusion; the challenges of terraforming, interstellar travel, and contact with other species.

THE SEARCH FOR ET INTELLIGENCE

av089DVD (DVD); av089C (audio cassette)-- *Contact: Communicating With Extra-terrestrial Life* by legendary sci-fi author & SETI Institute scientist Dr. Seth Shostack who asks, "Are we alone?" If they are out there, why haven't we heard from them (the Fermi Paradox)? Latest science behind the Search for ET Intelligence and how you can participate in SETI from your home computer. Will they be able to decipher what we say? And what information will we leave to Earth's occupants a million years hence? How can we address an unknown destiny in which human culture itself may no longer exist? Shostack is one of the funniest scientists working today. Don't miss his humor and science.

SENDING MESSAGES INTO THE FAR FUTURE

av090DVD (DVD); av090C (audio cassette)-- *Deep Time: Communicating Across the Millennia* Renowned science fiction author & working physicist Dr. Gregory Benford considers how we should send messages into the far future to communicate with future generations, or with intelligent beings elsewhere in space. A provocative analysis of humanity's attempts to make its culture immortal. Logical and lyrical, with the beauty of a novelist, Benford explores these and other fascinating questions on how to cross the immense gulf of the ages so such deep-time messages can be understood.

ASTROBIOLOGY & EARTH

av118DVD (DVD); av118CD (audio CD); av118C (audio cassette)-- *Astrobiology and The Life and Death of Planet Earth* Fascinating! By Dr. Peter Ward and Dr. Donald Brownlee Ward and Brownlee use the process of planetary evolution to show that complex intelligent life is likely to be extremely rare in the cosmos, and that we are living near or shortly after Earth's biological peak. They speculate about how

planets die, and what the likely fate of our own planet will be.

HUMAN SPACE EXPLORATION

DR. ROBERT ZUBRIN

av133VHS (video-only three left); av133DVD (DVD); av133C (audio cassette) *NASA AND THE FUTURE OF HUMAN SPACE EXPLORATION: A Skeptical View* by Space exploration advocate Dr. Robert Zubrin. Dr. Zubrin argues that the U.S. manned space program must regain a purpose and mission and be destination driven, as it was in the days of Apollo. Recounts his experiences testifying in Washington, outlines his plans on how humans can get to Mars and why we must become a space-faring civilization, and why the Space Shuttle and the Space Station will not get us there.

MASS EXTINCTIONS CAUSED BY LIFE ITSELF

THE MEDEA HYPOTHESIS: Is Life on Earth Ultimately Self-Destructive? av200DVD (DVD) av200CD (audio CD)-- DR. Peter Ward. In *The Medea Hypothesis*, renowned paleontologist Dr. Peter Ward proposes a revolutionary and provocative vision of life's relationship with the Earth's biosphere, one that has frightening implications for our future—yet also offers hope. Using the latest discoveries from the geological record, he argues that life might be its own worst enemy. This stands in stark contrast to James Lovelock's Gaia hypothesis—the idea that life sustains habitable conditions on earth. In answer to Gaia, which draws on the idea of the "good mother" who nurtures life, Ward invokes Medea, the mythical mother who killed her own children. Could life by its very nature threaten its own existence? Ward demonstrates that all but one of the mass extinctions that have struck Earth were caused by life itself. He looks at our planet's history in a new way, revealing an Earth that is witnessing an alarming decline of diversity and biomass—a decline brought on by life's own "biocidal" tendencies. And the Medea hypothesis applies not just to our planet—its dire prognosis extends to all potential life in the universe. Breathtaking in scope, *The Medea Hypothesis* is certain to arouse fierce debate and radically transform our worldview.

FINDING LIFE ON OTHER PLANETS

THE CROWDED UNIVERSE: The Search for Living Planets. av199DVD (DVD) av199CD (audio CD)-- DR. Alan Boss. We are now nearing a turning point in our quest for life in the universe—we now have the capacity to detect Earth-like planets around other stars. But will we find any? In *The Crowded Universe*, renowned astronomer Dr. Alan Boss—a research scientist at the Carnegie Institution and a fellow of the American Geophysical Union—argues that based on what we already know about planetary systems, in the coming years we will find abundant

Earths, including many that are indisputably alive. Life is not only possible elsewhere in the universe, Boss argues—it is common. Boss describes how our ideas about planetary formation have changed radically in the past decade and brings readers up to date on discoveries of bizarre inhabitants of various solar systems, including our own. America must stay in this new space race, Boss contends, or risk being left out of one of the most profoundly important discoveries of all time: the first confirmed finding of extraterrestrial life.

9. THE COSMOS: PHYSICS

QUANTUM MECHANICS

JOHN GRIBBIN

av034C (audio cassette)--In *Search of Schrödinger's Kittens: The Paradoxical Nature of Quantum Mechanics*. Astrophysicist and Science writer John Gribbin explains the bizarre and quirky world of quantum mechanics and devises a solution to Einstein's paradox and what he called "spooky action at a distance."

MATH AS A PROBLEM SOLVER

av061C (audio cassette)--*The Universe & the Tea Cup-The Mathematics of Truth and Beauty* by Award-winning science writer K.C. Cole. Mathematics is the most powerful & breathtaking creation of the human mind. Cole demystifies mathematics showing how it illuminates everything from the O.J. Simpson verdict to the errors that undermine *The Bell Curve*. Math as an elegant problem solver.

THEORIES OF EVERYTHING

av099DVD (DVD); av099C (audio cassette)--*The Hole in the Universe: The Physics of Nothing and Theories of Everything* by L.A. Times science writer K.C. Cole.who reveals the research of today's top cosmologists and physicists working to unravel the ulti-

mate theory of everything to explain the workings of the cosmos. That something may very well be in "nothing"--the vacuum of spacetime out of which everything in the universe arises.

ATOM : DR. LAWRENCE KRAUSS

100DVD (DVD); av100C (audio cassette)--*Atom: From the Big Bang To the Orgin Of Life* With humor and insight, Dr. Krauss follows the trajectory of a single oxygen atom's voyage through eternity, telling the story of the universe from the Big Bang to life's emergence on Earth. Krauss is often compared to Carl Sagan for his ability to reveal our relationship to the universe and the countless ages that have come before us. Don't miss this masterful storyteller.

TOPOLOGY OF THE UNIVERSE

DR. JANNA LEVIN 106DVD

(DVD); av106CD (audio CD); av106C (audio cassette)--*How the Universe Got Its Spots* Levin discusses cosmology and topology in a lively, accessible fashion. What we know about the shape and extent of the universe, its beginning and its end. Emphasizes her area of expertise—the topology and geometry of the universe—a strange map of space full of black holes, chaotic flows, time warps, and invisible strings.

AMATEUR ASTRONOMY REVOLUTION

TIMOTHY FERRIS

av111DVD (DVD); av111C (audio cassette) Seeing in the Dark Science writer Timothy Ferris reports on the revolution now sweeping amateur astronomy with breathtaking slides. Work previously possible only at major observatories is now within the

reach of motivated amateurs. Don't miss this inspiring lecture by one of the most compelling science communicators of our generation.

EXPANDING UNIVERSE/DARK ENERGY

av114C (audio cassette); av114DVD (DVD); Extravagant Universe: Exploding Stars, Dark Energy, & the Accelerating Cosmos by supernova expert Dr. Robert Kirshner who explains the cosmological measurements that led to an extraordinary discovery: the expansion of the universe is accelerating under the influence of a dark energy that makes space itself expand. Instead of a gravitational slowing caused by gravity, observations reveal the expansion of the universe is speeding up due to some mysterious force. It was Kirshner's team that made this discovery.

CREATION, BLACK HOLES, SUPERSTRINGS

av143C (audio cassette); av143DVD (DVD); av143CD (audio CD)-Parallel Worlds: The Science of Creation, Black Holes, Superstrings, & Higher Dimensions by Dr. Michio Kaku, Professor of Theoretical Physics at City University of New York and bestselling author. Kaku presents a fascinating tour of cosmology, including M-theory, inflationary universe theory, and parallel universes. He describes the extraordinary advances that have transformed cosmology over the last decade, forcing scientists around the world to rethink our understanding of the birth and fate of the universe.

DISCOVERY OF BLACK HOLES

av146VHS (video); av146DVD (DVD); av146CD (audio CD)-EMPIRE OF THE STARS: Obsession, Friendship, and Betrayal in the Quest for Black Holes Dr. Arthur I. Miller, professor of History and Philosophy of Science, University College, London discusses two great theories, relativity and quantum mechanics which meet head on in the description of black holes. Miller recounts the dramatic story of the quest to understand black holes and the feud between the great astrophysicist Sir Arthur Eddington and his rival, the young Indian immigrant Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar, who created the first mathematical description of black holes in 1930, on a voyage from Madras to London.

EXTRA DIMENSIONS

Dr. LAWRENCE KRAUSS

av150DVD (DVD); av150CD (audio CD)--Hiding In The Mirror: The Mysterious Allure of Extra

Dimensions, from Plato to String Theory and Beyond. By physicist and best selling author Dr. Lawrence Krauss. Is the universe as we seem to experience it all there is? Drawing on work by scientists, mathematicians, and artists, Krauss explores whether extra dimensions simply represent abstract speculation or hold the key to a deeper understanding of the Universe. He examines popular culture's embrace—and misunderstanding—of topics such as black holes, life in another dimension, string theory, and some of the daring new theories that propose that large extra dimensions exist alongside our own.

EXTRA DIMENSIONS

Dr. LISA RANDALL

av156VHS (video-only one left); av156DVD (DVD); av156CD (audio CD)--Warped Passages: Unraveling the Mysteries of the Universe's Hidden Dimensions. By leading theoretical physicist Dr. Lisa Randall. Dr. Randall employs creative analogies to explain how our universe may have many unseen dimensions to make her astoundingly complex material understandable. She discusses recent advances in string and supersymmetry theory. Are extra dimensions a fraction of a millimeter in size, dimensions of infinite size, or only the dimensions we see? Randall shows how these theories will be tested in coming years. As coauthor of the two most important scientific papers on this topic, she's ideally suited to explain these ideas.

KAKU: PHYSICS OF THE IMPOSSIBLE

av183DVD (DVD); av183CD (audio CD)-Physics of the Impossible by Dr. Michio Kaku. Explores to what extent impossible seeming technologies and devices from the world of science fiction might become reality: teleportation, force fields, simulated invisibility; mind reading using the science of optics, electromagnetism, light, MRI devices, magnetic fields, superconductors, and nanotechnology. Explores the fundamentals—and the limits—of the laws of physics as we know them today.

BLACK HOLES AND GRAVITATIONAL WAVES

BLACK HOLES SING* :Black Holes, Their Orbits and Gravitational Waves

*Title inspired by Dennis Overbye of the New York Times. av196DVD (DVD)-- By Dr. Janna Levin. Black Holes are the ultimate death state of very massive stars. Collapsing under their own weight, the dead cores will curve spacetime so strongly that not even light can escape. Black holes emit no light and reflect no light. They are dark

against a dark sky and effectively invisible. When two black holes move in orbit around each other, they churn up the spacetime around them, emanating waves in the fabric of space itself. These waves are like the waves on a drum and are closest in analogy to sound waves: the black holes are singing. Gravitational waves move through the universe, and us, all the time squeezing and stretching space but so weakly that we don't notice. Monumental experiments built on Earth and planned for space aim to record the extraordi-

nary sounds of black hole orbits.

This lecture by the theoretical physicist, Dr. Janna Levin (Barnard College of Columbia University) combines her work from her first book, *How the Universe Got its Spots* (a nonfiction work of science) with her second book, *A Madman Dreams of Turing Machines* (a novel that won the prestigious PEN/Bingham Fellowship Prize for Writers and the MEA Mary Shelley Award for Outstanding Fictional Work).

10. SCIENCE HISTORY, SCIENCE PHILOSOPHY & SCIENCE ETHICS

PRIMATE RESEARCH CONTROVERSY

av026C (audio cassette)--The Monkey Wars: The Controversy Over the Use Of Primates in Research by Deborah Blum, based on her Pulitzer Prize Winning book *The Monkey Wars*. Activists have taken up the animal rights cause with often furious gusto, using death threats, hate mail, and even bombings of laboratories to relay their messages to scientists. While there is no doubt that animal testing has contributed to the progress of medical science, are there some concessions that scientists can make? In this lecture Blum provides at last a balanced forum and explores this issue in vivid and unflinching detail, with an up close, first-hand look at the issues and people involved.

FEAR OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

av030C (audio cassette)--Frankenstein And the Fear of Science by Dr. Steven B. Harris. UCLA Department of Pathology. What is the fascination with Mary Shelley's famous story of Dr. Frankenstein and his reanimated "monster." Harris examines the cultural context in which this story was produced, why it was written by a woman, and why the story endures to this day. Harris also uses other science fiction stories to explore society's fear of science and technology, and attempts over the centuries to restrict and control science and technology before they, like Dr. Frankenstein's monster, become a menace to society.

THE END OF SCIENCE?

av052VHS (video); av052C (audio cassette)-- The End of Science by John Horgan, author of the contro-

versial bestseller *The End of Science*. Horgan presents his case on why he thinks that no major scientific breakthroughs remain and rebuts objections to this thesis. Horgan doubts that there will ever again be a scientific revolution on par with the Newtonian, Darwinian, or Einsteinian revolutions. Dr. Michael Shermer, Director of the Skeptics Society responds, and the Skeptic Society audience provides a lively Q & A.

15 MYTHS OF SCIENCE

av056VHS (video-only one left); av056C (audio cassette)-- 15 Myths of Science by Dr. William McComas, Director of the Center to Advance Science Education at USC. McComas discusses his research on how a list adopted by textbook writers became a description of how science is done, why many methods used to teach science are actually the antithesis of the way in which science actually operates, and 13 other myths of science. Lively. Excellent. A good tool for science teachers and educators.

NATURE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

av063VHS (video); av063C (audio cassette)--Minds, Brains, & Machines by Santa Fe Institute chaos and complexity theorist, and popular science writer John Casti. Casti discusses his book, *The Cambridge Quintet*, about an imaginary meeting of 5 great intellectuals of the century: physicist Erwin Schrödinger, biologist J.B.S. Haldane, philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein, novelist C. P. Snow, and mathematician/computer pioneer Alan Turing, who discuss the nature of artificial

intelligence. A succinct summary of the science and philosophy behind artificial intelligence.

FRAUD & SCIENCE

av071VHS (video-only two left); av071C (audio cassette)--The Baltimore Case: Fraud & Science by Caltech historian of science Dr. Daniel J. Kevles. Dr. Kevles lectures on his new book in which he recounts the recent history of the controversy over the research of Nobel Laureate David Baltimore. When a Congressional ethics committee investigated Thereza Imanishi-Kari and her co-author David Baltimore for scientific fraud, did they simply find what they were looking for? Kevles uses the Baltimore case to talk about the broader issues of fraud in science, the misunderstanding of how science really works, and how truth cannot be discovered in the court of public opinion.

POP CULTURE'S MAD SCIENTIST

av072DVD (DVD); av072C (audio cassette)-The "Mad Scientist" in Modern Culture by David Skal. Popular culture historian David Skal explains how science becomes a lightning rod for anxiety about the uses and consequences of modern technology. He covers the icon of the mad scientist; UFO folklore; computers v. the Unabomber; the demonization of modern medicine; and B-movie science fiction classics.

CULTURE & SCIENCE

av075DVD (DVD); av075C (audio cassette)--Postmodernism and Science: Does cultural upbringing affect the way scientists think about the world? Pulitzer Prize nominee and physicist Dr. Tony Rothman considers such deeply meaningful questions as: Is the Universe Knowable? Is the World Symmetrical? Are Doubt and Certainty Complementary? Can We Learn Anything From Parallels Between Physics and Eastern Philosophy? What is science in a "postmodern" world?

CUTTING-EDGE SCIENCE & TECH

av116VHS (video); av116DVD (DVD); av116C (audio cassette tape) Cutting-Edge Science and Technologies: What is a Skeptic to Believe? by aerospace engineer David Naiditch. Bacteria-sized robots (nanobots) and stealthy nano-assassins. A space elevator of lightweight carbon nanotubes. Robo spy flies. Computer-to-brain interfaces. Naiditch reviews some potentially revolutionary

technologies and discusses the hazards of predicting their futures.

SCIENCE WRITERS NEEDED

av117VHS (video); av117DVD (DVD); av117CD (audio CD); av117C (audio cassette tape) Who is Science Writing For? by author and science writer Margaret Wertheim. We are living in an age of science, yet polls reveal an alarming ignorance about science and pseudoscience. Only about half a percent of the population read science magazines. Who writes for the other 99.5%? Who speaks to them? Wertheim discusses strategies for getting science to the other 99.5%. Inspiration for those who wish to write..

EDWARD TUFTE:

THE RENOWNED THEORIST OF ANALYTICAL DESIGN

av140C (audio cassette); av140DVD (DVD); av140CD (audio CD)-Beautiful Evidence: The Art of Science and the Science of Art by Dr. Edward Tufte. The renowned theorist of analytical design, Edward Tufte, "the Leonardo da Vinci of data," here draws from his forthcoming book, Beautiful Evidence, which develops the fundamental theory of analytical design and proposes methods for display of nearly every type of evidence. He also discusses his analysis of the Boeing/NASA PowerPoint slides created while the space shuttle Columbia was injured but still alive, and his assessment of the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster.

UNUSUAL SCIENCE TESTS

DR. RICHARD WISEMAN

av152DVD (DVD); av152CD (audio CD)--Luck, ESP, and Magic: How Science Tests the Unusual. By magician, author, and psychologist Dr. Richard Wiseman. Great tape for students and groups. Enlightening and entertaining! He focuses on his Luck Project (what traits make one person luckier than others), the psychology of magic, and the reliability of eyewitness testimony, Wiseman heads the psychology lab at the University of Hertfordshire, England and has been featured in many television programs.

ROBOTS AND CYBORGS

av185DVD (DVD)- Beyond Human: Living with Robots and Cyborgs with biologist Dr. Elisabeth Malartre and physicist and award winning fiction author Dr. Greg Benford. Concepts once purely fiction—robots, cyborg parts, artificial intelligence—will soon be everywhere,

performing surgery, exploring hazardous places, making rescues, fighting fires, and handling heavy goods. Cyborgs—additions to the human body—rebuilt joints, elbows, and hearts—now mostly inferior will soon cross the line between repair and augmentation. Controversy will arise, Benford and Malartre speculate on surprising things already possible and what may be done in the future.

SUPERSTITION v. SCIENCE

SUPERSTITION: Belief in the Age of Science av195DVD (DVD) av195CD (audio CD)-- By DR. Robert Park. From uttering a prayer before boarding a plane, to exploring past lives through hypnosis, why has superstition become so pervasive in an age of science? Robert Park, the University of Maryland physics professor and the best-selling author of *Voodoo Science*, asks why

people persist in superstitious convictions long after science has shown them to be ill-founded. He takes on supernatural beliefs from religion and the afterlife to New Age spiritualism and faith-based medical claims. He examines recent controversies and concludes that science is the only way we have of understanding the world. In this lecture based on his new book, Park discusses parapsychology, homeopathy, and acupuncture; he questions the existence of souls, the foundations of intelligent design, and the power of prayer; he asks for evidence of reincarnation and astral projections; and he challenges the idea of heaven. Throughout, he demonstrates how people's blind faith, and their confidence in suspect phenomena and remedies, are manipulated for political ends. Park shows that science prevails when people stop fooling themselves.

11. SCIENCE & RELIGION

DARWIN'S AGNOSTICISM

044DVD (DVD); av044C (audio cassette)-- How Darwin Became An Agnostic. Dr. Mario Di Gregorio, historian of science, explores Darwin's debt to Hume, the great skeptic, and gives an inside and intimate look into the life of Darwin, how he abandoned special creation in favor of evolution, and the relationship between science and religion in Darwin's time as well as ours.

NEW IDEAS OF HEAVEN

av065VHS (video-only three left); av085DVD (DVD)-- Heaven and the Internet by Dr. Margaret Wertheim. Science writer Margaret Wertheim explores how humans often dream of a higher plane, a perfect world commonly known as Heaven. But science has dimmed those hopes. Wertheim explores new ideas of heaven, such as the concept of the Internet and cyberspace as a new home for the soul, where one might download one's mind into digital eternity, in a sci-fi fantasy of digital resurrection.

EVOLUTIONARY THEORY OF RELIGION

av112C (audio cassette); av112DVD (DVD); av112CD (audio CD)-- Darwin's Cathedral: Evolution, Religion, and the Nature of Science by anthropologist and evolutionary theorist Dr. David Sloan Wilson. Dr. Wilson combines the usually irreconcilable evolution and religion by proposing an evolutionary theory of religion that shakes both evolu-

tionary biology and social theory at their foundations. He treats religious groups as "organisms" selected for survival to generate an advantage. Intriguing and controversial because Wilson presents his group selection model of evolution.

RATIONAL MYSTICISM:

THE BORDER BETWEEN SCIENCE & SPIRITUALITY av120VHS (video); av120C (audio cassette); av120DVD (DVD); av120CD (audio CD) By John Horgan. How do trances, visions, prayer, satori, and other mystical manifestations "work"? What are their neurological mechanisms and psychological implications? Horgan investigates a wide range of fields—chemistry, physics, psychology, radiology, theology, and more—to narrow the gap between reason and spiritual enlightenment and explores the strikingly similar effects of "mystical technologies" like sensory deprivation, prayer, fasting, trance, dancing, meditation, and drug trips. His conclusions resonate with the controversial climax of his book *The End of Science* because, as he argues, the most enlightened mystics and the most enlightened scientists end up in the same place—confronting the imponderable depth of the universe.

SCIENCE LOOKS AT THE GOD QUESTION

av121VHS(video-only two left); av121C (audio cassette); av121DVD; av121CD (audio CD)-- The Ghost in the Universe: God in Light of Modern Science by physicist and author Dr. Taner Edis. Dr. Edis draws on modern science to take a skeptical look at the question of God. He presents a thoroughly naturalistic view of our world, where complexity, intelligence, and even the sublime heights of religious experience emerge from what is ultimately material and random. A very intelligent and crisp lecture filled with scientific insights.

BILL NYE THE SCIENCE GUY

av145C (audio cassette); av145DVD (DVD); av145CD (audio CD)-Bill Nye The Science Guy: Cool Science and the "Eyes of Nye." Nye is at his best in this wonderful performance suitable for kids and adults alike. Bill shows video clips from his new television series, "The Eyes of Nye," while he talks about science, skepticism, and the wonders of the universe. Bill also regales the audience with humorous yet enlightening stories about his life in science and television, and what it is like to produce a television series on science. Don't miss this terrific show.

DEBATE: CAN PHYSICS PROVE GOD

av177C (audio cassette); av177DVD (DVD); av177CD (audio CD) Debate: Can Physics Prove God and Christianity? With physicists Dr. Frank Tipler v. Dr. Lawrence Krauss Tipler argues that the God—the Uncaused First Cause—is completely consistent with

the Cosmological Singularity, an entity whose existence is required by physical law. He argues for the scientific possibility of miracles, including the Virgin Birth, the Resurrection, and the Incarnation. Krauss provides a cogent response and argues that the scientific evidence does not confirm the central tenets of Christianity or any other religion, and that attempts to employ science in the service of religion are doomed to failure.

12. EXTREMISM, RACE ISSUES, CULTS

HOLOCAUST REVISIONISM

DR. MICHAEL SHERMER av019C (audio cassette)-- Proving the Holocaust: Holocaust Revisionism and Pseudohistory Dr. Michael Shermer applies skeptical methodology to the claim that the Holocaust never happened, reviewing the arguments and answers, as well as an analysis of the revisionist movement as a social phenomenon. Shows not only how we know that the Holocaust happened, but how all historical events are "proved."

THE MYTH OF RACE

av024C (audio cassette); 024CD (audio CD); Afrocentrism, Racism, & Other Myths Dr. Yahudi Webster, CSU, L.A. gives a refreshing & startling look at racial thinking & racial classification in U.S. Are ethnic pride movements counter-productive? Is our present system of race relations self-defeating? Suggestions for a more positive view.

DEBATE: RACE AND I.Q.

av031C (audio cassette)--Race and I.Q.: For Whom the Bell Curve Tolls One day symposium. (2 audio-Tapes for 19.95.) Anthropologist Dr. Vincent Sarich, Science Historian Dr. Daniel J. Kevles, and Cognitive Psychologist Dr. Diane Halpern debate major topics from the controversial book, *The Bell Curve*, which posits that black-white differences in I.Q. scores are real & largely genetically determined. The symposiasts discuss the implications of this claim for science & society.

CONSPIRACIES

av038C (audio cassette); 038CD (audio CD); 50 Greatest Conspiracies and Why People Believe Them by investigative journalist John Whalen who guides you through the dizzy labyrinths of conspiracy theories, where fact and fiction flirt, court, marry, and bear very strange offspring: CIA, Watergate, JFK, UFOs, KKK, AIDS, LSD, FEMA.... Also discusses why people believe in conspiracy theories, and the psychology of what conspiracy theories offer in terms of explaining how the world works.

WHO JOINS MILITIAS?

av045C (audio cassette)-- Militias: Who Joins and Why by Cult expert Richard Abanes who explains who joins militias and why, shows the links between rebellion, racism, and religion, gives the facts about what really happened in Waco, and shows how militia groups use such incidents to claim there is a one-world government conspiracy and that the end of the world is near.

MILLENNIAL CULTS

av060VHS(video); av060C (audio cassette)-- Millennial Cults by USCs Dr. Stephen O'Leary explores Waco, UFO groups (Heaven's Gate,) and the claims of many end times groups. Why do religious cults often take on the mythic motifs of the end of time? O'Leary is co-founder of Boston's Center for Millennial Studies which studies the buildup, cresting, and most importantly, the aftermath of both the A.D. 1000 millennium, and A.D.2000. The lecture remains current since most of these groups have not admitted that they were wrong; instead, as O'Leary predicted, they claim that the end is still coming, that they miscalculated, or that God changed his mind, or that they prayed to save us from the end, or, or, or....

CULTS: MIND CONTROL, & RECOVERY
av091VHS (video); av091C (audio cassette)—Cults: Mind Control, Brain-washing, and Recovery by Steven Hassan. Hassan, a former cult member (Moonies) and a leading cult expert, explains cult techniques of persuasion and influence. Is there such a thing as mind control and brain washing? Hassan also presents a revolutionary approach that will transform the way people think and act when dealing with cults and other mind-control relationships. How to extricate yourself or a friend or family member who is in danger of getting sucked into a cult.

DENYING HISTORY DR. MICHAEL SHERMER

av092C (audio cassette)—Denying History: Who Says the Holocaust Never Happened & Why Do They Say It? by Dr. Michael Shermer. Based on his new book of the same title, Dr. Shermer shows how any historical fact is verified and proven, using the Holocaust as an example. Shermer addresses with specifics the deniers' false claims—that significantly less than six million Jews were killed, that gas chambers were only used for delousing clothing, and that the Nazis never intended to exterminate European Jewry. Shermer reveals for the first time original documents and

aerial photographs of the death camps, which he had analyzed by NASA/JPL experts in aerial photography.

WHAT MOTIVATES EXTREMISTS?

105DVD (DVD); av105C (audio cassette)—Extremists! by social historian Dr. John George. Dr. George examines what makes an extremist. Who joins and why? What do they want and how far will they go? George will provide a historical overview of extremism and the conspiracy theories and religious views that attract recruits and motivate extremists on both the far left and the far right. Very current and timely.

JEWISH DNA; RACE IDENTITY,

av179DVD (DVD); John Entine addresses one of today's most controversial taboo topics: the connection between genetics and identity from the viewpoint of the accomplishments of the Jews. Why do Jews—the tiniest fraction of the world's population—score highest on intelligence tests, hold so many Nobel Prizes, and are disproportionately found in professions such as law and medicine? He also examines such questions as who actually can be said to hold Hebrew genes and what was the real fate of the Lost Tribes?

13. MATH & STATISTICS

USE & ABUSE OF STATISTICS

av003C (audio cassette)—The Use and Abuse of Statistics in the Real world. Dr. Judith Grabiner gives a clear and lively presentation of practical everyday statistics for non-mathematicians. How people, politicians, and corporations lie with statistics. How to apply risk benefit analysis to everyday life. How to understand sampling and polling. How to out advertising and media misinformation. This is a great lecture for teachers and students, particularly those in critical thinking courses, as well as statistics and psychology courses.

NONLINEAR MATH MODELS

av051VHS (video); av051C (audio cassette)—Fuzzy Logic by Dr. Bart Kosko author of *Fuzzy Thinking* and a pioneer in the field of fuzzy logic. Dr. Kosko says most science math models are linear models, though no one has found a truly linear process in nature. Nonlinear math models are more accurate, and neural and fuzzy systems are tools that let us model nonlinear systems without having to guess at their exact mathematical form. Examples of applications are given: automobile freeway flow, air traffic control, computers, etc.

TWO MODES OF MATH THINKING

av123VHS(video); av123C (audio cassette); av123DVD (DVD); av123DVD (audio CD)—The Art of the Infinite: The Pleasures Of Mathematics by authors & founders of The Math Circle school Dr. Robert Kaplan and Dr. Ellen Kaplan. The Kaplans provide character studies of eccentric, quarrelsome, base, & noble mathematicians, illustrating two modes of math thinking: mathematical truth is discovered as it exists (intuitionist), & mathematics is true because we invent consistent rules for it (formalist). Filled with fun examples for kids & adults alike, even math-phobics!

SCIENTIFIC HISTORY OF “NOISE”

av170C (audio cassette); av170DVD (DVD); av170CD (audio CD) Noise: a fuzzy logic perspective: A celebrated maverick in the world of science. Dr. Bart Kosko, professor of Electrical Engineering, USC, introduces the revolutionary concept of fuzzy logic from his latest book which provides the first scientific history of noise. Noise from the big bang to blaring car alarms is considered a curse, but, in fact, not all noise is bad. Debunking this and other noise myths, Kosko discusses noise's possible role in the ice ages to noise pollution laws, to the use of noise to generate synthetic speech, and Hedy Lamarr's contribution to noisy wireless communication.

MATH AS A PROBLEM SOLVER

K.C. COLE av061VHS (video); av061C (audio cassette)--The Universe & the Tea Cup-The Mathematics of Truth and Beauty by Award-winning science writer K.C. Cole. Mathematics is the most

powerful & breathtaking creation of the human mind. Cole demystifies mathematics showing how it illuminates everything from the O.J. Simpson verdict to the errors that undermine *The Bell Curve*. Math as an elegant problem solver.

14. SATIRE/SONGS**NIGERIAN SCAM SATIRE**

av137VHS(video); av137C (audio cassette); av137DVD (DVD); av137CD (audio CD) **THE NIGERIAN SPAM SCAM SCAM** by actor, comedian, and writer Dean Cameron. A hilarious show about the Nigerian Scam-a supposedly wealthy individual offers to split millions with you if only you help him get it out of his country by channeling it through your bank account. Naturally there may be some small fees you must pay first in order to implement this transaction.... Cameron reads actual emails exchanged with a Nigerian scammer, who he strings along with ridiculous anecdotes about his life and times here in America. Laugh out loud funny as he tries to get the scammer to first make a good faith payment to him!

SINGER ROY ZIMMERMAN

(plus JAMES RANDI) av147DVD (DVD): An Evening with James Randi also featuring: singer/satirist Roy Zimmerman in a performance that brought the skeptical house down with encore demands for more of his musical social commentaries; a video tribute to Randi with clips of highlights from his remarkable career; a dialogue with Michael Shermer and Randi on skepticism, science, & magic; and a lively Q & A.

ATHEIST ACTIVIST

Dr. MIKE NEWDOW

av141C (audio cassette); av141DVD (DVD); av141CD (audio CD) **The Church, the State, the Pledge, and the Law: Adventures in Skeptical Activism** Dr. Mike Newdow. Earlier this year the country was riveted to the story of the man who single handedly got the words "under God" removed from the Pledge of Allegiance, only to have it overturned by the United States Supreme Court, in front of which he argued his case. Now hear the story of Mike Newdow from the man himself, as he recounts his adventures in this and other causes he champions in the name of skepticism, rationality, and science.