

THE TRINITY: ATHEISM AND THE FOUR HORSEMEN

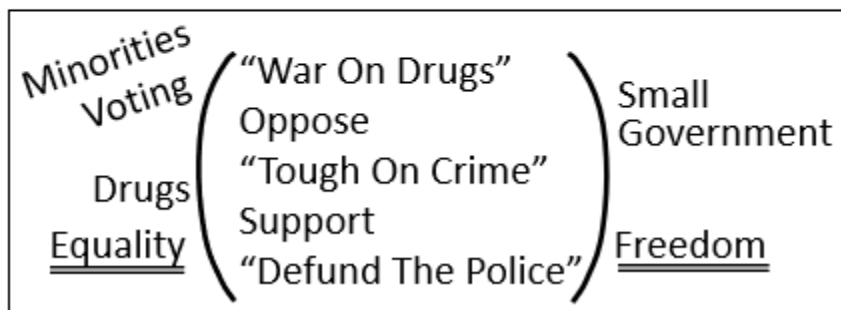
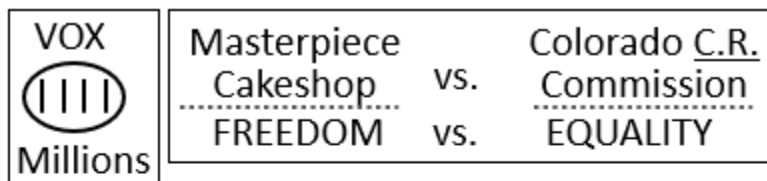
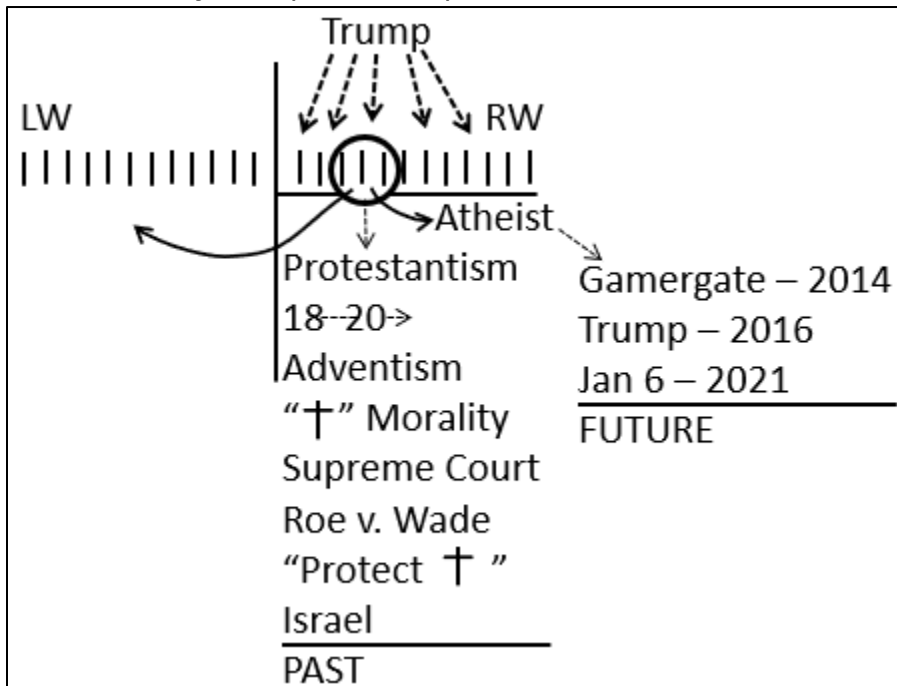
TMW VESPERS

APRIL 15, 2022

ELDER TESS LAMBERT

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BsamcCk1VpU&list=PL6-Mv8H520RncgAIBdn_u3bAlt_kGZZhH&index=10

Boardwork from previous presentation



Opening Prayer

I pray that you'll be with us as we study. May we understand the world that we live in on both sides of the curtain of the great controversy. May we see what the world is divided over, what it's fighting over, so that we also may more clearly see what Eden, what heaven was fought over and the choices that your people have to have before them now. May we make the right decisions. May we choose, not based on emotion and feeling but based on truth. I pray Lord that we'll make decisions that are selfless and not selfish. In Jesus name I pray, amen.

Introduction/Review

I'm always trying to get to the point. I'm not trying to drag this out, but the problem is that there are just key foundational points that need to be made first. And as we've been wanting to talk about the left-wing, we, I think, are gaining quite a lot by taking a closer look at the right-wing and trying to understand what is the difference even between the right-wing and the left-wing. Why does God care about what politics we subscribe to? And, why did God make our politics change in 2018?

So, really to understand all of that, before we touch on the left-wing, we're digging through the right-wing, understanding what motivates the right-wing. And what we have said motivates the right-wing is this fight for freedom: Freedom above all else. Freedom over equality. And, what mobilizes the left-wing is also a belief in freedom, but a priority for equality when those two, both very important foundational principles, collide.

The U.S. is the glorious land. It's rising in 1798. It is the king of the north (KN), but Babylon is not the glorious land, Medo-Persia is not the glorious land, Greece is not the glorious land, and Rome was never the glorious land. And, the U.S. is. Why is that? And, I've said that the U.S. is the glorious land when Rome wasn't, because of this belief, the founding of the nation on principles of freedom and equality; what Obama referred to as their north star, that they never quite reach, but they're always striving towards. And, if they kept striving towards that North Star, there would be no Sunday Law (SL), there would be no collapse and no ship wreck; but we know that they don't do well.

In trying to understand how the U.S. is shipwrecked, how it all goes wrong, we're stripped it back down to those two underlying principles of freedom and equality. What happens when they collide? Because, they're constantly colliding. The right-wing sees freedom and equality colliding and chooses freedom. The left-wing sees freedom and equality collide, and they choose equality.

So, there is that phrase, "Give me freedom or give me death." "I will disagree with what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it or your freedom to say it." People mobilize around freedom. So, we went and looked at the trucker protests, and all of these truckers in Canada in the context of Covid mandates mobilizing to defend freedom. This is the mask-less rallies. This is the United Australia Party that call for freedom. And I just want to make a point

on how easy it is to hear a phrase like, "I disagree with what you say, but I'll defend to the death your right to say it." It sounds so good when you take that concept and put it in this quippy little phrase.

When I first heard that, I thought, well, that sounds lovely. I think that I would post that on my Facebook wall. I think that I would want to live in a world that said I would defend your right to say even things I don't agree with. But the way that is used, this one phrase is actually incredibly toxic. The way that people glorify freedom, we spoke about Hollywood, Hollywood's glorification of freedom; how Hollywood, constantly in movie after movie after movie puts before the public, entertaining and world scenarios where there is a deep state, a corrupt billionaire behind the scenes trying to mass exterminate a lot of people, scenarios like that or a robot or to take away people's freedom for the greater good.

And then, you have the gun-toting American hero who's going to kill a lot of people and barrel his way through foreign countries, all to save the world's freedoms. I don't believe that focus that Hollywood has had has nothing to do with the way especially middle aged and the younger people in the U.S. today view their fight for freedom from, George Soros, for example; from the deep state taking away their freedom. For a lot of people, I think they are trying to live the Hollywood movie that they have seen glamorized over and over again.

So, we see these phrases. There's one other phrase that came to mind as I was thinking during the week that I think is a fundamental reason the world is messed up today. I'll ask you, those with their cameras on, can nod if they want to. Do you know the phrase, "People will not remember what you said. They will remember how you made them feel." I see nodding. Can we take a moment to think how wrong that is? The priority isn't on what you say or what you do. What people will remember about you is the way you make them feel. What was the problem in the time of Christ? How did those nationalistic Pharisees feel when Jesus came? How did his message make them feel?

They didn't remember what he said. Nothing he said mattered. What mattered was the way that Christ made people feel; and the problem was he didn't make them feel very good. What was the problem with Ellen White (EGW)? People stopped caring about what she said. She wrote so prolifically because people weren't listening. If they had listened to something she said she probably would have had to say a whole lot less, but she keeps repeating herself because people didn't really care what she said. They cared about how, what she said or who she was made them feel.

Why won't a Russian nationalist in Russia today believe their own family members in Ukraine showing them photos of what Russia has been doing in Ukraine? If a Russian person who has idolized Vladimir Putin for all this time, for all of these years, and built up this nationalistic model where Stalin was a hero, where their country is persecuted, where they are the victims, where Vladimir Putin is this great masculine hero raised up to bring back their country's glory after they were humiliated at the end of the cold war, and their personal identity is so much formed around that, and then they hear reports saying, by the way Vladimir Putin is a liar; your military is weak, they're committing genocide and war-crimes, and the majority of the rest of

the world, certainly in the U.S., doesn't like you right now, why won't they accept truth now? Because based on everything that's connected to their current belief system, it's not what news or information says to them. It is how that information makes them feel.

These phrases are incredibly toxic, and yet they're celebrated as beautiful. People put them as Facebook statuses; they think they're really good principles. When someone says something that makes them feel uncomfortable, they'll bring out that phrase and put it on their Facebook wall, and say, people won't remember what you do or what you say but it's all about how you make them feel. It is. It is all about how people make you feel, but that's the fundamental reason why the majority of the earth is lost and will be lost. People today say I'm only in this Movement still because of how leadership made me feel, because I felt loved or I felt accepted by members, and I think that is so fundamentally selfish.

When we lay out the problem with the world today, the extent of sexism and misogyny, what that is doing to women and LGBT people. Say there is this disease that is killing millions, and we have a vaccine for it, I would hope that we would not just support that vaccine because some people creating that vaccine made us feel good about ourselves or made us feel loved and accepted. We need to get to the point of why we're in this Movement. These phrases sound nice, but they make me feel hopeless, to be honest.

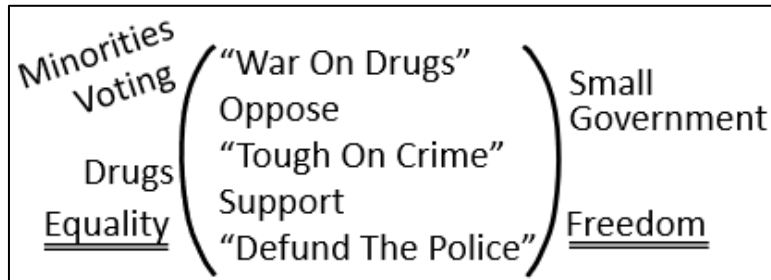
We can say people won't remember what you said, but they will remember how you made them feel. People can say that they are in this Movement, because they've been made to feel good. I think then there's only a matter of time before they're not, because eventually, I will make people not feel good. That's unavoidable for me, I think. But also, these phrases around freedom that celebrate it and championed, freedom and freedom of speech. Yes, it is a fundamental and important principle of the glorious land. Eden if the glorious land, ancient Israel through all of its problems, the U.S. as a country, and the earth made new. Freedom is a fundamental principle.

But freedom and equality collide, and they collide over the issues particularly of the civil rights of those who are, through the course of sin, through the history, particularly of Eve and of Ham, those who have been suppressed by society. Christ's parable teaching was designed to make people feel uncomfortable, quoting someone there. So, if Christ was designed to make people feel uncomfortable and all of society seems to agree that, people don't remember what you said, they remember how you made them feel, is there any question or any surprise why Christ was crucified?

If people think that these phrases are positive without digging deeper, it shows why, I can present camp-meeting after camp-meeting after camp-meeting, and then I see someone's status update about, you know a really great person when they acknowledge they don't know much, and it'll be these little phrases and I realized there's absolutely nothing I can say that can compete with essentially a meme. But I just wanted to, I did mention that in the context of reviewing the right-wing v. the left-wing, equality v. freedom, the glorification that is given to freedom.

We have been targeting the right-wing since 2018, and we've been doing that from a prophetic perspective, and that has made people, that parable teaching, has made people feel not great. It has made people feel uncomfortable. Not just in 2018, but in 2019, 2020, 2021, and you can bet that in 2022 it is continuing to. It makes people feel uncomfortable; but people need to get past how it makes them feel, and look at what actually is being presented.

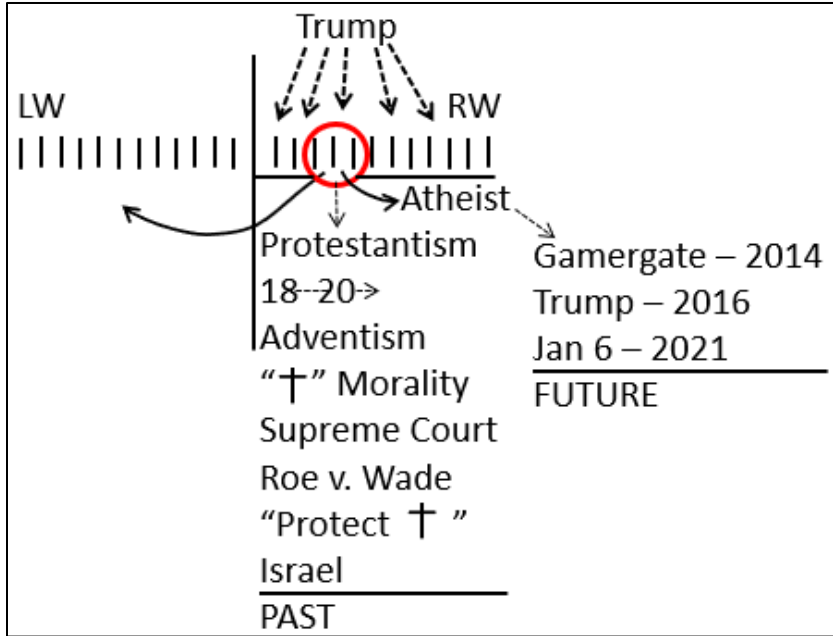
Freedom v. equality. Equality should win. That was the conflict in Eden. That was the choice that Adam and Eve were given. They were given the tree, because it was a mechanism of voting between two political parties. In eating the apple, it



wasn't this minor moral decision where God said that I shouldn't but I'm really hungry, and I'm kind of curious. It was system of voting. Satan presented an alternative type of government, a type of government that would prioritize freedom over equality. And, how did that make Eve feel? It made her feel good, and she forgot what Christ had said. She only remembered how Christ and the angels who presented God's government to her, remembering how what they had said made her feel.

She chose the one that made her feel better. And Adam, however it's presented, wasn't really that extremely different. He saw a system of voting, and he just didn't want to think about it too much. He did it in haste, because he realized the consequences of staying with Christ's government, what he would lose. And, he liked the way his current life made him feel.

So, over the last few years, we have been targeting Christianity. We've been targeting Protestantism, specifically; somewhat Catholicism. But we've been speaking to this (pointing to the Evangelical Protestants) that segment of Donald Trump base. And, I noticed a trend very quickly where people thought, well, all we need to do is criticize Protestantism, criticize Christianity, and, push away Protestantism and Christianity, and embrace more of the secular world, and the problem will be solved. It was this type of unspoken but growing belief in the Movement, that Christianity was the cause of the problem and the whole of the problem.



They saw this (pointing to the Protestant base) which they see, I think people have thought is the entirety of Trump’s base, and it isn’t; seeing Protestantism, Christianity, as the cause of the problem and the whole of the problem. In going into the right-wing, what I’m trying to prove is that is not the cause, and it’s not the whole. Especially saying it’s not the cause; but trying to also illustrate it’s, we also can’t say that it’s the whole of the problem. And, to do that, we went to the VOX article and a lot of other articles as well. But, the VOX article, because I thought it gave a window into a very large segment of the right-wing base that is not Christian. It spoke about the trinity.

The right-wing or the far-right trinity in the U.S., who can tell me what the trinity was? Marie, do you remember what the trinity was?

VOX

 Millions

Trinity

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Marie – No, sorry. I can’t remember.

Elder Tess – I think it’ll come back to you when it’s said. Katherine.

Katherine – Libertarianism, Atheism, and men’s rights activism.

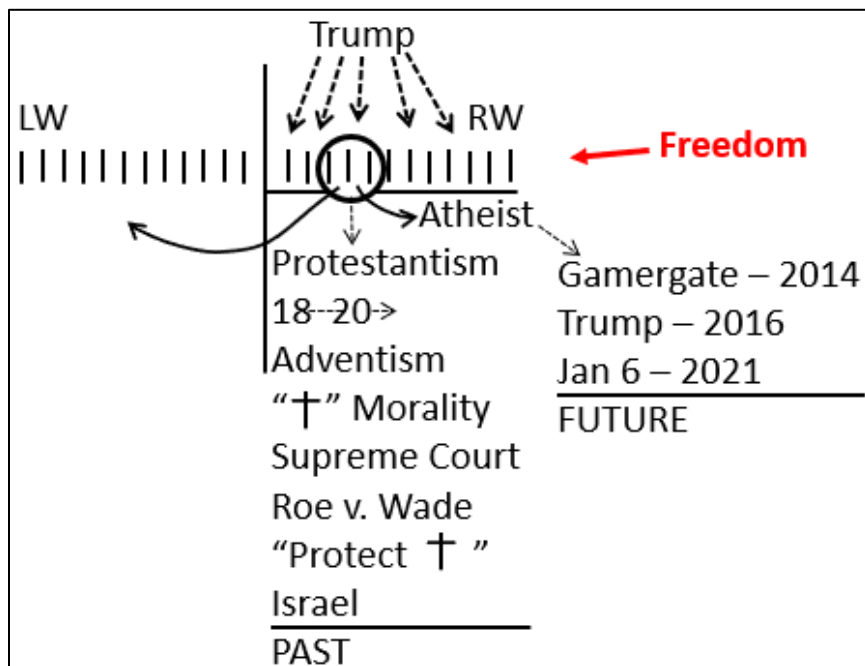
Trinity

- Liberalitarianism
- Atheism
- Men's Rights Activism

Elder Tess – Yes. Libertarianism, and remember, it's not the political party; these are not all followers of the political party, but the libertarian philosophy, and how libertarianism philosophy has impacted the Republican Party, which we're going to discuss more of. Atheism and men's rights. Thank you Katherine. Men's rights forums, movement; that entire base. Does that bring it back to you, Marie? Ring a bell?

Marie – Yes. Thank you.

Elder Tess – So, what I wanted to do was actually use the militia groups in the U.S. as an example. Because if we're going to talk about this (the far right) prioritizing freedom, then I want to talk about libertarianism as a philosophy because we read the quotes last week of a republican saying, the problem with my political party is libertarianism philosophy, and that libertarian philosophy entered and greatly impacted the republican party in the history of the civil rights movement about ten years before the libertarian party, as a political party, even formed.



I wanted to show the link between, not republicanism and not Protestantism and far-right militias in the U.S. I want to show it between libertarianism and the militia groups. We read quotes that said there's that link. I read a few quotes that just stated as a fact that there is a pipeline between libertarianism and far-right leaders, the leaders of the far-right. And the far-

right is broad. Only a very small percentage of them are in militia groups, but it does provide a window. So, I wanted to discuss the Proud Boys, the Oath Keepers, the Three Percenters, and the somewhat more ambiguous and leaderless, the Boogaloo movement.

So, I wanted to discuss the four, but we're not going to do that today, because I got sidetracked this morning. We were going to do militias, but now we're not. I'm sidestepping. Instead of discussing libertarianism, I want to discuss Atheism.

Now, with some of these things, it's a class; but it's a little difficult because I have a selection of points I want to make and quotes that I've kind of collated, but it is interactive. So, if at any point you feel lost or you have a thought you want to add or you would just like to repeat what I'm saying back to me to make sure that you're on the same page, please just raise your hands. Otherwise, I might end up reading a fair bit tonight. I know some people are just listening in anyway, because of circumstances.

We're targeting the right-wing, and there is a large segment of the right-wing that is younger. We see that at Gamergate, but we also see that through Trump's inauguration, we see that through January 6. There is a younger group being appealed to than say grandpa on his Lazy-boy watching Tucker Carlson. There is this rising movement in the U.S. that are more reflective of America's right-wing secular future than of America's Christian past. And, it's that segment that I'm trying to draw out and illustrate. They are who I believe we should be most concerned about. We've targeted Protestantism, because that is where this Movement comes under; that's where Adventism sits.

But, expanding out, looking at this other portion of the right-wing today, we saw what is described as trinity – men's rights, libertarianism, and Atheism. So, I want to talk about Atheism. Because if we're in a post-Christian world, which we have agreed that we are in, if the U.S. is also post-Christian, then you would think that if Christianity was the cause and the whole of the problem, that everything would be looking up. Wouldn't it? But I want to suggest why that's not the case, and it's, to a large degree, because of this Atheism. I know some of you have actually sent me things where Atheism has been discussed. Some of you might have some background into what is called new Atheism.

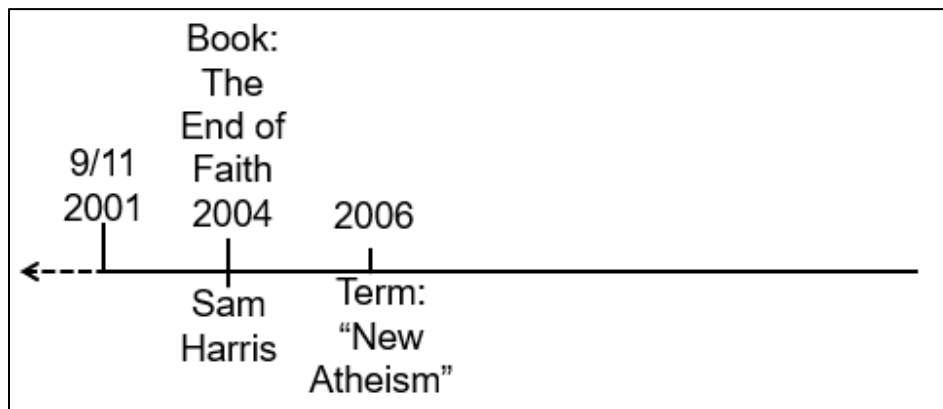
New Atheism & The Four Horsemen

New Atheism became a term, was coined in 2006, to describe the position held by many prominent Atheists in the 21st century. So, there is the Atheism of the 19th century, of the 20th century, but now, getting into the 21st century, they saw changes within Atheism as a collective, as a movement. And, with that change in the 21st century, in 2006, the term was coined the "New Atheism." This new Atheism is much more, they don't like this word, but they're described as fundamentalists. The Atheism of the 20th century, of the 1900s, it was kind of like you were this person, and you were also an Atheist, and you just didn't get involved in religion. New Atheism believes that there shouldn't be a toleration of religion. Instead, religion and how they connect it to superstition and irrationalism, should be countered, criticized, and

challenged by rational arguments, especially when religion exerts undue influence on the government.

New Atheists are much more activists than those of the last century and the century before. This is Atheistic leaders who particularly coalesced post 2001. And, what they're fighting is religion's influence on the government, which for an Adventist, we should agree with. They would be deeply opposed to church and state. But remember, I said libertarianism is opposed to church and state as well. And, if libertarianism has a role in the Sunday Law (SL), if libertarian philosophy is a key driver for the SL, then we need to consider how we describe the union of church and state in our dispensation. If any of that confuses or troubles, let me know.

So, new Atheism. It's coined as a term in 2006. But, it's about a group of particularly four men. There are four men that kind of led the way. They really did lead the way into new Atheism; and new Atheism was a reaction to September 11, 2001. In 2004, a book was published, called "End of Faith, Religion, Terror and the Future of Reason." This was a very influential book attacking religion and saying that we need the future of reason. The end of faith. This book was written by a man named Sam Harris. Does anyone know who Sam Harris is? If you do, could you put your hand up in the chat? I won't go to you to speak, but if you know who he is just put your hand in the chat. I'm curious to know if people have heard of him. [He has] one of those names where it kind of blends in.



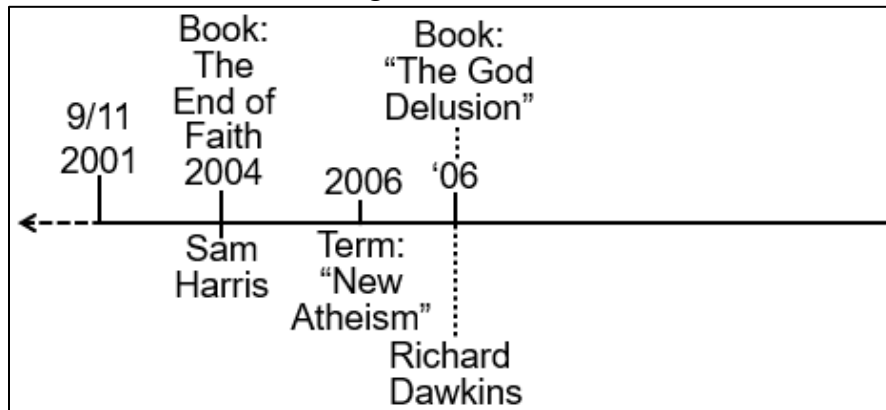
This book, "The End of Faith, Religion, Terror, and the Future of Reason," became the best seller in the U.S.; and then over the next couple of years, a few more books came out by Atheistic authors. And in this book, Sam Harris is highly critical of Islam, especially, hence the part in it speaking of terror, but also Christianity and Judaism. He was asked in an interview about the writing of his book. They asked, what got you to write that book in the first place? He said, 9-11. They asked, 9-11? He said, September 12, I was writing this book; it was my instantaneous reaction.

I want us to see that what's coming up here, this new Atheism, is a direct response to September 11, 2001, because what they believe is that religion is at the root of global conflict and the harm done in the world today. He sees that September 11; he sees this as religion that did that, and therefore he's going to start targeting religion. He starts writing a book; it's

published a few years later, in 2004; and there's a flow of books then that also come out by other Atheistic authors. People do challenge him on that. For example, the closest the world has ever got to annihilation was the cold war, and that was not religious base. That was an Atheistic country.

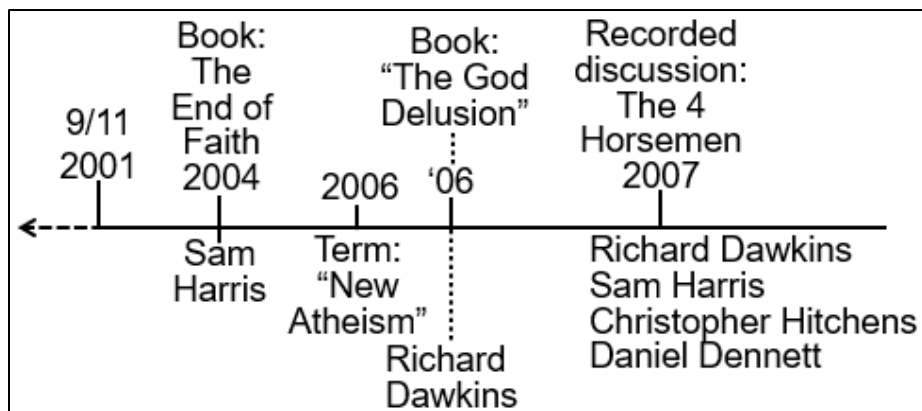
So, if you want to see religion as the cause, then you really need to justify that with Stalin. You need to justify that today with North Korea. Vladimir Putin uses religion as a puppet. So, people challenge him on this, but they really are quite certain that religion is the fundamental cause of the conflict in the world today.

Then in 2006, Richard Dawkins. Put your hand up in the chat if you've heard of Richard Dawkins. Lots of people are putting their hands up. So, he is more well known than Sam Harris. And, this [book in 2006] is "The God Delusion." So, that's also one of these books that came out in this history. And by 2006, people are actually giving a name to this kind of new wave of Atheism, and a bit of a change within Atheism.



So, in 2006, four leading and prominent Atheists get together at one of their homes for a two-hour unmoderated discussion. The event is video-taped, and they title it, "The Four Horsemen." So, this is 2007. And they title it "The Four Horsemen," because there are four of them, and they're taking it from Revelation, the four horsemen of the apocalypse or what they think is a non-apocalypse. So, they title themselves, "The Four Horsemen." And, I suspect they think that made them look quite cool as well.

Two of them we already know. One of the men is Richard Dawkins. They are still known today as "The Four Horsemen." They are still known today as the four leading rational thinkers, leaders of Atheism in the 21st century. Richard Dawkins was one of the men who met and the other man was Sam Harris who wrote this 2004 book. There were two more men: Christopher Hitchens and Daniel Bennet. There was a woman invited, but she had to cancel at the last minute. Her name was Ayaan Hirsi Ali. She was born in Somalia. She fled to the Netherlands to escape an arranged marriage. She became involved in Dutch politics. She became an Atheist, rejecting the Islamic faith. She became a vocal opponent of Islam, especially concerning women. She was involved in the production of the film, "Submission," for which her friend, Theo Van Gogh was murdered. When he was found murdered, a death threat to her was pinned to his chest.



She, particularly with feminism in mind, became a vocal Atheistic spokesperson, quite against Islam. And, these men also very much attacking Christianity and Judaism, but in the post-9/11 world, they have a particular focus on Islam. But she is kind of considered now as honorary fourth woman of the apocalypse, fourth horsewoman. One of these men passed away so she kind of spoken about of as taking his place in some way. And, I'm going to read one of my favorites [quote], because a lot of what I have to say about them is not pleasant.

This is from the Guardian. I'm going to get into the positions that these men hold, but I did think this point from the Guardian was pertinent. *"In many ways the conversation already seems dated in its political preoccupations, particularly in the idea proffered by Hitchens that 'holy war' was the greatest existential threat to civilization."* And then the Guardian, the author kind of interjects and says, *"There had been nothing holy about the cold war, which brought us closest to the brink of planetary Armageddon, and North Korea now is not a theocracy, but never mind."* And then one of the men, Hitchens says interviewing them, *"I think it's us (these four horsemen), plus the 82nd Airborne and the 101st, who are the real fighters for secularism at the moment, the ones who are really fighting the main enemy.'* Hitchens announces with *armchair-general relish. The 82nd and 101st (regiments were those who) operated in Iraq and Afghanistan."*

So, what these men are saying is the regiments in Iraq and the regiments in Afghanistan and these four men are the three groups fighting for secularism, fighting against religion, and I think the Guardian article isn't very impressed with these men when it says the other horsemen agree eagerly that they are all very brave. But they were in favor of the Iraq war. Some of their positions didn't date so well on that, but for them, it was a fight for secularism, a fight against religion because religion is what took down the twin towers; religion is what wars have been fought over; religion is what harms and kills people.

So, we could approach these men and new Atheism from a few different perspectives, but you know the one, what perspective do we want to approach it from? What do we want to find out their views on? Gender. Isn't that the perspective we're going to? So, I'm going to approach it from the context of gender. I'm going to start with Sam Harris. Just to remind us Atheism changes post September 11. It is a form of Atheism more determined to impact politics and to

change the world and to separate religion from politics. We would agree with the third point of that, and they defend themselves always with the thought that this is rational thinking.

So, if you take your mind back to that VOX article. The fellow that was interviewed heavily in that VOX article, he's speaking about Gamergate. He's speaking about feminism. But what he constantly comes in with, what he constantly says to defend his world view, against others, against the left-wing, is that his is founded on rational thought. Does that make sense, Rachel? Did you also get that from the VOX article?

Rachel – What was that question again? Sorry.

Elder Tess – In that VOX article, it's kind of in the context of Gamergate, what's the man chiefly being interviewed about? I forget his name. How he is constantly defending his position, and those that are in the same boat as him, is that these men are the defenders of the rational thought. They are the defenders of all that is rational in the world; and it is feminism, and that's where those few paragraphs bring in religion, that this is all irrational. It's emotional, it's superstitious, it's irrational. Did you get the similar perspective from the VOX article?

Rachel – Yeah, I did. Thank you for explaining that a little bit.

Elder Tess – You cut out right at the end. Sorry.

Rachel – I'm having technical problem. Yeah. I agree with what you're saying, what the perspective that he was bringing, Max, I think.

Elder Tess – It seemed that every time his views were challenged his underlying defense was that he was part of a group of people, mostly men, who were not buying into the emotionalism of the left-wing; that they were centered on rational thought, and that is why you see this connection in that trinity with Atheism. They see feminism as irrational, just as they see religion and the belief in God as irrational.

Coming back to Sam Harris. I just want to screen share for a moment and show these men just so we can connect faces to names. I'll take us to a photo of 2007. These are the four horsemen, and they're still known today as the four horsemen. This is in the 2007 meeting they had that they recorded. Going from right to left, we have on the far right, Sam Harris. On the left, next to him, I'm pretty sure that's Richard Dawkins, and the man next to him with the beard, I believe, is Daniel Bennet, and then the fourth, left, and is Christopher Hitchens. So, from left to right, Christopher Hitchens, Daniel Bennet, Richard Dawkins, and Sam Harris. Just so we can put some faces to names.



From left: Christopher Hitchens, Daniel Dennett, Richard Dawkins and Sam Harris. Photograph: Richard Dawkins Foundation for Reason & Science on YouTube

Sam Harris

And now, I'm going to just speak about Sam Harris. I'll highlight him. He is quite the guru today. The best way I can think of describing him would be the Atheist, Jordan Peterson. But I think their audience can often overlap. This is a photo of Sam Harris, who we're about to discuss. His influence today, I think is probably extending in some ways beyond, especially what has been since 2001 with that generation, continuing, current generation of younger, mostly men, the same way you would see Jordan Peterson or Ben Shapiro. But Jordan Peterson and Ben Shapiro are less targeting religion. But, even if you're a Protestant in the U.S. today, you're highly likely to believe in evolution. The base for these men is quite broad, and they have had extensive influence.



Sam Harris

In 2014, so I think, I know that James did it, I think it was last week, I think you were going to do it soon, Brendon? One of you was going to soon speak on 2014, and all of the points that happened in 2014. In 2014, Sam Harris was interviewed by Michelle Borstein of the Washington Post. She asked him, why are most Atheists male. And, Sam Harris answered her. He said, *"I think it may have to do with my person slant as an author, being very critical of bad ideas."* He speaks in a very philosophical way, so I'm going to try and paraphrase it for my own sake as well as yours.

So, he says that he's an author, and being an author, it comes with the territory, that you're very critical of bad ideas. And he says, *"This can sound very angry to people. People just don't like to have their ideas criticized."* Ok. I'll quote it directly so everyone knows that it's a quote and then my paraphrase. *"I think it may have to do with my person slant as an author, being very critical of bad ideas. This can sound very angry to people. People just don't like to have their ideas criticized. There's something about that critical posture that is to some degree intrinsically male and more attractive to guys than to women,"* he said. *"The atheist variable just has this – it doesn't obviously have this nurturing, coherence-building extra estrogen vibe that you would want by default if you wanted to attract as many women as men."*

Ok. I won't paraphrase that. Katherine, you heard it. You didn't read it. I'd like you to paraphrase that.

Katherine – Us males we're really good at thinking rationally and critically, and we're not the nurturing type, and therefore because Atheism tends to require an objective critical mind, it appeals to men more than women. That's how I see it.

Elder Tess – I think that's an accurate portrayal. Women have this "extra estrogen vibe," so they need the nurturing coherence building that he's suggesting you would find in religion; but Atheism, you have to be critical of bad ideas, and that is intrinsically male. So, I want us to remember, this is someone who does not believe in God, or creation, or the Bible, or religion, and he's talking about what is intrinsically male and intrinsically female. Now, there's a problem. There are many female Atheists, who are Atheistic because, like that woman we spoke of who fled Somalia, fleeing forced marriage, trying to find a home within the Atheistic community, and they weren't very happy with what he said. So, he was quite criticized for that.

So, he responded to this criticism with a very long blog post, which I won't read all of, because it's very convoluted and very long. It's titled, "I'm Not the Sexist Pig You're Looking For." His strategy for disproving accusations of sexism was to engage in more sexist declarations in a time-honored bigot strategy of saying, *"It's not bigotry if it's true."* So, he kind of doubled down on it, and also, one of his defenses, and I think Elder Terry considering Scott Morrison's comments, and those comments made in the context of sexism in the Australian parliament, all of that comes flooding back when one of his defenses is, *"I was raised by a single mother, and I have two daughters. Most of my editors have been women, and my first, last, and best editor is always my wife."*

They always go back to that; and for me, that is the gendered example of finding a person of color at a Trump rally and making sure that he's on camera, putting him right behind Trump, but slightly off centered so Trump doesn't block the view because everyone needs to know that he is there. This is what always comes into the defense. I think this was Scott Morrison's defense for why he handled sexism and abuse in Australian politics so badly. His kind of defense was, "I have daughters," and that's also part of his defenses as to why he is not the, quote, "The sexist pig that you're looking for."

So, he didn't handle that very well, and a lot of women who are leaders in the Atheistic community have not forgiven him for that. These are the four leaders. You get lower down in people who are heavily involved, and there are women, but these are the four horsemen. They are known for that. So, that's Sam Harris, and it does get worse with him. If we don't have any comments, I want to move on to Richard Dawkins.

Four Horsemen

- Richard Dawkins
- Sam Harris
- Christopher Hitchens
- Daniel Dennett

Richard Dawkins

Rebecca Watson who is a prominent female Atheist, in 2011, she was on a panel discussion where she spoke of sexism and misogyny within the Atheistic community. She is kind of a prominent female speaker on the subject of Atheism and feminism, and she had a bit to say about the misogyny that exist in that community. In 2011, she was in a foreign country, and she spoke at this panel. She went to a bar afterwards and hung out with few people, and they continued to speak. Then at 4:00 am, she left to go to her hotel room. She got into the elevator to go to her hotel room, and one of the men followed her into the elevator. And he said to her, I like what you had to say. How about we keep talking. Come back to my hotel room.

In her next blog post, because she would post regular blog posts, she spoke about how her week had been, about the panel discussions, and in this eight-minute blog post, for about 30 seconds, just kind of telling the story of how her week had gone, she mentioned what had happened in the elevator. And she said, I'm going to speak to the men. Don't do that. Just please don't do that. She said, I was in a foreign country, it was 4 am, I was alone in an elevator, and I had just spoken for some hours of how easy it is for me to be sexualized in this community. If you're going to understand what I'm saying, don't proposition me in an elevator at 4 am. That was in short what she said.

Richard Dawkins took to Twitter. I won't read his whole, it was a long post that he put out, but the first four words say, stop whining, will you? That was the tone, and it continues in that fashion. The rest of it was a description of how bad life is for women in Saudi Arabia, in Islamic countries, how they will be stoned for cheating on their husbands, and he has said publicly before that he just wants American women to shut up because it's so much, stop speaking of, if someone inappropriately touches you at the water cooler at work; big deal. Look what it is like for women in other countries. So, he writes this blog post, the Twitter post, making that point, but it starts off with, stop whining, will you?

People don't take that well as you might expect. And women, within that Atheistic community write to him and say, there's starvation in east Africa right now; you stop caring that creationism is being taught in American schools. If you're going to make an argument that it is worse somewhere else, stop caring what is taught in schools. Just let them teach creationism, and go and deal with what is worse in other parts of the world. And he responds to that argument and says, no, I wasn't making that point. It wasn't about that it's just worse in other parts of the world. And, I want to read his second criticism of Rebecca Watson.

Richard Dawkins said, *"The man in the elevator didn't physically touch her, didn't attempt to bar her way out of the elevator, didn't even use foul language at her. He spoke some words to her; just words. She no doubt replied with words. That was that; words. Only words and apparently, quite polite words at that. Rebecca's feeling that the man's proposition was creepy was her own interpretation of his behavior, presumably not his."* So, stopping there for a second. She found the interaction creepy, but that's just her interpretation of his behavior.

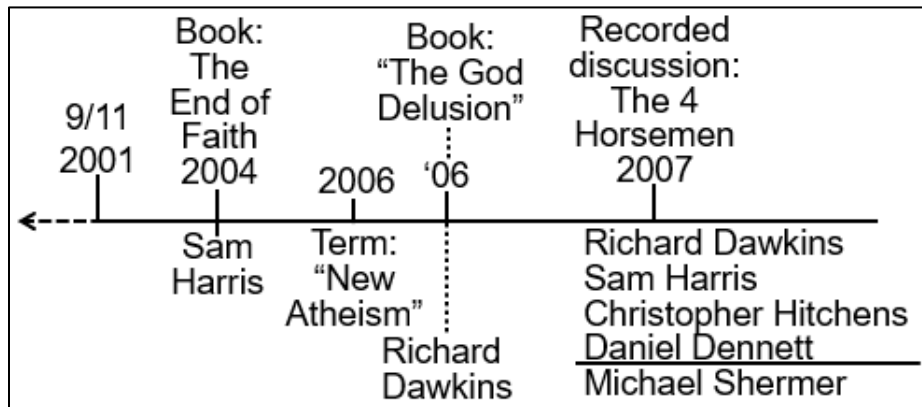
Going back to quoting. *"She was probably offended to about the same extent as I, Richard Dawkins, am offended if a man gets into an elevator with me chewing gum, but he does me no physical damage, and I simply grin and bear it until either I or he gets out of the elevator. It would be different if he physically attacked me."*

So, Richard Dawkins, this is, I'm only pulling out one, one example of, actually I have a second, one of two examples of how Richard Dawkins has responded to the "Me Too" movement. This is 2011. The "Me Too" movement hasn't even begun. So, you can imagine how he is now. Many, even Atheists, today are just wishing that he would be quiet. These are the four men who led Atheism into the 21st century. These men, more than any other, have molded the thinking, the minds, of the millions of men who hold to that far-right trinity, libertarianism philosophy, Atheism, and men's rights. Atheism is broader than just what Richard Dawkins says. It's about evolution. It's about that how men and women developed over millennial.

So, his argument is that American women are making a big deal over nothing, and I also want us to see his other point in that quote. And, this is something that shows also shows the connection between Atheism, the leaders of Atheistic thought, and libertarianism. It is all about free speech. Remember, this woman didn't ask for the man who propositioned her in an elevator to be jailed or to be punished. All she's asking is for them to stop.

So, him taking that as an attack on free speech shows the extent to which libertarian thought and the idea of freedom and free speech, how it has linked with the second part of the trinity. You see all three parts of the trinity in that quote. There is the Atheism, because it's Richard Dawkins, and we'll get into why they're so misogynistic; but you also see the men's rights, you also see the libertarianism, because it's all about freedom of speech. And, it is these men, especially, I think Sam Harris more than we might realize, who from 2001, as young men were trying to understand 9/11 in its context, trying to understand the Iraq war, and religion and society, as religion was losing power in the U.S., and secularism was growing, a large proportion of young men were following this type of philosophy.

We have no thoughts or comments. Lots of people are listening today. I might get their thoughts next week. I want to go to a worse example. There's a few with Richard Dawkins. I think this is a little bit more recent. There is another prominent skeptic writer, Michael Shermer. He is not one of the horsemen, but he is still prominent in the Atheistic community. He is a writer. A couple of women came out and accused him of sexual harassment, and then a third women; so, two women claim that he had sexually harassed them, and then a third woman then spoke out.



She told a story that he had taken her to his room while she was extremely drunk, and too drunk to consent, and that he had sex with her. She did not want that to happen, but she had been drunk. That is rape, even though not everyone agrees; we're calling that rape. It's rape. She had not given consent. So, two women accused Michael Shermer of sexual harassment, and a third comes out and tells the story of her being very drunk and what he did to her. And Richard Dawkins again took to Twitter.

Quoting Richard Dawkins. He is speaking sarcastically. *"Officer, it's not my fault if I was drunk driving. You see, somebody got me drunk."* What he did is he compared being forced to have sex with the choice to drive drunk. So, in other words, if you get drunk and get behind the wheel of a car and crash, you're responsible for that. This woman in getting drunk, he is saying, was responsible then for what happened to her. Again, he did face some criticism. He doubled down by suggesting that rape victims are the real predators out to get men put in jail. Quoting, *"If you want to be in a position to testify and jail a man, don't get drunk."*

So, in other words, the man is the victim because the woman got drunk, and now she can testify and put him in jail. The article is critical of his position, and said, *"For someone who's supposedly rationalist,"* And this is the problem with the entire rationalist community. *"Dawkins refused to even acknowledge the basic difference between making the choice to break the law and being the victim of a crime. But only for rape, of course. It's unlikely Dawkins would think it's your fault if you are standing there minding your own business, while drunk, and someone hits you for no reason. But if the assault occurs with a penis instead of a fist, in Dawkins' mind, suddenly the victim is the person at fault."*

“Again, this situation is no outlier. Dawkins has spent the past few years using Twitter as a platform to rail against feminists for daring to speak out about sexual harassment and abuse. He not only rushed to Shermer’s defense regarding allegations of sexual assault, but rushed to Sam Harris’ defense regarding allegation of sexism even though Harris’ sexism is so off the charts, it becomes downright comical.” “Sadly, this contempt for women coming from the top trickles into the ranks, allowing everyday misogynists who happen not to believe in God feel justified in their hatred of women anyway. Subsequently, there’s a thriving online community of people who live to harass not just women, but female atheists in particular.”

Some of these articles I’m quoting from are written by, not leading, because they’re all men, but still prominent female Atheists. Some of which have written books talking about trying to escape from the Atheism community. Richard Dawkins sarcastically noted in his post that amazingly, males have rights too. So, he seems to be very concerned about freedom and feminism as a weapon against, to target and imprison men.

Someone wrote, it’s quite libertarian. It sounds libertarian. It’s all ok in the elevator, until she gets physically attacked.

Because this man in the elevator, he has to have the freedom to speak, to proposition. Again, even in that elevator, you see equality as a woman being treated with respect in society. Equality coming to conflict with free speech. I think Richard Dawkins would be the first to say, I might not agree with what he said, but I’ll defend to the death his right to say it, which is exactly what he just did. He took to twitter to defend this man’s right to sexually harass a woman. And again, she wasn’t calling for this man’s imprisonment. She was just asking for societal change.

So, it gets worse; if it can. I don’t know if it’s quite worse. Marie, did I miss your hand or was that, have I missed people wanting to speak. Was that a hand raised or was that for something before?

Marie – It was just from before when you asked, did anyone have any comments or questions, and I just put my hand up then. I keep thinking as you’re talking about the freedom over equality and the argument, I may not agree, but I’ll fight till the death for your right to speak. To me, it seems like just hypocritical. To me, it just seems like hypocrisy. I don’t know if anyone else sees it like that. It stands out to me as being very hypocritical.

Elder Tess - I really want to get into that.

Marie – It might be hard

Elder Tess – Are you finished?

Marie – I was just going to say that it might be an unusual way to describe it, but that’s just the way I see it.

Elder Tess – He wasn't defending her right to speak. There is hypocrisy there, and I want to get into that hypocrisy, especially when it comes to libertarianism. Josephine.

Josephine – I was just going to make a comment on Richard Dawkins' comment. If you get drunk, and you drive, and you have an accident, then it's your fault, right? So, then he says something about the woman. If you drink, and you get harassed, then it's your fault. Obviously, that's not very rational thinking, to me. And, I'm thinking about if a girl (because this came up in a conversation recently), well, she was teasing him so, she didn't quite see it like that but, no wonder she was sexually harassed. That's a woman defending the man for doing such a thing. I just didn't agree with that, and I don't agree with Richard, of course. It's sad that it happens, that a woman, and she's supposed to be a Christian, but she is talking like an Atheist.

Elder Tess – It's not a thought process that's restricted to Christianity, because we've seen that over and over again within the Protestantism and Adventism saying, well, she just shouldn't dress that way. And now, you see it reflected within the most prominent leaders of Atheism in the 21st century. You could say it's not rational, but in their minds, it is. [For example], ok, let's say I drink, I get behind the wheel of my car, I drive, and I hit a brick wall. I don't get out of my car and say, I'm sorry officer but it's the brick wall's fault. The brick wall shouldn't have been there. It was my getting drunk and getting behind the wheel. No officer is going to blame the brick wall.

So, when a woman gets drunk, and she is raped, it's kind of like turning the man into the brick wall. The brick wall can't help it. What is he saying about the man? He is saying that the man can't help it. Why can't the man help it?

Josephine – Because he is the brick wall.

Elder Tess – A brick wall can't help it if I get drunk and plow my car into it. So, say I am attractive, and I don't think I am because I'm a woman in the 21st century and we're broken. But, say I think I'm attractive, and I get drunk, and I flirt with a man, how does he then become, in Richard Dawkins mind, the brick wall? How does that become my fault and not his? Because he is just a brick wall, and brick wall, and brick wall does what a brick wall does. Katherine.

Katherine – Mr. Dawkins is really big on evolution. I think he might approach it from this perspective of men and their biology in, you know, this animal side of them, that they can't sort of control.

Elder Tess - Why did Sam Harris say there more men than women in Atheism?

Katherine – Because they've believed in like cultural feminism kind of thinking that there's this innate difference between the sexes. Men are inherently, like, they've got their particular way of operating. I don't know what word to use.

Elder Tess – I went back to Sam Harris and just used the words “women have the extra estrogen vibe.” Compare and contrast.

Katherine – Yes. So, the men have got the testosterone, and I guess if you compare and contrast, yeah, they're just driven by their testosterone. So, they just can't help themselves. Animal instincts take over and the testosterone goes up and what do you think is going to happen? What do you expect him to do? He can't help it.

Elder Tess – Yeah. Lynne.

Lynne – I was going to pretty much say a similar thing; that they may consider, like this view, considers males to be logical and rational, except when it comes to sexual stuff; then they can't help anything. Then it is basically testosterone takes over and clearly, logic and rationalism go out the window. It's just basically an excuse, that men can't help these things; and if women flaunt themselves, then women are responsible for what happens to them. Men are completely powerless, apparently when it comes to that.

Elder Tess – You have the extra estrogen vibe compared and contrasted with whatever makes a man as responsible as a brick wall when he rapes a drunk attractive woman. I think it's relevant to tie that into their belief system. What is it about Atheism that appeals to men's rights group? What is it about men's rights group that appeals to Atheism? And, what is it about libertarian philosophy that suits both?

I know that we're getting close out of time, but I want to spend a little time on Christopher Hitchens. Christopher Hitchens wrote an article in 2007 for Vanity Fair. And I'm not joking, the article is titled, "Why Women aren't Funny." Apparently, this was one of his favorite subjects to explain, why women aren't funny. And, ironically enough, I, perhaps manically, laughed throughout most of the article. But I think that was the type of humor that he was, the laughter that he was describing.

So, Christopher Hitchens writes a 2007 article, "Why Women aren't Funny," and I'm just going to read some excerpts from it. He says, *"Now why is this? Why is it the case that women aren't funny? I mean, why are women, who have the whole male world at their mercy, not funny? Please do not pretend not to know what I'm talking about."* *"Why are men, taken on average and as a whole, funnier than women? Well, for one thing, they had well better be."* I'm going to skip his swear words through this. *"The chief task in life that a man has to perform is that of impressing the opposite sex, and Mother Nature (as we laughingly call her) is not so kind to men."*

So, I want us to pay attention to a couple of things as I read excerpts of this article. First of all, he says, don't pretend not to know what I'm talking about. In other words, he is saying, think rationally; don't think emotionally where you think this isn't very good to talk about. Just think rationally and then stop denying, pretending you don't know what I'm talking about, as if women are as funny as men. Also, pick up on how he consistently places men as the victims in society, as the suppressed in society, as men who suffering in society. It's men who have the hard lot in life. First of all, women have the whole male world at their mercy. Then, it is also hard on men that Mother Nature is not kind to men. The chief task in life that a man has to perform is to impress women.

So, again, he consistently says that women are the ones that hold the power in society. Men are the vulnerable ones, the victims. The women have all the power because women choose a sexual partner, and women do not have to try so hard because, as he will tell us, *“Women have no corresponding need to appeal to men in this way, by being funny. They already appeal to men, if you catch my drift.”* So, what he is saying is, trying to explain why men are more funny than women, and he’s going to give quite a few arguments for this; but one of them is that men by the dictates of Mother Nature, evolution, men’s fundamental role in life is to impress a woman so that he can have sex so they can procreate and have a baby and continue the human race. Women don’t have to try so hard to impress men, because they have a body to use instead of a personality and a sense of humor, apparently.

He tries to save it from being sexist, by saying that women do have a sense of humor; because if they didn’t, they wouldn’t laugh at how funny men are. And, there are some good female comedians but quoting him, *“In any case, my argument doesn’t say that there are no decent women comedians. There are more terrible female comedians than there are terrible male comedians, but there are some impressive ladies out there.”* *“Male humor prefers the laugh to be at someone’s expense, and understands that life is quite possibly a joke to begin with—and often a joke in extremely poor taste. Humor is part of the armor-plate with which to resist what is already farcical enough. (Perhaps not by coincidence, battered as they are by mf [cuss word] nature, men tend to refer to life itself as a bitch.) Whereas women, bless their tender hearts, would prefer that life be fair, and even sweet, rather than the sordid mess it actually is.”*

There are so many layers of misogyny through this, I don’t know where to start. But to pull out one; men use humor as a defense mechanism to cope with life, because they see life as it is. Women, “bless their tender hearts” (which doesn’t endear him to me at all), “would prefer that life be fair.” If you break that down, what he is saying is that men see the world rationally, and when they see it rationally, as the sordid mess that it is, they need humor as like a protective plate to cope with life. Women, preferring life to be fair and sweet, don’t need that protective mechanism. This point directly contradicts a future point he makes, that women have to be far more serious because they are programmed to try and keep a baby alive, and that is so serious that they can’t have a sense of humor. Quoting him, *“Precisely because humor is a sign of intelligence (and many women believe, or were taught by their mothers, that they become threatening to men if they appear too bright), it could be that in some way men do not want women to be funny.”* It’s the only thing he says that I agree with.

“Men want women as an audience, not as rivals.” I agree. *“And there is a huge, brimming reservoir of male unease, which it would be too easy for women to exploit.”* Again, what Christopher Hitchens does there is he says, maybe just maybe, men find women threatening if they appear too bright, men prefer to be the speakers to an audience, men don’t women as rivals, so it suits women to be quieter and not try to fill that role. But even that sexism he immediately puts that into a context which says there’s all of this male unease, and that gives women something to exploit. So again, who is the victim? Men don’t women as rivals; men just want women as audience; men want women to appear less intelligent; that’s something women can exploit. It’s a vulnerability men have. So again, can you see how he turns men into

the victims and women to suddenly, even though he's just said they have to appear less intelligent to be tolerated in society, how he twists that around to again make men the victims.

He goes into what Gina Rippon would heavily disagree with trying to explain brain function, trying to explain why men are more funny. Continuing to quote, *"For women, reproduction is, if not the only thing, certainly the main thing. Apart from giving them a very different attitude to filth and embarrassment, it also imbues them with the kind of seriousness and solemnity at which men can only goggle."* *"Men have to pretend, to themselves as well as to women, that they are not the servants and supplicants. Women, cunning minxes that they are, have to affect not to be the potentates."*

Here, he really doubles down on that position that the women are the ones in control in society, and the patriarchy is a carefully orchestrated act that men and women play. Men pretend to not be servants and supplicants. So, he says, men are the servants and supplicants of women. And, it's all connected to the fact that women have power, because of their ability to reproduce. It's all connected to their physical attraction because apparently, women are not physically attracted to men's bodies; but women have bodies that he as a heterosexual men find attractive. So, that gives women the power that he doesn't have.

So, men have to pretend, and then he can't just say women have to pretend; he has to slip in that they are cunning minxes. So again, women are kind of orchestrating this, they're still in control. *"Humor, if we are to be serious about it, arises from the ineluctable fact that we are all born into a losing struggle. Those who risk agony and death to bring children into this fiasco (women) simply can't afford to be too frivolous. (And there just aren't that many jokes, even in the male repertoire (about child birth and death of a child.) I am certain that this is also partly why, in all cultures, it is females who are the rank-and-file mainstay of religion."* So, he is going to agree with Sam Harris in a way here.

"Females are the rank-and-file mainstay of religion, which in turn is the official enemy of all humor. One tiny snuffle that turns into a wheeze, one little cut that goes septic, one pathetically small coffin, and the woman's universe is left in ashes and ruin. Try being funny about that, if you like." So, it's women's connection to child birth and children that makes women incapable of the sense of humor that men are capable of, because apparently, a man's universe is not so shattered at the death of his child. *"Oscar Wilde was the only person ever to make a decent joke about the death of an infant, and that infant was fictional, and Wilde was (although twice a father) a queer."*

Remember, this was 2007. This is one year before Obama was elected. This is not 1957 or 1897. This is 2007. Continuing to quote. *"And because fear is the mother of superstition, and because they (women) are partly ruled in any case by the moon and the tides,"* so women are ruled by moon and tides, *"women also fall more heavily for dreams, for supposedly significant dates like birthdays and anniversaries, for romantic love, crystals and stones, lockets and relics, and other things that men know are fit mainly for mockery and limericks. Good grief! Is there anything less funny than hearing a woman relate a dream she's just had?"* *"For men, it is a tragedy that the two things they prize the most—women and humor—should be so antithetical. But without*

tragedy there could be no comedy. My beloved said to me, when I told her I was going to have to address this melancholy topic, that I should cheer up because (quote) 'women get funnier as they get older.' Observation suggests to me that this might indeed be true, but, excuse me, isn't that rather a long time to have to wait?"

That's the end of his article. That's how it ends. So, it ends again with him being the victim. Poor Christopher Hitchens, just sad that he has to wait for women to grow old before they finally develop a sense of humor. I have only quoted portions of it, and to be honest, it was hard to decide what to quote and what not because the entirety of it is quotable. To illustrate the misogyny that ran through 21st century Atheism, we only quoted a tiny bit of what you will find on Richard Dawkins and Sam Harris, and all I need is one article by Christopher Hitchens.

The leading voices that were governing philosophical Atheism between 2001 and through the election of Donald Trump, so, when you read that VOX news article, and they're addressing men in their 20's, 30's, 40's and 50's who connect Atheism to libertarianism, to men's rights groups, Atheism did not, has not led to gender equality, to anything progressive. Misogyny is deeply rooted within Atheism. And an article, to consider that something like this, even to make a comment about Oscar Wilde, calling him a queer and suggesting that, that somehow made him able to joke about the death of a child.

Vanity Fair is not a far-right or, it's not a source I would go to find a news, but it's not out of the main stream that they would publish this in 2007. It does get, I don't think my laughing through reading it was emblematic of the sense of humor he wants women to have.

We are due to close. So, we're going to review this, because I've just about to finish what I want to say. So, I hope, if you don't mind, I just want to say couple more things to tie it up. We're looking at the trinity, and we'll come back to libertarianism. But why, with not America's past but its future, do you find Atheism linked with the far-right? Linked with a political stream that we have for years, said over and over and over again, this is Jerry Falwell, this is church and state, this is Evangelicalism, and it is, but they are just one portion of a surface of a culture that is subculture that exists in a broader culture that is the right-wing. They are kind of what is a, given if the world was to last a few generations, sinking into more the past than the future.

I want to finish with a couple of quotes. This one is an article of, "How Men's Rights Activists Are Finding Unlikely Allies in New Atheism: #MeToo, the Manosphere, and the 'Church of Feminism.'" Because remember, they do believe, they do link feminism with religion. They think that both are completely irrational thoughts. They're going to quote a far-rights men's rights activist. He says, *"I have discovered women's sole biological reason for existing is to reproduce and nurture the young."* So, women reproduce and nurture the young. *"For men, is to reproduce, protect women, and contribute to the grand project known as civilization."* So, women contribute by having babies and raising them. It's men to protect and to contribute to the growth of civilization.

Continuing to quote. *"The claim that woman's capacity for reason matches man's is humorous."* So, they're built on reason and their fundamental argument is that because of how evolution

developed two genders, side by side, one gender is not programmed to think with the rationality that the other has through what evolution developed.

“The affinity between New Atheist and Manosphere (men’s rights groups) values is clearest in the popularity of the phrase ‘The Church of Feminism.’ Women are coming forward about the prevalence of sexual assault?” They reply that the church of feminism is whipping up moral panic, and that is one thing that Sam Harris tweeted. He shared an article that was also shared on one of these Reddit (which you explained to us, Rachel, those Reddit) men’s rights communities. Sam Harris tweeted the same article that had been shared there. Also, as they were saying on this forum that this is creating, the Me-Too movement, is creating a moral panic.

“Feminist decry the prevalence of patriarchy? Richard Dawkins retweets a video comparing feminists to Islamists.” “The flipside of New Atheism and the Manosphere’s valorization of rationality is that they necessarily identify their detractors as ‘irrational.’” So, if you believe in God, you’re irrational. If you believe in feminism, you’re irrational. *“For the Manosphere, the enemy is the hopelessly irrational woman. For New Atheism, the enemy is irrationality itself. But as the two groups’ (men’s rights and new Atheism) memberships and rhetoric coalesce, New Atheism increasingly ends up firing at the same targets as blatant misogynists.”* They end up saying the same thing. *“As #MeToo continues to promote conversations about gender dynamics and rights, New Atheists might find that it’s time to be clear about their ideological commitments—or else have those commitments decided for them by their base.”*

I have couple of other points I wanted to read and make about how evolution develops this thinking, but I just want to close on that one sentence. The point that this author is saying, making, is that if these, particularly these leaders, and the more current ones, the leaders of new Atheism (new Atheism is just 21st century Atheism today), if the leaders of Atheism today, if they don’t get clear about what their ideological commitments are, essentially, where they stand on the culture war on gender rights, on LGBTQ rights, on civil rights, and on freedom v. equality, if they don’t make clear where they stand, it’s not them, it’s not the leaders who will decide where Atheism sits. It’s their base, and that is what’s happening. That’s the VOX article. That is all of the men who’ve been heavily influenced in their thinking by modern Atheism, by how modern Atheism promotes and shares misogyny labeled as rational thinking. It’s that base that is deciding that they also belong in the far-right community as part of that trinity.

So, we’ll close for time, but we’ll come back and review if you have thoughts or comments or questions. We will just touch on this next week, and finish up a couple of thoughts, and then we’re going to go back to libertarianism, the other point of that trinity doctrine. Who would like to close with a prayer? Josephine?

Closing Prayer

Josephine – Yes. Shall we pray?

Dear Lord in heaven, we thank you so much for this Vespers meeting. We thank you for the fact that we have learned so much, and it's like peering into Orion. There's so much more light there to see, and I'm so grateful for your teaching, Lord. Thank you for the leaders, and thank you for each and every one that has attended the meeting tonight. And, thank you likewise for the church members at large that will be viewing the videos. I pray that they will appreciate the message and find it enlightening, and increase of knowledge and understanding for all of us. Bless those who participated tonight, whether they were listening or contributing. Bless the music, Mrs. Bennet, and thank you Lord, and we look forward to the Sabbath where we can be fed to the brim, and may we overflow. This is our prayer in Jesus' wonderful name, Amen.