

Richard Dawkins

Quotes

Thinking, People, Believe, Atheist, Religion, Children, Religious, Atheism, Mean, Science, Evolution, Ideas, World, Book, Evil, Doe, Selfish, Views, Real, Giving

Much as we might wish to believe otherwise, universal love and the welfare of the species as a whole are concepts which simply do not make evolutionary sense.

~Richard Dawkins

Do not indoctrinate your children. Teach them how to think for themselves, how to evaluate evidence, and how to disagree with you.

~Richard Dawkins

Faith is belief without evidence and reason; coincidentally that's also the definition of delusion.

~Richard Dawkins

Evolution is just a theory? Well, so is gravity and I don't see you jumping out of buildings.

~Richard Dawkins

Such delusions of grandeur to think that a God with a hundred billion galaxies on his mind would give a tuppenny damn who you sleep with, or indeed whether you believe in him.

~Richard Dawkins

The less you think, the more you believe.

~Richard Dawkins

How thoughtful of God to arrange matters so that, wherever you happen to be born, the local religion always turns out to be the true one.

~Richard Dawkins

The universe we observe has precisely the properties we should expect if there is, at bottom, no design, no purpose, no evil, no good, nothing but blind, pitiless indifference.

~Richard Dawkins

Science is the poetry of reality.

~Richard Dawkins

The theory of evolution by cumulative natural selection is the only theory we know of that is in principle capable of explaining the existence of organized complexity.

~Richard Dawkins

Don't ask God to cure cancer and world poverty. He's too busy finding you a parking space and fixing the weather for your barbecue.

~Richard Dawkins

Today the theory of evolution is about as much open to doubt as the theory that the earth goes round the sun.

~Richard Dawkins

Faith is the great cop-out, the great excuse to evade the need to think and evaluate evidence. Faith is belief in spite of, even perhaps because of, the lack of evidence.

~Richard Dawkins

It has become almost a cliché to remark that nobody boasts of ignorance of literature, but it is socially acceptable to boast ignorance of science and proudly claim incompetence in mathematics.

~Richard Dawkins

By all means let's be open-minded, but not so open-minded that our brains drop out.

~Richard Dawkins

I am against religion because it teaches us to be satisfied with not understanding the world.

~Richard Dawkins

Evolution is a fact, as securely established as any in science, and he who denies it betrays woeful ignorance and lack of education, which likely extends to other fields as well.

~Richard Dawkins

We are survival machines - robot vehicles blindly programmed to preserve the selfish molecules known as genes. This is a truth which still fills me with astonishment.

~Richard Dawkins

If there is a God, it's going to be a whole lot bigger and a whole lot more incomprehensible than anything that any theologian of any religion has ever proposed.

~Richard Dawkins

The truth is more magical - in the best and most exciting sense of the word - than any myth or made-up mystery or miracle. Science has its own magic: the magic of reality.

~Richard Dawkins

Religion: Together we can find the cure.

~Richard Dawkins

Of course you can have an opinion about Islam without having read Qur'an. You don't have to read Mein Kampf to have an opinion about Nazism.

~Richard Dawkins

Be thankful that you have a life, and forsake your vain and presumptuous desire for a second one.

~Richard Dawkins

I detest 'Jingle Bells,' 'White Christmas,' 'Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer,' and the obscene spending bonanza that nowadays seems to

occupy not just December, but November and much of October, too.

~Richard Dawkins

The idea of a divine creator belittles the elegant reality of the universe.

~Richard Dawkins

I am not an enthusiast for diversity of opinion where facts are concerned.

~Richard Dawkins

Pantheism is sexed-up atheism. Deism is watered-down theism.

~Richard Dawkins

Faith is one of the world's great evils, comparable to the smallpox virus but harder to eradicate.

~Richard Dawkins

Scientific beliefs are supported by evidence, and they get results. Myths and faiths are not and do not.

~Richard Dawkins

Do you really mean the only reason you try to be good is to gain God's approval and reward? That's not morality, that's just sucking up.

~Richard Dawkins

Let us try to teach generosity and altruism, because we are born selfish.

~Richard Dawkins

Faith can be very very dangerous, and deliberately to implant it into the vulnerable mind of an innocent child is a grievous wrong.

~Richard Dawkins

I shall not make an argument ad hominem. My argument is ad

bullshitem.

~Richard Dawkins

Science has eradicated smallpox, can immunise against most previously deadly viruses, can kill most previously deadly bacteria. Theology has done nothing but talk of pestilence as the wages of sin.

~Richard Dawkins

Those who wish to base their morality literally on the Bible have either not read it or not understood it.

~Richard Dawkins

It often turns out on closer inspection that acts of apparent altruism are really selfishness in disguise.

~Richard Dawkins

For the first half of geological time our ancestors were bacteria. Most creatures still are bacteria, and each one of our trillions of cells is a colony of bacteria.

~Richard Dawkins

Sometimes in life it is a good idea to stop, sometimes it is a good idea to go on. The trick is to decide when to stop

~Richard Dawkins

It is absolutely safe to say that if you meet somebody who claims not to believe in evolution, that person is ignorant, stupid or insane (or wicked, but I'd rather not consider that).

~Richard Dawkins

We who are atheists are also a-fairyists, a-teapotists, and a-unicornists, but we don't have to bother saying so.

~Richard Dawkins

If you're willing to answer yes to a God outside of nature, then there's nothing inconsistent with God on rare occasions choosing to invade the natural world in a way that appears miraculous.

~Richard Dawkins

The time has come for people of reason to say: Enough is Enough! Religious faith discourages independent thought, it's divisive and it's dangerous.

~Richard Dawkins

I think what I'd really like to see would be a mass consciousness-raising movement so that we would all become vegetarian.

~Richard Dawkins

Organizing atheists is a bit like herding cats; They are on the whole too intelligent and independent minded to lend themselves to being herded.

~Richard Dawkins

If something is true, no amount of wishful thinking will change it.

~Richard Dawkins

Faith is an evil precisely because it requires no justification and brooks no argument.

~Richard Dawkins

Presumably what happened to Jesus was what happens to all of us when we die. We decompose. Accounts of Jesus's resurrection and ascension are about as well-documented as Jack and the Beanstalk.

~Richard Dawkins

You believe that all humanity came from Adam and Eve, and humans have not evolved at all since. So tell me; between the two of them, which was black, which was white, and which was Asian?

~Richard Dawkins

Any belief in miracles is flat contradictory not just to the facts of science but to the spirit of science.

~Richard Dawkins

Evolution is fundamentally hostile to religion.

~Richard Dawkins

To an honest judge, the alleged convergence between religion and science is a shallow, empty, hollow, spin-doctored sham.

~Richard Dawkins

We admit that we are like apes, but we seldom realize that we are apes.

~Richard Dawkins

It's about time we start criticizing faith.

~Richard Dawkins

I do not believe there is an atheist in the world who would bulldoze Mecca-or Chartres, York Minster or Notre Dame, the Shwe Dagon, the temples of Kyoto or, of course, the Buddhas of Bamiyan.

~Richard Dawkins

People who believe the earth was created 6000 years ago, when it's actually 4.5 billion years old, should also believe the width of North America is 8 yards. That is the scale of the error.

~Richard Dawkins

I think I would abolish schools which systematically inculcate sectarian beliefs.

~Richard Dawkins

Being an atheist frees you up to live this life properly, happily, and fully.

~Richard Dawkins

The chicken is only an egg's way for making another egg.

~Richard Dawkins

Being dead will be no different from being unborn -- I shall be just as I was in the time of William the Conqueror or the dinosaurs or the trilobites. There is nothing to fear in that.

~Richard Dawkins

With respect to those meanings of 'human' that are relevant to the morality of abortion, any fetus is less human than an adult pig.

~Richard Dawkins

The meme for blind faith secures its own perpetuation by the simple unconscious expedient of discouraging rational inquiry.

~Richard Dawkins

Human beings are just gene machines.

~Richard Dawkins

Religion teaches you to be satisfied with nonanswers. It's a sort of crime against childhood.

~Richard Dawkins

There may be fairies at the bottom of the garden. There is no evidence for it, but you can't prove that there aren't any, so shouldn't we be agnostic with respect to fairies?

~Richard Dawkins

The body is a survival machine programmed to propagate the genes that reside inside it.

~Richard Dawkins

The world and the universe is an extremely beautiful place, and the more we understand about it the more beautiful does it appear.

~Richard Dawkins

Bereavement is terrible, of course. And when somebody you love dies, it's a time for reflection, a time for memory, a time for regret.

~Richard Dawkins

The solution often turns out more beautiful than the puzzle.

~Richard Dawkins

“Matter flows from place to place, and momentarily comes together to be you. Some people find that thought disturbing; I find the reality thrilling.

~Richard Dawkins

Religious people are atheists about all other gods, atheists only take it one god further.

~Richard Dawkins

The God of the Old testament is arguably the most unpleasant character in all fiction.

~Richard Dawkins

Complex, statistically improbable things are by their nature more difficult to explain than simple, statistically probable things.

~Richard Dawkins

Mutation is random; natural selection is the very opposite of random.

~Richard Dawkins

To fill a world with ... religions of the Abrahamic kind, is like littering the streets with loaded guns. Do not be surprised if they are used.

~Richard Dawkins

Isn't it sad to go to your grave without ever wondering why you were born? Who, with such a thought, would not spring from bed, eager to resume discovering the world and rejoicing to be part of it?

~Richard Dawkins

My love of truth and honesty forces me to notice that the liberal intelligentsia of Western countries is betraying itself where Islam is concerned.

~Richard Dawkins

Religion teaches the dangerous nonsense that death is not the end.

~Richard Dawkins

Creationists eagerly seek a gap in present-day knowledge or understanding. If an apparent gap is found, it is assumed that God, by default, must fill it.

~Richard Dawkins

Myths are fun, as long as you don't confuse them with the truth.

~Richard Dawkins

Faith is the great cop-out, the great excuse to evade the need to think.

~Richard Dawkins

It is almost as if the human brain were specifically designed to misunderstand Darwinism, and to find it hard to believe

~Richard Dawkins

We are all atheists about most of the gods that societies have ever believed in. Some of us just go one god further.

~Richard Dawkins

Although atheism might have been logically tenable before Darwin, Darwin made it possible to be an intellectually fulfilled atheist.

~Richard Dawkins

Undisguised clarity is easily mistaken for arrogance.

~Richard Dawkins

Evolution could so easily be disproved if just a single fossil turned up in the wrong date order. Evolution has passed this test with flying colours.

~Richard Dawkins

The only watchmaker is the blind forces of physics.

~Richard Dawkins

THE MAJORITY of children born into the world tend to inherit the beliefs of their parents, and that to me is one of the most regrettable facts of them all

~Richard Dawkins

The feeling of awed wonder that science can give us is one of the highest experiences of which the human psyche is capable.

~Richard Dawkins

Religion is about turning untested belief into unshakable truth through the power of institutions and the passage of time.

~Richard Dawkins

My personal feeling is that understanding evolution led me to atheism.

~Richard Dawkins

When two opposite points of view are expressed with equal intensity, the truth does not necessarily lie exactly half way between. It is possible for one side simply to be wrong.

~Richard Dawkins

The human psyche has two great sicknesses: the urge to carry

vendetta across generations, and the tendency to fasten group labels on people rather than see them as individuals.

~Richard Dawkins

[Alternative medicine is defined as] that set of practices that cannot be tested, refuse to be tested or consistently fail tests.

~Richard Dawkins

Offense is what people take when they can't take argument.

~Richard Dawkins

The chances of each of us coming into existence are infinitesimally small, and even though we shall all die some day, we should count ourselves fantastically lucky to get our decades in the sun.

~Richard Dawkins

...I am not attacking any particular God or gods. I am attacking God, all gods, anything and everything supernatural, whenever or wherever they have been or will be invented.

~Richard Dawkins

Like computer viruses, successful mind viruses will tend to be hard for their victims to detect. If you are the victim of one, the chances are that you won't know it, and may even vigorously deny it.

~Richard Dawkins

I respect you too much to respect your ridiculous ideas.

~Richard Dawkins

We don't need fossils - the case for evolution is watertight without them; so it is paradoxical to use gaps in the fossil record as though they were evidence against evolution

~Richard Dawkins

Many people want to send their children to faith schools because they get good exam results, but they're not foolish enough to believe that it's because of faith that they get good exam results.

~Richard Dawkins

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