

# The Tampa Bay Coalition of Reason

# Freethought News

Vol. 4 No. 9 September 2015 Jim Peterson, Rick O'Keefe, Editors

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\* Member organizations

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### Tampa Bay Coalition of Reason

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Mark Brandt, Judy Adkins,  
& Bill Norsworthy



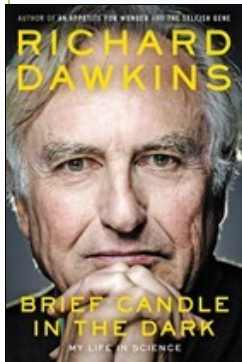
**HUMANIST CHARITIES**

[Click to connect!](#)

Coming in October...Sponsored by the *Tampa Bay Coalition of Reason*

## Dawkins & Silverman

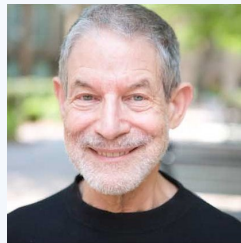
Discuss *Brief Candle in the Dark*



Two great scientific minds come together in Clearwater to discuss the latest book from Doctor Richard Dawkins a preeminent evolutionary biologist. Mathematician, Herb Silverman is as known for his witty repartee as Dawkins is for his snappy comebacks. It will not be a dull evening.



Dr. Richard Dawkins



Dr. Herb Silverman

Both are internationally renowned as leaders of the freethought/atheist/humanist movement now gaining momentum across the globe. As part of this event, participants will receive a complimentary auto-graphed copy of the book they will be discussing.

Admission is by \$40 prepaid ticket only, and those are going quickly. No sales at the door. Attendees will receive a hardcover copy of *Brief Candle in the Dark* autographed by the author at this unique October 10th, 7 PM event at the Clearwater UU Octagon. Details are at:

[www.evolvetampa.com](http://www.evolvetampa.com)

There will also be a special 1:30 PM Dawkins Foundation [reception](#) at a cost of \$250 which includes entry to the event described above.



### Dr. Ryan Cragun



Will be at the Dunedin Library on Saturday September 5th

#### HOW TO DEFEAT

#### RELIGION

IN 10 EASY STEPS

RYAN T. CRAGUN



to discuss his latest book. See [Page 3](#) for more.

## TB-CoR presents a variety of special dates for your calendar!

### Human light / Solstice Potluck dinner

Hundreds of us bring together our finest dishes to share in anticipation of another successful year. Always something Special.

### FreeFlo Florida Humanist Conference

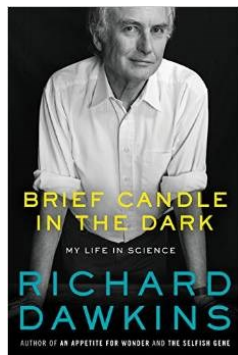
Three days to remember in Orlando - many special speakers. November 6-8, See [page 9](#).

### Darwin Day 16

Saturday, February 6th  
Frans Dewaal &  
Deby Cassill



## The “Quotable” Richard Dawkins



“My eyes are constantly wide open to the extraordinary fact of existence. Not just human existence, but the existence of life and how this breathtakingly powerful process, which is natural selection, has managed to take the very simple facts of physics and chemistry and build them up to redwood trees and humans.”

“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.”

“Secularism is categorically not saying that the religious may not speak out publicly or have a say in public life. It is about saying that religion alone should not confer a privileged say in public life, or greater influence on it. It really is as simple as that.”

“It's a horrible idea that God, this paragon of wisdom and knowledge, power, couldn't think of a better way to forgive us our sins than to come down to Earth in his alter ego as his son and have himself hideously tortured and executed so that he could forgive himself.”

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

“In the original introduction to the word meme in the last chapter of 'The Selfish Gene,' I did actually use the metaphor of a 'virus.' So when anybody talks about something going viral on the Internet, that is exactly what a meme is, and it looks as though the word has been appropriated for a subset of that.”

“Design can never be an ultimate explanation for anything. It can only be a proximate explanation. A plane or a car is explained by a designer but that's because the designer himself, the engineer, is explained by natural selection.”

“Religion is capable of driving people to such dangerous folly that faith seems to me to qualify as a kind of mental illness.”



Lula

Dovi



More [Seasonings](#) by CFI & Humanist Society member and journalist- poet, **Lula J. Dovi**. She has completed a second illustrated chapbook of poetry reflecting on her 92 years of adventures. It will be available soon, but the first [can be found here](#).

**Tampa Bay CoR**  
TAMPA BAY COALITION OF REASON

## Promoting Action & Unity in the Tampa Bay Area

Join the Freethought Organizations of the Tampa Bay Area: Center for Inquiry-TampaBay, Tampa Humanist Association, Humanist Society of the Suncoast, UU Humanists Clearwater, Atheists of Florida, UU Humanists Tampa,\* Freethinkers @ USF,\* Plus numerous Meetup organizations that promote what are essentially Freethought principles (\*= not currently members of the Coalition)

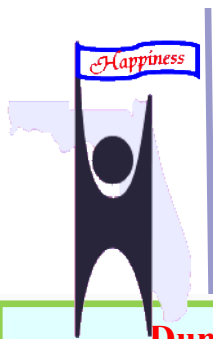
Thus substantive and exciting new activities are offered to the Tampa Bay area that were not possible for most organizations before.

We are especially grateful to the national office of the United Coalition of Reason and its director, Jason Heap. You may recall that UCoR was the major impetus to getting a large number of billboards erected in Tampa Bay and across the nation with such messages as “You can be good without God. Millions are!”

*TBCoR is an alliance of groups identified with the freethought / Humanist /Atheist movement .*

As this momentum continues to grow, we will keep you informed of developments . JP Contact: [tbcor@metrodirect.net](mailto:tbcor@metrodirect.net)

<http://tampabay.unitedcor.org/tampabay/>



# The Humanist Society<sup>3</sup> of the Suncoast News

An Epicurean society dedicated to the proposition that the fully examined life is worth living well.  
Associate organization of the [Humanists of Florida](#), the [AHA](#), [COR](#), and [CSH](#) Find us at [www.suncoasthumanist.com](http://www.suncoasthumanist.com)

**Dunedin Public Library** 223 Douglas Ave, Dunedin, FL ([map](#))

Volume 23 No. 9 September, 2015



## Dr. Ryan Cragun

Dr. Ryan Cragun PH.D., of the university of Tampa Dept. of Sociology, who is a delightful speaker and respected Humanist researcher, will give us insight into the subject of his newest book on

### "How to Defeat Religion in 10 **EASY** Steps"

Do you want the greatest challenges of the day to be addressed with thoughtful, reality-based solutions rather than with cherry-picked quotations from scripture? Do you want to shrink religion—especially fundamentalist religion—to the point that it plays no noticeable role in American public life? Do you want right-wing religious leaders to be so unpopular that politicians avoid them rather than pander to them for endorsements? Drawing on the latest social-scientific research on religion to help interested nonbelievers—and even progressive believers—weaken the influence of fundamentalist religion in society at large, *How to Defeat Religion in 10 Easy Steps* illustrates specific, actionable steps we all can take to facilitate fundamentalist religion's decline. It covers topics as far ranging as education, welfare, sex, science, capitalism, and Christmas, and each of the 10 chapters focuses on a specific action that research has shown can weaken religion, detailing why and how, and concluding with specific recommendations for individuals, local groups, and national organizations. Buy it from Amazon [Here](#).

It is being hailed as one of the most straightforward books on one of the most vexing problems of the modern era. Ryan is something of a local hero to many of us for his easygoing, humorous, but direct style in confronting issues of significance.

JP

## ~ Join or Renew ~

Your Humanist Society of the Suncoast  
**Annual Dues.**

- Trial -3 month- free news
- Regular -\$25**
- Reg. Couple -\$30.
- Supporter -\$35/45 (W/ pin above)**
- Life -\$200.
- Life Couple -\$250.
- Associate -\$10



Your membership helps keep Humanism alive and growing in the Tampa Bay area. A small part of your dues allows us to participate fully as a member organization of the Tampa Bay Coalition of Reason and enables us to support larger and more exciting programs.

If you have questions concerning your dues or status, contact our treasurer, [marios\\_psomas@hotmail.com](mailto:marios_psomas@hotmail.com)

If new, please fill out the form; if renewing just indicate your name and any changes from our previous information. Thanks!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address -if new : \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \* \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

(Privacy respected)

Send tax deductible (501c3) dues to:

Marios Psomas, Treasurer  
Humanist Society of the Suncoast, AHA  
1013 Connecticut Rd  
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

\*= optional



Got a letter, comment, suggestion or editorial contribution? Write to us at: [tbcor@metrodirect.net](mailto:tbcor@metrodirect.net)



**Food: the first kindness and the measure of our Hospitality**  
Humanists aspire to true friendship with our fellow human beings. An important measure of this concern is care for the physical well being of others. As reactionaries in congress vote to cut the budget for food stamps and other key supports, there is increasing hunger here in our community. Thanks to **Glenn Paul**, chair.

Ed Note: Glenn needs assistance. **We need volunteers!** See a board member. Or write to [jim@suncoasthumanist.com](mailto:jim@suncoasthumanist.com) Thanx.

Please join us at  
**2 PM Sept. 5th**  
at

The Dunedin Public Library at  
223 Douglas Ave.  
in Dunedin.

Many members go to dinner afterwards at Marguerites Cafe. Directly across from the Library.

Some alcohol avail.



*Humanists work to build a world  
in which happiness is the  
enduring criterion of social policy.*

## What is the Humanist Way?

1. To extend a human centered approach to the critical problems of life and society.
2. To encourage attitudes of kindness, compassion, tolerance and a loving generosity in human relationships, and in our treatment of all life. These attitudes help us to see ourselves in the lives of others, and encourage appreciation for the remarkable diversity of human culture and experience.
3. To develop and popularize the skills of creative and critical thinking that empower people to challenge prejudice, superstition and irrationality in every area of life. Such empowerment enables the individual to reach the highest levels of achievement.
4. To exalt those artistic and imaginative expressions of life which have been the source of the greatest pleasure and enlightenment, and which reflect compelling human truths. Through music, literature, art, dance, and other expressions, we embrace the essence of what it means to be human.
5. To explore the grounds of ethics and morality within the unfolding history of our evolving culture. Such knowledge will enable us to become effective protagonists for the happiness of the individual person. JP

**The Movable Feast:**  
the Humanist Society monthly social Dinner  
For September, is at ...

# Kumba Island

1800 Gulf-To-Bay Blvd Clearwater  
(N.E. Corner of G-T-B & Keene)

We're changing our approach. Now its just open. No  
RSVP required. Trundle on down for the fine food  
and fastidiously fabulous fellowship!

Be there on Sunday September 20th by **5  
O'clock** for Early bird specials. As always, this is a  
self treated dinner. Ask to be seated with "the  
humanists." DK

## Laugh Lines A few Classics... 9-15

1. Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The Ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.
2. A jumper cable walks into a bar. The bartender says, "I'll serve you, but don't start anything."
3. A woman has twins and gives them up for adoption. One of them goes to a family in Egypt and is named "Ahmal." The other goes to a family in Spain; they name him "Juan." Years later, Juan sends a picture of himself to his birth mother. Upon receiving the picture, she tells her husband that she wishes she also had a picture of Ahmal. Her husband responds, "They're twins! If you've seen Juan, you've seen Ahmal."
3. A dyslexic man walks into a bra.
5. A man walks into a bar with a slab of asphalt under his arm and says: "A beer please, and one for the road."
6. Two cannibals are eating a clown. One says to the other: "Does this taste funny to you?"
7. "Doc, I can't stop singing 'The Green, Green Grass of Home.'" "That sounds like Tom Jones Syndrome." "Is it common?" "Well, 'It's Not Unusual.'"
8. Two cows are standing next to each other in a field. Daisy says to Dolly, "I was artificially inseminated this morning." "I don't believe you," says Dolly. "It's true, no bull!" exclaims Daisy.
9. An invisible man marries an invisible woman. The kids were nothing to look at either.
10. Deja Moo: The feeling that you've heard this bull before.

Thanks to Connie Purdum

## HUMANIST SOCIETY OF THE SUNCOAST

A chapter of the American Humanist Assoc.  
The Association of Secular Humanist Societies

### Board of Directors

Meets Sept., December, April

*Jay Alexander,*  
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*Dave Kovar, Vice President*  
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*Jordan, Brent Yaciw, Mike Hubbard,*  
*Matt Cooper Dec, Jim Butler*

~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*

Jordan Williams, mail Publisher

**Jim Peterson, Editor**  
E-Mail us at:  
[jim@suncoasthumanist.com](mailto:jim@suncoasthumanist.com)

## Need Psychological Counseling?

For a secular therapist,  
click:

[Cognitive Neurosciences  
Inc. or,](#)

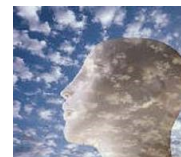
[The Therapist Project,](#)

[or,](#)  
[Lynda Gurvitz,](#)  
[\(727\) 725-8820](#)

[or Patricia Walters,](#)  
[\(813\) 988-5977](#)

Also, For Addiction  
Problems, see: [Life Ring  
Secular Recovery Meetings](#)

11485 Oakhurst Road  
Waters Edge Club House  
Largo, Florida



## Tampa Humanist Association

Meets every third Saturday at, 11:00 AM in  
**The North Tampa Public Library**  
8916 North Blvd. Tampa, FL 33604 [Map](#)



Member, TB-CoR

**Join the Tampa Humanist Association!**

**Meets September 19th**

### A Discussion of Banned Books Week and International Blasphemy Rights Day.

Led by our own local CFI Representative, **Rick O'Keefe**

#### Banned Books Week (September 27–October 3)

Harry Potter, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Of Mice and Men*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *The Great Gatsby*, and *Fahrenheit 451*. And each year, coalitions of citizens, teachers, schools, and libraries come together to fight back and celebrate the free exchange of ideas that reading promotes.

**What can your group do to celebrate Banned Books Week?** Check out some of these ideas:

- **Lecture/Presentation:** Invite a school librarian or other speaker to give a presentation on censorship, book banning, blasphemy, and/or free speech.
- **Banned Books Readout:** Invite group members and passers-by to read aloud sections from their favorite banned and challenged books in a public area on campus.
- **Food for Freethought:** The Metro State Atheists at Metropolitan College of Denver came up with this service project idea. During Banned Books Week, they gave away donated books to students who bring in non-perishable food items to be donated to a food bank.

#### International Blasphemy Rights Day (September 30)

IBRD was founded to commemorate the Danish Muhammad cartoons that incited riots on September 30, 2005. However, its significance has extended far beyond defending the right to publish blasphemous cartoons; [with four Bangladeshi secularist bloggers murdered in 2015 alone](#), it's more imperative than ever that we stand up for the ability to criticize religion and its effects without fear of retaliation. IBRD is a day to celebrate the right to free expression, and that no idea, even one considered by some to be sacred, is immune from criticism.

CFI is on the front lines of fighting back against anti-blasphemy laws, thanks to our [Office of Public Policy](#) and [Campaign for Free Expression](#) initiatives. Our [Campaign for Free Expression resource page](#) is packed with ways you can get involved, including these ideas:

- **Free Speech Demonstrations:** Give students an opportunity to exercise their freedom of speech or to speak out on why free expression is important to them by providing a "free speech" board, handing out chalk, or passing around a megaphone (but make sure you check your university's policies before doing something that could potentially disrupt classes).
- **Artistic Performances:** Many artists and performers strongly support the freedom of expression. Host a musician, slam poet, visual artist, or stand-up comedian whose work pertains to exercising their speech rights, or even has been subject to censorship.
- **Educational Efforts:** Spread the word about the effects of blasphemy laws in other countries by setting up an informative display or hosting a lecture. Check out CFI's Campaign for Free Expression to learn more about specific cases.



JP

Show off your commitment to Science and Reason!  
Tampa CFI is offering these great license plate surrounds  
Fits all US plates - easy to install  
Now only \$15. Order from [Rick O'Keefe](#)



## Another Humanist Discussion group forms in east Tampa

5

UU Humanists of Tampa - Public Discussion, 2nd Wed. eve from 7 -9 PM and on the 4th Sun. Morning 9:45 - 10:45.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa  
11400 Morris Bridge Rd. Tampa, FL 33637  
More information can be found at :

<http://uutampa.org/unitarian-universalist-humanist-of-tampa/>

Long time members of the Humanist Society will be saddened to learn of the death of **Nancy Gorman**, 83, who was a staunch member some years ago before moving to North Carolina. She is survived by her spouse, Ed Hombordy. An indomitable woman, she persevered through health challenges and a divorce, raised her 4 boys, earned a law degree, and devoted many years to her life-long passion of political activism and social justice. A lover of culture, including live music, dance, and others, her first and longest life-long love was reading which she did avidly. She lived a fully humanist life.



## Secular Services Directory

[Serving the Secular Community with Rational Competence](#)

if you offer or need professional services in any area of life, check out this opportunity. The directory for services will be out soon.



## Humanist Quotes

*" We distrust anything that contradicts science or outrages reason. We may differ on many things, but what we respect is free inquiry, open-mindedness, and the pursuit of ideas for their own sake. ."*

*Christopher Hitchens* 8-15



An autonomous project of the Humanist Society. Affiliate of [PCI](#)

When climate scientists talk about carbon, they usually do so in terms of parts per million. During the last ice age, when much of North America was covered in glaciers a mile thick, carbon-dioxide levels in the atmosphere were around a hundred and eighty parts per million. For the ten thousand years leading up to the industrial revolution, they hovered around two hundred and eighty parts per million. By 1992, when the Framework Convention was drafted, they had reached three hundred and fifty parts per million. As MOP followed COP, carbon-dioxide levels kept rising. This spring, they topped four hundred parts per million.

Owing to the CO<sub>2</sub> that's been pumped into the air so far, average global temperatures have risen by about 0.85 degrees Celsius (1.5 degrees Fahrenheit). This relatively small increase has produced some very large effects: almost half of the permanent Arctic ice cap has melted away, millions of acres' worth of trees in the American West have died from warming-related pest infestations, and some of West Antarctica's major glaciers, containing tens of thousands of cubic miles of ice, have started to disintegrate. But the system has yet to reach a new equilibrium, so even if CO<sub>2</sub> levels were to stop rising tomorrow the world would continue to warm, by about .5 degrees Celsius (.9 degrees Fahrenheit).

To hold warming to less than two degrees Celsius, the best estimates available suggest that total emissions will have to be kept under a trillion tons of carbon. The world has already consumed around two-thirds of this budget. If current trends continue, the last third will be used up within the next few decades. What's fundamentally at issue in Paris—although the matter is never stated this baldly, because, if it were, the conference might as well be called off—is who should be allowed to emit the tons that remain.

One approach would be to assign these tons on the basis of aggregate emissions. Under this approach, very large emitters, like the United States, might not get any of the dwindling slice, on the ground that they've already gobbled up so much. Another way to allocate emissions would be to grant everyone on the planet an equal share of what's left; in that case, the U.S. would still have to radically reduce its emissions, but not all the way down to zero. A third approach would be to focus on efficiency. It's expensive to shutter power plants and factories that have already been built. But, as the cost of renewable energy declines, it may be cheaper to, say, put up solar panels than to construct a new coal plant. If growth can truly be decoupled from emissions, then poor countries shouldn't need to burn through lots of carbon in order to become wealthy.



## Who are we?

The St. Petersburg Astronomy Club, Inc. (SPAC), has been meeting continuously since 1927. It was incorporated in 1979 as a nonprofit, tax deductible organization. For almost 50 years SPAC has provided free educational programs for its members and the public. For additional information send your emails to: [spaceaminer@gmail.com](mailto:spaceaminer@gmail.com)

## Meetings

Meetings are normally held on the fourth Friday of each month (except November and December when it is on the third Friday) at the Science Center of Pinellas County, 7701 22nd Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL., at 8:00 P.M. Meetings are open to the public.

Click to see the [Calendar](#)

## The US Navy is investing in the largest solar farm in the world in order to provide power for 14 of its bases.

The climate of Arizona, where the two earlier phases of the [Mesquite solar farm](#) are already up and running, provides 300 days of sunshine a year. And the Navy's deal to extend the farm is the [largest purchase of renewable energy](#) ever made by a US federal government agency.

The solar farm project is one of a growing number being installed across what is known as the American Sun Belt – the southern states of America, which have expanding populations, plenty of sunshine, but also large areas of arid and unproductive land.

The price of solar panels has now fallen so far worldwide that, in sunny climates, they can compete on cost with any other form of energy generation. This new generation of huge solar farms produces as much power as a large coal-fired plant. China and India are also building similarly massive installations, taking advantage of their own sun belts and desert regions. It is doubtful that Mesquite 3, huge as it is, will manage to remain the world's largest for long.



## Clearwater UU Humanists

We are a group of Unitarian Universalists committed to a humanistic and non-theistic worldview. Currently, meetings are scheduled once a month and are usually held on the third Sunday of most months from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm, after UU services.

The UU Humanists are open to all aspects of humanism, including investigation of religious humanism. However, the focus of the group is on the secular aspects of humanism.



Clearwater, Florida

In Sept, our speaker will be **Rob Lorei**, news director at WMNF. He'll be talking about anything he damn well pleases, with the certain guarantee that it will interest us.

The meeting will be on the 3rd Sunday, **September 20th at 12:30**. After Q and A, we'll adjourn to Carrabba's for lunch.



## Florida NOW

<http://www.flnow.org/>

NOW is a multi-issue political organization. NOW's self-defined role has been to initiate change for the benefit of the greatest number of people, to affect the legal and institutional structures of the society in a way that systematically expands the choices and possibilities available to all women. In this way, NOW takes action to bring women, as a class, into the mainstream of society, rather than offering aid to individual women in achieving personal solutions or temporary relief from oppression.

Often, we are contacted by women and men who are facing "legal" situations, or in need of help for a group or individual. Unfortunately, we do not have the resources to provide direct services, and for legal reasons we can not provide referrals for lawyers or other services. If you need these services, please consider doing an internet search for local attorneys, referral services, legal aide, domestic violence shelters, or other terms that are appropriate for your individual situation. Good luck.

NOW is fighting for equality in jobs, pay, credit, insurance, pensions, fringe benefits, and Social Security, through legislation, negotiation, labor organizing, education, and litigation. We are helping women break through the "glass ceiling" of the executive suite, and break loose of the "sticky floor" — the dead-end, low wage jobs that keep so many women in poverty. NOW is actively opposed to punitive welfare reform that harms the most vulnerable women and children in our society. In short, we seek full **ECONOMIC EQUALITY** for women.

## FLORIDA REPORT

Civil liberties news in the Sunshine State



[Check out our annual report to see all we've achieved over the last 50 years!](#)

Every year, we publish an annual report for our supporters, and this past year has been a particularly momentous one for the ACLU of Florida.

- Our lawsuit challenging Florida's ban on marriages for same-sex couples resulted in a federal ruling that brought the freedom to marry to our state.
- We blocked efforts to force state workers and applicants for temporary assistance to surrender their privacy and submit to suspicionless drug testing.
- Alongside the #BlackLivesMatter protests, against the abuse of police power and racism in the justice system, we pushed for oversight and accountability in law enforcement. This year's annual report not only features stories on all of these and more, it also includes a comprehensive timeline of some of our greatest achievements over the last five decades. 9-15

BECAUSE FREEDOM CAN'T PROTECT ITSELF JOIN THE ACLU



## The Humanities Institute at USF

<http://humanities-institute.usf.edu/about/>

Monday, Sep. 14

CWY 206

6:00pm, reception to follow

### *Practicing Impolite Conversations on Race*



with **John L. Jackson**

At a time when the need for a national discussion on race is increasingly urgent, we're delighted to welcome a leading scholar who in, *Practicing Impolite Conversations on Race*, challenges us to be fearless in speaking about topics that are often whispered in secret.

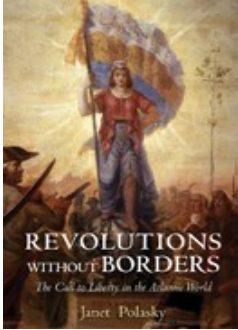
In his talk, anthropologist and communication scholar **John L. Jackson, Jr.** draws from his ethnographic research in the United States and around the world to make a case for the value of reimagining how we discuss race and racism in scholarly debate and public discourse.



**Challenge, Create, Connect:** Our new motto focuses our commitment to bring the beauty, values, and lessons of the humanities to USF and our community.

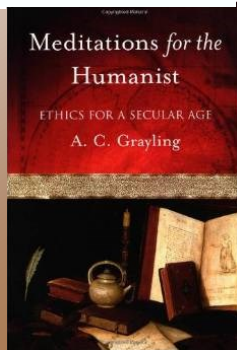
The USF Humanities Institute, established in 2003, provides a forum where ideas are debated, values are clarified, and students, faculty, and community come together to envision a better world through scholarship, debate, and public programs.

## Meaningful Books

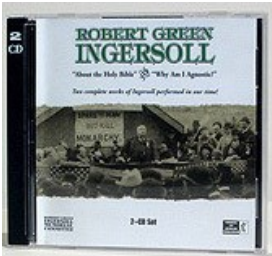


Revolutionaries want to tear down walls. Between 1776, when America declared independence, and 1804, when Haiti at last threw off the yoke of French rule, the compartments and divisions of established power became everyone's target. This book assiduously describes how, just as the doctrine of the universal rights of man seized the Western world, so too did an irrepressible iconoclasm.

Magnanimity is in short supply," writes A. C. Grayling is this wonderfully incisive book, "but it is the main ingredient in everything that makes the world a better place" And indeed *Meditations for the Humanist: Ethics for a Secular Age* is itself a generous, insightful, wide-ranging, magnanimous inquiry .... [Order](#)



**Ingersoll on CD:** 2-CD set includes "About the Holy Bible" (1894) and "Why Am I an Agnostic?" (1889). The complete texts, without one word omitted ... performed with an oratorical flourish that does justice to Ingersoll's mighty words. Plus an introduction that places Ingersoll and freethought into the context of America's Gilded Age. Two complete works of Ingersoll performed in our time! 2-CD Set, \$12. [Click here to order](#)



**Thoughts of a Freethinker** is the second book of local Humanist writer, *Michael Kaye*. Pensive considerations from an unencumbered mind lurking in the fresh air just outside the box. Order it from [Amazon](#), or at your local book monger.



One of an acclaimed series of books for parents and children. [Neil DeGrasse Tyson](#) takes youngsters through the Universe. Includes awesome images from the Hubble Space Telescope Available [here](#).

## Bank of Wisdom

*Electronic publishing to make the world better*

Make digital withdrawals from the bank, free! See Humanist Society Librarian, Marios Psomas for details.

**Evolve Fish is a good source for your freethought goodies:**

Pins, posters, buttons, bumper stickers, t-shirts, etc

<http://evolvefish.com/>

## The Matt Cooper

### Memorial Humanist Lending Library

Humanist Society members (only) can select the number of the book you wish to borrow, and send it to Marios Psomas at: [marios\\_psomas@hotmail.com](mailto:marios_psomas@hotmail.com) Then pick it up at the next meeting **Be sure to return it!** Donations appreciated.

#### # TITLE

1. The Expanding Circle
2. In Gods we Trust
3. Why Evolution is True
4. The Second World
5. Denialism
6. The Selfish Gene
7. Democracy Incorporated
8. The Upside Irrationality
9. The End of Growth
10. The God Delusion
11. All That We Share
12. Sex, Time, and Power
13. Sex at Dawn
14. What liberal Media
15. The End of Faith
16. Plan B
17. The Portable Atheist
18. Open Society
19. Non Believer Nation
20. God on Trial
21. Natural Experiments of History
22. The Missionary Position
23. Life Inc
24. A brief History of Time
25. Breaking the Spell
26. The Philosophy of Humanism
27. The Quotable Atheist
28. 50 Reasons People Give for Believing In God. G. Harrison
29. Mathematics and Politics
30. Stealing Elections
31. The God Virus
32. What Every American Should Know About World
33. Imagine There's no Heaven
34. Hidden Order
35. What the Dog Saw
36. Sway
37. The Better Angels of our Nature
38. Letter to a Young Contrarian
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40. Gaming the Vote
41. Subversion Fable
43. Evolution and the Big Question
44. Why People Believe Weird Things
45. The World is Curved
46. The Snow Ball
47. The Moral Landscape
48. How We Believe
49. Full House
50. The Origins of Political Order
51. Asimov's Guide to the Bible
52. Autobiography of Mark Twain
53. Science Friction
54. Genius
55. Inevitable Illusions
56. Sex & God
57. Being Right Is Not Enough
58. Loser Takes All
59. Taking Back Politics
60. What Happened in Ohio?
61. Autobiography of Mark Twain
62. The Skeptics Annotated Bible
63. Database Systems (Complete Ver.)
64. Reluctant Database Administrators
65. Asimov's Guide to the Bible
66. Inevitable Illusions
67. Ain't Nobody's business If You Do
69. Bonk
70. What Money Can't Buy
71. Financial Shenanigans
72. Sex & God
73. Best American Non required Reading
74. Reporting at Wit's End
75. Corporations are not People
76. Could I Vote Mormon for president?
77. Culture of Honor
78. Rot on the Vine
79. **Thoughts of a Freethinker** **New!**

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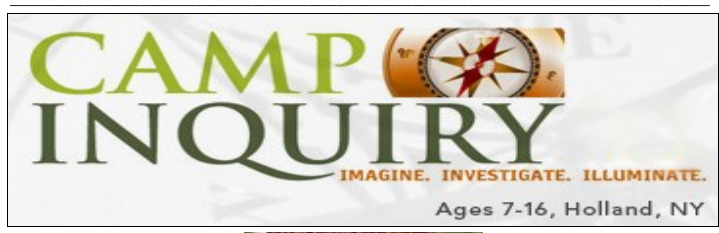
# Florida Atheists



Chair, Tracy Thomas, President, Judy Adkins

Join our Tampa chapter For **Family Fun - Potluck** Sunday, September 13th See [AoF Meetup](#) for details.

AoF is a comfortable and safe place in which to find rewarding new friendships, to discover hidden potentials, and make a positive contribution to your own humanity as well as that of others We are pleased to offer legal assistance with church state separation issues as an important focus. For many people, atheism represents the most focused and powerful criticism of the philosophical worldview with which most of us were raised. It is liberating for the same reason it attracts the enmity of those who are committed to the closed and changeless narrative of unexamined traditional beliefs. JP



For kids...   
August 2016 in Holland, NY.  
Details on [Facebook](#).  
Please [email us](#) for specific questions about camp.



**Read Humanist Periodicals:** The world's leading minds can be read at: [The Humanist](#), [Free Inquiry](#), [Free Mind](#), [Humanist Perspectives](#), [Skeptical Inquirer](#), [Secular Humanist Bulletin](#), [The Florida Humanist Journal](#), [Skeptic](#), [Essays in Humanism](#), and many others Look 'em up!

**St Pete Atheists // Freethought Group**  
Moderated by: Gary Thompson  
Monthly Meetup Day: Third Tuesday at 7 PM  
Contact: [easy8@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:easy8@tampabay.rr.com)  
On the web: <http://atheists.meetup.com/209>

Save the date...



[Holiday Inn Orlando-International- Airport](#),  
5750 T.G. Lee Blvd, Orlando, FL ([map](#))

**Speakers** (subject to change, more info and descriptions below taken from: <http://www.floridahumanist.org/>):

- **Dan Barker**, Keynote, Author of "Life Driven Purpose", Co-president, Freedom From Religion Foundation
- **Matt Dillahunty**, Host of the Atheist Experience
- **Katherine Stewart**, Author of The Good News Club
- **Seth Andrews**, Host of The Thinking Atheist
- **Anthony Pinn**, Author, professor and Director of the Institute of Humanist Studies
- **Sarah Morehead**, Executive Director of Recovering from Religion
- **Ryan Cragun**, Professor, researcher and author of How to Defeat Religion In 10 Easy Steps
- **Andrew Seidel**, Constitutional Attorney for the FFRF
- **Bo Bennet**, Co-Host of the Humanist Hour Podcast
- **David Tamayo**, President of the Hispanic American Freethinkers
- **Reginald Finley**, former host of The Infidel Guy
- **Sarah Haider**, Director of Development of Ex-Muslims of North America
- **Dr. Jason Heap**, National Coordinator, United Coalition of Reason
- **Dave Churvis**, Program Manager, Richard Dawkins Foundation for Reason and Science
- **Stewart Huff**, Comedian



## Tampa Bay Thinkers



Thinking deep thoughts about serious matters since 2008.

Carrollwood Cultural Center, Tampa, every 3rd Monday, monthly at 7 PM.

September 21st: Topic:

**Buying, Selling, or Research with Human Body Parts**

Meetup site: [www.meetup.com/tampa-bay-thinkers/](http://www.meetup.com/tampa-bay-thinkers/)

## The Military Association of Atheists and Freethinkers



Nontheistic service members serve honorably throughout the world—always have; always will. However, nontheists are the last unprotected minority. The nontheistic, whether an atheist, humanist, agnostic, freethinker, or other secular minority, have a strong community.

Jason Torpy, a West Point graduate, serves as president of MAAF. He also holds seats on the boards of the Secular Coalition for America and the American Humanist Assoc.

On the web at: [www.maaf.info](http://www.maaf.info)

Contact: Chris

( [christbrown@yahoo.com](mailto:christbrown@yahoo.com) )

MSgt, USAF (Retired) Co-Organizer:  
MacDill Atheists & Secular Humanists  
(MASH) MacDill AFB, FL

## Humanist Families of Greater Tampa

**Jennifer Hancock** started started this organization several years ago It uniquely serves Humanist families with a variety of wonderful programs throughout the year There is a strong emphasis on creative childrearing Here, you can make connection with other families dealing with the problems of living in a society that is still hostile to an explicitly Humanist Way of life. Jennifer is author of several books including: *The Humanist Handbook*, *The Humanist Approach to Happiness*, and her latest book, *The Bully Vaccine*.



Humanist Families organizes social outings every month. These are opportunities to do something fun, socialize and enjoy each other's company. Sometimes we go to a park, sometimes a museum, sometimes we go swimming. Our group has grown over the past year to the point we now organize Tampa area outings and Manatee/Sarasota area outings every month.

Throughout the year we host parties like Darwin Day in February, World Humanist Day in June, Freethought Day at Disney in October and Carl Sagan Day in November.

Among our spin off groups, is a Parenting Beyond Belief group which gets together to discuss the challenges of raising children without religion. We are on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/) . See more at: <http://www.Jen-Hancock.com>.

### The Importance of Science Literacy in Health Care

There is no area of life where critical thinking is more important than in your health care choices.

Unfortunately, cutting through the clutter to the science is not easy. I am a member of a woo free mom's group online. A group of moms who are dedicated to ensuring we make science based choices for our families and ourselves when it comes to health decisions. And we struggle with it.

The most often asked question is – is this woo or not. (Woo is information that looks like science – but isn't). If we have trouble figuring it out, it's not easy.

So why make the effort? Because your life may depend on it. Is salt good or bad for you? How much fat can or should you eat? Who can we trust when the science seems to change all the time! First fat is bad, then it's good then it's only sort of good but only if it's certain types of fat – but wait – isn't coconut oil good, maybe not – depends on what you are using it for and whether you have heart health problems. (sigh)

My husband recently had to have some heart stents put in. Ok – so I researched them. Found out well yes, the new stents that prevent reclosing of the artery also increase risks of blood clots slightly – which is why you have to take blood thinners for at least a year afterwards.

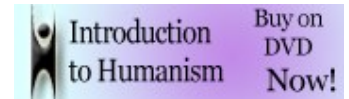
Why risk this? Because with no stent, the arteries reclose 30% of the time and with non-medicated stents 25% of the time, but with the new medicated stents they reclose only 10% of the time. So in the risk reward analysis – the slight increase risk of blood clots is outweighed by the benefit of reduced likelihood of needing the procedure again.

Of course, if you really want to improve your chances, you have to eat right too otherwise your heart disease will continue to be a problem.

So – what have I learned from our recent medical journey? That I need to trust the doctors! I can do all the research I want and totally freak myself out with fear and confusion, or ... I could just ask the doctor who is actually trained on these things and understands the science because – that's his rather specialized job (I am saying he because my husband's cardiologist is a he). Asking this doctor questions taught me more than all of my own research.

I'm not saying don't educate yourself. I'm saying Doctor Googles isn't always reliable. (see <http://io9.com/i-fooled-millions-into-thinking-chocolate-helps-weight-1707251800>) If you are confused after consulting Doctor Googles, which you probably will be, consult an actual professional. They really do know more than you do.

Thank you! **Jennifer Hancock**



**Appignani Humanist Legal Center** provides legal assistance to defend the constitutional rights of religious and secular minorities by directly challenging clear violations of the Establishment Clause and seeking equal rights for humanists, atheists and other freethinkers.

- ◆ Humanist Group Wants Christian Cross Display Removed from Florida Public Park *July 29, 2015* – The cross statue in Pensacola, FL, has been the site of church services.
- ◆ American Humanist Association Secures Equal Rights for Humanist Inmates in Federal Prison *July 27, 2015* – AHA settles its lawsuit with the Bureau of Prisons.
- ◆ Humanist Group Appeals Ruling Favoring Religious Graduations at South Carolina School District *July 22, 2015* – The AHLC filed an appellate brief with the Fourth Circuit.



## Online Tools for Skeptical Fact Checking

Full article: <http://bit.ly/1KLjGvI>

*Tamar Wilner*, August 24, 2015, Copyright © 2015 Skeptical Inquirer

Changes to the media over the past few decades have brought many distressing trends. Social media tend to reward emotional manipulation over truth-telling. News outlets, even well respected ones, rush to publish rumors and poorly substantiated claims. The fragmentation of news into ideological islands and search engines' tendency to cater to our preferences have helped to polarize viewpoints.

But while we're arguably awash in more misinformation than ever before, online media have also enabled tools and sources that help us evaluate dubious claims. I recently spoke at the Skeptic's Toolbox, the annual skeptical workshop in Eugene, OR, about the variety of fact-checking tools available. It was less a lecture than a conversation, as the participants provided many of their own suggestions. While we can't pretend to be comprehensive, our combined lists should provide a good starting point for your fact-checking needs.

### What is "Fact Checking"?

Photo by [futureatlas.com](http://futureatlas.com) on Flickr



There are a variety of ways to answer this question. One way to think of fact checking is in light of its role in forming and evaluating arguments. As skeptics, we spend a lot of time looking for logical fallacies. But it takes more than sound logic for a conclusion to be true: the premises of the argument must be true as well or the entire argument falls apart.

We can investigate the soundness of our premises by examining internal consistency, external plausibility, and source validity.

- ◆ Internal consistency: If you read a claim and there are points of disagreement within the claim, that's a sign of something wrong.
- ◆ External plausibility: We should check the story against what we already know, and we may also do more research to check it out further.
- ◆ Source validity: We must identify the source of the claim, verify the source's identity, and consider the source's motives.

The extensive **Fact-Checking Toolbox** is available on-line from : <http://bit.ly/1KLjGvI>

Press on: nothing in the world can take the place of perseverance. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent.

Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. *Calvin Coolidge RO*



The mission of the **Secular Coalition for Florida** is to increase the visibility of and respect for nontheistic viewpoints in the State, and to protect and strengthen the secular character of our government as the best guarantee of freedom for all.

If your organization supports our mission statement, please sign up [here](http://here). Volunteer activists are wanted, needed, and appreciated!



**Freethinkers@USF** is a multi-cultural, interdisciplinary student society which welcomes USF students who describe themselves as atheists, agnostics, skeptics, freethinkers, humanists, or religiously open-minded who seek to promote reason, compassion, tolerance, and free inquiry on campus.

We hope to contribute opportunity for interdisciplinary dialog to the USF community, and build scientific literacy for all to enable objective and rational interpretations of issues affecting our lives.

The organization is open to anyone of any religious persuasion or personal beliefs.

Write **Rodrick Colbert** at: [freethinkersusf@gmail.com](mailto:freethinkersusf@gmail.com).



## The Inevitable Growth of Atheism: Six Predictions

*The question is not if religion is declining but what shape the decline is taking and how it will play out.*

By [Daniel C. Dennett](#) and [Linda LaScola](#), From [Patheos\\*](#), August 19, 2015

Given the obvious and continued decline of religion in the U.S., as reported in the recent [Pew Study](#), the question is not *if* religion is declining but *what shape* the decline is taking and how it will play out. We offer six trends to watch — and a final proviso.

**1) The internet** will continue to influence falling way from religion, and it will snowball, since the [new transparency](#) penetrates almost all firewalls. For instance, the Mormons are confronted by DNA evidence challenging their 19<sup>th</sup>-century claims of the lost tribes of Israel being American Indians and the Roman Catholic Church can no longer bury its secrets. The internet also enables new institutions, such as [The Clergy Project](#), offering a private meeting place for non-believing clergy no matter where they live. (In 2007 we couldn't find anything on the internet about non-believing clergy, now Google shows 844,000 results.)

**2) Humanist communities will continue to grow.** There is plenty of pressing work for local communities to do, especially as "lifeboats" to turn to if the internet (and the power grid) ever collapse, as many experts predict. Avoiding panic for, say, forty-eight hours, while the technicians scramble to get it running again would avoid the sort of chaos envisaged in all the end-of-civilization movies, and well-prepared humanist groups could lead the way, keeping their neighbors informed and calm and sheltered. [Sunday Assembly](#) and the new groups set up by former clergy, [Jerry Dewitt](#) and [Mike Aus](#), may thrive — or may not. It depends on how many people feel the need for a regular dose of communal ceremony and moral reaffirmation, and as family ties to these traditions are loosened, generation by generation, this practice may become ever rarer.

**3) Christian denominations will continue to decline** as more people become "cafeteria believers" who no longer associate belonging to a church or receiving the sacraments with being a Christian in good standing.

**4) The "nones" and other stepping stones to frank atheism will grow** as the stigma of not belonging to religious institutions declines. More people will identify as spiritual-but-not-religious (SBNR) and more SBNR will move to the agnostic category as openly questioning religion becomes more commonplace. Others will roll over into atheism with the same ease and none of these nones will raise their children in a religion. Religious customs and holidays will persevere, though, and perhaps the term "secular Christian" will catch on, with the same acceptable non-religious connotation as "secular Jew."

**5) Liberal clergy will continue to lead the move away from biblical religion.** They are humanists' natural allies — in the forefront of all progressive causes — anti-slavery, women in the clergy, LGBTQ. They do this not to tailor their image, but because it's the right thing to do. They are losing members while preserving their integrity. We predict they will keep discarding bits of Christian doctrine until it's gone. This is already happening via the "human Jesus" studies of the [Westar Institute](#) that focus on Jesus as a first-century "Jewish wisdom teacher," not as a God. But why would people choose to devote themselves to one ancient human when there are so many wise humans throughout history to admire?

We agree with the liberal clergy in [our study](#): the human Jesus is a transitional figure. Once Christians shed their obsolete attachment to supernatural beliefs and belief in the Bible as anything other than stories, their next stop is humanism. Many already don't hold such beliefs or don't hold them very firmly. It might even be true that liberal churches, by straightforwardly disavowing all supernaturalism as nonsense, will reverse their membership decline, bringing in people who would be embarrassed to be associated with supernaturalism, however traditional, but who yearn for participation in a socially valuable community.

**6) Some people will remain religious** just because it's their nature. They have an innate sense of a benign "presence," just as some people have an innate love, amounting almost to addiction, of music. Religion, that "binding together" element that has been present since our human beginnings, will finally be unbound from attempts to explain science and form governments. It will probably survive as an irresistible attraction for some people, and as long as religions don't abuse their members, or enforce ignorance on their children, we should tolerate them and even protect them as minority groups.

**Proviso:** Could anything turn the declining curve of religion around? Yes, unfortunately. A global plague, a world war fought over water or oil, the collapse of the internet and power grid, or some as yet unimagined catastrophe could throw the remaining population into ignorance, misery, and fear, which is the soil in which religion flourishes best. And then we'd have to start rebuilding civilization all over again.



### Tampa Bay Computer Society & Doc's Café

Lectures, discussions, and hands-on demonstrations of the humane use of technology Visit our *new* facility on 300 S Duncan Ave Suite 275, Clearwater, FL 33755. [Map](#)

Dave 'Doc' Dockery, President. Be sure to check out [Doc's Café](#) to discuss serous issues.

Find us at: [www.tampa-bay.org](http://www.tampa-bay.org) *We repair our member's computers for Free!*



## CENTER FOR INQUIRY

Tampa Bay

The mission of the Center for Inquiry is to foster a secular society based on science, reason, freedom of inquiry, and humanist values.



Rick O'Keefe

From *Creative Loafing* blog Political Animal,  
August 20th, 2015 by Brandon Haught

## Science is science, hopefully

“Science is science. You’d think there wouldn’t be any argument over whether something that’s not based on empirical evidence should be taught in science classes. But creationism still creeps into some classrooms. Obviously if a teacher is discussing religious tenets in the context of a humanities class, that’s one thing. But anyone who thinks Satan put dinosaur bones underground to trick us into thinking the universe’s age exceeds 6,000 years should probably not be teaching science. Or anything at a public school.

“If you’ve got a teacher telling you that creationism is the way and that you need to pray, we will come in there and we will fix that,” Seidel said. “If we can’t fix it, we will sue that school.”

Support **CFI-Tampa Bay**, Join now to keep informed about our activities, participate in our programs, and become a member!

**JOIN NOW**

Click the **Join Now** button above to join or renew your membership. When you make a donation to CFI-Tampa Bay you become a member of a local and worldwide movement of humanists, skeptics, atheists, and free-thinkers, all working together to give voice to your values.

## Cause & Effect: The CFI Newsletter - No. 38

*Cause & Effect* is the biweekly newsletter of the Center for Inquiry community, covering the wide range of work that you help make possible.

## No God But Funny Contest

Contribute to the downfall of civilization by writing a sitcom and/or producing a webisode that features a likeable atheist.

**Win One or Both Cash Prizes!**

**\$15,000 for Best Sitcom Teleplay**

**\$25,000 for the Best Webisode**



*Cause & Effect* is the biweekly newsletter of the Center for Inquiry community, covering the wide range of work that you help make possible.

Applying investigation and reason to current issues, the most widely read publication, *Skeptical Inquirer*, keeps thinkers informed.

The Secular Humanist magazine, *Free Inquiry*, delves into all facets of humanity. Nothing is off limits.

Fortnightly CFI updates not enough? Of course they’re not! • Follow CFI on [Twitter](#); • Like us on [Facebook](#); • Encircle us on [Google+](#); • Subscribe to our [YouTube](#) channel.

For I have done your bidding. I have slain mine enemies in your name. I have put women and children to death in your honor. I have caused great pain among them for your glory. — Psalms, 5:4-1



July 31, 2015

## **The Institute for Science and Human Values Stands With Planned Parenthood**

Planned Parenthood health centers play an important role in helping women meet their sexual and reproductive health needs. According to the *Guttmacher Institute* although Planned Parenthood health centers comprise 10% of all publicly funded family planning centers, they serve 36% of all clients who obtain care from the clinic network. Similarly, Planned Parenthood health centers serve a disproportionate share of clients in the Title X system, comprising 13% of Title X clinics but serving 37% of clients. Each Planned Parenthood health center on average serves nearly 3,000 contraceptive clients per year—far more than other clinic types.

**"In other words, women vote with their feet, and about one-third of women who rely on safety-net health centers for their family planning care get that care from Planned Parenthood."** <sup>1</sup>

If Planned Parenthood health centers were defunded, it is impossible to know what would happen to the several million clients currently relying on these centers for their family planning services. There is no way to predict whether other health care providers throughout the country could step up—how quickly they could fill the gap or for how many clients.<sup>2</sup>

Led by rabid pro-birth militants and radical religious fanatics, politicians are passing state and federal laws restricting or simply denying access to abortion, birth control and maternal health care at the expense of women and their families. Pregnancy is dangerous for women. Defunding Planned Parenthood will make matters much worse. The callous disregard for women, their healthcare, their happiness and their very lives is both immoral and disgraceful.

Planned Parenthood is currently under false attack for violating the 1993 law on fetal tissue research, when in fact they are not. Planned Parenthood affiliates operate in all 50 states, but at this time affiliates in fewer than five states help women donate tissue for crucial research.

Fetal stem cells are vital for scientific research necessary to find much needed cures for fatal diseases. The women who make the decision to donate tissues do so to find meaning and purpose in their experience. It is wrong to interfere in their personal decisions, and is further evidence of the complete indifference to women's self autonomy.

Yes, the Institute for Science and Human Values stands with Planned Parenthood and we call on all elected officials to fund them fully and protect them, and the women and families they serve.

<sup>1</sup> Guttmacher 29Jul15 memo Data on the role of PP health centers in women's reproductive needs

<sup>2</sup> Guttmacher 29Jul15 memo Data on the role of PP health centers in women's reproductive needs

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[www.instituteforscienceandhumanvalues.net](http://www.instituteforscienceandhumanvalues.net) \* [support@ishv.net](mailto:support@ishv.net)

Mailing Address/11280 Freedom Ct. Seminole FL 33772

***"Religion is an insult to human dignity. Without it you would have good people doing good things and evil people doing evil things. But for good people to do evil things, that takes religion."***

-- Steven Weinberg, Nobel Laureate, Physics



<http://tampabay.unitedcor.org/tampabay/>

## United Coalition of Reason

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_Coalition\\_of\\_Reason](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Coalition_of_Reason)

The **United Coalition of Reason**, or **UnitedCoR** for short, is a national organization in the United States that works to raise the visibility of local groups in the community of reason. Nationally this is done by conducting campaigns which highlight the fact that nontheists live in every community across America.<sup>[1]</sup> Locally this is done by organizing local groups to communicate with each other and hold events.<sup>[2]</sup> The organization also works to support the separation of church and state in the United States through the court system.

Although not a full member, the national coalition has endorsed the mission of the **Secular Coalition for America**.<sup>[3]</sup> UnitedCoR has itself been endorsed by or has cooperative relations with **American Atheists**, the **American Ethical Union**, the **American Humanist Association**, the **Center for Inquiry**, the **Freedom From Religion Foundation**, **FreeThoughtAction**, the **Richard Dawkins Foundation** and the **Secular Student Alliance**.<sup>[4]</sup>

### History

The organization was founded in early 2009. Its first year created a network of twenty local coalitions,<sup>[5][6]</sup> drawing worldwide notice.<sup>[7]</sup>

<sup>[8][9]</sup> This effort included the sponsoring of several ad/media campaigns around the country such as **atheist billboard** and bus ads in Seattle, Washington, and Portland, Oregon.  
<sup>[10][11][12]</sup>

In 2010 the organization launched ten more local coalitions and paved the way for numerous others to launch in 2011. The most significant developments during 2010 were acts of vandalism against billboards or bus ads in Sacramento, California;<sup>[13]</sup> Detroit, Michigan;<sup>[14]</sup> and St. Augustine, Florida.<sup>[15]</sup> Also significant was a call by local clergy in Fort Worth, Texas, for a boycott of the bus system because of ads by the Dallas-Fort Worth Coalition of Reason.<sup>[16]</sup>

*(See the Wikipedia for the rest of the listing.)*

Our **local coalition** has presented or co-sponsored several activities in the Tampa Bay region. Among them are the annual Winterfest, annual Darwin Day, Carl Sagan Day, and various programs, some with world-famous speakers.



**TBCoR Leadership Team 2015**

Toni Van Pelt ~ ISHV   Bill Norsworthy UUCH   Beth Maxi HoTA   Mark Brandt, UUCH   Judy Adkins TBS, AoF   Chris Brown, MAF   Jenn Hancock, TBHF   Rick O'Keefe, CFI, TBS   Jim Peterson, HSS, TBPC   Tracy Thomas, AoF ~

### Be Included!

Group members are invited to send items for this Newsletter. Please send to: [tbcornews@metrodirect.net](mailto:tbcornews@metrodirect.net)  
For calendar items, include URL for group or event.

### Tampa Bay CoR

9654 W. Linebaugh Ave. PMB #110  
Tampa, FL 33626



## Tampa Bay Coalition – September, 2015 Calendar of Reason

This is produced from preliminary information. Check the individual Web sites to insure the event is being held, when and where .... We are not liable for changes, errors, or omissions. Compiled by Rick O'Keefe & Jim Peterson.

**Organizers of these events will be most grateful to all who have the courtesy to RSVP for those events that require it.**

Check for more events + details on the Coalition of Reason Web site at: <http://tampabay.unitedcor.org/tampabay/>



09-TBA, See Meetup	BRADENTON/SARASOTA– Humanist Families	Family outings and other activities. Details & <b>RSVP</b> : <a href="http://www.meetup.com/Humanist-Families-of-Greater-Tampa-Bay/">http://www.meetup.com/Humanist-Families-of-Greater-Tampa-Bay/</a>	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday eve. & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	TEMPLE TERRACE– UU Tampa Humanists	Sign up here: <a href="http://www.meetup.com/CFI-Tampa-Bay/">http://www.meetup.com/CFI-Tampa-Bay/</a> Topics: <a href="http://uutampa.org/shaag-discussion-topics/">http://uutampa.org/shaag-discussion-topics/</a>	
09-05, Saturday 2 PM	DUNEDIN– Humanist Soc. - Suncoast	Lecture, discussion, supper. Topic & <b>RSVP</b> : Page 3 <a href="http://www.meetup.com/SuncoastHumanist/">http://www.meetup.com/SuncoastHumanist/</a>	
09-05, Saturday 2 PM	DUNEDIN– CFI-Tampa Bay	Lecture, discussion, supper. Topic & <b>RSVP</b> : <a href="http://www.meetup.com/SuncoastHumanist/">http://www.meetup.com/SuncoastHumanist/</a>	
09-11 & 19	E. TAMPA– M.A.R.S. Astronomy Club at MOSI	Details & other events: <a href="http://www.meetup.com/MARS-astronomy-club-at-MOSI/">http://www.meetup.com/MARS-astronomy-club-at-MOSI/</a>	
09-12 Sunday, 11 AM Triannual Lecture	S. TAMPA– Tampa Bay Skeptics	Skeptical interests & critical thinking. Click to <b>RSVP</b> : <a href="http://www.meetup.com/Tampa-Bay-Skeptics/">http://www.meetup.com/Tampa-Bay-Skeptics/</a>	
09-13, Sunday, 11:30 AM Pot Luck	SOUTH TAMPA– Atheists of Florida, Inc.	More: <a href="http://www.meetup.com/Atheists-of-Florida-Tampabay/">http://www.meetup.com/Atheists-of-Florida-Tampabay/</a>	
09-09, 14, & 24	E. TAMPA– Humanities Inst. at USF	See <a href="http://www.humanities-institute.usf.edu/events/">Web site</a> for full listing of many great events and calendar. <a href="http://humanities-institute.usf.edu/events/">http://humanities-institute.usf.edu/events/</a>	
09-19, Saturday, 11 AM	CENTRAL TAMPA– Tampa Humanist Assoc.	Details: <a href="http://www.meetup.com/Tampa-Humanist-Association/">http://www.meetup.com/Tampa-Humanist-Association/</a>	
09-20, Sunday, 5 PM	PINELLAS COUNTY Humanist Society Dinner	This month's venue: <a href="http://www.meetup.com/SuncoastHumanist/">http://www.meetup.com/SuncoastHumanist/</a>	
09-20, Sunday, 12:30 PM	E. CLEARWATER– UU Humanists	Details: <a href="http://www.uuc.org/">http://www.uuc.org/</a> See Page 7	
09-21, Monday, 7:00 PM	NW HILLSBOROUGH– Tampa Bay Thinkers	Lively discussions. <b>RSVP</b> here: <a href="http://www.meetup.com/tampa-bay-thinkers/RSVP">http://www.meetup.com/tampa-bay-thinkers/RSVP</a>	
09-25, Friday, 8 PM 4 <sup>th</sup> Friday gen'l. mtg. Plus other events!	ST. PETERSBURG– Astronomy Club	For several dates, locations, & details: <a href="http://www.stpeteastronomyclub.org/index.php">http://www.stpeteastronomyclub.org/index.php</a>	
09-26, Saturday, 10:30 AM; <i>Must have read the book to attend</i>	NW HILLSBOROUGH– CFI Readers Book Discussion (Limit 12)	Book lovers discuss books we've read. Limited to 12 paid-up <b>CFI members</b> . <b>RSVP is required</b> . <a href="http://www.meetup.com/CFI-Tampa-Bay/">http://www.meetup.com/CFI-Tampa-Bay/</a>	
09-28, Monday, 6 PM	N. PINELLAS AREA– CFI Freethought Supper	<b>RSVP is required</b> if you are coming. Seating is limited to 25! Click here <i>before</i> midnight, Sunday the 27 <sup>th</sup> . For <b>CFI paid members</b> . <a href="http://www.meetup.com/CFI-Tampa-Bay/">http://www.meetup.com/CFI-Tampa-Bay/</a>	
10-10 Saturday	Clearwater	Richard Dawkins & Herb Silverman discuss the new biography, <i>A brief Candle in the Dark</i> go to the <a href="#">page 1</a> for more details. Advance purchase tickets are required.	