
From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Ben Goertzel [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 12:56 PM
To: Jeffrey Epstein
Subject: Re:

Hmmm..

That is interesting data.....

And certainly, I would be willing to cut my hair for a lot of AGI money ;p And Ruiting (wife) would rather see me with lots of AGI funding, than see me with the hairstyle that turns her on most...

However, I am wondering how much difference cutting my hair could actually make in the near term anyway.

I mean, speaking practically: Supposing I cut my hair shorter tomorrow. So what? The Internet is still full of videos of me speaking with the classic long-haired "Ben Goertzel" look. And personality-wise, I'm always going to be somewhat of a hippie and an eccentric guy -- that's just who I am.... Changing my look is an option, but changing my "apparent personality" would require greater acting skills than I possess, even if I wanted to do it...

If you organized some important meeting with major philanthropists about funding AGI, I'd of course be willing to cut my hair and buy a nice suit for the meeting, etc. ...

But apart from that -- if I cut my hair tomorrow, what difference would it make? How would these philanthropists know? ;-p ...

I suppose that if I had short hair for a few years, then a critical mass of videos online would appear featuring the new cleaner-cut Ben, and my "image" would look different when people Googled me. But that would actually take quite a while, because the videos and online photos occur at conferences and other events which get scheduled at a certain rhythm....

I'm there in the Ray Kurzweil movie "Transcendent Man" with long hair and a zebra-striped cowboy hat.... And Raj Dye, a guy in LA, is about to release an indie-film documentary called "Singularity or Bust", featuring me and Hugo de Garis in HK and Xiamen in 2009 ... again, with the classic long-haired Ben Goertzel.... He screened the film privately in LA last weekend, and is now trying to get it in the film festival circuit...

Would me having short hair in mid-2013 really matter, if searching for me online brings up a new film with the long-haired Ben playing with talking robots in China? (which I guess it will, once Raj's film makes it onto YouTube)

I know you have a lot of stuff to do in your life, so I do appreciate you taking time to talk with me about this somewhat silly (but, I admit, possibly relevant) topic!!! Obviously I have my own share of human peculiarities, existing in my brain alongside a lot of (IMO) really deep and potentially impactful AGI thinking...

I'm thinking about the "robot child IQ test" stuff this morning, btw.... Mainly, about what order it makes most sense to pursue the child IQ test milestones in, given their own relationships and also given the current state of OpenCog development...

;)
ben

On Tue, Feb 12, 2013 at 7:37 AM, Jeffrey Epstein <jeevacation@gmail.com> wrote:

> I've spoken to more than five large philanthropists. on really getting
> behind AI,, they have gone online, and unfortunately my bayesian
> prediction, came true, there was real interest tempered by unanimous
> comments on your dishelved 80s appearance. I hesitated to write this, as
> you should decide if your wife's likes/dislikes are your priority, i
> fully support rebellious tendencies, but thought i should now
> reiterate my spinach in the teeth of a friend metaphor.

>
> --
> *****

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Ben Goertzel, PhD

"My humanity is a constant self-overcoming" -- Friedrich Nietzsche
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