

---

**From:** Lawrence Krauss + [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 10, 2015 8:10 PM  
**To:** jeffrey E.  
**Subject:** Fwd: an article you may both hate. or like.

Lawrence M. Krauss  
Director, The Origins Project at ASU  
Foundation Professor  
=div style="orphans: auto; widows: auto;">School of Earth & Space Exploration and Physics Department Arizona State

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Noam Chomsky" <[mailto:\[REDACTED\]](mailto:[REDACTED])>  
Date: September 10, 2015 at 12:01:39 PM M=ET  
To: Lawrence Krauss [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: an article you may bot= hate. or like.

Then we're in complete agreemen=.

Noam

From: Lawrence Krauss [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2015 2:46 PM  
To: Noam Chomsky + [REDACTED]  
Subject: Re: an article you may both hate. or like.=/p>

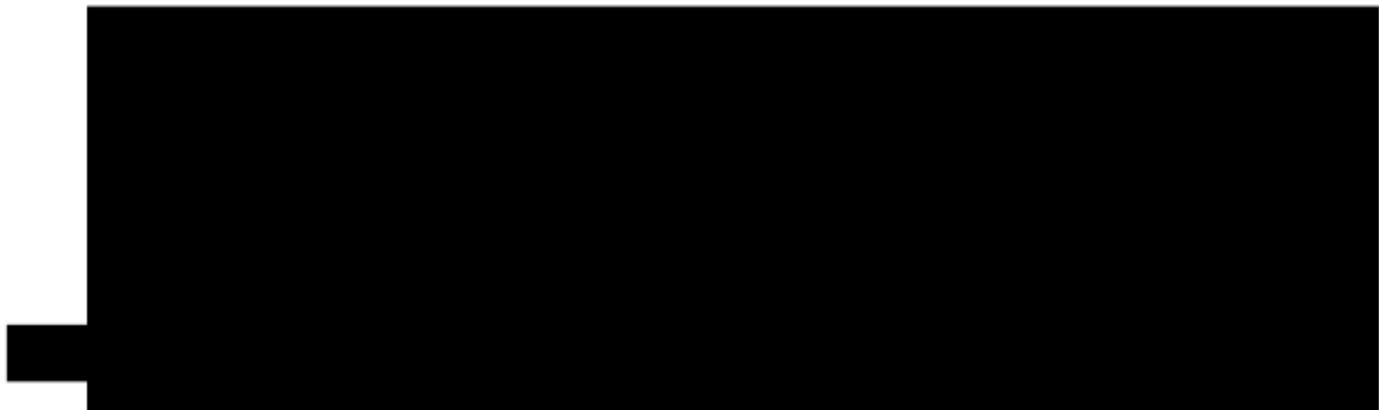
I couldn't agree more.=Re ridicule. I never suggest ridiculing people. However by pointing out the=inconsistency, or contravening evidence associated with various ideas, incl=ding for example American exceptionalism, then we are essentially subjecting ideas to ridicule. That is what I meant.=nbsp;

Lawrence M. Krauss

Director, The Origins Project at ASU

Foundation Professor

School of Earth & Space Exploration and Physics D=partment



Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 10, 2015, at 10:52 AM, Noam Chomsky [REDACTED] wrote:

Thanks for sending. A wide area o= agreement, but not total.

On confronting dogma, I of course agree-- though in my opinion the secular religions – nationalist fanaticism, etc. – are much more dangerous. And if some find rational discussion offensive – as, for example, mainstream academics find dismantling myths of “American exceptionalism” or =80 Israeli self-defense” or Obama’s mass murder campaign,=etc., offensive – so be it.

But I don't see why that should=extend to ridicule. That includes astrologists. Astronomers can=refute astrology, while recognizing that perfectly honest and deluded people may believe it and should be treated with respect, while the= beliefs are confronted with evidence. I also don't see why w= should ridicule religious dogma, just as I don't think we should r=dicule the much more pernicious secular dogmas. Rather, we should respond to irrational belief with argument and evidence, w=ile recognizing that their advocates (like most of the intellectual world i= the case of secular dogma) are people who we should be responding to but w=thout ridiculing them. It may be hard sometimes. For example, when the icon and founding father=of sober non-sentimental Realism in International Affairs informs us that t=e US, unlike other countries, has a “transcendental purpose,”=and the fact that it constantly acts in contradiction to its

purpose doesn't matter because the facts are just "a=use of history" while real history is "the evidence of history as our minds reflect i=," then it's hard to avoid ridicule. But we should.&n=sp; There's no point ridiculing virtually the entire IR profession a=d the major journals, even though such extraordinary irrationality leads to major=human disasters.

On Davis, I frankly think that'= a non-issue. If she decides she cannot do her job as the conditions o= employment require (including following the law), then she can quit and look for another job. As in any other such case.

Noam

From: Lawrence Krauss [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2015 1:51 AM  
To: [REDACTED] jeffrey E.  
<jeevac=tion@gmail.com <mailto:jeevacation@gmail.com> >  
Subject: an article you may both hate. or like.

&nbs=; hope all is well. =o:p>

Lawrence

<http://www.newyorker.com/news/news=desk/all-scientists-should-be-militant-atheists>  
<http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/al=scientists-should-be-militant-atheists>

Lawrence M. Krauss  
Director, The Origins Project at ASU  
Co-Director, Cosmology Initiative

Foundation Professor <span style="font-size:9.0pt;font-family:"Calibri",sans-serif;col=r:black">  
School of Earth & Space Exploration and Physics Department</=:p>





<image001.png>

=