

Disclosure

of things evolutionists don't want you to know

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SEX AND VIOLETS

It's Valentine's Day, and we love to celebrate it by talking about the theory of evolution's failure to explain the origin of sex.

There is no question that sexual reproduction has its advantages. The controversy is over how natural selection could possibly have caused sexual reproduction to arise. Let's give you some general background describing the problem, and then talk about specific issues evolutionists have been debating recently in the technical literature.

A HEAD START

Evolutionists don't like to include abiogenesis (the origin of life) as part of the theory of evolution because they can't even begin to present a plausible scenario as to how it could happen. Without abiogenesis, the theory of evolution is literally dead on arrival. If there is no living thing to evolve, there can be no evolution.

But it is Valentine's Day, and our hearts are so overflowing with love that we are willing to give evolutionists a head start. Just for the sake of discussion, we are willing to grant them their premise that life began through some unknown, undirected natural process without so much as a laboratory full of equipment, an intelligent designer (and his deformed assistant), and a freshly assembled composite corpse. ☺ Frankencell just came to life all by himself, as if by magic. (But magic wasn't involved. It was a purely natural process! ☺)

There are two things we know for sure about Frankencell. First, Frankencell must have reproduced. If Frankencell never reproduced, then we would not be here. Frankencell either would have died without leaving any offspring, or Frankencell would still be the only living thing on Earth. So, the reproductive process must have originated before Darwinian evolution could have occurred.

The second thing we know for sure is that Frankencell must have had the ability to grow.

Frankencell must have grown large enough to reproduce.

Growth requires food. Food has to be converted into proteins, amino acids, nucleic acids, enzymes, and all that other stuff that makes up a cell, and allows the cell to grow. That's a problem for evolutionists, too. But, as tempting as it is to go down that path, let's not go there so we can get to the sexy part.

FRANKENCCELL WAS A PLANT

The difference between plants and animals is that plants can make their own food. Animals have to eat plants and/or other animals to survive. Frankencell could not have been an animal because he was the first living thing. There were no other plants or animals for Frankencell to eat. Therefore, Frankencell must have made his own food.

Green plants do this today using a complex process known as photosynthesis. Scientists agree that this process is far too complicated for a single cell like Frankencell to have used. So, there must have been another simple, effective method that Frankencell used to capture energy and convert it into food. We don't know what this process might have been, but there must have been such a process. If there wasn't, then Frankencell would have died before he could reproduce, and there would have been no evolution. Since we KNOW evolution is true, ☺ Frankencell must have had some unknown way to make his own food. But we have our mind fixed on sex, so we can't explore that evolutionary conundrum, either.

A LONELY VALENTINE

Frankencell grew large enough to reproduce. So, one February 14, long ago, Frankencell

bought a box of chocolate and went looking for someone to be his Valentine. The problem is that Frankencell was the first living thing. He had not reproduced yet. He was all alone in the world. Not only were there no other living things to eat, there were no other living things to mate with.

For Frankencell to reproduce, he (Oops! We should have called him, "it.")—For Frankencell to reproduce, it had to do it all by itself. Frankencell must have used asexual reproduction to begin the spread of life across the face of the Earth.

Already we have ignored the problem of how life began, how metabolism began, and how asexual reproduction began. We have to ignore those critical problems to get the problem of the origin of sex.

THE ORIGIN OF SEX

If the theory of evolution is true, Frankencell must have been an asexual plant which eventually gave rise to all the sexual plants and animals. How could this have happened through natural selection?

For a long time, Frankencell reproduced by cell division, making identical copies of itself. Then, by some fortunate mutation, Frankencell gave birth to Frankenmale. As soon as he was old enough, Frankenmale bought some flowers and chocolate and went looking for Frankengal. But all he found were Frankencells. After a long, futile search for Frankengal, Frankenmale died.

Then, one day, a fortunate mutation produced Frankengal. Every night she sat by her telephone, waiting for Frankenmale to call and ask her out on a date. But Frankenmale died many years earlier, so poor Frankengal died an old maid, without leaving any offspring.

As luck would have it, mutations produced both Frankenmale and Frankengal on the very same day. Unfortunately, the mutant Frankenmale was born in New York, and Frankengal was born in California. Since they did not know about Match.com, Frankenmale and Frankengal never found each other, and both died lonely and sexually frustrated. The world remained filled with asexual Frankencells.

But even if Frankenmale had found Frankengal, would he have known that he had to take her to dinner and a movie before he could get lucky? There are certain courtship rituals that simply can't be bypassed. Would Frankenmale have had the desire to court Frankengal? What if Frankenmale wasn't handsome or a good listener?

According to the theory of evolution, new traits evolve because they improve the ability to

produce offspring. It is hard to find a mate. Some people never do. But an asexual creature just needs to find itself. Everything it needs for a good time is right there, all the time.

Sexual reproduction certainly is advantageous because, after a large gene pool exists, sexual reproduction can facilitate adaptation by randomly producing the most advantageous combinations of genes. But, absent an existing gene pool, the necessity to find a partner before reproducing is a distinct disadvantage. There is no reason for natural selection to favor sexual reproduction over asexual reproduction.

Some evolutionists might try to argue that, at some point, Frankencell developed latent sexual tendencies. That is, one particular Frankencell could reproduce asexually or sexually. That Frankencell made many identical copies of itself asexually. Those offspring could reproduce sexually with each other. But why would they? They all have identical genes, so there is no advantage to gene shuffling. If they can reproduce without a partner, why find one?

SEX IS GOOD

We need to make this important point before we go on. Creationists and evolutionists agree that sexual reproduction has some significant advantages which can make a species more fit for survival. There is absolutely no argument about that. The disagreement is about whether or not natural selection is the mechanism by which sexual reproduction came about. Even some evolutionists have serious doubts about the power of natural selection to produce such a change.

The simple-minded (but erroneous) reasoning goes like this: Natural selection causes species that are more fit for survival to drive less fit species to extinction. Sexual reproduction makes a species more fit for survival. Therefore, sexual reproduction must be the result of natural selection. Furthermore, since sexual reproduction does exist in some species, it proves that natural selection is powerful enough to bring about a change in sexual reproduction. This circular reasoning is invalid because the premise is used to prove the conclusion, and the conclusion is used to prove the premise.

There are long-term benefits to sexual reproduction; but natural selection depends upon immediate, short-term benefits to the species in question. Frankenmale would not have had any short-term survival benefits over Frankencell. Therefore, natural selection would not have made Frankenmale more likely to produce offspring than Frankencell.

CURRENT QUESTIONS

Now that you have a general understanding of the problem, presented with all the seriousness it deserves, ☺ let's look at what serious evolutionists say about the problem.

For Darwin, sex was a big question mark. "We do not even in the least know the final cause of sexuality; why new beings should be produced by the union of the two sexual elements," he wrote in 1862. "The whole subject is as yet hidden in darkness."

Today, biologists understand the molecular nuts and bolts of sex fairly well. Each new human being (or bird or bee) needs a set of chromosomes from each parent. But that's the *how*. The *why* of sex is still fairly mysterious. Bacteria don't have to search for a mate; they just grow and divide in two. An aspen tree can simply send out shoots that grow into new trees. No muss, no fuss with finding a partner, fertilizing an egg, and joining two genomes. Why should so many species take such a labyrinthine path to reproduction, when straightforward routes are available?¹

Evolutionists can't understand why sexual reproduction began because of "the twofold cost of sex."

In 1971, the late British evolutionary biologist John Maynard Smith helped kick off the modern study of the evolution of sex by pointing out how costly sons are to a mother. An asexual female lizard, for example, produces just daughters, all of whom can reproduce. A sexually reproducing female lizard, on the other hand, produces, on average, a son for every daughter, half the reproductive potential. Yet despite this "twofold cost of sex," as Maynard Smith called it, he observed that sex is widespread, as most animals and plants produce males and females.²

Evolutionists think that sex might have evolved as an optional way of reproduction. Perhaps a creature evolved that could reproduce asexually or sexually. This is pure speculation, of course. But, if the speculation is true, then what is the advantage to losing the asexual option and evolving into a purely sexual creature?

If sex started out as an optional way to reproduce, then a new question emerges: How did sex later become mandatory in many species, including our own? Hadany suspects that the answer has to do with sexiness—that is, with the preference sexually reproducing

organisms often have to mate with some individuals over others.³

Sure, we enjoy sex. But that still isn't a reason to lose the option of being able to reproduce asexually.

Although sexiness may help explain how sexual reproduction took over, it can't fully explain why sex has managed to reign for billions of years. Because they don't have to pay the twofold cost of sex, under the right conditions, any new cloners ought to spread rapidly in a population, challenging sexual reproduction. However, given the rarity of asexuals, something must be getting in the way. Over the years, scientists have proposed about 20 different hypotheses to explain the failure of asexuality to regain much of a foothold.⁴

None of these 20 hypotheses really work. The most popular, but admittedly inadequate explanation, is called the Red Queen hypothesis.

This model of host-parasite coevolution came to be known as the Red Queen hypothesis, after the Red Queen in Lewis Carroll's book *Through the Looking Glass*, who takes Alice on a run that never seems to go anywhere. "Now *here*, you see, it takes all the running *you* can do to keep in the same place," the Red Queen explains.

The Red Queen conundrum, some researchers have argued, may give an evolutionary edge to sex. Asexual strains can never beat out sexual strains, because whenever they get too successful, parasites build up and devastate the strain. Sexual organisms, meanwhile, can avoid these dramatic booms and busts because they can shuffle their genes into new combinations that are harder for parasites to adapt to.

Red Queen models for sexual reproduction are very elegant and compelling. But testing them in nature is fiendishly hard, because biologists need asexual and sexual organisms that share the same environment and parasites.⁵

Even if the Red Queen hypothesis is true, it only explains why sexual reproduction is better than asexual reproduction. It doesn't explain the ORIGIN of sexual reproduction.

STAY TUNED

Since we have important *Evolution in the News*, and great hate mail to print this month, we've run out of space and will have to continue this essay next month.

¹ Zimmer, *Science*, 5 June 2009, "Origins: On the Origin of Sexual Reproduction", pp. 1254 - 1256

² *ibid.*

³ *ibid.*

⁴ *ibid.*

⁵ *ibid.*

WHY, OH Y?

Why do human and chimpanzee Y chromosomes differ so much?

You've probably heard that human DNA is 98% the same as chimpanzee DNA. At various times evolutionists have said the similarity is 96%, 98%, 98.5%, 98.8%, and 99.4%. In previous newsletters we've told you how and why evolutionists come up with these bogus numbers.^{6 7 8 9 10} Last November, we told you how the discovery of Ardi would force evolutionists to fudge the numbers again to make the DNA proof agree with the fossil proof.¹¹ Well, now they have an excuse to revise their numbers.

Evolutionists believe that Ardi proves that chimpanzees and humans diverged from their common ancestor much earlier than previously believed. That means DNA had much more time to develop differences than previously believed. So, evolutionists need proof that our DNA isn't really as similar to chimp DNA as previously thought. We believe they will claim they found it in the male sex chromosome (the Y chromosome).

One might argue that, when making a chromosome by chromosome comparison, the scientists might have compared the wrong chromosomes. But since the Y chromosome is so unique, that could not be the case in this comparison. Furthermore, one would not expect as much difference in the Y chromosome as others because it is linked to gender. Here's why.

Men are men because they have one X and one Y chromosome. Women are women because they have two X chromosomes. Children inherit one of their two sex chromosomes from the father, and one from the mother. Boys have to

get their Y chromosome from the father because the mother doesn't have one. That means my Y chromosome is an exact duplicate of my father's Y chromosome; my son's Y chromosome is an exact duplicate of mine; my two grandsons' Y chromosomes are exact duplicates of my son's. All the men in our family have identical Y chromosomes.

My father got his X chromosomes from my grandmother. I got my X chromosome from my mother. My son got his X chromosome from my wife. My two grandsons got an X chromosome that is a duplicate of one or the other of my daughter-in-law's two X chromosomes. There is a 50-50 chance that my grandsons don't have identical X chromosomes, even though they have the same mother.

The point is that although all the men in my family have identical Y chromosomes, all of us (with the 50% chance of exception for my two grandsons) have different X chromosomes. Therefore, the Y chromosome should be much less variable than the X chromosome (or any other chromosome, for that matter).

If a comparison of the entire human genome and entire chimpanzee genome shows they are really 98% the same (which isn't really true), then it logically follows that the Y chromosomes of chimps and humans should be even more similar.

A new study comparing the Y chromosomes from humans and chimpanzees, our nearest living relatives, show[s] that they are about 30 percent different. That is far greater than the 2 percent difference between the rest of the human genetic code and that of the chimp's, according to a study appearing online Wednesday in the journal *Nature*.¹²

Here is the abstract of the study the Associated Press was referring to.

Prevailing theories hold that Y chromosomes evolve by gene loss, the pace of which slows over time, eventually leading to a paucity of genes, and stasis. These theories have been buttressed by partial sequence data from newly emergent plant and animal Y chromosomes, but they have not been tested in older, highly evolved Y chromosomes such as that of humans. Here we finished sequencing of the male-specific region of the Y chromosome (MSY) in our closest living relative, the chimpanzee, achieving levels of accuracy and

⁶ Disclosure, January 2003, "98% Chimp", <http://www.scienceagainstevolution.org/v7i4f.htm>

⁷ Disclosure, January 2003, "Monkey Business", <http://www.scienceagainstevolution.org/v7i4n.htm>

⁸ Disclosure, September 2003, "More Monkey Business", <http://www.scienceagainstevolution.org/v7i12n.htm>

⁹ Disclosure, October 2005, "Chimps Are Like Us", <http://www.scienceagainstevolution.org/v10i1f.htm>

¹⁰ Disclosure, August 2007, "Forget Everything", <http://www.scienceagainstevolution.org/v11i1f.htm>

¹¹ Disclosure, November 2009, "Ardipithecus ramidus", <http://www.scienceagainstevolution.org/v14i2f.htm>

¹² Borenstein, AP, January 13, 2010, "Men more evolved? Y chromosome study stirs debate", <http://webcenters.netscape.com/serve.com/tech/story.jsp?floc=DC-headline&sc=1501&idq=/ff/story/0001/20100113/1629701577.htm>

completion previously reached for the human MSY. By comparing the MSYs of the two species we show that they differ radically in sequence structure and gene content, indicating rapid evolution during the past 6 million years. The chimpanzee MSY contains twice as many massive palindromes as the human MSY, yet it has lost large fractions of the MSY protein-coding genes and gene families present in the last common ancestor. We suggest that the extraordinary divergence of the chimpanzee and human MSYs was driven by four synergistic factors: the prominent role of the MSY in sperm production, 'genetic hitchhiking' effects in the absence of meiotic crossing over, frequent ectopic recombination within the MSY, and species differences in mating behaviour. Although genetic decay may be the principal dynamic in the evolution of newly emergent Y chromosomes, wholesale renovation is the paramount theme in the continuing evolution of chimpanzee, human and perhaps other older MSYs.¹³

This paper was received by *Nature* on 3 August, 2009, which was before the discovery of Ardi was published. So their explanation is "rapid evolution" rather than "longer time," but we suspect evolutionists will soon see this difference as evidence of longer time since the two species had a common ancestor.

THE MOLECULAR CLOCK

Since we are on the topic of the rate of evolution, let's digress for a moment and talk about the so-called "molecular clock."

If your education is limited to the American public school system and popular "scientific" magazines, you probably think that the molecular clock can be used to tell how long it has been since two living species shared a common ancestor. But, if you read the peer-reviewed scientific literature, you know that isn't true. That's why there are articles in the scientific literature with abstracts like this one:

Variable rates of molecular evolution have been documented across the tree of life, but the cause of this observed variation within and among clades remains uncertain. In plants, it has been suggested that life history traits are correlated with the rate of molecular evolution, but previous studies have yielded conflicting results. Exceptionally large phylogenies of five major angiosperm clades demonstrate that rates of molecular evolution are consistently low in

¹³ Hughes *et al.*, *Nature*, 28 Jan 2010, "Chimpanzee and human Y chromosomes are remarkably divergent in structure and gene content", pp. 536 - 539

trees and shrubs, with relatively long generation times, as compared with related herbaceous plants, which generally have shorter generation times. Herbs show much higher rates of molecular change but also much higher variance in rates.¹⁴

The article then goes on to try to explain how to tinker with the molecular clock to make it give the "right" answer.

The real reason the molecule clock gives inconsistent, unreliable dates is because it is a bogus notion based on faulty assumptions. Here's how the clock is supposed to work.

The DNA molecule contains large sections of "junk DNA." These are sections of the DNA molecule which apparently have no function. The arrogant assumption is that since scientists can't figure out what the function is, it must be junk without any function. It is unthinkable to entertain the notion that junk DNA might actually have a purpose, but we are too stupid to figure it out. ☺

Since junk DNA supposedly doesn't affect the physical characteristics of the plant or animal, natural selection will not filter out copying errors in junk DNA. Therefore, errors will accumulate in junk DNA. So, the number of differences in the junk DNA of two related species tells how long it has been since they shared a common ancestor with the same junk DNA.

But to convert the number of differences into a time difference, one has to assume that the mutation rate is constant, and that we know what that rate is. There is no reason to assume the mutation rate changes; but there is no reason to assume it stays the same, either. We don't know if it is constant or not.

How do we know the rate? It can be measured over hundreds or thousands of generations in species such as fruit flies or bacteria or plants, but scientists haven't had time to study it in thousands of generations of people. We could guess the rate is the same as something we can measure; but as was noted in the abstract above, the rates are different for trees than they are for herbs. Which rate should be used for humans and chimps? It's just a guess.

How do you know if the guess is right? If it agrees with what the fossils say, then it must be right. ☺ And, since the molecular rate agrees with the fossils, the fossils must be right, too! ☺

So, this whole notion of determining when species diverged from a common ancestor

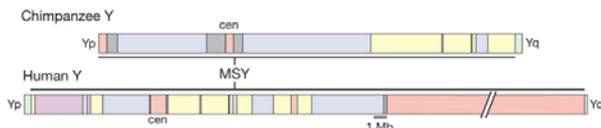
¹⁴ Smith and Donoghue, *Science*, 3 October 2008, "Rates of Molecular Evolution Are Linked to Life History in Flowering Plants" pp. 86 - 89

depends on the **four false assumptions** (1) that there was a common ancestor; (2) that junk DNA has no purpose, and is therefore not affected by natural selection; (3) that the rate of mutation in junk DNA is constant; and (4) that the rate of mutation can be accurately determined by guessing.

BACK TO THE Y CHROMOSOME

The large difference between the chimp and human Y chromosome is surprising to evolutionists because of the assumption of evolution from a common ancestor. Therefore, their **prejudice causes them to see radical differences as evidence of "rapid evolution" and "wholesale renovation."** The radical differences are really evidence that they didn't come from a common ancestor.

Although the text of the article might be hard for someone without a PH.D. in biology to follow, the article includes a figure that is crystal clear, even without the legend.



The figure shows just the male-specific region of the Y chromosome (MSY). **The human MSY is clearly longer than the chimp MSY. Actually, it is even longer** than it appears because they had to shorten the human MSY to make it fit on the page. (Note the break in the peach-colored part on the right side of the human MSY, which denotes deleted space.) We don't know how much of the human MSY has been deleted. All we know is that the figure caption includes this sentence:

Chromosomes are drawn to scale, with the exception of the large heterochromatic block on human Yq.¹⁵

Presumably **they had to cut out a large portion of the human Y MSY to make it fit on the page.** If it was just a small portion, there would not have been any need to cut it out, would there?

We hope you aren't looking at a black-and-white copy of our newsletter because the different colors represent different regions with different functions. **Only an evolutionist would see common ancestry in these remarkably different layouts of the two MSYs.** It is hard to imagine how much more different they could be. But, to an evolutionist, it is evidence of "rapid evolution" and "wholesale renovation."

¹⁵ Hughes *et al.*, *Nature*, 28 Jan 2010, "Chimpanzee and human Y chromosomes are remarkably divergent in structure and gene content", p. 537

All the intermediate shuffling of DNA base-pairs had to be functional, if the theory of evolution is true. Do you really think that the Y chromosome could have endured that many step changes, all of which were functional? If so, one would have to believe that just about any sequence of base-pairs produce a viable male chromosome.

The comparison of human and chimp Y chromosomes does not show rapid evolution or slow evolution over a longer time. If it doesn't show independent origin, what would?

Evolutionists say that the theory of evolution "has never been falsified." That's because the **evidence that falsifies evolution is right in front of their faces, but they are too blind to see it.**

Email

UNLOVE LETTERS

Our hate mail can help you plan your response to attacks by evolutionists.

Perhaps someone has said something that caught you off-guard, and you didn't know to respond. Later, you probably thought, "I wish I had said ...". This month's email is typical of what evolutionists often say. If you ever criticize the theory of evolution, evolutionists will probably say this to you. So, knowing what's coming, you can plan in advance how to answer them.

We usually don't print the full name of the person who sends us an email to protect his or her privacy. In this case we will print the whole name because **we strongly suspect the name is fictitious.** If Mr. and Mrs. Splatter really did name their child, "Mind Over," we apologize for the embarrassment. Here is what Mind wrote:

Subj: Science Against Evolution site
Date: 1/13/2010 12:36 PM
From: Mind Over Splatter

I highly recommend that you update your "Science Against Evolution" site. Much of the information is misleading, wrong, and/or outdated. Don't even consider asking me to do this job for you because the faults are too extensive and numerous for me to address. I strongly recommend that you learn about a subject before writing on it. It is only ethical not to repeat and further misinformation. Try taking a junior level biology or evolution class and work your way up to the higher courses. Also there are many web sites that contain current evolutionary information and where questions can be asked. Please avail yourself to these free and informative current information sites. I think that you will find that many of your questions will be answered.

Replies to this email will be deleted without being read.

His email came in red italics. Presumably he

thought that remarkable font would compensate for the unremarkable content.

What makes this email typical is the claim that so many things we have written are wrong, but he can't name a single specific fact that is in error. This is the 173rd newsletter we have published. If there really were numerous faults, he could list a few of the most glaring ones.

The truth is that he probably hasn't read even a fraction of the articles on the site. He just assumes they are wrong because he is prejudiced. He admits to his prejudice in the last sentence. He won't read a reply if we send it to him.

In his email, Mind says that if we would simply read even one book on evolution we would give up our foolish objections. If he was as smart as he thinks he is, he would know that we are very well informed about the theory of evolution, past and present. Using the search box on our Topics page he could easily discover that we have quoted from both of Darwin's (outdated) books on evolution. Using that same technique he could also discover that we must have read more recent books because we have quoted recently deceased proponents of evolution (Gould, Mayr, J. M. Smith) and living evolutionary experts (Dawkins, Coyne). Every week we read the three major peer-reviewed science journals (*Science*, *Nature*, and *PNAS*) to keep up with the current state of evolutionary research. Every month we read pseudo-scientific magazines (*National Geographic*, *Scientific American*, *Discover*, and others) to see how they inaccurately report current evolutionary research. If we didn't read them, how could we quote them?

But we don't respond directly to those attacks because that turns the discussion away from the weaknesses of the theory of evolution and into an argument about who has read more about the theory of evolution. It would just lead to an endless, childish argument. ("I know more than you know about evolution!" "You do not!" "I do, too!" "You do not!") Mind would rather have us waste two paragraphs defending ourselves than use those two paragraphs to attack the scientific weaknesses of evolution.

The only charge he makes that has any validity is that our newsletters are dated. Yes, every newsletter has the month and year printed on the first and last pages. ☺ Seriously, he actually claimed the newsletters are OUTdated. That's only partially true.

The newsletters we wrote 10 years ago contain quotes from peer-reviewed scientific literature that is 10 years old. How could it be otherwise? We write newsletters that reflect the

current thinking in the scientific community regarding the theory of evolution. Our file cabinet is overflowing with articles we have torn out of scientific journals and filed by subject. Many of those articles we meant to discuss, but didn't because evolutionists had moved on to other issues before we got a chance to write about them.

Even the oldest outdated articles are still relevant. For example, in Volume 1, Issue 2 (November, 1996) we reported on meteorite ALH84001, which evolutionists claimed showed evidence that life originated on Mars and came to Earth on a meteorite. Evolutionists don't believe that any more, but the article is still relevant because we showed how foolish it was to believe that, and it also shows how quick evolutionists are to believe foolish things. We were right, and the evolutionists were wrong. Modern evolutionists would like you to believe that only a few crackpots believed that, but our footnotes show otherwise.

It was just last June that we published "Ida, the Missing Link." That was what evolutionists believed then. Two months later, Ida was quietly rejected.¹⁶ Our November and December 2009 articles on Ardi have disclosed some of the many things that evolutionists used to believe about human evolution, but don't any more.

The common theme in all these articles is that what we said is still true, and what evolutionists said has now been rejected by evolutionists.

Evolutionists tend to justify their constantly changing positions by arguing that science is self-correcting. They say the fact that they have rejected so many of their previous beliefs is evidence that they are right now. That's nonsense.

A factory repair manual for an 8-track tape player isn't as relevant as the repair manual for an iPod (which, if it exists, probably just says, "Throw it away and buy a new one!" ☺), but the information in the 8-track repair manual is still true. It is still useful if you have a broken 8-track player that you want to repair. The manual isn't very useful any more simply because few people still use 8-track tape players.

Truth is progressive in the sense that new information tells us more than we knew before, or is more applicable to our current situation; but truth isn't progressive in the sense that facts that were true in the past are no longer true.

The things Darwin said about diet, exercise, and climate causing physical changes that are inherited aren't just no longer relevant—they

¹⁶ Kay, *Science*, 28 August 2009, "Much Hype and Many Errors", page 1074.

aren't true. More to the point, they never were true. The meteorite didn't show evidence of life on Mars. Ida wasn't a missing link. Things that evolutionists have said in the past about human ancestry aren't true today, and they weren't true in the past when they believed them.

SANTINO'S EMAIL

We got a similar, long, angry email from Santino. In it he made statements based on his assumptions about my religion, my lack of intelligence, the books I haven't read, and the illegitimacy of my birth. Normally we ignore emails like these, but since he wrote such a long letter, we hoped we might be able to get him to write a real defense of the theory of evolution. Our one-sentence reply to his email was, "If you can write a coherent defense of the theory of evolution, we would be glad to print it."

The printable portion of his reply was,

I don't have to write a coherent defense of evolution because it has already been done. Hundreds of times.

That's basically the same thing Mind said. He doesn't have a defense, so he just claims it is beneath him to explain it to idiots like us.

We tried again to get him to defend evolution by provoking him this way:

I am not trying to convince you of my position. I am simply trying to understand yours.

I have been asking evolutionists for 15 years for an explanation of why they believe in evolution. The only two explanations I ever get are

A) I'm afraid of God, so I have to deny creation to have inner peace.

B) The consensus is that evolution is true, and I'm too stupid to think for myself.

I really want an evolutionist to give me some rational reason for believing in evolution. Answers A and B above don't qualify.

Can you explain to me why you believe in evolution?

This drew a really, really long response. It began by (nearly) addressing the issue.

Alright. I will answer your question even though you did not answer mine. Are you sitting down? This may take a while. To me evolution makes sense. I look around and I can observe it happening. There is adaptation all around us. Some species take many years to evolve, as you know, but there are organisms that can do it in far less time. It is these organisms that can be studied. It is these organisms, that support Darwin's theory.

But then he launched into a very long attack on religion. Here are some of the more important passages.

I was born into a Catholic family, went to church for most of my life. I began to doubt. I tried to be born again. I gave myself to Christ, but there was always something wrong. I felt nothing. ... I lost my faith, but I am glad I did. I have become a stronger, healthier person because of it. I have become

a smarter, more educated person because of it. ... I am not going to assume that I know anything about you, but I will assume that you believe in some form of diety [sic]. This gives you a feeling of importance, safety and belonging. A feeling like you matter in the grand scheme of things. You don't. ... So go on believing what makes you feel good, but before I sign off I will give you some hard facts.

A) I am not afraid of god. It doesn't exist. If you think evolution has questionable evidence????? [That's exactly what he wrote.]

B) I don't care about consensus. 80% of the entire world believe in a god. So what!

c) 99.98% of the scientific community accepts evolution. Why? Because they all get the same results when they do the experiments. Scientists will make predictions based on their test results and calculations. When those predictions turn out to be correct, then they can say, with some certainty, that they are on the right track. (logical, is it not?).

...
Also, I don't ever remember any inquisition, war or witch hunt in the name of science. Do you?

...
Nice chatting with you. Enjoy your life. It is the only one you're gonna get.
Santino

SCIENTIFIC CONSENSUS

We don't know how Santino knows that 99.98% of the scientific community believes in evolution. We've never been able to find any such survey. We've written to Pew Research, Gallup and the American Broadcasting Company (immediately after one of their broadcasts made the claim that all scientists believe in evolution), but have never received an answer from any of them. If anyone has ever seen such a survey, please send us the reference. We doubt that such a survey exists. We suspect that Santino simply pulled the number out of the terminus of his large intestines.

If one did take a survey to find out what percentage of scientists believe in evolution, the result would no doubt depend upon how one defines "scientist." If the term "scientist" is limited to biology and paleontology professors employed by universities receiving substantial grants to study and teach evolution, then we expect the number of professors who claim to believe in evolution would be nearly 100%. But if the term "scientist" includes scientists and engineers employed in private industry who use thermodynamics, systems analysis, probability, communication theory, and information theory in their daily work, then the percentage would probably be lower. If the term "scientist" includes medical researchers, physicians, and veterinarians, who depend upon their knowledge of biology to do their jobs, we expect the percentage would be close to zero. So, the survey would be most valuable if the results were broken down by categories of scientists.

Suppose someone took a survey of Christian

ministers to determine what percentage of them believe in God. Don't you expect the number would be very close to 100%? Ministers are theological experts whose lives are devoted to studying and teaching about God. If 100% of ministers believe in God, then God must unquestionably exist! ☺

We hope you see the foolishness of that argument. If so, we hope you will also realize that if 100% of professors whose lives are devoted to studying and teaching evolution believe in evolution, their credentials as experts in evolution don't prove that evolution is true any more than the universal belief of ministers proves that God exists. The consensus of people who have an ax to grind is not proof of anything.

Santino doesn't seem to be too consistent when it comes to the validity of consensus. On the one hand, he claimed that "80% of the world believe in a god," but rejected that as being a valid reason for believing in a god of some sort. On the other hand, he thought that 99.98% consensus is a valid reason to believe that evolution is true. So, 80% isn't good enough, but 99.98% is. We asked him if a Gallup Poll shows that 79% of all scientists believe in evolution, would he reject evolution then? His answer was,

Your argument about consensus is retarded.

MICROEVOLUTION

The only part of his response that came close to addressing evolution was,

I look around and I can observe it happening. There is adaptation all around us. Some species take many years to evolve, as you know, but there are organisms that can do it in far less time. It is these organisms that can be studied. It is these organisms, that support Darwin's theory. [We don't know why he put a comma after "organisms."]

We can, and do, observe microevolution all around us. Adaptation is a real phenomenon. Variations in species do occur. Natural selection does affect demographics. There is no controversy about that. The argument is whether or not microevolution can lead to macroevolution. Study after study has failed to show that it can. No experiment with bacteria, fruit flies, horses, dogs, pigeons, corn, or roses, has ever produced a new kind of living thing. Breeding experiments simply produce new variations of the same thing.

We have only shown you portions of his third email because it was so long. When we printed it, it was 50 lines long. Three of those lines had to do with microevolution. Four lines had to do with consensus. Twenty-six lines dealt with religion. The other 17 lines were personal attacks or irrelevant or incoherent thoughts. This is significant because we specifically told him we wanted an explanation for why he believed in

evolution, and told him we don't think two arguments are valid. Specifically, we reject the arguments that evolution is true because religion is false and evolution is true because scientists say it is true. But 52% of his response was that evolution is true because religion is false, and 8% of his response was that evolution is true because scientists say it is true. Only 6% of his email had anything even remotely connected to evolution, and that 6% just had to do with microevolution, about which there is no controversy.

It is significant that more than half of his third email was all about religion. His religious experience has nothing to do with evolution; but it has everything to do with his irrational acceptance of evolution. For him, it isn't really about science—it's about religion. He has no scientific reason to believe in evolution, but he believes it because of a bad religious experience in his past.

We should not be too hard on Santino, though. When Coyne and Dawkins wrote books defending evolution, they didn't do any better. Their books are just attacks on religion.

The whole evolution/creation controversy could be settled if evolutionists could just present a solid, scientific explanation. They can't, so they just claim it has already been done, hundreds of times.

If they could, they would present sound rebuttals to the articles we have written. Since they can't, they just say that there are too many errors in our newsletters to list. If that were true, they could at least give us a short list of the biggest errors.

There are too many errors in the theory of evolution to list at one time. That's why we just talk about a few every month.

YOU WILL HEAR IT, TOO

These two emails contain the typical arguments of many evolutionists. If you ask them why they believe in evolution, they can't tell you. If you keep asking them, they become frustrated and get angry at you. They can't tell you why they believe in evolution. They are just afraid not to believe it.

You are permitted (even encouraged) to copy and distribute this newsletter.

You are also permitted (even encouraged) to send a donation of \$15/year to Science Against Evolution, P.O. Box 923, Ridgecrest, CA 93556-0923, to help us in our work. ☺

by Lothar Janetzko

CREATION SCIENCE FAQ

<http://www.clubs.psu.edu/up/origins/faqsci.htm>

“Scientific presentation of a plausible creation model of origins”

This month’s web site review looks at a web site that provides an FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) about Creation Science. The site begins with a note on terminology. It is interesting to note that there are many different definitions of evolution and it is important to understand what definition is being used by various authors when reading articles about evolution.

This particular FAQ uses the definition that “most of the world uses, that is, evolution refers to macroevolution”. Webster’s definition is as follows:

macroevolution *n.* large-scale and long-range evolution involving the appearance of new genera, families, etc. of organisms

evolution *n.* an unfolding, opening out, or working out; process of development, as from a simple to a complex form, or of gradual, progressive change, as in a social and economic structure

The FAQ continues by discussing the scientific creation model. This model “states that life on Earth originated as the result of one or more ‘creation events’. A creation event may be identified as the instantaneous appearance of new matter out of nothing including but not limited to, fully functional, completely developed organisms.” This model is presented by using the following outline to present answers to many questions people have regarding creation and evolution: 1) The Model, 2) Problems with Evolution, 3) Human Evolution, 4) But is Creation Science Really Science? and 5) Myths.

You will find answers to many questions that are provided for “consideration as a viable alternative to evolution.”

Disclosure

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