

[IIDB](#) > [IIDB Philosophical Forums](#) > [Evolution/Creation](#) > Is 'God belief' genetic?

PDA

View Full Version : [Is 'God belief' genetic?](#)

SaintCaffeine

September 13, 2003, 03:32 PM

The greatest survival value comes to people who openly profess their belief in god but privately are wise enough not to trust to prayer and faith. They say "Amen" when everyone else does, but they take concrete actions to protect their families based on practical experience.

Three4Jump what you said really resonates with my recent experience. I was part of a missions organization where we raised support ? meaning your church and others who believe in what you were doing supported you monetarily. Most of my fellow missionaries suffered in relative poverty, but all the while were trusting God to release finances to them. I on the other hand, was already questioning my faith, when I joined and was therefore very methodical in my support raising and always had more than enough because I didn't blindly trust that God would provide for me even though Jesus claims he would.

Maybe the best instinct or genetic trait is the one that enabled humans to profess allegiance without buying in to their religion lock stock and barrel. For instance my business partners are strong Christians and most of the old families and money in town are also Christian (even if it is only a label), and to outwardly profess my agnosticism/atheisms would severely hinder my opportunities in business. But by saying ?Amen? I'm still able to take part in the quaint traditions of Christianity without compromising my business or my mind. Hopefully in time however I will find a way to be honest and help a few more people free from the chains of religion.

Even if a belief in god paved the road to success for me, I could not believe or even pretend to believe. I would rather be unsuccessful and unhappy than be part of a system with as many flaws as religion.

Maybe one day I'll be strong enough to take your stance Three4Jump, but for now I'm still having to use the training wheels.

from secular buddhist And I don't think that the belief in a deity is the necessary component, but the idea that you have some "higher purpose" or "place" in the universe (note the quotes -- I mean these words in the vaguest sense possible).

Secular Buddhist This is a big one for me. I have been reading ?A Species In Denial (<http://www.humancondition.info/ASpeciesInDenial.html>) ? by Jeremy Griffith (<http://www.humancondition.info/people/JeremyGriffith.html>) . He is an Australian author (I was based in Aus until two months ago). His whole purpose in the book is to reconcile humans to the wonder of their natural history, to explain the human condition, bring healing to our conscience (I.e. we aren't sinners but a product of evolution) and give us the dignifying amazing story of our species development. When I was reading it, for the first time since I walked away from Christianity I found a new sense of purpose and meaning.

I feel like I know my real place in the universe now and I know that I want to help us mature as a species. Yeah that sounds a little grand, but it is important to me to feel like I am not alone in this journey and that my life can make difference no matter how significant to our species development.

Maybe there is a genetic component that spurs us to want this, or some kind of social conditioning either way it is a strong part of me and I am glad that that energy is no longer being spent within the confines of Christianity.

premjan

September 14, 2003, 02:31 AM

hindu pantheism is actually a form of monist philosophy. Philosopher's Gods are impersonal hence they are not true monotheistic Gods. non-philosophical Hinduism in modern times, is polytheistic (trinitarian -- Brahma Vishnu and Shiva). However, the first formulation of Hinduism post-Vedic was monotheist, with Brahma as the presiding deity. The remaining deities crept up in popularity later on.

I think Stoicism is also more philosophy than religion, like Hindu pantheism.