



The Secular Circular

Newsletter of the Humanist Society of Santa Barbara

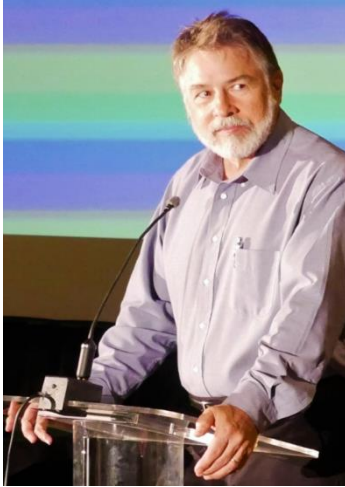
www.SBHumanists.org

JULY 2021

Please join us for Three Events This Month...

Do We Need Nuclear Energy?

The Pros and Cons



Bruce Gleason, Founder of Backyard Skeptics; creator of LogiCal-LA and Freethought Alliance Conference.

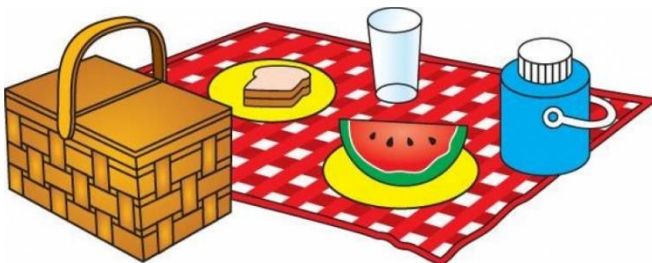
Bruce Gleason will share his thoughts on the benefits and drawbacks of current nuclear energy technology and future nuclear fuels. He will compare nuclear energy with other forms of energy generation including solar, wind, natural gas, and coal.

Bruce has been involved in the atheist, skeptic, and humanist communities for 17 years. Founder of the Backyard Skeptics Meetup with over 1300 members, he has placed over 14 billboards supporting the secular community. He creates two annual conferences: LogiCal-LA, a scientific skeptics event, and the Freethought Alliance Conference, which is for atheists, agnostics, and church-state separatists. Bruce is a professional videographer and supplies critical audio-visual equipment for events such as the American Humanist and American Atheists conferences. He worked at ABC Television in Hollywood for several years.

When: Saturday, July 17, via Zoom. Program begins at 3pm.

Where: Zoom link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83185531234>

HSSB Summer Picnic



Finally! An *in-person* social event for fully vaccinated Humanists.

When: Sunday July 25th, noon - 4 pm.

Where: Tuckers Grove Park. Area #4. Near the main entrance to the park. Look for HSSB banner.

Cost: \$5 for HSSB members. A limited number of

non-member spots are available when accompanied by a member (\$25 for non-members). Reserve your spot with cisneynan@gmail.com. Catered lunch, games, prizes, great conversation. Looking forward to seeing you again!

COVID-19 Pandemic Models Update

Dave Flattery will present an update on the state of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Delta variant and resurgences: What's the latest? All are welcome to attend.

When: Sunday August 1st at 3pm Pacific/6pm Eastern.

Where: Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82598900099>.



Dave Flattery

The HSSB Secular Circular – July 2021

Dr. Scott McCann & Marian Shapiro, MSW

Gender: How Things Have Changed Since We Were Kids 6-19-21

By Robert Bernstein

Slides of this talk are available [here](#) and some are reprinted in this article, courtesy of the speakers.

Retired human sexuality instructor and HSSB member, Marian Shapiro, began this talk with this two-minute Comedy Central video showing what a [father-son "sex talk"](#) might look like today.

It was intended to be funny, but I found it quite painful and I felt bad for both father and son; others found it clever and amusing then used it as a conversation starter with their own children.

Dr. Scott McCann was Director of Health Education at Santa Barbara County Public Health Department. He also taught human sexuality at SBCC and Antioch. He complemented Shapiro's presentation with additional biological detail.

McCann discussed six aspects of gender.

Components of Gender

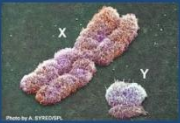
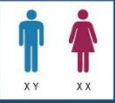
1. Chromosomal / genetic factors
2. Developmental – hormones & other factors during fetal development
3. Anatomical - body & brain differences
4. Identity – how people see themselves
5. Expression – gender related behavior
6. Role – societal expectations



First consider basic genetics. As we learned in high school biology, most women have XX chromosomes and most men have XY chromosomes, but there are exceptions to even this most basic biological definition.

Gender-related Chromosomes

Genetic gender is determined by the combination of sex chromosomes from the parent's sperm and ovum

Females typically have two X chromosomes - XX
Males usually have an X and a Y - XY

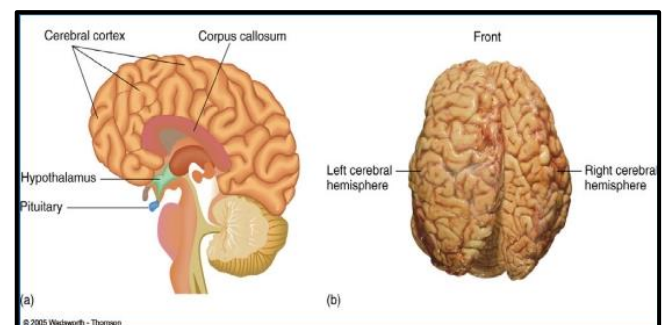
An ovum can only contribute an X, sperm can contribute an X or Y so sperm determine the genetic gender of an offspring

But other combinations of chromosomes can cause a mix of gender characteristics like XO, XXY, XYY...

It is possible to have only a single X (Turner's Syndrome) or an extra X or an extra Y (XXY is Klinefelter's Syndrome). These variations generally result in sterility and in gender that is not clearly male or female. [This chart](#) defines these conditions more fully.

Second, developmental issues can blur gender. Hormones present during fetal development affect gender. Female is the default gender. A person can genetically be XY but appear to be a female if the person either lacks male hormones or is not sensitive to their effect (androgen insensitivity syndrome). This is thought to be the case with Jamie Lee Curtis who is XY and presents as female. This is one form of intersex condition.

Third are gender-related anatomical differences in body and brain. Parts of the hypothalamus are larger in males than in females. The right cerebral hemisphere is thicker in males and may affect spatial abilities. The corpus callosum connecting the hemispheres is thicker in females and may affect language and the ability to multitask. Males



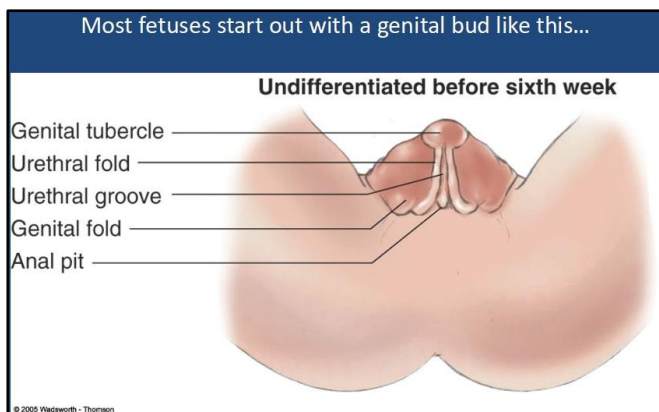
also tend to have more specialization in each hemisphere.

Fourth is how people see themselves, or gender identity. A person may have an outward appearance of one gender but may *feel* they are a different gender.

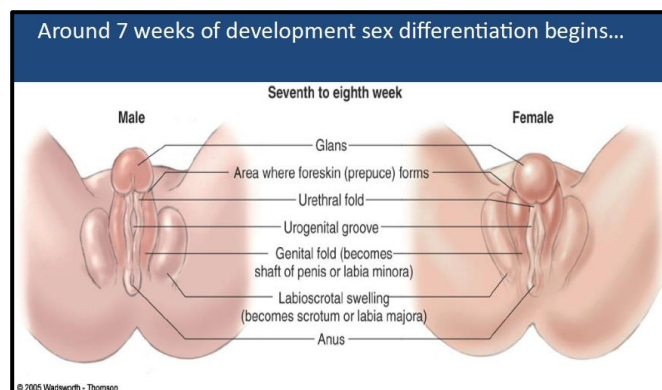
Fifth is how people express their gender in behavior. This might include how they dress or present themselves (e.g. hairstyle, make-up, etc.).

Sixth is the role they play in society and social conventions of gender.

McCann noted that early in fetal development the genitals form an undifferentiated genital bud in most people.



At seven weeks the bud differentiates into male and female organs. He notes that the differences are not as great as you might think. For example, the genital tubercle can become the head of the penis in a male, or it can become a clitoris in a female.



Females have Skene's glands that are similar to a prostate with similar fluid.

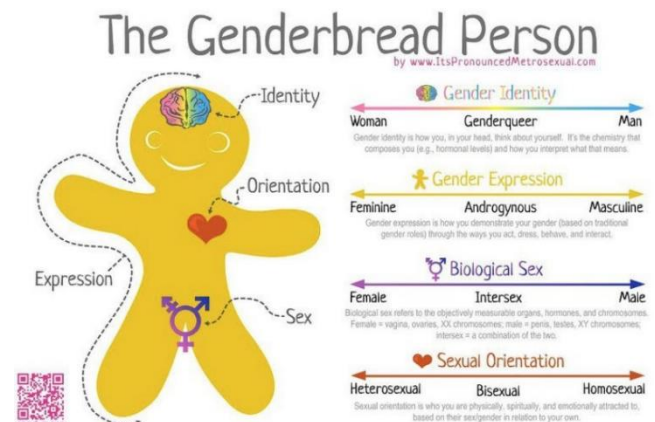
In the past if a baby was born with ambiguous sex organs, parents were advised to have surgery done early to have the child's body look definitively male or female. Now it is considered wise to wait until the child is old enough to have a gender identity.

[Check out intersex activist [Pidgeon Pagonis](#), who underwent surgery as a child to be made to look female and now, as an adult, advocates that it is not only unwise but unethical to perform these surgeries on children before the age of consent. The Chicago hospital where Pidgeon underwent surgery no longer performs these surgeries...ed.]

Male to female gender reassignment surgery and treatment can work very well.

Female to male reassignment is difficult to do well. It is possible to construct a penis, but inflatable tubes or a bendable rod must be implanted to create an erection. Many female to male transgender people opt for "top surgery" (mastectomy) only, and rely on testosterone to enlarge the clitoris. Both types of trans people generally can achieve orgasm.

Marian Shapiro described the "Genderbread Person". This simple graphic offers four dimensions of gender.



Gender Identity is how you see yourself. It is possible for a person to identify as woman, man, or "genderqueer" which can be neither or in between.

Gender Expression is the way you dress, do your hair and makeup and how you behave. Can be feminine, masculine, or androgynous.

Biological Sex is pretty much about whether the person has a penis and about the chromosomes: female, male, or intersex.

Sexual Orientation is about who you are attracted to. This ranges from heterosexual to bisexual to homosexual, indicating one's attraction to the opposite gender, multiple genders, or one's own gender.

Marian included a slide showing some famous people illustrating several dimensions of gender. Bruce Jenner became Caitlyn Jenner (a trans woman). Ellen DeGeneres and Portia de Rossi have been married since 2008 (homosexual women). Elton John is married to David Furnish (homosexual men). Salvador Dali apparently was asexual. He tried sex once with his wife Gala and did not like it. Then he tried sex once with a man and found it painful. This, despite sexual themes in much of his art.

Gender vs. Sexual Orientation

<p><u>Genders</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Male & Female • Non-binary • Cisgender • Transgender (MTF & FTM) • Genderqueer • Gender Fluid • Intersex • Bigender • Agender • Androgenous 	<p><u>Sexual Orientations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesbian • Gay • Bisexual • Asexual • Questioning • Heterosexual • Pansexual • Polyamorous • Demisexual <p>Attraction can be sexual, intimate and/or social</p>
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The slide also includes several small photographs: a couple standing together, a man in a suit, a man in a red singlet celebrating, a woman sitting on a beach, and a couple in formal wear.

Cis-gender is when all four dimensions of gender align. This is much easier to navigate in today's western society than being trans-gender.

Trans can be male to female (MTF) or vice versa (FTM). A trans woman is a person who was born biologically male and lives as a woman, possibly even surgically altering her body. Many trans

people have spoken to Shapiro's classes. Some have sad stories of how long it took to be OK to come out as trans. One woman waited until she was in her 60s to come out and transition.

The presentation began with asking people if they know what the letters LGBTQIA stand for. Most people know L is lesbian, G is gay, B is bi-sexual and T is trans.

Q is Queer and is something in between a male and female identity. A "gender fluid" person may feel male or female at different times or under different circumstances.

I is Intersex and is the biological case where anatomy is not clearly male or female, but something in between..

A can be Asexual but it can also refer to being an Ally in other cases.

Some other terms:

Agender: Not feeling one is either male or female

Androgenous: Feeling a bit of both

Bisexual: Being attracted to both males and females

Demisexual: Being sexually attracted to a person based on the individual case rather than on the gender in general

Pansexual: Going beyond bisexual

Poly-amorous: Having multiple sexual partners

Some cultures recognize more than two genders. Some Native American cultures have the concept of "two spirit" which enjoys an elevated status.

In contrast, Latino culture often promotes strong gender stereotypes which can make life very difficult for someone who does not conform to those standards.

Gender dysphoria is a mismatch between body and identity. Trans people generally have gender dysphoria.

Cross dressers are usually gay men, whereas transvestites may cross dress for fun, erotic, or comfort purposes.

It is important to note that gender identity is separate from sexual orientation. For example, a male may have female behavior and appearance yet still be attracted to women.

We were then shown a [video of a trans girl](#) named Jazz Jennings. She was born biologically as a boy but definitely comes across as a girl. Her bedroom is full of traditional, stereotypical girl things like dresses, dolls, and lots of pink. The video showed photos of Jazz cheerleading and playing girls' soccer. She was fortunate to have parents and three siblings who supported her.

Jazz also has a mermaid outfit for swimming. Marian said trans people often have a fascination with mermaids because mermaids have no genitalia!

Jazz appeared on national television from an early age. This attracted support, but also anger and threats. Some said it was unfair for her to play soccer as a girl, but she pointed out that she is smaller than others on the team. Her advantage is that she is fast. She had to fight a legal battle to have the right to play on the girls' team.

It was noted that boxing has weight classes and perhaps something similar could be done for sports like soccer. Could we have sports participation be based on the physical characteristics needed to succeed at various levels of a sport rather than an athlete's genitalia?

We watched a second video about a trans boy named Jacob who was born as a girl named Mia. His parents hoped this was just a phase, but Jacob was "persistent, consistent, and insistent", a behavioral combination that defines the condition.

Pediatrician Michelle Forcier said that 41% of trans people attempt suicide. It is risky to wait to transition; the biggest harm is to do nothing.

We were shown a slide of Americans' Self-Identified Sexual Orientation by Generation. It is interesting to note that for Gay, Lesbian, and Transgender there is a slight increase in percentage for younger generations. People identifying as Bisexual is dramatically higher at 11.5% for Generation Z born 1997-2002.

	Bisexual	Gay	Lesbian	Transgender	Other
	%	%	%	%	%
Generation Z (born 1997-2002)	11.5	2.1	1.4	1.8	0.4
Millennials (born 1981-1996)	5.1	2.0	0.8	1.2	0.4
Generation X (born 1965-1980)	1.8	1.2	0.7	0.2	0.1
Baby boomers (born 1946-1964)	0.3	1.2	0.4	0.2	0.0
Traditionalists (born before 1946)	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1

Young people also face great danger if they are trans as shown in the following table. 82% feel unsafe in school and 90% have experience harassment.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 82% of transgender youth reported that they felt unsafe at school 90% reported harassment from peers 44% reported being punched, kicked or injured with a weapon 62% reported cyber-bullying The suicide attempt rate for trans people is 41% compared to 4.6% of the overall US population & 10-20% of LGBTQ people

We learned that gender roles vary widely across cultures and can change over time. The Tchambuli tribe of New Guinea has roles almost exactly reversed from traditional U.S. norms. U.S. norms have evolved over time. As recently as the 1950s

few women were doctors, lawyers, or were accepted outside strict stereotypical roles.

Gender Roles in the 1950s

Male ←————→ Female
Gender Characteristic Spectrum

In the 50s and 60s, if a male was anywhere toward the female side in any of these characteristics, he was suspect, not acceptable. Today variation in both men and women is more acceptable, but less so in more conservative parts of the country and in more conservative religions.

Male	Female
Stronger physically	Weaker physically
Aggressive	Non Aggressive
Unemotional	Emotional
Leader, Independent	Follower, Dependent
Active, rough	Passive, gentle
Athletics	Ballet
Sexually attracted to women	Sexually attracted to men
The family bread winner	At home with the children
Jobs: in science, law, medicine, engineering car mechanic	Jobs: in childcare, nursing teaching elementary school cooking, cleaning
Shorter hair style	Longer hair style, ribbons,
Pants, suit & tie	Dress, skirt, high heels, Jewelry, nail polish

The speakers asked us to think about how our new understanding about gender can be applied to education, parenting, public policy, and daily living.


Implications of new understandings of gender...

Education
Teach about gender, including non-binary, dysphoria, trans
Educate teachers, clergy, doctors, legislators, police, other professionals

Parenting
Teach kids about gender, including non-binary, dysphoria, trans
Give children equal opportunities, don't push traditional gender roles, listen

Public Policy
Equality for all genders in all ways – payment, opportunities, representation
Medical care & transitioning support for all age groups (vs. some state laws)
Gender neutral restrooms
Support candidates that support equal rights

Daily Living
Ask about preferred pronouns
Use neutral pronouns – they, spouse, partner
Support differences, recognize struggles



Shapiro noted the new law in Arkansas that prevents doctors from doing transition assistance on young people. McCann noted that hormone therapy needs to be done before puberty or a later physical transition will be much more difficult.

Meanwhile, we are being exposed to compounds in the environment similar to female hormones. Human sperm production has dropped 50% in the past 40 years. We see male frogs that have been made female due to plastic and pesticide pollution.

Some states have higher rates of LGBTQIA than others. In part this is due to acceptance; people migrate to where they feel more readily accepted.

One question that arose was the challenge for trans people to find a partner. In some cases, trans people will marry each other.

McCann knew of one case where the trans couple had biological children. The trans man (who had a uterus) was impregnated by their trans woman spouse (who had sperm-producing testes). They stopped hormone treatment during this process which was difficult for them. And then they did it again to have a second child! [Here is the story](#) as it was covered on ABC's 20/20 program in 2015.

I was curious how often there is regret after making a transition. McCann sent me this [helpful reference](#). It is "A Survey Study of Surgeons' Experience with Regret and/or Reversal of Gender Confirmation Surgeries". 46 surgeons (30% of those asked) responded to the survey. Together they had about 22,725 patients. Only 62 patients had regrets which is less than 0.3%. This would indicate that Gender Identity is a powerful and stable force as 99.7% of patients had no regrets about undertaking gender reassignment surgery.

Things are definitely more complex than when most of us were kids with regard to gender.

Going forward the world can be more inclusive and welcoming to all who are on the various gender spectrums!

In Memory of James Kimberly



James Kimberly, a founding member of HSSB, died on June 4, 2021 at the age of 81 in Los Angeles. The [Santa Barbara New Press obituary](#) describes him as possessing “a nimble wit, a booming voice in speech and song, a love of art and music, and a jokester’s zest for life that proved an irresistible social magnet to many. A willing storyteller, he held listeners in rapt attention with hilarious tales (sometimes tall) about childhood adventures, playing drums for The Fabulous Toads, U.S. Army intrigues in Cold-War Germany and whatever else was on his mind. Jamie was an enthusiastic gourmand who loved a convivial evening with friends, laughter soaring high. Also possessed of a fair share of human quirks, his big heart was the fair balance.” James was a native of Buffalo, NY, and spent his final years in a Veterans Home in Los Angeles. Cheers, James... and thank you from your friends at HSSB.

Supporting Science Education In Uganda Through Humanist Global Charity

By Judy Flattery

I was impressed with the breadth of projects described in the May meeting by our speaker, Hank Pellisier, founder of Humanist Global Charity.

I asked him if he was aware of any opportunities to support science education in any of their Humanist schools. He told me about Eagle’s View Humanist School, a new primary school in

western Uganda that had a need for educational science supplies. Hank described this school as “dirt poor... only 2 months old... with no rating...and a [building] consisting of corrugated iron sheets tied between poles... educating orphans or kids with parents who would sort-of rather have them home working.”

Dave & I decided to personally support this effort with a modest. We received the following email:

“Thank you for supporting science teaching in our school, with science we are able to do away with the fears of the unknown in the universe. It helps to disprove superstitions. With the equipment we are to get, observation skills, critical thinking, hypothesis [testing] will be developed in the children making them inquisitive. We are so grateful for your support. Much love to you all. Greetings to members of the Humanist Society of Santa Barbara. Sincerely, Rogers Muwanguzi & other directors of Eagle’s View Humanist School”

We also received some photos of how the donation was being used. I particularly like the sign that reads, “*Teach me how to think not what to think.*”



On June 5th, Hank Pellissier traveled to Santa Barbara. An offer was extended to all HSSB members to join Hank for breakfast at the Boathouse. Five members (all happen to be Board members) accepted the offer.



Breakfast at the Boathouse: Robert Bernstein, Hank Pellissier, Sondra Wikman, Nan Cisney, David Flattery, Judy Flattery.

If you are interested in sponsoring a project of Humanist Global Charity (a 501.c.3 non-profit), consult their [website](#) or contact Hank at directors@humanistglobal.charity.

2021-2022 Board Members Elected

The ballots were tallied for the HSSB Board elections for the July 2021-June 2022 fiscal year. Returning to the Board are Wayne Beckman, Robert Bernstein, Nan Cisney, David Flattery, Judy Flattery, Sondra Wikman, and Mary Wilk. Newly elected Board members include Jules Bender, Judith Fontana, and Hugh Smart. Thanks to all the HSSB members who are willing to serve on the Board for the benefit of all. Diane Krohn has elected to leave the Board after many years of outstanding service in the roles of newsletter editor, newsletter contributor, and secretary. She will be deeply missed. Thank you, Diane!

HSSB Poll Results

The Board election ballot included a poll asking members questions that can guide the incoming Board's direction. We did not receive very many responses so we may repeat the poll at another time; however, those who did respond indicated the following.

Regarding speakers: The most popular category of monthly speaker are those who talk about humanism, secularism, and the impact religion has

on the world. The second most popular topic is history, the Supreme Court, and first amendment rights. Next, science & technology was tied with skepticism. Social justice issue speakers appealed strongly to some and very little to others; overall a neutral result. We found this result surprising, knowing that many HSSB members care deeply about social justice. We interpreted this as follows: there are other organizations whose core purpose is social justice, and our members may prefer to hear about social justice from those dedicated sources. The least popular topics in the poll were health-related speakers and anyone speaking on local issues. These results will inform our choice of speakers in the coming year.

Other questions asked on the ballot:

- What should HSSB focus on in the coming year?
 - Getting positive publicity to attract new members.
 - Regaining a sense of community. Resuming in person gatherings.
 - Speakers.
 - Very pleased with what you've done this past year!!!!
 - Not necessarily focus on separation of church and state but have a speaker or two on the subject.
- What value do you derive from being a member of HSSB?
 - Meeting like-minded people. Very important.
 - Many of my very good friends are people I have met over the years at the Humanist Society. These people are my soulmates and my support group, and I am grateful for knowing them.
 - Education and intellectual stimulation, camaraderie, and a sense of community that churches provide for religious people.
 - The opportunity to share thoughts with like-minded people.
 - I learn new things and love meeting others with whom I share non-religious values.

- Engaging with people of like mind.
- What would you like to see us improve or change?
- I would like to have more programs that encourage personal relationships such as book clubs and salons. Also having a “Happy Hour” following in-person meetings where we get to interact with the speaker. I enjoy the Zoom presentations and appreciate the savings by having speakers this way. I hope that we are able to meet in person at some frequency. Maybe some social gatherings in addition to some of the monthly meetings.
- I know with the pandemic it was impossible but would like to have more socializing events.
- I know it's no news to anyone, and it's a challenging problem, but we need younger members. I wonder if we might try to develop programs through relationships with other non-religious, educational or public service organizations, such as the Museum of Natural History, the observatory, or the public library. It was, in fact, the Darwin Anniversary Week events cosponsored with the museum, finding myself partnered with an HSSB member at a pub trivia night that brought me to the HSSB in the first place.
- Greater visibility in the community, more activity on social media (e.g. Facebook).
- Providing for feeling of friendly, inclusive membership in the Society.

Thanks to all who responded to the survey.

Book Discussion Group

The book, *This Is How It Always Is*, was discussed at a special HSSB Zoom event on June 5th. The discussion was led by Marian Shapiro. Reading the book and then discussing it with Marian helped to educate participants in transgender issues “as lived” by families. This laid a great foundation for the June 19th gender presentation. The book discussion was recorded on Zoom and has been uploaded to our YouTube channel. [Watch it here](#). Many thanks

to Marian for sharing her time and expertise with us twice last month!

We would like to have another book discussion lead by an HSSB member. The book can be fiction or non-fiction... any book of interest to Humanists is appropriate...and since Humanists tend to be inquisitive people, there are thousands of possibilities. What is **your** favorite book? If you are willing to lead a discussion with other HSSB members sometime this fall, please let us know (sbhumanisteditor@gmail.com).

Woo Talk Now Available on HSSB YouTube

The August 2020 HSSB presentation on skepticism entitled, “Examining Woo” by Bruce Gleason, is now available on our YouTube channel. If you missed this interesting and engaging talk, [see it here](#).

How Can Smart People Believe in God?

[\[This article\]](#) (written by psychotherapist, Dr. Eric Maisel, and reprinted from ‘The Good Men Project’ June 19, 2021) was forwarded to me from a member of the Southern California Secular Coalition. I found the article and image thought provoking and share it on that basis. Photo credit: Shutterstock. Eric Maisel is the author of 50+ books. He writes the “Rethinking Mental Health” blog for ‘Psychology Today’, is a creativity coach, and the developer of Kirism, described as a contemporary philosophy of life ...ed].



“Being religious is different from being stupid. The many studies that appear to show that non-believers are on average slightly smarter than believers are neither conclusive nor impressive. There are plenty of brilliant Jews, Christians, Hindus, Moslems, Buddhists, and Taoists who can do physics at a

high level and who also claim to believe in God (or reincarnation, nirvana, etc.). This strange state-of-affairs isn't about intelligence or solely about intelligence. It must be about something else.

“The answer is that a belief in God actually has no content. It is not like a belief in the sweetness of sugar or the hardness of concrete, where one actually believes something. A belief in God is instead a reflection and a projection. Picture an empty box that is mirrored inside, so that, while totally empty, it nevertheless appears full: in this case, of the observer's wishes, desires, opinions, prejudices, hatreds, etc., all mirrored back to the observer. This is how religion works.

“Religion is an empty, mirrored box that reflects back the viewer's narcissism, arrogance, and wishful thinking. It is completely empty but feels full. What a wonderful box! If the believer is a racist, as so many believers are, the box is full of a white God who hates black people... If the believer is a misogynist, as so many believers are, the box is full of mighty punishment for the women who have abortions and zero punishment for their husbands who demand those abortions. What an excellent box!

“All beliefs in God are exactly the same: totally empty of content and totally full of the personality of the believer.

“God is a projection. To understand believers, we need to understand how religion and its mirrored empty box work. It will not pay to try to point out contradictions in their belief system, as the box is empty and there is nothing to contradict. It will not do to point out the more outlandish beliefs of their religion, as the box is empty and there is nothing to point out. It is silly to quibble about the contents of an empty box!

“No believer has ever been convinced by having this or that contradiction pointed out. Believers only stop believing when the scales fall from their eyes and they see that the box is empty and has always been empty. But we do not have to

move believers that far, all the way to clarity. Let us just bombard them with simple messages like ‘Be kind’ and ‘Be loving’ and ‘Have some compassion’ and hope that those messages sink in. If they do, then believers will have upgraded their God.

“One blissful day, they may even leave all those projections behind...”

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights – Articles 21-25

Inspired by the celebration of Human Rights Day last December, this newsletter elected to republish the 30 articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, five at a time, so that HSSB members could familiarize (or re-familiarize) themselves with the rights enumerated in this historic document. Here are Articles 21-25.

Article 21

1. Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.
2. Everyone has the right of equal access to public service in his country.
3. The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

Article 22

Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.

“Those who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities.” - Voltaire

Article 23

1. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.
2. Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.
3. Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection.
4. Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.

Article 24

Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.

Article 25

1. Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.
2. Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

Upcoming Events of Interest to Humanists
All of these events are online:

July 10: Kate Forest: *Jewish Without God: Living a Meaningful Secular Jewish Life*. SoCal Secular Coalition event. [Jewish Without God](#)

July 14: Roy Speckhardt: *Justice-Centered Humanism*. American Humanist Association event. [Justice-Centered Humanism](#)

July 17: *Confronting Christian Nationalism*: A discussion from the Baptist Joint Committee, facilitated by Rev. Nancy Brink. SoCal Secular Coalition event. [Confronting Christian Nationalism](#)

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Board Members at Large:

Wayne Beckman, Robert Bernstein, Mary Wilk, Nan Cisney, Jules Bender, Judith Fontana, Hugh Smart

Newsletter Editor & Submission Deadline

Judy Flattery, sbhumanisteditor@gmail.com

Deadline for submissions to the Secular Circular is midnight, the last day of each month. Our web site, www.SBHumanists.org, archives current and past issues of the *Secular Circular*.

Annual HSSB membership dues: \$36 for an individual, \$60 for a couple, \$100 for a Society Supporter, and \$300 (or more) for a Society Patron. Non-members may subscribe to hardcopy of this newsletter for an annual fee of \$20. E-mail copies provided to members and interested non-members at no charge.

To join HSSB: Send your contact information and a check for your membership dues made out to *Humanist Society of Santa Barbara*, to Mary Wilk, P.O. Box 30232, Santa Barbara, CA 93130. For further membership information contact Mary Wilk at mwilk@cox.net.

For more information about HSSB, contact any of the officers at the email or P.O. Box addresses shown above.

Like our page on Facebook. Join our Facebook Group. Watch our videos on YouTube. 

July 24-25: 80th Annual Conference, American Humanist Association. This is a virtual event celebrating 80 years of humanism. Speakers TBA. [AHA 80th Annual Conference](#)

August 13: *The 2021 Friggatriskaidekaphobia Treatment Center Opening August 13th*. An on-line Friday the 13th superstition bash! SoCal Secular Coalition event. [Friday the 13th superstition bash](#)



Humanist Society of
Santa Barbara
P.O. Box 30232
Santa Barbara, CA 93130

HSSB Calendar

Tuesday July 13th, 5:00 pm. HSSB Board Meeting. Join as early as 4:45pm for dinner & socializing. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83592300667>. Members always welcome to attend.

Saturday July 17th, 3:00 pm. Bruce Gleason. *Pros and Cons of Nuclear Power.*
Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83185531234>

Sunday July 25th, Noon-4pm. HSSB Summer Picnic. Tuckers Grove Park, Area 4. \$5 for members, \$25 for a guest when accompanied by a member. RSVP to Cisneyan@gmail.com. In person! No Zoom link!

Sunday August 1, 3:00pm. Dave Flattery. *COVID-19 Pandemic Models Update.*
Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82598900099>.

Tuesday August 17th, 5:00 pm. HSSB Board Meeting. Join as early as 4:45pm for dinner & socializing. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83592300667>. Members always welcome to attend.

Saturday August 21st, 3:00 pm. Professor Joe Uscinski. *Conspiracy Theories Are For Losers.*
Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89852772418>.