

Documentary Analysis
"The Unbelievers"
Directed by: Gus Holwerda

Abstract

The documentary consisted of following around Lawrence Krauss and Richard Dawkins as they spread the concept of secular thinking. Publicly speaking about atheism, they teach us that no topic is free from skepticism and question other than indisputable facts. In one of the debate scenes Krauss said, if we live in a world that is no longer subject to question we live a world where thinking has stopped.

The Topics

Much of the main focus had to do with how a properly informed public is crucial when it comes to a democracy. Lawrence Krauss asks how are people supposed to make an educated vote for a president without being properly informed about government issues that are blurred through religious beliefs, things such as gay rights and evolution in school. For someone who isn't educated on the legitimacy of evolution will most likely vote for it to be banned from public schools. During one of the scenes with Dawkins, he's on the phone with an angry Christian pastor, and the pastor believes that because someone is an atheist they must have no moral code and that Dawkins is teaching the youth to "hate god". He also told Dawkins that without a god, there is no meaning of life. Dawkins challenges his claims, and argues his rebuttal very well, he explains that we don't need a god to decide our moral code or to give our lives meaning,

we can decide what our purpose is in life. Some focus was given to Lawrence Krauss's recent book "Something from nothing" and how it makes the argument against creationism. Some focus was given to Lawrence Krauss's recent book "Something From Nothing" and it makes the argument against creationism. On March 24, 2012, over 30,000 secularists, atheists, skeptics and non believers gathered in Washington DC to attend the first ever Rally for Reason. The people featured at the rally included Adam Savage, Tim Minchin, Eddie Izzard, Bill Maher, Paul Provenza, Jessica Ahlquist. It's the largest gathering of the secular movement in recorded history. Despite this, the event was not covered by any major news networks.

The Cinematography

There were many very beautiful and artsy shots between segments and interviews and it's easy to see that these shots took a lot of time to get, as many of them were time lapsed shots. It was a much needed thing to have these transitional artsy shots because most of the shots during the segments were very generic. The shots during the different segments were set up like a typical interview or like a TED Talk. The music was only okay, a lot of the music in the film was used as filler. The choice of music was "eh" much of it didn't fit the scenes they were layered over.

Over All Thoughts

Without being so anal about the little details, this is an awesome documentary that portrays the skeptic community very well. This is a documentary that should be

recommended to people who are interested in atheism or people who are thinking about coming out as a skeptic.