

1: Tom Flynn – “War on Christmas | Episylogism

Thomas W. "Tom" Flynn (born August 18,) is an American author, journalist, novelist, executive director of the Council for Secular Humanism, and editor of its journal Free Inquiry.

He edited *The New Encyclopedia of Unbelief*, a comprehensive reference work on the history, beliefs, and thinking of men and women who live without religion. He is also the author of several anti-religious black comedy science fiction novels. He believed zealously in the teachings of the pre-Vatican II Roman Catholic Church, beginning to question its teachings only after many church doctrines and practices were revised in the wake of the Second Vatican Council, which affected parish life when Flynn was a young adolescent. Over several years of inquiry he rejected his Catholicism, then his Christianity, and ultimately his theism. Ingersoll on the open stacks. Secular humanism While working as a corporate and industrial filmmaker and later as an advertising account executive, he began to do volunteer work for the Council for Democratic and Secular Humanism CODESH, publisher of *Free Inquiry* magazine, which was based in Buffalo where he resided after In he resolved to stop celebrating Christmas, saying it was no longer "the birthday of anyone I knew. In he became the editor of *Free Inquiry*. Popular culture In a *Point of Inquiry* podcast, while discussing an increase of the nonreligious in the United States with host DJ Grothe, Flynn stated, "Over a period from the late s to the dawn of the 21st century, a number of polls using a number of different methodologies had continued to show a steady rise, an approximate doubling in the number of people who did not claim traditional religious affiliation. The fundamentalist religious right has been growing very widely. Apparently, the secularist left, if we can call it that, has been growing pretty strongly too, and most of this growth has been at the expense of the center. He was billed onscreen as a folklorist. His critique was still controversial in , when editor Dale McGowan published a point-counterpoint debate on the Santa Claus myth in his handbook for nonreligious parents, *Parenting Beyond Belief*: Flynn argued that early immersion in the Santa myth predisposed children to accept absurd religious teachings in later life; McGowan argued that the discovery that the Santa myth was untrue prepared children to reject religious dogmas in later life. Both agreed that the subject demanded further research by the child-development community. Speaking to *Point of Inquiry* host Robert M. Price about the putative "War on Christmas," Flynn states that retailers have found "there is a lot more religious diversity Grothe on *Point of Inquiry* that he does not hate Christmas. He stopped celebrating the holiday in and has found that it is very difficult to escape from. There is a lot of pressure Currently, most Christians "strongly demand that everyone pay lip-service to their sectarian birthday holiday. The essay attracted national media attention including more than a score of local and national radio reports during the holiday season. It was as a consequence of this publicity that Prometheus Books offered Flynn a contract for the book. Tom Flynn in office Science fiction novels Flynn is the author of two published satiric science fiction novels whose themes include the media and religion. *Galactic Rapture*, published in by Prometheus Books, concerns the rise of a consciously fraudulent false messiah on Jaremi Four, a ruined, quarantined world. Earth religions have become a particular fascination for the galactic public, and the idea spreads that he is the next incarnation of Jesus Christ. It is now accepted by Christians that God sends his son to one world after another. Science fiction author John Grant reviewed the now out of print book. See Sharp Press is re-releasing the series as three consecutive shorter books. Part Two is scheduled for publication in fall and Part Three in spring *Nothing Sacred* Prometheus Books, is a sequel to *Galactic Rapture* set ten years after the conclusion of that novel. It features the Mormon comic villain from the first novel; Gram Enoda, a young Earthman on the make who has accidentally acquired a hugely powerful, self-aware digital assistant, and a darkly charismatic televangelist whose theology is drawn from 19th century German and Russian nihilism who wind up interfering in a top-secret government plan to quite literally save the Galaxy. *The New Encyclopedia of Unbelief* In Prometheus Books published *The New Encyclopedia of Unbelief*, an page reference work on atheism, agnosticism, humanism, and related philosophies edited by Flynn. The work featured a foreword by Richard Dawkins. Intended as a successor to the *The Encyclopedia of Unbelief* edited by freethought bibliographer Gordon Stein, the work earned mixed reviews. *The International Review of Biblical Studies*

praised it, saying, "This is a most valuable addition to all existing encyclopedias of religion because it offers the calmly argued perspective of contemporary freethinkers, atheists and secular humanists". Documentary Flynn is executive producer for American Freethought, a TV documentary series on the history of secularism and censorship in the United States. American Freethought was written, produced and directed by Roderick Bradford. Lindsay applaud Flynn when presented with an award for his work on the Robert Ingersoll Birthplace Museum. Flynn designed the freethought museum at the birthplace of 19th century agnostic orator Robert G. Ingersoll in Dresden, New York, and has been its director since it opened to the public in . In the birthplace, a two-story frame house in the small village of Dresden pop. In it was decided to establish a museum at the birthplace, and Flynn was chosen to develop the museum. Grothe on Point of Inquiry "He [Ingersoll] literally was seen or heard by more Americans than would see or hear any other human being until the advent of motion pictures or radio. The Museum has been open to the public on weekends each summer and fall ever since. Conspicuous developments have included, in , installation of a large bust of Ingersoll that decorated a Dowagiac, Michigan, theater razed in . In , a historically accurate front porch was added by volunteer contractor and Ingersoll descendant Jeff Ingersoll. In that year the Museum also adopted its current tagline, referring to Ingersoll as "the most remarkable American most people never heard of," a reference to his near-exclusion from history by religious detractors. In a lost grand march titled Ingersolia, composed by prolific Gilded Age composer George Schleiiffarth died , was rediscovered and its score displayed at the Museum. In two interpretive Web sites made their debut: In , the current high-definition widescreen orientation video was installed, featuring the Ingersolia March unearthed in . Selected items were displayed beginning in .

Principal contentions

The secularist movement should emulate the strategies employed successfully by GLBT activists in recent decades, especially publicizing its numbers and encouraging nonbelievers to "out" themselves. Secular humanists should stress that they are explicitly nonspiritual and should avoid using the word "spirit" and its cognates whenever possible. Since long-term social trends are causing nonreligious institutions, public and private, to displace religious organizations as providers of social and community services, there is no reason for humanist and atheist organizations to launch sectarian charitable initiatives of their own patterned on those conducted by churches. Instead, nonbelievers who take secularization seriously should welcome the gradual disappearance of providers who discriminate according to worldview from the ranks of service providers. The rapid acceptance of same-sex marriage is in one sense regrettable as it has co-opted the powerful GLBT movement to become a supporter of traditional matrimony. Prior to the emergence of same-sex marriage as an attainable reform goal, GLBT activism seemed more likely to compel the creation of a wholly secular civil union system that would have provided an alternative to traditional matrimony and would probably have seriously undercut it; in the long term this is a more desirable goal than simply expanding traditional marriage to include same-sex couples. Overpopulation remains an existential threat to human welfare, and has been so since the late s. Human numbers have become so excessive that over several generations they will need to be reduced several-fold in order to achieve long-term sustainability for the human community. It remains to be seen whether the environment has already been so degraded that long-term human survival will be possible at all. Flynn has also written for Free Inquiry arguing that euthanasia in the form of mercy killing is acceptable. In the article, Flynn cast doubt on the usefulness of the doctrine of double effect which is used to justify a distinction between passive and active euthanasia.

2: About Tom Flynn (author) | Novelist, Science fiction writer | United States of America | UpClosed

Tom Flynn is Executive Director of The Council for Secular Humanism, Editor of Free Inquiry magazine, and Director of the Robert Green Ingersoll Birthplace Museum. A journalist, novelist, entertainer, and freethought historian, Flynn is the author of numerous articles and editorials for Free Inquiry magazine.

I actually like this time of year a lot. And for most moderate and non-practising Christians, the Christian mythology has been superseded in importance by the myth of Santa Claus – another all-knowing, god-like figure with an entourage of special helpers who passes judgement on little children and rewards them for being good. Despite these differences, what unites both moderates and fundamentalists at this time of year is an overarching Christian identity – a belief that the God of the Bible exists, was incarnated in human form, lived and taught amongst us and died for the sins of humanity. Even those claiming personal experiences of the divine must admit that their experiences only have the meaning they do because they reinforce pre-existing beliefs, which in the case of Christians are rooted in the Bible. The Nativity is a perfect example. How has this completely unbelievable story survived years and years of scholarship? How – given its annual repetition over umpteen centuries – has it not come to be treated by the majority of people as the thoroughly inconsistent, completely implausible, utterly absurd fabrication that it is? But before I do I want to make one final point. The point Dawkins makes here so powerfully is that sacred texts such as the Bible should not be trusted as sources of evidence for beliefs – and in fact, cannot and do not offer any evidence for belief. I remember once making this point to a moderate Muslim friend of mine. His response surprised me, because as a defence of sacred texts, what it amounted to was saying that they should not be given the status of sacredness. They are not meant to be factually accurate and should not be taken literally. Their meaning is subject to interpretation. My wish this Present Day is that more and more people learn to rid themselves of nonsense. And with that, over to Dawkins: But an Old Testament prophecy Micah 5: But some said, Shall Christ come out of Galilee? Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was? Matthew and Luke handle the problem differently, by deciding that Jesus must have been born in Bethlehem after all. But they get there by different routes. Matthew has Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem all along, moving to Nazareth only long after the birth of Jesus, on their return from Egypt where they fled from King Herod and the massacre of the innocents. Luke, by contrast, acknowledges that Mary and Joseph lived in Nazareth before Jesus was born. So how to get them to Bethlehem at the crucial moment, in order to fulfil the prophecy? Except that historically it is complete nonsense, as A. David, if he existed, lived nearly a thousand years before Mary and Joseph. Why on earth would the Romans have required Joseph to go to the city where a remote ancestor had lived a millennium earlier? It is as though I were required to specify, say, Ashby-de-la-Zouch as my home town on a census form, if it happened that I could trace my ancestry back to the Seigneur de Dakeyne, who came over with William the Conqueror and settled there. There was indeed a census under Governor Quirinius – a local census, not one decreed by Caesar Augustus for the Empire as a whole – but it happened too late: In the December issue of Free Inquiry, Tom Flynn, the Editor of that excellent magazine, assembled a collection of articles documenting the contradictions and gaping holes in the well-loved Christian story. Flynn himself lists the many contradictions between Matthew and Luke, the only two evangelists who treat the birth of Jesus at all. Robert Gillooly shows how all the essential features of the Jesus legend, including the star in the east, the virgin birth, the miracles, the execution, the resurrection and the ascension are borrowed – from other religions already in existence in the Mediterranean and Near East region. But there are many unsophisticated Christians out there who think it absolutely is necessarily so – who take the Bible very seriously indeed as a literal and accurate record of history and hence as evidence supporting their religious beliefs. Do these people never open the book that they believe is the literal truth? Worse, there is almost no overlap in the names on the two lists! Richard Dawkins, *The God Delusion*, –

3: Free Inquiry - Wikipedia

Tom Flynn - The Real War on Christmas December 22, Tom Flynn is the Editor of Free Inquiry magazine. A journalist, novelist, entertainer, and folklorist, Flynn is the author of numerous articles for Free Inquiry, many addressing church-state issues, as well as the best-selling The Trouble With Christmas, about which he has made hundreds of radio and TV appearances in his role as the.

Tom Flynn author Save Thomas W. He is also the author of several anti-religious, black comedy, science fiction novels. He believed zealously in the teachings of the pre-Vatican II Roman Catholic Church, beginning to question its teachings only after many church doctrines and practices were revised in the wake of the Second Vatican Council, which affected parish life when Flynn was a young adolescent. Over several years of inquiry he rejected his Catholicism, then his Christianity, and ultimately his theism. Ingersoll on the open stacks. In , he resolved to stop celebrating Christmas, saying it was no longer "the birthday of anyone I knew. In he became the editor of Free Inquiry. Popular culture In a Point of Inquiry podcast, while discussing an increase of the nonreligious in the United States with host DJ Grothe, Flynn stated, "Over a period from the late s to the dawn of the 21st century, a number of polls using a number of different methodologies had continued to show a steady rise, an approximate doubling in the number of people who did not claim traditional religious affiliation. The fundamentalist religious right has been growing very widely. Apparently, the secularist left, if we can call it that, has been growing pretty strongly too, and most of this growth has been at the expense of the center. He was billed onscreen as a folklorist. Flynn argued that early immersion in the Santa myth predisposed children to accept absurd religious teachings in later life; McGowan argued that the discovery that the Santa myth was untrue prepared children to reject religious dogmas in later life. Both agreed that the subject demanded further research by the child-development community. Price about the putative "War on Christmas," Flynn states that retailers have found "there is a lot more religious diversity Grothe on Point of Inquiry that he does not hate Christmas. He stopped celebrating the holiday in and has found that it is very difficult to escape from. There is a lot of pressure Currently, most Christians "strongly demand that everyone pay lip-service to their sectarian birthday holiday. The essay attracted national media attention including more than a score of local and national radio reports during the holiday season. It was as a consequence of this publicity that Prometheus Books offered Flynn a contract for the book. Galactic Rapture, published in by Prometheus Books, concerns the rise of a consciously fraudulent false messiah on Jaremi Four, a ruined, quarantined world. Earth religions have become a particular fascination for the galactic public, and the idea spreads that he is the next incarnation of Jesus Christ. It is now accepted by Christians that God sends his son to one world after another. Science fiction author John Grant reviewed the now out of print book. Part Two is scheduled for publication in fall and Part Three in spring It features the Mormon comic villain from the first novel; Gram Enoda, a young Earthman on the make who has accidentally acquired a hugely powerful, self-aware digital assistant, and a darkly charismatic televangelist whose theology is drawn from 19th century German and Russian nihilism who wind up interfering in a top-secret government plan to quite literally save the Galaxy. The work featured a foreword by Richard Dawkins. Intended as a successor to the The Encyclopedia of Unbelief edited by freethought bibliographer Gordon Stein, the work earned mixed reviews. The International Review of Biblical Studies praised it, saying, "This is a most valuable addition to all existing encyclopedias of religion because it offers the calmly argued perspective of contemporary freethinkers, atheists and secular humanists". American Freethought was written, produced and directed by Roderick Bradford. Lindsay applaud Flynn when presented with an award for his work on the Robert Ingersoll Birthplace Museum. Flynn designed the freethought museum at the birthplace of 19th century agnostic orator Robert G. Ingersoll in Dresden, New York, and has been its director since it opened to the public in In the birthplace, a two-story frame house in the small village of Dresden pop. In it was decided to establish a museum at the birthplace, and Flynn was chosen to develop the museum. Grothe on Point of Inquiry "He [Ingersoll] literally was seen or heard by more Americans than would see or hear any other human being until the advent of motion pictures or radio. Conspicuous developments have included, in , installation of a large

bust of Ingersoll that decorated a Dowagiac, Michigan theater razed in In that year the Museum also adopted its current tagline, referring to Ingersoll as "the most remarkable American most people never heard of," a reference to his near-exclusion from history by religious detractors. Selected items were displayed beginning in Instead, nonbelievers who take secularization seriously should welcome the gradual disappearance of providers who discriminate according to worldview from the ranks of service providers. Before the emergence of same-sex marriage as an attainable reform goal, GLBT activism seemed more likely to compel the creation of a wholly secular civil union system that would have provided an alternative to traditional matrimony and would probably have seriously undercut it; in the long term this is a more desirable goal than simply expanding traditional marriage to include same-sex couples. Human numbers have become so excessive that over several generations they will need to be reduced several-fold in order to achieve long-term sustainability for the human community. It remains to be seen whether the environment has already been so degraded that long-term human survival will be possible at all. In the article, Flynn cast doubt on the usefulness of the doctrine of double effect which is used to justify a distinction between passive and active euthanasia. Prometheus Books ,

4: Free Inquiry | Revolv

Tom Flynn. Tom Flynn is the Center for Inquiry's vice president for media and director of Inquiry Media Productions. He is also executive director of the Council for Secular Humanism and editor of its flagship magazine, Free Inquiry.

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5: CFI Speakers | Center for Inquiry

Tom Flynn is available for interviews until Friday, December (He still celebrates weekends.) Free Inquiry is a bimonthly magazine featuring thoughtful and provocative commentary from such leading political and social commentators as Richard Dawkins, Christopher Hitchens, Wendy Kaminer, and Nat Hentoff.

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida. Founder and Co-Editor A Journal of Philosophy Center for Inquiry: Executive Editor , Editorial Board Free Inquiry Center for Inquiry: The Pluralist University of Illinois Press: The Pragmatism Cybrary www. Founder and Cybrarian Current Reviews for Academic Libraries: Bibliographer and reviewer, Transactions of the Charles S. Encyclopedia of Philosophy of Education: Four volumes are currently in progress. Seven sets, totaling 28 volumes, were published in my series from to Eleven books were published under my editorship from to Academic Societies Society of Humanist Philosophers: Humanist Institute nonprofit educational organization: Class 18 Mentor, Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy: Amsterdam and New York: Moral Performance Enhancement for Realists. Acknowledging Limitations of Neurotechnology, and Morality. American Journal of Bioethics-Neuroscience v. Performance Enablement and Self-Transformative Technologies. Cambridge Quarterly of Health Care Ethics v. Ethics in Biology, Engineering and Medicine v. Reflections for Neuroethics and Bioethics. Neuropragmatism, Neuroethics, and Free Will. Neuroethics and Informed Public Policy. Frontiers in Systems Neuroscience v. Considerations for International Relevance. Philosophy, Ethics, and Humanities in Medicine v. Mentis Verlag, , pp. Cambridge University Press, forthcoming. In Debates About Neuroethics: Springer, , pp. Routledge, , pp. Neuroethical Considerations, and Implications for Policy. Ethical and Policy Implications in International Perspectives, ed. Fabrice Jotterand and Veljko Dubljevic Oxford: Oxford University Press, , pp. Prometheus Books, , pp. American Philosophy and the Brain. London and New York: Brains at Work with the World. Moving Beyond Creeping Cartesianism. European Journal of Pragmatism and American Philosophy v. Bulletin of the Santayana Society no. Berlin and New York: In Neuroscience, Neurophilosophy, and Pragmatism: Understanding Brains at Work in the World, ed. Shook and Tibor Solymosi. Palgrave Macmillan, , pp. Pragmatist Neurophilosophy, Old and New, ed. Tibor Solymosi and John R. Shook London and New York: Bloomsbury, , pp. Peirce in His Own Words: Torkild Thellefsen and Bent Sorensen Berlin: Mouton De Gruyter, , pp. Franks and Jonathan H. Turner Berlin and New York: American Philosophy, Pragmatism Books Pragmatism: An Annotated Bibliography, Vanderbilt University Press, Co-editor with Hugh McDonald, F. Schiller on Pragmatism and Humanism: Fordham University Press, Editor, The Essential William James. Philosophy Documentation Center, Selective Attention and Critical Reaction. Catholic University of America Press, , pp. Schiller and European Pragmatism. Shook and Joseph Margolis Malden, Mass.: Blackwell, , pp. William Lawson and Donald Koch Bloomington: Indiana University Press, , pp. Vanderbilt University Press, , pp. Editor, Exuberant Skepticism by Paul Kurtz. Co-author with Paul Singh. The Oxford Handbook of Secularism. Co-editor with Phil Zuckerman. Oxford University Press, Four commentaries and my "Reply to Commentaries" will accompany this article. Theology Guided by Philosophy and Cosmology. International Journal for Philosophy v. Partners in Religious Naturalism. Chapters in Volumes "Categorizing Secular Views: Authentic Secularity, Polysecularity, and Forms of Polysecularity. Herder, Schelling, and Dewey on Natural Piety. Macmillan Reference USA, , pp. Lexington Books, , pp. Wiley-Blackwell, , pp. Tom Flynn Amherst, N. Philosophy of Religion, ed. Philosophical Society of Turkey, , pp. Rodopi, , pp. Framing the Field of Secular Studies. Moral Saints as Experimental Theologians.

6: John Robert Shook PhD

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7: Read eBooks online | World Heritage Encyclopedia | Tom Flynn (author)

Appeared in Free Inquiry, vol 38 issue 5 By Tom Flynn We may soon be able to end one aspect religious nonprofits' preferential treatment - if our own co-activists don't muddy the waters.

8: Tom Flynn (author) | Revolvy

Tom Flynn is the Center for Inquiry's vice president for media and director of Inquiry Media Productions. He is also executive director of the Council for Secular Humanism and editor of its flagship magazine, Free Inquiry.

9: Tom Flynn - The Real War on Christmas | Point of Inquiry

Tom Flynn is the Executive Director of the Council for Secular Humanism, Editor of Free Inquiry magazine, and Director of the Robert Green Ingersoll Birthplace Museum.

11./tThe Six Paramitas Chaos in carpathia Women and structural violence In the fourth year Interview questions for freshers mechanical engineer Church discipline America as empire Great Structures in History The World Trade Center (Great Structures in History) Epiphany and the western epic tradition Hacking for dummies 4th edition Identifying young adults : would you know a young adult if you fell over one in the aisle? Slim in 6 weight loss eating plan First noble truth Transnational management 6th edition Healthy, active and outside! Postmodern fantastic in contemporary British fiction Imperial Guptas and their times The road not taken : service learning as an example of feminist pedagogy in economics KimMarie McGoldrick Velazquez Las hilanderas. Winnie the pooh full text Dream theater sheet music Typography and graphic design from antiquity to the present Fiscal policy and macroeconomic stability in Mediterranean countries Great Britain and Ireland : variations in party government Ian Budge The Impact of Enforcement on Street Users in England Squirrel watching Warren Wilson College Drawn Fabric Embroidery (Batsford Classic Embroidery) Pointers in c by yashwant kanetkar ebook The First Amendment and Religion and the Constitution Cases and Materials The epistle from the Yearly-Meeting, held in London, by adjournments, from the 21st to the 29th of the fi Willowbys World of Unicorns Irish long distance walks Sanctuary Elizabeth M. Kerr The mountains west of town Wright r research methods for counseling 2014 Basic medical histology Black Beauty (Adventure Classics) Alexander Spencer, Judith Renner, and Andreas Kruck Shrek in context The mouse is dead, long live the ogr Cults, too good to be true