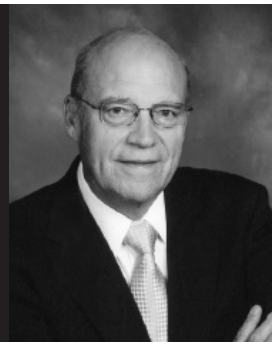




Dr. Fred Schwarz

The Schwarz Report

60 Years Defending Our Christian Faith



Dr. David Noebel

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Vladimir Bukovsky: Anti-Communist Warrior

by Marek Jan Chodakiewicz

One of the first things famous Soviet dissident Vladimir Bukovsky (1942–2019) told me about himself was that his roots were Polish. After the crushing of the Kościuszko Insurrection of 1794, his ancestor, Pan Bukowski, was taken prisoner by the Muscovites and shipped off to Siberia. This was a harsh introduction to Russian living for the family. Vladimir would continue into the footsteps of his forefathers.

Vladimir was born in the matrix of the Soviet Union, but as a teenager, he self-liberated. At 14, he heard about communist leader Nikita Khrushchev's secret speech blaming Stalin for slaughtering millions. Soon after, he rooted for the Hungarian freedom fighters in 1956. He started asking questions. He challenged the system. Upon his first arrest in 1959, the youngster refused to become a snitch for the Soviet secret police. And the KGB judged him, partly with rigid annoyance and partly with grudging admiration, unfit for recruitment.

In 1963, Vladimir was arrested, tried, and sentenced to two years for anti-Soviet agitation. They locked him up in a psychiatric ward (psikhushka), where he was "diagnosed" with "symptomless schizophrenia." According to Soviet "science," anyone opposing communism had to be a schizophrenic, even when he did not display any symptoms. He was medicated forcibly. Bukovsky told me that the trick was to learn how to regurgitate the psychotropic drugs so the hospital wardens and nurses would not notice.

After getting out in 1965, the intrepid dissident plunged right back into anti-communist activities. He co-organized a demonstration and a petition drive in solidarity with other Soviet dissidents. For this he was rearrested and thrown back into the red looney bin. Now things turned tougher. The KGB wanted to turn their prisoner into a vegetable. Forcible administration of drugs and their doses increased. Luckily, the regurgitation trick continued to serve the dissident. Vladimir endured half a year of this but was unexpectedly released after half a year in mid-1966.

Six months later, Bukovsky joined a demonstration in defense of other nonviolent protesters who were on trial or under lock and key, only to be seized himself and tried for violating a ban on public protest. In his defense, he invoked Soviet law, which Soviet judges and secret policemen were apparently violating. Because Vladimir refused to express remorse for demonstrating, he was sent to the Gulag—a penal colony with a forced labor regime in Bor in the Voronezh region. His sentence was three years. He got out in 1970.

Drawing on his experiences in the Gulag and, in particular, in psychiatric wards, the dissident began compiling a record of the Soviet abuse of psychiatry. To add insult to injury, he discovered that some of the communist psychiatrists who worked hand in glove with the KGB were treated cordially in the West and even invited to scholarly conferences at some of the leading institutions. The work of the medical monsters who facilitated the torture of political prisoners was treated seriously by some in the West. Bukovsky resolved to expose it. He managed to get his report smuggled out to the West.

Consequently, a veritable storm broke out among French, British, and other psychiatrists, some of whom demanded transparency from their Soviet colleagues and believed the dissident accounts of abuse. For this Vladimir found himself under pre-trial detention in isolation and almost a year later received a sentence of 12 years for "slandering Soviet science." While serving his sentence, he secretly co-authored a manual on how to beat the Soviet system of interrogation to avoid being accused of insanity. The manual eventually found its way to the West, where it was widely disseminated.

Bukovsky became a cause célèbre. The KGB was livid. In 1976, at the height of détente, the Kremlin decided to

further burnish its “liberal” credentials. Thus, Moscow agreed to swap the perky freedom-fighter for the head of the communist party of Chile, Luis Corvalán, who was incarcerated following a successful military coup to thwart a red revolution in that country. Compliments of General Augusto Pinochet, Vladimir was thrown out of the USSR and landed in the West.

He settled in England, where he successfully pursued a degree in biology at Cambridge University, where he settled permanently. Further, he trained as a neuropsychologist and continued his career as a writer and a human rights campaigner. He published prodigiously. Vladimir exposed communist crimes globally as well as Western naïveté regarding the Soviet Union. He joined numerous initiatives championing freedom. Among others, Bukovsky animated the American Foundation for Resistance International, which aspired to coordinate all anti-communist activities by the captive people in all countries afflicted by Marxism-Leninism. At the height of Gorbymania in the West, Vladimir and his associates dared to question the sincerity of secretary general of the Communist Party of the USSR Mikhail Gorbachev. They pointed out quite correctly that the Soviet leader wanted to save communism, not to destroy it.

In 1992, at the invitation of Russia’s president, Boris Yeltsin, Bukovsky returned to Moscow. The Kremlin solicited his assistance in putting together evidence for the public trial of the Communist Party for its crimes. Yeltsin eventually scrapped the idea, but not before Bukovsky was able to copy over a million pages of secret documents from Stalin’s archives. While Vladimir scanned away right in front of their noses, the KGB guardians of the documentary treasure trove had no idea what either a scanner or a laptop was, so, while watching him curiously, they never interrupted him. Later, to his own great surprise, the former dissident was permitted to fly out of Moscow undisturbed with his computer full of archival goodies.

In 1995, Bukovsky’s magnum opus, *Judgment in Moscow*, emerged from this research trip. Published in several languages, sadly, it had to wait nearly 25 years for an English translation and publication. Because we failed to smash communism after it tripped, he warned us about the resurgence of post-communism and its threat of metastasizing in the West in the form of political correctness and socialist étatism. Vladimir further cautioned everyone about the European integration and its totalitarian potential. He was always full of unorthodox ideas. Arguably the most shocking to us was his opinion about

the Muscovite state and its successors. Bukovsky told Dr. Sommer explicitly: “It is not my fault that I was born in the Soviet Union. Why should I harbor any sentiment to that entity? And Russia was a logical way to the USSR, even if many fabulous people lived there. . . . Therefore, as long as Russia does not fall apart into several entities, it will remain dangerous. A divided Russia is in the interest of the world, just as a united central Europe is in the interest of the world. . . . This is not a question of nationalism and resentment, but of physics and balance. Big and demoralized Russia will always harm her smaller neighbors. Only its dividing and balancing can eliminate the danger, although not completely because Russia is a universe of slavery.”

At the end, Vladimir had the last laugh: he was buried a hundred yards away from the grave of Karl Marx at Highgate Cemetery in London. Non-conformist, defiant, and free, Vladimir Bukovsky, RIP.

—*American Thinker*, December 1, 2019

Climate Change Hypocrisy

by Gregory Wrightstone

The United Nations is at it again—trafficking in climate change alarmism to promote its globalist political agendas. On November 26, 2019, the U.N. released another doom-and-gloom report, claiming that “drastic action” is the only way to avoid the catastrophic consequences that will result from climate change. Translation: Bow down to our collectivist, progressive political demands, or else. But here’s the problem—even progressives themselves can’t keep up with their own inane demands. And now, more than ever, they’re revealing the full extent of their climate-change hypocrisy.

It’s a tale we’ve heard time and time again, and this latest report is just more of the same. Coral reefs will collapse, coastal cities will flood, and temperatures will become unbearable—unless, of course, your nation adopts our ever-increasingly radical policy proposals. Only this time around, the proposal has descended from blatant radicalism to complete insanity.

According to the United Nations, countries will have to quintuple their commitments made under the Paris Climate Agreement. Yes, you heard that right. Under the new compact, each nation would have to reconfigure its

already unattainable climate change goals by multiplying them fivefold. Then and only then will the world finally be safe from the unseen calamity of climate change!

Aren't we tired of this foolishness yet? Keep in mind, this report is coming from the U.N., the same people who, just a few years ago, proclaimed the Paris Climate Accords to be the gold standard for action against global warming. These are the same collectivists that had the gall to criticize President Trump for his decision to withdraw from the accords—for putting American interests ahead of the United Nations' progressive agenda. "Abandoning the Paris agreement is cruel to future generations, leaving the world less safe and productive," decried Andrew Steer, the president of World Resources Institute.

But apparently, Mr. Steer was wrong. According to the U.N. itself, their once heralded Paris Climate Accords aren't nearly enough to combat climate change. The Left's standards are constantly shifting—almost as if they have no standards at all.

Indeed, collectivists' lack of standards constantly forces them to expose their own hypocrisy. They push their absurd environmental standards on everyone else but consistently fail to practice what they preach.

Take, for instance, Tesla CEO Elon Musk. Following Trump's decision to exit the Paris Climate Accords, Musk made a dramatic public withdrawal from the president's advisory council via tweet. Needless to say, the Left praised him as a paragon of virtue for standing up for climate change, despite his flying more than 150,000 miles last year on his private jet—the equivalent of six times around the world.

Additionally, Tesla vehicles have been found to increase levels of air pollution, while each rocket launch from Musk's SpaceX burns 29,600 gallons of fossil fuel. Yet the Left continues to oblige Musk with a barrage of government subsidies to support his businesses.

This problem isn't unique to Elon Musk, either—the Left routinely fails to hold its own accountable. Climate change activists, it would seem, are more than happy to block portions of the Geneva airport to protest the use of private jets. However, when nearly 1,500 private jets land at a climate change summit in Davos, Switzerland, the Left barely makes a peep.

The lack of moral outrage on this front demonstrates that the globalists' climate change hypocrisy is beyond the pale. They expect entire nations to follow their lead and institute their policies when they can't even hold a consistent standard for their own activists.

If these globalists truly thought the climate was in as

dire shape, as the U.N. suggests, you'd think they would prioritize their beliefs over their own convenience. But that's not what is happening. Instead, the Left continues to fly private jets and promote the likes of Musk, Tesla, and SpaceX—regardless of the supposed environmental harm they are facilitating. Undoubtedly, these globalists are massive hypocrites, and it's about time for America to confront them on that fact.

—*American Thinker*, December 2, 2019

Chick-fil-A and SPLC

by Tyler O'Neil

Chick-fil-A, once under fire for donating to "anti-LGBT" Christian organizations, has now taken flack for funding seemingly pro-LGBT charities. In a truly shocking development, the fast-food chain even funded the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), which is notorious for slandering conservative and Christian organizations by calling them "hate groups" on par with the Ku Klux Klan. While conservative Christians have been defending Chick-fil-A from criticism, the fast-food chain donated to one of their worst enemies.

On Wednesday, a Christian non-profit Chick-fil-A once supported called for a boycott of the fast-food chain.

"It's time for Christians to find a fast-food alternative to Chick-fil-A," Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council (FRC) said in a statement.

On Tuesday, Townhall's Ryan Bomberger revealed the shocking news that Chick-fil-A had given \$2,500 to the SPLC in 2017, citing the Chick-fil-A Foundation's Form 990.

Yet a Chick-fil-A spokeswoman insisted that the SPLC donation did not represent the company as a whole, and due to the restructuring of Chick-fil-A's philanthropic giving, it will not happen again.

"The donations in question were disclosed in the 2017 Chick-fil-A Foundation 990 that listed giving in that calendar year. Among the recipients that year were Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Salvation Army, Paul Anderson Youth Home and more than 300 other organizations. The SPLC donation was made by a volunteer member of the Chick-fil-A Foundation Advisory Board," the spokeswoman explained. "Each volunteer advisor, in

2017, was offered the opportunity to recommend a grant recipient. The grants were given to a range of organizations, including Meals on Wheels, Atlanta Mission, the Holocaust Survivor Support Fund, Georgia Historical Society, and brain health research at Emory University.”

The LGBT outcry against Chick-fil-A began with news of another Form 990. In 2012, the LGBT group Equality Matters accused the fast-food chain of giving “nearly \$2 million to anti-gay groups.” In 2010, the WinShape Foundation gave \$1,000 to the Family Research Council. Liberal news outlets like HuffPost cited the SPLC’s accusation that FRC is a “hate group,” and many branded the fast-food chain “Chick-fil-hate.” The backlash mounted after CEO Dan Cathy defended marriage as between one man and one woman. LGBT activists called a boycott.

Christians across the country rallied to Chick-fil-A for a “Chick-fil-A Appreciation Day” led by former Gov. Mike Huckabee (R-Ark.), driving sales through the roof. Even so, the company apologized for its comments and the WinShape Foundation stopped funding most of the “anti-gay” organizations, including FRC. Liberal groups continued to slam Chick-fil-A for its donations to the Salvation Army and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, however. In 2018, Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey was forced to apologize after eating Chick-fil-A during June, the designated LGBT Pride Month.

After the original boycott, a deranged man named Floyd Corkins targeted FRC for a terrorist attack. He stormed the headquarters with a nine-millimeter handgun and a bag of Chick-fil-A chicken sandwiches. Thanks to the bravery of security guard Leo Johnson, Corkins failed to carry out his planned massacre, but he did seriously wound Johnson. He later told the FBI he targeted FRC because of the SPLC’s “hate group” accusation. He also revealed his plan to smear the chicken sandwiches into the faces of FRC staff after he had killed them.

Corkins pled guilty to terrorism charges and was sen-

tenced to 25 years in prison.

The SPLC did not remove FRC from its “hate group” list after the attack. In fact, earlier this year the SPLC cleaned house at the top following a devastating scandal. Employees complained about racial discrimination, sexual harassment, and a cynical hate-for-pay fundraising “scam.” The SPLC had also used its “hate group” accusations to silence political opponents, like FRC.

While Chick-fil-A faced airport bans earlier this year, the fast-food chain had risen to become the fastest-growing restaurant chain in the nation. Known for good food, excellent service, and closing on Sundays to honor the Sabbath, it is both a natural fit for Christians and a great alternative to McDonald’s. Yet LGBT activists shut down the first Chick-fil-A in Britain.

Earlier this month, the company announced it would no longer fund the Salvation Army and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Chick-fil-A said it would restructure its philanthropic arm.

Despite the company’s insistence that it was not caving to LGBT activists, many Christians saw this restructuring as a betrayal. The company announced it would fund Covenant House International, an organization dedicated to helping homeless youth. As *PJ Media*’s Megan Fox has pointed out, local chapters of Covenant House (but not the international organization) have embraced LGBT pride, ostensibly in an attempt to welcome homeless teens who may identify as LGBT. A Chick-fil-A spokesman directed *PJ Media* to Covenant House’s Mission Statement:

We who recognize God’s providence and fidelity to His people are dedicated to living out His covenant among ourselves and those children we serve, with absolute respect and unconditional love.

That commitment calls us to serve suffering children of the street, and to protect and safeguard all children. Just as Christ in His humanity is the

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Find a complete list of books recommended by the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade.

Read back issues of *The Schwarz Report* as well.

visible sign of God’s presence among His people, so our efforts together in the covenant community are a visible sign that effects the presence of God, working through the Holy Spirit among ourselves and our kids.

In her statement to PJ Media, the Chick-fil-A spokeswoman added, “Our founder, Truett Cathy, built his business on Biblical principles that still guide the business today. He famously said: ‘Probably the greatest gift that God has given any one of us is the power that we have to change people’s lives by what we do. The best-run company is the company that is forever thinking about others.’ It is in this spirit that all donations are made.”

The SPLC does some good work—especially in the Alabama prison system—but its most high-profile work involves demonizing conservatives and Christians.

Leaders like Perkins would likely encourage the foundation to nix donations to the SPLC, overruling one board member’s preferences.

“Not only has Chick-fil-A abandoned donations to Christian groups including the Salvation Army, it has donated to one of the most extreme anti-Christian groups in America,” the FRC president declared. “Anyone who opposes the SPLC, including many Protestants, Catholics, Jews, Muslims, and traditional conservatives, is slandered and slapped with the ‘extremist’ label or even worse, their ‘hate group’ designation. At one point, the SPLC even added Dr. Ben Carson to its ‘extremist’ list because of his biblical views (and only took him off the list after public outcry).”

“Neither Dan Cathy nor anyone with Chick-fil-A inquired about the well-being of Mr. Johnson or any of the FRC team members, but they made a donation to the SPLC which was linked in federal court to this act of domestic terrorism,” Perkins added. “Chick-fil-A has seriously lost their way.”

In a separate statement to PJ Media, the FRC president emphasized the change from 2010 (when Chick-fil-A funded FRC) to 2017 (when the company bankrolled the SPLC).

“This certainly shows how rapid their descent has been. It makes no sense that the Christian community rallied to support Chick-fil-A, sending their sales through the roof, and Chick-fil-A responds by funding the anti-Christian Southern Poverty Law Center, the group linked to the shooter who stormed our headquarters,” Perkins said.

Walker Wildmon, vice president of operations for the American Family Association (AFA), which the SPLC has also accused of being a “hate group,” similarly con-

demned Chick-fil-A’s contribution to the smear group.

“We are extremely disgusted to learn that Chick-fil-A has donated to the largely discredited Southern Poverty Law Center,” Wildmon said. “The SPLC is known for spewing hate and division. This is further evidence that Chick-fil-A has strayed from the values of its founder Truett Cathy toward groups and organizations that undermine the very values on which America was built. This news today leaves no doubt that Chick-fil-A has surrendered to the far-left groups that hate Christian values and has even begun to fund those groups.”

—PJMedia, November 27, 2019

Christianity Remade the World

by Marvin Olasky

Until this year, the first 20 pages of *Witness* by Whitaker Chambers (Random House, 1952) comprised the most brilliant preface or foreword I’d ever read. Chambers, who had crossed over from Communism to Christianity, explained that Communism is “man’s second oldest faith. Its promise was whispered in the first days of the Creation under the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil: ‘Ye shall be as gods.’” And gods play to win, as Chambers goes on to show during the next 788 pages, which are good but not as good as the beginning.

The first 17 pages of historian Tom Holland’s *Dominion: How the Christian Revolution Remade the World* (Basic, 2019) knock the start of *Witness* out of first place. Those pages beautifully tell the amazing story of how a culture that had esteemed only big winners began to care about (in worldly terms) big losers. If the familiar Gospels no longer move you to wonder and perhaps tears, read that preface.

Holland begins with a description of ancient Rome’s most dramatic gentrification project. A ditch just outside the ancient walls was littered with the carcasses of dead slaves. Roman builders cleaned it out and created Rome’s first heated swimming pool. Holland notes, “The marble fittings, the tinkling fountains, the perfumed flower beds: all were raised on the backs of the dead.”

Some of those slaves had suffered the most excruciating, contemptible death Rome could offer: crucifixion. To be hung naked, nailed to a cross, every breath an

agony, helpless to beat away buzzards: “such a fate, Roman intellectuals agreed, was the worst imaginable.” But sometimes it seemed necessary, for “luxury and splendor such as Rome could boast were dependent, in the final reckoning, on keeping those who sustained it in their place.” Holland quotes politician/historian Tacitus: “We have slaves drawn from every corner of the world in our households . . . it is only by means of terror that we can hope to coerce such scum.”

Crucifixion as a deterrent needed to be public, with victims unavailingly crying for mercy, but “so foul was the carrion-reek of their disgrace that many felt tainted even by viewing a crucifixion.” Romans almost never described this ultimate penalty, but “four detailed accounts of the process by which a man might be sentenced to the cross, and then suffer his punishment, have survived from antiquity.” Remarkably, they all describe the same execution—that of “a Jew by the name of Jesus . . . resurrected into a new and glorious form. . . . By enduring the most agonizing fate imaginable, he had conquered death itself.”

Evangelicals understand this. Here’s what we often do not understand: “The utter strangeness of all this, for the vast majority of people in the Roman world, did not lie in the notion that a mortal might become divine.” Romans thought this had happened to Hercules, Romulus, Julius Caesar, and Caesar’s adopted son Augustus. Winners could gain divinity: They were victors because they had the power to torture their enemies, not to be tortured. Holland writes, “That a man who had himself been crucified might be hailed as a god could not help but be seen by people everywhere across the Roman world as scandalous, obscene, grotesque.”

The societies that developed over the centuries, as more people came to worship a loser (by Roman standards), grew a different set of virtues alongside the old Roman ones of military toughness and tenacity. Anselm, a millennium after the wondrous crucifixion, described them as “patience in tribulation, offering the other cheek, praying for one’s enemies, loving those who hate us.”

Holland’s next 600 pages mix brilliance and some questionable judgments, but they continue to depict the power of Christianity in upsetting the powerful. Even those who turn against the theology have usually absorbed some of the fundamental ethic. For example, the Me Too movement did not emerge from churches, but Holland notes that in ancient Rome sexual predation was unquestionably “the perk of a very exclusive subsection of society: powerful men. Zeus, Apollo, Dionysus: All

had been habitual rapists.”

Christianity changed all that in theory and sometimes in practice. Even those who hate Christ pay tribute to Him when they care for a few of the least of these—and, someday, maybe more.

—*World Magazine*, November 23, 2019

Columbia University: Heading Toward Full Blown Communism

by WorldNetDaily Staff

A professor who grew up in communist Romania has revealed that he quit his tenured position at Columbia University in New York City because the Ivy League school is “on its way toward full blown communism.”

Prof. Andrei Serban, an award-winning director who taught in the theater department, recalled the “social justice” demands that prompted his move in a Romanian TV interview translated by a Romanian-American immigrant, the College Fix reported.

In one instance, he was told as the chairman of a faculty hiring committee that he could not choose a heterosexual married man like himself, even if that person was the most qualified for the job.

“I felt like I was living under communism again,” he said in the interview on Romania’s TVR1 on Oct. 26.

The TV host expressed incredulity several times in the interview at the state of the American higher education system.

In another instance, he was said he was pressured to admit a male-to-female transgender applicant who auditioned as Juliet in “Romeo and Juliet.”

Serban said his colleagues expressed displeasure with him stating that this person could not become Juliet.

It was the last straw, for me, he said, and he resigned, explaining he could not violate his principles.

The College Fix said Andy Ionescu, a native Romanian speaker who immigrated to the United States in 1999, translated the interview.

Ionescu said it likely was the first time Serban made his resignation public.

Columbia still lists Serban as an active professor, the College Fix said, and the university’s media relations and

Serban did not respond to emails.

Serban said he was told by the dean of the art school that there were “too many white professors, too many heterosexual men.”

The committee should not choose someone like Serban, he was told, because he’s a heterosexual married man who has children.

According to his faculty bio, Serban is an accomplished theater and opera producer who served as the director of the Romanian National Theater and won a Tony Award.

—*WorldNetDaily*, November 10, 2019

Charles Darwin in Deep

Muck

by John Dale Dunn

The *American Thinker* commenters responses to my book review of *Foresight: How the Chemistry of Life Reveals Planning and Purpose*, by Physical Chemist, Spectrometrist Researcher Dr. Marcos Eberlin were, in many cases, well informed and insightful, but one extraordinary commentary was provided by Dr. Ronald Cherry of East Tennessee, who is board certified in four specialties of medicine and an energetic researcher in matters of biochemical cellular physiology and micro anatomy and physiology.

Dr. Cherry provided me with a commentary titled “Zero Probability for Self-Generated Life” that I found compelling and worth summarizing and discussing for the many who are interested in the debate on the origination of life and the appearances of species of life, the question—does the Darwin Theory of Origin of Species hold up to modern scientific analysis that includes the microanatomy and microphysiology as well as the active complex biochemistry of the magic that is a living cell?

The life functions of a single human cell, as described by Dr. Cherry, are far more complex than the world’s most capable supercomputer, and impossible for man to duplicate using non-living materials due to the complexity and the sub-microscopic size and fragility of biochemical and cellular elements that are critical to the development of more complicated functional living things, but also that provide for maintaining the survival of the “lesser” forms of cellular life. The complexity and rapidity of life-

requiring DNA transcription into messenger RNA, and then ribosomal translation into enzymes and proteins of structure and function challenges human understanding.

The living cell is enclosed in a protective membrane that is a perfect place for all the proteins and the other biochemically active molecules to perform chemical reactions to achieve important functions. For example, the DNA genetic code can direct and control, orchestrate, if you will, a cellular symphony where the 37 trillion cells of our human bodies produce a hundred thousand trillion enzymes and other proteins per second. Get your head around that one and consider whether such a symphony can result from random banging around of brainless chemicals.

Dr. Cherry asks the obvious question: where did the essential DNA code to run the cells come from, and how would the first strand of DNA, devoid of its cellular environment, initially run the cell—big if—the cellular environment had to be present to protect the DNA so it could run the factory. Dr. Cherry provides a lot of questions about the chicken/egg mystery, and points out the inadequacy of the self-creation theory, but there is no answer to this chicken/egg question, since there is no way to explain the circular puzzle. Cellular research has no explanation for how the first strand of DNA could perform its essential life generating work without the essential enzymes, ribosomes, energy production, and complex biochemical membrane functions that give DNA a place and an environment to work. DNA cannot work unless the conditions are right.

Nucleotides (the molecular building blocks of DNA, composed of phosphoric acid, deoxyribose and one of four nucleic acid bases) do not self-assemble in lifeless inorganic nature into the self-regulating, self-reproducing, mega-information containing polymers that we call genes. Even if there were an ocean full of these essential building blocks of DNA, there is no enzyme (call it DNA synthetase) that exists that can assemble DNA from scratch. Here we go again, circular causation questions: no enzyme to create the first strand of DNA, because DNA creates the enzymes and all enzyme assembly is based on DNA coding. The only DNA “assembly” enzyme in existence is DNA polymerase that cannot assemble DNA from the aforementioned nucleotides in the absence of DNA since it requires the presence of a pre-existing DNA template and coding to produce the polymerase. All enzymes are built on a DNA coded blueprint of messenger RNA, so the conundrum is clear; the cell’s first strand of self-generated DNA would require the

pre-existence of DNA, and perfectly coded RNA. That's a non-starter with a probability of zero.

The same circular problem exists with enzymes, large proteins that function to make cellular life. DNA codes the making of those enzymes that make things work. For example protein receptors, second messenger biochemicals directed back to the interior DNA, and enzymatic protein electrolyte channels that all work in a sequence that is regulated and highly choreographed and ordered by, guess what: DNA. But they have to be present for DNA to survive and function; whoops, circular causation strikes again.

All the regulation of cell activities coordinated by DNA ensures the proper pH and electrolyte concentration required for cell survival and DNA function. No DNA-assembly enzyme could exist prior to the existence of DNA so there could be no protective enzymatic membrane proteins prior to the existence of DNA, and no friendly environment in the cell. For all those reasons the first random self-assembled strand of DNA is an impossibility, doomed. Circular causality strikes.

Taking it a biochemical step further no DNA-assembly enzyme could exist prior to the existence of DNA because DNA codes all the proteins for the cell. There could be no RNA polymerase prior to the existence of DNA, an enzyme required for transcription of DNA into messenger RNA, that is the mechanism for creating essential proteins and enzymes. The immediate survival of the first self-generated strand of DNA would require the pre-existence of DNA-dependent RNA polymerase—not possible under the Darwinist incrementalist scientific theory.

Dr. Cherry points out that the DNA of the first living self-generated prokaryotic (single cell) entities, such as bacteria, would not have survived because these cells have a very short life span. The circular causation argument returns with a vengeance, the important role of DNA in creating survival and the urgent reproduction mechanisms for those simple cells.

Cells require energy produced in the form of discrete energy biochemicals called Adenosine Tri Phosphate (ATP), but such energy would be absent under pre-life

inorganic conditions because enzyme-containing mitochondria, essential for energy use, and their membranous prokaryotic equivalent, require DNA-encoded information as a pre-requisite for their existence—again, not possible because functional DNA is required to produce mitochondria and the enzymes necessary for energy production. Thus the first self-assembled strand of DNA, if it miraculously self-assembled, would lack ATP energy and be dead in the water.

The only rational, i.e. scientific, alternative explanation for cellular life is that cells were created intact. That DNA genes appeared at the same time as all the biochemical entities required to make the cell that the DNA was controlling. All the proteins, enzymes, organelles of the cell, membranes and all the energy that drives the activities of the cell—the interdependence of DNA and the components of the cells and the cellular activities makes the circular causation problem the insurmountable problem.

The DNA code is primary, but the structures and functions for which it codes must appear ahead of time for its initial self-assembly and subsequent survival, an impossibility, because that would require the pre-existence of DNA ahead of the first strand of DNA.

What we know about cellular anatomy and physiology makes a theory of self-assembly irrational, because it is impossible genetically and biochemically. Self-assembled cellular life is an irrational idea that is the basis for an atheistic explanation for life's origin, but which cannot overcome the circular causation problem. The science leads Dr. Cherry to the conclusion that living things must be the product of undiscovered magic, or by rational design which was not random or accidental. Dr. Cherry asserts Atheistic claims for self-generated life require a magical or religious-like faith that contradicts the scientific evidence, observations revealing a design and arguing for a designer, a Creator, belief compatible with science.

I don't know the nature or identity of the designer, but I must posit design when I see it. Dr. Cherry makes a strong case for design.

—*American Thinker*, November 23, 2019

Founded in 1953, the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade, under the leadership of Dr. Fred C. Schwarz (1913-2009) has been publishing a monthly newsletter since 1960. *The Schwarz Report* is edited by Dr. David A. Noebel and is offered free of charge to anyone asking for it. The Crusade's address is PO Box 129, Manitou Springs, CO 80829. Our telephone number is 719-685-9043. All correspondence and tax-deductible gifts (CACC is a 501C3 tax-exempt organization) may be sent to this address. You may also access earlier editions of *The Schwarz Report* and make donations at www.schwarzreport.org. Permission to reproduce materials from this Report is granted provided that the article and author are given along with our name and address. Our daily blog address is www.thunderontheright.wordpress.com.