

# TOLERATION?



**RELIGION,  
POLITICS,  
AND SOCIETY  
IN THE  
ENGLISH-  
SPEAKING  
WORLD (s)**

A background image showing a group of people, including a man in a kippah and a man in a turban, holding a purple banner. Big Ben is visible in the background. The image has a teal overlay.

# TOLERATION?

## QUOTES OF THE DAY



RELIGION,  
POLITICS,  
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IN THE  
ENGLISH-  
SPEAKING  
WORLD (s)





## QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Our form of government has no sense unless it is founded in a deeply felt religious **faith**, and I don't care what it is.”

[D. Eisenhower in 1952]

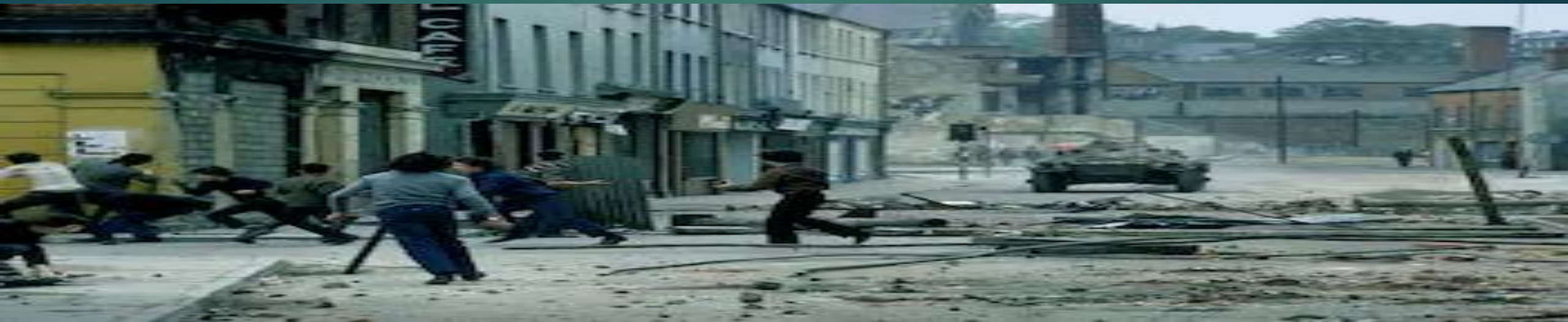


# Northern-Irish Joke of the Day (one of many versions)

A man is walking down the street in Belfast, when suddenly he's surrounded by a gang of men. They ask him: "Are you Protestant or Catholic?"

The first man, not knowing which answer will let him walk away unharmed, hedges his bets and replies: "actually, I'm an Atheist."

The leader of the gang pauses, then asks: "right, **but are you a Protestant Atheist or a Catholic Atheist?**"



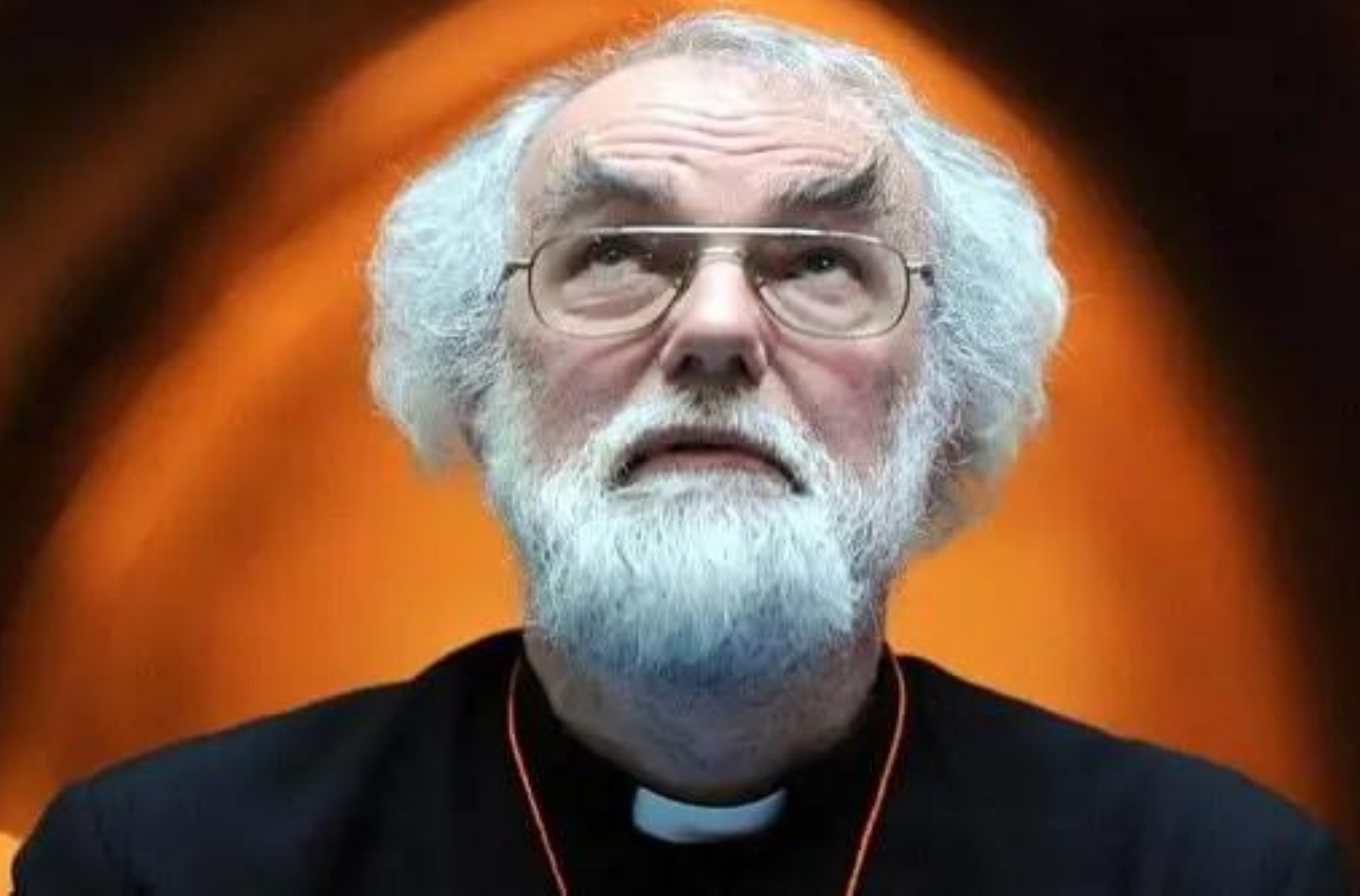


Seventeenth-Century Indian  
version of this 'joke' by Venetian  
traveller to India Nicolo or  
Nicolao Manucci (1638-1717) in  
his *History of Mogul India*

=> "Are you a Persian or a Hindu  
Christian?"







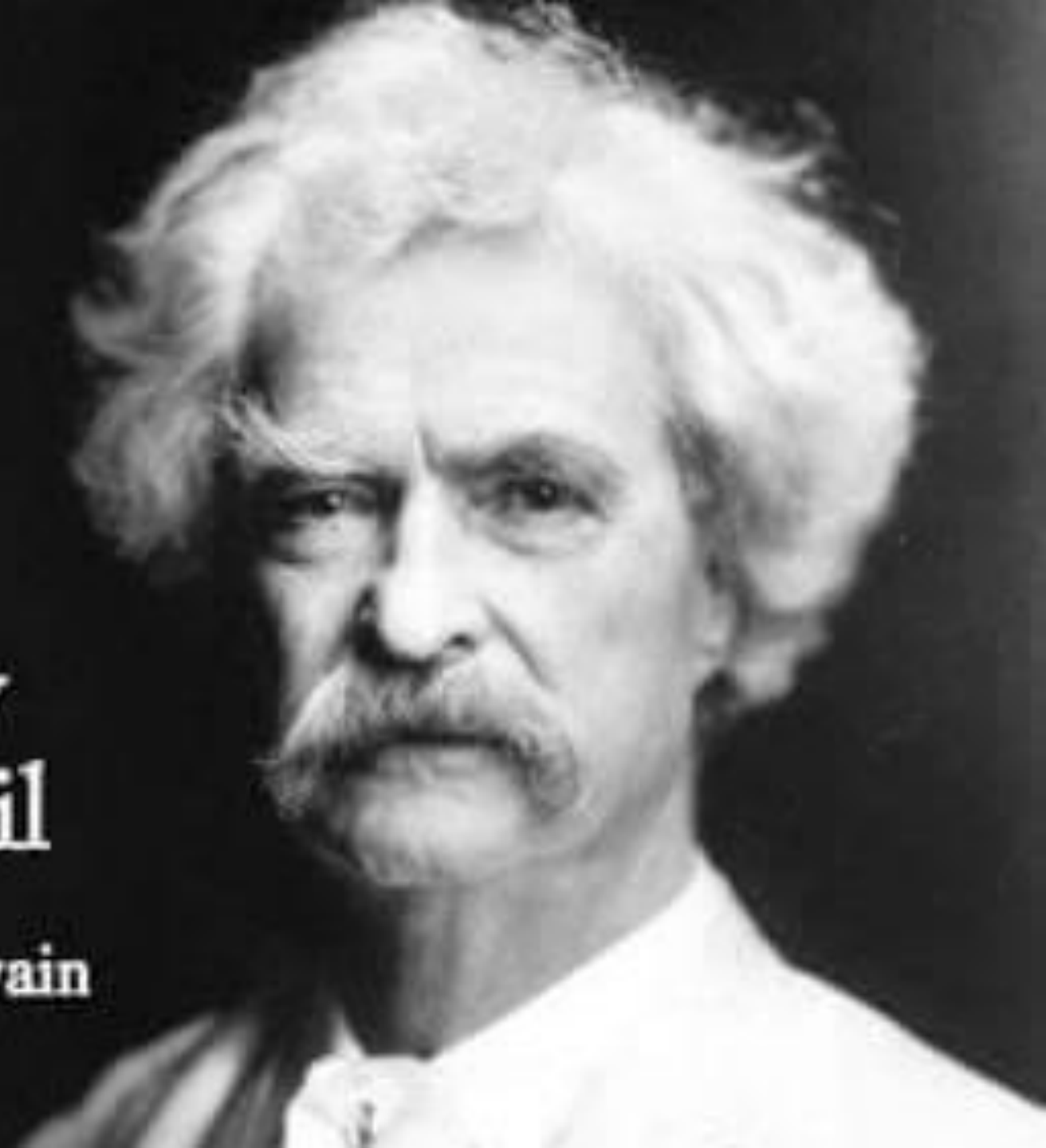
# Quote of the Day

Former Archbishop of Canterbury [2002-2012]  
Rowan Williams once claimed that the job  
“requires a newspaper in one hand and a  
Bible in the other.”

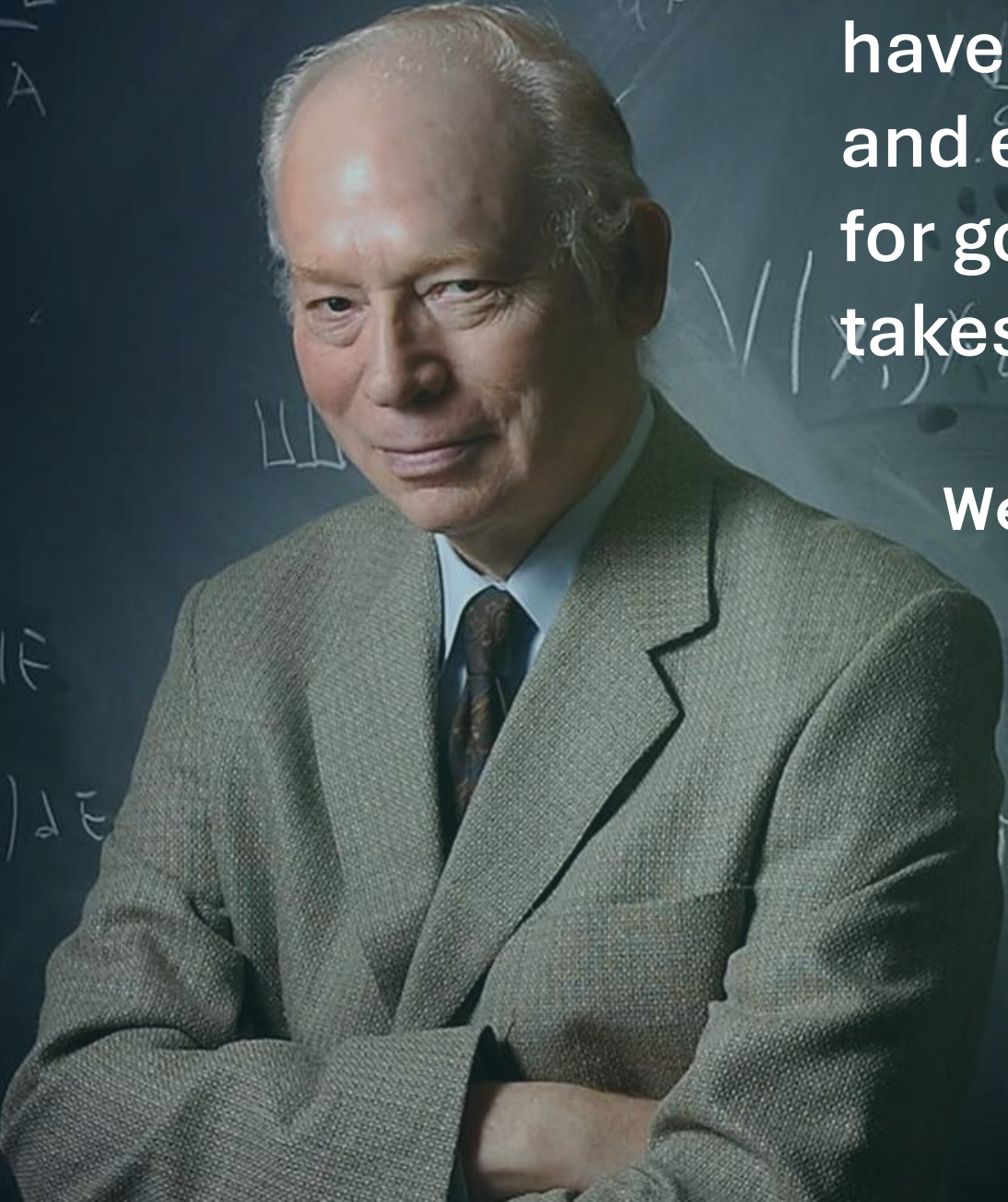
## QUOTE OF THE DAY

The lack of money  
is the root of all evil

- Mark Twain





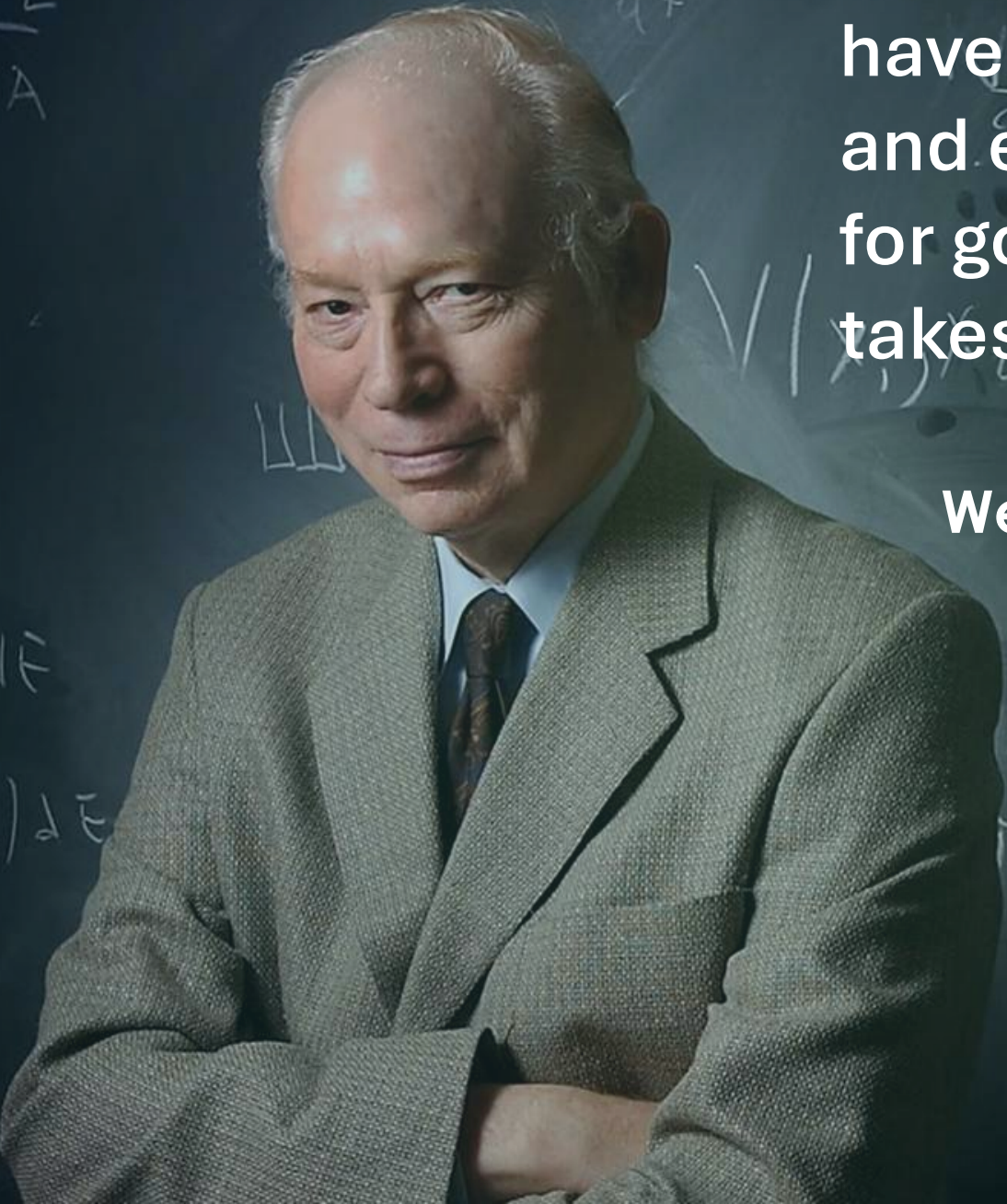
A portrait of physicist Steven Weinberg, an older man with white hair, wearing a grey suit and a patterned tie. He is standing with his arms crossed, looking slightly to the left. The background is a chalkboard filled with various mathematical equations and symbols in white chalk, including  $\frac{dL}{dA}$ ,  $\frac{2\pi G}{4\pi}$ ,  $V(x,y,z)$ ,  $\frac{1}{F} \frac{dF}{dt}$ ,  $\frac{Q(E)}{dE}$ ,  $\frac{d}{dt} = \frac{1}{N}$ ,  $\frac{d}{dt} = \frac{1}{N}$ , and  $\frac{d}{dt} = \frac{1}{N}$ .

“With or without religion, you would have good people doing good things and evil people doing evil things. But for good people to do evil things, that takes religion.”

Physicist and Nobel laureate Steven Weinberg (1933-2021), quoted in *The New York Times*, April 20, 1999

**QUOTE OF THE DAY**



A portrait of Steven Weinberg, an elderly man with white hair, wearing a grey suit, white shirt, and patterned tie. He is standing in front of a chalkboard filled with mathematical equations. His arms are crossed, and he has a serious expression.

“With or without religion, you would have good people doing good things and evil people doing evil things. But for good people to do evil things, that takes religion.”

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NB: Weinberg was famous for his **staunch** (as well as sarcastic) support of **atheism**



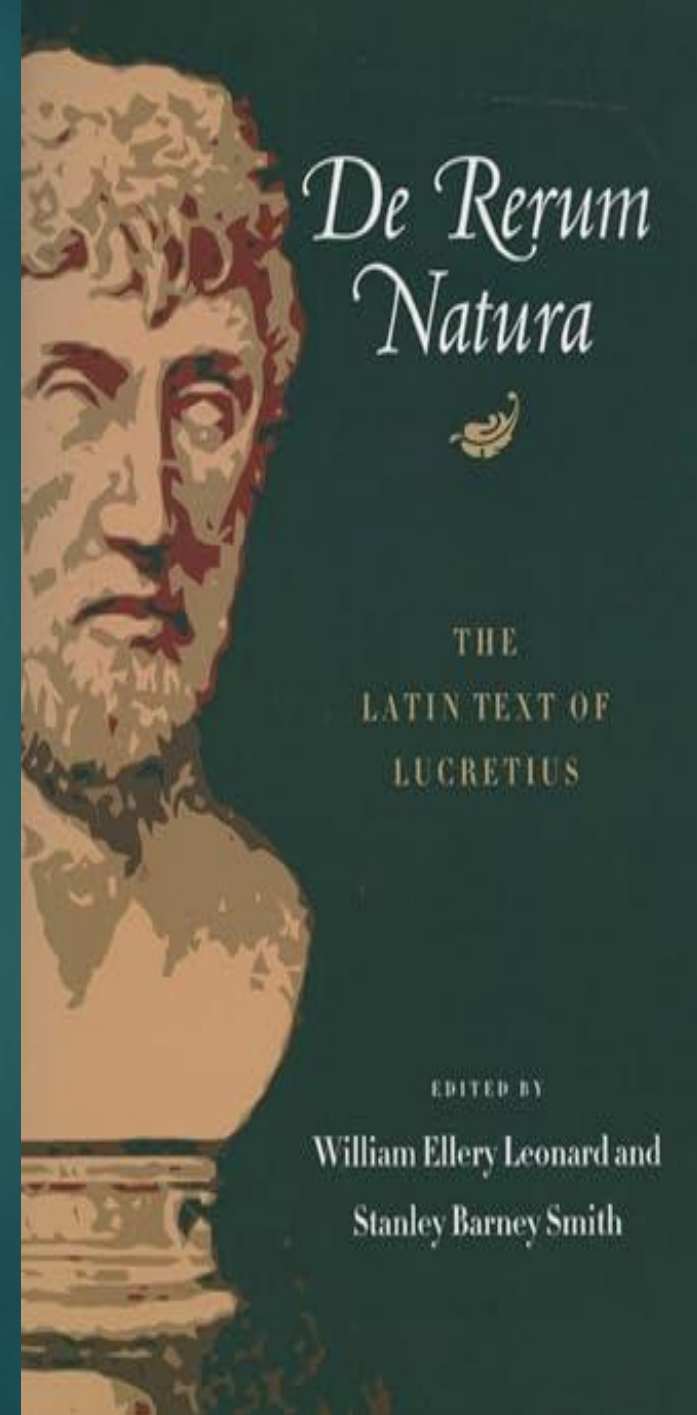
# Criticizing religion: an old tradition

**‘tantum religio potuit suadere malorum’**

(Lucretius, *de rerum natura*, Bk 1, 101, 1st c. BCE)

= “To such heights of evil has religion been able to drive men.”

*Religio* here: excessive religious zeal and overscrupulousness (=> *superstitio*)



# Criticism of religion ≠ atheism

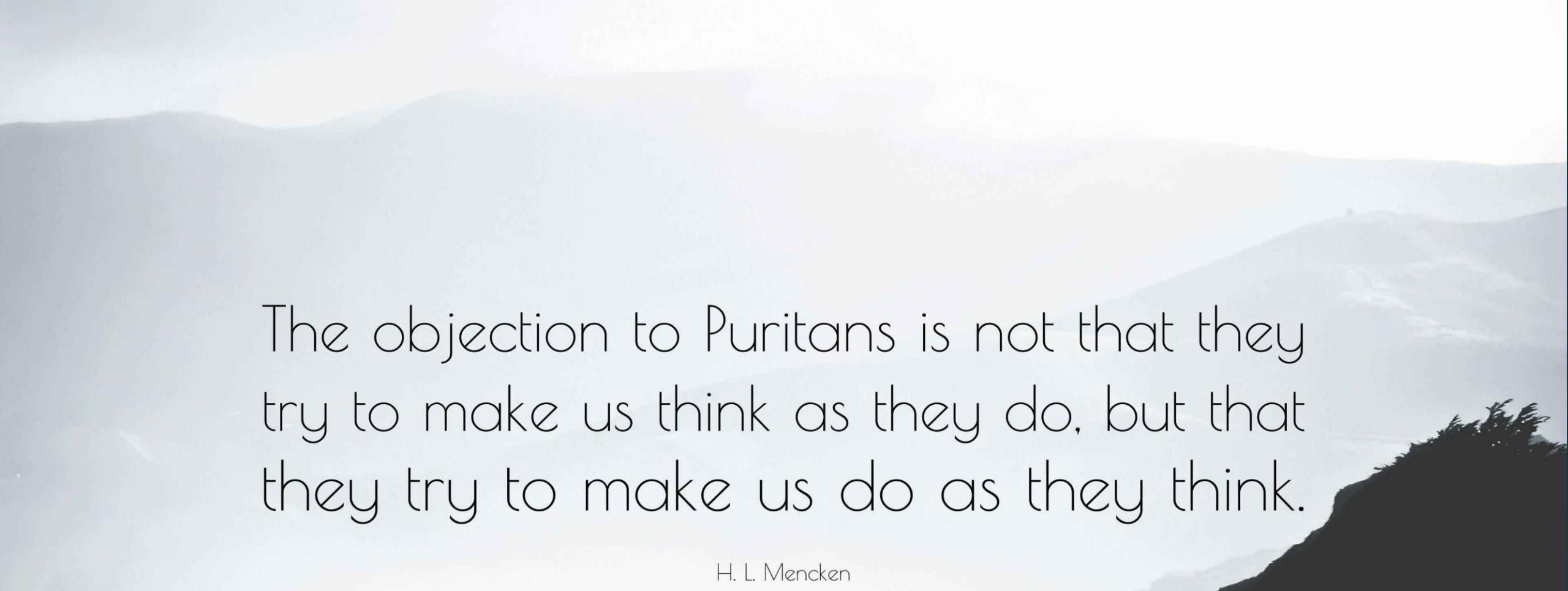
1. **Irreligion** or **impiety** (*asebeia*) is NOT synonymous with atheism (as theory or belief)
2. Criticism of religion can come from within religious traditions (cf. some strands of **anticlericalism** / exposing '**priestcraft**' + history of the concepts of **superstition** or **idolatry** applied to other religions)
3. Depends on your working definition of what counts as "religion"





=> Question: what about the toleration of atheists and other **secularists**, or non-religious people?

Historically difficult, given the widespread belief before modern times that some sort of religion must underpin and uphold moral behaviour and community cohesion, obedience to laws and political power...



The objection to Puritans is not that they try to make us think as they do, but that they try to make us do as they think.

H. L. Mencken

**QUOTE of the DAY**





**Puritanism, n.**  
The haunting fear  
that someone,  
somewhere,  
may be happy.

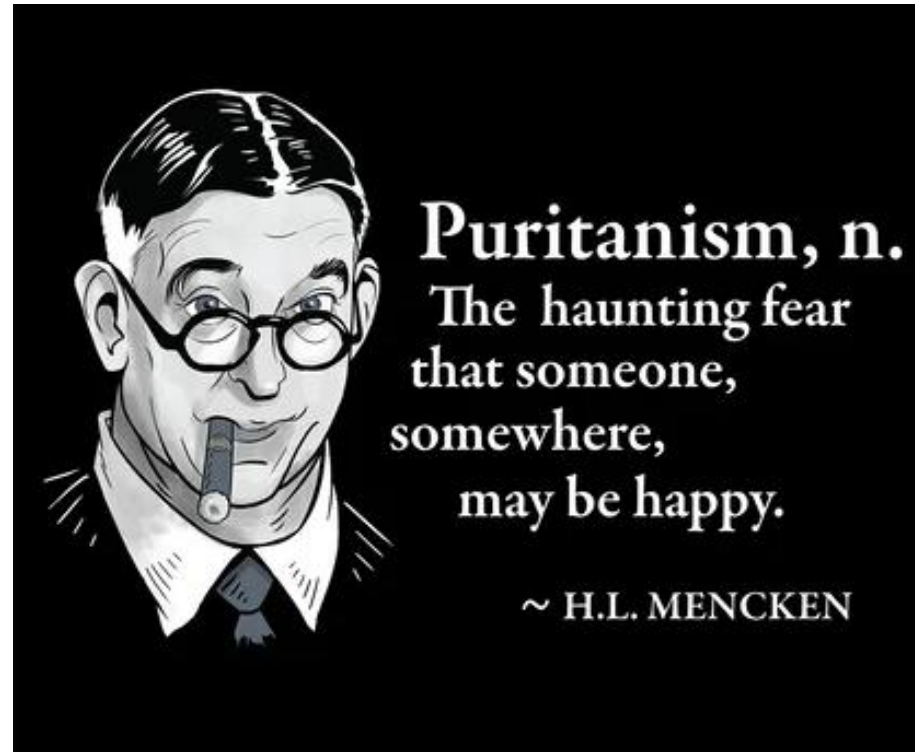
~ H.L. MENCKEN

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H. L. Mencken

“quotezany”

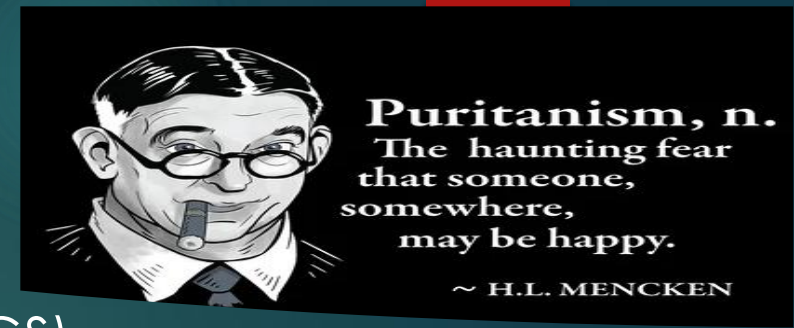
**QUOTE of the DAY**





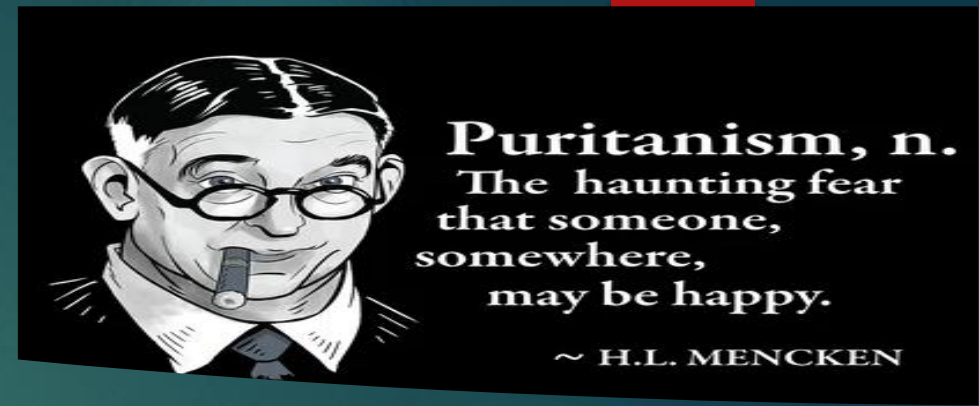
# Henry Louis Mencken (1880-1956):

American writer/author, journalist, satirist and pamphleteer. MADE FAMOUS (AMONG OTHER THINGS) BY HIS REPORTING ON THE SCOPES TRIAL (a.k.a "Monkey Trial")



“Like Nietzsche, Mencken lambasted religious belief and the very concept of God, as he was an unflinching atheist. He was particularly hostile to **Christian fundamentalism**, **Christian Science** and **creationism**, and towards the "**Booboisie**", his word for the ignorant middle classes. In the summer of 1925 he attended the famous Scopes "**Monkey Trial**" in Dayton, Tennessee, and wrote **scathing** columns for the Baltimore Sun (these widely syndicated) and American Mercury mocking the anti-evolution fundamentalists.” [Source: Wikipedia]

Henry Louis Mencken (1880-1956):  
American polygraph, journalist  
satirist and pamphleteer.



“The Puritan's utter lack of aesthetic sense, his distrust of all romantic emotion, his unmatched intolerance of opposition, his unbreakable belief in his own bleak and narrow views, his savage cruelty of attack, his lust for relentless and barbarous persecution – these things have put an almost unbearable burden up on the exchange of ideas in the United States.”

[From: *Puritanism as a Literary Force*, 1917]



Oíche  
Shamhna  
Shona  
Daoibh!

Happy Halloween!  
Happy Samhain!







Happy Diwali

Happy  
Halloween!  
Happy  
Samhain!





# CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

Number of Schedule. *61*  
(To be filled up by the Enumerator after collection.)

closed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NO  
VOTES  
FOR  
WOMEN  
NO  
CENSUS

PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards.				BIRTHPLACE of every person.	NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country.	INFIRMITY.
Personal Occupation.	Industry or Service with which worker is connected.	Whether Employee, Worker, or Working on Own Account.	Whether Working at Home.	(1) If born in the United Kingdom, write the name of the County, and Town or Parish. (2) If born in any other part of the British Empire, write the name of the Dependency, Colony, etc., and of the Province or State. (3) If born in a Foreign Country, write the name of the Country. (4) If born at sea, write "At Sea." NOTE.—In the case of persons born elsewhere than in England or Wales, state whether "Resident" or "Visitor" in this Country.	State whether:— (1) "British subject by parentage." (2) "Naturalized British subject," giving year of naturalization. Or (3) If of foreign nationality, state whether "French," "German," "Russian," etc.	If any person included in this Schedule is:— (1) "Totally Deaf," or "Deaf and Dumb," (2) "Totally Blind," (3) "Lunatic," (4) "Imbecile," or "Feeble-minded," state the infirmity opposite that person's name, and the age at which he or she became afflicted.
10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.
<p><i>NO persons here</i></p> <p><i>Domestic Servant</i></p> <p><i>only women!</i></p> <p><i>John Jones, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 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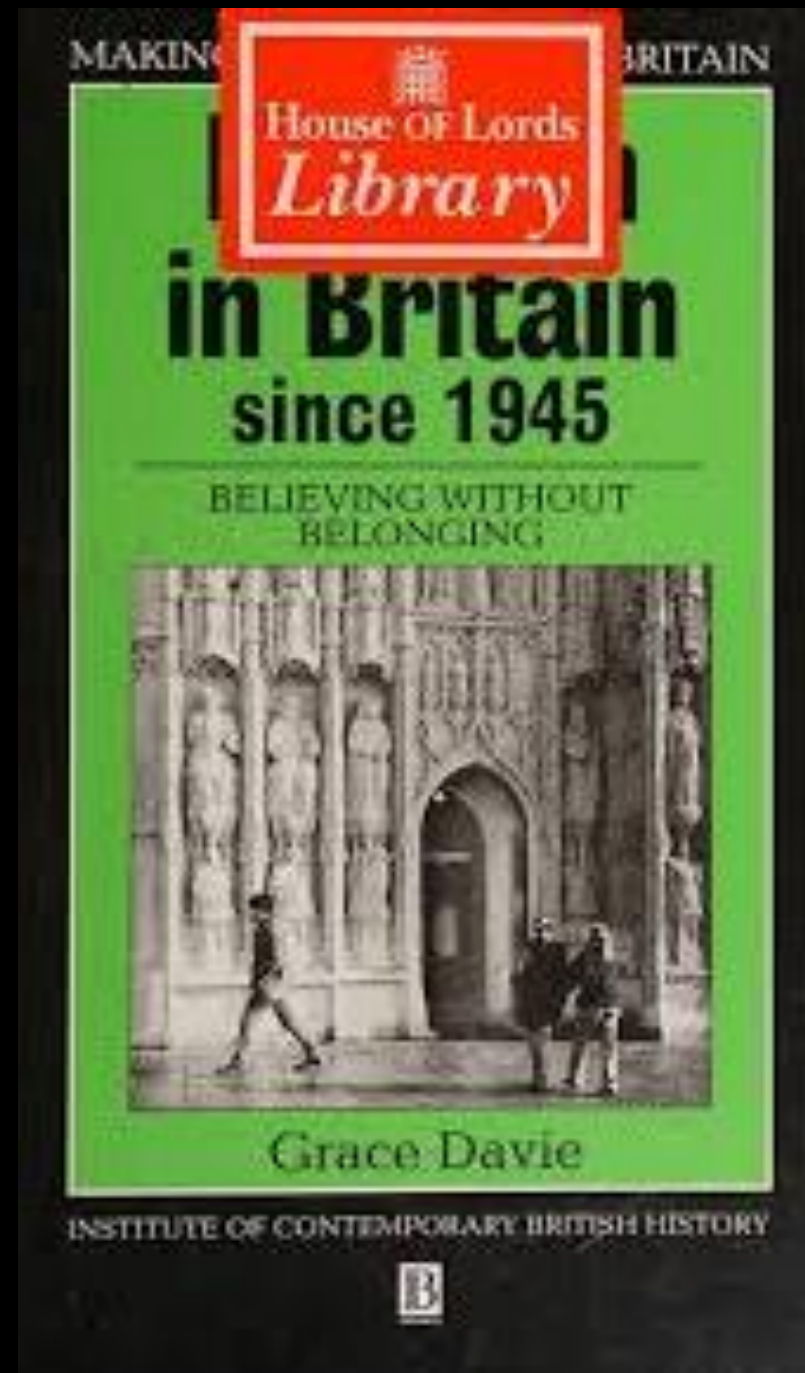
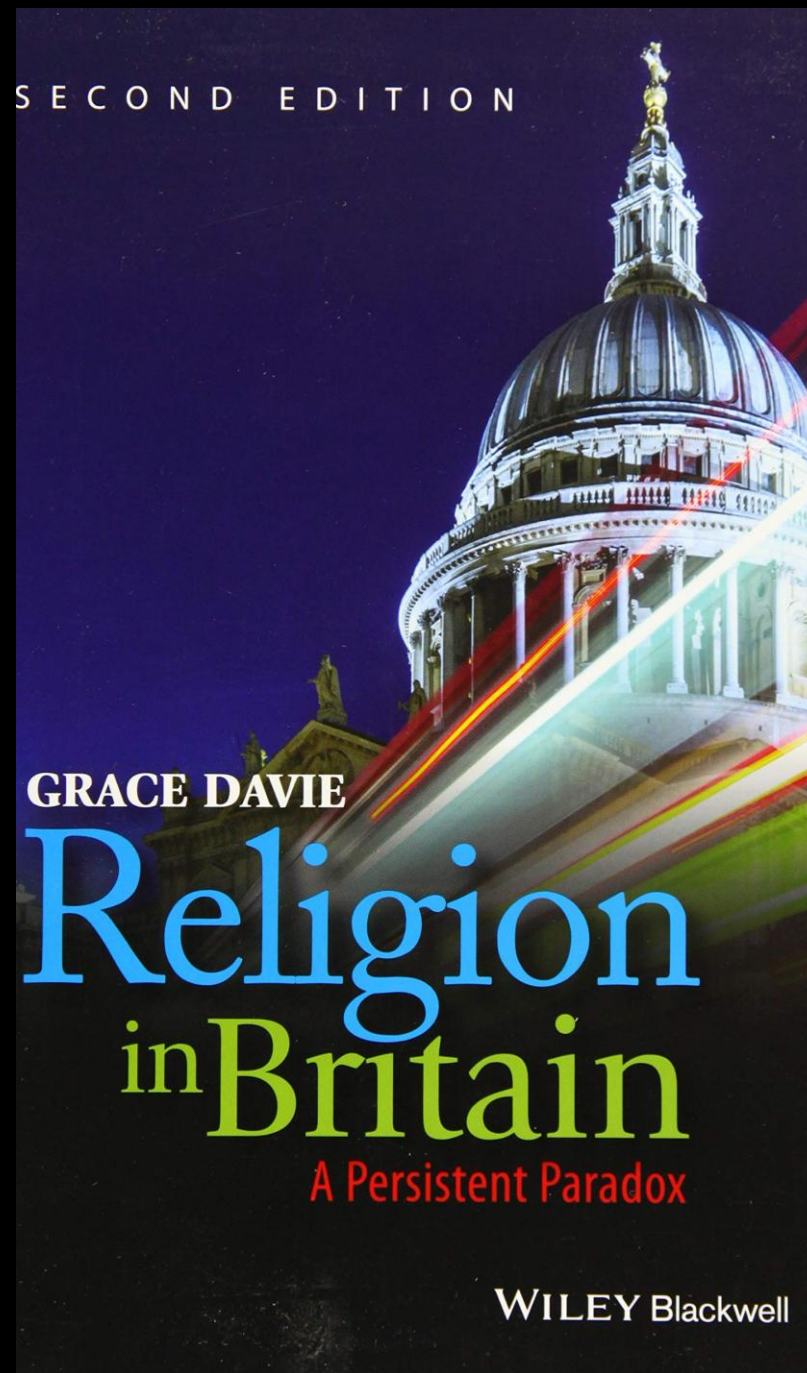
# Religious data published for England & Wales

## 2021 Census

46.2% Christian  
37.2% No religion  
6.5% Muslim  
1.7% Hindu  
0.9% Sikh  
0.5% Buddhist  
0.5% Jewish  
0.6% Other

## 2011 Census

59.3% Christian  
25.2% No religion  
4.9% Muslim  
1.5% Hindu  
0.8% Sikh  
0.4% Buddhist  
0.5% Jewish  
0.4% Other





**census 2021**

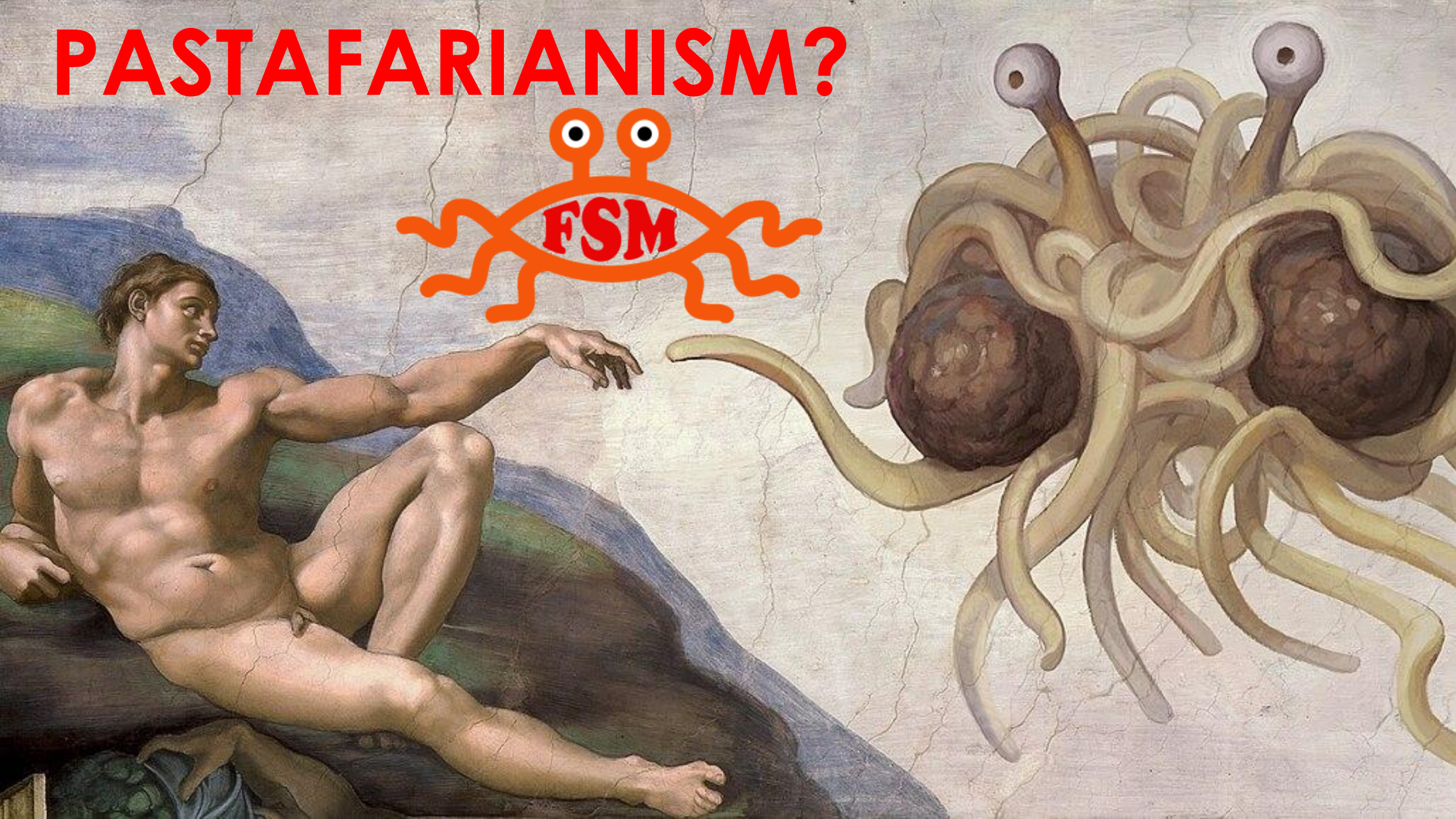


In 2001, UK Census officials reported that 390,000 people self-identified as 'Jedi knights', henceforth creating a religious category for 'Jediism'.





# PASTAFARIANISM?





# I PASTA FARI



**A FLYING SPAGHETTI MONSTER STORY**

BREAD BAG BOOT LLC PRESENTS "I PASTA FARI: A FLYING SPAGHETTI MONSTER STORY" A FILM BY MICHAEL ARTHUR STARRING GLEIK VENEMA, NINO ALAM, RUDIGER WEIDA AND BROTHER SPAGHETTUS  
DANIEL C. DENNETT, MATHE COULEN, MIKHE DE WILDE, PEDRO BRUNO CARAY, DIRK JAN DUKSTRA, SAMIR ALLOU, ROEL SCHUTGENS, ED LARSON, EDITED BY MICHAEL ARTHUR & ZANDY AGRIS, MUSIC PROVIDED BY APW MUSIC  
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## The Gospel of the Flying Spaghetti Monster



Henderson



*He Boiled For Your Sins*

