

# PIQUE

Newsletter of the Secular Humanist Society of New York

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March 16, 2021

We need Spring! And as you read this we will have sprung at least an hour ahead into that season of rebirth (and return soon, we hope, to something like normal life). So let us then consider happiness in our concrete high-rise lives, one more reason why we live here at all, and communal life the Maori way. We quote Terrible Tucker and Terrific Tyson, fear The Stupids among us, compare wolves and presidents, map our legislative agenda, eighty-six an amendment, and reprint a Paddy's

Day joke, just in case you weren't paying attention 10 years ago. — JR

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## CELEBRATE THE SPRING EQUINOX SATURDAY, MARCH 20

John Rafferty

The Vernal Equinox is one of two days in the calendar year when day and night hours are nearly equal, at just about 12 hours each. In the northern hemisphere (where we live), it also marks the first day of Spring, according to the radical new Gregorian calendar of 1582.

Most ancient Mediterranean religions had some sort of festival at or around the time of the Vernal Equinox. The celebrations were a way to rejoice in the rebirth of nature and to ritually act out this seasonal change, from the symbolic death of the earth in winter to its resurrection through the budding and blooming that came after the equinox. Many of these religions had stories of a man-god, born of a virgin, who was killed and reborn at this time each year, and this day was often connected to the worship of many fertility goddesses with such names as Ostara, Astarte, Eostre, Ishtar, and Ostra.

"Easter" (Eostre, Ostra, whatever) grew from those "pagan" spring celebrations already in place all around the Mediterranean, with the fertility symbols of eggs and bunny rabbits neatly grafted on to the Christian death-and-resurrection story.

So celebrate the Equinox and the rebirth of hope that we so desperately need. Go outside at Noon on Saturday, look up at the sun, and smile.

## HAPPY? HELL, YEAH, WE'RE NUMBER 30!

John Rafferty

About 4.2 billion people, more than half of the world's population (55.3 per cent), are living in urban areas today. By 2045, this figure is estimated to increase by 1.5 times, to more than six billion. There were 371 cities with

more than one million inhabitants at the turn of the century in 2000. In 2018, there were 548, and in 2030, a projected 706 cities will have at least one million inhabitants. During the same time, the number of so-called mega cities—cities that have more than ten million inhabitants, most of which are located in the Global South—is expected to increase from 33 to 43, with the fastest growth in Asia and Africa. Today, Tokyo (37.4 million), New Delhi (28.5 million), and Shanghai (25.6 million inhabitants) are the most populous cities worldwide. ...

*The World Happiness Report* is, as its subtitle, *Cities and Happiness: A Global Ranking and Analysis*, states, a global ranking and analysis of just how the inhabitants of 186 of those cities around globe feel about their lives, from #1 "happiest", Helsinki, Finland, to dead-last Kabul, Afghanistan, #186, (no surprise there).

Us? New York is #30. Not bad. Not great.

How to determine "happiness"? Rather than relying on a list of factors that researchers consider relevant, the researchers contend that "our ranking relies on city residents' self-reports of how they themselves evaluate the quality of their lives. In doing so, it emancipates respondents to consider and weigh for themselves which factors—observable or unobservable to researchers—they feel matter most to them."

The top ten happiest on the list are clearly dominated by Scandinavia: Helsinki (Finland) and Aarhus (Denmark) are ranked first and second, Copenhagen (Denmark), Bergen (Norway), and Oslo (Norway) fifth, sixth, and seventh. Stockholm (Sweden) comes out ninth. Thus, more than half of the top ten cities worldwide according to how positively their inhabitants currently evaluate their lives are located in Scandinavia. Two of the top ten cities are located in Australia and New Zealand: Wellington, the capital of New

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Zealand, is ranked third and Brisbane (Australia) is ranked tenth. The only top ten cities that are not located in either Scandinavia or Australia and New Zealand are Zurich (Switzerland) and Tel Aviv (Israel).

Why does Scandinavia dominate? The report considers several factors, but comes to no clear-cut conclusion.

I do. Scandinavia is the most secular geographic area in the world. Period. Full. Stop.

Browse and enjoy the report at <https://worldhappiness.report/ed/2020/cities-and-happiness-a-global-ranking-and-analysis/>

## MANAAKITANGA

**Matthew Milner and Richard Ngata**

(Excerpted from “The indigenous custom behind New Zealand’s strong covid-19 response”, *washingtonpost.com*, 3/12/2021)

Life in New Zealand is almost back to normal. While the United States has seen more than half a million deaths from covid-19 — with a death rate of more than 160 per 100,000 of population — New Zealand has lost only 26 people at a rate of 0.53 per 100,000. ...

Why has New Zealand fared so much better? Many people argue that these differences stem from New Zealand’s geographic advantages, and there is no doubt that being an island nation has helped. But other island nations, including Britain, have had very different outcomes.

There is a deeper reason: *Manaakitanga*.

While New Zealand hasn’t always been great at recognizing or celebrating our indigenous Maori culture, campaigning by Maori advocates has helped to ensure that Maori culture is now well-incorporated into society. *Manaakitanga* is one of many customs of the Maori people now taught in New Zealand schools. It holds that others have importance equal to, and even greater than, one’s own.

*Manaakitanga* is about understanding the power of the collective. It derives from the Maori term “mana”, which is the spiritual life force and energy that every living thing possesses. When you honor the mana of others, your own mana will increase through the respect you have earned. When you acknowledge these connections, you understand that your freedom as an individual is only as strong as your place in the community.

This community approach underpins many aspects of life in New Zealand. We provide health care to anyone who needs it. Our gun safety laws focus on keeping the community safe. ... But never has the importance of *manaakitanga* to our society been more evident than at the start of the covid-19 pandemic. Last March, when New Zealand went into full lockdown, people were not permitted to see others outside their “bubble” (such as a household); only one person from each bubble could leave at any given time, and not travel farther than five miles from the house.

This strict lockdown lasted six long weeks, and while there was political pushback, the “team of 5 million”, as Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern calls New Zealanders, stayed home and stamped out the virus.

New Zealanders were willing to give up many of their individual freedoms and face personal hardship for the benefit of the community. People lost income and jobs, and the closed borders separated families (and still does). ...

Still, people found ways to connect and support each other. The lesson of the coronavirus is that an individual approach is not sufficient and that it takes a team for us all to gain true freedom. The Maori proverb *He waka eke noa* expresses these sentiments: We are all in this canoe together.

The response to the pandemic has been very different in the United States. ... While Donald Trump played down the virus, Ardern ran daily broadcasts alongside the nation’s director-general of health to communicate the latest updates and restrictions. The central message: “Stay Home, Stay Safe, Be Kind.”

Yet there’s another crucial difference: People in New Zealand listened and were willing to put their community above themselves, while many in the United States were not, even when experts and officials began to speak out about the seriousness of the pandemic.

Much of the resistance to covid-19 warnings can be attributed to American individualism. But the past year has also seen the country embrace change. The U.S. government temporarily extended unemployment insurance and halted evictions, alongside other significant measures of support for millions of struggling Americans. And the United States has begun to reckon with its racist past and present, making strides to better support marginalized groups.

Like New Zealand, the United States is a place of great diversity, steeped in its own way in indigenous and immigrant cultures. Our hope is that the United States can apply the lessons of the pandemic to all areas of society — and, in doing so, embrace *manaakitanga*.

And remember ... *He waka eke noa*.

## THE STUPIDS MAY KILL US

(Excerpted from *CFI’s The Morning Heresy*, 3/8/2021)

New Research shows that 69 percent of Americans intend to get or have gotten vaccinated, up nine points from November. This includes 61 percent of Black Americans, up from 42. Women are less likely to want to get vaccinated than men, 66 to 72 percent.

White evangelicals are less likely to get vaccinated than Black Protestants. The belief group most likely to get vaccinated? Do you even have to ask? It’s atheists.

*The Washington Post* frames a Kaiser poll on vaccines like this: If we can’t get to herd immunity in the U.S., it’ll be because of Republican voters, 28 percent of whom say they will definitely not get vaccinated, along with 18 percent who will “wait and see”.

And one of Amazon’s top-selling books is titled *Anyone Who Tells You Vaccines Are Safe and Effective Is Lying*.

Wow.

To abolish mask-wearing laws in some States while the rest of the Nation keeps theirs is like designating a peeing section of the swimming pool. — *Neil deGrasse Tyson*

## TUCKER CARLSON'S RIGHTEOUS INDIGNATION CANNOT BE CONTAINED

John Rafferty

During his prime time address last Thursday evening, President Biden outlined his plans for the distribution of covid vaccines and a timeline for a return of the country to something resembling normalcy.

Biden's speech pre-empted Fox News' Tucker Carlson's own 8-9 pm show, but the show's producers inserted a "Live Tucker Reaction" little box in the lower right of the screen so that we could all watch Tucker react to the president's words, making faces like a kid facing broccoli.

When Biden suggested that if things worked out according to plan we would all be able to gather in small groups with "your families and friends" on the Fourth of July, Tucker could not contain his outrage.

"This is a free people," he thundered. "This is a free country. How dare you tell us who we can spend the Fourth of July with?"

## OF ALPHA WOLVES (AND PRESIDENTS)

Isabel Wilkerson

*(Excerpted from Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents, on delanceyplace.com, 3/10/2021)*

True alphas [wolves] command authority through their calm oversight of those who depend upon them. They establish their rank early in life and communicate through ancient signals their inner strength and stewardship, asserting their power only when necessary. ...

You know that you are not seeing a true alpha, or, put another way, you have encountered an insecure alpha, if he or she must yell, scream, bully, or attack those beneath them into submission. That individual does not have the loyalty and trust of the pack and endangers the entire group through his or her insecurities, through his or her show of fear and lack of courage. ...

The main characteristic of an alpha male wolf is quiet confidence, quiet self-assurance.

**Comment:**

"I have a great brain." — Donald J. Trump, 2016

"I need you. I need every American to do their part."

— Joseph R. Biden, 2021

## TRUMPISM MUST BE DESTROYED

Lawrence Shaw

At the end of America's Civil War, Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis, Alexander Stephens and the other leaders of The Confederate States of America should have been put on trial for the bloody traitors that they were, and slave owners should have lost their land to their former slaves whose labor they had been robbing for generations. Instead these criminals were allowed to live out their lives with honor, while the slave owners kept their land and were able to employ former slaves as impoverished sharecroppers. An effort to at least grant Blacks political rights (Reconstruction) ended in 1877 as a consequence of a dirty deal Rutherford B. Hayes made with the Democrats to win

the Presidency. We know the shameful consequences. The South lost the war but won the peace.

How different were the policies used in Europe against the defeated Nazis, policies that destroyed Nazism.

There is a lesson here. Donald Trump and his followers (Trumpism) must be destroyed so they cannot rise again in 2024. And what is Trumpism really? It is a movement that is anti-science, pro the very rich, and racist. By allowing climate change to fester, it would bring about the destruction of the U.S. if not the world. It is a nihilistic movement with one overwhelming central theme, the cultish worship of a criminal hustler, Donald J. Trump.

During the next years, Trump should find himself in court facing his crimes, not just to face prison, but to bring social exposure that would destroy most of his followers faith in him.

**Comment:**

"I have an Article Two that says I can do anything I want as president." — Donald J. Trump, 2017

## LET'S TEACH CIVICS AGAIN

Danielle Allen and Paul Carrese

*(Excerpted from "Our democracy is ailing. Civics education has to be part of the cure", washingtonpost.com, 3/2/2021)*

Our constitutional democracy is ailing. If we didn't know that before January 6, the lesson was etched into our souls that day. And one major reason for our trouble is that for several generations we have failed to provide civic education in our K-12 schools.

For decades, our national educational policy has focused on achieving global competitiveness from a national security and economic standpoint. Thanks to serious and needed investments in science, technology, engineering and math, we spend about \$50 of federal funds per student per year on STEM, but only 5 cents on civic education.

We should desire to compete on the world's stage as the kind of society we are, namely, a constitutional democracy. We can do so only if we have civic strength at home. And that requires civic education to support the knowledge, skills and civic virtues needed for a healthy republic.

Over nearly two years, the two of us have been working with a network of more than 300 scholars, educators, practitioners and students to develop guidance and a framework for excellence in history and civics K-12, designed with our entire country in mind. Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Education Department, we worked via task forces, convenings and constituency focus groups to analyze what has been happening in history and civic education and how we could better serve all learners in these subjects. Ultimately, the *Educating for American Democracy Roadmap*, released Tuesday, is an effort by a diverse and cross-ideological group of scholars and educators to create a strategy for ensuring that all the nation's learners come to understand, appreciate — and productively use and debate — our form of government and civic life.

The roadmap is not a national curriculum, nor a set of

instructional standards. It recommends approaches to learning that do five critical things at once: (1) inspire students to want to become involved in their constitutional democracy; (2) tell a full narrative of America's plural yet shared story; (3) explore the need for compromise to make democracy work; (4) cultivate civic honesty and patriotism that leaves space both to love and to critique this country; and (5) teach history and civics both through a timeline of events and the themes that run through those events.

Our group has done something that wasn't supposed to be doable in our fractious times — debate disagreements productively across differences of identity, viewpoint and geography, and achieve consensus about what and how to teach for an excellent civic education.

For 30 years, efforts to renew civic learning have foundered on rocks of polarization. One example. When the National Governors Association set out to collaborate on the development of the Common Core State Standards, the initial goal was to create standards for English language arts; math and STEM; and social studies. Standards for the first two were achieved; social studies was left on the cutting-room floor. The reason was the deep disagreement about how to teach U.S. history — whether to emphasize triumphs and achievements or wrongs and crimes, with the leading example being enslavement and the slow progress toward true emancipation.

Over the past year, we have once again watched this polarization consume efforts to renew history and civic learning, with the debates over the *New York Times'* 1619 Project and the Trump administration's 1776 Commission — each approach insisting on achieving a definitive account of how to narrate the country's founding.

Yet disagreement is a feature, not a bug, of our constitutional democracy; the question is whether we can learn to disagree productively. One of the goals of the *Educating for American Democracy Roadmap* is to teach young people about our disagreements in ways that can help them productively engage in those debates.

That's why the roadmap promotes reckoning with hard histories in the United States and shared recognition of the unique achievements of American democracy. This includes directly addressing issues of our country's founding. For example, Theme 5 in the roadmap explores how social arrangements and conflicts have combined with political institutions to shape American life from the earliest colonial period to the present.

More broadly, the roadmap offers a new vision for history and civics that shifts from breadth to depth, focuses on inquiry, integrates history and civics, supports educators in dealing effectively with fundamental tensions, integrates a diversity of experiences and perspectives throughout, and cultivates civil disagreement and reflective patriotism — the practices we employed in developing this roadmap.

We hope that educators, policymakers and families will advocate for use of this guidance in their schools, districts and states. If we pull together, we can rebuild a foundation for a healthy American constitutional democracy.

## OUR SECULAR LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Casey C. Brinck

(Excerpted from "Heretic on the Hill: A Legislative Update", from the *Secular Coalition for America*, 3/6/2021))

The start to this legislative session was unusual to say the least. However, things are beginning to return to normal, as far as the legislative work of Congress goes, and in the past few weeks, bills that are of great importance to our movement have been introduced in congress, with more to follow very soon.

*The Do No Harm Act* (H.R. 1378) was recently introduced for the 117th Congress by Rep. Bobby Scott. Lead cosponsors of the legislation include Congressional Freethought Caucus members, Reps. Jamie Raskin and Steve Cohen. This important legislation, which is an integral part of our secular agenda, would prevent any further distortion of the Religious Freedom and Restoration Act (RFRA), and if passed will represent a great victory in preserving the right to the free exercise of religion, while eliminating religious exemptions that endanger an individual's civil rights.

*The Equality Act* (H.R. 5) has been introduced by Rep. David Cicilline (D-RI-01) for the new congress, and we are excited about its prospects to be passed and signed into law this go round. This crucial legislation would amend existing civil rights laws, such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964, to include sexual orientation, and gender identity as protected characteristics under law. The bill also expands federal non-discrimination protections regarding discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity in public settings, and protects against sex-based discrimination in government services and federally-funded programs.

*The Scientific Integrity Act* (H.R. 849) has been introduced for the 117th Congress by Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY-20). This timely legislation would prevent political appointees from interfering in or influencing federally funded scientific research. The past year has demonstrated the importance of clear, concise, and accurate dissemination of scientific facts, and the harm that can be done when those facts are distorted for political gain. It is more important than ever that our scientists are able to perform their work without fear of political reprisal, or the distortion of their findings from politicians. SCA looks forward to working with Rep. Tonko and congress to see it signed into law.

## REPEAL THE HELMS AMENDMENT NOW

Rachel Deitch

(Excerpted from *thehumanist.com*, 3/10/2021)

The United States doled out roughly \$40 billion dollars in foreign aid last year, but American dollars don't come free; there are strings attached. How we restrict our foreign assistance funding is an explicit statement of what our country values. At their best, the strings are diplomatic tools to broker better lives for the people on the receiving ends. At their worst, cruel forms of imperialism.

One of those cruel strings is the Helms Amendment.

After the welcome decision on reproductive health rights by the Supreme Court in *Roe v. Wade*, Congress swiftly passed the Helms Amendment, which nearly 50 years later still prohibits U.S. foreign assistance funding abortion care. The amendment is monolithic in superseding local law and people's ability to make their own decisions: it makes no concessions for countries where abortion is legal.

But if the "strings" attached to foreign aid attempt to influence behavior, the evidence has shown time and again that criminalizing abortion or cutting off funding doesn't reduce the number of abortions. Abortions will happen whether they are legal or illegal, whether our country funds them or not. There are 25 million unsafe abortions each year, 45 percent of all abortions, and almost all are performed in countries that receive U.S. foreign assistance. The bottom line is that Helms kills: unsafe abortions are one of the leading causes of maternal death around the world.

But statistics aside, the Helms Amendment is a reminder—if we needed one—that colonialism is alive and well. It's a reminder of one of the ways the United States government continues to police the bodies of black and brown people, especially women, around the world through their most personal healthcare decisions. These arbitrary restrictions espouse a religious and non-evidence-based agenda with astounding global impact.

If the Helms Amendment were repealed there would be 19 million fewer unsafe abortions, 17,000 fewer maternal deaths each year, and 12 million fewer women requiring medical interventions for complications related to unsafe abortions. Ultimately, the number of maternal deaths due to abortion would drop by 98 percent.

So how do we get there? Yesterday, the American Humanist Association joined partners around the country to celebrate the reintroduction of the *Abortion is Health Care Everywhere Act*, which would cut the strings of the Helms Amendment. The bill affirms that "safe abortion is a critical component of comprehensive maternal and reproductive health care and should be included as part of foreign assistance programs funded by the United States Government".

Everyone deserves the safety and dignity of basic health care. And now is our chance to put the Helms Amendment behind us. For more information and about how to get involved visit [repealhelms.org](http://repealhelms.org).

## WHY WE LIVE IN NEW YORK #214

A bill introduced in the Tennessee General Assembly would allow a man who gets a woman pregnant to request an injunction barring her from having an abortion.

Republican legislator Rep. Jerry Sexton who has sponsored bills that would have designated the Holy Bible as the state book of Tennessee, ban same-sex marriage in Tennessee, and preserve Confederate statues, is the author of HB1079. State Sen. Mark Pody sponsored the related Senate bill, SB0494, that grants the right to the "biological father" (who simply has to acknowledge paternity in writing), but leaves unmarried women entirely out of the process of determining that status.

## READERS RESPOND

*To the Editor:* Re: "Stupid Never Dies" (PIQUE, March 9), Texas and Oklahoma are only now catching up to New York State. From a NYCLU publication of 2015:

"Nonetheless, last week's government-Papal engagement did refocus attention on a long-standing concern of mine about an invocation of God found throughout New York's judicial system. In courtrooms across the state, plaintiffs, defendants, lawyers, and audience members look up at judges and see just above them a succinct inscription on the walls behind their benches: "In God We Trust". Every time I appear in such a courtroom, I am troubled by the suggestion of divine oversight of the judiciary. And one need not be an Establishment Clause crank to believe that many less informed courtroom participants will construe this inscription to be a clear sign that God plays an important role in the judicial proceedings taking place before them. Government use or accommodation of religious messages has been the subject of constitutional litigation for decades, and in many instances courts—including the Supreme Court of the United States—have ruled that such government use or accommodation is permissible."

As a lawyer practicing in the state of New York, I can testify that I saw In God We Trust in every courtroom I entered as an attorney or as a juror. — *Cheryl Payer*

## A HUMANIST JOKE FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY

(Transmitted to PIQUE 10 years ago by Bob Murtha)

An American golfer playing in Ireland hooked his drive into the woods, where he found a leprechaun flat on his back, a big bump on his head and the ball beside him. Horrified, the golfer got his water bottle from the cart and poured it over the little guy, reviving him.

When he came to the leprechaun said, "Well, ye got me fair and square. Ye get three wishes, so whaddya want?"

"Thank God, you're all right!" the golfer says. "I don't want anything, I'm just glad you're OK, and I apologize."

As the golfer walks off, the leprechaun thinks, "What a nice guy. I'll give him what I'd want – a great golf game, all the money he ever needs, and a fantastic sex life."

A year goes by (as it does in stories like this) and the American golfer is back. On the same hole, he again hits a bad drive into the woods and the leprechaun is there waiting for him. "I just want to ask ye, how's yer golf game?"

"Fantastic!" the golfer answers. "I'm pro-level now."

"And tell me, how's yer money situation?"

"Wonderful!" the golfer says. "I just reach in my pocket and pull out \$100 bills I didn't even know were there!"

"I did that. And tell me, how's yer sex life?"

The golfer blushes and says shyly, "It's OK."

"C'mon now," urges the leprechaun, "I'm wanting to know if I did a good job. How many times a week?"

Blushing even more, the golfer looks around then whispers, "Once, sometimes twice a week."

"What?" exclaims the leprechaun, "that's all?"

"Well," says the golfer, "I figure that's not bad for a Catholic priest in a small parish."

# SHSNY CALENDAR: MARCH – JUNE 2021

## FICTION BOOK CLUB ONLINE

The SHSNY Fiction Book Club meets online via Zoom for the duration of our enforced isolation. Join the Zoom Meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/97467470190?pwd=dGdEbTkwV0pSRmZRWHYvbj-FoTXIrZz09>  
Meeting ID: 974 6747 0190  
Passcode: Read

### TUES, APRIL 13, 7:30 pm **THE ISLAND OF SEA WOMEN** Lisa See

The *NYTimes* best-seller takes place over many decades in Korea, from Japanese colonialism in the 1930s and 1940s through the era of cell phones and wet suits for the women divers of their village's all-female diving collective. A "mesmerizing new historical novel" about female friendship and family secrets on a small Korean island. – *Paperback & Kindle*

### TUES, MAY 11, 7:30 PM **THE GOOD LORD BIRD** James McBride

The story of a young boy born a slave who joins John Brown's antislavery crusade, right up to the Harper's Ferry Raid – and who must pass as a girl to survive.

A rousing adventure and a moving exploration of identity and survival. – *Paperback & Kindle*

### TUES, JUNE 8, 7:30 PM (To Be Announced)

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## HUMANIST BOOK CLUB

Harry French invites you to our monthly Zoom meeting and book club discussion. By Zoom rules you will be in the waiting room until he lets you in. Zoom in at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82413289962>  
Meeting ID: 824 1328 9962

### THURS, APRIL 1, 7:00 pm **ON TYRANNY:** *Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century* Timothy Snyder

A historian of fascism offers a guide for surviving and resisting America's turn towards authoritarianism.

We are no wiser than the Europeans who saw democracy yield to fascism, Nazism, or communism. Our advantage is that we might learn from their experience. *On Tyranny* is a call to arms and a guide to resistance.

– *Paperback & Kindle*

### THURSDAY, MAY 6, 7:00 pm **THE LONELY CENTURY** Noreena Hertz

A bold, hopeful, and thought-provoking account by "one of the world's leading thinkers" (*The Observer*) of how we built a lonely world, how the pandemic accelerated the problem, and what we must do to come together again

– *Hardcover & Kindle*

### THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 7:00 pm **HEAVEN AND HELL:** *A History of the Afterlife* Bart D. Ehrman

Heaven? Hell? Where did these ideas come from? A best-selling historian takes us on a tour.

## HUMANIST HAPPY HOUR ONLINE

### SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 5:00 pm

Pour something, grab a snack, and join 15 or more humanists and rationalists for lively conversation in our SHSNY Happy Hour!

Zoom in at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9806344432?pwd=c0NrNUoweDVGWWho2ditvYmJlEVjVGdz09>  
Meeting ID: 980 634 4432  
Passcode: SHSNy  
Join by Skype for Business <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9806344432>

## MONDAY MOVIES

Let's introduce each other to movies we love, screen them ourselves and discuss them together. Rent 'em (many on Amazon @\$3.99), watch, then Zoom in at ... <https://zoom.us/j/92351454127?pwd=OVg5NnBaUFc4NWtLbHJJNW1vZ1Y1Zz09>

Meeting ID: 923 5145 4127  
Passcode: watch

### MON, MARCH 15, 8:00 pm **TOO MANY GIRLS**

Lucille Ball stars – before she was "Lucy!" – in this 1940 bit of froth and fun. With Eddie Bracken, Ann Miller, Frances Langford, Richard Carlson, and some Cuban bandleader.

### MON, MARCH 29, 8:00 pm **IN A LONELY PLACE**

Starring Humphrey Bogart and Gloria Grahame, and directed by Nicholas Ray, this mordant 1950 comment on Hollywood mores and the pitfalls of celebrity is now considered perhaps the best film noir of all time.

April 12: Spike Lee's "School Daze"