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New Mailing Address

Humanist Community
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Where and When Page:
Sena Havasy

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Where Should I Send My Kids to College?



The information below is from a 2013 talk at Google Zeitgeist by Malcolm Gladwell about what he called Elite Institution Cognitive Disorder. He described it as a “scourge” that makes us waste time, effort and money on institutions that don’t benefit us such as elite colleges.

Two economists, John Connelly and Allie Under, looked at the publication records of graduates of economic PhD programs at American universities in the six years after they took an academic position,

What they found is, the Harvard students in the 99th percentile of their PhD program, on average, publish 4.31 journal articles in their first six years after graduation. Same with M.I.T at 4.73. All the way down the list. But the 55th percentile at Harvard, maybe the 12th smartest people at the greatest economics program in the world, publish 0.07 journal articles in their first six years. Basically they’re not publishing at all.

Graduates of non-top 30 schools publish, on average, 3.13 journal articles in their first six years. More than everyone at the top schools except for the 99th percentile

So, in a school which is collecting the most brilliant, everyone, except for the very best students, is basically a flop.

What it means, first, when hiring, you should hire on the basis of class rank, and be indifferent to the institution attended. And second, if you have kids going to college, you should **not** send them to the best institution they can get into.

Humanist Forums

All forums are simultaneously available on Zoom. Forums locations will be announced online. You can get both the Zoom location and venue from meetup.com/humanistcommunity or from www.humanists.org.

Scroll down to
here and When Page.



humanists.org



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Humanist Community in Silicon Valley Where We Are When

August
2025



Humanist Community Every Sunday at 11:00 we gather in person as well as on line.
Often we have an in person speaker, otherwise an interesting and informative video.
We eat together afterward, an excellent buffet on site if the location allows it, or at a nearby restaurant
Conversation time!



August 3 Sunday 11:00 Neutra House 181 Hillview Ave Los Altos Buffet lunch \$10. donation
The Future of Truth Video Zoom

August 6 Wednesday 7:00 pm Mt. View Public Library 585 Franklin Ct. Rm 224
Free Thought Discussion Video Zoom

August 10 Sunday 11:00 Neutra House 181 Hillview Ave Los Altos Buffet lunch \$10. donation
John McWorter and Richard Dawkins Video Zoom

August 17 Sunday 11:00 Neutra House 181 Hillview Ave Los Altos Buffet lunch \$10. donation
Malcolm Gradwell "Tipping Point Update" 2 Videos Zoom

August 23 Saturday 9:00 We are tabling there 388 9th St., Suite 290, Oakland Lunch available-
SkeptiCal Ten speakers

August 24 Sunday 11:00 Neutra House 181 Hillview Ave Los Altos Buffet lunch \$10. donation
"The Cheatronist Chameleon : Past, Present and Future" Laurence Lerner Video

August 31 Sunday 11:00 Neutra House 181 Hillview Ave Los Altos Buffet lunch \$10. donation
TBD



Freethought Discussion Book Group Reading: "Autocracy, Inc." by Anne Applebaum
Every Wed. 7:00 For on line location carl@angotti.com 408-739-5046 Zoom

An Academic Video Always Interesting and Challenging
Every Thursday 7:15 For on line location carl@angotti.com 408-739-5046

Visit the Humanist Community Website.
<https://www.humanists.org/blog/>