
Subject: Re: Protests over a cartoon... wtf.
Posted by [JohnDoe](#) on Thu, 25 May 2006 21:03:20 GMT
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Quote:That's not exactly true. Probability is the assumption that things will act a certain way in the future, or similarly, things in the past acted in a predictable manner similar to the immediate present. Based solely on the present, most if not all things I've experienced suggest a universal law of causality. For every action, there is a reaction, and every reaction requires an action. Of course, it's a theory and it is valid because the future has not yet proven it to be truth or not. However, based on this, we have a model by which we can say that the past MAY have been like it is right now. The sample data is as big as I can remember and has remained consistent throughout. Which means by extrapolation I have probability on my side when I say all things are probably caused. That invariably includes the universe, as the universe is comprised by definition of energy. Thus, all energy originated at a single point as a result of some kind of stimulation. I choose to call it God. The proof is based on the same scientific method used to prove simple things like inertia or force. The beauty is that it isn't definite and is still fallable. Which means while I might be right, there is just a good, if not greater chance that I'm wrong. Which means there is still mystery in the universe for my mind to experience and apply to my understanding. However, as it stands now I can merely say THAT God exists based on my experience, I simply can't tell you how He does, why He does, or what He might be capable of.

The whole idea of "god" is based on something resembling an intelligent life form, right? What can possibly make you think that something like that should exist? It's about as probable as the pink unicorns in my front yard that only become visible once the moon explodes. I can understand why people would think that there is a starting point to the universe, but isn't a Big Bang that we can't fully understand with our current knowledge of physics a lot more likely than some kind of creature? After all, god is just something people invented in order to explain things that they couldn't themselves.

Quote:Then there is one god, then another, then another. I don't know, or have any recourse to suggest such a thing even is probable. So my position that is that it is merely possible, but infinitely unprovable. I don't try and figure out the nature of what the first cause is like. I only need to be convinced as much as I am sure the sun will rise tomorrow THAT such a cause existed.

Well, that's just your feeling. I just don't see why a chain of actions and reactions should even come to sudden halt. It kind of defeats the purpose of it, don't you think?

Quote:As for the universe existing forever, I'm assuming you're talking about the universe having existed forever as opposed to existing forever in the future. To which Aquinas' argument still works because of the TA of Kant. Our concepts of past, present, and future are the means by which our consciousness makes sense of the universe around it. There is no doctrine to suggest that the universe itself must revolve around these concepts. Like warranto said, should the universe have existed forever, then it lends there must be some kind of means to an ends. It must mean that infinity is a tangible construct and not an abstract attributed ONLY to the transcendental. There is so little evidence for this that I can't help but be inclined to think it isn't true. Now, that doesn't mean that it ISN'T true, it's merely saying that the chances of it being true are significantly less than the universe having begun at some point. If you can provide enough

evidence for a claim, I'd be forced to reevaluate the situation.

No, I said "exists" on purpose, because that means past, present and future.

If for every action there is a reaction, then why should that chain stop at some point? Why should there be something that didn't come from a previous action? There is no proof for either of the theories and since it's beyond the current level of human knowledge, both are equally probable.

Quote:

Why? What makes you think this is more likely than the universe starting at some point?

My feeling, just like your feeling tells you that there is a starting point. None of them is more likely than the other, tho. What however is extremely unlikely is that there is a god in any shape or form.
