

NEW EDGE SCIENCE

Freedom for a Shift in Consciousness

By Will Gethin
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Talking Points

- ❖ In April, two TEDx talks were removed from the TED YouTube channel; one was by sociologies Graham Hancock and the other by Rupert Sheldrake. This removal began a heated public dialogue about the nature of scientific inquiry and media censorship. In this article, Will Gethin, the founder of Conscious Frontiers (consciousfrontiers.org), reports on this public debate between supporters of Hancock and Sheldrake (including Deepak Chopra, Stuart Hameroff, Menas Kafatos, Rudolph Tanzi and Neil Theise) and TED’s curator, Chris Anderson.

Inset – The Science Delusion: Freeing the Spirit of Inquiry – Rupert Sheldrake (61)

- Biologist Rupert Sheldrake asks the scientific community, and those who believe in science to step back from thinking of science as a *belief system* and return to it as an “open-minded method of inquiry.”
- Sheldrake states, “I am pro-science. I want the sciences to be less dogmatic and more scientific.”
- He lays out what he believes are the 10 core beliefs that most scientists take for granted (see page 62). He asks us to consider possible alternatives to the materialist’s “scientific worldview” by applying the methods of scientific inquiry to these core beliefs.
- “I am convinced that the sciences, for all of their success, are being stifled by outmoded beliefs that protect the citadel of established science, but act as barriers against open-minded thinking. The sciences would be better off without them: freer, more interesting, and more fun.” (63)

Resources

Interested in reading Chopra, Hameroff, Kafatos, Tanzi and Theise’s [open letter to TEDx](#)? You can also read TED’s [response](#). Read Chopra’s response to TED [here](#). You might also be interested in the [public discussion or watching](#) the Sheldrake TEDx talk on TED’s blog.