

Re: An Open Letter to [Hammond]

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.physics.relativity/2004-10/0371.html>

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Earle Jones wrote:

>*

>What if we surveyed the members of the National Academy of Sciences
>-- that represents some of the 'great' scientists. What would they
>say?

>

>Well, it's been done -- first in 1916, again in 1933 and most
>recently in 1998. Here are the results, as reported in NATURE:

>

>Leading Scientists Still Reject God

>

>Nature, Vol. 394, No. 6691, p. 313 (1998)

> Macmillan Publishers Ltd.

>

>Table 1 Comparison of survey answers among "greater" scientists

>

>Belief in personal God 1914 1933 1998

> Personal belief 27.7 15.0 7.0

> Personal disbelief 52.7 68.0 72.2

> Doubt or agnosticism 20.9 17.0 20.8

>

>

>Belief in human immortality 1914 1933 1998

> Personal belief 35.2 18.0 7.9

> Personal disbelief 25.4 53.0 76.7

> Doubt or agnosticism 43.7 29.0 23.3

>

>Figures are percentages.

>

>Details:

>

> "NATURE" SURVEY -- LESS AND LESS BELIEF

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> The follow-up study reported in "Nature" reveals that the

>rate

> of belief is lower than eight decades ago. The latest survey

> involved 517 members of the National Academy of Sciences; half

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- > *replied. When queried about belief in "personal god," only 7%*
- > *responded in the affirmative, while 72.2% expressed "personal*
- > *disbelief," and 20.8% expressed "doubt or agnosticism."*
- > *Belief in*
- > *the concept of human immortality, i.e. life after death declined*
- > *from the 35.2% measured in 1914 to just 7.9%. 76.7% reject the*
- > *"human immortality" tenet, compared with 25.4% in 1914, and*
- > *23.2%*
- > *claimed "doubt or agnosticism" on the question, compared with*
- > *43.7% in Leuba's original measurement [Dr. James Leuba,*
- > *Psychology Professor at Bryn Mawr University conducted the*
- > *original study]. Again, though, the highest rate of belief in*
- > *a god was found among mathematicians (14.3%, while the lowest*
- > *was found among those in the life sciences fields -- only 5.5%.*
- >
- > *From "NATURE" 394, 313 (23 Jul 1998) Correspondence*
- >
- > *earle*
- > *
- >

Looks like a Secular Trend in "disbelief". Maybe there's a hidden connection to the Secular Trend in "human growth", leading to the astonishing formula $GOD \neq G_{uv}$?

Greetings from Augsburg

Bernhard Schornak