

Questions often asked of a contented atheist



Highland Views

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Guest columnist

As an older white male in America there are many things that I am, and many other things that I am not. I'm a non-British, non-female, non-bird. I'm also a non-steak-eater, a non-geologist, non-Nun. I live in North Carolina, so

that makes me a non-any-other-state person.

It gets a bit ridiculous to identify or base our identity on what we aren't. "I'm not one of Them." Besides, doesn't it seem healthier to focus more on who or what we are? (I prefer calling myself a freethinker or humanist).

Those of us who do not believe in a god or the supernatural are frequently asked about our views. Here are a few of

the questions I've been asked and some of the responses I've given.

Are you anti-religious? No. I have no desire to waste time being against other people or their beliefs. I think there is a lot of good coming from religions and religious people. Now, if I think there is harm coming from a religious belief or people are trying to impose their beliefs on the rest of us, I will speak out. One question I might ask in return: Are you

against other religions or anti-atheist?

How can you not believe in God? Life is good enough; Nature is good enough. How can you not believe in Krishna, Buddha, Allah, a Goddess or any of the millions of deities throughout history? How did you choose one and only one? Doesn't that choice make you an atheist toward all the rest?

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