

In a controversial new satirical documentary, author, former presidential speechwriter, economist, lawyer and actor Ben Stein travels the world, looking to some of the best scientific minds of our generation for the answer to the biggest question facing all Americans today:

# Are we still free to disagree about the meaning of life?

Or has the whole issue already been decided... while most of us weren't looking?

Premise Media Corporation Presents a Rampant Films Production "Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed"

Produced by LOGAN CRAFT, WALT RULOFF & JOHN SULLIVAN Associate Producer MARK MATHIS

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### The Issue:

The freedom to legitimately challenge "Big Science's" orthodoxy...without persecution.

The debate over evolution is confusing and to some, bewildering: "Wasn't this all settled years ago?" The answer to that question is equally troubling: "Yes...and no."

The truth is that a staggering amount of new scientific evidence has emerged since Darwin's 150-year-old theory of life's origins. Darwin had no concept of DNA, microbiology, The Big Bang, Einstein's Theory of Relativity or of the human genome.

Each of these discoveries has, in one way or another, led a growing number of scientists to reconsider the simple view espoused by Darwin that life is a random, purposeless, chance occurrence. The universe, and life itself – is turning out to be far more complex and mysterious – than Darwin could possibly have imagined.

Darwin's theory isn't a single idea. Instead, it is made up of several related ideas, each supported by specific arguments. Of the three, only Evolution #1 can be said to be scientifically "settled."

- Evolution#1: First, evolution can mean minor changes in features of individual species changes that take place gradually over a (relatively) modest period of time.
- Evolution # 2: The Theory of Universal Common Descent the idea that all the organisms we see today are descended from a **single common ancestor** somewhere in the distant past. This theory paints a picture of the history of life on earth as a great branching tree, from a single cell that "somehow" materialized.
- Evolution#3: A cause or mechanism of change, the biological process Darwin thought was
  responsible for this branching pattern. Darwin argued that natural selection had the power to
  produce fundamentally new forms of life. Together, the ideas of Universal Common Descent
  and natural selection form the core of Darwinian evolutionary theory. "Neo Darwinian" evolution
  combines our knowledge of DNA and genetics to claim that mutations in DNA provide the variation
  upon which natural selection acts.

When you see the word "evolution." You should ask yourself, "Which of the three definitions is being used?" Because arguments and evidence supporting #1 do not support #2 or #3!

#### What Is Intelligent Design?

The theory of intelligent design is simply an effort to empirically detect whether the "apparent design" in nature acknowledged by virtually all biologists is genuine design (the product of an <u>intelligent cause</u>) or is simply the product of an undirected process such as natural selection acting on random variations.

"Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed" rejects the notion that "the case is closed," and exposes the widespread persecution of scientists and educators who are pursuing legitimate, opposing scientific views to the reigning orthodoxy.

### The Controversy

The American public's awareness and beliefs vis-à-vis our government's expanding role in defining the curriculum in America's schools, universities and institutions of science.

Neo-Darwinian theory contends that life is the result of a random, purposeless process.

Neo – Darwinian theory is taught in schools as if it is the <u>only</u> plausible scientific explanation of how life originated and developed. Yet Intelligent Design theory has recently emerged to challenge neo-Darwinian theory.

Both are scientific theories, and the debate is therefore legitimate. Why is the debate being suppressed?

At stake are two very consequential views of existence: Is life purposeful, and intelligently designed? Or is it random and purposeless?

#### Question #1:

Knowing this - should our government be engaged in official, de facto promotion of the <u>exclusively</u> secular, materialist worldview inherent in neo-Darwinian theory in our nation's public schools, universities and research institutions? Why?

#### Question #2:

There <u>is</u> growing support among scientists that there <u>is</u> evidence of intelligent design operating in nature. Yet these scientists, researchers and educators are being routinely persecuted for their scientific views. <u>Who</u> is behind this persecution? <u>Why</u> is this happening in America? <u>How</u> did this situation develop?

#### Question #3:

Should the enterprise of science somehow be treated differently from <u>all</u> other forms of human knowledge, and accorded a special privilege that <u>exempts</u> it from robust debate or inquiry, especially when such debate or inquiry may alter viewpoints that raise important questions concerning larger issues that extend beyond the limits of science itself?

"Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed" presents a point-of-view so powerful, that it literally forces a re-examination of these issues.

## What's At Stake (and why is it important)?

We all know that ideas have consequences.

And our country was founded on principles of free and open debate.

The differences between these two worldviews are certainly consequential. So...why the suppression of scientific debate?

If in our publicly funded schools, universities and institutions our children continue to be taught only this: that all life on earth is the result of a purposeless, meaningless and undirected process of random mutation and natural selection...

What are the consequences over time of teaching this one-sided worldview as if it were fact rather than theory?

- How will ideas of morality change, if life is thought to be purposeless and undirected?
- How will the role of Government change, if the individual is taught by The State that one is accountable only to ones self?
- How will the role of "science" change, if "Big Science" alone determines our worldview?

Such a change in our government's official policy represents a deeply troubling shift in our cultural identity and a radical departure from the very principles upon which our country was built. America is the first Democracy that was founded on the distinctive worldview that "a Creator" conferred "inalienable rights" on human beings, rather than the State, or another institution, such as "Big Science."

So...how was it decided that the teaching of such a profoundly different worldview should become the official position of the United States of America's public institutions?

Who was behind the decision? And...why?

"Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed" looks to scientists on both sides of the issue...and reveals some truly shocking answers.

**EXPELLED:** No Intelligence Allowed

# Biography: Ben Stein

Ben Stein (Benjamin J. Stein) was born November 25, 1944 in Washington, D.C., (He is the son of the economist and writer Herbert Stein) grew up in Silver Spring, Maryland, and attended Montgomery Blair High School. He graduated from Columbia University in 1966 with honors in economics. He graduated from Yale Law School in 1970 as valedictorian of his class by election of his classmates. He helped to found the Journal of Law and Social Policy while at Yale. He has worked as a poverty lawyer in New Haven and Washington, D.C., a trial lawyer in the field of trade regulation at the Federal Trade Commission in Washington, D.C., a university adjunct at American University in Washington, D.C., at the University of California at Santa Cruz, and at Pepperdine University in Malibu, CA. At American U., he taught about the political and social content of mass culture. He taught the same subject at UCSC, as well as about political and civil rights under the Constitution. At Pepperdine, he has taught about libel law and about securities law and ethical issues since 1986.

In 1973 and 1974, he was a speechwriter and lawyer for Richard Nixon at The White House and then for Gerald Ford. (He did NOT write the line, "I am not a crook.") He has been a columnist and editorial writer for The Wall Street Journal, a syndicated columnist for The Los Angeles Herald Examiner (R.I.P.) and King Features Syndicate, and a frequent contributor to Barrons, where his articles about the ethics of management buyouts and issues of fraud in the Milken Drexel junk bond scheme drew major national attention. He has been a regular columnist for Los Angeles Magazine, New York Magazine, E! Online, and most of all, has written a lengthy diary for ten years for The American Spectator. He also writes frequently for The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, op. ed. and almost every other imaginable magazine.

He has written and published sixteen books, seven novels, largely about life in Los Angeles, and nine nonfiction books, about finance and about ethical and social issue in finance, and also about the political and social content of mass culture. He has done pioneering work in uncovering the concealed messages of TV and in explaining how TV and movies get made. His titles include A License to Steal, Michael Milken and the Conspiracy to Bilk the Nation, The View From Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood Days, Hollywood Nights, DREEMZ, Financial Passages, and Ludes. His most recent book is the best selling humor self help book, How To Ruin Your Life. He has also been a longtime screenwriter, writing, among many other scripts (most of which were unmade) the first draft of The Boost, a movie based on Ludes, and the outlines of the lengthy miniseries Amerika, and the acclaimed Murder in Mississippi. He was one of the creators of the well-regarded comedy, Fernwood Tonight.

He is also an extremely well known actor in movies, TV, and commercials. His part of the boring teacher in Ferris Bueller's Day Off was recently ranked as one of the fifty most famous scenes in American film. From 1997 to 2002, he was the host of the Comedy Central quiz show, "Win Ben Stein's Money." The show has won seven Emmys. He appears regularly on the Fox News Channel talking about finance.

He lives with his wife, Alexandra Denman (former lawyer,) his son, Tommy, four cats and two large dogs in Beverly Hills.

## A quick guide to viewing the Website

The following links will help you understand the film at a glance. Included here are individual page links...or you can navigate the site directly from the Home Page. But be sure that you visit each of the six pages below, in order to get a feel for the project!

Go to the Home Page <u>www.expelledthemovie.com</u> watch the "Bad to the Bone" teaser trailer. Then enter the site.

From the Home Page...start with the Trailer...a clip from Ben Stein speaking to a college audience. It gives you an indication of the controversy surrounding the issues that the film addresses.

Ben's Trailer http://www.expelledthemovie.com/playground.php

Then go to the Movie Overview...a short synopsis of the film.

Movie Overview http://www.expelledthemovie.com/movie overview.php

Next...go to the blog, and scroll down the page to Ben Stein's Introductory Blog...nearly eighteen hundred people have responded already, since the site first launched August 22, 2007. Remember...the "responses" are all about a film that no one has even seen yet....so take them with a grain of salt!

The Blog http://www.expelledthemovie.com/blog/

Then...go to the News page. The film made the front page of the New York Times on September 27, 2007. A link to the story is the top article.

News Page <a href="http://www.expelledthemovie.com/news.php">http://www.expelledthemovie.com/news.php</a>

Complete with all of the assets that you would find in a hard-copy press kit, this online press room was created specifically for your uses

Press Room http://www.expelledthemovie.com/press\_room.php

Last, but not least...go to Big Science Academy parody Yearbook, and follow the links to the Class Officers, etcetera. The Playground is just that...a place on the site where the issues are treated with a decidedly tongue-in-cheek fashion.

Big Science Academy http://www.expelledthemovie.com/bigscienceacademy.php