

06/13/2005

Re: Supernatural Intelligence

Dear Editor,

Margret Sholaas writes most disingenuously (06/13) that Intelligent Design (the latest evolution in stealth creationism from activist evangelicals), only claims the "designer" is intelligent, not supernatural. Really? I wonder who she imagines did the design work? Henry Kissinger? Or perhaps she imagines that it was aliens from Alpha Centauri? In fact there is a religion called Raelianism, which with an equal degree of non-evidence asserts that humans were designed by E.T. Of course in both cases we are still left with the question of who designed this intelligent, non-supernatural designer. Traditionally, creationists will argue that God doesn't require "explanation", but if Sholaas is going to insist (on what basis?) that the designer isn't supernatural, then we need a designer for the designer. Don't we? Or is this when the supernatural explanation finally kicks in?

Finally, if this designer was really so intelligent, why did it give molluscs a better designed eye (one without a blind spot where the optic nerve penetrates the retina) than humans? In any case, Intelligent Design "scholar" Stephen Meyer openly admitted in a May 2005 debate at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri that he thinks the Intelligent Designer is the God of Judeo-Christians and that sub-optimal designs and deadly diseases are not examples of an unintelligent or malevolent designer, but instead are a result of "the Fall" in the Garden of Eden. Does this sound like a scientific theory that we should be teaching our kids in science classes?

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