

# Simulacra, gods and the dead

**Post by "Susan Hill" of November 15, 2020 at 7:05 AM**

A review of the literature regarding innate leanings towards spirituality/religion is frustrating because, although books and articles like "The God Gene" start off by saying, yes, there is a genetic and innate neurological proclivity towards spiritual seeking/belief, they then descend into scientism.

The narrative goes "There is a gene (or brain state) that can be correlated with spiritual proclivity; all religious experience is false; therefore, these delusional experiences must be evolutionarily adaptive in some way, like pro-social, as an encouragement to breed in the face of death (!), or because of anti-depressive qualities." Arrg...

Substitute in other words for things that you find meaningful and real and see how you feel about the conclusion. Instead of spirituality/religion, how about "love", or music or mathematics or science!

"There is a gene (or brain state) that can be correlated with an attraction to science; all scientific reasoning is based on false premises; therefore, these tendencies must be evolutionarily adaptive in some way, like pro-social, as an encouragement to breed in the face of death (!), or because of anti-depressive qualities." Lol.

Regarding Cassius' "...I would probably use words like a "faculty" that "disposes us to organize what we perceive" in ways that are helpful to our forming of mental images that we then store in our memories and use as operators for further analysis."

I'm wondering if this were the definition of a prolepsis/anticipation, how would it be different from simple "learning ability" or "the faculty of cognition", or "knowledge creation ability"?