[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OwaXqep-bpk**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OwaXqep-bpk)

**by Alex, the Cosmic Skeptic**

**“*Free will does not exist. That's the claim I'm making, anyway*.”**

**Claims require evidence. Your video contains zero evidence.**

**It would have been more appropriate to include this video in the category of religion.**

**“*He was, of course, a neuroscientist*.”**

**You claimed that Sam Harris was a neuroscientist. Can you name one person or company who employed Harris as a neuroscientist?**

**The reason why you can’t, is because Harris has never worked a day in his life as a neuroscientist (I will gladly retract that if you can provide links to the contrary).**

**Sam Harris was a student who earned a degree in neuroscience. So in the field of neuroscience, that’s all he ever was ... a student.**

**“*Free Will is the ability to have acted differently*.”**

**How do you plan on proving that someone could have acted differently? Or could not have acted differently?**

**Your premise is impossible to test. Any skeptic, at any level (from beginner to advanced), would immediately recognize that this is not how science is done. It MUST be testable and replicable or you have nothing but an assertion.**

**These are basic principles of skepticism and science that should not have to be explained to you.**

**“*If we could wind back the clock in any situation*.”**

**Can you produce any evidence that ... that is possible?**

**No. You cannot. Therefore, you are building your argument on a counterfactual. It is absolutely stunning that you could do that ...**

**without being aware that you were doing so.**

**“*We would need to be aware of everything that is influencing our actions*.”**

**You, like Harris, completely ignore the subconscious mind. Many thoughts and actions occur before our conscious minds become aware of them ... as demonstrated by Libet (Who, by the way, did not interpret his experiments as a rejection of free will).**

**Determinists highjacked Libet’s experiment and interpreted it, the way they needed to interpret it, in order to support their pseudoscientific beliefs.**

[**http://www.informationphilosopher.com/solutions/scientists/libet/**](http://www.informationphilosopher.com/solutions/scientists/libet/)

**“*Can I control what I want? Not a chance*.”**

**The science doesn’t fall on your side of the debate. The link that I provided above, referenced “veto” power; and that IS backed by experimentation ... not assertion.**

**Your examples about wanting and not wanting were pure speculation. Again, that is not how science works; that is how religion works.**

**Science is based on evidence, and ONLY on evidence.**

**“*Those 2 reasons are: because you want to or because you are forced to*.”**

**This time you committed the “False Dichotomy” fallacy. To prove that you committed a false dichotomy, I need to provide at least one more alternative. Here is one:**

**I do not want to do my laundry. No one is forcing me to do my laundry. Even though I do not want to do it, I know that if I don’t do it, I will suffer later when I need clean clothes. So despite not being forced to do it and despite not wanting to do it ...**

**I do it anyway.**

**“*Because of the fact that nobody seems to believe me* ....”**

**That should have been your first big hint.**

**One possible reason why “nobody seems to believe” you,**

**is that most of the people involved in the skeptical movement are science-oriented and understand that belief must be earned.**

**(*Alex now gives an example of a guy going to the gym who doesn’t want to*)**

**In this example, you commit yet another logical fallacy.**

**If the person wants to do something:**

**then you posit that mysterious agents make him want to do it.**

**If the person doesn’t want to do something:**

**then you posit that mysterious agents make him want to do it.**

**I’ll let you hunt for the fallacy, as it appears you could use the practice.**

**“*It just is*.”**

**That was one of your most-used fallbacks whenever you had no answer or evidence. I used to hear that a lot ... in church.**

**“*You can’t control the strengths or objects of your desires.***

***It is they that control you*.”**

**Evidence?**

**Didn’t think so. That was just another assertion about mysterious agents.**

**You are making creationists look like research scientists.**

**“*Any example you can think of has a hidden want lying behind it*.”**

**Evidence? What is a “hidden want?” Is that a mysterious agent?**

**“*Remember, you can’t control your wants*.”**

**Experimentation has proven otherwise, as mentioned previously.**

**“*That’s where I’ll end this video for now. Why? I don’t know. Why am I still talking? Why will I stop when I eventually do stop? I don’t know*.”**

**How you cannot see the illogical, fallacious thinking in your claims is truly one of the modern wonders of the skeptical world.**

**You are about as close to being a “skeptic”**

**as Paris Hilton is ... to a Nobel Prize in Physics.**