

Rationalist Manifesto

1) There is a reason for everything that happens. Because we can't (yet) predict what will happen, it does not mean that things happen for no reason. Because we don't (yet) know the answer, it does not mean that there is no answer. Superstition, magic and religion are neither reasons nor answers.

2) We do, in fact, live in a clockwork universe. Leibniz was right. The Age of Enlightenment was aptly named, and it is sorely missed.

3) Before computers, nanotechnology and microbiology, much of the mechanism of the universe - the laws of mathematics, physics and chemistry - were observable if one made the effort to look.

4) As the workings of things are increasingly hidden, we are increasingly unaware of the underlying functioning of the world we inhabit and our relationship to the world and to each other. Misinterpretation leads to foolishness. Misrepresentation is a tool for evil.

5) Knowledge is essential to understanding. Leave the back off the clock, hide nothing, always show the gears. Be honest and forthright in all things. Say what you mean. Mean what you say. Speak the truth.

