

New book from Jonathan Wells, author of Icons of Evolution

Zombie Science: More Icons of Evolution

COMING APRIL 18, 2017!

“Informative... entertaining... compelling.”

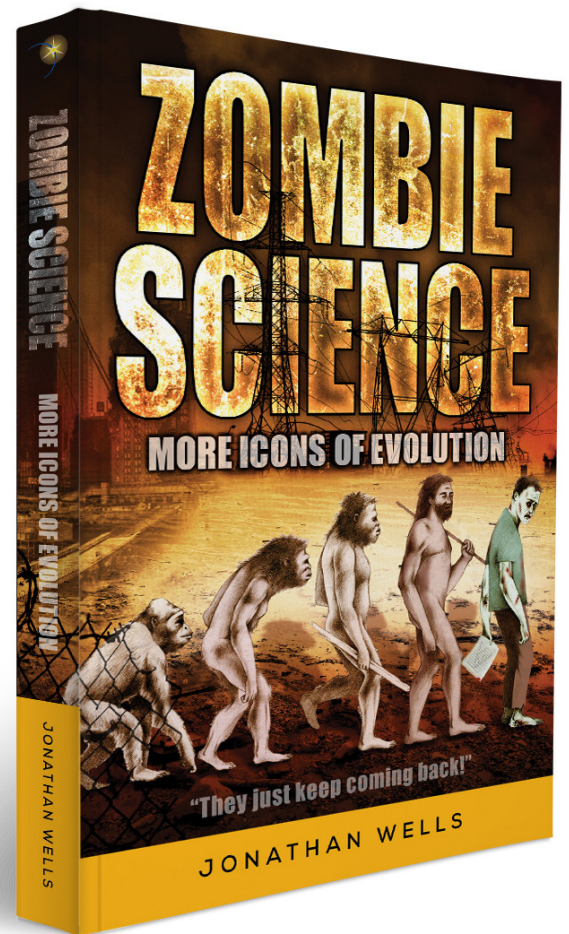
Russell W. Carlson, PhD

*Professor Emeritus, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology,
University of Georgia*

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*nationally syndicated talk radio host
and author of The American Miracle*



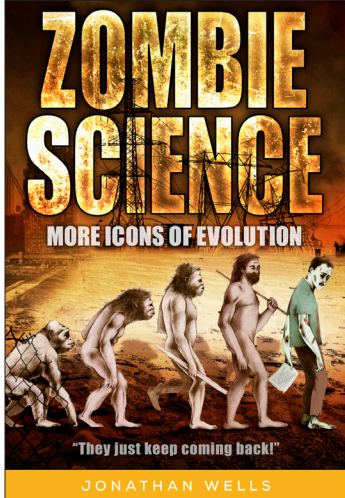
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ZOMBIE SCIENCE: JONATHAN WELLS EXPOSES MORE ICONS OF EVOLUTION IN HIS NEW BOOK



MORE THAN FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, CSC BIOLOGIST JONATHAN Wells leveled an attack against 10 outdated defenses of Darwinism in *Icons of Evolution*. His book made quite an impact, becoming a classic of the intelligent design movement and even forcing some textbook publishers to remove grossly inaccurate illustrations and examples from their textbooks. But the trouble with icons is that, like zombies, they just keep coming back. And in his latest book, Jonathan Wells sets the record straight once again.

Out this month, *Zombie Science: More Icons of Evolution* functions as both a sequel to Wells' earlier book and a stand-alone frontal assault on the latest iterations of textbook Darwinism. In it, Wells explores a new set of icons that has invaded science and updates the record on some old ones. New topics include DNA, the human eye, vestigial organs, antibiotic resistance, and cancer.

Zombie science, according to Wells, is when establishment science defends materialistic explanations even when they don't fit the evidence.

"These are explanations that purport to be scientific in the empirical sense, that is, based on evidence," says Wells, "but in fact they are not. They are explanations that grow out of materialistic philosophy... So empirically, they are dead. But they keep stalking our education system, our laboratories, our textbooks. They influence the lives of our children, of our culture."

While Wells is not afraid to point out the consequences of relying on outdated, dogmatic science, his book ends with a hopeful tone. After surveying the crumbling foundations of modern evolutionary biology, he points us towards a better way. Wells' new book is already earning high marks.

University of Georgia biochemist Russell Carlson said, "Wells convincingly shows that the 'icons' used to support evolution continue to be taught in spite of the increasing evidence against them." Nationally syndicated radio host Michael Medved says "Wells delivers... with his customary gusto and clarity. This important new book makes a persuasive case that the most radical, least rational and tolerant of all contemporary religious faiths is the fundamentalist belief in materialism."

The Center will be mounting an extensive social media and talk radio campaign to promote Wells' new book. In coming months, it will also be producing a series of video clips and short documentaries exploring the key ideas of the book and featuring brand new, exclusive interviews with Jonathan Wells. Finally, the CSC will be launching a new website of resources at www.iconsofevolution.com. Follow the CSC YouTube channel, DiscoveryScienceNews, and the *Evolution News* website to stay updated on all of our efforts connected to the new book. The Center will host the national book party on April 18, at the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle. It will be livestreamed, so stay tuned!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jonathan Wells is a Senior Fellow with Discovery Institute's Center for Science and Culture in Seattle. He holds a Ph.D. in molecular and cell biology from the University of California-Berkeley and a Ph.D. in religious studies from Yale University. His books include *Icons of Evolution* (2000), *The Politically Incorrect Guide to Darwinism and Intelligent Design* (2006), and *The Myth of Junk DNA* (2011). He has published peer-reviewed articles in many journals, including *Development*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA*, *BioSystems*, *The Scientist* and *The American Biology Teacher*.



PRAISE FOR *ZOMBIE SCIENCE*

“In *Zombie Science*, Jonathan Wells gives both a very informative and entertaining account of the problems surrounding Darwinian evolution. He makes a compelling argument that the case in favor of evolution is being driven by a commitment to materialistic philosophy and not by scientific evidence. In fact, Wells convincingly shows that the ‘icons’ used to support evolution continue to be taught in spite of the increasing evidence against them. Whether a person is convinced of the truth of evolutionary theory, a skeptic, or convinced of the design argument, a clearer and greater understanding of the evolution/design debate will be gained by reading this book.”

Russell W. Carlson, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus,
Dept. of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and the Complex
Carbohydrate Research Center, University of Georgia

“On TV and at the movies, zombies are simultaneously scary and comedic. *Zombie science* is even more frightening and, at times, even more laughable—and worthy of the exposure and ridicule Dr. Jonathan Wells delivers here with his customary gusto and clarity. This important new book makes a persuasive case that the most radical, least rational and tolerant of all contemporary religious faiths is the fundamentalist belief in materialism.”

Michael Medved, nationally syndicated talk radio host
and author of *The American Miracle*

“*Zombie Science* poses a crucial question: If it’s true that ‘Nothing in biology makes sense except in the light of evolution,’ as Darwinists often claim, why do textbooks continue to tout trivial, misleading, or downright fake illustrations fifteen years after Jonathan Wells first exposed many of them? If these are the best examples, the theory itself is extinct.”

Michael Behe, Ph.D., Professor of Biological Sciences, Lehigh University,
and author of *Darwin’s Black Box* and *The Edge of Evolution*

“Evolutionary biologists provide contradictory hypotheses of the tree of life and mistaken answers on walking whales, junk DNA, the human eye, the origin of life, and many other captivating topics. To be up to date and informed on the many falsehoods dominating contemporary science and biology textbooks, I strongly recommend *Zombie Science*, the latest ‘politically incorrect’ book by Jonathan Wells.”

Wolf-Ekkehard Lönnig, Ph.D., Senior Scientist,
Dept. of Molecular Genetics, Max Planck Institute of
Plant Breeding Research, Cologne (retired)

“When I read *Zombie Science*, the old phrase ‘My mind is made up, don’t confuse me with the facts’ kept coming to mind. Against the facts, Establishment Science continues to push a materialist narrative with religious zeal. Dr. Wells provides a very readable account of Establishment Science’s efforts to shore up a failed theory. Like zombies, neo-Darwinism just refuses to die. But readers will come away with good protection from the zombie arguments that keep appearing.”

Ralph Seelke, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Natural Sciences
(Microbiology, Cell Biology, Genetics), University of Wisconsin-Superior

“In this sequel to his seminal book *Icons of Evolution*, molecular biologist Jonathan Wells not only responds to his critics, but reveals even more examples of dubious and overrated scientific evidence for evolution. He shows that the theory of macroevolution still lacks empirical support, and that the materialist dogma has corrupted modern science, which desperately tries to close the door for any alternative explanations like Intelligent Design. Wells’ book represents an important contribution for a paradigm change that is long overdue. It is easy to understand even for laymen, and an enjoyable read as well.”

Günter Bechly, Ph.D., Paleontologist and Former Curator
for Amber and Fossil Insects, Dept. of Paleontology, State
Museum of Natural History, Stuttgart, Germany

"*Icons of Evolution* proved the emperor has no clothes. Now *Zombie Science* shows that it doesn't even have a pulse. In this lucid and highly readable sequel, Jonathan Wells again turns the tables on the Darwinists, documenting how their supposedly overwhelming evidence for unguided evolution is 'one long bluff.'"

Tom Bethell, author of *Darwin's House of Cards*
and *The Politically Incorrect Guide to Science*

"Seventeen years ago Jonathan Wells exposed ten 'icons of evolution' that had wide acceptance but that didn't fit the evidence. Now he demonstrates that these 'icons' not only continue to haunt the popular media and remain in commonly distributed textbooks, but that at least six more can be added to the list. Their persistence and proliferation suggest that these icons are now the substance of what he calls 'zombie science,' the promotion of dead ideas as if they were living facts. Wells' strategy is to treat these dead icons like you would all zombies that prefer the cover of darkness: He removes the darkness, shedding revealing light on the 'central dogma' that DNA = RNA = Us, the myth of 'walking whales,' the notion of vestigial organs and other evolutionary 'junk,' the eye as an evolutionary icon, and the boasts of Darwinian medicine in 'explaining' antibiotic resistance and cancer. Told with a scathing wit that would have made Thomas Henry Huxley envious, *Zombie Science* is bound to be next on every Darwinian's growing *Index Librorum Prohibitorum*. To conceal this contraband, Wells even includes instructions for making a plain brown cover for the book. I'm marking mine *Pride and Prejudice*, which may best describe the sources of this 'zombie' phenomenon. A fascinating, lively book that should be on everyone's reading list."

Michael A. Flannery
Professor Emeritus, University of Alabama at Birmingham,
and author of *Alfred Russel Wallace: A Rediscovered Life*

“I could not put this book down; every page has mind-opening information that exposes errors, misinterpretations and even fraud from the hard-line Darwinian evolution proponents. Dr. Jonathan Wells has married his sharp wit and extensive research to deliver an exciting look at the flaws of Darwinian evolution that just keep popping up. If science educators were confident that the current teaching of Darwinian evolution could stand up to scientific criticism, then Dr. Wells’ work would be included in school and university syllabi; thus I don’t expect to see it in any biology textbook soon. There is a battle for the minds and culture of our future generations, but Dr. Wells shows good reason for optimism as more recent advances in biology come to light and an increasing body of the scientific community are realizing that the current teaching of evolution cannot stand up to recent discoveries.”

Dr. Philip Anderson, M.B., Ch.B. D.A. (South Africa) FRCA

“Dr. Wells once again demonstrates his unique ability to bring clarity to the many misrepresentations of the evidence for Darwinian evolution that clutter biology textbooks today. This is the most comprehensive critique I have seen. It is a must read for truth-seeking biology students and their parents.”

Roger DeHart, M.A., high school biology teacher for forty years

“In his much anticipated encore to *Icons of Evolution*, Jonathan Wells delivers a 1–2 punch to those who refuse to see that the Darwinian head-lock on ‘science’ is nothing more than a desperate attempt by the reigning materialist junta to block the search for truth in origins science. A great read.”

William S. Harris, Ph.D., medical researcher and
President, OmegaQuant Analytics

ZOMBIE SCIENCE EXCERPT: CORRUPTING SCIENCE

DANIEL DENNET'S "UNIVERSAL ACID" DOESN'T JUST EAT through religion and education; it also eats through science—the very discipline on which it claims to depend. We have seen throughout this book how a belief in evolution leads to misrepresentations of the evidence. But belief in evolution corrupts science even more deeply than that.

Chemist Linus Pauling, winner of two Nobel prizes, wrote in 1958 that “science is the search for the truth.”¹ In 2000 Bruce Alberts, then President of the U. S. National Academy of Sciences, said (quoting Israeli statesman Shimon Peres): “Science and lies cannot coexist. You don’t have a scientific lie, and you cannot lie scientifically. Science is basically the search of truth.” Thus “a system that does not permit the search for truth cannot be a scientific system.”²

In 2014, however, cognitive scientist Donald Hoffman and mathematician Chetan Prakash argued that evolution produces perceptions that are not true. According to them, human perception “evolved by natural selection,” and evolutionary theory predicts that natural selection “drives true perceptions to extinction when they compete with perceptions tuned to fitness.”³ So according to Darwinian theory, human perceptions are more about survival than truth.

They’re not alone in making this argument. According to biologists Ajit Varki and Danny Brower, the modern human mind evolved when early humans overcame their awareness of mortality by acquiring “a massive capacity for denial.”⁴ Varki and Brower argue that all non-humans are aware of their own mortality and thus are inhibited from embarking on enterprises—such as scientific discoveries and technological innovations—that transcend the life of a single individual. By evolving a capacity for denying mortality, subhuman creatures became humans and modern culture emerged. But “reality denial” quickly extended to other aspects of reality and produced religion, which unfortunately leads many people to reject what Varki and Brower regard as the ultimate reality of “biological evolution by natural selection [which] is now established as an incontrovertible fact.”⁵

But if evolution maximizes fitness by eliminating true perceptions, how do Hoffman and Prakash know their perception of evolution is true? And if modern humans evolved to deny reality, how do Varki and Brower know they’re not denying reality when they claim evolution cannot be doubted?

Oxford professor C. S. Lewis pointed out in 1947 that a theory “which made it impossible to believe that our thinking was valid, would be utterly out of court.” The theory of evolution “would itself have been reached by thinking, and if thinking is not valid that theory would, of course, be itself demolished. It would have destroyed its own credentials.”⁶ Lewis was a Christian, but New York University professor Thomas Nagel is not. Nevertheless, Nagel made a similar argument in 2012. He pointed out that mind is “a basic aspect of nature.” But the materialistic doctrine of evolution denies the reality of mind, so it “provides an account of our capacities that undermines their reliability, and in so doing undermines itself.”⁷ Although Nagel prefers not to believe in God, and he is not an advocate of intelligent design, he argues that a “satisfactory explanation” of mind would require “natural teleological laws” that make intelligible the existence of conscious organisms.⁸ Since “the materialist neo-Darwinian conception of nature” does not make conscious organisms intelligible, Nagel concludes that it “is almost certainly false.” In fact, he says he is “willing to bet that the present right-thinking consensus will come to seem laughable in a generation or two.”⁹

For now, however, materialistic science rules.

1. Linus Pauling, *No More War!* (New York: Dodd, Mead & Company, 1958), 209.

2. Bruce Alberts, “Science and human needs,” 137th Annual Meeting of the National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC, May 1, 2000. <https://brucealberts.ucsf.edu/publications/NAS2000.pdf>.

3. Donald D. Hoffman and Chetan Prakash, “Objects of consciousness,” *Frontiers in Psychology* 5 (2014): 577. doi:10.3389/fpsyg.2014.00577. PMID:24987382.

4. Ajit Varki and Danny Brower, *Denial: Self-deception, false beliefs, and the origins of the human mind* (New York: Twelve, 2013), 172.

5. *Ibid.*, 27, 144–149.

6. C. S. Lewis, *Miracles* (London: G. Bles, 1947), 21–22.

7. Thomas Nagel, *Mind and Cosmos: Why the materialist neo-Darwinian conception of nature is almost certainly false* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2012), 16, 27.

8. *Ibid.*, 50, 66.

9. *Ibid.*, 128.