

Dr. Michael Shermer is the founding publisher of *Skeptic Magazine*, editor of www.skeptic.com, the Executive Director of the Skeptics Society, a monthly columnist for *Scientific American*, the host of the Skeptics Distinguished Science Lecture Series at Caltech, and Adjunct Professor at Claremont Graduate University and Chapman University.

Dr. Shermer's latest book is *The Believing Brain: From Ghosts and Gods to Politics and Conspiracies—How We Construct Beliefs and Reinforce Them as Truths*. His last book was *The Mind of the Market*, on evolutionary economics. He is also the author of *Why Darwin Matters: Evolution and the Case Against Intelligent Design*, *The Science of Good and Evil: Why People Cheat, Gossip, Share Care, and Follow the Golden Rule*, and *Why People Believe Weird Things*.

According to the late Stephen Jay Gould (from his Foreword to *Why People Believe Weird Things*: "Michael Shermer, as head of one of America's leading skeptic organizations, and as a powerful activist and essayist in the service of this operational form of reason, is an important figure in American public life."

Dr. Shermer received his B.A. in psychology from Pepperdine University, M.A. in experimental psychology from California State University, Fullerton, and his Ph.D. in the history of science from Claremont Graduate University (1991).

He has appeared on *The Colbert Report*, *20/20*, *Dateline*, *Charlie Rose*, *Larry King Live*, and *Oprah* and in various interviews in documentaries aired on PBS, A&E, Discovery, The History Channel, The Science Channel, and The Learning Channel. Shermer was the co-host and the co-producer of the 13-hour Family Channel television series, *Exploring the Unknown*.

California State University Northridge

College of
Social and Behavioral Sciences
Richard W. Smith Lecture Series

Dr. Michael Shermer, Lecturer

**"The Believing Brain: From Ghosts, Gods,
and Aliens to Conspiracies, Economics
and Politics—How the Brain Constructs
Beliefs and Reinforces Them as Truths"**



**Thursday, October 24, 2013 at 7:00 pm
Whitsett Room, Sierra Hall 451
California State University, Northridge**

**Program is free of charge.
Reception and book signing
immediately following.**

**Parking is \$6.00. Parking permits are available
at the Information Booth located
at Prairie Street and Darby Avenue.
For more information and to RSVP call (818) 677-4030**



The Richard W. Smith Endowment in Cultural Studies

Named CSUN's 1991-92 Professor of the Year, two-time Distinguished Faculty Award winner Dr. Richard Smith had the care of many students' minds during his 41-year career at CSUN. His aim always was to open up those minds, to make his scholars think like cultural psychologists, "from the perspectives of other peoples, other cultures."

In establishing the Richard W. Smith Endowment for Cultural Studies, Smith will continue looking after his students. The endowment will support activities within the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences promoting the study of indigenous cultures, including the Richard W. Smith Professor in Cultural Studies and the Richard W. Smith Lecture in Cultural Studies.

Twice nominated by his students for "Who's Who Among American Teachers" and twice the recipient of the CSUN Student Ambassadors' Polished Apple Award, Smith is credited with a "profound and lasting impact" on the lives of those he taught.

For more information about the Richard W. Smith Series, please visit www.csun.edu/csbs.

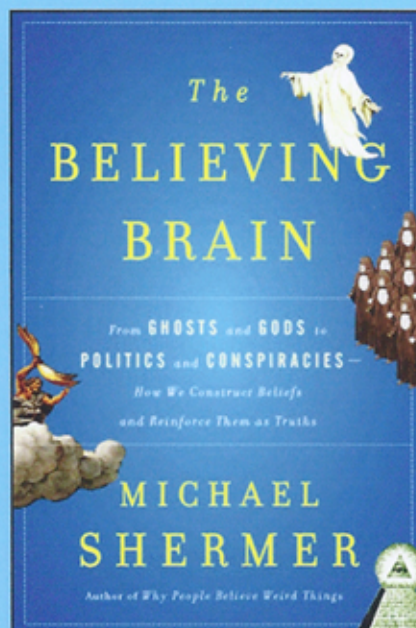
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