

Pulled Up Short with Stanton Wortham

How can education be about acquiring nothing?

Featuring René Arilla with Samantha Ha (guest host) and Chris Higgins (commentator)

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Stanton Wortham " , " *

I Wba_ Wfa Bg^W Gb EZadZf Z[e [e SbaVUSef fZSfie WfafW fa SbSf [Lg^Sd] [V aX SUR[hfk i ZVdW
i WdWfa V ea_ W W bVbVU[hVea` fZ [YefZSf USgeVgefa efabf fa TWbg^W gb eZadfi S V fZ [] S
ffWT [f STagf ea_ VZ [Y fZSf i WTWVW Tgf i Z [LZ fgd eagf ` af fa TWfgWadSf VSe fZSf i W
` Ww fa dVb` e[VdTSaW a` ea_ W W [Xad_ Sfa` fZSf i VhWTW Y[hWž

FZ[e [e S [badS f fZ [Y fa Važ; f dVg[dV fZSf i WdWb` [i WWWWk ZW bVgbbae[fja` d fZSf i W
WfVRS [fZWbae [T [fk fZSf agdfkb [US`i Ske aXg` WdS V [Y SdM` Ua_ b VVadV [efad [YžI W Ww
fa TWabW fa cgVefja` eS V S^fVd Sf[hWad_g Sfa` eaXTSe [U [eegVefZSf i WfWV fa fS] WadYdS fWž
I WZShWfa TW [^f Y fa Ua` e[VdS^fVd Sf[hW Ske aX fZ [] [YžF Z[e dVg[dV S Ua_ _ [f_ Wf fa
[SY [Sfa` f fa eW Y fZW adV [` W i Skel S Ua_ _ [f_ Wf fa ekefW Sf [US`k [cg[d` Y TSeW a`
V [WVUWS V dVSea` i ZVWVd [f VSe d S Ua_ _ [f_ Wf fa TW Y abWf fa _ ah [Y TVka` V VaY_ Sf [e_ f
S V Ua` e[Vd Y S^fVd Sf[hWTWVVeS V bcdSUR [Ud adUa_ _ [f_ Wf fa Ua` hVesfja` fa [efW [Y Ww k
fa afZVes V [cg[d` Y a [f kž

Ea [VSLZ Vb [eaWVi WdWfa [Y fa ZVsdXa_ ea_ Wd` W Za ZSeS [eYZf ad ea_ VZ [Yi Wwa` if
fkb [US`k fZ [] STagf fZSf dVg[dV ge fa TWbg^W gb eZadfi fa dVZ [] ea_ VZ [Y fZSf i WfWV fa fS] W
XadYdS fWž 3` Vi WZabWfZSf kagi^W akž

Samantha Ha #,%&

: [VVka` WfZS] eXadfg [Y [žI Wba_ Wfa S afZVdV [eaWbX Bg^W Gb EZadZf? k` S_ W [e
ES_ f S V faVSk; _ WfYZfW fa eVhWSe SYgVef Zaef Xad fZ [e Vb [eaWV [fZ fi a bVab`W Za; YdVSk
SV_ [dVSe bVab`W_ Wfad S V VSV [Y eLZa` Sc [fZWVW aX bZ [^aeabZk aX WgUSfja` ž FaVSk i W
ZShW [fZ ge DW; 3dJ^S i Za [eSBcaXVeadXBZ [^aeabZk aX 7VgUSfja` Sf @W Kad] G` [hVefkž
I VsdVSea` gU] k fa ZShW5Zde: [YY] d i Za [eSea SBcaXVeadS V BZ [^aeabZVdaX 7VgUSfja` f ZVdW
Sf 4aefa` 5a^Wwi Za i [^^a [geSeSV [dJees f

cgVefja` aX WgUSfja` ž I ZSf isWgUSfja` f W/SURk1 ; [fS^k [] Wb [Yi [fZ fZWbaVUSef eVdV
fZW W; V [Wfa Wd [TWZai fZ [e cgVefja` US` bg^ge gb eZadfi e [b`k TWVgeWf eW eea
g` eV [agež ; feag` Ve [WfZW] [V aXi dVUZ a` W [YZf fZdai [fa S Ua` hVesfja` fa Ww S V ST [faX

SffWf[a` -[fZW_ V\$ f[W/a` W

eW [Y [V [X [W [U [f [Z [W [ad [V [S [ag [V [ge [ž [6 [V [f [Z [W [S [] [W [Z [W [e [S [W [U [W [U [k [ag [f [Z [W [U [E [a [U [S [^ [] [ge [f [U [W [W [ge [a [] [S [V [] [W [X [U [W [U [k [i

Samantha H a ##,%

; fZ[] ea _gLZ STagf WgUSf[a` t S V _SkTWi ZW ; eSk WgUSf[a` ZVdW; _VS t dLZaa↑ Y dSFZVd [f
dMa hVd Schg` V fZ[e [W\$ aX Subg[d` Y ea_ VIZ[Yz; fZ[] STagf fZW[VSe aX aTWUf[hVd YaS`d YdSWW
e] [^zF ZaeWsdAS^fZ[Ye fZSf kag US` Subg[dMS V baeeVd ↑ Wkag eS[V fZ[Ye fZSf; US` f`a` S
f`S eL[bf ad_ k dVg_ W`XadVjS_ b^Vz3` V eat [f eWV_ efa _ W] WkagidWbdabae[Y ea_ VIZ[Y
V[XVdVf fZS` fZSf ea_ W\$ fVd Sf[hWfa fZ[eXS_ [fSdLh` U`bf aX WgUSf[a` z3` V eat; L_ Ya` `S Va fZW
VSk fZ[Yf Se kag eSk S V Se] kag fa ZS V _ WfZWS d` VdZ Eat i ZSf [e fZ[eS fVd Sf[hWLa` U`bf[a` aX
WgUSf[a` 1: ai t Zai US` i WfZ[] STagf [f afZVd [eW

René Arcilla #\$,#*

KVSZi i Wt; VagTf; US` Va _ adVfZS _ VdWk [fdaVgUW[fz 4gf; _ YSV fa fdk TVUSgeW[fedaafW [f
i ZSf S↑ Ske _ S] Vd_ We_ [MSTagf Zai _ k efacl La` f] gWz; ffgd e agf fZSf; WWWW gb LZaaef Y
5Z[USYa S^VdS^Xba_ S_ a` Y fZVdLZaa`e fZSf SUU`bfW_ W\$ V fZSf <S] ea` V[V TWLa_ W_ k
_ Wfad` A` UW` la[W fZ[e] fWVUfgS^La__ g` [fk; V\$ d W Xba_ S`af aX afZVd fVdZVd S V
efgWVfd faat Se; ef^Va faVSkz 4gf; i agV` f TWdbV\$ [Y fa kag S^dYZf` ai [X [f i VdV f XadZW
VjS_ b^VzWdV`Xad_ Vd: WTdaSUZW fZWbSFZ fZSf W` fa agd_ Wf] Yz

KVd ea_ VIZ[Y [_ WX[bbW TVd W fZW_ a_ Wf; XW Z[e aX[UWS^Vd fZSf X`df h[e]f S V fZW
_ a_ Wf; Y[YVd k dVgd W S^Vd SUU`bf Y 5Z[USYa eaXVd aX SV_ [ee[a` z <S] ea` ecgVd[a` [Y aX
fZW hVd k La` U`bf aX WgUSf[a` ZSV ZS^W_ W] _ kfdS] eS V Z[e] e[eWf bgdgl f aX fZ[e
cgVd[a` [Yf [Y ad` Y S^fZWeaU[S^bdt W` e fZSf LdW agf Xad WgUSf[a` S^See[erS UW dVdWVz KVd;
US_ WTSU] z I Zk1 I ZSf [e [f STagf Z[e cgVd[a` fZSf g`f_ S^Wk SbbV\$W fa _ W

3 fZagYZ fZ[e SbbV\$^ebgdW_ k fS] [Y SUZS UWa` 5Z[USYa S V <S] ea` t S V fZW YdW [fa S
WVgd[Y US^f Y [_ k ↑WV[fe` SfgdWef^WgVd S V ZSg` fe_ Vd A` UW` SUU`bfW VdW fZWbaee[T[fk
fZSf; V[V f]` ai fZWfdgW_ V\$ [Y aX WgUSf[a` t fZSf WgUSf[a` UagV TWSTagf_ adVfZS` fZW
Subg[e]f[a` aX]` ai WYMS V fZWba`h[Y aX eaU[S^bdt W` d fZ[e [Y adS UW[efV\$V aX dVWVd Y_ W
g` ST Wfa WgUSfWadTWVWgUSfW abWWW_ Wfa ea_ VIZ[Y fZSf XWVe ↑ WS dV\$↑ a` Ya[Y WgUSf[a` z
3 X^Vd WUSVd aX bSf[U]bSf[Y [[f ZVdVdWdWd_ W_ aWd [La` Uge[hWbdh[e]a` S^fZagYZfe STagf
i Zk; La` f] gWfa SXd_ fZ[e bSd

i a` Wd[XfZVk SdASeSdg`W af UWfWdW a` eagdUe`aX]` ai `WYW

dWVf[a` i i VdM eb[dW Tk S V VjbdVW ea_ VZ[YTVSgfXg^S V_ keVdage1 I ZSf [X [f fdS e_ [fe
i a` WdSf fZaeWZ[YefZSf [fVdWf ge[fZW adV [VVW i a` WdSf fZW adV [feW VdS [Y ge
VWbVd [fa [f1 ;` efVdV aXbdVUgbk[Y agdVhVei [fZ fZWfXW W_ [YZf aeWS V fZSf afZVde
bdVg_ ST`k Va` f ZShWegbbaeW WdVf agf fa Sdf [Ug`SfWfaVfZVd [`cgVd[a` efZSf SdWdVd_ adW
WfS[W S V WUa_ bSee[Yi i ZSf i W_ [YZf thWadl

Samantha Ha \$#,"%

; Wk [fVk fZ[] fZSf fZ[ehVd[a` aXWglSf[a` kagidMbcbae[Y [ehVd[V[XVdWf fZS Zai eLZaa`e
SdWgegS`k La` WthWz3` V; fZ[] [f bg`e_ Wgb eZad fXadfZSf h

i [eZl fZagYZl fZSfi Wl VdWTVVdVbdVdSdW fa g` WdS V S V SbbdWfSWFZW_ V\$ [Y aXi ZSfi Se
VdS [Y gež l W_ [YZfi a` WdSTagf Zai afZVde Sd[Ug`SfW XfSfgdVeaX fZV[dV/bVd[WUWaXTV] Y W
agfS V Zai fZVd_ [YZfeZai gei ZSfi [agdV/bVd[WUWd_ [YZfYg[VWgež 3e_ S kZShWSX[d_ Wf
fZ[e]] [V aXfWZS VZeZai [eSf fZWUWfVdaX Zg_ S [fVdZ SaW [TVdS^Vd [Yž Egbbad[Y egUZ
Vd [Y fZSf Wd[UZVd agdWgUSf[a` [fZVdVa` V

hVok_gLZf dYZf1 KagidWS_gLZ _adWfZagYZfXg^bVda` f fZW fZW kagidWadVWdž3` V;]` ai f
fZSfie` afi ZVdW_L Ya[Yž

I ZSf;l_ eSk[Y [efZ[ekag` Y DWW/S Vt kag]` ai f; ` VVd_ VVfZ[ekag` Yf fZ[ehVok kag` Y DWW
S V [fie[fVdVf[Y fa ZVsdkag fS} STagf ea_ WfaVk i Za XWf fZSf i WsdW[fZW_ [WVdX S
W_ VdWUkžF ZVdW VdVeaU[S^[ygef[UWd Se kag eSk WdGeja` d; ^ahWZSf i ad/ hVok)` " ež3` V fZSf
fZVdW Se VV[UWUk S V kag i S fW fa _ S] WSV[VdWUWZKag ZSV TWa_ W[Xad_ Wf La` UWd Wf
S V La` UWd W fa La` fd[TgfWfa ea h[Y fZW adViebdT^V_ ežF ZVdW^eag` V dV^k YaaV S V hVok
V[VdWf fZS kagfZ aX DaeWdSeZf ZVdVfcb` Yf VS YVdage[Y adS UWdYZf1

Ea kag La_ Wfa BZ[†S V kag ZShWfZ[e [Wd fZSf kag i S f fa La` fd[TgfWfa Zg_ S Xagd[eZ[Y adfa
ygef[UWfZdagYZ WgUSf[a` f i Z[LZ kag g` WdVfS V Se Slbg[e]f[a` ž3` V fZW ZWZVdek

Tge[We fZSfie _ badS fi S V [f VaVe [fi Wz; fie ygef` af fZW Za^fZ[Yzi Z[UZ [e [f1 5ZaaeWkagd
ba[ea` ZVdW/DWVz

René Arcilla %,')

8[cf aX S^; fZ[] kag S ei VdW fZWcgVef[a` tTW SgeW _ VS t; i S f fa eSk S^fZdW/dYZf1 ; _ VS t
S^fZdWsdVSTea`gfVkdYZfz;]` ai kagidW af Ya[Y fa ^W_ WVVSI Sk i [fZ fZSfz4gf kVd; Va` if
fZ[] dZaa^ Y [efZW Za^fZ[Yz; fZ[] i ZSfie_ [ee[Y [dZaa^e[es S^fWfja` fa fZ[e SdVd
eWeWaxWgUSfja` ti Z[UZ kag]` ai ti WeLZaa^eUagV Va STV^Vd^aT aX fck[Y fa SVdVezEa
bVZSbea` Wax fZWfZ[Ye fZSf dZaa^eUagV Va i [fZ fZW[V S fZSf fZVdW afi fZW Za^fZ[Y [eSk
a] Sk _ SkTW W Ww fa efdWYfZW _ adWfZVbSof aXeLZaa^ Y fZSf SVdVezEa fZ[e SdVd eWeWax
WgUSfja` t bSd[Ug^Sd k [bdaYd_ eaX [T^Vd^Vsd [Yz3` V fZW kag]` ai t Sa` Yi [fZ fZ[eUa_ V S
dVSea` XadXgdZVd[Y fZWUbf[cgWax S^fZWefgX[dZaa^e fZSf VaVe if eWV_ fa TWdV S^k La` ` WVV
fa V[fZVd Vsd [Y adWgUSfja` [fZ[e SdVd eWeWax kag]` ai t; fZ[] fZSf kVsz

Chris Higgins %*,#\$

3 ^[YZfi ; i^W kag ZShWkagdUS] WS V Vsf [f faat S V S^ea eWVf fa ea_ W^aVz; ^W kag ZShWS^
fZdWS ei Vd [X kag fW^_ W_ adVSTagf fZ[e [V S aX kag d fZSf [adVd fa _ S] WeLZaa^ Y efd` YVd
S V [bSd[Ug^Sd fa _ S] Wf ZWb geLa` ` WVi [fZ fZ[eafZVd] [V aX WgUSfja` t dVg[dVd
efdWYfZW[Y [T^Vd^Vsd [Yz3` V; US [SY[Wea_ Vd` WeSk[Y fZWeLZaa^Ugdd[Ug^g_ [eS
dVWVfja` aX fZWa^V [T^Vd^Vsd e_aWVZF ZSfie ZkVdVd^kTaVk ZSefa fS] Wea_ W_ SfZt ea_ WZ[efack
ea_ WS YgSYWea_ WeUWUWz; fieVW i Zk kag]` ai ti ZSf V[V fZVd esk [>Sf[t *nessarainopore
sm* SZVsfzk _ [V S V SZVsfzk TaVk1; fieVW i Zk i WZShWebadfe S V VdS_ SzEa Va` if i W
SdV S^k dZaa^i [fZ ea_ VZ[Y [WfZW[T^Vd^Vsd e_ [V1Ea i ZSf` WVe fa TW_ bdaHW1 3` V Zai
i agV fZSf ZWb ge YVTSU] fa kagdVd[bZS k STagf WgUSfja` [eTW Y W agf1

René Arcilla %*,#

I W^; fZ[] kag S V ; t; SydWfZSf S `af aX fZV SufgS^bdSuf[UWax [T^Vd^Vsd eWgUSfja` faVSk ZSe
TWa_ W [V aX efg^XW S V eUWaf[Lz kag]` ai t; _ VS t [fie fdgWfZSf i WLa` f[gWfal kag]` ai t
[WVf]k Sb[WUWax Vsd [Yi [fZ fZ[e [V S aX fZW[T^Vd^Vsd e S V fZVdV e fZ[e dVdVgS^La` ` WVi] i [fZ
fZWfcdV[fja` z4gf; fZ[] fZSf kag]` ai t a` WUagV _ S] WS UseWfZSf i W^WsdrgST^k Xad^affW i ZSf
fZWba[f aX fZ[d S^SdVbSof aX fZWba[f aX fZ[eVsd [Y [eSTagfZ kag]` ai ti ZW i WeSk fZSf fZW
[T^Vd^Vsd e SdVSTagf XdWVa_ 1I ZSf Vj/SUf^k Va i W_ VS Tk XdWVa_ ZVdV

Eat kag]` ai t _ k bSd aXi ZSf; l_ [fVdVW [[d[e fck[Y fa La` ` WVi ZSf dW S] eaX agd
La_ _ [f_ Wf fa [T^Vd^Vsd eWgUSfja` ti [fZ fZW[V S fZSf fZVdV e ea_ W [V aX Xg` VS_ WfS^WgUSfja`
Ya[Ya` i [fZ fZSfie daafW [^WfVW i ZSf [f_ VS e fa [^V S [^W i ZSf [f_ VS e fa ZShWfZ[e fZ[Y
aX ge fZSfie TWV Y bg^W agf [ea_ W Sk adVdS ` agfz3` V ea fZWZabV[e fa dVd[S^] Wf S V
dVZ[] Xda_ fZWdag` V gb

Ygef kag]` ai t g` [hVb]fk eW [Sclaa_eS V ead faX foSV[f]a` S`Yad_eTk eSk[Yt a] Sk i ZSf [efZW
Xg` VS_ WfS`La` Wb]f[a` aX WgUSf[a` fZSf fZSfie Sf eS] WZVdW

Chris Higgins &#,&(

;f dW [Ve_ WbX ea_ WZ[Y 6 W Wk eSkd <aZ` 6 W W i ZVdWZWeSke fZSf Xad fZageS Ve aX kVScd
bVab`W ag`V ZShWfZagYZf [f dV`k i VdV fZSf i W ag`V fck fa [hWf S [eff]fgf[a` fZSf a` k
WgUSfV`TWUSgeWS`Sf S`[eff]fgf[a` eWgUSfWS V eZSbWZg_ S TW` YeS V Zg_ S [X]` ea_ W Skz
3` V fZW ZWeS[V] W i adWefZW [Xi WdWYa[Yfa XS`[fa fZ[e] [V aX S_` WdSS V fZ[] fZSf
fZVdWadWa` k fZSf [eff]fgf[a` WgUSfV`4USgeW[fi e fZWa` WfZSf fQVd fa Va [f ea e] Y`W_ [W`k ea
i W`a` if i S f fa ZShWfZSf] [V aX_ kab[Sz DWWkV`SZ fZS] eZFZS] kag ea _gLZz; fi SeYaaV fa
fS] fa kag STagf fZVdWV`Sez

René Arcilla &,\$,%

FZ[e[eSYdV`La` hVdSf[a` ž; i [eZ [f Lag`V Ya a` S Va` S Va` ž3` V aX LagdW]fi [^ 5Zd[e d]YZfz

Chris Higgins &,\$,\$+

KVd STea`gfV`kz

Samantha Ha &,\$,%#

A X LagdW]fi [^La` f] gWZabW`k faa i [fZ afZVdYa`]ei Za SdW]efW[Yz: abW`k fZV`k ZShW
_gLZ XaaV Xad fZagYZfzFZS] kagf DWWXadeZSd[Y kagdfZagYZfei [fZ ge faVSz3` V fZS] kagf
5Zd[e] Xad SeSf` Skd Se] [Y fZWfagYZ cgVd]a` ež

René Arcilla &,\$,&(

KagdW`hV`k i W`a_ V`

Chris Higgins &,\$,&)

FZS]eXadZSh[Y_ V`

Samantha Ha &,\$,&+

Ea fZSfie fZWWV aX agdVd[eaW`WadfaVSk STagf fZV`S`gd`S V_ keV`k aX WgUSf[a` ž<a[ge` V]f
i W] i ZW i W W`a_ W4VUS>ai WZSgbfi Za [eYa[Y fa ZWb ge cgVd]a` fZWa_ [S f
` SdSf]hWfZSf eWd fZ[e bS W` [UKV`Sda` k SeSkV`SdaX`V`d [Y` aee XaddZaa`^LZ[VdWž3eSf` Skd [X
kag [] W`gdbaVUSef i WZabW`kag egT`eU[TW`ea kag Va` if_ [eeS Vd[eaW`V`EW`kag` V]f i W]ž