

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 WdVfa V ea_ W W bVbVU[hVea` fZ [YefZSf USgeVge fa 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 WdVb` [i WWWWk ZW bVgbbae[fja` d fZSf i W
WfVfS [fZWbae [T [fk fZSf agdfkb [US`i Ske aXg` WdVfS 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 eWV Y fZW adV [` W i Skel S Ua_ _ [f_ Wf fa ekefW Sf [US`k [cg[d` Y TSeW a`
Vh [WUWS V dVSea` f i ZVdVd [f VSe d S Ua_ _ [f_ Wf fa TWV Y abWf fa _ ah [Y TVka` V VaY_ Sf [e_ f
S V Ua` e[Vd [Y S^fVd Sf[hWTWVVe S V bcdSUR [Ud adUa_ _ [f_ Wf fa Ua` hVdSfa` fa [efW [Y Ww k
fa afZVdS V [cg[d` Y a [f kž

Ea [VSLZ Vb [eaWVi WdWfa [Y fa ZVScXa_ ea_ Va` W Za ZSeS [eYZf adea_ 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] e Xadfg [Y [žI Wba_ Wfa S afZVdVb [eaWbaX Bg^W Gb EZadZf? k` S_ W [e
ES_ f S V faVSk; _ WfYZfW fa eVhVSe SYgVef Zaef XadfZ [e Vb [eaWV [fZ fi a bVab`W Za; YdVf`k
SV_ [dVSe bVab`W_ Wfadf S V VSV [Y eLZa` Sc [fZWVW aX bZ [^eabZk aX WgUSfa` ž FaVSk i W
ZShW [fZ ge DW; 3dJ^S i Za [e S BcaXVead aXBZ [^eabZk aX 7VgUSfa` Sf @W Kad] G` [hVd f kž
I VsdVSea` gU] k fa ZShW5Zde: [YY] d i Za [e S ea S BcaXVead S V BZ [^eabZVd aX 7VgUSfa` f ZVdW
Sf 4aefa` 5a^Wwi Za i [^a [geSe SV [e] gees f

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

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

eW [Y [V [X W U W f a f Z W ad V S d g ` V g e ž 6 [V f Z W d S [] W f Z W d e S W U W U k a g f f Z W d W
E a U [S ^ [` g e f [U W W g e [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\$^Vd Sf[hWfa fZ[eXS_ [fSdLh` U`bf aX WgUSf[a` ž3` 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^Vd 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 efaek La` f] gWz; ffgd e agf fZSf; WWWW gb LZaaef Y
5Z[USYa S^VdS^Xba_ S_ a` Y fZVdLZaa`e fZSf SUWbWV_ W\$ V fZSf <S] ea` V[V TWLa_ W_ k
_ Wfad` A` UW` la[W fZ[e] fWVUfgS^La__ g` [fk; Vsd W Xba_ S`af aX afZVd fVdZVd S V
efgWVfd faat Se; ef^Va faVSkz 4gf; i agV` f TWdbVd [Y fa kag S^dYZf` ai [X [f i VdV f XadZW
VjS_ b^VzWdV`Xad_ Vd: WfdaSUZW fZWbSfZ fZSf W` fa agd_ Wf] Yz

KVd ea_ VIZ[Y [_ Wk[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 SUWbWf Y 5Z[USYa eaXVd aX SV_ [ee[a` ž <S] ea` ecgVd[a` [Y aX
fZW hVd k La` U`bf aX WgUSf[a` ZSV ZS^WV_ W] _ kfdS] eS V Z[e] e[eWf bgdgg[f aX fZ[e
cgVd[a` [Yf [Y ad` Y S^fZWeaU[S^bdaTW_e fZSf LdW agf XadWgUSf[a` S^See[erS UW dVdWVz KVd;
US_ WTSU] ž I Zk1 I ZSf [e [f STagf Z[ecgVd[a` fZSf g`f_ S^Vd SbbVdW fa _ W

3 fZagYZ fZ[e SbbVd^ebgdW _ k fS] [Y S UZS 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` SUWbWV VdW fZWbaee[T[fk
fZSf; V[V f]` ai fZWfdgW_ Vd [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[SbdaTW` d fZ[e [Y adS UW[efVdV aX dVWVd Y_ W
g` ST`Mfa WgUSfWadTWWWgUSfWf abWWW_ Wfa ea_ VIZ[Y fZSf XWVd ↑ WS dVd a` Ya[Y WgUSf[a` ž
3XVd WUSVd aX bSf[U]bSf[Y [[f ZVdVdWdWdW_ 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 VjbdWV 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 aXbdWUgbk[Y agdWVhVei [fZ fZWfXW W_ [YZf aeWS V fZSf afZVde
bdWg_ ST`k Va` f ZShWegbbaeW WdVf agf fa Sdf [Ug`SfWfaVfZVd [`cgVd[a` efZSf SdWVdVd_ 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` kagidAbcbabae[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 VdWVfVdWbdWbdWfa g` WdS` V S V SbbdWfSWfZW_ V\$ [Y aXi ZSfi Se
VdS [Y gež l W_ [YZfi a` WdSTagf Zai afZVde Sd[Ug` S W X SfgdW aX fZV[dV/bWUWaXTV] Y W
agf S V Zai fZV_ [YZf eZai gei ZSfi [agdV/bWUW_ [YZf Yg[Wgež 3e_ S k ZShWSX[d_ Wf
fZ[e] [V aXfWZS VZeZai [eSf fZWUWfWd aX Zg_ S [fVZT SaW [TWd^ Vd [Yž Egbbad[Y egUZ
Vd [Y fZSf Wd[UZVd agdWgUSf[a` [fZWeWd` 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_ V7FZ[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 ZShWZ[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 gef` af fZW Za^fZ[Yzi Z[UZ [e [f1 5ZaaeWkagd
ba[ea` ZVW/DWVz

René Arcilla %,')

8[cf aX S^; fZ[] kag S ei VdW fZWcgVfja` tTW SgeW _ VS t; i S f fa eSk S^fZdWVdYZf1 ; _ 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
eVeWaxWgUSfja` ti Z[UZ kag]` ai ti WeLZaa^eUagVva STVfVd^aT aX fck[Y fa SVdVezEa
bVZSbea` Wax fZWfZ[Ye fZSf dZaa^eUagV va i [fZ fZW[V S fZSf fZVidW afi fZW Za^fZ[Y [eSk
a] Sk _ SkTW W Ww fa efdWYfZW _ adWfZVbSof aXeLZaa^ Y fZSf SVdVezEa fZ[e SdVd eVeWax
WgUSfja` t bSf[Lg^Sd k [bchYd_ eaX [TW S^Vsd [Yz3` V fZWt kag]` ai t Sa` Yi [fZ fZ[eLa_ 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 eVeWax 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^aVlz; ^W kag ZShWS^
fZdWS ei Vde [X kag fW^_ W_ adVSTagf fZ[e [V S aX kag d fZSf [adVd fa _ S] WeLZaa^ Y efd` Yvd
S V [bSf[Lg^Sd fa _ S] Wf ZWb ge La` ` Wf i [fZ fZ[e afZVd] [V aX WgUSfja` t dVg[dVd
efdWYfZW[Y [TW S^Vsd [Yz3` V; US [SY[Wea_ Vd` WeSk[Y fZWeLZaa^Ugd[Lg^g_ [eS
dVWVfja` aX fZWa^V [TW S^Sofe_ aWVZF ZSfie ZkVWkTavk Zsefa fS] Wea_ W_ SfZt ea_ WZ[efack
ea_ WS YgSYWea_ WeUWUWz; fieVW i Zk kag]` ai ti ZSf V[V fZV k esk [>Sf[t *nessarainopore
sm* SZVsfzk _ [V S V SZVsfzk Tavk1; fieVW i Zk i WZShWebadfe S V VdS_ SzEa Va` if i W
SdVsk dZaa^i [fZ ea_ VZ[Y [WfZW[TW S^Sofe [_ [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 [TW S^Sofe WgUSfja` 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[WVax Vsd [Yi [fZ fZ[e [V S aX fZW[TW S^Sofe S V fZVdVefZ[e dVgVgS^La` ` Wfja` i [fZ
fZWfcdV[fja` z4gf; fZ[] fZSf kag]` ai t a` WUagV _ S] WS UseWfZSf i WWSdrgST`k Xad^affW i ZSf
fZWba[f aX fZ[d S^SdWbSof aX fZWba[f aX fZ[eVsd [Y [eSTagfZ kag]` ai ti ZW i WeSk fZSf fZW
[TW S^Sofe SdVSTagf XdWVa_ 1I ZSf Vj/Sufk Va i W_ VS Tk XdWVa_ ZVdV

Eat kag]` ai t _ k bSf aXi ZSf; l_ [fVdVW [[d[e fck[Y fa La` ` Wf i ZSf dW S] eaX agd
La_ _ [f_ Wf fa [TW S^WgUSfja` ti [fZ fZW[V S fZSf fZVdVefea_ W [V aX Xg` VS_ WfS^WgUSfja`
Ya[Ya` i [fZ fZSfie dafW [^WfVW i ZSf [f_ VS efa [W S [XWi ZSf [f_ VS efa ZShWfZ[e fZ[Y
aX ge fZSfie TW Y bg^W agf [ea_ W Sk adVdS ` agfz3` V ea fZWabVefafa dV[fS^] Wf S V
dVZ[] Xba_ 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_` Wd[S S 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 Wwa` if i S f fa ZShWfZSf] [V aX_ kab[Sz DWWkV`SZ fZS] eZ FZS] kag ea _gUZz; fi Se YaaV fa
fS] fa kag STagf fZVdW[V]eZ

René Arcilla &\$,\$%

FZ[e[eSYdVf La` hVd]f[a` ž; i [eZ [f Lag`V Ya a` S Va` S Va` ž3` V aX LagdW]fi [^ 5Zd[e]dYZfz

Chris Higgins &\$,\$+

KVd STea`gfV`ž

Samantha Ha &\$,\$#

A X LagdW]fi [^La` f] gWZabW`k faa i [fZ afZVdYa`]ei Za SdW]efW[Yz: abW`k fZV`k ZShW
_gUZ XaaV Xad fZagYZfZ FZS] kag] DWW`XadeZSd[Y kagdfZagYZfei [fZ ge faVSž3` V fZS] kag] 5Zd[e]d Xad SeSf` Skd Se] [Y fZWfagYZ cgVd]a` eZ

René Arcilla &\$,&(

KagdW`hV`k i WLa_ 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 WLa_ 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`Vsd [Y` aee XaddZaa`UZ[VdWž3eSf` Skd [X
kag [] W`gd baVUSef i WZabW`kag egT`ed]TW`ea kag Va` if_ [eeS Vd[eaW`V`EW`kag` V]f i W]ž