

Religious

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tion. Many of us were brought up in a bubble, and our beliefs float in that fragile sphere for a long time. It's not about bursting that bubble. Good education trusts the mind, offering alternatives to choose from.

The issue is choice. If we're taught to be fearful of anything or anyone outside our bubble-world, it can be extremely hard to take a "leap of reason" and think wisely, freely. In fact, extremism is born in these bubbles where it can quickly grow into fear-based violence — harming the brain, the body and the world outside the bubble.

We see this threat around the world — "over there" — but we can be blind to the seeds of it nearby, or in ourselves.

Maybe the whole world is a big blue bubble (the earth is sure shaped like one) and the illusion is that we are separate. Philosophers, mystics and others have suggested this.

When I stood up to speak with those students about humanism, I was looking into the eyes of the future. And those eyes were not bubbles.

Pop!

Chris Highland served as a Protestant minister and Interfaith chaplain for nearly 30 years. He is a teacher, writer and freethinker. His wife, Carol, is a Presbyterian minister. Learn more at chighland.com.

Clipped By:



chris_highland

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