

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
ffMT [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 WHTWW 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 [^ 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`
W [WUWS 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[hWTVVSe S V bcdU [Ud adUa_ _ [f_ Wf fa Ua` hVesfa` fa [efW [Y WWk
fa afZVes V [cg[d` Y a [fž

Ea [VSLZ Vb [eaWVi WdWfa [Y fa ZVScXa_ ea_ Wd` W Za ZSeS [eYZf adea_ VZ [Yi Wwa` if
fkb [US`k fZ [] STagf fZSf dVg[dV gefa 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 afZVdV [eaWbX 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; YdVSk
SV_ [dVSe bVab`W_ Wfad S V VSV [Y eLZa` Sc [fZWVW aX bZ [^aeabZk aX WgUSfa` ž FaVSk i W
ZShW [fZ ge DW; 3dU`S i Za [e S BcaXVead aXBZ [^aeabZk aX 7VgUSfa` Sf @W Kad] G` [hVefkž
I VSDVSea` gU] k fa ZShW5Zde: [YY] d i Za [e S ea S BcaXVead S V BZ [^aeabZVdaX 7VgUSfa` f ZVdW
Sf 4aefa` 5a^WVi Za i [^a [geSe SV [d]gees f

cgVefja` aX WgUSfa` ž I ZSf isWgUSfa` f W/SURk1 ; [fS`k [] Wb [Yi [fZ fZWbaVUSef eVdV
fZW W; V [Wfa WdU 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` hVesfa` fa WV 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 S [W f Z W e S W U W U k a g f f Z W U
E a U S ^ [g e f U W W g e a ` t S V [W 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] [^z F 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] WkagrdWbdabae[Y ea_ VIZ[Y
V[XVdVf fZS` fZSf ea_ W\$^Vd S[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 S[hWLa` U`bf[a` aX
WgUSf[a` 1: ai t Zai US` i WfZ[] STagf [f afZVd [eW

René Arcilla #\$,#*

KVSZ 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 fZWELZaa`e fZSf SUU`bfW_ W\$ V fZSf <SU] ea` V[V TWLa_ W_ k
_ Wfaç A` UW` a[W fZ[e] fWVUfgS^La__ g` [fk; V\$ d W Xba_ S`af aX afZVd fV\$UZVd S V
efgWVfd faat Se; ef^Va faVSkz 4gf; i agV` f TWebV\$ [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` ž <SU] ea` ecgVd[a` [Y aX
fZW hVd k La` U`bf aX WgUSf[a` ZSV ZS^W_ W] _ kfdSU] eS V Z[e] e[eWf bgdgg[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] ž I Zk1 I ZSf [e [f STagf Z[ecgVd[a` fZSf g`f_ S^Wk SbbV\$W fa _ W

3 fZagYZ fZ[e SbbV\$^ebgdW_ k fS] [Y S UZS UWa` 5Z[USYa S V <SU] 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 fZWea`h[Y aX eaU[S^bdT W` d fZ[e [Y adS UW[efV\$V aX dVWVd Y_ W
g` ST Wfa WgUSfWadTWWWgUSfW abWWW_ Wfa ea_ VIZ[Y fZSf XWVe ↑ WS dV\$↑ a` Ya[Y WgUSf[a` ž
3 X^Vd WUSVd aX bSf[U]bSf[Y [[f ZVdVdWdW`a_ W_ aWd [La` Uge[hWbdh[e]a` S^fZagYZ fe 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_ keVdIage1 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 aXbdVdUgbk[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 thWadI

Samantha Ha \$#,"%

; Wk [fVk fZ[] fZSf fZ[ehVd[a` aXWglSf[a` kagidAbcbbae[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 [T VdS^ 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^ [gef[UWd Se kag eSk Wgeja` 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 DaeWd SeZf ZVSe fca` Yf VS YVdage[Y adS UWdYZf1

Ea kag La_ Wfa BZ[† S V kag ZShWZ[e [WsfZSf kag i S f fa La` fd[TgfWfa Zg_ S Xagd[eZ[Y adfa
gef[UWfZdagYZ WgUSf[a` f i Z[LZ kag g` WdVfS V Se Slbg[e ffa` ž3` V fZW ZWZVbek

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 SffWfja` fa fZ[e SdVd
eVeWaxWgUSfja` ti Z[UZ kag]` ai ti WeLZaa^eUagVva STVfVd^aT aX fck[Y fa SVdVezEa
bVZSbea` Wax fZWfZ[YefZSf dZaa^eUagVva i [fZ fZW[V S fZSf fZVkdW afi fZW Za^fZ[Y [eSk
a] Sk _ SkTW W Ww fa efdWYfZW _ adWfZVbSof aXeLZaa^ Y fZSf SVdVezEa fZ[e SdVd eVeWax
WgUSfja` t bSd[Ug^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^fZWefgXX[dZaa^e fZSf VaVe if eWV_ fa TWdV S^k La` ` WfW
fa V[fZVd Vsd [Y adWgUSfja` [fZ[e SdVd eVeWax kag]` ai t; fZ[] fZSf kVsz

Chris Higgins %*,#\$

3 ^[YZfi ; i^Wf kag ZShWkagdUS] WS V Vsf [f faat S V S^ea eWfWf fa ea_ W^aVlz; ^Wf 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 [bSd[Ug^Sd fa _ S] Wf ZWb geLa` ` Wf i [fZ fZ[eafZVd] [V aX WgUSfja` t dVg[dVd
efdWYfZW[Y [TW S^Vsd [Yz3` V; US [SY[Wea_ Vd` WeSk[Y fZWeLZaa^Ugdd[Ug^g_ [eS
dVWVfja` aX fZWa^ V [TW S^Sofe_ aWVZF ZSfie ZkVdVd kTavk Zsefa fS] Wea_ W_ SfZt ea_ WZ[efack
ea_ WS YgSYW ea_ WeU[WUWz; fieVW i Zk kag]` ai ti ZSf V[V fZVd esk [>Sf[t **nessarainopore
sm** SZV S^fzk _ [V S V SZV S^fzk Tavk1; fieVW i Zk i WZShWebadfe S V VdS_ SzEa Va` if i W
SdV S^k dZaa^i [fZ ea_ VZ[Y [WfZW [TW S^Sofe [_ [V1Ea i ZSf` WVe fa TW_ bchW1 3` V Zai
i agV fZSf ZWb ge YWTSU] 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[WUWax Vsd [Yi [fZ fZ[e [V S aX fZW [TW S^Sofe S V fZVdV e fZ[e dVd VgS^La` ` Wfja` i [fZ
fZWfcdV[fja` z4gf; fZ[] fZSf kag]` ai t a` WUagV _ S] WS UseWfZSf i WfWsdrgST`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
[TW S^Sofe SdVSTagf XdWVa_ 1I ZSf Vj/SUf^k Va i W_ VS Tk XdWVa_ ZVdV

Eat kag]` ai t _ k bSd aXi ZSf; l_ [fVdVfW [[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 fZVdV e ea_ W [V aX Xg` VS_ WfS^WgUSfja`
Ya[Ya` i [fZ fZSfie dafW [^Wf eVW i ZSf [f_ VS efa [fV 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 fZWabV[e fa dVd[fS^] Wf S V
dVZ[] Xch_ 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 kV Scl
bVab`W ag`V ZShWfZagYZf [f dV S`k i V]dV fZSf i W ag`V fck fa [hWf S [ef]fgf[a` fZSf a` k
WgUSfV`TW SgeWS`Sf S`^ [ef]fgf[a` eWgUSfWS V eZSbWZg_ S TW YeS V Zg_ S [X] ea_ W Skz
3` V fZW ZWeS]V W i adW]efZW [Xi WdWYa [Yfa XS`^ [fa fZ[e] [V aX S_` V]SS V fZ [] fZSf
fZVdWadW a` k fZSf [ef]fgf[a` WgUSfV` 4W SgeW]fie fZWa` WfZSf fQ]V fa Va [f ea e] Y`W_ [W W`k ea
i W a` if i S f fa ZShWfZSf] [V aX_ kab [S]ZDW WkV S] fZS] eZ FZS] kag ea _g LZ z; f i Se YaaV fa
fS] fa kag STagf fZVdW]W S z

René Arcilla &,\$,%

FZ[e[eSYdV]f La` hVb]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 k z

Samantha Ha &,\$,%#

A X LagdW]fi [^ La` f] gWZabW]g`k faa i [fZ afZVdYa]ei Za SclW]efW [Yz: abW]g`k fZV k ZShW
_g LZ XaaV Xad fZagYZfz FZS] kag] DW W XadeZ Scl Y kagdfZagYZfei [fZ ge faV S z3` V fZS] kag] 5Zd[e]d
Xad Se S] Skd Se] [Y fZWfagYZ cgV]f[a` e z

René Arcilla &,\$,&(

Kag dW hV k i W La_ V z

Chris Higgins &,\$,&)

FZS] eXadZSh [Y_ V z

Samantha Ha &,\$,&+

Ea fZSfie fZWWV aX agdV] [eaW W adfaVSk STagf fZV S`gd]S V_ keV k aX WgUSf[a` ž <a [ge` V]f
i W] i ZW i W W La_ W4VUS >ai WZSgbfi Za [eYa [Y fa ZWb ge cgV]f[a` fZWa_ [S f
` Scl]hWfZSf eW] fZ[e bS W] [UkV Scl a` k Se S kV Scl aX V Scl [Y` aee Xad dZaa` LZ [VdW ž3e S] Skd [X
kag [] W agdbaVUSef i WZabW kag egT e d]TW ea kag Va` if _ [ee S V] [eaW W]EW kag` V]f i W] ž