

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 WLa_ 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 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 VhWVW Y[hWž

FZ[e [e S [badS f fZ [Y fa Važ; f dVg[dV fZSf i WdVb` [i WVVb`k ZW bVgbbae[fja` d fZSf i W
WfVfS [fZWbae [T [fk fZSf agdfkb [US`i Ske aXg` WdVfS V [Y SdM` La_ b VVadV [efad [YžI W Ww
fa TWabW fa cgVefja` eS V S^fVd S[hWad_g Sfa` eaXTSe [U [eegVefZSf i WfVW fa fS] WadYdS fWž
I WZShWfa TW [^f Y fa La` e[VdS^fVd S[hW Ske aX fZ [] [YžF Z[e dVg[dV SLa__ [f_ Wf fa
[SY [Sfa` f fa eWV Y fZW adV [` W i Skel SLa__ [f_ Wf fa ekefW S [US`k [cg[d` Y TSeW a`
Vh [WVUS V dVSea` i ZVWVd [f VSe d SLa__ [f_ Wf fa TWV Y abWf fa _ ah [Y TVka` V VaY_ Sfe_ f
S V La` e[Vd [Y S^fVd S[hWVWVeS V bcdSUR [Ud adLa__ [f_ Wf fa La` hVdSfa` fa [efW [Y WVb`k
fa afZVdS V [cg[d` Y a [f`ž

Ea [VSLZ Vb [eaVW i WdVW a [Y fa ZVScXb_ ea_ Wd` W Za ZSeS [e [YZf 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 WfVW fa fS] W
XadYdS fWž 3` Vi WZabWfZSf kagi^W`akž

Samantha Ha #,%+

: [VVka` WfZS] eXadfg [Y [žI WLa_ Wfa S afZVdVb [eaVW aX Bg^W Gb EZadZf? k` S_ W [e
ES_ f S V faVSk ; _ WfYZfW fa e[VhSeSYgVef Zaef XadfZ [e Vb [eaVW [fZ fi a bVab`W Za ; YdVf`k
SV_ [dVSe bVab`W_ Wfadf S V VSV [Y eLZa` Sc [fZVWVW aX bZ [^eabZk aX WgUSfa` ž FaVSk i W
ZShW [fZ ge DW; 3dJ`S i Za [eSBcaXVeadXBZ [^eabZk aX 7VgUSfa` Sf @W Kad] G` [hVd`fkž
I VSDVSea` gU] k fa ZShW5Zde: [YY] d i Za [eSea SBcaXVeadS V BZ [^eabZVdaX 7VgUSfa` f ZVdW
Sf 4aefa` 5a^WVW i Za i [^^a [geSeSV [e]gees f

cgVefja` aX WgUSfa` ž I ZSf WgUSfa` f W/SURk1 ; [fS`k [] Wb [Yi [fZ fZWbaVUSef e[VdV
fZW W; V [Wfa WdV [TWZai fZ [e cgVefja` US` bg^ge gb eZadfi e [b`k TWVgeWf eWV eea
g` e[Vagež ; feag` Ve [WfZW] [V aXi dVUZ a` W_ [YZf fZdai [fa SLa` hVdSfa` 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 d S [W f Z W d S W d W U k a g f f Z W d W
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] WkagidWbdabae[Y ea_ VIZ[Y
V[XVdVf fZS` fZSf ea_ W\$ fVd 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`fVd Sf[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; _ Y`SV fa fdk TVUSgeW[fedaafW [f
i ZSf S↑ Ske _ S] Vd_ We_ [MSTagf Zai _ k e`fack La` f] gWz; ffgd e agf fZSf; W`WV gb LZaaef Y
5Z[USYa S`VdS^Xba_ S_ a` Y fZVdLZaa`e fZSf SUWbfW _ W\$ V fZSf <S] ea` V[V TWLa_ W_ k
_ Wfad` A` UW` a[W fZ[e] fW`VfG\$`La__ g` [fk; V`Sd W`Xba_ S`af aX afZVd fVdZVd S V
efgWVfd faat Se; ef`^Va faVSkz 4gf; i ag`V` f TWdbV\$ [Y fa kag S`dYZf` ai [X [f i VdV f`XadZW
VjS_ b^VzWdV`Xad_ Vd : Wf`daSUZW 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 SUWbf 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`fW _ W` _ kfdS] eS V Z[e] e[e`Wf bgd`g]f aX fZ[e
cgVd[a` [Yf [Y ad` Y S`^fZVeaU[S`bdaT`W` e fZSf Ld[W` agf`Xad WgUSf[a` S`See[e`S UW`dV`W`Vz KVd;
US_ WTSU] ž I Zk1 I ZSf [e [f STagf Z[e cgVd[a` fZSf g`f` S`V`k SbbV\$`W` fa _ W`

3`fZagYZ fZ[e SbbV\$`ebgdW` _ k fS] [Y S UZS UWa` 5Z[USYa S V <S] ea` t S V fZW YdW [fa S
WVgd[Y US`↑ Y [_ k ↑WV[fe` SfgdWef`^WgVd`S V ZSg` fe_ Vd` A` UW` SUWbfW` VdW` fZWbaee[T[↑fk
fZSf; V[V` f]` ai fZWf`gW_ V\$ [Y aX WgUSf[a` t fZSf WgUSf[a` Uag`V TWSTagf` adVfZS` fZW
Subg[e]f[a` aX]` ai` W`VWS` V fZWba`h[Y aX eaU[S`bdaT`W` d fZ[e [Y` adS` UW[efV\$V aX dV`W`d` Y_ W
g` ST`Mfa WgUSf`WadT`W`VgUSf`W` abW`W` _ Wfa ea_ VIZ[Y fZSf XW`e` ↑ WS`dV\$` a` Ya[Y WgUSf[a` ž
3`X`Vd WUSVd` aX bSf[U]bSf[Y [[f ZVdVdS`W`ea_ W_ aW`ef [La` U`ge[hW`bdh[e]a` S`^fZagYZ fe STagf
i Zk; La` f] gWfa SXX`d_ 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 ;` efVSV 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` WdSTagfZai afZVde Sd[Ug` S W X SfgdW aX fZV[dV/bWUWaXTV] Y W
agfS 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 [fVdZ SaW [T VdS^ Vd [Yž Egbbad [Y egUZ
Vd [Y fZSf Wd [UZVd agdWgUSf[a` [fZVdWd` 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 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 Slcg[e]fa` 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` 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 SffWfja` fa fZ[e SdVd
eWeWaxWgUSfja` ti Z[UZ kag]` ai ti WeLZaa^eUagVva STVfVd^aT aX fck[Y fa SVdVezEa
bVZSbea` WaxfZWfZ[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 eWeWax
WgUSfja` t bSd[Ug^Sd k [bchYd_ eaX [TVdS^Vsd [Yz3` V fZW kag]` ai t Sa` Yi [fZ fZ[eUa_ 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 eWeWaxKag]` 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 [adWd 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 [TVdS^Vsd [Yz3` V; US [SY[Wea_ Vd` WeSk[Y fZWeLZaa^Ugdd[Ug^g_ [eS
dVWVfja` aX fZWa^ V [TVdS^Sofe_ aWVZF ZSfie ZkVdVd^kTaVk ZSefa fS] Wea_ W_ SfZt ea_ WZ[efack
ea_ WS YgSYW^ea_ WeU[WUWz; fieVdW i Zk kag]` ai ti ZSf V[V fZVd esk [>Sf[t e a a c e
a S ZV S^fzk _ [V S V S ZV S^fzk TaVk1; fieVdW i Zk i WZShWbadre S V VdS_ SzEa Va` if i W
SdV S^k dZaa^i [fZ ea_ VZ[Y [WfZW[TVdS^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 [TVdS^Sofe WgUSfja` faVSk ZSe
TWa_ W [V aX efg^ [XW S V dVdVaf[LzKag]` 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[TVdS^Sofe S V fZVdVefZ[e dVdVgS^La` ` Wfja` i [fZ
fZWfcdV[fja` z4gf; fZ[] fZSf kag]` ai t a` WUagV _ S] WS UseWfZSf i WdVsdrgST^k Xad^affW i ZSf
fZWba[f aX fZ[d S SdVbSof aX fZWba[f aX fZ[eVsd [Y [eSTagfZKag]` ai ti ZW i WeSk fZSf fZW
[TVdS^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 [TVdS^WgUSfja` ti [fZ fZW[V S fZSf fZVdVefea_ W [V aX Xg` VS_ WfS^WgUSfja`
Ya[Ya` i [fZ fZSfie dafW [^WfVd 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 fZWZabVefafa dVdVfS^ Wf S V
dVZ[] Xch_ fZWdag` V gb

Ygef kag]` ai t g` [hVb]fk eW [Sdcaa_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 Sd
bVab`W ag`V ZShWfZagYZf [f dV`k i VdV fZSf i W ag`V fdk fa [hWf S [ef]fgf[a` fZSf a` k
WgUSfV`TW SgeWS`Sf S`^ [ef]fgf[a` eWgUSfWS V eZSbWZg_ S TW Y eS V Zg_ S [X] ea_ W Skz
3` V fZW ZWeS V i W i adWefZW [Xi WdWYa [Yfa X S`^ [fa fZ[e] [V aX S_` Vd[S S V fZ [] fZSf
fZVdWadW a` k fZSf [ef]fgf[a` WgUSfV` 4W SgeW [fie fZWa` WfZSf fQVd fa Va [f ea e] Y`W_ [W W`k ea
i W a` if i S f fa ZShWfZSf [V aX_ kab [S`DWWkV S i fZS] eZ FZS] kag ea _gLZ`z; f i Se YaaV fa
fS] fa kag STagf fZVdW W S z

René Arcilla &,\$,%

FZ[e[eSYdVf La` hVdSf[a` ž; i [eZ [f Lag`V Ya a` S Va` S Va` ž3` V aX LagdWf i [^ 5Zd[e dYZfz

Chris Higgins &,\$,+

KVd STea`gfV k z

Samantha Ha &,\$,%#

A X LagdW [f i [^ La` f] gW ZabWg`k faa i [fZ afZVdYa`]ei Za SdW [efW [Yz: abWg`k fZV k ZShW
_gLZ XaaV Xad fZagYZfz FZS] kag l DWW XadeZSd [Y kagdfZagYZfei [fZ ge faVS ž3` V fZS] kag l
5Zd[e d Xad Se S t Skd Se] [Y fZWfagYZ cgVd]a` e z

René Arcilla &,\$,&(

Kag dW hV k i W la_ V z

Chris Higgins &,\$,&)

FZS] e Xad ZSh [Y_ V z

Samantha Ha &,\$,&+

Ea fZSfie fZWWV aX agdVd [eaW Wad faVSk STagf fZV S`gdMS V_ keVd aX WgUSf[a` ž <a [ge` V]f
i W] i ZW i W W la_ W4VUS >ai WZSgbf i Za [e Ya [Y fa ZWb ge cgVd]a` fZWa_ [S f
` SdSf]hWfZSf eWd fZ[e bS W W [UkV Sda` k Se S kV SdaX V Sd [Y` aee Xad dZaa`UZ [VdW ž3e S t Skd [X
kag [] W agdbaVUSef i W ZabWkag egT e d [TW ea kag Va` if _ [ee S Vd [eaW W E W kag` V]f i W] ž