

Why Ray Comfort is Wrong

Ray Comfort's introduction to Darwin's *Origin of Species* is bad science, bad history, and bad theology.

BAD SCIENCE

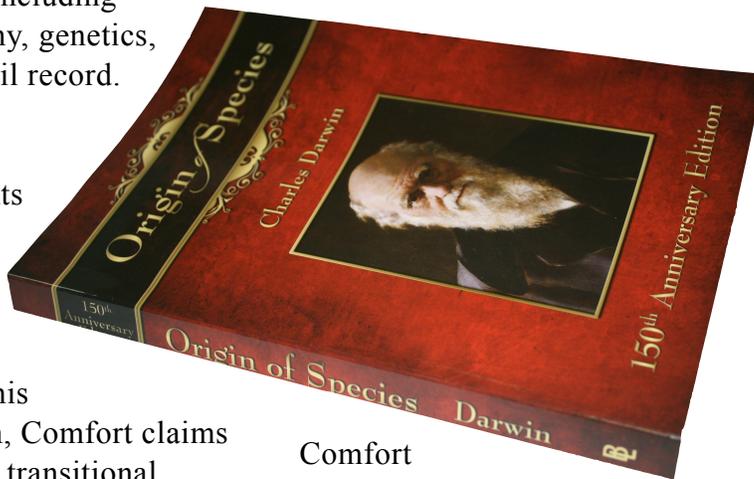
Evolution is the foundation of the biological sciences. Evolution is supported by multiple independent lines of evidence—including biogeography, genetics, and the fossil record.

Comfort misrepresents basic facts known to any high school student. In his introduction, Comfort claims there are no transitional fossils—but the fossil record is rich with examples of fossils with intermediate forms. Recent new discoveries include transitional bat and turtle fossils. The fossil *Tiktaalik roseae*—the “fish with a wrist”—documents the transition from animals living in water to animals living on land.

Comfort argues that the Cambrian Explosion disproves evolution. Real scientists know that the Cambrian provides rich evidence about how evolution works.

BAD HISTORY

Comfort writes that Darwin's most “famous student” was Adolf Hitler. No reputable historian agrees.



Comfort quotes from *Mein Kampf* in an attempt to link Hitler and Darwin. But Hitler had little use for real science, believing heredity was passed “in the blood.” And if Darwin was so influential on Hitler's thinking, why is Darwin never mentioned in *Mein Kampf*?

Blaming Darwin for Hitler is as ridiculous as blaming the Wright Brothers for 9/11, or blaming Jonas Salk for HIV. This distortion of history is a cynical ploy by Comfort to exploit the Holocaust for his own purposes.

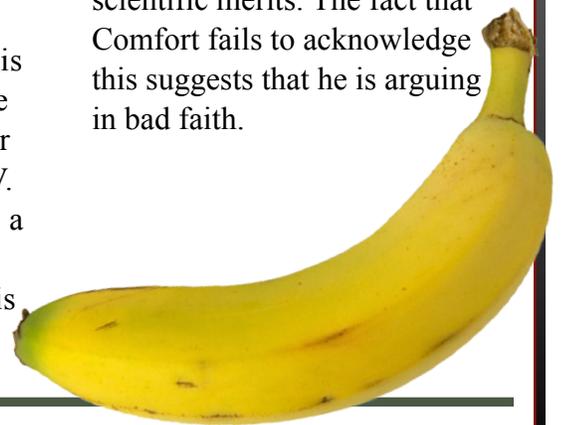
BAD THEOLOGY

Comfort is entitled to reject the views of atheists and agnostics, Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus, and indeed many of his fellow Christians—but it is insulting for him to misrepresent and distort those views in the course of arguing for his own.

Comfort implies that it is necessary to reject evolution in order to be a good Christian.

Ironically, although Comfort quotes Francis Collins, the geneticist who led the Human Genome Project and is now in charge of the National Institutes of Health, he fails to mention that Collins is a committed evangelical Christian who accepts evolution!

People of all faiths and of none have accepted evolution on its scientific merits. The fact that Comfort fails to acknowledge this suggests that he is arguing in bad faith.



Ray Comfort's introduction to *Origin of Species* is simply bananas. For more information, please visit DontDissDarwin.com