Religious perspectives on the science of Human Origins: What is the impact of the history of science

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Rachelle Hardy: 00:18 (silence) My name is Rachelle Hardy, and I work with the Smithsonian Libraries. And my question is, in the context of this committee, is the history of science itself, how it has related with religion, not just in connection with the Smithsonian, but overall for whenever science officially began. Is that a part of the conversation you're having as a committee, because that does impact. I mean, science has its responsibilities and its history, and its things done right and things done wrong. But is that a part of the... And it's primarily, as far as I know, done by human beings. The activity of science itself is a human activity. Is that a part of the conversation of what does it mean to be human as particularly in this relationship with religion, which isn't new?

James B. Miller: 01:18 I'm anticipating that... I mean, one of the things that will hopefully, not hopefully, but will come from the work of this committee will be the identification of certain resources that we can either identify in a bibliographical sense, or we can identify as links for the website or whatever. But I would anticipate that some of those may deal with matters of the history of science or the history of the interaction of science religion in Western culture. That is an area of scholarship that has probably exploded in the last, I don't know, 25 or 50 years, maybe 100 years. Just amazing amount of new scholarship has been done in this area. And part of what it's done is to describe what has been a much more richly complex history of interaction between various ideas. And I would anticipate that as resources for people thinking about this subject matter that some references to history of science would be helpful in that regard. So I expect that there will probably be examples of that identified as resources on our website.

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