

# WTSU. Class Notes

## Lesson 8 10/29/13

### Quotes on the Success of Harvard's Change to Science as Basis for All Knowledge

No outline today. Discussed History of Harvard.

#### Harvard's success in changing the way we view/study law

<http://christiannews.net/2013/09/24/taking-back-city-hall-christians-urged-to-speak-up-at-city-council-meetings-on-duty-to-obey-god/>

Lofton reflected back to when John Roberts, the chief justice of the United States Supreme Court, was questioned by California Senator Diane Feinstein during his 2005 confirmation process about his beliefs regarding the separation of church and state.

"[M]y faith and my religious beliefs do not play a role in judging," Roberts announced. "When it comes to judging, I look to the law books and always have. I don't look to the Bible or any other religious source."

#### Harvard's success in changing the way we understand/teach psychology.

Testimony by Psychology Professor in a Tennessee public college given before the Senate Education Committee on SB 514 (2013) on March 6, 2013:

I understood that at the point I took on the role of psychologist I gave up my free speech. My opinions don't matter to my patients. They shouldn't matter to my patients. Doing therapy is not about giving advice. **It has nothing to do with my personal beliefs. It involves administering treatments that have been shown in research to be effective at resolving whatever disorder a patient presents with. ... I ask them all to learn the science of psychotherapy regardless of their religious beliefs because therapy is a science that can be learned but first and foremost, one must put one's personal preferences aside in order to assume a professional role**

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If you weaken the critical principle that we put our personal beliefs aside, you open the door for **personal beliefs** rather than **therapeutic efficacy** to drive the decisions that psychologist make and that's a very slippery slope indeed. That would turn psychology into a game of **personal belief rather than a science** about detecting the procedures that improve human lives