

What if the Cause of Suffering Was Physical? ~Shinzen Young

00:00:00 Let's say that there is a necessary cause behind the necessary cause.

00:00:20 And the necessary cause that is behind a necessary cause is completely neurophysiological in
00:00:27 nature. Then there could be interventions that directly address that neurophysiological.

00:00:36 So you knock out the physiological necessary condition for tanha, therefore you knock out
00:00:43 tanha, therefore you knock out what blocks perfection. So, potentially, any piece of
00:00:55 research into craving, if it were done very deeply, might unlock a key physiological mechanism.

00:01:09 What I find interesting is that you can't get much funding for research on enlightenment,
00:01:16 but you can get funding for research on drug addiction.

00:01:23 Isn't that funny?

00:01:25 But if research on drug addiction were to be done in a way that would be able to
00:01:35 go very, very deep and very, very broad, it's possible that the necessary cause for tanha
00:01:47 could be found and eliminated. Which would mean, if we take the Buddhist model, that
00:01:57 there would be a physiological, and don't ask me what kind, because I don't know. If

00:02:02 I did know, I'd get the Nobel Prize. I have no idea. Is it some super kind of biofeedback?

00:02:09 Is it fMRI biofeedback? Is it TMS stimulation? Is it what they call DREADS, which sounds
00:02:17 bad, but they're like these...

00:02:19 Sounds like a hair stand.

00:02:21 No, it's designer drugs for designer receptors. It's like the cutting edge of the cutting
00:02:28 edge of neuroscience. Anyway, who knows what, but if there were a way to knock out the necessary
00:02:35 cause for the necessary cause, and it was purely physiological, then nirvana would actually
00:02:41 simply happen. Now, what I find the delicious notion is that you can get funding for craving
00:02:52 research, and you could get funding for deep and broad craving research, and you could
00:02:57 get funding from Republicans, gladly, for deep and broad craving research. Therefore,
00:03:04 it could come to pass that Republicans become responsible for the entire world of becoming
00:03:15 Buddhist.