﻿SE; Hello. You have five minutes for a quick interview … maybe? My first name is Anthony, what's yours?

IL; Brandon.

SE; Brandon, nice to meet you.

IL; Nice to meet you.

SE; Do you mind if I record you…

IL; Yeah sure.

SE; ...and just do like a fiver?

IL; Yeah.

SE; Ok cool. Brandon, um .. cool you are you done with class or...

IL; Yeah, yeah, I'm done.

SE; Ok I wasn't sure if I was catching people … like heading to class… everyone was kind of relaxed, so I'm thinking maybe they were done. Alright, cool. Yeah so um .. what I like to do is just one-on-one conversations with people to … understand how they arrived at a god belief.

IL; God belief?

SE; Yeah .. but I don't ever want to assume so like .. if there's a particular god that you believe in I like to understand...

IL; Oh well no .

SE; ...which one it is and why.

IL; Oh well I don't believe in God cuz .. um .. I dunno I just don't see the proof.

SE; Okay. Would you say you're an atheist?

IL; Yeah.

SE; Okay. Alright.

IL; I don't believe in anything.

SE; So if we were to have a belief scale where zero percent is I don't believe in god .. I have no confidence that God exists and a hundred percent is I'm a hundred percent confident god exists .. where would you be?

IL; Uh .. probably .. lower end. I don't believe god exists at all.

SE; Ok.

IL; I # proof really.

SE; Would proof do it for you?

IL; Yeah.

SE; Okay … cool. Um .. I'm sort of in the same boat actually I'm probably at the more two percent .. one percent mark.

IL; @@

SE; I don't really I'm not convinced one does .. but I'm sort of open to the idea of it.

IL; Yeah, yeah I'm open to it but i'm just...

SE; So you actually threw me because I thought maybe you were wearing a religious symbol .. @@@ cuz there so many people have...

IL; Oh # yeah .. my family's religious.

SE; Oh, okay. I'll still be happy to interview you. I, I didn't start the timer I'm sorry.

IL; # #

SE; Uh … uh .. I've actually had a really good conversations with non-believers as well, believe it or not. Um … do you find that you hold on to any other beliefs that might sort of fall in the realm of the supernatural that you want to do # you feel like you wanna discuss today?

IL; Uh … maybe not supernatural but like um .. karma or um … oh, what's the … where you die and then you become something else?

SE; Oh .. reincarnation.

IL; Yeah, there you go, reincarnation.

SE; I was just talking to my son about that .. yesterday.

IL; #Okay, I like that #idea

SE; He's like what is reincarnation so I was like told him what I think it is I mean I think I know.

IL; yeah @

SE; Right like you die as an animal and then come back as a …

IL; Or something else.

SE; ...a more complex one?

IL; I think so, I don't know.

SE; But i wasn't sure if the human was the last one on the list or if there was some other stage ..

IL; # #

SE; It's been .. it's been years since I've taken that comparative .. religions course. Ok so karma .. can we maybe focus on karma?

IL; Okay.

SE; Okay. Uh .. confidence-wise that karma functions .. in your life .. zero percent is I have no confidence that karma works in my life and a hundred percent is I'm a hundred percent confident.

IL; Sometimes .. sometimes it's like # half and half.

SE; Okay.

IL; And sometimes … I dunno .. I dunno how how to say it @

SE; Could you can you quantify it in some way? I'm not talking I'm not really talking about frequency of occurrences...

IL; Uh huh.

SE; ...but more about .. how sure are you that it actually works .. and I want to stand this way to get them behind me just .. cuz their voices.

IL; Oh okay.

SE; # that's okay .. @ @

IL; #aw … man uh …. I don't know man …. Mm ..

SE; Never been asked that before, huh?

IL; Nah … I'm not ..

SE; Are you one hundred percent confident that it works?

IL; No. No.

SE; Okay

IL; I just like .. I like the idea of it.

SE; Okay.

IL; That it ## that it does happen.

SE; Why do you like the idea of karma?

IL; Well .. isn't karma like where you do something bad then .. then it'll come back at you?

SE; People's definitions vary and I never want to force a definition on anybody so if that's...

IL; Well that's the way i see it, yeah.

SE; ...that actually...

IL; Like if you do something good then .. you get something good and if you do something bad then something bad

SE; That's my understanding as well but I didn't want to say it until you said it first.

IL; Oh okay.

SE; Okay so yeah I think we're on the same page with that. Um .. do you find yourself doing things in your life ..

IL; That are .. good …

SE; Good, that are good ..

IL; So I can ..

SE; So that you get good things in return.

IL; Sometimes # .. well yeah .. well I don't do anything like bad … I don't know how to … sometimes I just did good things because it's good @

SE; Okay. Do you ever do you ever do anything with the expectation that if I .. open that door for that woman ..

IL; ...that something good will happen to me?

SE; Yeah.

IL; Uh .. no, not really. Sometimes I just do it because .. I just open the door you know.

SE; Yeah.

IL; It's a good thing to do.

SE; Okay.

IL; ##

SE; If you don't find yourself on a normal .. on a regular basis .. doing good things with the expectation that good things will happen .. in your life … is karma really that important of a role in your life to begin with?

IL; Oh, me naw . #

SE; It's not? Okay.

IL; I … I just wish it was real I don't think .. I I want it to true but I # # .. it's not true. @@@

SE; Okay. @@ … I think my work here is done. Thank you very much man .. take it easy. Bye.