

What is Atheism all about?

The founder of American Atheists gives a short and simple answer that will help your religious friends (and foes) understand the basic ideas of materialism.

Thirty years ago, Madalyn O'Hair was asked to speak on the nature of Atheism to the student body of the University of Maryland. She was then in the midst of the legal fight for the removal of reverential Bible reading and unison prayer recitation from the public schools of Baltimore — an effort which would lead to a famous Supreme Court decision. She was already known as the most controversial Atheist of her time, as the woman who was "trying to take prayers out of the schools."

So it was her task to make college students, shocked by the very thought of Atheism, understand what that idea is, what the Atheist life-style is, and what an Atheist does or does not accept.

The result was *Why I Am an Atheist*. In this succinct address, Madalyn O'Hair examined all the basic arguments for the existence of a god and the fundamental ideas of Atheism. Later, speaking at colleges and universities around the nation, including Harvard, Loyola, Dartmouth, and Howard, she found that this first statement of Atheism which she had formulated served her well in introducing young minds to the idea of freedom from religion. You will find it to be a handy introduction of the Atheist world-view, as well as a good review before confronting the notions of religion. Appended to the original text is a history of materialism, the underlying premise of Atheism. This introduces the reader to the great — and long suppressed — advocates of the position that there is no supernatural.

Why I Am An Atheist

Revised Edition

Madalyn O'Hair

American Atheists



This is an all-new edition of this speech, including new material and notes. For the first time it is available in paperback and with an index.

Paperback. 56 pages. \$6.00 plus \$2.50 postage and handling. Stock #5416.

Mail order to: American Atheist Press, P.O. Box 140195, Austin, TX 78714-0195

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